

New manager for CALM information systems branch

Bevan Kerr came to CALM from the Department of State Services, and brings with him many years of valuable computer expertise.

Currently, he is touring the regions talking to division, branch, and regional managers to familiarise himself with CALM's computer systems, the type of work being done, and future requirements from users.

While users will be encouraged to specify the software they require to do the job, Bevan sees the branch as acting in an advisory capacity to help users select the appropriate software from a preferred range and providing support for that range. "It would be impractical to expect us to be able to support every major software package available. But if users are given a reasonably wide range of preferred software from which to choose, they should be able to find something that will do the job they want while getting the expected level of support," he said.

Bevan's aim is for computer users in CALM to have a combination of stand-alone autonomy with the inter-connectedness of a fully integrated system.

With such a system, users would be able to work on their own 'stand-alone' machine while having the ability to send or receive data, information, graphics, faxes, and other electronic mail quickly and

accurately from one end of the State to the other. Those divisions or branches that have close dealings with other Government departments would be able to send faxes or other information to another department, literally at the push of a button.

Bevan is already talking to Telecom about using some of the new ISDN systems for linking the far-flung CALM offices. CALM is different from many other Government

departments because its offices are spread all across the State.

All this may seem a little futuristic, but it's been possible to send and receive information electronically for many years. The difference, now, is that the costs of setting up such a system are much less than they were just a few years ago and that today's PCs have more processing power and memory capacity than the mainframes of the early 1980s.



Bevan Kerr

FOR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To: The Editor

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to CALM officer Paul Udinga for his assistance during a four-day outdoor education camp, which was recently conducted at the Nanga Mill site near Dwellingup.

After introducing himself, officer Udinga assisted in running various activities and provided instruction to the students on various aspects of the environment. He also took time to ensure we were supplied with adequate fire wood.

For many of the students this was the first experience of camping in an unfamiliar setting and the actions of your officer did a great deal to instill respect for CALM personnel and their jobs.

enjoyed by my party of nineteen from your rangers Dave Milne and Geoff Passmore, and officer Alan Grosse. All members of my party expressed delight with the courtesy and attention of your officers and the facilities.

With congratulations all round, and best wishes,

ALEX JONES
Manjimup

To: The Editor

Dear Sir

Considerable favourable public comment is being noted by members of the WA National Parks & Reserves Association, regarding CALM's recent publication "Wildflower Country" (CALM NEWS, July 1991).

We think that it has been well put together. It

column of this staff newspaper.

Following the recent CALM/NPNCA/LFC public seminar regarding Aboriginal involvement in CALM's area of interest, I went back to CALM NEWS of a year ago (July-August 1990) and re-read your words in 'From My Desk' - and had greater appreciation of what you were saying.

Your views were worth reading again, and the concluding paragraphs, especially, were well put and thought provoking. The difficult tasks being faced by CALM are appreciated.

GRAEME RUNDLE
Sorrento

To: Dr Barry Wilson, Director of Wildlife Conservation

Dear Sir

it possible to make these films.

Once again, many thanks, and I hope that you will enjoy the film and the rest of the series when it is transmitted.

JEREMY HOGARTH
Producer - Natural History
Unit, ABC TV

To: The Editor

Dear Sir/Madam

Just a short note to compliment your friendly and helpful staff who were at the Forrestfield Forum on Saturday, 20 July.

My two girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves feeding the kangaroo and making gumnut and playdough animals.

In particular, there was a very friendly and helpful young lady who assisted my girls with their crafts,



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