

Miss Geikie launched

MISS Geikie II, the boat that was driven 3 000 kilometres to reach the national park after which she is named, was officially launched on July 14 by CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea.

The \$97 000 tour boat arrived in the Kimberley on the back of a truck late last year to be prepared for the start of this year's tourist season.

The 180-seat pontoon was commissioned by CALM to replace a smaller boat at the gorge that could no longer keep up with the demand.

Miss Geikie's maiden voyage made headlines when Gascoyne Trading carried the boat by road train from the Albany shipyard where she was built.

Gascoyne Trading donated its services free of

charge for most of the 3 000 kilometre trip.

The boat was designed so that it can be launched from a specially built trailer that can also lift it quickly out of the water before the wet season, when the level of the Fitzroy River rises by up to 16 metres.

The tour boat is now in service twice daily carrying visitors up Geikie Gorge.



Left to right: Gary Olsen of Gascoyne Trading, CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea, Aboriginal tribal elders George Brooking, Billy Oscar, Jimmy Green and Freddy Green pose for a photo to commemorate the launch of Miss Geikie II.



GASCOVNE

