



- ◆ Nannup Forest Experience - page 3
- ◆ How you can apply for a Fellowship - page 3
- ◆ Opening of McNess House - pages 4 and 5



- ◆ CALM book a labour of love - page 6
- ◆ Regional seminar at Camp Quaranup - page 7
- ◆ Penguin Island reopened - page 7



- ◆ CALM hands over new fire fighter - page 8
- ◆ LANDSCOPE Expeditions, 1994 - page 8
- ◆ New lookout tree book - page 8

Monkey Mia plan released



Premier Richard Court addresses visitors at the official opening of a renovated and refurbished McNess House, Yancheep National Park. The opening was celebrated indoors and out with tours of McNess House, picnicking in the park, live music, a market selling pottery, stained glass items, and other crafts. See pages 4-5 for more. Photo by Verna Costello

A draft management plan for the Monkey Mia Reserve, in the world heritage-listed Shark Bay region, has been released for public comment.

The draft, prepared by CALM, lists recommendations for the future management of the area, recognised internationally for the interaction between people and dolphins.

"Monkey Mia is one of the treasures of Western Australia's diverse conservation and tourism estate," CALM's Executive Director Dr Syd Shea said when he officially released the management plan at Monkey Mia last month.

"Although the dolphins have been coming into the region for 30 years, it has only been in the past 15 years or so that Monkey Mia has grown as a tourist destination.

"Today, about 100 000 people, many of them from overseas, visit the area each year.

"This dramatic upsurge in visitor numbers means there is increased pressure on the environment and the interaction experience with the dolphins could be at risk.

"The management plan aims to ensure people can still enjoy the experience of being among the dolphins while the surrounding land and waters are conserved."

Dr Shea said the draft plan recommended Monkey Mia be declared an A class reserve for recreation and flora and fauna conservation.

The reserve would continue to be vested jointly in the Executive Director of CALM and the Shark Bay Shire.

The Monkey Mia Reserve Management Committee, comprising representatives from CALM and the Shire and an independent chairperson would be responsible for developing and reviewing the management plan.

The 456-hectare reserve runs along the shore of the Shark Bay Marine Park and joins the Francois Peron National Park to the north.

Dr Shea said the management plan also aimed to give visitors a broad range of recreational activities within the reserve.

Separate areas along the beach are proposed to be zoned to manage boat-

ing, fishing and swimming. The dolphin interaction area would extend about 250 metres east of the existing jetty and 40 metres out from the shore.

Beach moorings for 30 small craft also would be provided for overnight stays.

Special conservation priority would be given to the thick-billed grasswren, the only fauna species in the reserve declared threatened under the Wildlife Conservation Act.

Dr Shea said Aboriginal sites, and others of significance to European settlement in the reserve would be protected.

Appropriate commercial operations that provided a greater diversity of visitor experience would be encouraged.

"Monkey Mia has high conservation values and is vital to the region's future prosperity," Dr Shea said.

"The draft plan is the basis for community discussion and public views are important in shaping the strategy to manage this wonderful feature of our State."

The draft plan will be open for public comment for two months.

CALM CEO at Kuala Lumpur conference

THE biggest challenge facing the world's forests was integrating science and technology with the economic and political environment, CALM Executive Director Syd Shea told a major international conference recently.

He said the challenge to forest managers, therefore, was to convince the community through political processes that they were best served by forest management that delivered the greatest good for the greatest number of people now and in the future.

Dr Shea was delivering the keynote address to the 14th Commonwealth Forestry Conference in

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. His paper was entitled 'Sustainable management of forests for multiple benefits - is there anything new under the sun?'

He said managing forests sustainably for multiple benefits was not new, but dated back to mediaeval times.

"What has changed is the dramatic increase in the number of constituencies and the number of demands that these constituencies are placing on forests," he said.

"Our knowledge of forest ecosystems is accelerating, and there are radical changes in the technology and economics of forest management that open opportunities to in-

crease levels of sustainable uses of forests.

"But to capitalise on these opportunities, forest management and use must be not only integrated with the dynamics of forest ecosystems, they also must be integrated with the economic and political environments of the real world."

Dr Shea said no matter what levels of sophistication and sensitivity were achieved, forest managers would never satisfy all users of the forest all of the time.

"The major threat to forest management progressing into an exciting era is that forest man-

continued on page 2



This year has been one of the least enjoyable ones for me because I have not had many opportunities to get out into the bush. This is principally because I have been tied down in the office dealing with a succession of 'crises', induced in the main by external critics ('roving negators') whose motivation appears to be to disrupt CALM and its implementation of exciting and innovative conservation and land management initiatives.

Consequently, it was a relief to be able, over the last few weeks, to get out of the office and see some of these initiatives being implemented and to meet the people in CALM who are getting on with the job.

I was delighted to see, when I visited Shark Bay, how much progress we had made, not only in building physical assets like our new hot pool (which, I'm told, preliminary university tests suggest may have healing waters), but also in developing strong and positive relationships with the Shire and the local community.

My visit to Yanchep National Park on the occasion of the Premier's launch of the new commercial arrangements (detailed on pages four and five), and the opening of McNess House were also very enjoyable. The park is undergoing a revolution that is led by the people working in it.

My visit to Nannup to launch the nature-based tourist venture - a partnership between CALM Nannup, the local tourist bureau and the private sector - was also an effective antidote to the malaise induced by being office bound.

The 'roving negators' have started to wear me down again and I can't get out to see the things we are doing that inspire me so I have had to resort to reading one of my favourite quotes. It is from *The bitter woods* (1969) by John S D Eisenhower (and attributed to Theodore Roosevelt). I have circulated it before, but for those who missed it I reproduce it here in the hope that if there are people like me who get weary of the critics they may find it helpful:

"It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows great enthusiasms, great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat"

Dr Syd Shea, Executive Director



Premier Richard Court gives the 'thumbs up' to the Eagle X-TS that will become CALM's front line fire surveillance aircraft, replacing the ageing Piper Super Cub fleet over the next two years. CALM Executive Director Syd Shea (right) said the planes would be stationed at Dwellingup, Bunbury and Manjimup. Photo by Nigel Higgs

CALM to fight fires with six new Eagles

WESTERN Australian aviation technology will play a vital role in protecting the State from uncontrolled wildfires.

The Henderson-based company, Eagle Aircraft, has been awarded a \$312 000 contract to supply six Eagle X-TS planes to CALM over the next two years.

The planes, to be based at Dwellingup, Bunbury and Manjimup, will replace CALM's ageing fleet of Piper Super Cubs.

A crucial part

In announcing the contract at a special function at the factory early this month, Premier Richard Court said aerial detection was a crucial part of the State's fire protection strategy.

Other key parts were public education, fully equipped fire-fighters and

effective communications.

He said the contract was particularly significant as it combined Western Australian aviation technology with a bushfire detection system that ranked among the world's best.

Before 1972, fire detection was mainly based on a network of lookout towers, some of them built more than 60 metres above the ground in the lopped crowns of karri trees.

In 1972-73, the first aircraft - a Cessna 150 - was tested in the Pemberton district. A second aircraft was bought following the acceptance of the test and by 1975 nine aircraft were used in fire spotting.

In 1979-80 these Cessnas were replaced by the Piper Super Cubs.

Since 1972, the spotter planes have notched up 135 000 hours of flying without serious mishap. This represents about 60 000 take-off and landings.

Easy to handle

The selection of the Eagle X-TS as the future aircraft for CALM was made on the basis that it was extremely easy to handle in the air, provided a very good viewing platform for fire detection, was 30 per cent faster than the Super Cub, and it was

a low maintenance aircraft that incorporated the latest technology.

This technology included high-strength composite material; a light, powerful engine; high tech instrumentation and a global satellite positioning system (GPS)

The aerial surveillance allows fire fighters to attack fires rapidly when they are small. For example, more than 95 per cent of fires attended by CALM fire fighters are contained before they spread across 20 hectares.

Other uses

The planes also will enable CALM to conduct aerial photography, surveys and search and rescue operations.

Mr Court paid tribute to all the agencies involved in fire protection including CALM, the Bush Fires Board, local government and volunteers.

"Throughout Western Australia we have thousands of men and women who put in countless hours of their time voluntarily to fire prevention and suppression," he said.

"However, the community cannot expect our agencies and volunteers to assume all the responsibility when it comes to fires. The responsibility rests with all of us."

STAFF NEWS

Promotions

Patricia McLean, Admin Assistant, Ministry of Education; John Ireland, Principal Risk Management Officer, Risk Management Section; Allan Carver, Financial Systems Officer, Financial Systems; Craig Letica, Finance Officer, Finance Branch; Gordon Wyre, Manager, Wildlife Branch; David Lamont, Executive Officer, Wildlife Branch - Roadside Conservation Committee; Frank Mansillas, Accounts Payable Supervisor, Finance Branch; Natalie McBeath, Administrative Assistant, Department of Minerals and Energy, Kalgoorlie; June Anderson, Administrative Assistant, Kalgoorlie.

Secondment:

Greg Pobar, Environmental Manager, Rottnest Island Authority.

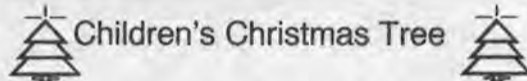
Transfers:

David Algaba, Officer, Como Wildlife Protection; Carol Brocx, Forest Ranger, Margaret River; Grant Lamb, Forester, Dwellingup; Steve Toole, Reserves Officer, Geraldton; Alan Seymour, Senior Forest Officer, Manjimup Silviculture; Charles Newman, Forest Ranger, Collie.

Mobile Ranger Deployment

Arvid Hogstrom to Penguin Island. Tony Tapper, Bill Badcock and Trevor Anderson all to Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park; Paul Udinga to Albany District; Barry Cartledge to Lane Poole Reserve.

Calling all parents



Saturday December 11 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Featuring the Kangaroo Creek Club Gang

For further details contact Estelle de San Miguel at Corporate Relations Division - telephone (09) 389 8644. Telex (09) 389 8296.

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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

Wanted

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

Pair of worn out walking boots, any small size preferred. Phone Fiona Marr (09) 364 0716.

6 x 4 single axle trailer in reasonable condition. Con-

tact: Terry Ashcroft Jarrahdale (09) 525 5293.

For Sale

Toshiba T2000 (AT) Notebook computer, 3 megb. RAM and VGA screen. Price neg. Phone Patrick (09) 334 0495.

Complete sets of original Forest Focus publications. Also individual publications, all

in excellent condition. Phone Paul Marsh, Manjimup (097) 711 788.

Spend \$600 on new hard disk, and Apple Mac PC is yours. Phone Peter Hollings (09) 334 0372.

For Hire

Lewis saw with experienced operators. \$30.00/hr plus wages and plant. Contact Peter Moore, Collie (097) 34 1988.

OR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dr Shea, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate CALM on the Milyering Visitors' Centre in Cape Range National Park.

During our family holiday to the north recently, we had intended to spend a short time at the centre to familiarise ourselves with the area. We ended up staying for almost two hours.

The building and concept itself is commendable in its energy efficiency and low environmental impact.

The information contained within its walls is interesting and informative.

Most of all I would like to compliment the staff. The CALM officer in charge (I

believe) Mr Les Harris and a female CALM officer were two of the most helpful and pleasant public servants I have ever come across, assisted by a friendly volunteer who took us back into the centre to explain about a particular type of flora.

They chatted with the children and provided books and information on flora and fauna we were particularly interested in.

These three people are a credit to CALM and obviously enjoy their work.

Since our holiday I have recommended the centre to all who have asked and I will look forward hopefully to a return visit in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Debra Bentley Geraldton.

Dear Sir, Before old times move on I was wondering if you could enquire through CALM NEWS of a poem told to me by George Reynolds, near on 40 years ago, called 'Osborne' possibly around Willow Springs or Yanmah.

He apparently was the local saw doctor and used to get up to some skulduggery at times.

He must have been going on a voyage somewhere as the last part I remember is:

As I was thinking of the vessel,
Along came Stewart,

Stoate and Kessell

As they went by in their big sedan car,
They never even stopped to say ta-ta

I would say it could be unprintable but there may be someone who can relate the poem and its origin. It would be much appreciated if you could find out.

I wrote a poem called 'Bush Fire' which should be on record in your office according to the copy I have, but if anyone would like a copy, please telephone me on 561 1833.

Yours faithfully
N O (Ted) Haddrill
Two Rocks.



Volunteers get right behind Terry Goodlich, acting ranger-in-charge at Shoalwater Islands Marine Park. Photo by Neil Mulligan - Courtesy Weekend Courier

One hundred volunteers to greet Shoalwater visitors

by Terry Goodlich

Should you be fortunate enough to visit Penguin Island or the new Shoalwater Visitor Centre at Mersey Point this coming summer, you will probably be greeted by one of the Shoalwater Islands Volunteers.

In preparation for the forthcoming busy summer season, 46 new volunteers were selected about two months ago from many applicants.

Over a period of seven weeks, these new recruits and many of the existing experienced volunteers spent Saturday mornings attending training programs organised by Jarrahdale District and Swan Region staff.

Topics covered included a study of geomorphology (physical for-

mation and coastal processes such as erosion, depositing and build-up of sediments, and so on); the history of Penguin Island; flora and fauna of Shoalwater Islands; CALM management practices; marine mammal rescue; first aid - for both oiled seabirds and people; penguins; seagrass; subtidal reefs and inter-tidal zones; and the all-important interpersonal skills.

On average, 60 people attended each Saturday morning session at the Ministry of Education's Camp School at Point Peron.

The success of the course can be attributed

both to the enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers, and to the highly professional input from the many speakers from CALM, the University of WA, Murdoch University and the WA Naturalists' Club who were so generous with their time and knowledge.

Experienced volunteers had an opportunity to renew and develop their knowledge and skills, while the new volunteers gained valuable knowledge and increased confidence, which will stand them in good stead when carrying out their duties.

On completing the program, volunteers were presented with a Certificate of Attendance by CALM's Director of Parks, Recrea-

tion, Planning and Tourism Chris Haynes.

The Shoalwater Islands' volunteers now number 100 active members, the largest volunteer group for CALM.

With more than 70 000 visitors a year to Penguin Island, these volunteers fulfil an important role, in helping CALM to provide educational information to the public.

The volunteers choose how much input they wish to have, and in which areas - such as staffing the Shoalwater and the Penguin Island Visitor and Information Centres, giving talks to school and other groups, taking guided walks around Penguin Island, or helping with rehabilitation and research projects.

Could you win a Fellowship?

THE Winston Churchill Memorial Trust is now calling for applications for its 1995 intake.

Successful candidates each receive air fares, a living allowance, a fee allowance - and are well looked after by organisers and their helpers.

On average, Churchill Fellowships last about three months and are worth about \$13 000.

The Fellowships are available to all Australians who have already established themselves in their calling. They are not awarded for the purpose of obtaining formal qualifications.

Executive Director Dr Syd Shea said he was particularly interested to hear from staff applying for a Churchill Fellowship.

"Ultimately, CALM and the community in general have much to gain from staff who are able to take advantage of these Fellowships," Dr Shea said.

Several CALM staff have benefited already from the knowledge gained from them.

In 1984, South Coast regional manager John Watson (who was with the National Parks Authority at the time) was selected to

study the management of national parks and wilderness, with particular emphasis on visitor safety, in the west of the United States of America.

John said he gained increased awareness that CALM's park management work was part of a global effort for world nature conservation and that most of our methods paralleled those of North America and Europe.

"Some of our management policies and strategies, even then, were equal to, if not ahead of, those of North America," John said.

"My observations confirmed that visitor education is generally the best way to deal with safety issues such as coastal hazards or wildlife 'confrontations', whether they be with grizzly bears or crocodiles.

"I also developed much greater awareness of the special complexities of cave rescue after attending a week-long National Cave Rescue Symposium in South Dakota."

In 1991, silviculture branch manager Jack Bradshaw travelled to the USA, Sweden and Germany to study multiple-use forest management.

Jack said it was an in-

valuable experience in broadening one's perspectives, seeing how other countries tackled similar problems and seeing how our own practices fitted into an international context.

"Not to mention having a marvellous time and experiencing some great hospitality," he said.

"Many of the things learned are now in practice in Western Australia."

Acting head of the Bioresources Group of the Science and Information Division and acting head of WA Herbarium Neville Marchant travelled to the Ukraine and Russia in 1985 to study plant specimens that had been collected in Western Australia last century.

He also visited the large Kiev Herbarium in Moscow, and St Petersburg for a six-week botanical study.

WA plants collected by botanist James Drummond and others, had been extensively studied by the Russian botanist Nicholas Turczaninov.

In the mid-1800s Turczaninov described as new to science, hundreds of species of WA plants, publishing them in Russian journals.

Neville was able to

study the specimens described by Turczaninov and compiled photographic records of Australian specimens then held in Russian herbaria.

"These specimens are of great importance to Australian plant collections because they establish the correct usage of names for many of the related plant species discovered since the collections of Drummond," Neville said.

Science and Information principal research scientist Kevin Kenneally travelled to the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States of America in 1979 where he studied the role of amateurs in natural history data collecting.

Kevin said the knowledge he gained had been invaluable when establishing, training and building networks of volunteer groups.

Staff interested in applying for a Churchill Fellowship should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope 24cm by 12cm to: Application Forms, The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 218 Northbourne Avenue, BRADDONACT 2601.

Applications close on February 28, 1994.

New Nannup forest experience tour

A new nature-based tour on which visitors may get hands-on experience in helping forest managers find out more about Western Australia's wildlife has been launched in the South West.

Called the Nannup Forest Experience, the tour is a collaborative effort between the Nannup Tourist Centre and CALM and builds on Western Australia's natural advantage in offering visitors an insight into the State's unique environment.

Working with CALM staff

CALM Executive Director Syd Shea, who launched the tour in Nannup, said the tour enabled people to go into the forests and to join in the day-to-day work of CALM forest managers, who study and monitor wildlife and their habitats.

The tour comprises an evening in the forest spotlighting native animals

followed by a morning inspecting traps and weighing and measuring animals.

CALM staff also give talks on other aspects of the forest environment such as dieback, feral animals and fire.

Diverse array

The jarrah forest around Nannup has a diverse array of wildlife that includes dunnarts (small mouse-like marsupials), phascogales (also known as wambengers), bandicoots, chuditch and brushtail possums.

CALM constantly monitors animals such as these to gauge the impact of forest use on wildlife.

The Nannup Forest Experience also blends the skills of the private sector tour operators with the scientific knowledge of CALM.

In this way CALM helps the private sector to create new tourism ventures.

A private tourism op-

erator, Wildlife Walkabout Safaris of Busselton, has been engaged by the Nannup Tourism Centre to take people on the tour.

CALM Nannup staff involved in getting the project up and running were Carl Beck, Mike Wright, Shann Low, Fred Myers and Mark Kaptein.

Pilot program

The Nannup Forest Experience is a pilot program that could become the model for co-operative, ecologically sustainable tourism in other parts of the South West.

Wildlife is only one aspect of the forest that can be developed for tourism ventures. Others include general forest management, timber harvesting, culture and heritage.

The development of ventures also will help conserve the forests as they stimulate a greater conservation ethic among tourist operators and tourists alike.

Fitzgerald River's biosphere a model

CALM's Fitzgerald biosphere ecologist Angela Sanders will be continuing her biological survey of the area, concentrating on 10 selected sites in the buffer-corridor zones around the Fitzgerald River National Park.

She will also be working on significant areas of remnant vegetation on private land.

Angela is employed under a States' Cooperative Assistance Program grant through the Australian Nature Conservation Agency (ANCA).

During her first six months, Angela undertook biological survey work at numerous sites in the area.

The results of this overview, together with analysis of historical records, has enabled the identification of the 10 key sites for further study.

The project has, however, already yielded some

exciting new information, especially in the Phillips River area south of Ravensthorpe, where the rare heath rat, western mouse and Mitchell's hopping mouse were all trapped in close proximity.

Angela's project has also sparked renewed interest within the local community in both the Fitzgerald Biosphere Project and also in the nature conservation values of remnant vegetation on farm lands.

A network of interested people is now being established within the community, and local school children will be participating in the biological survey work.

There are also plans for a community workshop on the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve to be held in May 1994.

In August, South Coast regional manager, John Watson, attended a meet-

ing of a Working Group on Biosphere Reserves held at ANCA Headquarters in Canberra and organised by the Australian Commission for UNESCO.

This was attended by the regional or district managers of all 12 of Australia's Biosphere Reserves.

According to John, it was clear from this meeting that the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve is rapidly developing into one of Australia's model biosphere reserves, along with the Danggali-Calperum-Hattah-Kulkyne system in South Australia and Victoria.

The Fitzgerald is particularly noteworthy for its community interaction, especially through the activities of landcare groups within the Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe Land Conservation District Committees.



Heath rat (*Pseudomys shortridgei*) trapped in the Phillips River area. Photo by Greg Harold

Opening of McN

A \$5 million public and private sector project
Park was unveiled recently by Pre

The project is one of the biggest private investments in nature-based programs aimed at enhancing the State's conservation effort.

Mr Court said private investment in environmental and recreation projects in conservation areas would be a major stimulus to promoting Western Australia as a nature-based tourism destination.

This in turn would improve opportunities for local communities with flow-on benefits to small businesses that then created new employment opportunities.

"Western Australia's conservation effort must look beyond Government for some resources, including funding," he said.

"Sponsorship in the conservation, recreation and park areas is only a new development which reflects increasing community support for conservation, especially within the corporate sector which recognises that good investment opportunities exist.

"The Coalition Government is creating an economic environment which facilitates private sector investment to enhance the management of our parks."

The \$5 million joint venture at Yanchep National Park includes a new commercial lease and licence agreement for the Yanchep Inn and associated recreation facilities.

Under the terms of this lease and licence agreement, the private sector will invest about \$3 million in the park including:

- ◆ A \$2 million upgrade of the Yanchep Inn, 22 more accommodation units and a new tearoom/kiosk.
- ◆ \$1 million on improving facilities in the park such as the golf course, caves and rowing boats.

The Government, in association with the private sector has invested

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Scruffy is one of the charges cared for by Yanchep National Park ranger-in-charge John Wheeler. Above, Scruffy enjoys tender loving care from a delighted visitor. Photo by David Gough



Life-size model of earliest Yanchep settler, Henry White (above left). Display unit showing topography of Yanchep National Park recreation area (upper right). Panels can be lit up by the press of a button to show various aspects of the park. Fireplace surrounded by 1930s-style furniture (lower right). Note the stained glass door panels. Photos by Verna Costello



Music from Billboards in Space added to carnival atmosphere. Photo by Verna Costello



Katie Jodrell of Raptor Retreat shows Premier Richard Court how to take charge of Ebon

McNess House

sector project to upgrade Yanchep National centrally by Premier Richard Court.

\$200 000 in upgrading the historic McNess House. LandCorp committed \$75 000 towards the work, which included a substantial contribution to internal design, project management and provision of building materials.

Dulux Australia donated 200 litres of paint while Midland Brick Co Pty Ltd provided pavers at a discounted price.

The grand old guest house has been transformed into a focal point for visitors, providing information about the area and ideas for things to see and do.

Other Government-funded initiatives include roadworks costing \$200 000, a new 116-bay lakeview car park at a cost of \$185 000, a new lakeview picnic area costing \$32 000 and new infrastructure for water, power, telephones and signposting costing a total \$235 000.

Work scheduled this financial year includes completing most of the landscape works around McNess House at a cost of \$200 000, a new 170-bay car park costing \$300 000, planning a new koala compound, further improving visitor services and completing the new entry station and associated road works.

The commercial lease agreement, between local company Keymark and CALM, was approved by the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority and Environment Minister Kevin Minson.

The company also has taken over the reticulation, mowing, rubbish collection and barbecues in the park's recreation areas as well as managing the golf course, swimming pool, cave visits and rowing boat hire leaving CALM park staff free to provide more services to the public.

Keymark will pay five per cent of its gross turnover from the park to the Government.



Young volunteers (above) help blow up balloons - a popular attraction. Photo by Verna Costello



how to take charge of Ebony, a brown falcon (Falco berigora). Photo by Verna Costello



Above left, Short Circuit, a barn owl (Tyto alba) from Raptor Retreat, solemnly views the proceedings and wisely says nothing. Yanchep National Park rangers Geoff Harnett and Therese Jones taking their task seriously (upper right). Therese admires her handiwork (lower right). Photos by Verna Costello



Young James Gough (right) joins other visitors to make a new friend. Photo by David Gough

New walks book

THIRTY-FIVE people covered almost 300 kilometres in two weeks to research the latest publication from CALM - *Family Walks in Perth Outdoors*.

CALM staff, volunteers, friends and relatives walked every step of the 52 walks (one a week for a year) to see if they were safe and suitable for inclusion.

But before anyone pulled on their boots and tied the laces, a base list of walks had to be selected. Using CALM's best selling book *Perth Outdoors* as a source, some 70 or so likely walks were chosen. Maps of the various areas were sought, but it was soon apparent that no suitably detailed maps existed, that would provide the information needed to trace the routes of the walks.

This meant that the 'test' walkers would not only have to check the routes for safety and interpret what they saw along the way, but they would also have to trace the route each trail took.

With the walkers as-

sembled, briefing meetings were held and, after a few teething problems, the information started to pour in and the task of piecing it together into an easily read and cohesive book began.

The experience was truly an eye-opener. While most were regular walkers, many found that having to take note of the surroundings gave them new insights into the natural environment of the 'Perth Outdoors' area.

The walks range in length from a few hundred metres to about 18 kilometres and have varying degrees of difficulty.

Most have picnic facilities nearby and can be completed within half an hour to half a day.

The book is aimed at families and provides gradual but positive encouragement to walk both for exercise and pleasure.

Descriptions of each walk give directions and information about the natural environment through which they pass.

The book continues the philosophy of *Perth Outdoors*; that is, getting peo-

ple out and about and enjoying nature. But it goes a step further.

Family Walks in Perth Outdoors is like having your own private guided tour of some of the most beautiful and interesting places in and around Perth.

At least a dozen walks were left over for a future volume which will include places such as Lake Monger, Canning River Regional Park, Yellagonga Regional Park, Joondalup Central Park, the Beeliar Wetlands, Rottmest Island, Shoalwater Islands, Woodman Point and Avon Valley Catchment.

But we need more, and that's where readers can help.

If you know of any walks in the 'Perth Outdoors' area - which stretches from Lancelin to the Peel-Harvey Inlet and east to the edge of the Wheatbelt - tell us about them.

Meanwhile, be sure to get your copy of *Family Walks in Perth Outdoors*. The book is priced at \$14.95, but remember CALM employees get a 20% discount.



Taryn Linning shows 'the before and after' of plastic map protection. Photo by Tammie Reid

Taryn's innovative streak

by Tammie Reid

DWELLINGUP'S innovative storewoman Taryn Linning is becoming renowned for her custom-made plastic map protectors.

Taryn's idea began back in 1989 when working as a clerk-typist for Dwellingup District.

The chaos of the map drawers and the resulting crunched up maps really irked her.

At that time Dwellingup Research Centre was using a heat sealing machine to fabricate full-sized tree covers out of heavy duty plastic.

For Taryn it was a simple job to use the machine to seal up plastic envelopes that would fit the 1:50 000 maps and the aerial photo interpretation maps.

The next job was to help

the overseers keep their rolls of maps in good order. This time, plastic tubes were the solution - and they're still going strong.

Pemberton District has given a second order to Taryn, who is busy calculating the profit margin with her supervisor Peter Burton.

Winter is the best season for getting the time to do this sort of work, so if you want to know more, give Taryn a call on (09) 538 1001 or fax her on (09) 538 1203.

So what else does Taryn do when not being innovative for CALM?

She has lived in Dwellingup for 13 years, has two children, son Owen (11)

and daughter Shannon (8), and has enjoyed a varied and interesting career.

Taryn has worked as a clerical officer, a computer-based water analysis technician and now enjoys her work at the Dwellingup store.

She has set up store information as much as possible on computer and sees great scope for a program specifically designed for district stores.

Taryn sees the application of bar coding, as is done in supermarkets, as an exciting and time-saving possibility.

Her leisure interests have focused on log chopping since Ted Mills, a log chopper from way back, introduced her to crosscut sawing in a Jack and Jill event in the 1991

Dwellingup log chop.

Together they won a trophy, and the competitive spirit in Taryn was fired up.

Taryn said she would like to buy a \$500 New Zealand racing saw to help her on the way to competitive sawing.

"It's a lot of fun and good exercise, but there are very few women who give it a go," Taryn said.

"I'd like to see crosscut sawing as part of the Dwellingup health and fitness program.

"If we could get hold of a couple of M-tooth saws, we could run sawing events as part of the early morning fitness program."

Anyone who would like to lend a crosscut (or two) for this purpose can contact Taryn at Dwellingup.

Walyunga National Park spring cleaned



Ross McGill looks pleased with the picnic shelter painted by Asset Services staff member Pat Malloy. Photo by Verna Costello

New picnic shelters have been erected at Walyunga National Park, as part of a community-based project sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

In a joint venture, DAS provided the skilled staff for the project and CALM supplied the materials.

Commercial operation

DAS, which is required by the Federal Government to operate along fully commercial lines and recover its costs, has been looking for opportunities to employ surplus staff on public interest projects which need their skills.

by Ross McGill

At Walyunga, seven plant operators from Asset Services, a DAS business, were used to build the picnic shelters.

Extensive weeding

Other works completed in the five-week contract included cutting down castor oil trees, a noxious weed found along the river; eradicating watsonia, also a noxious weed, surrounding the picnic areas; and cutting back scrub and overhanging trees from both sides of the main park entrance road.

The following six weeks saw Asset Services staff

working in John Forrest National Park on weed eradication programs, painting toilets and resurfacing the pathway through the first railway tunnel built in WA.

The levelling and resurfacing work, using blue metal from other parts of the track, means that the scores of bushwalkers, who are drawn like magnets by the tunnel's historic interest, can walk more comfortably and safely.

Work continues

CALM has a continuing program of development and maintenance of WA's national parks, and DAS has been more than happy to assist.

When is the best time for CALM to play a round?

THERE are CALM golfers who swear it has to be the Foresters' Golf Day down at Nannup - now open to all staff - but the organisers are asking for help in deciding when to hold next year's competition.

This year's event was hailed a great success by those who took part, but numbers were down on previous years.

"We chose a later date than usual after last year's

clash with the AFL preliminary finals, but maybe we need to fine tune it again," organiser Michelle Widmer said.

"Everyone who comes says it's the best game of golf they've had, so we want to find a weekend that suits as many people as possible."

About 40 people teed off this year - over half of them choosing the social competition in the morning and leaving the serious play-

ers to the afternoon game.

Night golf the evening before was a handicap for players of all levels as they made their way - carefully - along a candle-lit course, aiming fluorescent golf balls at fluorescent greens markers.

As expected, the competition provided tremendous footage for the video camera brought along this year - a feature sure to be repeated, along with the wine tasting and spit roast.

"If anyone would like to see something else added to next year's golf day, I'd be happy to hear from them on (097) 561 101," Michelle said.

For the record, the winners of the 28th annual golf day were:

- ◆ Nannup (teams)
- ◆ Rick Curron (men's net)
- ◆ Charlie Broadbent (men's gross)
- ◆ Dianne Craigie (women's)
- ◆ Kim Phillips-Jones (bushrangers).

Scientists in the making?

THE following are a few schoolchild howlers:

- ◆ Genes are things we have whether we want them or not.
- ◆ Genetics explain why you look like your father and if you don't why you should.

- ◆ Gymnastics exercise your outsides while genetics exercise your insides.
- ◆ Spontaneous generation means a generation that would rather do without mothers and fathers.
- ◆ Ancestors are impor-

tant. Without ancestors you might not even have a mother or father. Everyone ought to have an ancestor.

- ◆ Genes are what make things like they are. I have decided genes are my eighth favourite thing in the universe.

- ◆ Pasteurized milk comes from cows that eat in pastures.

Extracts from The newest biology - elementary school children elaborate on the standard texts by Matt Edwards Bio Science Vol. 41 No. 3 pp.136-138.

Staff meeting at the Camp Q

NOISY scrub-birds, blue-gums and banking were among the topics that drew CALM staff to the tenth South Coast Regional Seminar.

The four day meeting was held recently at Camp Quararup, Albany.

The seminar was attended by staff from throughout the region and by several visitors, some of them travelling up to 600 kilometres.

Visitors included Director of Finance, John Byrne, Director of Parks, Planning, Recreation and Tourism, Chris Haynes, and Director of Nature Conservation, Keiran McNamara.

Aboriginal liaison officer, Noel Nannup, community involvement coordinator, Col Ingram, chief wildlife officer, Dave Mell, freedom of information coordinator, Trevor McGill, senior vegetation advisor, VATPAS, Peter Beatty, Walpole district manager, Andrew Morton and Albany district manager-elect, Drew Griffiths also attended.

Local Police and State Emergency Service (SES) chiefs attended Dave Mell's session on whale, dolphin and other strandings.

As usual the seminar comprised updates and training sessions, syndicate exercises, field excursions and a social evening. The Annual Dinner plus CALM Quiz Night was also attended by spouses.

According to regional manager John Watson, the

By John Watson

seminar was one of the most successful held to date.

"There were several key aims with the seminar - particularly training and updating various aspects of CALM's work in the region.

"Just as important was the opportunity it gave us to meet senior CALM staff from outside the region and to bring together regional staff who otherwise wouldn't have had the chance to meet during the year.

"We covered such broad-ranging topics as wildlife issues on the Nullarbor, the Australian Nature Conservation Agency (ANCA), Fitzgerald Biosphere Project, integrated tree planting, die-back management at Cape Arid, preparing for job applications and accounting," he said.

Field trips were held to bluegum tree plantings, to the new SES Operations Room in Albany and to Torndirrup National Park, where a syndicate exercise on footpath maintenance was held.

Evening slide shows from their overseas visits were given by Chris Haynes (USA) and John Watson (Venezuela and Hawaii). A regional staff meeting was held on the final evening, giving all seminar participants a chance to contribute.



Veterinarian Dave Marshall, (standing right), shows wildlife officer Lawrie Anderson (left) the beached whale's temperature, while volunteers James Pearce (seated left) and Melissa Vernon look on. Photo by Martin Lloyd

Volunteers and vets

by Martin Lloyd

THE Albany coastline is rarely the scene of live whale beachings but recently a concerned couple rang CALM about a whale at Mutton Bird Beach, east of West Cape Howe National Park.

Wildlife officer Lawrie Anderson and I answered the call.

We found a distressed pigmy sperm whale rolling in the surf.

The four-metre male had been discovered by local identities James Pearce and Melissa Vernon, on their early morning run along the beach.

Veterinary surgeon Dave Marshall was called when it was noticed that the whale was passing blood and had lesions on its underside.

Unfortunately, the whale showed other signs of severe ill health and the vet decided there was no option but to euthanase the mammal.

An autopsy, carried out to determine the cause of illness, found a number of problems: internal lesions, widespread parasites and stress to the heart.

Despite this, it was not possible to say what had led to the illness - the heart stress, for example, could have been a result of the beaching, rather than an existing condition.

Specimens from the whale were sent to Perth for analysis, but these also failed to pinpoint the cause of illness.

The carcass was buried deep in the sand above the beach.

Special thanks go to Melissa Vernon, James Pearce and veterinary surgeons Dave Marshall and Dave Foreshore for their assistance.

Goldfields spruce up

By Grant Pronk

PLANTING native trees and shrubs has been a priority for urban land care groups in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area for more than 20 years.

The past 100 years in the Goldfields have seen varying amounts of clearing, where large areas of land immediately surrounding Kalgoorlie-Boulder have been denuded of trees and shrubs through mining and residential activities.

This land clearing left large areas exposed to the severe dust storms that once blanketed the Goldfields towns in layers of red dust.

These storms are now

far less common because of the efforts of Goldfields residents and the Urban Land Care Group, of which CALM is an active member.

Recently, CALM staff were involved in a planting project in Gribble Creek Linear Park, an old cleared area within the residential zone of South Kalgoorlie.

The project was organised by CALM dust abatement officer Guy Clarke in conjunction with the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Some 120 children from the local primary

school planted 2000 native tree and shrub seedlings along 10 kilometres of irrigated rip lines.

Gribble Creek Linear Park is in the early stages of development and will eventually consist of ovals, picnic areas, water harvesting, cycle ways, and pockets of native vegetation.

As many of the children taking part live in the area, the activity of planting the seedlings is expected to result in a sense of ownership and pride.

This should bring about a reduction in maintenance as the children take an active part in monitoring the well-being of their tree and shrub 'babies'.



CALM reserves officer Sharon Fraser helps South Kalgoorlie Primary School children plant trees and shrubs. Photo by Grant Pronk

The Smiths' bird hospice

by Terry Hales

ON Sunday October 17, the Western Australian Native Bird Hospital at Sawyers Valley opened its doors to the public and friends.

More than 750 invited guests and members of the public took the opportunity to see how the hospital operates in caring for sick, injured and orphaned birds.

Hospital volunteers and other wildlife carers were stationed at strategic points to help visitors with information and advice.

The 'hospital boxes' where birds are kept under intensive care, the rehabilitation rooms, and the outside cages, where birds become accustomed to the natural environment again, all had explanatory notes, about the type of bird, injury or cause of admittance and the area of origin.

An area at the back of the property has been replanted with native plants.

This has been planned, not only as a showpiece, but also as an additional food source for the honeyeating bird species.

Here too, members of the local Wildflower Society were on hand to answer questions.

Food, drink and souvenirs were available as fundraising items and a display of information and live birds of prey by the Society for Preservation of Raptors added interest to the day.

Apart from the visitors, life continued as normal at the hospital with 14 admissions being made during the day, with problems that ranged from cat attack to vehicle strikes.

These new admissions add to the workload imposed by the care of the birds already there, and Keith and Sue Smith and their helpers are to be admired for their devotion and dedication to the care of native birds.

Keith and Sue, owners, instigators and operators of the WA Native Bird Hospital, were among those recently honoured by CALM for their long service and dedication to the care of native wildlife.

They were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Voluntary Service by Environment Minister Kevin Minson.



Keith and Sue Smith. Photo by Carolyn Thomson

Penguin Is. reopened

PENGUIN ISLAND in Shoalwater Bay near Rockingham has reopened to the public after facilities were substantially upgraded during the closure for the winter penguin nesting season.

The work involved installing a network of raised boardwalks to give visitors better access to the information centre and other facilities.

CALM officer Peter Dans said the boardwalks had also been built to meet the needs of people with disabilities.

Spectacular views

A new grassed picnic area with more shade and seating and spectacular views to Shoalwater Bay also has been created.

The work was carried out under the Shoalwater Islands Management plan prepared by CALM on behalf of the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority and released last October after extensive public participation in the planning process.

Another new feature is the 'Shoalwater In-Depth' display at the Shoalwater Visitors' Centre on Mersey Point which introduces visitors to the distinct plants, animals and land-forms of the islands and surrounding marine park.

The display, sponsored by CALM and the City of Rockingham, encourages visitors to appreciate the area's values so they will protect them for future generations.



Exercise organiser Terry Passmore shelters from the rain at South Coast Regional Seminar. Photo by Martin Lloyd

Natural Resource Management - a UWA MSc course

FOR those who missed the advertisement in The West Australian and The Australian the following information may prove useful:

The University of Western Australia has vacancies in its MSc Natural Resource Management course.

The aim of the course is

to provide training in the principles of efficient resource management and the evaluation of policies in the public interest.

For further information contact Ian Briggs at The University of WA (Telephone (09) 380 2105).

Enrolments for 1994 close on November 30, 1993.



This year has been one of the least enjoyable ones for me because I have not had many opportunities to get out into the bush. This is principally because I have been tied down in the office dealing with a succession of 'crises', induced in the main by external critics ('roving negators') whose motivation appears to be to disrupt CALM and its implementation of exciting and innovative conservation and land management initiatives.

Consequently, it was a relief to be able, over the last few weeks, to get out of the office and see some of these initiatives being implemented and to meet the people in CALM who are getting on with the job.

I was delighted to see, when I visited Shark Bay, how much progress we had made, not only in building physical assets like our new hot pool (which, I'm told, preliminary university tests suggest may have healing waters), but also in developing strong and positive relationships with the Shire and the local community.

My visit to Yanchep National Park on the occasion of the Premier's launch of the new commercial arrangements (detailed on pages four and five), and the opening of McNess House were also very enjoyable. The park is undergoing a revolution that is led by the people working in it.

My visit to Nannup to launch the nature-based tourist venture - a partnership between CALM Nannup, the local tourist bureau and the private sector - was also an effective antidote to the malaise induced by being office bound.

The 'roving negators' have started to wear me down again and I can't get out to see the things we are doing that inspire me so I have had to resort to reading one of my favourite quotes. It is from *The bitter woods* (1969) by John S D Eisenhower (and attributed to Theodore Roosevelt). I have circulated it before, but for those who missed it I reproduce it here in the hope that if there are people like me who get weary of the critics they may find it helpful:

"It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows great enthusiasms, great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat"

Dr Syd Shea, Executive Director



Premier Richard Court gives the 'thumbs up' to the Eagle X-TS that will become CALM's front line fire surveillance aircraft, replacing the ageing Piper Super Cub fleet over the next two years. CALM Executive Director Syd Shea (right) said the planes would be stationed at Dwellingup, Bunbury and Manjimup. Photo by Nigel Higgs

CALM to fight fires with six new Eagles

WESTERN Australian aviation technology will play a vital role in protecting the State from uncontrolled wildfires.

The Henderson-based company, Eagle Aircraft, has been awarded a \$312 000 contract to supply six Eagle X-TS planes to CALM over the next two years.

The planes, to be based at Dwellingup, Bunbury and Manjimup, will replace CALM's ageing fleet of Piper Super Cubs.

A crucial part

In announcing the contract at a special function at the factory early this month, Premier Richard Court said aerial detection was a crucial part of the State's fire protection strategy.

Other key parts were public education, fully equipped fire-fighters and

effective communications.

He said the contract was particularly significant as it combined Western Australian aviation technology with a bushfire detection system that ranked among the world's best.

Before 1972, fire detection was mainly based on a network of lookout towers, some of them built more than 60 metres above the ground in the lopped crowns of karri trees.

In 1972-73, the first aircraft - a Cessna 150 - was tested in the Pemberton district. A second aircraft was bought following the acceptance of the test and by 1975 nine aircraft were used in fire spotting.

In 1979-80 these Cessnas were replaced by the Piper Super Cubs.

Since 1972, the spotter planes have notched up 135 000 hours of flying without serious mishap. This represents about 60 000 take-off and landings.

Easy to handle

The selection of the Eagle X-TS as the future aircraft for CALM was made on the basis that it was extremely easy to handle in the air, provided a very good viewing platform for fire detection, was 30 per cent faster than the Super Cub, and it was

a low maintenance aircraft that incorporated the latest technology.

This technology included high-strength composite material; a light, powerful engine; high tech instrumentation and a global satellite positioning system (GPS)

The aerial surveillance allows fire fighters to attack fires rapidly when they are small. For example, more than 95 per cent of fires attended by CALM fire fighters are contained before they spread across 20 hectares.

Other uses

The planes also will enable CALM to conduct aerial photography, surveys and search and rescue operations.

Mr Court paid tribute to all the agencies involved in fire protection including CALM, the Bush Fires Board, local government and volunteers.

"Throughout Western Australia we have thousands of men and women who put in countless hours of their time voluntarily to fire prevention and suppression," he said.

"However, the community cannot expect our agencies and volunteers to assume all the responsibility when it comes to fires. The responsibility rests with all of us."

STAFF NEWS

Promotions

Patricia McLean, Admin Assistant, Ministry of Education; John Ireland, Principal Risk Management Officer, Risk Management Section; Allan Carver, Financial Systems Officer, Financial Systems; Craig Letica, Finance Officer, Finance Branch; Gordon Wyre, Manager, Wildlife Branch; David Lamont, Executive Officer, Wildlife Branch - Roadside Conservation Committee; Frank Mansillas, Accounts Payable Supervisor, Finance Branch; Natalie McBeath, Administrative Assistant, Department of Minerals and Energy, Kalgoorlie; June Anderson, Administrative Assistant, Kalgoorlie.

Secondment:

Greg Pobar, Environmental Manager, Rottnest Island Authority.

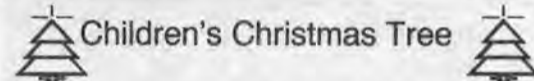
Transfers:

David Algaba, Officer, Como Wildlife Protection; Carol Brocx, Forest Ranger, Margaret River; Grant Lamb, Forester, Dwellingup; Steve Toole, Reserves Officer, Geraldton; Alan Seymour, Senior Forest Officer, Manjimup Silviculture; Charles Newman, Forest Ranger, Collie.

Mobile Ranger Deployment

Arvid Hogstrom to Penguin Island. Tony Tapper, Bill Badcock and Trevor Anderson all to Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park; Paul Udinga to Albany District; Barry Cartledge to Lane Poole Reserve.

Calling all parents



Children's Christmas Tree

Saturday December 11 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Featuring the Kangaroo Creek Club Gang

For further details contact Estelle de San Miguel at Corporate Relations Division - telephone (09) 389 8644. Telex (09) 389 8296.

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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

Wanted

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

Pair of worn out walking boots, any small size preferred. Phone Fiona Marr (09) 364 0716.

6 x 4 single axle trailer in reasonable condition. Con-

tact: Terry Ashcroft Jarrahdale (09) 525 5293.

For Sale

Toshiba T2000 (AT) Notebook computer, 3 megb. RAM and VGA screen. Price neg. Phone Patrick (09) 334 0495.

Complete sets of original Forest Focus publications. Also individual publications, all

in excellent condition. Phone Paul Marsh, Manjimup (097) 711 788.

Spend \$600 on new hard disk, and Apple Mac PC is yours. Phone Peter Hollings (09) 334 0372.

For Hire

Lewis saw with experienced operators. \$30.00/hr plus wages and plant. Contact Peter Moore, Collie (097) 34 1988.

OR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dr Shea, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate CALM on the Milyering Visitors' Centre in Cape Range National Park.

During our family holiday to the north recently, we had intended to spend a short time at the centre to familiarise ourselves with the area. We ended up staying for almost two hours.

The building and concept itself is commendable in its energy efficiency and low environmental impact.

The information contained within its walls is interesting and informative.

Most of all I would like to compliment the staff. The CALM officer in charge (I

believe) Mr Les Harris and a female CALM officer were two of the most helpful and pleasant public servants I have ever come across, assisted by a friendly volunteer who took us back into the centre to explain about a particular type of flora.

They chatted with the children and provided books and information on flora and fauna we were particularly interested in.

These three people are a credit to CALM and obviously enjoy their work.

Since our holiday I have recommended the centre to all who have asked and I will look forward hopefully to a return visit in the future.

Yours sincerely, Debra Bentley Geraldton.

Dear Sir,

Before old times move on I was wondering if you could enquire through CALM NEWS of a poem told to me by George Reynolds, near on 40 years ago, called 'Osborne' possibly around Willow Springs or Yanmah.

He apparently was the local saw doctor and used to get up to some skulduggery at times.

As I was thinking of the vessel,

Along came Stewart,

Stoate and Kessell

As they went by in their big sedan car, They never even stopped to say ta-ta

I would say it could be unprintable but there may be someone who can relate the poem and its origin. It would be much appreciated if you could find out.

I wrote a poem called 'Bush Fire' which should be on record in your office according to the copy I have, but if anyone would like a copy, please telephone me on 561 1833.

Yours faithfully N O (Ted) Haddrill Two Rocks.