

Arbor Day

TREES FOR ALL REASONS



More than 7 000 entries were received from 140 schools throughout WA in the Arbor Day Poster Competition sponsored by LANDSCOPE magazine and Radio 6WF.

Communications officer Helenka Johnson (left) and graphic designer Susan Marais tackle the difficult task of sorting the entries into the excellent, the very good, and the slightly less so. According to Helenka and Sue, their task was extraordinarily difficult owing to the high standard of entries. Winners were announced on Tedd Bull's breakfast show by CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea.

Photo by Verna Costello



While the folk group The Darling Rangers sing *Waltzing Matilda*, schoolchildren act out one of the scenes from the song on stage at the Matilda Bay celebration. Some of the posters received in this year's children's Arbor Day Poster Competition can be spotted in the background.

Photo by David Gough



Environment Minister Bob Pearce joined Perth schoolchildren at CALM's Arbor Day celebration at Matilda Bay Nature Reserve on June 5. A native tree was planted, songs in praise of the environment sung, and native tree seedlings taken home to plant. CALM's Community Education Section also treated attending schoolchildren to activities designed to let them learn more about the role of trees in our lives. The theme for this year's Arbor Day was Trees for all Reasons.

Photo by David Gough

...and the history

ARBOR Day was first observed in Australia on June 20, 1889 in Adelaide.

In Western Australia, the celebration of Arbor Day was provided for in the Forests Act of 1919, and now in the Conservation and Land Management Act of 1984.

The date for its celebration is fixed each year by the Minister for the Environment to coincide

with the Day of Trees during Western Australia Week.

Arbo Day originated in the United States of America and was first observed in Nebraska in 1872. The idea was one of forest conservation.

It promoted replanting following deforestation, and the planting up of treeless areas.

The idea has spread widely to other lands

where it is celebrated as the *Festival of Trees* in Japan, *The New Year's Day of Trees* in Israel, *The Tree-loving Week* in Korea, *The Reforestation Week* in Yugoslavia, *The Students' Afforestation Day* in Iceland and *The National Festival of Tree Planting* in India.

Arbor Day in its various forms is now recognised in more than 50 countries.

Dryandra

conservation

