

# Graduating Field Officers



Graduates, standing left to right, Ben Tannock, Keith Woodward, Greg Evans, Robert Turner, Stuart Harrison, Stephen King, Matt Dowling, Brett Fitzgerald and John Marshall. Seated left to right, David Guille, Rebecca Wolstenholme, Environment Minister Cheryl Edwardes, CALM Executive Director Dr Syd Shea, and senior training officer Alan Byrne. Photo by Paul Webster.

**THIRTEEN field officers with CALM were presented with graduation certificates by Environment and Employment and Training Minister Cheryl Edwardes at a ceremony in Bunbury recently.**

The certificates mark the successful completion of a 14-week CALM training course the officers undertook in stages over the past two years.

Mrs Edwardes said the officers had been chosen following a rigorous selection process.

The initial advertisement in January 1995 attracted more

than 200 applicants of whom 45 were interviewed. The top 20 were invited to attend a five-day residential selection school at Dwellingup.

The final selection narrowed the field to 15, two of whom subsequently resigned.

Mrs Edwardes said the program focused on competency-based training and was accredited with the State Training Board of Western Australia.

She said the program reflected the Government's recognition of the need to invest in its workforce.

The Minister also presented the Keynes Memorial Award

for the most outstanding field officer recruit for 1996 to Brett Fitzgerald, who is currently based at Kirup in CALM's Blackwood District.

Brett has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Biology from Curtin University. He has continued his tertiary studies on a part-time basis to complete his honours project on the effects of thinning and fertiliser on jarrah stands.

This work is being carried out with assistance from CALM's Science and Information Division team in Dwellingup.

Brett's current duties at

Kirup focus on the district's nature conservation program. As well, he helps the State Forest Resources Business Unit with tree marking and in fire management.

The CALM Executive Director's Merit Award for the trainee who displays the best all round performance in both theoretical and practical areas was presented to David Guille.

David has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Management) degree from Edith Cowan University.

He was recently offered a position as assistant area co-ordinator for CALM's

Maritime Pine Sharefarms Group.

His main duties in this area are liaison between CALM and private landowners with the view to extending plantations on their land.

The Executive Director's Scholarship, made available to all CALM's AWU staff to help them financially in their post-secondary education studies to enter field officer positions throughout the State, was presented to Melfyn Price of CALM's Perth district and Gary Davidson of Mornington district.

The Executive Director's Scholarship, available to all

staff who have an undergraduate qualification, was awarded to Justine Edwards who is currently employed as a contract research scientist with CALM's Science and Information Division in Busselton.

Justine's proposed post-graduate study is into water relations of maritime pine and native species in low to medium rainfall zones of Western Australia.

This year, the post-graduate scholarship has been named in honour of the late Dr George Malajczuk who had a distinguished career with both the Forests Department and CALM. (See page 4)





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