



Pat demonstrates his drill skill. Photo by Tammie Reid

A retiring Pat won't be idle

AFTER 35 years' service, Harvey recreation area coordinator Pat Tate is retiring.

In recent times he has been the driving force to develop and maintain the Hoffman Mill Recreation Area in Harvey. His carpentry skills are always in demand, and he has provided support and encouragement for peers and younger people alike.

"Pat's work has always been of a high standard, and he deserves our best wishes in this next phase of his life," said Mornington District manager Drew Griffiths.

"But because he's done such a great job, we hope to lure him back occasionally for various community volunteer projects.

"Pat will be remembered mostly for his key role as carpenter in maintaining the department's settlement and water supply at a time when there were 50 or more employ-

ees, most of them living on the forestry settlement.

"This role always calls for diplomacy. Pat combined this with efficiency and a pleasantly positive demeanour. As a consequence, he was highly respected.

"Right from a childhood that included evacuation from London during the World War II Blitzes, things turned out well for me," Pat said.

"I'd just completed my basic training in the British Merchant Navy, when I immigrated with my parents to Australia."

Pat became jack of all trades, breaking in horses up north, serving briefly in the Australian merchant navy, and working as a sheep station hand.

Then he answered a newspaper advertisement for an assis-

tant to refurbish the Harvey Forests Department mill, a six-month job that eventually saw him become part of the main work force.

"My job has allowed me first to develop my timber skills, then to enjoy the responsibility and teamwork that comes with the area co-ordinator's role," Pat said.

"In time, my wife (also Pat) and I bought a small irrigation property at Wokalup, where we still run cattle and rear calves.

"Early on we ran a Palomino stud. (Both Pats are Life Members of the WA Palomino Association.)

"Now, I'd like to set up a workshop at home and get into some fine furniture making," Pat says.

"A trip over east and to Europe and the UK are definitely on the cards.

"But I do know I'll miss the companionship of the guys—and the regular pay cheque!"







Possible CALM News Story
23-Feb-99

Written Tammie Reid
Photo: Tammie

CAPTION?

Pat busy putting the finishing touches to the handrails and entryway, on the CALM office renovations, Clerical Officer, Debbi Italiano says, "Pat can't go until that's done"

Pat Tate's Retirement

After 35 years of service, Pat Tate of Harvey Work Centre in the Mornington District is retiring.

Pat leaves the position of Recreation Area Co ordinator for CALM Harvey. In recent times he has been the on- the- ground, driving force to develop and maintain the Hoffman Mill Recreation Area. His carpentry skills are always in demand and he has provided support and encouragement for peers and younger people working in his area.

"Pat's been an important member of our team at Harvey" acknowledges Mornington District Manager, Drew Griffiths. "His work has always been of a high standard. We wish him well in this next phase, and hope to lure him back to Hoffman from time to time with various community volunteer projects. He has done a great job in developing this area for local people to enjoy.

Over the 35 years he has contibuted to fire fighting, tree planting and many other hard physical tasks required of our CALM workforce no matter what the weather conditions. Pat will mostly be remembered for his key role as carpenter in maintaining the CALM settlement and water supply at a time when there were 50 or so employees and most of them living on the forestry settlement. This role always calls for tact and diplomacy. Pat was meticulous efficient and well respected for the way he went about this work "

Pat has a quiet and positive way about him "I consider my life to be like that Book title of Albert Facey's -" A fortunate life" Right from my childhood which involved evacuation from London, things always turned out well. I've always had work, my job in CALM and with the Forests Dept allowed me to develop my timber skills and I've enjoyed the responsibility and teamwork that comes with the area co ordinator's role.

I had completed my basic training in the Merchant Navy when my parents decided to emigrate to Australia when I was 17, so life took a different path."

Newly married, not long in Australia and a jack of all trades, Pat had always found it easy to get work and work all over he did. Breaking horses up north, a ~~stint in the merchant navy~~, a ~~sheep~~ station hand until he and wife Pat saw an add in the paper to assist in the refurbishment of the Harvey Forests Dept mill,