

## GRADUATES' FINE WOOD WARES ON SHOW

The WA Forest Heritage Centre's School of Wood Graduate Exhibition was a propitious way for its final-year Diploma of Art Furniture Design students to see out the year—and to look forward with the promise of a bright career in the years that lay ahead.

The 22-day exhibition, hosted by the Fremantle Arts Centre, presented the students' best work for the year.

On display was a mix of contemporary and traditional fine furniture and giftware, made by both age-old and modern construction techniques. Australian timbers and veneers were used, with some Goldfields 'boutique' timbers included among the entries.

The two-year diploma course not only teaches wood technology, construction skills and design, but provides additional business units. Specialist lecturers help students to develop and present concepts and designs, as well as products, and finally to market them. This enables the graduating designer-maker to have broadly based knowledge of all aspects critical to starting a fine woodcraft business.

Australia is rich in timber resources, including a huge range of species not widely used previously in fine wood products. Right across Australia, centres like the Forest Heritage Centre's School of Wood are teaching dedicated students the intricacies of working with these as well as traditional woods. Its students learn the full spectrum of skills to design and create furniture and



Left: *Anagre chair*, by Melissa Kolagow, was designed as an experiment in form and ergonomics.

Below: *Businessman's bill box*, made of jarrah and sheoak with green suede. Designed by Andrew Rennie.

Bottom: *Detail of Terry Fogarty's collector's cabinet* which is made entirely out of blackwood.

Photos – Victor France/CALM



giftware unique to Australia and welcome in galleries, such as those in WA's south-west, which are well placed to provide designer woodcraft to the eco-tourist.

The main aim of the exhibition was to help launch the careers of WA's newest fine-furniture designers, many of whom gained some experience of the world of commerce, with the brisk sale of a number of their exhibits.

About 3,500 people, including industry representatives, visited the 22-day exhibition, where Chairman of the Forest Heritage Board Dr Syd Shea welcomed Deputy Premier

Hendy Cowan, who opened the exhibition.

Further information on the School of Wood is available by telephoning the Forest Heritage Centre at Dwellingup on (08) 9538 1395, or faxing (08) 9538 1352. Information is also available on CALM's NatureBase web site (<http://www.calm.wa.gov.au>).





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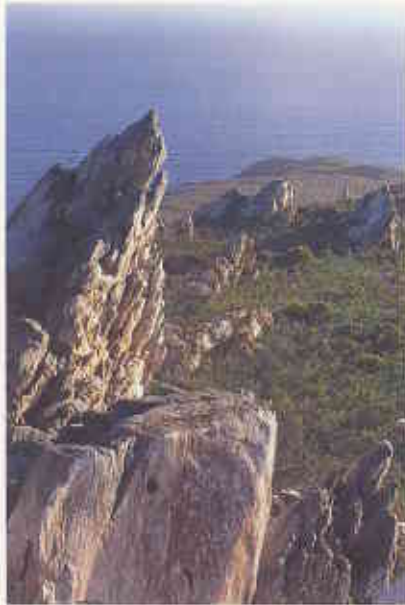
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One of the best selling books from CALM has recently been fully revised. See 'The Best of the South-West' on page 10.



A new weapon against the scourge of feral cats was recently tested on Hermite Island. See 'Isle of Cats' on page 18.



In the far north of WA, there is evidence of not one, but two cosmic impacts. See 'Cosmic Impacts in the Kimberley' on page 28.



Satellite imagery is helping us to fight maritime pollution. See 'Looking Through the Surface' on page 41.



A unique network links volunteer groups and regional herbaria with the CALM flora database. See 'Name That Plant' on page 35.

## C O V E R

Western Australia is aptly described as the Wildflower State. Some 12,500 different species are known from the wild, with a huge range of colours, shapes and characters. But many species once found are lost again, and it's always an event when a species thought to be extinct is rediscovered. See 'Lost Jewels in the Bush' on page 23.



Illustration by Philippa Nikulinsky