

Barrett, Phillip Herbert

Graduated from Australian Forestry School in 1938. Commenced with Forests Department 9.1.1939. Lecturer at Australian Forestry School 1946. Lectured in forest products, timber, engineering and surveying. Transferred to Kalgoorlie in 1949. District Forests Officer in Kalgoorlie in the 1940s. Appointed Research Officer in 1946/47. Utilisation Officer in Perth in 1970s. Retired 1974.

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Obituary Philip Herbert Barrett

Phil Barrett died in Perth in July 2003, aged 89. Following his graduation from the Australian Forestry School in the late 30s, he was employed by the Western Australian Forests Department and served there for the rest of his career.

Phil's career with the Forests Department saw him serve many years in the Goldfields where he continued the pioneering work started by George Brockway in classifying the vast areas of Savannah woodlands and establishing the eucalypt arboretum in Kalgoorlie. His next move to the karri forest in Manjimup was a marked contrast in working conditions. I can find no record of his forestry achievements there, but do know that he excelled at Aussie Rules football and as a single figure golfer.

A lecturer shortage during the war saw Phil do a stint of lecturing at the Forestry School in Canberra, but I know not in what subject or subjects.

Phil's final years in forestry were spent in the Perth head office as Utilisation Officer where he was the front man for public inquiries and managing the business end of the several departmental pine and hardwood sawmills.

Phil Barrett was a thorough gentleman, unassuming, hardworking, and a very dedicated professional forester. He was a single man until retiring at the age of 59 and marrying his long time friend Dordie.

He had two separate dedicated careers - both of 30-odd years.

Farewell to a good friend and colleague.

Phil Shedley