

'WILD' WINNERS ON NATUREBASE

Five cyberspace adventurers have won a copy of the Department of Conservation and Land Management's new CD-ROM—*Wild about Western Australia*—in a recent competition.

To celebrate the first birthday of its NatureBase internet site in June last year, CALM launched an on-line competition. Visitors to the site were asked to find the answer to a question about *Western Shield* on one of the NatureBase pages, then fill in a form on screen and e-mail it to *NatureBase* at CALM's Corporate Relations Division.

The five winners were selected from a huge number of entries from around the world. They were:

- ❖ Rosemarie Rees from London, UK
- ❖ Amanda Godecke from Middle Swan, Western Australia
- ❖ Mavis Penney from Newfoundland, Canada
- ❖ Peter Hausknecht from Munich, Germany



Swanleigh College students, Joshua Gaulton (17) of Leinster (right) and Dale Ure (16) of Kalannie in the Central Wheatbelt, enjoy Librarian Amanda Godecke's prize which she donated to the college library. Photo – David Gough

❖ Harald Pfurtsheller from Weesen, Switzerland

Each winner received a copy of CALM's CD-ROM *Wild about Western Australia*, which uses a range of interactive multimedia techniques to bring the State's natural attractions within reach of anyone with access to a CD-ROM player.

*Wild about Western Australia* enables people to take a 'virtual reality tour' of places such as Karijini, Purnululu (the Bungle Bungles), D'Entrecasteaux, the Pinnacles, Monkey Mia, and even the

Tree Top Walk in the Valley of the Giants near Nornalup.

Users can experience the sights and sounds of the State's native plants, birds and other animals. They can also view 360-degree views of major tourist destinations through QuickTime VR movies. It even includes a trip planner to help people plan tours as well as providing contacts for CALM-licensed tour operators.

Each entrant was asked whether or not they intended visiting WA soon. All the overseas winners said

yes, so the CD will certainly help them plan their trip.

*Wild about Western Australia* runs on Windows and Macintosh. It is available for \$39.95 at all good bookshops and computer software outlets, at CALM's WA Naturally Information Centre (47 Henry Street, Fremantle), or by mail order (postal charges will apply) from CALM Publications, Locked Bag 29, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983  
Tel: (08) 9334 0333  
Fax: (08) 9334 0385  
TTY: (08) 9334 0546.  
It can also be ordered on CALM's NatureBase website: <http://www.calm.wa.gov.au> (see Bookshop – Other Books and Products).

NATURE-BASED ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Outdoor recreation activities for more than 30 000 Western Australians with disabilities have been boosted with the opening of an innovative campground at The Hills Forest Activity Centre in Mundaring. The unique campground provides safe and comfortable opportunities for the pursuit and enjoyment of outdoor activities in the State's natural environment and is the first and only universally accessible campground associated with an activity centre in Australia.

The new campground is designed to provide visitors

with the opportunity to camp out under the stars, while providing the luxuries of home, including hot showers, toilets and electric cooking facilities. It caters to all ages and capabilities, with visitors in wheelchairs able to move easily throughout the campground, to choose whichever site they prefer and use showers and cooking facilities. The sites (each named after a native mammal) and the facilities were designed to blend into, and complement, The Hills Forest setting while catering for up to 45 campers at a time.

Since its establishment in 1992, The Hills Forest Activity

Centre has grown to become a highly popular nature-based activity centre, with a wide range of programs (all within close proximity to the Perth metropolitan area). Now, this is also accessible to people with varying levels of disability.

The campground is the result of a partnership between CALM, Alcoa Australia, the Lotteries Commission through the Gordon Reid Foundation, and ACROD (the national Industry Association for Disability Services).



The Hills Forest manager Stev Slavin (right) describes the new campground facilities to Ric Althuisen.

Photo – Wayne Schmidt

Enquiries about programs and bookings can be made by phoning The Hills Forest Activity Centre on (08) 9295 3149.

# LANDSCOPE

VOLUME THIRTEEN NUMBER 3, AUTUMN 1998



CALM's fight against feral cats gathers ground on Peron Peninsula with the development and testing of a cat bait. See 'Approaching Eden' on page 28.



Roadside vegetation often provides vital links between remnant habitats. See our story on page 23.



What attracted early pioneers to this barren corner of Western Australia? Find out in 'Eucla Pioneers' on page 35.



A new CALM book gives bushwalkers a host of short and longer walks in Western Australia's south-west. See page 10.



Fire is an important part of Western Australia's environment. Scientists continue to discover just how important. See page 17.

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## COVER

The splendid fairy wren was one of many birds collected by John Gilbert, whose collections of specimens have been fragmented over the past 100 years or so. Now, they are being tracked down in museums around the world, and a more complete picture of their original distributions is emerging from Gilbert's original notes and labels. See story on page 40.

Illustration by Philippa Nikulinsky



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