



Tribute to Jock Marshall

It was with great sadness that we bid farewell to our long-serving colleague Ian 'Jock' Marshall, who tragically died on Tuesday 10 June in a vehicle rollover east of Manjimup.

I attended the funeral last Friday with Director of Regional and Fire Management Services Peter Dans along with current and past Parks and Wildlife staff who had worked with or knew Jock – and there were many.

It was clear that Jock was a much loved and respected colleague who had worked in the department's Donnelly District for 46 years.

On behalf of the department, I would like to offer my condolences to Jock's wife Inez, their sons Robert and Colin and their families.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Jock began his career with the department in January 1968 as a conservation employee at Tone River settlement east of Manjimup and worked his way up to overseer in 1975. In 1989 he relinquished his overseer position to take on a senior mentoring role within the department's district fire crew. He also served as a firefighter for many years.

He was an energetic and enthusiastic worker who was well known among colleagues across the south-west for his great sense of humour.

This loss is deeply felt by Jock's colleagues including staff members, district manager John Gillard and Warren regional manager Peter Keppel who have formed close bonds with Jock and his family.

Counselling and support has been offered to staff members affected by this tragedy.

Jim Sharp
DIRECTOR GENERAL

District fire coordinator Jeff Bennett said his first association with Jock was in 1982 at Lake Muir – Jeff's very first bushfire after starting with the department.

"An ember attack occurred suddenly, and it was Jock's experience and leadership that saw us retreat safely," he said.

"Jock was a gentleman, a great work colleague and a person to rely on."

Operations manager Brian Moss said Jock became more focused on fauna management during the past four years of his career, having a particular focus on saving the endangered woylie.

"It became his passion, firstly with the construction of the Perup Sanctuary, then with the ongoing maintenance of the perimeter fence, as well as anything else involving woylies," Brian said.

"Mix that with some rehabilitation planting, prescribed burning and a bit of bushfire suppression, and Jock was a contented man, happy to be at work for ever and a day."

Assistant fire coordinator John Fishwick remembered Jock as a very loyal person to his friends, family and the department.

"He would take time out to ask you about how you were going, and was genuinely interested in your answer," John said.

"He was very reliable and consistent as a worker."



Jock Marshall at work in the lab.