

CALM NEWS

FOREST SCIENCE LIBRARY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

September 1992



CALM Wildlife Officer, Peter Collins with the slaughtered penguins. Photo courtesy Albany Advertiser

Cat among the penguins?

THE carcasses of some 20, freshly killed little or fairy penguins was the grisly sight that met the dismayed gaze of three CALM wildlife officers recently.

The dead penguins were found on Shelter Island, a small inshore island located at Torbay, near Mutwon Bird Beach, west of Albany, by Peter Collins, Bernie Haberley and Kevin Morrison.

Peter said the island was separated from the mainland by a narrow, deep-water channel about 100 metres wide and was a favoured breeding habitat for a number of species of sea birds including the fairy or little penguin.

"The purpose of our visit was to follow up reports that black rats, thought to be established on the island, may have contributed to the decline in seabird breeding activity, Peter said.

"It was while we were setting rat traps that we found a number of fresh paw prints of a cat in

patches of soft sand.

"But it was not until we reached the first of two penguin breeding colonies that we discovered, near the entrance to its burrow, a freshly killed little penguin.

Bite marks

"Bite marks around its head, beak and legs clearly showed teeth impressions consistent with those of a cat.

"While evidence of fresh diggings around the entrances to some burrows indicated the penguins had only just come ashore and were preparing for nesting, many of the burrows were still unoccupied.

"Concern for the penguins increased as we found fresh cat tracks around the entrances to some of the unoccupied burrows.

"A thorough search through the second colony on the southern end of the island, revealed 19 dead little penguins, bringing the total number killed to 20.

"All had been killed

since the night before our visit and all bore bite marks around the throat, head and legs, similar to those found on the first dead penguin.

"None of the birds had been eaten by the animal that had killed it, although three had their heads chewed off.

"One freshly killed black rat was also found, confirming that this pest is also present on the island.

"The fact that neither the penguins nor the rat had been eaten, indicated the killer had not been hungry but had simply gone on a killing spree.

Cat traps

"Fearing for the remaining birds, we set two cat traps that same day, re-baiting and checking them regularly over the ensuing three weeks, but no cats were caught.

"Fortunately, the killing of the penguins also ceased.

"This could mean that the cat was no longer on the island, or that, for the time being, it had stopped

killing penguins for reasons unknown and was too wary to be caught in a trap.

"How the cat came to be on the island is still a mystery.

"Perhaps it had swum the comparatively short distance from the mainland to the island during calm conditions, though this is considered unlikely.

"Another possibility is that some well-intentioned person heard about there being rats on the island and decided to release a cat there to kill the rats.

"The killing of the penguins was given extensive media coverage, resulting in encouraging and widespread support for CALM's efforts in protecting our wildlife from the depredations of feral cats and foxes. "Post-mortems on the penguins revealed that they were more likely to have been killed by a cat than by a fox and that the birds had been in good condition with ample fat reserves to carry them through the July to March breeding season."

Fire-fighting fitness a top CALM priority

by Verna Costello

CALM has launched an ambitious program designed to raise staff fitness and health levels.

The program involves those who are largely engaged in demanding physical work, with particular emphasis on fire-fighters.

Ultimately, it is planned to incorporate all staff in the program as part of CALM's health and welfare policy.

Fire-fighters first

Executive Director Dr Syd Shea said he believed CALM personnel involved in physical work must be fit enough to ensure their health and safety and that those who fight fires should be regarded as a top priority.

"As members of CALM's listed fire-fighting force, it's important that they're equipped physically to undertake their role without risk to their own health or that of work mates," Dr Shea said.

Unions' agreement

The program has been designed with the assistance of the Department of Human Movement at the University of Western Australia (UWA), and has been developed with the agreement of all major unions with members in CALM.

A pilot program was initiated by the Nannup District staff earlier this year and involved 38 crew, field and office staff.

The program was well received by the majority of the Nannup team, thus laying the foundation for its adoption by other Districts.

The format of the program involves a two-day seminar conducted by Mr Nick Randall of the UWA Human Movement Department, and incorporates a health and fitness assessment of each participant.

Results confidential

Results of assessments are given in confidence to each person, together with a suggested course of action to raise health and fitness levels where desirable.

The seminar covers a range of topics including health care to prevent coronary heart disease, stress-awareness and relaxation techniques, diet and lifestyle awareness, and the benefits of aerobic activities.

During the practical sessions, participants form themselves into their everyday work teams.

They then work together on a range of exercises designed to bring them to

the level of fitness needed to carry out their tasks.

Participants are shown that by working with and encouraging each other within their teams, they can ensure the success of the program - and enjoy themselves in the process.

UWA study

A study is being commissioned by Fire Protection Branch through the UWA, to assess minimum levels of fitness required to undertake different fireline duties ranging from fire-fighters to controllers and support staff.

The study will involve the monitoring of body responses to typical work duties required of the different fire control roles.

From this study, fitness benchmarks will be established that will provide achievable targets for the different categories of fire-fighters.

Dr Shea said the initiatives were part of his overall desire for a safe and productive working environment for all CALM employees.

Guarantee

"They should not be seen as threatening anyone's employment and I give my personal guarantee this will not occur," Dr Shea said.

The first health and

Continued page 2



Warming up for their fitness test, from left to right, are: Nambung National Park ranger Terry Harrington, Yanchep Park ranger Therese Jones, Safety Officer, (Como) Tom Wood and officer, Wanneroo Marilyn Ramsay. They all can be called upon to fight fires.

Photo by Verna Costello



Over the last several months there have been two major changes in the system of management and administration in CALM.

Firstly, we have moved to fully-fledged program management. That is, we have three distinct programs in the Department: Forest Resources, Nature Conservation and Wildlife, and Tourism and Recreation, to which we relate both expenditure and management responsibility.

The second major change is in our system of budgeting. We are now asking managers to be responsible for allocation of as much of the budget as is feasible. For example, in the past we had a collective bin for salaries. Now, salaries have been allocated to managers and they, in turn, must allocate them to the appropriate program.

All this may be dry and boring but it is fundamentally important to the Department. While we are a very successful example of an integrated management agency, it is important that we have a clear focus on the reasons why the Department exists. It is even more important to know, as precisely as possible, where the money is being spent.

Some people in the Department may feel this emphasis on accounting is contrary to some of our most cherished objectives - conservation of wildlife, for example - but this accounting is not for the sole purpose of drawing up profit and loss sheets. Accounting is just as important for those activities in the Department that don't earn a single dollar as it is for those commercial activities where profit and loss are important.

For example, knowing how much it costs to maintain fox-free areas, and measuring that cost against the fantastic benefit to conservation, puts us in a powerful position to argue for funding for that project. Profit and loss accounting is obviously very important in those activities which are commercial. We will not be able to maintain the very large flow of funds into CALM from commercial enterprises, particularly those funded by external investors, unless we run a very tight balance sheet. The great challenge we have is to maintain the obvious benefits of an integrated agency, while at the same time operating program management and program budgeting.

I am confident that this can be done. It is true in the case of CALM that it is not a simple task. We are not running a biscuit factory. But all the evidence suggests from successful models of complex organisations in both the private and the public sector that it is possible to have an organisation which has a multiplicity of objectives that retain the benefits of synergy because it is integrated, while at the same time achieves focus and accountability for all of its functions.

There are, almost monthly, reams of words written in management books of how this can be achieved. But the overwhelming conclusions are that the key is to have good communications and goodwill.

I am conscious that our communication hasn't been as good as it should have been and I am also aware that goodwill has been strained in various areas of the Department because of the administrative and budgeting changes which have been undertaken.

As difficult as the process is, there is no doubt that we have to successfully operate program management and program budgeting and make it compatible with an integrated agency. If we don't we will not survive as a Department.

I am confident that we will succeed.

Dr Syd Shea, Executive Director

Gravel pit rehabilitation

GRAVEL pits can be a problem - they attract all sorts of activities - rubbish dumping, for example, and even theft of plants.

In the Katanning District such a gravel pit is located partly on King Rock Nature Reserve and partly on a Woodanilling Shire gravel reserve.

After the Shire's gravel requirements were exhausted the pit was ripped, as per CALM's new Guidelines for the Management and Rehabilitation of Gravel Pits, then planted by the Shire.

Several months later a large number of the plants were stolen.

Katanning's reserves officer Steve Toole agreed to try rehabilitating the pit once and for all.

Clerk-typist Melissa Ford and reserve management assistants Brad Bourke and Des Plumb joined Steve in collecting seed from six indigenous plant species growing around the pit.

The seed was then cleaned and CALM's Narrogin Nursery propagated the plants.

During June of this year, the Woodanilling Shire sprayed the weeds growing within the gravel pit

prior to planting.

Brad, Des and Steve planted approximately 1 000 seedlings which included species such as hakea, rock sheoak, one-sided bottlebrush, fox banksia, wandoo and marri.

The access track was then temporarily closed off to give the plants a chance to become well-established.

More rehabilitation works have been planned by the District for this financial year.

Steve Toole has completed negotiations with Main Roads to fund rehabilitation works of 10 of their old gravel pits, some of which have already been ripped, but the lack of natural regeneration has resulted in the decision to plant the pits.

Most of the pits are located in the Shire of Lake Grace, so District staff will be camping out while seed-collecting and later while planting.

The nursery at Narrogin will be asked again to propagate the plants.

Some of the species to be used for these pits include several species of banksia and hakea, ridge-fruited mallee, quandongs, red toothbrushes and snakewood.



Goosebeak whale beaches at Bunbury

by Doug Coughran

WHEN beach walker Laurie Hunt found a dead goosebeak whale on a Bunbury beach recently, CALM wildlife officer Sean Hazelden was soon on the scene where he is pictured above examining the 2.8 metre juvenile male.

The first record of the Cuviers beaked (or goosebeak) whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*) within the last 12 years (since CALM has been keeping records) was on 31 January 1988 at Warren Beach which is west of Northcliffe in the State's south west.

This species distribution is world wide in tropical and temperate waters.

It is not known to mass-strand and most single strandings are reported from New Zealand.

Their average length is 6.4 metres for males and 7 to 8.5 metres for females, with calves about 2.1 metres at birth.

Adult whales weigh on average 3 tonnes, with a maximum of 4.5 tonnes recorded.

This species is by no means as rare on our coast as the lack of records suggest but data retrieved from such strandings provide valuable scientific information for the WA Museum due to the oceanic habit of the species.

Tests were carried out to establish whether or not the presence of heavy metal, organochlorine and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) had contributed to its death.

While the exact cause of death is unknown it is suspected to be due to natural causes.

STAFF NEWS

Appointments

Caroline Fremlin, Officer, Busselton; Dragan Mistic, Economist, Economics Branch, Como.

Promotions

Alex Errington, Director, Corporate Services, to Deputy State Ombudsman; Kevin Helyar, Bunbury Inventory, to Forester Grade 2.

Transfers:

Park Ranger movements: Scott Godley, Mobile Ranger to Resident Ranger, Millstream-Chichester; Bill Badcock to Geikie Gorge; Mark True to Peron National Park.

On the road to recovery

THE Wongan triggerplant (*Stylidium coroniforme*) is the target of a recovery plan that will call on the combined efforts of CALM, Wongan-Ballidu Shire, Main Road and the Water Authority of WA.

The species is gazetted as Declared Rare Flora and is known from only a few hundred plants in populations near Wongan Hills and Maya.

CALM staff members Mike Fitzgerald (Merredin District Manager), Ken Atkins (Senior Botanist, Flora), David Coates (Principal Research Scientist), Mike O'Donoghue (Administrative Officer, Flora) and Consultant Botanist Anne Kelly met recently with representatives from the other three agencies to discuss the plan.

The recovery plan was prepared and is being implemented by CALM with funding provided by the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Recovery actions include surveys for new



Wongan triggerplant. Illustration by Allen Lowrie

office premises.

The recovery team visited two populations of the Wongan Triggerplant, north of Wongan Hills, including one on the perimeter of a large, disused gravel pit.

It was agreed that with the cooperation of all parties the gravel pit could be successfully rehabilitated and when completed would greatly enhance the conservation value of the area and the long-term survival of this and other local species.

The recovery team will meet bi-annually to report on progress of the recovery actions.

The Wongan triggerplant is a small plant that grows in shallow, sand soil over laterite.

It has numerous leaves arranged in several rosettes at the base, each with a flowering stalk bearing many scattered flowers.

The flowers are pink when new, fading to white, with red spots at the throat and dark red lines on the underside.

CALM Classified

THIS column is divided into sections dealing with 'for hire', 'for sale', 'surplus equipment', 'swap', or 'wanted'. If you have any equipment or requirement that you wish to advertise through this service, please send or fax type-written details to: The Editor,

CALM NEWS,
Corporate Relations Division

For Hire

Lewis saw with experienced operators. \$30.00/h plus wages and plant. Contact Peter Moore, Collie 341 988.

Wanted

Office safe. Small to medium size. Contact Melissa Ford Katanning (098) 211 296.

Chairs in very good condition. Preferably ergonomic or similar. Contact Lynne Oakes, Dwellingup 538 1078.

Electric typewriter, preferably Olivetti ET 111 or similar, in good condition. Contact Taryn, the store, CALM Dwellingup. Ph: (09) 538 1078.

For Sale

Photocopier/Printer - Xerox 4045 - basic functions. Working condition. All reasonable offers considered. Contact Joanne Currian, ISB, Como (09) 367 0257.

Cafe Bar - Series 6A. Very good condition. New hot

water element. Coin operated. Facilities for tea, coffee, chocolate, milk, sugar, soup. Make an offer! Contact Lynne Oakes, Dwellingup 538 1078.

Bormac Heavy duty drill press. 3/4 HP motor. 5/8" - 16 mm capacity. 2 yrs old. \$200 ono. Contact Steve Toole, Katanning (098) 211 296.

Surplus Equipment

1 off 3-point linkage slasher. Contact Jim Raper, Collie 341 988.

From page 1

fitness seminar to follow the Nannup District study was held at Wanneroo on September 3 and 4, when 51 people from Perth and Moora Districts attended.

Feedback from those taking part was positive and enthusiastic, typical comments being:

"The front office staff were thrilled to be included ... we particularly liked the concept of getting fit as a team."

"It was great, particularly the way the theory session was followed up right away with the fitness testing."

"The sessions on nutrition were particularly valuable."

The remaining seminars are expected to be held in the South West during October through to December.

CALM NEWS - SEPTEMBER 1992

Managing Editor: Ron Kawalilak

Editor: Verna Costello

Contributing Editors: David Gough, Helenka Johnson, Carolyn Thomson

Design and Layout: Sandra Mitchell

Published by CALM Corporate Relations Division, Cygnet Hall, (crr) Mounts Bay Road & Hackett Drive, CRAWLEY, Western Australia 6009
Telephone: (09) 389 8644 Facsimile: (09) 389 8296

Deadline for CALM NEWS is the 10th of the preceding month.

PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER

Alex Errington - upwardly mobile

NEWS of Alex Errington's recent promotion to Deputy State Ombudsman for Western Australia has been received by his colleagues and friends with mixed feelings.

While pleased for him, they know that he will be very much missed and a great loss to CALM.

Leadership

As one of the Department's foundation Corporate Executive members, Alex provided significant leadership as Director of the diverse Corporate Services portfolio.

Alex's contribution to shaping the structure of the Department through the direction of human resources and finance management will be where his going will have the first and most noticeable impact.

However, it is in the area of conservation land acquisitions that his efforts have been even more outstanding.

When CALM was formed it had responsibility



Alex Errington.
Photo by Carolyn Thomson

for the management of 16.4 million hectares of land.

At the time of Alex's resignation, CALM had responsibility for managing 19.7 million hectares of land and 1.1 million hectares of marine areas.

This significant increase and the huge amount of work done by Alex and his staff in resolving many of the management

problems caused by difficult reserve boundaries, enclaves, and the need for amalgamations, etcetera, will stand as a worthy tribute to his many years of commitment to the task.

Alex takes with him the congratulations and warm wishes of his friends and colleagues that he will enjoy equal if not greater success in his new position.



Left to right: Mary McLean of Ninga mia demonstrates how to make a coolamon, an all-purpose carrying dish that can be made in any size. With her are Kathy Trimmer and Jean Butts. Photo by Verna Costello

Women head for bush and CALM (Mundaring)

CALM Mundaring was the venue and several of its staff the hosts recently to about 80 women who took time out from family and other commitments to participate in Active Expressions Heads for the Bush.

Active Expressions is an annual project organised by the Women's Sport Foundation of WA (Inc).

WSF executive director Yvonne Rate said that its target group was women of all ages and types of occupation and its two-fold aim was to encourage women to pursue a sport or physical activity they enjoyed and to express themselves through creative activities.

Fitness flow-on

"As with the menfolk and children in her life, benefits gained from a woman's own physical fitness flow on to those around her - in the home and wherever else she works," Yvonne said.

"She tires less easily, becomes ill less frequently and when she does she recovers faster if she's fit.

"Also when she's able to express herself through active activities her mental, emotional and spiritual life is strengthened - she

tends to become emotionally and mentally tougher."

This year, the bush was chosen as a tranquil setting for the activities and as a learning experience in itself.

Bush tales

For the group travelling by bus from Perth to Mundaring, the day began with a selection of Aboriginal bush stories told by Goldfields-born-and-bred Kathy Trimmer.

Getting in touch with the 'spirit of the forest', the next item on the agenda, was a form of meditation conducted by Cam Armstrong.

Bliss

For many this was a novel experience, and for those not 'into meditation' it was, as one woman expressed it, 'sheer bliss, anyway, with a whole hour of no-one tugging at me, demanding attention.'

Next came billy tea and Johnny cakes made and served by CALM Mundaring clerical officer Jean Butts, and Ray and Helen Armstrong from the 1st Mundaring Ranger Guides.

Volleyball, easily set up and often played in metropolitan parks and at the beach, proved just as popular in the bush.

Archery seemed a natural for the bush and drew large numbers, as did bush sculpture and design, demonstrated by Nalda Searles and Trudi Pollard, using mostly leaves, grasses, twigs, small branches, resin and other naturally occurring 'bush litter'.

By the end of the day one ambitious woman had produced a sturdy-looking child's chair but most opted for baskets and ornamental pieces for their first efforts.

Journalist Alison Farmer led a group wanting to write about the bush, while photographing it held the interest of others led by professional photographer June Butcher.

It had rained steadily all morning, so mugs of steaming hot soup were enthusiastically downed before a wide range of healthy, energising lunches were devoured, to a background of guitar and vocal numbers soothingly rendered by Liz Rivett.

A lively forest

The rain then became a 'drownpour' but just as it had not dampened spirits during the morning, it failed to deter some 50 stouthearts who cheerfully took off

'to experience and appreciate the forest as a living entity'.

They were led in separate groups by CALM interpretation officer Lotte Lent and regional ecologist Jenni Alford, with assistance from Amanda Spooner.

They returned soaked to the skin but exhilarated - and ready for more Johnny cakes and scalding hot billy tea.

Bush tucker

Kathy Trimmer again captivated her listeners as she told of the bush tucker that Goldfields Aboriginal people hunted, gathered and prepared. She also described how her people dealt with sickness and injuries, using the bush as their medicine chest.

Feedback was enthusiastic and positive with 'the bush' an outright winner as far as pleasantly surprising learning experiences were concerned.

Two comments that were overheard were:

"It's so alive and busy and yet it's got this calming effect that you enjoy anything you're doing so much more - I'm definitely going to bring the family out here."

"I feel as if nothing can rattle me ever again!"

Loops and Z-bends upgraded at Kalbarri

Generations of tourists (and CALM staff) have staggered and tripped along the rough, rugged and rocky paths that lead to two of the most spectacular and popular tourist attractions in WA, The Z-Bend and The Loop in Kalbarri National Park.

However, in the last 12 months CALM's Kalbarri team (rangers Roy Harris, Gerry Deegan and David Burton, assisted by a small team of local youths supported by grants) have completely upgraded the

carparks, picnic areas and the walk trails to the gorges, making the rough and the rugged considerably less so.

Upgrading the paths was tough manual labour, with gravel having to be carted in, formed up and rolled.

Steps were then set in place using local stone and recycled railway sleepers and drainage measures concreted in place.

The result is one good, safe and attractive path where numerous rough and dangerous paths existed before.

Ranger Roy Harris said the team worked right through the heat of summer so they could avoid a clash with peak visitor periods.

"But it was worth it to get such a good result and now all we need is some rain so we can upgrade the roads to the gorges as well," Roy said.

Recently, a contract was let to carry out a major road upgrade in the Park.

If the work is completed this year, Kalbarri will not only be one of our most beautiful parks, but also one of the most user-friendly.



The Kalbarri team, left to right: Roy Harris, Gerry Deegan and Dave Burton on the new path to The Loop. Photo by Alex Errington

Bug lady in China

HOW would you like to spend your annual leave with over three-and-a-half thousand people talking about bugs?

CALM entomologist Janet Farr did just that recently - in Beijing, China where she and the other 3 600 delegates from all over the world attended the International Entomology Congress.

Janet presented a poster display featuring information on a newly named insect, the *Cardiaspina*

jerramungae psyllid, discovered in 1982 on flat-topped yates (*Eucalyptus occidentalis*) along the south coast of Western Australia.

The town of Jerramungup was named from the Aboriginal word meaning 'place of the flat-topped yate' and these were the trees that appeared to be fire-scorched in 1982 but were, in fact, suffering severe crown decline and death caused by the psyllid, later named after Jerramungup.

Janet and technical officer Stephen Dick put together a display on the psyllid, (also mistakenly known as a 'lerp') with photographs and descriptions, which were considered by those taking part in the Congress to be among the more interesting presented.

Following the Beijing week-long Congress, Janet then took off for Tibet to polish off her annual leave experience.

She has since returned to CALM's Science and

Information Division at Manjimup to continue her work which includes finding out which types of native trees are resistant to the ravages of this psyllid.

Such research is vital as native trees are important in combating the increase in salinity of the water table, a problem facing many of our farmers in the South West.

Janet's story, *Lerps, bugs and gum leaves*, appears in the spring issue of *LANDSCOPE*.

Pine breeding breakthrough

A SCIENTIFIC breakthrough in breeding radiata pines will result in an extra million dollars of wood production in WA each year.

"Scientists are breeding pine trees that produce more wood, grow faster, are better formed and resist dieback disease (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)," said Executive Director Dr Syd Shea.

"As a result we can produce more wood from the same area - there has been a 25 per cent increase in volume since 1970."

Radiata pines have both male and female parts and if left to their own devices they either self-pollinate or are wind-pollinated by their near neighbours.

This is undesirable, as it makes it difficult to bring the right parents together

to make genetic gains and to breed for dieback resistance.

CALM scientist Trevor Butcher devised a technique to chemically emasculate the trees, essentially sterilising the male parts.

The trees are then dusted with pollen (vacuumed from suitable parent trees in the previous year) to fertilise the female parts.

Before this technique was developed, bags had to be placed over the female cones to keep out wind-blown pollen.

"The bags were then manually injected with pollen from selected parent trees, which was very expensive, whereas the chemical technique costs no more than conventional wind-pollination," Dr Shea said.

All the work is done on

sexually mature trees pruned into low hedges - known as Hedged Artificial and Pollinated Seed Orchards (HAPSO), which makes working on them much easier and cheaper.

This year, the first commercial crop of "super" seeds was produced from trees pollinated using this technique.

CALM officers are now in the process of collecting the large volume of seed (150 kilograms per year) needed for the Department's normal nursery operations.

The Department grows more than 90 per cent of the radiata pines used in State and private forests at its Manjimup nursery.

CALM has made such enormous gains in radiata pine breeding that the seed orchards planted in earlier decades are now redundant.



With a crane at either end, the bridge is manoeuvred into position. Photo by John Neal

Big Brook bridge a boon to older people

A STEEL bridge has been installed over the spillway at Big Brook Dam north of Pemberton.

The installation will mean that CALM's 'totally accessible' trail around the dam is near completion.

CALM southern forest regional parks and recreation officer Vicki Metcalfe said that easy access from the car park along sealed paths and over the bridge would mean that elderly people, those in wheel chairs, or with pushers could enjoy the facilities without mixing with vehicular traffic.

"Visitors can more easily reach fishing platforms, bird observation hides and trailside interpretation

shelters or just relax in the tranquility of the dam's back waters," Vicki said.

Initially, it was proposed a timber bridge be constructed over the 24-metre spillway but it soon became apparent that this would be much more costly than one made of steel.

CALM Pemberton District recreation officer David Meehan said the design for the bridge was developed by CALM in association with the WA Water Authority.

Bunnings Engineering Services of Manjimup carried out the construction and installation, with CALM and the South West Development Authority funding the project.

Mr Meehan said the Manjimup Shire Council assisted with site works by constructing the footings and would be joining the trail to the bridge.

He said wheel stops and low barriers were to be fixed at potential danger points for wheel chairs around the trail.

"These will be installed by CALM workers from the Pemberton District in the next few months," Mr Meehan said.

Vicki Metcalfe said the tourist centre committee members had keenly supported the development from the outset and were hoping to promote the attraction Statewide and nationally.

Pemberton Tourist

Centre manager Michael Ivers said very few sites in WA were of such high quality for recreation and that he hoped to work with CALM to organise major events for the whole community at the dam site.

Big Brook Dam recreation area is the home of the Big Brook Relay which is organised by CALM Pemberton District staff each year.

Dave Meehan is organising this year's event which will be held on Saturday November 14 - so why not come down and join in the activities and have a look at the new bridge, too.

Any inquiries about the event should be directed to David on (097) 761 209.

Eric Jenkins bows out of CALM

WHEN Eric Jenkins, Regional Manager of Swan Region, retired recently he left behind a slice of history that has played a significant part in the overall heritage of WA.

Eric worked for CALM, and formerly the Forests Department, for more than 35 years.

He started work as a forest guard in 1957 after completing the two-year forestry trainee course.

He then received a Hackett Bursary and State Scholarship to study at the University of WA and Canberra School of Forestry.

Eric worked in Operations at Collie, Manjimup and Kirup Districts and the Northern Forest Region.

He also spent two years formulating and implementing a private forestry investment policy.

In 1973 he wrote the Forests Department's Pine Working Plan.

Off-duty, Eric has been involved in Apex, Rotary, Parents and Citizens and Neighbourhood Watch.

In recent years he has learned to speak Indonesian and spends most of his vacations in that country.

Farewell functions in Eric's honour included a luncheon at the Kelmscott Tavern and a dinner at Dorchester Lodge, where CALM's general manager Roger Underwood and officers from Kelmscott and other Swan Region Districts had great pleasure in recalling the many humorous incidents during Eric's working life.

Eric's dry wit is



Eric Jenkins. Photo by Andrew Tatnell

legendary and he sometimes gave expression to it in internal memos.

Many of his more rib-fracturing classics have been preserved on file at Kelmscott (so if you are out that way call in and

check them out).

Eric and his wife Anne take with them the warm wishes of their many friends and colleagues in CALM for the best of health in a long, satisfying and happy retirement.

...and Alan crosses to centre-stage

ALAN WALKER was transferred to the position of Manager, Swan Region, vacated by Eric Jenkins, on July 31, 1992.

Alan brings with him a wealth of expertise and

because of his previous experience as Manager, Southern Forest Region, his transfer is expected to ensure a rapid and smooth transition into this key position.

Football witchcraft?

Female staff at Como have been sweeping the board when it comes to football tipping.

In the final series of the competition Margaret

Ebert won \$50 and even when it came to being last a woman came first with \$25 going to Michelle Wakka. The final result saw first prize of \$200

going to Margaret Ebert, second prize of \$100 to Natalie Littlefair, and the third prize of \$24.20 shared between Carolyn Milligan and John Ireland.

RELATIONSHIPS between the City of Gosnells and CALM's Mundaring staff were boosted recently when Mundaring's recreation crew was asked to demonstrate their expertise in walk trail construction.

The Mundaring crew worked with City of Gosnells crew to provide a safe access to the Ellis Brook Waterfall through typically rugged scarp country.

The eight-day job,

generously funded by the City of Gosnells, provided an ideal training ground for both parties.

The Gosnells' crew gained an insight into CALM's trail construction methods and CALM crews picked up a few pointers on liaising with outside authorities.

The trail winds through a picturesque valley, rich with early spring wildflowers and year-round, stunning, panoramic views over Perth - all on suburbia's door step.

Boundaries redefined

THE Greenough-Gascoyne Region has been renamed Midwest Region, with its headquarters based at Geraldton.

Operating out of the same office is the new Geraldton District, incorporating the Shires of Northampton, Chapman Valley, Mullewa, Greenough, Irwin, Mingenew, Morawa, Yalgoo, Cue, Mt Magnet, Sandstone, and that part of the Murchison Shire extending south of a line

joining the south of Shark Bay Shire and the north of Yalgoo Shire.

The Moora District remains within the newly named Region.

Shark Bay District has been renamed Gascoyne District and includes the Shires of Shark Bay, Murchison, Carnarvon and extends north to the southern boundary of Waroora Pastoral lease, Upper Gascoyne, and the southern half of Meekatharra Shire, (the northern half being

managed by Pilbara Region).

The extension of the Gascoyne District will place management of Mt Augustus National Park, the Kennedy Ranges proposed national park, Boolardy Nature Reserve, and the proposed Lake McCleod Nature Reserve under its control.

When staffing levels permit, it is proposed to station a District operations officer at Carnarvon to better manage the above

lands, and to assist in the management of the western side of Shark Bay Marine Park, and Bernier and Dorre Islands Nature Reserves.

At present, CALM is represented in Carnarvon by a District wildlife officer.

The Region's new name is in keeping with the practice of local government authorities, the Tourism Commission and other State government agencies, of naming the area 'The Midwest'.

Ellis Brook Walk Trail

RELATIONSHIPS between the City of Gosnells and CALM's Mundaring staff were boosted recently when Mundaring's recreation crew was asked to demonstrate their expertise in walk trail construction.

The Mundaring crew worked with City of Gosnells crew to provide a safe access to the Ellis Brook Waterfall through typically rugged scarp country.

The eight-day job,

generously funded by the City of Gosnells, provided an ideal training ground for both parties.

The Gosnells' crew gained an insight into CALM's trail construction methods and CALM crews picked up a few pointers on liaising with outside authorities.

The trail winds through a picturesque valley, rich with early spring wildflowers and year-round, stunning, panoramic views over Perth - all on suburbia's door step.



From left Nicola Tabrett, Peter Madaley, Rob Hamilton, Greg Bremner, Glenn Willmott, Brad Walter, Gerry Molloy, Caesar Cassotti and Max Bending. Photo by John Carter