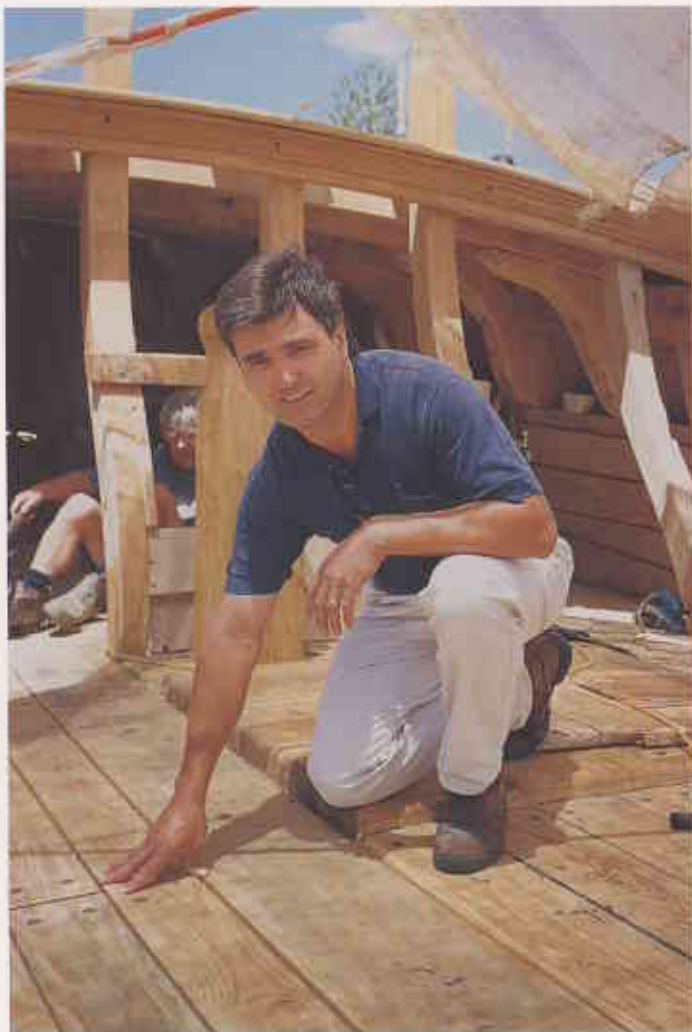


A DOVE, A PINE TREE AND DICK PERRY



What connection does a 17th century European dove have with pine trees in Western Australia? Quite a lot, it seems.

Over the past couple of years, much has been seen in the print and electronic media about the building, in Fremantle, of a replica of the 17th century Dutch sailing vessel *Duyfken*, (translation: 'little dove').

The \$3.7 million replica *Duyfken* was launched on Sunday, January 24, then towed upriver to delight participants in the 1999 Australia Day celebrations on the Swan River. The ship is expected to begin sea trials in May.

And the pine trees? Most of the new *Duyfken's* decking and the three masts are made from maritime pine (*Pinus pinaster*), a timber that, along with oak, was extensively used in Europe for hundreds of years.

The presence of the 96-year-old retired forester Dick Perry—pictured (below left) at Gngangara Pine Plantation with a newly felled maritime pine, selected for the *Duyfken* project by CALM Forester Clayton Sanders—was



Above: CALM Forester Clayton Sanders is reassured by the solidity of the *Duyfken's* maritime pine deck.

Photo – Verna Costello/CALM

Left: Dick Perry with descendants of his Portuguese clones.

Photo – Clayton Sanders/CALM

fitting. Mr Perry's most significant work during a 50-year career with the former Forests Department was with maritime pine.

As part of a program begun in 1957 by Forests Department Scientist Dr Eric Hopkins to produce faster-growing, superior-quality pines, Mr Perry was sent to Portugal in 1963 to collect maritime pine cuttings, pollen and seed, and return them to WA. About 85 trees from the Forest of Leiria (the source of the best of the species), were singled out for their superior height and straightness, and for having the fewest defects.

By the 1990s, the descendants of their clones were 70 per cent more productive than the original trees grown at Gngangara. (See 'In Search of the Perfect Pine', *LANDSCOPE*, Autumn 1992.)

A Member of the Order of Australia for his contribution to forestry and entomology, Mr Perry was further honoured by being made an Honorary Member of the Institute of Foresters of Australia in 1995.

The original *Duyfken* is believed to have been the first European ship to visit Australia. This was a little-known slice of history until the *Duyfken* 1606 Replica Foundation (Inc.)—formed to oversee the building of the new ship—set about filling the knowledge gap by providing on-site lectures while work on the replica was in progress.

Schools and other interested groups were invited to learn about the historic voyage and how ships were built in the 1600s, and then to see the same methods and materials

being used to build the replica. For example, instead of making a frame for the ship's hull, then attaching planks to the frame, the original 'fire-bending' method was employed. This entails the delicate operation of heating the wood planks to a point at which they become pliable, but remain undamaged. The planks are then shaped to form the hull.

Those wishing to learn more about the fascinating 'Duyfken story' should phone the Foundation on (08) 9336 1606.



Right: Marine Archaeologist Nick Burningham examines Duyfken's forecastle. Work on the original ship may well have been carried out in much dimmer light than this.

Photo - Verna Costello/CALM

THREATENED FLORA BOOK

This is an ideal book for wildflower enthusiasts and conservationists who are passionate about saving Western Australian native plants that are threatened with extinction.

The 220-page volume, produced by CALM, describes the 350 species, subspecies and varieties of threatened plants, the key threats to their survival and the steps being taken to deal with them. Most of the plants are shown in full-colour and each is fully described: its features, habitat, flowering time and where it can be found.

Western Australia's Threatened Flora follows on from the success of *Western*

Australia's Endangered Flora, which was published in 1990 and became a milestone in providing the Western Australian public with information on the conservation of our rich and diverse flora. It stimulated much interest among botanists and community groups alike, resulting in the discovery of new populations of species that were rare or even presumed to be extinct. They were found on private properties, on roadsides or in other areas that had not previously been searched. Happily, some of the plants listed in the earlier book are not to be found in the new one, thanks to new

populations being found and successful recovery actions taking place. Unfortunately, there are still too many that do face extinction. The new book enables the reader to identify our threatened plant species correctly. It also details the steps being taken to bring them back from the brink and ensure their future preservation.

An invaluable reference for scientists, dedicated community groups, landowners and volunteers who are involved in the battle to preserve our precious floral heritage, *Western Australia's*



Threatened Flora retails at \$29.95 and is available from most good bookshops, newsagents, the RAC and CALM offices.

Winner of the 1998 Alex Harris Medal for excellence in science and environment reporting.

LANDSCOPE

VOLUME FOURTEEN NUMBER 3, AUTUMN 1999



Western Everlasting, see page 22, follows the same successful approach to protecting threatened plants as Western Shield did for mammals.



Beneath its black and burnt exterior, the common balga is giving up its secrets. See 'Believing the Balga' on page 10.



For 25 years, CALM's Wildlife Research Centre in Woodvale has been 'A Centre of Diversity'. See page 36.



The spectacular coastline of Torndirrup National Park has been years in the making. See page 28.



Read how locals, CALM and other agencies are working together to save the Lake Muir-Unicup wetlands. See page 49.

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C O V E R

'Moving Mala' (page 17) tells the story of the translocation of these endangered mammals from Australia's Central Desert Region to a small island off WA's north coast.

Illustration by Philippa Nikulinsky



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