

QUEENSLAND
NATIONAL PARKS
AND WILDLIFE
SERVICE

Ringtail

June 1979

EDITORIAL

In the absence of the Director and Deputy Director, I have been invited to offer editorial comment for this third issue of Ringtail. I am pleased to do so.

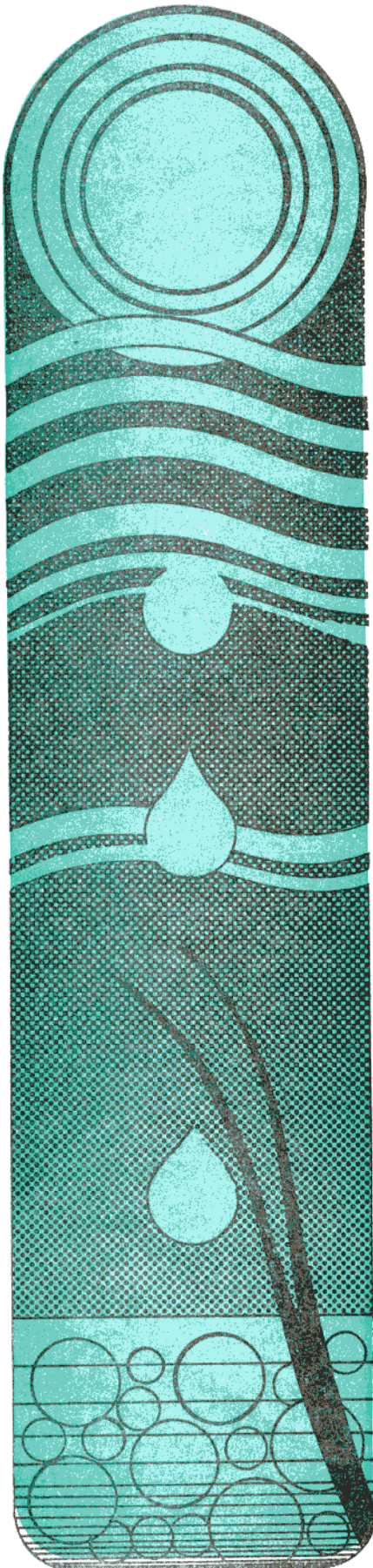
Maintaining such a circular imposes strain on any editor, and it is encouraging to see that this important avenue of staff communication is obviously flourishing. It is a measure of the interest and enthusiasm of Service personnel that they have contributed so proudly to this in-house journal.

The first issue has covered such diverse matters as policy statements, staff establishments, Branch and Section current activities, Social Club news, experiences and extra-curricular interests. The second volume, again appropriately illustrated, developed these items further, to the obvious enjoyment and enlightenment of staff particularly in the country. The response from this major component of the Service is heartening, and we look to much more news from them in subsequent issues. More news about the individual parks would be welcome.

This third circular, because of your support, is now more lavishly illustrated. An informative service has been commenced with an article by Steve Parish that will be of interest to all officers. Particular projects, such as on the koala are now being described in useful details.

I believe this all augers well for the Service, for its staff, and for its magazine.

H.J. Lavery
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR



How many times have you been driven to distraction by slide shows? Sometimes referred to as 'projected boredom'. In fact I once knew a bloke who used to dispose of unwelcome, overstayed guests by suggesting 'slides from the far east'. His other disposal technique was to get into his pyjamas and wind the alarm clock in front of them. I know the guy well - it was me!

Seriously though, slide shows can be a frightful bore and the reason is that they often bore the guy or gal delivering them. So before I proceed I would like to stress that the only slide show you should give is the one you WANT to. Enthusiasm and wanting to share your experience is the starting point towards a successful slide show.

Getting the Show Together -

The ideas I am going to put to you are not restricted to fancy, dual or multi projection programmes. All of these suggestions can be applied equally well to single slide projector programs.

As the slides are the key to the whole affair, it is vital that you have a decent set. They don't have to be gold medal winners; just clean, sharp, well composed and correctly exposed. To acquire the shots you'll need a camera; either your own or a borrowed one. If you can, try for a single lens reflex unit (enabling accurate composition and focus).

By using a variety of focal lengths i.e. wide angle (24mm, 28mm or 35mm) along with a standard lens (55mm) and perhaps a long focal length (135mm or 200mm) you will be able to add a new dimension to your program. There is nothing more tiring to the eye than seeing slides of the same perspective bouncing on and off the screen. Its much the same as movie techniques. Try using a wide shot, followed by a close shot, followed by an ultra close shot or visa versa.



O.K. let's start from scratch and choose a topic. For example the Bunya Mountains National Park. First thing we do, before squeezing the trigger is to decide who the audience will be. In this case we decided that the audience will probably be of all ages and from all walks of life. It is to be a short program designed to show people what the park has to offer. Not to tell them all there is to know - if you did that they may well not bother going. Instead it should merely introduce them to the fact that Bunya Mountains National Park has an interesting human and natural history and there are, at certain times of the year, organised activities to show them just that.

On that basis we realise that we only have 5 to 10 minutes to share a mountain - literally of information. So we have to cull out the most important facts. We can't afford to ramble - not that we should ever do that anyway. Considering we have a basic knowledge of the area we then proceed to compile the photographic collection.

In we go with a camera and supply of film to begin the masterpiece.

When I go to a new area, regardless of what I have been told before hand (I usually find it is nothing like the verbal description) - I like to have a chat with locals to find out what they consider are the most important features. In this case I was told about the Bunya Pine.

My first series of shots would be wide, establishing the forest type, further shots would show how the pines tower above the other trees. Then it's into the forest to record the lush green world beneath the canopy; this shot may be taken lying on my back shooting straight up the tree to show its spectacular dimensions.

This single sequence may involve four or five slides in the final selection but each



shot has great value when you get up in front of the audience and relate the towering majesty of the bunya pine forests.

The next sequence may cover some of the other plants in the park, perhaps in relation to the landscape. In each case I would aim to use several slides, rather than one to show the general geology and plant ecology of the park. From the habitat and its floral inhabitants I may then move on to the fauna - amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals..... As with flora the same approach applies. Use several shots of each if it is a live show and there is something particular to say about each.

From time to time I may include man with the subject. The person would not be the focal point nor would I have them "gawking" at the camera. Such photos belong in the family snap album. Rather I would try to use the person to illustrate relative sizes or to draw attention to some feature, perhaps by having them looking at something with an amazed expression.

Once I have a collection of photos I then start to prepare the show. It very soon becomes apparent whether there are sufficient slides or not.

A good method of looking at all of your slides at once is to use a light box. You can quickly and cheaply construct one by purchasing a sheet of white perspex, say 3 by 4 feet in dimension. This is lent against a wall at an angle of 45 degrees. Behind it, place a cheap fluorescent light for the necessary rear illumination. To support the slides on the perspex attach, horizontally, strips of perspex or adherent rubber. The slides can then be arranged in sequence. You can plan the sequence on paper in the form of a script or if experienced you visualize it mentally. I usually do a little of both if not sure of my topic. Once sure of the story line the slides are

transferred into a tray, ready for projection. When I am giving a live show to a large audience I usually leave the slides up on the board for several days and each evening prior to the show I refresh my memory.

As you run your eyes along the sequence simply relate the story to yourself. If at some stage in the sequence your mind goes blank and does so each time - rearrange or drop that section.

Slide Presentation - Better known as "Nerves" -

I gave my first slide show some six years ago - I'll never forget it. It was to a large audience of 800 people. I was so nervous that someone had to take over in the middle and all he could do was relate the animals illustrated. He was wrong on several occasions but I was so scared I couldn't bring myself to correct the errors.

Since then I have given several hundred slide programs, all over Australia, to audiences as large as 1,500. After all that I still get nervous although now I am able to control these nerves.

There are several reasons for nervousness some of which are described below along with some suggestions to help remedy the problem.

- 1) You may not be sure of your subject and are scared stiff that someone will ask questions that you can't answer.
 - Be humble - people only try to pin you down if you are a 'big head'. Don't admit to being an expert. If you are, let the audience think it, don't tell them or you are sure to be shot down. If you are asked a question you can't answer - say so!
- 2) You know that there is someone in the

audience who knows more about the subject than you.

- Remember, you are the one on the floor not the audience. Get your facts right and if the gathering is small and informal you may bring the other person in during discussion but make sure they can answer the question otherwise you will have two embarrassed people.

3) You may be ashamed of your collection.

- If your slides are poor and you are ashamed of them don't show them. Keep collecting photos until they are of suitable quality. Don't make excuses for your photography. If a poor shot is necessary to illustrate a point use it only in passing otherwise leave out that point.

I once knew a speaker whose photography was so poor he had the audience in stitches - must admit he did over do it.

4) You have a lot of information to cover and you are terrified that you will forget the important parts.

- If you have a lot to cover, work from notes. However don't read them instead jot down on a card some key phrases to jog your memory.

5) You may be worried about relating the information incorrectly.

- Getting the facts wrong may well be due to the fact that you have not researched your subject well enough. If you make a small slip continue with the program. Then during question time you can correct it.

6) Your fears may be founded in your personal attributes. For example: your diction is poor or you tell yourself you're not the prettiest thing to look at.

- If your fears relate to personal attributes, voice, appearance etc. relax! It is a poor person indeed who pokes fun at that.

I always find it is a good idea to face the audience with the lights on before I start. I stand in front of them and look at the audience. I then run my eyes over the whole group while introducing the program. By doing this I have a good look at them and they have a good look at me. It only takes a few minutes and then I can settle back into the show.

Think back to the last slide show you were at. Did you deliberately look for faults? Did you say "Boy, is he nervous!" Bet you didn't give it a second thought. I can assure you they won't be doing it to you.

Delivering the program -

In time and with experience you will learn to judge your audience even before you begin. You will be able to judge their comprehension level from their response. While the audience may be well versed on your topic and can appreciate your jokes and subtle lines remember that if they are not familiar with your topic keep your lines simple. There is little more deflating than to crack your favourite joke and have it fall flat.

Talk to your audience, not to the screen. Be enthusiastic - the audience will soon become enthusiastic with you. While there are such things as negative or "brick wall" audiences, the success or failure of the program rests with the entertainer or educator.

You can use the slides to illustrate the subject or you can spin your tale directly to the slides. I like the first method best. However it does depend on the type of program I am presenting. I use the first method if I am putting a greater emphasis on entertainment, the second if education is the important factor.

If you have been invited to speak at a club or function you will probably be introduced. It is a good idea in such cases to fill out a small card with details for the host. Many such functions are poorly organised so it is up to you to smarten up the show and create an atmosphere.

If you are given 50 minutes - take 30 minutes and no longer. The rambler is a bore and ruins the atmosphere.

Once you have mastered the one projector program you might like to try adding tape recorded music. This is especially effective if your program is based on an aesthetic, emotional experience. In such cases you may simply turn up the volume from time to time and let the slides do the talking for you.

While fancy, dissolving projectors and music are very much a part of the entertainment circuit at symposiums there is still a place for the old 'clunkety clunk' version. One of the best programs I have ever witnessed involved 30 minutes on the sea history of Canada using only 15 slides. The speaker was very professional and his lines were glib and smooth. He obviously enjoyed sharing his country with us and he had a great talent for sharing with the audience. The illustrations, which he never looked at, were superb in quality and simply emphasised the immense beauty of what was being said.

Remember - time your delivery practise on friends. Take care, take time, love your work and be professional. Above all do it because you want to not because you have

been asked to. It is better to refuse than to frustrate your audience with "projected boredom".

* * *

With thanks

On my own behalf and on behalf of my wife and family I take this opportunity to express our most sincere appreciation of the sympathy and support extended to us by so many members of the Service following the sudden death of our eldest daughter.

To the Director, Deputy Director, Senior Staff and all our friends in the Service go our heartfelt thanks.

From all such sadness comes consolation and ours has indeed come from the help and support given by so many wonderful people including so many throughout this Service.

For the manner in which your messages of sympathy were conveyed and the quiet assistance both given and offered we are truly grateful.

We take pride in our friends within the Service and extend to you all our most sincere thanks.

Geoff Cole
for all the family

Observed recently on a Senior Staff
Movement sheet - C. Roff

Monday	Birdsville
Tuesday	Birdsville
Wednesday	Birdsville
Thursday	Birdsville
Friday	Birdsville

Although I believe contract for buying
Hotels normally take five days. The
Birdsville Pub is still on the market!



* * *

If an athlete gets athlete's foot, what does
an astronaut get? Missile-toe!

Research and Planning Branch - Further to an
introduction

Damian McGreevy

In the first issue of "Ringtail" I introduced the staff employed by Research and Planning Branch at that time with an outline of their research activities, locations and designations. In the second issue, an overall coverage of the research projects currently being undertaken by the Branch was given.

In this, and ensuing issues, a more detailed insight into each of the projects listed in the second issue will be given.

One project will be dealt with in each issue and the order in which these are presented will be one based on ready availability of suitable information, not one of priority.

The koala study, presently in progress in eastern Queensland under the leadership of Dr Greg Gordon, a Senior Zoologist with the Service, is the subject of this issue. This coverage deals with the known natural history of the koala in Queensland and Australia, its exploitation by commercial interests, past research studies, the aims, techniques and some results of the project. Some interim suggestions as to possible management strategies particularly as they apply to man's influence on populations of the koala are also given.



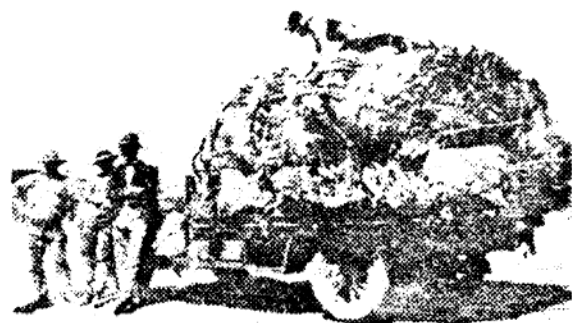
Koala Project - In Queensland, prior to 1905, koalas were not protected, and an unregulated skin industry for the species, as well as for the brush-tailed possum, is reputed to have flourished. Following protection under the 'Native Animals Protection Act of 1906', an additional six open seasons of varying durations were declared, the last as recently as 1927. Records exist to show that

some 600,000 skins were marketed from Queensland during a one-month open season in that year. These open seasons were a controversial topic at the time, and are sometimes said to have caused a major population decline.

Nevertheless, skin collectors of the time have since agreed that koalas were still common in central Queensland during and after the last open season, although reduced from previous levels. Sometime after this they declined drastically, due apparently to the effects of disease. During the decline, koalas were* said to be seen regularly, sitting weak and ill, or lying dead, at the bases of trees, and this was considered to be an abnormal phenomenon.

It is difficult to date the decline, but anecdotes suggest that its timing varied from one district to another over a period of a few years during the late 1920's and early 1930's. Troughton, in 1967, also cites epidemic disease as causing declines in koala populations in 1887 to 1889, and in 1900 to 1903. No information exists on the status of the koala in Queensland during the period from the early 1930's up to about 1960. In fact, what little research work has been conducted Australia-wide has been centred largely on taxonomic and physiological features of the species. A brief history of this work begins with the early German naturalist Goldfuss who in 1816 specifically named the koala Phascolarctos cinereus. Subsequently, several races were erected based on the considerable variation that occurs in individual size and pelage appearance.

Taxonomic arguments arose over the koala's relationship to other marsupials. Some authorities maintained that it should be placed with the ring-tail possums and greater gliders because these animals all have rather similar teeth. The presence of such features as cheek pouches, tail-lessness, a backward-opening pouch with only two teats, and a



distinctive abdomen - with a 2.5 metre appendix - have led present-day taxonomists to deduce that the species evolved from a ancestor akin to a wombat - one that took to climbing trees. Ecologically, koalas have been compared with the sloths of South America, because they are similarly inactive and sluggish, spending much of their time sleeping. (The observant John Price, in first discovering the koala west of Sydney in 1798, remarked on the similarity when he wrote, "There is another animal which the natives call a Cullawine, which much resembles the sloths of America".)

More recently, the physiological significance of these features has become the focus of the comparatively impoverished literature about this popular vertebrate.

Inordinate account has also been taken of the obvious diseases to which the species is prone. Fungal cryptococcosis, viral conjunctivitis, and periostitis of the skull, are a few of these.

What little literature applicable to conservation does exist is incomplete, and localized, consisting largely of natural history accounts, captive population studies, and some field surveys.

Presently, the koala is famous in both caricature and story, and is probably the most popular of all Australian fauna. Enjoying such a reputation, it repeatedly draws protest at the occasional individual mortalities arising from land clearing and from bushfires.

With such a background of exploitation, unpredictable population crashes, an ardent public, and a species of specialized habitat and dietary requirements for which little conservation-oriented biological information exists, the National Parks and Wildlife Service is generally obliged to conduct



appropriate research.

The current project's objectives are to assess the approximate status and distribution of koalas in Queensland, to determine precisely the habitat types used, and to determine those factors that control, or have major influence on, koala abundance: In brief, to determine, at least, the major requirements for conservation of koalas in Queensland. A primary requirement is thus general biological data, and a final product is then a management plan for the species.

In the initial investigation, distribution surveys have been conducted based largely on local knowledge and reports from residents in three districts of the State - Oakey, for some five years now; Emerald/Springsure, for three and a half years; and Townsville in north Queensland, for 16 months. These represent continuous and discontinuous areas of occurrence of the species in Queensland. The results of these surveys show that koala populations still occur in the State throughout most of the species' previously recorded range.

The results support the 1968 conclusion of Kikkawa and Walter that largest populations occur in south-eastern Queensland, with isolated scattered populations elsewhere. The surveys also have revealed that koalas utilize a wide range of country within this distribution - from coastal islands and tall humid eucalypt forests, to the low woodlands of the far inland.

Present population trends are uncertain. One localized population crash has been reported from a property on the southern Darling Downs. Koalas were reported to be seen dead at the bases of trees following stormy wet weather, and subsequently were said to be scarce or

absent from the property. On the other hand, reports from local residents in two study regions - Oakey and Springsure - indicate that koalas were either scarce or absent some 20 years ago in areas where large continuous populations are to be found today.

To better understand present-day trends, koalas - particularly in the Oakey and Springsure regions - are now being closely monitored. The diversity of habitat types in these two regions allows a study of the differing ways koalas utilize different environments, their various food requirements, and the amount of space needed. Oakey on the Darling Downs is the principal study area and has been so since 1972. The area is predominantly a floodplain with blue gums on the creeks, poplar box on the flats and mountain coolibah on the adjacent hills - all utilized to some degree by koalas.



The second research area near Springsure exemplifies the frequent koala habit of living along watercourses. This type of habitat becomes increasingly important to koalas farther inland.

Study of the dietary preferences of koalas to date has shown that, at Springsure, the animals are dependent on one of the same tree species as at Oakey - blue gums - but tend to ignore the other main Oakey species - poplar box. Conversely, Moreton Bay ash, a secondary species used by koalas at Springsure, is ignored by the animals at Oakey. Incidentally, koalas in the ranges near Warwick have an entirely different main diet - one of the grey gums Eucalyptus punctata. Koala populations clearly have regional differences in diet, though all show the same pattern of dependence on only one or two species - frequently blue gums - with secondary use of several other species in a district.

The presence of koalas in a district is revealed during transects by tell-tale scratches on the trunks of smoother-barked trees, and more definitely by the characteristic reddish or yellowish dung on the ground at the bases of trees. Frequently, trees show signs of koala grazing, and twigs or small bunches of leaves are found scattered on the ground, broken off and dropped by the animals while feeding.

Research work in the study areas is based on regular catching, weighing, tagging, measuring and subsequent censusing of koalas. A variety of catching techniques are employed dependent on each koala's particular location. Invariably, each technique requires at least two and preferably three people, extendable poles and ladder, and a hand-held catching net. The koala is suitably positioned - usually on a thin branch in the outer canopy - and then the branch complete with koala is broken off, the koala's fall being broken by the net.

Animals are weighed, various body measurements are taken, testes are sampled to assess male sexual maturity, pouches of females are examined, general condition and presence of disease or injury is recorded, and tooth-wear is checked. Pouch young are measured and ear-tagged. Adults also are marked using coloured ear-tags in a numbered code, so that the animal in a tree can be identified from the ground at a later date, using binoculars.

Koalas are released back into the same tree. These trees also are tagged and mapped. Regular censusing of the study area and surrounding properties enables a map of each animal's long-term movements and home range to be prepared.

Radio-transmitters attached to animals give more detailed information on short-term movements, particularly at night. Patterns of nocturnal and diurnal behaviour are established by continual periods of observation of individual koalas. Work so far has shown that koalas spend most of their daylight hours sleeping while at night they alternate largely between feeding for an hour or so and sleeping for a similar period; occasionally they shift position or move to another tree.

By collating data gathered on reproductive rates, survival of young, and rates of loss of animals due to emigration or death over a period, the numbers of koalas can be calculated to be increasing or decreasing.

At this stage of development towards a sound management plan for this popular native animal, to cover all parts of its natural range in Queensland, it must be re-emphasized that such conservation goes beyond mere preservation of the species. Attention must be on the preservation of entire natural systems of interacting species, subject as far as possible to natural evolutionary processes, and intermeshed, if sufficiently adaptable, with human activities.

The second, more theoretical aim is to encourage species to become more adapted to the changes that have occurred in this country since human settlement. There is no evidence that the koala is endangered in Queensland, and animals are potentially available throughout the species' former range to recolonize vacant areas, if these areas are still suitable, or may become suitable, for the species.

Transference of koalas around the State interferes with the population genetics of the species, and is contrary to all the principles of wildlife conservation. At the time of



settlement, koalas probably had almost continuous habitat in eastern Australia. Since then, the areas of suitable habitat have become increasingly disjunct, and this process of deterioration is likely to continue, however gradually, for an indefinite period.

There are perhaps two consequences for koala management. Firstly, colonizing genotypes may become of increasing importance to the interconnection of isolated populations, and to population survival; all present population manipulation automatically interferes with selection for such genotypes. The evolutionarily-fit animals are the wanderers and migrants, able to recolonize distant areas, and these are the ones disadvantaged by recolonization policies. Secondly, there is a need for control over land clearing outside the present statutory system of reserved habitat.

Koalas appear readily capable of existence in agricultural and pastoral - and even urban - regions of south-eastern Queensland, if suitable habitat is left for them. Such habitat retention would permit movement among isolated populations, and so ensure that koalas and many other species are not eventually reduced to existing solely in isolated national parks and other reserves.

Finally, it should be emphasized that the koala is a species that has already shown itself susceptible to decline and local extinction, and we do not really know why this has happened. We do not therefore have any rational means of determining conservation policies beyond the basic one of habitat retention, and we can only guess at the consequences of the interference with population genetics that is entailed in any recolonization policy. In such a situation of general ignorance, it may be wise to avoid unnecessary interference with populations of the koala.





The Drafting and Mapping Branch - That bunch of people responsible for putting the little yellow blotches on the national park maps.

COLLINS, Desmond - The leader of this merry land of fold Des has, apart from cracking the whip, a wide variety of chores to keep him occupied.



All sections of the Service require maps to illustrate their activities i.e. Research and Planning - Fauna Surveys, Management and Operations - Management Plans Proposal and gazettal maps for the Acquisitions Section. Preparing maps for brochures. The drawing up of those intricate maps involved with directing us to the next Social Club function.



When not updating the reservation catalogue or organising mapping supplies to the regional centres Des keeps his hand in with one of the above jobs.

However, don't let his mild manner fool you. Des is a party going extrovert and drives a red Ferrari.

EASTON, Mary-Jane - Here's a spunky young lady who has found her niche in life. Ever since she was a little girl she has enjoyed colouring-in and now has the opportunity to make a career out of it. As well as looking after the map register and sketches for proposals etc. Mary has shown a keen interest in our national parks and has organised several interpretive programs at O'Reilly's in Lamington. As an interpretive officer Mary seems to be having great success judging by the number of young fellows turning up for her guided walks.

I'M ONLY HERE
FOR THE WINE
AND WOMEN!

LUCK, Terry - Terry is a quiet, shy type who would rather be at his desk updating the aerial photo library, working on fauna sanctuary gazettals and tenure checks than participating

in some of the hedonistic activities of some of his workmates.

This lad also proves his worth in the organising of social club activities by taking care of the soft-drinks and entertainment.

McCONOCHIE, Graeme - Graeme is preoccupied mainly with the production, revision and setting up of brochures. If its' out of print you can be sure Graeme's working on it. New brochures that are currently being worked upon are "Walking at Carnarvon", "Southern Inland Queensland" and the "Lamington Brochure". When asked about the imminence of the Lamington brochure Graeme said something about still cutting down the trees for the paper.

PAYNE, Trevor - Trevor is the person to whom we heap abuse upon when someone in the field heaps abuse upon us for not having a brochure out.

Trevor is the Jack-of-alltrades who oversees the design, layout, typesetting, mapping, tendering, printing and tearing up in disgust of all internally and externally printed brochures, forms and posters.

With Bill Carter, Trevor probes the mysteries of the "Corporate Standards" whatever they may be.

To the relief of field staff Trevor is working on a new brochures for Mt. Tamborine, Cape Hillsborough, Springbrook, Cunningham's Gap, Eungella, Woodgate, Carnarvon and Lamington.

All further abusive inquiries are to be directed to - Trevor Payne, Drafting Branch, Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Praiseworthy inquiries may still be sent care of the Interpretations Branch.



Id Rather
be skiing!





PURSE, June - A Bornny Scortch Lass, June is a D.O.A. Class I (No, that's not Dead on Arrival - its Drawing Office Aide) June is involved with a lot of the preparatory work in brochure production such as searches at various other mapping authorities; artwork and text layout.

As well as the multitude of other exciting jobs to be done in Drafting, June is doing a Creative Arts course at the North Brisbane College of Advanced Education and if she passes, hopes to be qualified to operate the new Leteron machine.

* * *

During our "news" period in the third grade, Mike mentioned that his pet beagle was expecting puppies. From then on, the class eagerly awaited the report of their birth. When the day arrived, Mike announced glumly, "Well, they're here."

It was obvious that he was disappointed, but because of the intense interest of the class in the pups, I asked, "What's wrong, Mike? Tell us more."

"Well," he said, "I wanted a collie, and my sister wanted a poodle, and all we got were beagles - and we already have a beagle."

* * *

Heard in the corridor !!

A certain Overseer travelling to Moggill for a meeting suddenly found his Service vehicle had developed radiator trouble. Realising water was needed he resourcefully found the closest supply - Toowong Cemetery - where a handy vase of flowers recently placed on someone's last resting place, contained sufficient water.

Fair enough, except that on arrival at Moggill, the Overseer had apparently decided to keep the vase!



Did you Know?

Government cars have the following features rarely found in private cars:

They travel faster in all gears, especially reverse.

They accelerate at a phenomenal rate.

They enjoy a much shorter braking distance.

They have a much tighter turning circle.

They can take ramps (or other hazards) at twice the speed of private cars.

Battery, water, oil and tyre pressures do not need to be checked nearly so often.

The floor is shaped like an ashtray.

They only burn the petrol with the highest stamp rate.

They do not require to be garaged at night.

They can be driven for miles with oil warning light flashing.

They need cleaning less often, especially inside.

They are adapted to allow reverse gear to be engaged whilst the car is still moving forward.

The tyre walls are designed to allow bumping into and over kerbstones.

Unusual and alarming engine noises are easily eliminated by adjusting the volume of a transistor radio.

No security needed - may be left unlocked with the keys in the ignition.

The suspension is reinforced to allow carriage of concrete slabs and other heavy building materials.

They are designed to tow loads far in excess of normal and are suited for backing into water at loading ramps.

COMMENTS FROM OUR LIBRARIAN

I would like to advise N.P.W.S. staff of some changes which have taken place in the library.

All journals are arranged alphabetically by title. This is as it was previously. However, I have now included items such as annual reports and serial titles in the same sequence. This will mean that I will have to send you an amended list of periodical titles held by the library. I hope that this will be done within the next few months.

Also I now have Lynda Evans working with me. Lynda is working in the library for two days a week on a temporary basis. Our thanks to State Library for lending us Lynda. While I am away on leave, Lynda will be able to help you with any enquiries.

You may have noticed on the last accession list the classification number. The library is classified by a system called the Universal Decimal Classification. This is a variation of the Dewey system which is more commonly used. The principles are the same and I am sure you will soon feel at home with the U.D.C. classification scheme.

Another change which some may have noticed is found in the pamphlet section. Pamphlets are arranged under broad subject headings. When looking for information on a particular subject e.g. Kangaroos , one would look in the catalogue and find a pink card e.g.

KANGAROOS

Additional information on this subject can be found in the pamphlet collection under the above heading.

When borrowing pamphlet material staff should fill out a "card for unbound periodicals" stating that the item borrowed is a pamphlet e.g.

CARD FOR UNBOUND PERIODICALS

Periodical Title
(Print in Full)

Kangaroos (Pam.) NO 1

Date of

Publication _____ Volume _____ Number _____

Borrower's Name
(Block Capitals)

MARY SMITH

Department _____ Ext. _____

Date Borrowed 15/4/79

Also a reminder that all items which are taken from the library should have loan cards filled out for them.

All books have a yellow book card and this should be completed each time a book is borrowed. For periodicals there are the cards marked "Cards for Unbound Periodicals" These should be completed as follows.

CARD FOR UNBOUND PERIODICALS

Periodical Title
(Print in Full)

AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY

Date of

Publication 1954 Volume 3 Number 2

Borrower's Name
(Block Capitals)


MARY SMITH

51700 4 78--1M--P

Date Borrowed 15/4/79

If you have any problems regarding the library please don't hesitate to ask me for help.

Denise Scorey
Librarian



TECHNICAL SERVICES - 'A POCKET GUIDE'

A rundown on the activities (accomplishments) of the workers, gangers, overseers, clerks etc of the Technical Services Section (in alphabetical order)

BLICK, Ross - New Boy; Joined the workforce to spread the good interpretive word amongst the rural sector and to organise and rally to the cause, the various natural history associations.

He has a scientific and teaching background and has also spent a number of years trying to coax vegetables to sprout from the ground in North Queensland.

Special interests include astronomy and talking to multitudes of school groups etc. in his own time.

Special Projects - to develop a rural interpretation program; looking into the formation of further Natural History Associations and the possible use of the media to get conservation messages and practices across to the 'man-on-the-land'.


Ross is also working on ways to avoid coming into the office between field trips.

BRYCE, Michael - A part-time employee who handles all the jobs that are too expensive for us to tackle.

CARTER, R.W. (Bill) - Second-in-Command. Along with "Fearless Leader" a relic from Forestry days.

Special Interests - Looking after the security of the office during the late hours of the night and living up to the responsibilities of owning a flash sports car.

Is involved with - Interpretive Planning, Liaison with Consultants with regards to design standards, signage, and the Sign Manual, Displays



EAT YOUR HEART
OUT!

Along with the preparation of brochures on such places as Eungella and Tamborine, Bill is committing to paper the saga of his epic adventures overseas last year on a Churchill Fellowship.

CURTIS, Paul - (The Power behind the Throne) Paul looks after the clerical duties of the Section which include:- Stocktaking of brochures, Answering telephone calls, Distribution of brochures, Answering telephone calls, Requisitions and budget control, Answering telephone calls and general files and correspondence.

If you work out in a park Paul is the character you heap abuse upon for not receiving any new brochures/posters.

When not answering phone calls, Paul is kept occupied with his many field trips to such far away and exciting places as the photographic laboratories and the Moggill storeheds.

Pauls interests include - photography, bush-walking and lusting after Bills sports car.

DAVIE, Fiona - (token female interpretive officer). Along with Mr. Gordon Stone, Ms Davie ably manages the intricate workings of the honorary protector system throughout Queensland.

This basically involves telling applicants that their application is still awaiting gazettal and "No, Mr. Jones, you can't shoot wallabies trespassing in fauna sanctuaries".

Apart from the usual interpretive work of answering telephones, Fiona is also kept occupied with designing, organising, setting up and staffing displays; researching and writing brochures and the miscellaneous file work we all have to put up with.

Fiona is responsible for the Noosa Self Guiding Nature Walk and Exploring Noosa brochures



and has at least two others in the pipeline - not on Noosa I hasten to add.

HOCKINGS, Marcus Tilbury - Our roving interpretive officer - banished to the wastes of far off Girraween National Park almost before he even started. However, Marc is doing a fine job coping with the hordes that descend upon the park during the warmer months - or so his interpretive activity sheets claim. Marc has been spreading his wings to cover Cunningham's Gap and Queen Mary Falls national parks. Before you know it he'll be taking over Brisbane.

However it's always comforting to know that if there's ever a far-off park that requires an interpretive program, we've got Marc.

Lately Marc has spent some time devising a bird-key to help visitors to the park identify some of the feathered wildlife. However, with seemingly far more people than birds during the busy months it might be more useful to devise a people-key! A thought anyway.

Marc has plenty to keep him busy in the off-peak season with talks to schools in the area, assistance with the management plan for the area and writing and revising brochures for Girraween and other parks in the vicinity.

HRDINA, Frances - Once the reigning Queen of the Library, Frances has been relegated to the 7th floor with the rest of the T.S.S. rabble. Fresh from the Library, Frances has taken to organising the film, photo and photographic equipment library in the same smooth and efficient manner we have all come to know and love from the old library days. When not politely asking someone to return a projector and screen they borrowed six months ago (who out there is cringing as they read this?) she is organising the revising and reprinting of many of the olde D.P.I. fauna information leaflets.



During the school holidays Frances has proved her value in organising and executing (no pun intended) interpretive programs on parks and has come to know all the possums on the Bunya Mountains by their first names.

LONG, Daphne - (Good ole Daph) The backbone of the Section - without whose presence the morale of Technical Services would surely crack and crumble. Daphne cops all the work no one else wants or has the time to do. During her absence work slows down, files build up and we all suffer from coffee withdrawal.

There isn't one of us in the section for whom Daphne is not currently doing a job, whether it be miscellaneous, photocopying, collating, filing or general correspondence. Daphne is also good to have around for the odd abusive telephone call and she can talk the face off a clock when she gets started and beware anyone who differs from her opinion.

(She also likes gettingpinched!!!!!!)

MACKNESS, Brian Stewart - Quick! While he's not around, let me say a few things about Brian. This guy doesn't do anything around here. He once designed and had built a \$10,000 caravan for display purposes when New South Wales had been using one for years; created and ran the Junior Ranger Program - that's nothing compared to the Scouting Association; conceived, wrote and recorded the Nature Songs Record - it's not in the charts yet! anybody could write a few dozen articles and brochures in a couple of years; the television advertisement he proposed and organised went for only 30 seconds.

I reckon when he goes overseas this August we might get a few things done.

Meanwhile I've got this great idea for a Living History Farm and a series of environmental songs.....





McLEAN, Simon - (Artist Extrordinaire) This fellow was picked out of a bunch of painting contractors because he looked easy to push around and impose deadlines of two days upon. Loand Behold - this guy had talent also.

Since he started in the Section last August his sketches and illustrations have adorned many a brochure and poster. His 'talents' have created a never ending stream of secretaries and typists who come up to see his etchings.

This problem aside, Simon has been whacking out posters and illustrations at a great rate of knots. A careful look at one of his works will reveal great attention to detail. However, be careful not to look too deeply - cause there's really nothing there.

At this stage it's hard to say what Simon's got in the pipeline - probably whatever is thrown in front of him tomorrow.

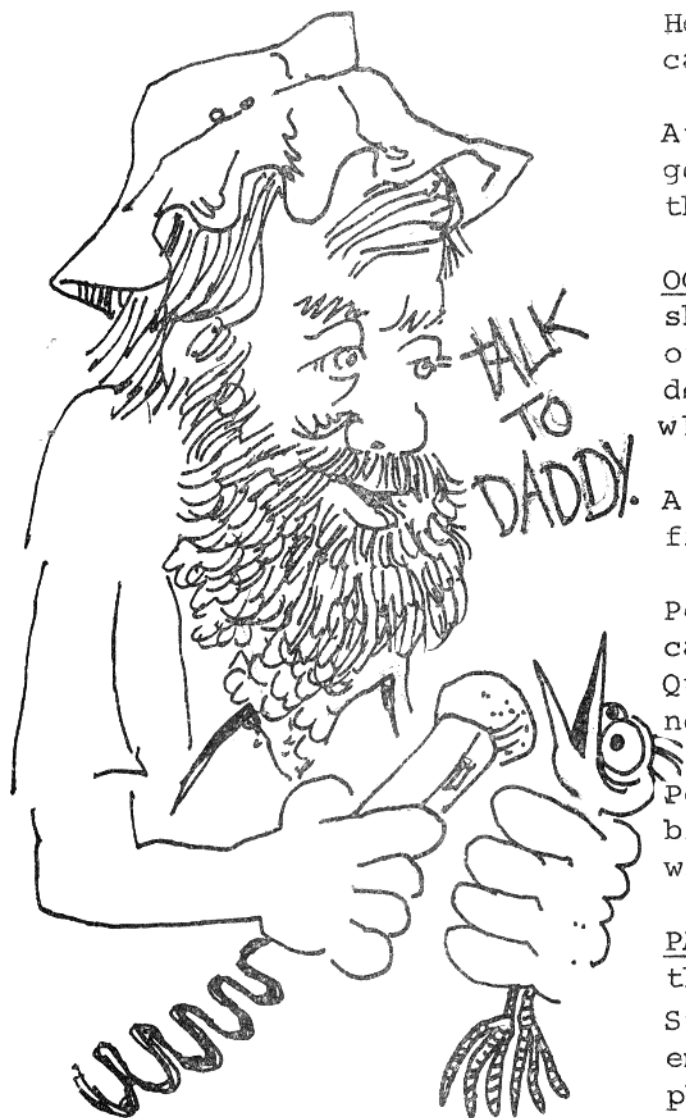
OGILVIE, Peter - (The Red Emporer) What should I say? Peter has the unenvied position of being responsible for everything the Section does/doesn't do. Somebody has to crack the whip occasionally.

A certified Zoologist, Peter is the father-figure to whom we take our problems for advice.

Peter has an impressive collection of bird-calls on tape and may frequently be seen down Queen Street on a busy lunch hour using them to no avail.

Peter also has a particular interest in sea-birds and may also be seen at Surfers Paradise with his tapes.

PARISH, Stephen - From once being voted the "Underwater Photographer of the Year", Steve has sunk a long way. Or should I say, emerged, to become one of the best terrestrial photographers in Queensland. Whatever, many a patron has oohed and ahed at the still life



captured on Steve's emulsion. Possibly more so than any other staff member, it's Steve's work that the public has come to associate with the Service.

Steve has almost as many ideas as he has pictures. On the board at the moment is the production of a slide kit for regional centres; a series of mounted photos to tie in with the recently purchased "Octonorm" display system; a juvenile/adult conservation audio-visual and a rainforest audio-visual.

While producing such artistic works as the above Steve also manages to remain humble. What a bloke!

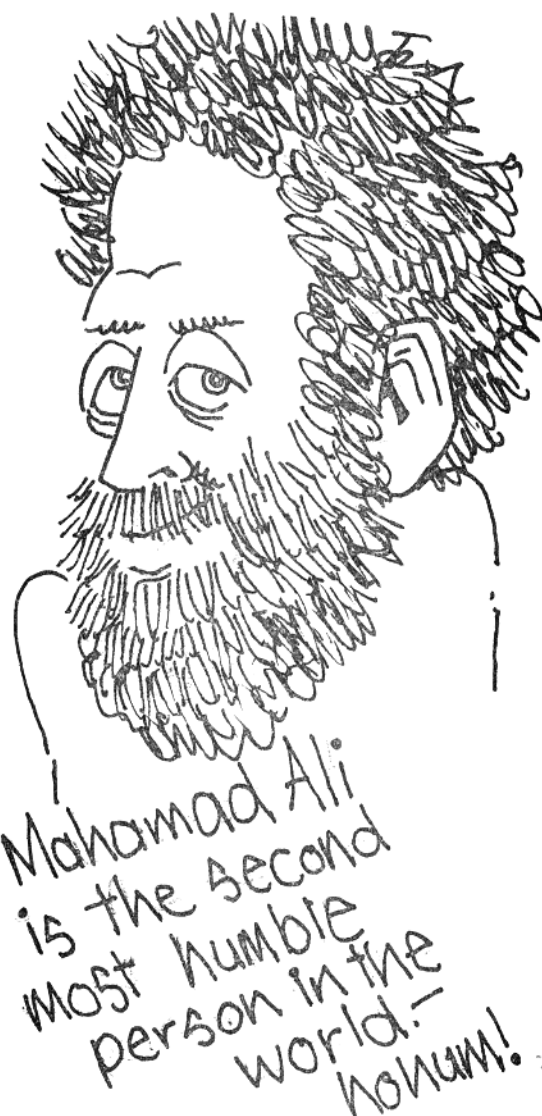
SCOREY, Denise - The new face in the Library. Denise now has the task of cataloguing the magazines and periodicals that are continually flowing into the Library as well as books and at the same time making all members of the Service aware of the new arrivals.

Denise plans to catalogue all branch collections as well so don't leave your 'Playboys' around. They may be filed between 'Wildlife' and 'Australian Birdwatcher'.

Those in regional centres will not escape either as Denise plans to visit all centres in the future to organise their collections and to learn of their requirements.

STONE, Gordon - As mentioned previously, along with Ms. Davie, Gordon spearheads the job of enlightening the Honorary Protectors in the aspects of what the Service is all about and the right way and wrong way to go about their duties.

However, as the administration of the H.P. is becoming more of a clerical job, Gordon is turning his nights to further horizons. Already he's slipped out an amazing little brochure on the Platypus containing a detachable questionnaire regarding their





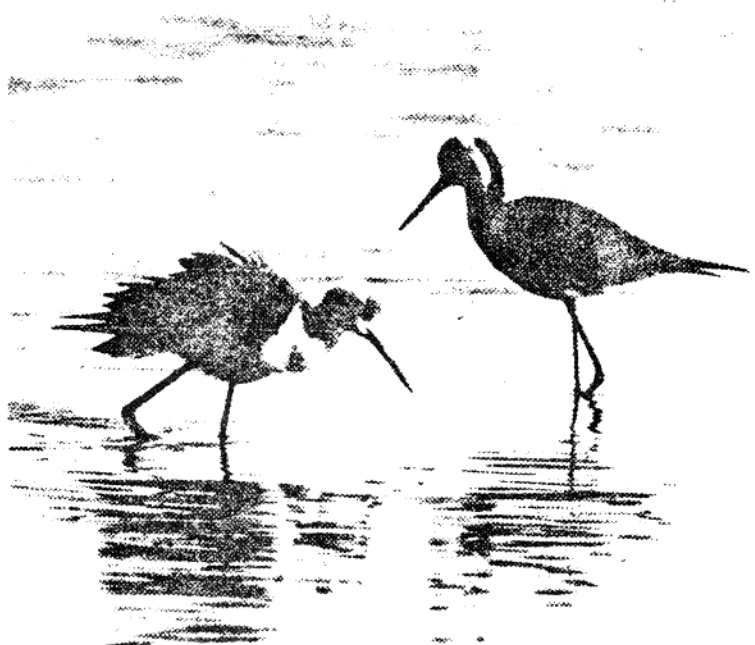
distribution. We're hoping that this will be the start of a series. To work in the Technical Services Section you have to be versatile. Gordon is no exception.

Like Fiona, Gordon has several other brochures on the go - the Eungella Self Guiding Nature Walk, Southern Inland Queensland Regional Brochure and a brochure on Coolool National Park.

Gordon has his finger in a few other pies including:- rationilizing the Octonom Display System; Displays; field interpretations; talks to school groups/interested organisations etc. and to eventually revamp the honorary protector system.

Don't forget - if you see a Platypus, think of Gordon.

* * *



What are you looking for?

Well,



You missed the first one,-
if you miss this one,-you
are a mug,-mug!

The 2nd Social Club
Barbie will be a ripper!!

If you miss it,-you'll be
the only mug-that does!

So keep your eyes and
ears open... and keep

Sunday 12th August



FREE...as in available.

and if you think this is abusive
- don't show up!!

GRANTS-IN-AID TO RESEARCH AND PLANNING BRANCH

Damian McGreevy

Since the inception of the Service, substantial funds have been attracted from other organisations by submissions from individual officers of Research and Planning Branch. These welcome funds - listed below - have been received at a period in Service history when costs for establishment are high in all areas of activity.

Funding Authority - Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service

- 1975 Wetland Survey, north-east Queensland
A report has been presented by Mr. J.G. Blackman (Pallarenda) - \$7,146
- 1975- Bridled Nail-tailed Wallaby Survey.
1976 Three reports have been presented by Dr. G. Gordon (Emerald) - \$5,619
- 1975- Bulloo Shire Fauna Survey. Two
1977 reports have been presented by Dr. T.H. Kirkpatrick & D.G. McGreevy (Hermitage) - \$12,094
- 1975- Kilcoy Shire Fauna Survey. Three reports
1977 have been presented by Mr. J.S. McEvoy (Yeerongpilly) - \$16,887
- 1975 Queensland Sea Turtle Project. Seven
to reports have been presented by Mr. C.J.
date Limpus (Pallarenda) - \$10,200; \$22,902; \$29,426; \$12,981.
- 1977- Red Kangaroo Arid Zone Investigations
1979 Six reports have been presented by Dr. M.J.S. Denny (Hermitage) - \$14,400 \$18,000

1977 McIlwraith Range Fauna Survey. Three
to reports have been presented by Dr.
date J.W. Winter (Pallarenda) - \$17,499

Funding Authority - Australian Orchid
Foundation

1976 Orchid Survey of Cape York Peninsula.
to Two reports have been submitted by
date Dr. P.S. Lavarack (Yeerongpilly) -
\$1,200; \$1,500

Funding Authority - World Wildlife Fund
Australia

1979- Raine Island (Great Barrier Reef) Project
1980 A report has been presented by Dr. H.J.
Lavery, Mr. C.J. Limpus and Mr. B.R.
King - \$46,300 (to come)

Allied projects (in which Queensland National
Parks and Wildlife Service has been
instrumental) - with Capricornia Institute of
Advanced Education.

1975- Ghost Bat Project. Six reports have
1978 been presented by Dr. H.J. Lavery,
Dr. P.D. Dwyer, Mr. G.J. Toop. This
Project was funded by the Australian
National Parks and Wildlife Service.
\$32,049

- with National Trust of Queensland

1979- Currumbin Parrot Reserve. A report
1980 has been presented by Dr. H.J. Lavery
and Dr. E.C. Cannon. This Project
is funded by the Utah Foundation.
\$28,000.

Thus four senior organisations have so far
funded 11 major scientific projects by 10
Branch officers (plus technical assistants)
to the extent of \$275,753. The major role of
Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service
in this regard is obvious, and is gratefully
acknowledged.

Results of this work will become evident over time; some scientific papers e.g. Lavarack, P.D. (1977) - Notes on Queensland Orchidaceae, 1. Austrobaileya 1:63-74. Lavarack, P.S. (1977) - Orchids of the Iron Range area. Aust. Orchid Rev. 42:19-24; McEvoy, J.S., McDonald, K.R. and Searle, A.F. (in press) - Vertebrate fauna of the Kilcoy Shire, south-east Queensland. Qd J. agric. Anim. Sci.; Limpus, C.J. and McLachlan, N.C. (1979) - Observations on the leatherback turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea* (L.), in Australia. Aust. Wildl. Res. 6:105-16, have appeared already, but many more will be presented in due course. The work has also been the subject of a number of addresses at symposia, workshops and seminars around Australia e.g. Limpus, C.J. (1978) - Sea turtles of the northern Great Barrier Reef. Paper to Workshop of Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, April 1978; Denny, M.J.S. (1977) - Aerial census methods for studies of the brolga. Proc. Workshop of Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, Canberra, February 1977. The value of the experience for the appropriate management of lands in south-west, south-east, and central Queensland, and on Cape York Peninsula and the Great Barrier Reef, is unprecedented.

* * *

Did you hear the joke about the biscuit?
It was CRUMBY!

* * *

When I went to visit a friend, she was feeding her baby. As soon as she spooned food into his mouth, he pushed it out with his tongue. She would scoop the food off his chin and again place it in his mouth. This was repeated many times, interspersed with coughs and splutters by the baby. I asked, "How can you tell when he's had enough?" "That's easy," she replied. "The meal is over as soon as one of us gets fed up".



WHAT! You cut your nails with this?

* * *

In defence of my broken ankle

With reference to Ringtail of April, I feel that the suggestion made by one of my "Friends" is more than capable of defending the questioning statement made. Quote "When a horse breaks a leg - they usually shoot him. What should we do when a staff member breaks a leg?". In this case the value of the Horse must be taken into account and Horses of such value as the one in question are usually put out to Stud preferably with a large group of young fillies.

JOHN MARTIN.

Environmental Parks

The potential of the Environmental Parks legislation for involving local authorities in conservation management is beginning to be realised, with several shires and cities co-operating well. It is a project that will take some time to get off the ground, because there is still widespread misunderstanding about the role of these parks. For the same reason, uniformly high standards of management of Environmental Parks are difficult to achieve. However, the goals of conservation of our total heritage cannot be achieved by limiting the role of the Service to preserving discreet areas of National Parks under the care of experts. If Environmental Parks can become areas where a conservation/recreation 'package' is handled at a local level with co-ordination, advisory services and supervision provided by the Service, the long-term benefits will far outweigh the short-term mistakes.

One such example of widespread involvement is the proposed Children's Activity Area at North Tamborine Environmental Park, which has been accepted as an International Year of the Child project of the Service. While the initial ideas for this project arose from the Technical Services Section, discussions on planning the Activity Area have involved the Beaudesert Shire Council, three local conservation bodies, Service personnel from T.S.S. and Management and Operations Branch, as well as Queensland Agricultural College whose students will be doing the track and seat construction as a training exercise. More details of this project will be given in the next "Ringtail".

Many of the existing Environmental Parks are not suitable for encouraging passive nature-based recreation hence it is difficult to show shires how a joint Service-trustee approach to management can work. However,

several proposed Environmental Parks which are close to gazettal will demonstrate the value of this arrangement. Firstly, Lake Broadwater near Dalby has been purchased and proclaimed, and although it is not yet gazetted an Environmental Park, an overseer has been appointed to manage the area. Lake Broadwater is an important site for waterfowl breeding, but also has a long established and well organised usage as a waterskiing area. A management advisory committee is being set up under Wambo Shire Council as trustees, to consist of representatives of conservation and waterskiing groups, local landholders, the trustees and the Service. This project is an opportunity to develop interpretative facilities to carry the message of waterfowl conservation to members of the rural and waterskiing public who might not normally take much interest in such matters. Taking advantage of this opportunity appears to be the most constructive compromise between the conflicting demands placed on the lake. Vic Wood, the new overseer, has had experience in both managing waterfowl populations and teaching about them.

Secondly, the well-known area of Townsville Common right on the edge of the city, is likely to have a joint management and interpretation programme developed by the Service and Townsville City Council. In many ways, Townsville Common represents an ideal situation for sequential Service involvement. It has been the subject of intensive research for many years by Gavin Blackman and his associates at Pallarenda into the population dynamics of waterbirds, particularly brolgas. This research information will then be available to form the basis of both interpretation and management in the future. An important part of such management will be continual monitoring of the brolga population, even after the research programme has achieved its goals, because brolgas are not only the most spectacular and visible component of the



He reached for his comb, but thought better of it, and turned to walk out.

"How that belt holds up all that, I don't know?"

He stopped, as if I'd insulted his mother, and turned slowly. He looked me in the eye as if searching for some character that my appearance could confirm or deny. He unbuttoned his shirt exposing his hairy gut. With a boyish grin he pulled the shirt open revealing braces.

The question was answered.

I laughed and threw the paper in the bin.

"Sure hope you enjoy yer stay".

"Thanks".

And we walked out together;

He to traffic duty and I to my next encounter - a San Franciscan cab driver.

Bill Carter

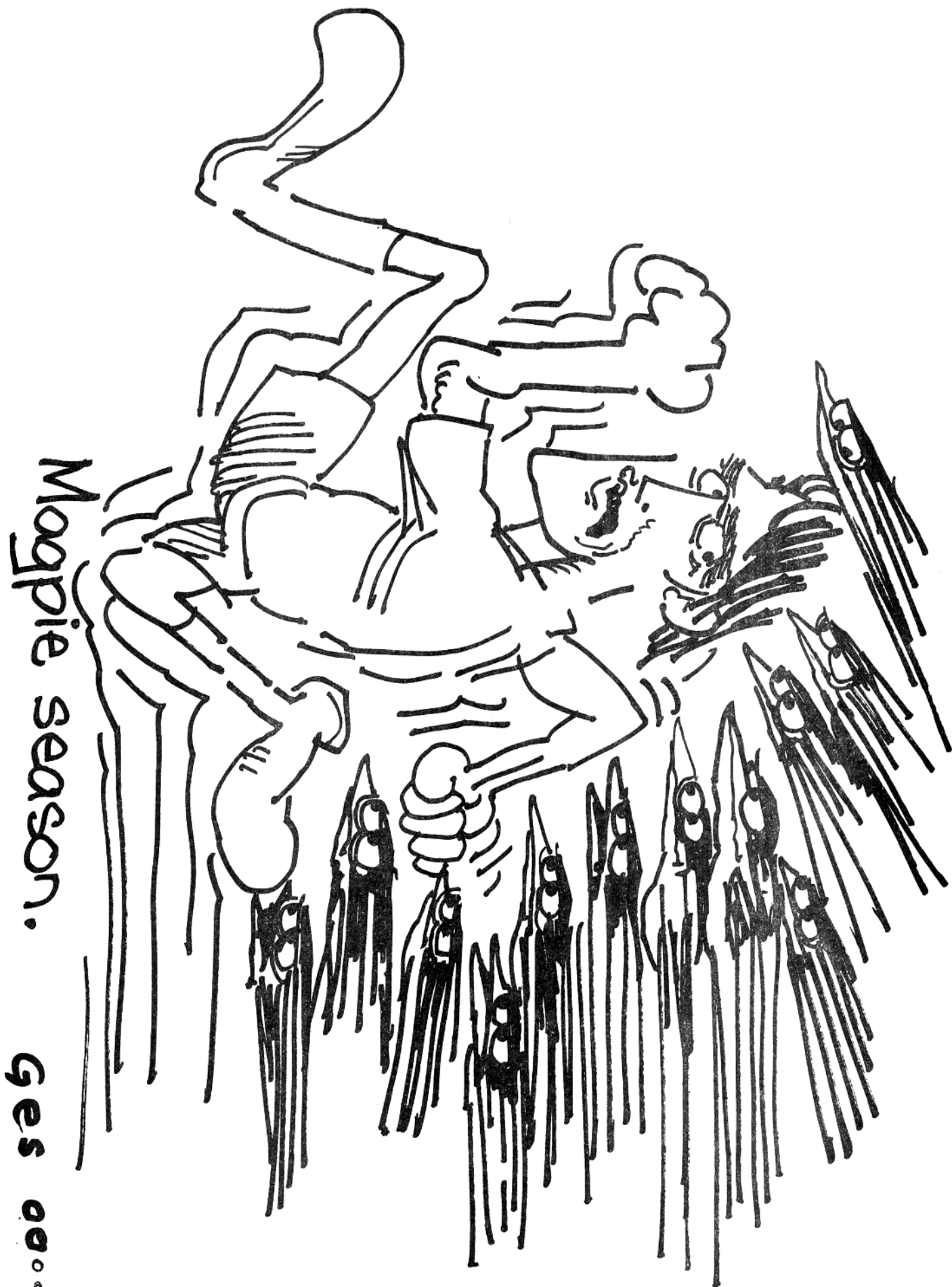
* * *

Remember if you want something delivered or
picked up
mail to be sent
furniture to be shifted
lights to be replaced
laundry to be distributed
plumbing to be fixed
cars to be repaired or washed or driven
or any other job
Just call for the GA's
Lyn, Lew or Rob.

Room 505 by day is our home
Contact us by intercom or by phone

We are proud of our record
And we know you all feel
Room 505 is without doubt
The hub of the wheel.

But go easy mates,
We are workers not slaves
Assisting is our aim
Not to end up in our Graves.



Mogpie season.

ges oo... ..

ecosystem. It is hoped that a similar combination of management, wildlife monitoring, continuing research and intensive interpretation will follow the research of Col Limpus at the turtle rookery of Mon Repos beach near Bundaberg when it becomes an Environmental Park, though there is unlikely to be the same degree of local authority involvement as in Townsville.

Also in North Queensland, proposals to make Lumley Hill and its environs in Cairns into an Environmental Park will involve the Service and Cairns City Council in a joint approach to management. Lumley Hill adjoins the Cairns Botanic Gardens so the citizens of Cairns will be able to enjoy an integrated park and reserve system that provides a range of recreational and educational opportunities. In both Cairns and Townsville, these two Environmental Park proposals are geographically associated with National Parks and Wildlife Service regional centres so will be seen by the public as showpieces, so the opportunity for organised interpretation should not be missed.

* * *

"Ringtail" would like to record its tribute to the scores of men and women employed by the Service in varying capacities throughout the State who work far harder than shown in official records. Not because they are expected to do so, and certainly not because it is demanded of them, but simply because there is a big job to be done, they believe in the goals of the Service and they enjoy the work. The calibre and dedication of people within the National Parks and Wildlife Service are subjects of disbelief and envy in other government departments, and belong to the highest traditions of public service.

"The Queensland Conservatorium has a new Michael Bryce logo derived from the Albert lyrebird. Syd Curtis lent photos (the only ones in existence) of a male Albert lyrebird on display, and in due course received a copy of the new logo from Michael Bryce with the notation - "Albert Lyrebird captured at last!"

from the land of Tamborine to advise Technical Services:

which caused Curtis

"This species is protected.
Please arrange for immediate
release back into the wild".

That man Ogilvie melodiously replied.

"I'm caught somewhat
in a clef stick and
it makes me quaver a

bit, so I thought I'd
send you a note. I'll
be as breve as I can.

You seek immediate release
of this pathetic captive
animal, but I wonder whether
you would like to moderato
your request. Unfortunately it
would be such a large scale operation,
I couldn't handel it without
extra staff.

Actually the key to the whole exercise (after a stiff gin and tonic) is a strong chord (don't use a bowed string) affixed to the base of the captive bird; you then give it a major tug at quick intervals and presto your bird is free.

I'm certainly not being a lyre when I assure you that this mode of operation (whilst it's not my forte) carried out at a suitable tempo will accelerando your chances of success. I'm only too willing to pitch in and help.

Advertisement.

The Management
of Cooloola
National Park, -
Kinaba Branch
wishes to announce
the discovery of
new techniques
in the field of
Marine, - err, -
well, - Brackish
water, engineering



'NEWS' FROM MARYBOROUGH REGION

Staff Movements -

Richard Dwyer from Woodgate to Noosa.
Fred Lamont, Noosa, retiring next year.
Sean Ryan from Cooloola to Woodgate.
Bob Schultz from Bunya Mts. to Cooloola.

Park News -

Cooloola (Southern Section)

After the recent article in the Sunday Mail Magazine and the marvellous photographs of the area, Kathy and Ken will be busier than ever. Visitor numbers are increasing daily, and comments on the board-walk and bird-hide are very favourable. Kathy and Ken (with much appreciated help from Noosa staff) worked in water for most of this job, and we hear their feet are similar to "The Man from Atlantis"!

Cooloola (Northern Section)

Easter was the busiest this section of Cooloola has seen. Jenny Curnow's help during this period was appreciated, but her comments on the crowded conditions at Freshwater are unprintable. Stopped counting (or lost count) at 370 camps. Double Island Point was even more amazing with 850 camps recorded. Jenny was in such a state of shock, she had to be driven back to the main road before she recovered sufficiently to drive back to Brisbane.

Local Councils will be taking control of the beach and this should help control unregistered vehicles.

There has been quite a breakthrough with illegal huts. We now have Court Orders on all (and these will soon be removed), bar two on Forestry land and one on Mining Lease. The local Progress Association is agitating for a dedicated road into Freshwater and there is a Ministerial inspection of this area coming up shortly.

A special grant for extra work on the new Freshwater road (our version) and rehabilitation work on the lake edge was gratefully received. 41

A cartoon illustration of a man with glasses, a mustache, and a suit, holding a large knife. He is looking down at a small bird on a ledge. The text "Quite nice!" is written above the bird.

```
1 milliday
1 centiday
1 deciday
1 day (unchanged)
1 hectoday
1 kiloday
```



The Queen's birthday will accordingly be reduced to 5 decadays (6 decadays in those States observing Daylight Saving). However, the 5 decadays will be added, where relevant, to the Christmas break which will be moved to Show day so as to take advantage of the longer shopping decadays.

The term "A month of Sundays" is not to be used on official documents or correspondence. The correct term will be "A Hectoday of Decadays".

Leave will be affected only so far as the change to Metric time is concerned, and no one shall be adversely affected. Thus, if an employee was entitled to 22 days (old time), he will now be entitled to 220 decadays or one hectoday, plus 22 decadays for every hectoday over and above 20 kilodays service since the 10th decaday of the third hectoday of 1954.

* * *

Thanks for the article it sure is a mind bogler.

You must have found a heap mixture in one
of those "rare" bottles.

* * *

A friend of mine didn't trust banks.

*He always puts his money in his mattress so that if it was ever stolen, he would have something to fall back on!

* * *

On a motoring holiday in England last summer, I stopped the car to buy some strawberries.

Aware that they are not always as tasty as they look, I asked the boy selling them for his opinion. "I don't know, miss," he said sadly. "You see, I've never liked them. That's why they gave me the job."

Lake Eacham Brochure

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has released a new tourist brochure on the Lake Eacham National Park.

The brochure was prepared by Atherton girl Dorothy Finch who has been a Division 2 Ranger/Overseer in Cairns for less than 12 months. It is a fine effort by her after only a short time with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Dorothy is well known to most Atherton people as she worked in the Commonwealth Bank before joining the N.P.W.S. last year. Her mother is one of the local Blue Nurses.

The new brochure includes a short history of the Lake Eacham area and goes on to deal with the natural flora and fauna, geology and general information and maps for the tourists.

The Lake Eacham National Park is presently undergoing a major reorganisation, and will eventually become the Service's tourist centre for the area.

The tourist brochure is available from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Wildlife Service Regional Office in Moffat Street, Cairns or from the Ranger at Lake Eacham.

* * *

For years, I stayed in an unchallenging dead-end job, because I just could not decide what other kind of work I was suited for. Finally, I sought ~~Help~~ from a career-counselling service, which would surely put my career peg in the right hole. After I had sweated through hours of complex intelligence and aptitude tests, a scholarly-looking young counsellor slowly studied my records and consulted various charts. "Mr. Jones", he said finally, "you scored very well in the tests. In my judgment, you should be successful at whatever you decide to do."

ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL RAMBLINGS

Before I get on with what we have been doing in Centreland over the past few weeks just a couple of comments about the magazine.

My Hasn't it Grown!

There obviously was that need for contact and expression throughout the Service.

If only we as a Service were growing at the same rate as 'Ringtail' we'd have the states conservation problems solved in no time. Unfortunately we are not and times are hard but Chuck's article "the Grass is Greener" (Last issue) gives food for thought. We or any Service can go either way - N.S.W. or S.A. Lets all get together and make ours work.

Management wise the main event since I sent in last article was Easter-May holidays. Will ever our Parks be the same again.

The 'eye witness' at Carnarvon over Easter has summed it up pretty well (last issue) relating the problems on that Park but most other developed Parks received an invasion as well.

Small highly developed parks such as Bluff Point and Cape Hillsborough were swarmed over by multitudes of visitors mostly the picnicing/ laying in the sun type but some did walk the tracks and 'all had a lovely time'. I consider these smaller heavily recreated Parks of great importance for it is the enjoyment that large numbers of visitors receive from them that keeps our Service and its activities in the public eye and gains us greater public favour.

The camping areas of Eungella and Conway also had their share of use as did the day visitor facilities at Eungella.

Last issue I mentioned a proposed trip to Capricorn/Bunker Island Parks. We did it. Though the trip was slow in the old 'Shearwater' the weather was perfect for the week. The best trip in 3 years.

The Islands were still there and still under our flag (at least the signs said they were). From the litter left behind they have had their share of use also. More frequent patrols and visitor interpretation is the answer but weather has been bad again for the last six weeks. A proposed trip of a week ago had to be cancelled half way through.

Well I think thats about enough to let every one know that we still exist up here and in closing I wish to thank my staff who stood by their Parks and kept things going through those busy times.

Kevin Bade

* * *

A friend of mine married an usherette

The bride carried a bunch of flowers and a TORCH!

* * *

Did you hear about the two pigeons who wanted to settle down?

They finally saw a house that they liked and put a DEPOSIT on it!

* * *

In a primary-school arithmetic test, one question read: "What do you get when you take five away from 82 as many times as you can?" One small boy wrote wearily: "I keep getting 77."

"QUO VADIS"

In the beginning was chaos.

Then the Most High said, "Let there be a gathering of the faithful, that we might make disciples of them. Fill them with the Spirit of National Parks and inspire them to great deeds."

A messenger was sent to the Innkeeper at Binna Burra saying, "Verily thou shalt lay in a great stock of food and wines," and it was so. And it came to pass that the faithful came from near and far. There was Bade of the Bottles, Wilkinson of the Ships, McDonald of the Frogs, Aaskov the Stirrer and many others of great stature and wisdom. And when they were so gathered together, they were addressed by the High Priests. There was Curtis of the Lyre Bird, who spoke of the Spirit. There was Wilder from the country of the Hamburger who spoke in tongues, saying, "You guys designed this uniform, you guys will wear it." And all men trembled.

There was Ogilvie and Carter of the Propaganda, who are promising the faithful many things, saying, "Behold thou shalt go forth among the multitude and the unbelievers, and carry the message of the Spirit to them, and we will give you the written work to minister unto them."

But alas, this did not come to pass, and the disciples were sorely afflicted.

And Vollbon of the Parks, saith, "Verily thou shalt hide the toilets that no man may see them, thus will there be a great saving of paper, giving many talents to build more toilets."

And Troyhan the Tax Gatherer, who sits on the box of talents saith, "Woe is me. The disciples consider not the spending of the

talents", and unless he doeth this he shall go forth with no pants for this uniform.

This pleaseth not the disciples from the cold and the sand fly regions.

And the faithful learnt many things, and were filled with the understanding of the Spirit, and said we are indeed pleased. And the Most High saw that it was good, and was well pleased.

Each of the disciples returned to his own place and many great works were done, and the Spirit of the Parks was with the priests and the disciples.

But alas, a shadow has descended on the land, the Spirit is sorely tried, and many of the disciples discouraged.

The Overseer disciple knoweth not the list of words by which he may become a Ranger disciple. He knoweth there are many words, but receiveth no guidance to which of these words he may use.

Neither do many of the faithful know what score of years he will reach before he is recompensed for the use of his house, land and sheds for park use.

A Ranger disciple aspiring to a higher order, must show a great knowledge of many things. This he must do by answering many questions in the Great Examination. The purpose of some of these questions is known only to God. But alas, the Ranger disciple knoweth not what score of years he will reach before he knoweth the results, or when he will be paid the talents which are his due.

And those of the faithful in the wilderness, which lies to the north of the Village of Maryborough, wonder if their works are so great that they require not a visit from the High Priests, or if they have become unbelievers and rejected the Spirit.

There is a prophecy that in time to come, so that they may better understand the problems of the wilderness, the High Priests will journey forth speaking with disciples in each place, saying "Thou hast done well. I am well pleased," or "Thou hast done very badly, and thou will be duly kicked in the region where thou hast no pants," as prophesied by the Tax Gatherer Troyhan.

Perhaps also, the High Priests will say, "If thou hast any complaint, open now thy mouth or forever hold thy peace."

If these things and others should come to pass, then once again the Sprit may return, so saith.

"Aaskov the Stirrer"

This was inspired by the last two paragraphs in Chuck Wilders article in the April edition of 'Ringtail'.

I quote " The other point is that our aims and objectives, as a team, must be clearly defined and followed up by a unified effort so that we can, as aware individuals, be the contributors to our own future.

Conclusion! Individual thought may be healthy, but unified contribution is essential to survive.

* * *

A very nice Lady School Teacher became very annoyed with an interjector. She couldn't bring herself to say "Shut up"! So she said "Systematically speaking from a diabolical point of view, I find your fundamental faculties functioning far too efficiently for me to tolerate".

* * *

Please keep those articles coming in.
Hoped you liked this issue.



**Don't sit on it;
SAVE it!**

Application for Membership

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, 19

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EVERYONE

including Wives, Husbands and Children of Q.N.P.W.S. staff are invited to submit material for RINGTAIL.

We don't care how many letters, stories, etc. you submit! The important thing is to communicate! So if you haven't yet written - Do So Now!

Articles for next issue should be in my hands by 31st October. We will also be publishing a Special Xmas Issue - So if you want to send your Xmas message to anyone within the Service - Here's Your Opportunity - BUT - These must be with me by 16th November, 1979.



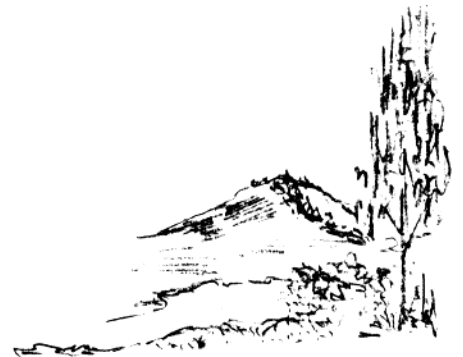
Ringtail

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COMPETITION FOR ALL

Technical Projects Officer Warren Oxnam has come up with this idea of conducting an Anecdote Competition to be included in the Special Xmas Edition of 'Ringtail'

The competition will be open to everybody in the Service and the subject matter should contain some relevance to life in the Service.

Prizes of \$20.00 for first and \$5.00 for second will be donated from the Social Club funds.

It is hoped that a large proportion of the entries will be submitted by our country officers as they are more than likely to have encountered some interesting or humorous incidents in their daily situations. Besides it will encourage more material contribution from outside of Head Office to ease the hunger pangs of our editor.

Please forward your entries to reach the Secretary of the Social Club no later than 20th November, 1979.

Chairman
Social Club

