



Adults standing at rear, left to right: senior technical officers Graham Liddelow and John Neal, senior research scientist Lachlan McCaw, user support officer Pam Burgoyne, senior principal research scientist Per Christensen and technical officer Steve Dick. Seated at centre front is John Neal's wife Lyn. Children left to right are Shell, Matthew and Shane Liddelow and Tenzin Dick at extreme right. Delayed action photo by Pam Burgoyne.

Polishing up the Perup Field Station

Perup Field Station was a hive of activity one weekend in February, when a keen group of volunteers from Manjimup Science and Information Centre held a busy bee to clean, repair and generally tidy up the buildings and grounds.

The group included Per Christensen, Lachlan McCaw, Graham (Tub) Liddelow, Bob Smith, John and Lyn Neal, Steve Dick and Pam Burgoyne.

Children belonging to Tub and Steve also lent a hand with clean-up operations.

The field station is located in the proposed Perup Nature Reserve about 40 kilometres north

by Pam Burgoyne

east of Manjimup and has been used over many years as a base for forest ecology research and education programs.

Weekend field ecology courses held each spring and autumn provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn something of the ecology of the eastern jarrah and wandoo forests around Perup.

Friday morning's activities included roof repairs to the house (Bob and Lachie), carpet laying (Per and John) and removal of antiquated displays and posters and maps from the

projects room by Lyn and Pam along with amazing quantities of desiccated flies and moths!

Later, Steve's carpentry skills were put to good use restoring doors to working order, while Lyn, Pam and John installed new flywire to the doors of the sleeping units. Sections of an old fence were also dismantled and removed.

By knock-off time on Friday, it was clear that the major job of possum proofing the main house would have to be left until Saturday. Barbecues were lit and a pleasant evening was spent with an eventful spotlighting session led by Tub Liddelow.

Tub also set traps so

that the house possums would be captured in good time for the next day's events.

Saturday morning saw three possums captured right around the house area and care was taken to keep them as comfortable as possible while the possum-proof wire was installed by Steve and Tub.

All in all it seemed a very successful busy bee as well as a most pleasant social outing for adults and children who had worked together.

Maintaining and, where possible, improving the facilities at Perup Field Station will help to reinforce its role as a research and education centre.