

CALM and Albany Museum in two-pronged venture

AS part of its Tourism and Recreation Action Plan, the South Coast Region has developed a closer working relationship with the Albany Residency Museum.

"While there has always been close liaison with the Museum, this is now being extended into a co-ordinated effort to provide information on nature conservation and recreation opportunities for visitors and the local community alike," CALM's South Coast regional manager John Watson said.

"A two-pronged approach is being developed. First, the Museum will become, in essence, a regional interpretation centre, providing visitors with an excellent overview of the Albany area, and encouraging people to then go out and visit national parks and other areas to learn more about the area at first hand.

"Local CALM staff will help with information and input to several new displays, and these will promote nature trails, heritage trails and other visitor facilities, especially in national parks.

"Second, we are developing an activities program in conjunction with the Museum, initially for school holiday periods, but if it works well, to run throughout the year.

"This is being modelled on experience already gained by CALM in The Hills Forest," John said.

"In the spring school holidays we ran two 'Family Bush Walks' along similar lines to the Forest Walk held in early 1995 at John Forrest National Park.

"This involved five speakers located at various points along the Point Possession Heritage Trail, near Camp Quararup, on the Vancouver Peninsula, across the harbour from Albany.

"The speakers included a mixture of CALM specialist staff, local officers from the Waterways Commission, CALM volunteers and Albany Residency Museum Curator Val Milne.

"These walks proved very popular, with more than 200 people turning out over the two afternoons.

"Billy tea and damper were provided at the end of the walks by Rob and Joe Lucas who run Camp Quararup.

"This success is also a good example of the value of sound communications and willing co-operation within CALM.

"In particular the help we received from Stev

Slavin and Kate Baxter involved in The Hills Forest was invaluable, as was the enthusiasm of several local CALM staff, that included Kelly Gillen, Peter Collins, Sarah Barrett, Terry Passmore and Peter Fishwick, plus the concerted efforts of Ian Herford to make it all come together on the day.

"We now hope to run more walks and other activities with the Museum," John said.



Left to right, CALM Southern Coastal Region's planning officer Ian Herford, mountain survey ecologist Sara Barrett, and wildlife officer Peter Collins are seen with Albany Residency Museum curator Valerie Milne and, at front, CALM volunteer Coralie Hortin. Photo by John Watson



Photo : John Watson

Left to Right

IAN HERFORD, SARAH BURRETT, PETER COLLINS, COLLEEN HORTON
AND VAL MILNE

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