



Diviner finds water

SOMETIMES even the latest technology is no match for good old fashioned know-how and intuition.

That was proven recently when local driller and water diviner, Des Garvin, used his natural gift to locate the positions of new bore holes at the Barrel Well Aboriginal Community at Ajana.

The site had been extensively investigated and drilled by hydrogeologists over the past three years with little success.

So when modern methods failed, Des, who has more than 21 years drilling experience, and his steel divining rods were called upon to locate the new bores.

Two new bores have now been drilled with one providing fresh water in good quantities while the other is providing slightly salty water suitable for gardens and lawns.

"Now we can plan

our gardens and plant lawn instead of having barren earth around our homes," said Community member Peggy Mallard.

Even after his long experience in the business, Des is still unable to scientifically explain how the rods suddenly twist in his hands as he walks across the ground.

He does however, discount the explanation that there is a correlation between the steel and magnetic changes in the Earth and said he knew other diviners who use timber sticks with equal success.

The drilling project was part of the ATSC National Aboriginal Health Strategy (NAHS) project for the Community to upgrade their water supply.

Their only fresh water production bore

recently turned salty.

NAHS project manager Peter Tonkin of GHD Consulting Engineers said they were concerned about using non-conventional techniques to locate the bores, however Des had established a track record when he found water at two other Aboriginal communities in the Murchison area.

"In hindsight we have been very lucky to have Mr Garvin's services as the Community now has adequate water supplies for the next 15 to 20 years," he said.