Mandurah office open

CALM has opened a new shopfront in Mandurah.

Environment Minister
beryl Edwardes, who
ficially opened the
office, said the facility
would become an important contact point for residents and visitors alike,
who wanted to know more
about the natural attractions and CALM's initiatives in the Peel region.

Mrs Edwardes said the CALM undertook a highly ediverse and integrated mange of activities on a stay-to-day basis. is However, the Depart-

However, the Department's role was becoming increasingly integrated into urban areas such as Mandurah and throughout the metropolitan area, as the Government implemented a number of environmental initiatives such as the Regional Parks Policy and the Wetlands Conservation Policy.

"The Peel is the fastestgrowing region in the ate, with Mandurah now the biggest urban centre outside Perth," Mrs Edwardes said. "The Inner Peel Structure Plan will recognise the pressures that such rapid expansion is placing on the natural environment.

"One of the major aspects of the report will be the identification of substantial areas that should be set aside for conservation purposes.

"The reservation of these areas will mean that CALM and the Peel community will have a much closer relationship as they work together on issues such as management plans and other strategies to meet the needs and aspirations of the local people."

Mrs Edwardes said CALM had a long and close involvement in the region, particularly in the forested hinterland and along the coast in areas such as Yalgorup National Park.

"Dwellingup, for example, is not only a district headquarters, it is also an important base for CALM's Science and Information Division, particularly the Department's work on dieback. More recently, the Division's Operation Foxglove team has been relocated to the centre.

"Foxglove is a joint effort between CALM and Alcoa of Australia that is part of our State-wide Western Shield program to restore nature's balance by controlling feral predators and reintroducing species of native animals that once occurred in abundance, but have been pushed to the brink by the ravages of the fox and feral cat.

"But initiatives such as Foxglove and Western Shield are more than conservation measures. They are inextricably linked with the development of regional Western Australia, particularly industries such as nature-based tourism."

Mrs Edwardes said the Peel region was also renowned for attractions in the hinterland. One of these was the Forest Heritage Centre and School of Wood in Dwellingup.

Other features included the Lane Poole Conservation Park, the former



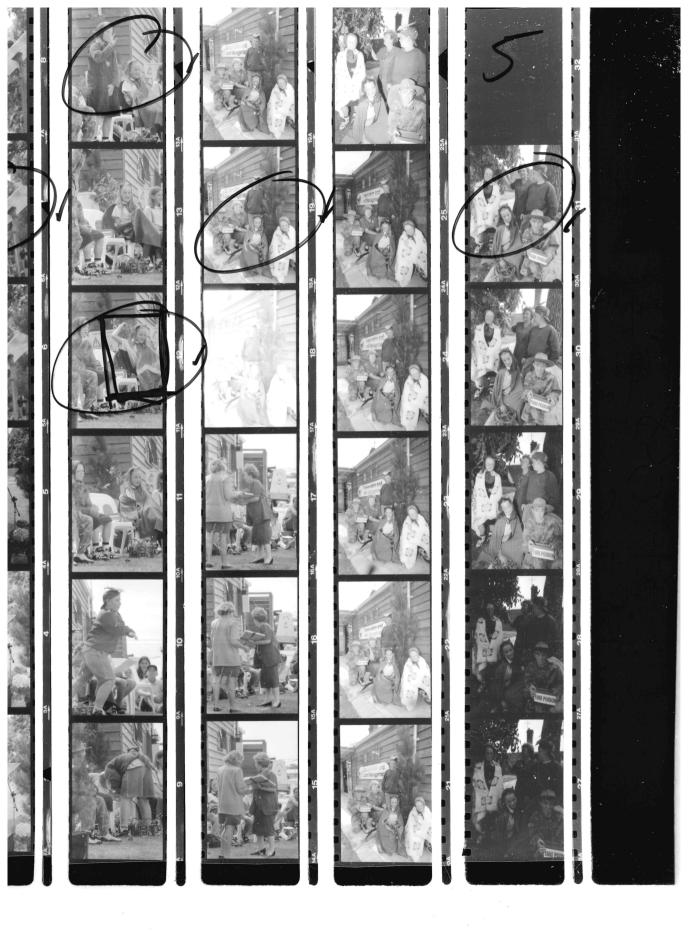
Environment Minister Cheryl Edwardes (second from left), was delighted by Harvey Primary School children whose play, Little Red Riding Woylie, was performed to celebrate CALM's Mandurah office opening. With Mrs Edwardes are Sam Roberts (left), Paul Morris (standing), Natalie Burt (centre) and Joshua Krispyn.

Photo by Craig Stewart

Prisoner of War camp at Marrinup and the numerous national parks and nature reserves along the Swan coastal plain and in the Darling Range. "Consequently, CALM's new Mandurah office will be an important contact point where residents and visitors alike can gain information on a wide range of CALM conservation programs and attractions such as the forests, national parks and other conservation pages? the said

servation areas," she said. The office, at Lot 31

Pinjarra Road, offers a range of CALM books, maps and other publications, as well as providing the public with access to CALM staff and expertise.



Robin House (Chair South Coast Management Group), Charles Hick (Chair Jerramungup Coastal Committee) and John Watson (CALM South Coast Regional Manager) at the 1998 Coast to Coast conference. Photo: Chris Gunby. t:\albn.cor.johnw.care6.doc