

# Radio trail in the Karri



*Gerard Barnesby and Ian Trigwell haul themselves up. When they reached the 27-metre mark, they attached a solar panel to the tree. Each panel will charge the batteries that power the individual radio transmitters.*



*Gerard Barnesby of CALM, Pemberton checks his gear before starting his ascent.*

**CALM's Pemberton staff have been called on to do many challenging tasks over the years, but installing a new tourist radio drive trail along the Great Forest Trees Drive in the Shannon National Park was one that brought the multiplicity of their skills to the fore.**

The Great Forest Trees Drive is a new tourism and recreation facility. It covers about 42 kilometres on both sides of the South Western Highway and takes in some of the best examples of old growth forest in the region. It also includes an 80-metre boardwalk that overlooks an area called Snake Gully and another at Big Tree Grove. The latter is curved around several karris to prevent soil compaction.

CALM has been upgrading existing forest tracks, including old fire lines, railway formations, and management access lines, to create the drive, which will be accessible to family cars.

In line with the department's innovative approach to tourist facilities, a local FM radio system is being installed, that will help visitors learn more

about the forest as well as the history of the Shannon. A similar 'radio-drive' is proving a winner in the Dryandra Woodland north west of Narrogin.

CALM Pemberton staff — John Jackway, Gerard Barnesby and Ian Trigwell, under the project leadership of ranger Jeff Kimpton — were given the task of installing solar panels to provide power for the transmitters.

John, Gerard and Ian are experienced climbers and abseilers and part of a team trained for search and rescue work as well as maintaining fire lookout trees.

Their skills were just what was needed to get the solar panels high enough to catch the minimum four hours sunlight needed to keep the batteries charged.

With ropes cast over a high branch and securely fastened, (CALM 'utes' make good anchor points) the men climbed karri trees and installed the panels up to 27 metres above the ground.

Thanks to the skill of the team, the radio-drive trail will soon be 'on air' providing visitors with a new forest experience.

Sob No 287/1



32 TMY 26 KODAK 5053 TMY 32A 27 KODAK 5053 TMY 33 27 KODAK 5053 TMY 33A 28 KODAK 5053 TMY 34 28 KODAK 5053 TMY 34A 29 KODAK 5053 TMY 35 29 KODAK 5053 TMY 35A 30 KODAK 5053 TMY 36 30 KODAK 5053 TMY 36A 31 KODAK 5053 TMY



26 TMY 20 KODAK 5053 TMY 26A 21 KODAK 5053 TMY 27 21 KODAK 5053 TMY 27A 22 KODAK 5053 TMY 28 22 KODAK 5053 TMY 28A 23 KODAK 5053 TMY 29 23 KODAK 5053 TMY 29A 24 KODAK 5053 TMY 30 24 KODAK 5053 TMY 30A 25 KODAK 5053 TMY 31 25 KODAK 5053 TMY



20 TMY 14 KODAK 5053 TMY 20A 15 KODAK 5053 TMY 21 15 KODAK 5053 TMY 21A 16 KODAK 5053 TMY 22 16 KODAK 5053 TMY 22A 17 KODAK 5053 TMY 23 17 KODAK 5053 TMY 23A 18 KODAK 5053 TMY 24 18 KODAK 5053 TMY 24A 19 KODAK 5053 TMY 25 19 KODAK 5053 TMY



14 TMY 8 KODAK 5053 TMY 14A 9 KODAK 5053 TMY 15 9 KODAK 5053 TMY 15A 10 KODAK 5053 TMY 16 10 KODAK 5053 TMY 16A 11 KODAK 5053 TMY 17 11 KODAK 5053 TMY 17A 12 KODAK 5053 TMY 18 12 KODAK 5053 TMY 18A 13 KODAK 5053 TMY 19 13 KODAK 5053 TMY



8 TMY 2 KODAK 5053 TMY 8A 3 KODAK 5053 TMY 9 3 KODAK 5053 TMY 9A 4 KODAK 5053 TMY 10 4 KODAK 5053 TMY 10A 5 KODAK 5053 TMY 11 5 KODAK 5053 TMY 11A 6 KODAK 5053 TMY 12 6 KODAK 5053 TMY 12A 7 KODAK 5053 TMY 13 7 KODAK 5053 TMY



3A 4 4A 5 5A 6 6A 7 7A