

Meet Melissa

MELISSA Ford is a familiar face at Katanning District office.

Katanning born and bred, Melissa moved to Perth in 1987 to attend business college.

After successfully completing her course, she decided that office work was what she wanted to pursue but she preferred home in Katanning to life in Perth.

Back in Katanning Melissa became involved with a local joblink scheme called KANWORK which is run by a community-based committee funded by the Department of Employment and Education Training (DEET).

by Greg Leaman

After completing a six-month training program at KANWORK she moved to the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES).

It was at this point that CALM's Katanning District Manager, Greg Leaman, was looking for a temporary replacement for clerk/typist Jeanette Vann, who was taking maternity leave.

Greg also made it known in his area that he wished to recruit more Aboriginal people, so he was put in touch with Melissa, who joined the

office in January, 1991.

After a six-month training period she was given a temporary position, and when Jeanette resigned in March, 1992, Melissa was made a permanent employee.

Early this year Melissa, who was KANWORK's first trainee, was elected as its secretary.

Greg is very pleased with the work that Melissa is doing and with the success of the Training for Aboriginals Program run by DEET.

As for Melissa, she says she's very happy working with CALM in Katanning, doing a job she enjoys.



Melissa Ford hard at work. Her duties include financial administration, w

Photo by Greg Leaman

Roadside rare

