

Eyre's epic retraced

THE re-enactment of Edward John Eyre's epic journey from Fowlers Bay, South Australia to Albany, was completed on schedule on Sunday 7 July, 1991.

Local CALM staff, Albany residents and visitors packed the Town Hall to hear Sir Francis Burt, the Governor of Western Australia, welcome the party that had made the commemorative journey.

The group of three: Judy Shaw (27) from Perth, Rob Gully (29), from Victoria and Fred Champion (76) from South Australia walked the entire 1500 km.

Much of the Western Australian section of the journey was over CALM-managed land in the South Coast Region.

Delays to the group's progress were kept to a minimum.

Terry Passmore, CALM's regional coordinator of the event, maintained contact with shires, media, sporting groups and other organisations involved in the walk.

He also kept in close touch with the Western Australian Historical Society's re-enactment coordinator, Bill Graham, who, as an energetic octogenarian, is a lively slice of history himself.

Route

Esperance District Operations Officer, John Winton, was able to assist in planning a route through many national parks and nature reserves, while keeping as close as possible to Eyre's original route.

Dieback was a major consideration. To avoid compromising the South Coast Regions's dieback strategy, alternate routes and back-up vehicles were provided.

by Terry
Passmore

Special permission was granted for a full re-enactment of Eyre's historic meeting with Captain Rossiter at what is now called Rossiter Bay in Cape Le Grand National Park.

Physically and mentally weakened by lack of food and supplies, it is doubtful that Eyre and Wylie would have survived long enough to complete the journey had it not been for this most fortuitous meeting.

Over 200 people attended the re-enactment of the meeting, with Cape Le Grand Rangers Ian Solomon and Kevin Hughes pitching in to make the ceremony a highly successful one.

After resting in Esperance for a week, the party set off again, travelling through Stokes National Park to Lake Shaster.

Shin soreness forced Fred Champion to take advantage of the support vehicle which took him on to Hopetoun where he rested and waited for the others.

Terry caught up with Judy Shaw and Rob Gully about 20 km from Hopetoun and walked the rest of the way with them. Judy and Rob set a cracking pace, covering about 30 km a day with full backpacks and looking remarkably fit, too!

Ranger, Bob Newlands camped with the group to ensure the Fitzgerald River leg of the trip went smoothly.

Several school and equestrian groups participated in different sections leading into Albany and the welcoming party at the Town Hall.

The re-enactment party was full of praise for CALM staff whose guidance while travelling through CALM-managed land was, they claimed, invaluable.

Apart from staff mentioned above, people like Cape Arid National Park Ranger Richard Pemberton, Esperance District Manager Klaus Tiedemann and Stokes

National Park Ranger Rick France were also praised for the friendly and efficient way they did everything to make the re-enactment journey run like clockwork.



Left: Captain Rossiter (Ian McIntyre) greets Wylie (Trevor Jamieson) at right, while Edward John Eyre (Fred Champion) looks on. Photo by Klaus Tiedemann

Schedule amended

A REVIEW of the State's schedule of declared rare flora has led to an increase in the number of plants listed.

There are now 254 species and six subspecies regarded as close to extinction and requiring special protection.

Eleven plants were added and four removed from the list following a review by CALM. Two of the additions were previously thought to have been extinct, but were recently rediscovered on land not reserved for conservation.

One of these species was *Calytrix breviseta*, subspecies *breviseta*. A

from 112 ha of private bushland bought by the Government as part of its commitment to developing a representative reserve system. Western Australia

has 10 000 species of native flora - 6 000 are found in the South West and of these, three quarters are found nowhere else in the world.

Geike grant

ENVIRONMENT Minister Bob Pearce recently announced a \$97,000 boost to tourism in the Kimberley's Geikie Gorge.

The 'boost' has been used to acquire CALM's new 180 seat tour boat, which will replace the 105 seater that has been in service

by Caris Bailey

caused," he said.

The tour is run by CALM rangers twice a day during the Kimberley tourist season. Occasionally, the rangers organise further trips to carry waiting tourists. The new boat is one of several improve-



