

## Chairs report and AGM

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Welcome to PAWAPress #10

Christmas and New Years is fast approaching, hope your 2010 was productive and you are looking forward to a busy and fruitful 2011. Check out updates and articles inside. Don't forget if you are stuck for a chrissey pressie PAWA has a host of goodies you can purchase for that precious person in your life - these are ethically sound and environmentally good feelin gifts. Our order form is at the back of this newsletter.

## Committee member profile

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**PAWA Trivia Night 25 November 2010 6:30pm  
CARRINGTON HOTEL, KATOOMBA STREET, KATOOMBA**

## Boobook Declaration

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PAWA is holding a Trivia Night to raise monies for the international ranger assistance programs in developing countries. The event is supported by the Blue Mountains World Heritage Unit (DECCW) and will be held at the Carrington.

A quick presentation on PAWA with nibbles at each table, great people, lots of laughs, specky location all for the small entrance fee of \$10 per person.

For the winning team a mixed dozen Wandin Valley Estate – approx value \$300. Other prizes are available through a raffle drawn on the night.

## CARA update

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The trivia questions will focus on general and local issues surrounding current affairs, environmental, conservation, world heritage, sports and some quirky questions for a laugh. The night will be relaxing and enjoyable for all that attend. **There are only enough spaces for 18 teams of 5 people. Teams will share a table with another team. To ensure your team has a table, register your teams unique name with the Blackheath Visitor Centre on 47878877.**

## OZ ranger meets US ranger

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## Narran Lake bird breeding

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## Uruguay meets Africa

P15



*What am I?  
Got any specky pickies?  
Send them on and we'll print them  
in PAWA Press!*

Members,

Since humble beginnings, PAWA has steadily grown and has undertaken many activities, principally to raise funds for our international ranger assistance programs. I would take this opportunity to thank the committee of PAWA, and project leaders, which have continued to surprise me with their dedication to achieving outcomes for PAWA. I would also like to identify the work done by the previous chair, Dave Burns, in establishing a healthy platform for PAWA to continue to grow. The committee undertake their duties on a volunteer basis, outside their daily employment. This effort has, at times, been very straining on social and family commitments, and the continual involvement by the committee needs to be commended. We are what we do, and presently PAWA is the most active association in Australia, leading the way in international support programs and considerable input to the Council of Australian Ranger Associations (CARA) (also known as the Australian Ranger Federation).

The principle aim of the IRF and PAWA is to ensure networking of conservation workers (Rangers) to achieve the development of the profession, IRF at a global scale and PAWA at a state level. The last 11 months since the 2009 PAWA AGM at Bolivia has been a learning experience for me. The small and active volunteer committee has been achieving great outcomes. For the first time all the committee positions are filled, assisting us with developing our fledging group. I would like to welcome our new committee members, Michael Mulholland, Daniel Trudgeon, Adam Bryce, and Melanie Bannerman, and Dave Brill as the Vice Chair. We look forward to making further progress in developing fund raising mechanisms, further international assistance programs, and growing the membership throughout the state. I am looking forward to the release of the Draft IRF strategic plan, and the 2011 CARA annual meeting which will be held in NSW and facilitated by PAWA. We anticipate it to be a great function to allow PAWA members to meet rangers from other states. Although we have achieved excellent outcomes in some areas, we have not been able to commence work in other areas identified with our constitution. Principally this is a matter of resources

and engaging project managers to develop and facilitate outcomes for PAWA members.

Some of our achievements in 2010 are:

- Membership has increased to over 100 members,
- Establishment of Equip Tanzania project, development and endorsement of an MoU and commencement of ranger assistance program with PAMS Tanzania;
- Equip Tanzania project awareness night, Dubbo Sept 2010;
- Working with bikes 4 humanity and city to surf to raise monies for the equip Tanzania project;
- Planning of a support training program for a Amazonian Ranger in Australia;
- Facilitated a 2 month study visit by Argentinean Ranger Olalla Martinez
- Establishment of further PAWA merchandise;
- Establishing promotional and informational material such as, merchandise form, ranger profiles, and the continuation of PAWA press and continual input to Guradaparque, and Thin Green Line Foundation newsletters;
- Letter to Director of the World Heritage centre concerning Congo World Heritage Properties;
- Presentation provided to DECCW and the resulting securing of 10K donation;
- Representation and information provided at the Parks Forum and Young Leaders forum held in Sydney in Sept 2010;
- Maintaining and updating PAWA website and establishment of a PAWA facebook site.

#### WEBSITE / COMMUNICATION

- Update of committee contacts;
- Development of Ranger profiles and addition to Website;
- Goggle wave and calendar investigation;
- Additions of Links to other conservation agency/organisation websites;
- Establishment of PAWA facebook account;

PAWA is aware that there is a considerable amount of NSW national park employees that will be approaching retirement, although still have a great deal to offer conservation efforts in NSW and internationally. I appeal to those

individuals to make themselves known to PAWA, and consider getting involved with the executives and undertaking some work with us. This is an excellent opportunity to stay involved in the ranger industry, active in conservation, and aware of state, national, and international issues, and to be in a position to undertake some active work to help maintain conservation values.

Should any of the membership wish to nominate a program for PAWA support, or wish to get involved in the operations of the PAWA executives, please feel free to contact me to discuss these opportunities. I have had a wonderful time as chair, visiting various regions throughout the state, promoting PAWA, seeing the progress of PAWA. I am half way through my two years term and am looking forward to the challenges in helping our association grow for the benefit of protected area workers in NSW and throughout the world.

Duncan Scott-Lawson  
Chair - PAWA NSW

### AGM Baradine

Following the AGM/GM at Baradine there are some new members of the committee. The current members of the group are:

- Duncan Scott-Lawson – Chair
- David Brill – Vice-chair
- Steve Woodhall – Treasurer
- Tegan Burton – Secretary
- Michele Cooper – Extension Officer
- David Burns – Committee Member
- Chris Pavich – Committee Member
- Adam Bryce – Committee Member
- Mel Bannerman – Committee Member
- Daniel Trudgeon – Committee Member
- Michael Mulholland – Committee Member
- Jennifer Kingston – non-voting committee member
- Cathy Mardell – non-voting committee member
- Chris Keyzer – founding member and ex-committee member

### PAWA 2010 Equip Raffle

A big thank you to all our prize donors, enthusiastic ticket sellers, and of course those who purchased tickets. The 2010 raffle raised \$1,240 which will be split equally between Equip the Amazon and Equip Tanzania. The raffle was drawn at the Equip Tanzania Fundraising Dinner on 4th September 2010 and the prize winners were:

- 1st Prize: framed print "Natures intent" (donated by Chris McClelland) – winner **Casey Towns & Shane Tonkin**
- 2nd Prize: Taronga Western Plains Zoo entry & Big Cat Encounter (donated by Taronga Western Plains Zoo) – winner **Bob's Pets & Fish**
- 3rd Prize: Jenolan Caves Plug Hole Adventure Tour (donated by Jenolan Caves Trust) – winner **Jacki Roberts**
- 4th Prize: Thin Green Line DVD (donated by The Thin Green Line Foundation) – winner **Trio Hair D-zine**
- 5th Prize: Tibet 2 Timbuck 2 CD (donated by Tegan Burton) – winner **Ross Taylor**

**Congrats to the winners!!!**

*Image below: Stockvault*



Thirty National Parks and Wildlife Service Rangers from Broken Hill, Bathurst, Hay, Tenterfield, Walcha and everywhere in between got together in Baradine recently to share ideas and discuss common conservation issues.

Staff from Baradine, Coonabarabran, Narrabri and Dubbo Areas which make up the Northern Plains NPWS Region, hosted the conference at Camp Cypress.

NPWS Baradine Ranger Michael Murphy said that the biennial conference was a great opportunity for staff spread across a large part of NSW to get together.

“The Western Branch of the NPWS covers around two thirds of the State and Rangers are separated by huge distances so they rarely get an opportunity to meet.

“The conference is held in a different part of western NSW every two years, giving Rangers an opportunity to visit reserves in other areas and see different reserve management issues first hand and get ideas to take back to their reserves.

“One session looked at design and planning of

visitor facilities and included visits to sites in the Pilliga forest like the newly opened “Sculptures in the Scrub” at Dandry Gorge.

“Participants discussed the planning and construction of this new attraction and how important community consultation and involvement was right through the process, from its inception to the final result.

“Another session looked at the process of identifying and protecting features of historic heritage value in newly acquired parks and included a visit to the site of a 19th century coach inn.

“Other themes included enforcement of park regulations and road maintenance at creek crossings where techniques to reduce erosion and allow fish passage were discussed.

“The conference was a very valuable experience for Rangers and will aid in gaining better outcomes for conservation of reserves and providing better facilities and experiences for visitors to national parks.” Mr Murphy said.

*Below: Rangers and presenters at the Sculptures in the Scrub, Dandry Gorge.*



## Meet newest committee member Daniel Trudgeon

I have worked for NSW NPWS for about 7 years and currently work and live in Narrabri with my wife and two daughters aged 11 and 9. We love it out west and would not move any further east for any amount of money.

I am a second generation ranger as my father was employed in the second ever NSW NPWS Ranger intake in late 1960's. I grew up with the NPWS and spent most of my childhood in Barrington Tops and Myall Lakes and did lots of cool stuff that people are not allowed to do anymore. I studied at Southern Cross University and got my first ranger job in urban parks at Bicentennial Park, Homebush Bay in 1994. Got a bit tired of issues in urban parks so moved to Kakadu to do boat tours on Yellow Water Billabong and lived in the Territory for about 8 years off and on. I did all kinds of stuff like guiding, aquarist at the Territory Wildlife Park, supervising a Green Corps team, Co-ordinating Landcare in Darwin and finally got a ranger job at Mary River National Park. Drove an Airboat, sprayed weeds, shot ferals, sprayed weeds, counted crocs and sprayed more weeds until I was transferred to Watarrka National Park (Kings Canyon) in Central Australia. Spent a few years at Watarrka looking after 300 000+ visitors a year and all the issues that come with them.

I returned to NSW as the ranger at Kinchega National Park which was my first position with NSW NPWS. I lived on park with my family and enjoyed the half field officer half ranger role I had there. Moved to Narrabri to a ranger position to get a bit closer to family and schooling for my two girls and three years ago took the job as Senior Ranger Community Relations in the Northern Plains Region office at Narrabri. I have enjoyed this different role but hanker for a role doing land management and getting my hands dirty again. Anyway enough about me other than that I am looking forward to being on the PAWA committee and hope I can contribute to the great things PAWA does.

*Daniel top right - good on yah for supporting Movember!!!!*



### PAWA WILDLIFE AMBASSADORS WANTED

Wildlife management is an intrinsic part of the management of protected areas. PAWA has identified that the provision of accurate information concerning wildlife issues which PAWA can take an active role in.

PAWA is calling for interest in a 'Wildlife Ambassador' position. The position is a non-committee position and the principle role is to bring wildlife issues to the attention of the PAWA committee and members.

If you have an interest in wildlife management, this is a great opportunity to get involved in PAWA activities and work for our wildlife. If you have an interest in this position, or would like to clarify the role, please contact the PAWA committee at [pawa\\_nsw@hotmail.com](mailto:pawa_nsw@hotmail.com).

## Boobook Declaration



2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity, and it is appropriate to bring attention to the declining biodiversity worldwide. The Boobook Declaration arose from an informal meeting of groups and individuals concerned at the lengthening catalogue of bad news about collapsing ecosystems and recognising the impetus for action represented by the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity. In little more than a month, the Declaration has gone from an idea to an action statement supported by many groups representing hundreds of thousands of people across the country. PAWA being one of the groups that has supported and sign onto the declaration.

The Boobook Declaration calls on the Australian Government to take four essential actions in 2010 to safeguard Australia's rich and beautiful diversity of plants, animals and ecosystems.

1. Acknowledge the critical importance of safeguarding biodiversity as part of Australia's climate change response and commit to correspondingly urgent action to address the systemic drivers of biodiversity loss. In so doing, due recognition should be given both to the threat that global warming poses to biodiversity and ecosystems such as the Great Barrier Reef, and to the vital role these have in mitigating dangerous climate change including by permanently storing carbon
2. Substantially increase investment in biodiversity and ecosystem protection, restoration and management to at least \$9 billion over the three years to 2012 and establish an independent widely consultative process into future funding and stewardship of Australia's, terrestrial, aquatic and marine biodiversity;
3. Restore and increase the capacity for publicly funded biodiversity research, auditing, monitoring, accounting and communication, including through an expanded independent Land, Water and Biodiversity authority; and

4. Develop our biodiversity education and training programs so that all sectors of the Australian community and business have the knowledge to understand the magnitude of current threats to our biodiversity and the skills to take action to conserve our biodiversity and ecosystems. This is essential to transforming our nation to a healthy, sustainable society and economy.

**The next steps depends on you.** Look at the 'what you can do' page and take action [http://www.boobook.org.au/what\\_you\\_can\\_do.htm](http://www.boobook.org.au/what_you_can_do.htm). You may wish to approach the PAWA committee, or become more involved on an individual level, spreading the word. Let us make the International Year of Biodiversity a year of transformation for Australia's biodiversity.

Duncan Scott-Lawson

*Image below: Stockvault*



## Wildlife and climate change

On 23rd October, a day that started with glorious sunshine and ended with a torrential downpour, I attended the 2010 Royal Zoological Society (RZS) forum – Wildlife and Climate Change: towards robust conservation strategies for Australian fauna.

The annual RZS Forum focuses on a contemporary wildlife theme and packs in no less than 15 presentations and 3 plenary sessions in a day. I recommend keeping an eye out for the forum proceedings as a great reference resource.

I must confess that at times the numerous tables and graphs and scientific comparisons, coupled with sitting still inside a darkened hall for the day, did result in the occasional tune-out. However from it all, there were a number of take home messages which my protected area colleagues may relate to. And just to note, participants in the plenary sessions clearly took on board the idea that the RZS is 'a safe place for dangerous ideas'. Just consider some of these comments:

- It's too late to save biodiversity. The important thing now is to identify and conserve the elements of our environment which provide essential ecosystem services for the preservation of life on this planet (this may just include having to look beyond our continental boundaries and accept a more globalised approach).
- Biodiversity will have to adapt, and will need help to adapt. Two key areas were raised: having a more flexible approach to conservation (in the context of actively moving species around to maximise their potential for survival); and landscape management, beyond artificial boundaries and traditional constructs!
- Why not play with the planet? We've already completely mucked it up, why not move species around or actively re-introduce them to areas?
- It is absolutely essential that we (globally) get away from our consumption driven economies ... this requires a complete social shift in many

areas ... the real issue is ourselves: sustainable use of the planet; sharing our planet with other species ...

And climate change ...

Is it the greatest moral challenge, OR just another symptom of the greater environmental/conservation challenge?

And we heard about ClimateWatch, an initiative of the Earthwatch institute - [www.climatewatch.org.au](http://www.climatewatch.org.au) – giving every Australian the opportunity to make a difference and help shape Australia's response to climate change. By observing and recording information about what's happening in your backyard, suburban street, local parks and bushland online, you will be helping scientists better understand and monitor our natural environment.

<http://www.rzsnsw.org.au/>

Tegan Burton

### Myrtle Rust located in Nature Reserve

In March this year Myrtle Rust (*Uredo rangelii*) was identified on a horticultural property in the Central Coast, more recently it has been discovered in areas outside of the horticulture industry. MR was diagnosed in NSW 23 April 2010. MR has been confirmed on 36 properties across the Sydney Basin and mid north coast. An estimated 250 properties in the Sydney Basin had been found negative on inspection.

Recently, two council reserves in Wyong were also found to have minor MR infections. A reserve at Bateau Bay Wyong had four trees which were removed, and Greenbank reserve had about 100 plants removed.

Wambina is by far the largest infestation outside of the horticultural industry. The National Committee that makes the determination on combating the disease, is meeting now to review progress and determine the best option for ongoing management of MR.

Photos can be found at <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/plant/myrtle-rust/myrtle-rust-images>

## CARA meeting

The Australian Rangers Federation (ARF) was established in 1995, and functioned to assist in communication between rangers throughout Australia and facilitate membership of the International Ranger Federation established in 1992. As each state and territory established their own associations throughout the 1990's and 2000's, the ARF become superseded by the state/territory based association, and was struggling to be relevant to the ranger profession. At the Queensland Rangers Congress at Mt Tambourine, Queensland in 2008, the Representatives from the attending state/territory associations agreed to reform the ARF into the CARA (Council of Australian Ranger Associations).

The second annual meeting was held at Litchfield NP, Northern Territory in September this year.

Together with Steve Woodhall and his partner Tracey, I traveled to Darwin to attend the meeting. I have never traveled to Darwin and was looking forward to the opportunity to explore and experience new landscapes. I have heard many fantastic stories and experiences about the NT from friends and colleagues and have been waiting for the opportunity to visit. Arriving in Darwin from a 4hr flight from Sydney was made easier with the great company of Steve and Tracey.

On arriving into Darwin, as expected the humidity was high with light rain falling, although cleared up once we had settled into a quick beer at the pick-up point, a hotel adjacent to the airport. It was great to see some familiar faces from the International Ranger Federation congress in Bolivia and continued where we left in Bolivia. It was handshakes and smiles as we reacquainted and met new friends. Cameron Sharpe and Julie Trembath of the Northern Territory Rangers Association were there to meet us and made us feel very welcome to the Northern Territory. Once we finished our cold refreshing beers, our host drove us to a small town called Bachelor, picking up some more cold drinks for the hour and a half drive. We were accommodated at the Butterfly Farm, a beautiful small establishment with very comfortable

bungalows, a restaurant, pool and butterfly enclosures. The evening was filled with making new friends and catching up with old friends over a great meal and drinks at the local pub where none of the CARA participants had the courage to sing karaoke in front of the locals.

The morning began with a swim in the pool, yes.... It was nice weather. A cooked breakfast awaiting once I finished swimming, then back into the vehicles for an hours drive to the Educational Centre in Litchfield NP. Litchfield is named after the cattle station that previously managed the land. We commenced the CARA meeting. The meeting was broken for a BBQ lunch and a swim in an adjacent creek (photo attached). The principal outcomes of the meeting were the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Parks Forum, clarification of the role of the CARA facilitator, development of process to share information, and responses to the IRF.

In the evening we travelled back to the Butterfly Farm, met for dinner and continued socializing moving onto the National Parks Staff 'social club'. It appears that the local rangers don't mind to have a drink, bugger, and the night finished in the late hours, with the capture of python out of the toilet! That story for a latter time.

The last day of our quick visit to the NT was occupied with a wonderful field trip provided by Cameron, Julie and staff around Litchfield NP, where we visited Buley rockhole, Wangi falls and some splendid remote swimming holes, that only the rangers know about. Relaxing in the cool calm water (no crocs I was told) with more cold refreshment... if you know what I mean, was high light of the trip.

Returning back to Darwin we stopped off at the McArthur airfield roadside museum. This small but obvious relic of WWII brings to reality Australia's involvement in WWII and the impact it had in forging the Darwin community to what it is today. We arrived at our hotel, and quickly prepared for the Darwin markets where we had a great time browsing and eating.

An early start to the following day, travelling to the airport and on the return plane, Northern Territory offers some amazing landscapes to explore I had a wonderful time and plan to return in the near future to explore more of this fantastic region of Australia.

Duncan Scott-Lawson



## Nino Konis Santana National Park – Timor Leste –

Timor Leste, a nation which only gained independence in 2002, declared its first national park in 2007 (the same year the NSW National Parks celebrated 40 years).

Nino Konis Santana National Park includes the entire eastern tip of Timor-Leste. The 123,600 ha of land and seascapes are home to nationally and globally significant species and includes an extensive treasure of coral reefs and some of the largest remaining examples of tropical lowland and monsoon rainforest in the region.

'This is great progress by the government and communities of Timor-Leste. After five years work our first national park is born. It will help our nation to protect its national heritage, culture and history,' said Manuel Mendes, Director of the Department of Protected Areas and National Parks, Timor-Leste, at the time of declaration. 'The national park will protect globally significant biodiversity and the culture and socioeconomic livelihoods of communities living there.'

The National Park is named in honour of Nino Konis Santana, national hero and former Commander of FALANTIL (Forças Armadas da Libertação Nacional de Timor-Leste), the armed wing of the resistance movement in the struggle for independence who was born in the village of Tutuala within the National Park.

A small delegation from PAWA is planning to travel to Timor Leste in mid 2011 to meet with our protected area colleagues in-country and investigate interest / opportunities for a partnership. If you are interested in participating in this trip and potentially taking a lead role in any PAWA project that may develop, please contact Steve Woodhall on [pawatreasurer@tpg.com.au](mailto:pawatreasurer@tpg.com.au) or Tegan Burton on [pawa\\_nsw@hotmail.com](mailto:pawa_nsw@hotmail.com)

Sources:

<http://www.easttimorpress.com/places-to-explore/nino-konis-santana-national-park>

<http://www.wildlifeextra.com.au/go/safaris/nino-konis.html#cr>

## Ranger Cathy spends time with the US National Parks Service

Part 1

Tuesday, July 13, 2010 - National Park Service - Alaskan style

Finally the day had arrived when I started work at the Alaska Region Office of the National Park Service (NPS). Of course there was administrivia that needed to be attended to first - a laminated identity card, a magnetic building key, and a log on for the computer system. To obtain those, I first needed to complete an online training course on my security responsibilities, and pass a test on the same with a score better than 80%. The course centred on protecting information and keeping a weather eye out for undesirables who would use social engineering to achieve their underhanded ends. Social engineering? – it was a new term for me although I suspect I've used it myself before. Currying favour? Eating humble pie? Buttering up? Oh no, that's home engineering! I was nervous as I took the test with so many acronyms to remember but was relieved to pass with an 87% test score.

I began working with the very lovely Morgan, Alaska Region's Fire Communication and Education Specialist and it's busy. As you know it's summer here and the tundra is on fire. Dry lightning is responsible for at least 90% of the 100's of ignitions across the state. Smoke jumpers – firefighters that parachute onto the fire ground - abound. Morgan co-ordinates the information that keeps communities updated on the current fire situation as well as keeping the NPS and the other fire fighting authorities up to date with the suppression effort underway. One of my first jobs was to put together a female mannequin and dress her in the nomex firefighting uniform (sans



knickers) to be included in the fire information display in the foyer of the NPS building. Victoria, as we dubbed her, is rather striking, with long eye lashes and a haughty expression that has attracted a lot of attention by staff.

I met Kevin, who works in the mailroom on the ground floor of the building on my first day. He is dry and laconic and his almost monotone delivery and his mustachioed visage put me in mind of Dustin Hoffman as Rainman. He had me laughing uproariously in the first few minutes with longwinded stories that twist and turn to demonstrate something he knows about Australia. On my second day he asked me with an absolutely deadpan expression if I had put a note in Victoria's gloved hand asking him out for dinner. He told me that he was worried his girlfriend would find out he was being courted by an Australian firefighter. The entertainment has continued daily as every morning I check Victoria to make sure she hadn't toppled over or met some misfortune overnight. It has been hilarious as someone (Kevin?) regularly changes her position or adjusts her pose or hand gestures.

As my first week progressed I learnt much about the differences between Australian firefighting and the American way: long tours of duty (14 days without a break – we do 3 on, 1 off, 3 on); the seasonally employed firefighters; smokejumpers; the use of scoopers – large planes that pick up water in a belly tank and heaps of other fascinating stuff.

At the end of the first week I realized that the 4th of July - Independence Day celebrations – meant a long weekend. So I decided to head to Fairbanks on a 3 day mission. I checked out the train fare and found it was double that of the airfare as well as being a 12 hour journey versus a short 50 minute hop in the Air Alaska 737. The construction of Alaska's railway began in 1914 and was such a tough task in unforgiving conditions I think maybe they are still trying to pay for it? The short 467 mile (751 km) line was completed in 1923. Apparently women were used on the rail gangs as men became a scarce commodity during the First World War. Skeptics among the work supervisors were concerned that the heavy work and the merciless

environment would be too difficult for women, but they were soon silenced as the girls quickly earned a reputation as neat and fast workers – rarely missing as they heaved weighty hammers to drive the steel spikes that held the tracks in place.

I sat in a window seat hoping to catch a glimpse of the elusive 20,320 feet (6,194 m) high Denali

(aka Mt McKinley) as I flew northward, but high white rolling clouds as far as the eye could see, even the tallest of mountains in north America was obscured...

Cathy Mardell  
Ranger, NSW Australia

*Image:s: previous page US Ranger and Cathy right, below Lake Clark NP visit, bottom of page log cabin.*





## Dois coelhos numa so! A gift that gives twice!

Whether it be a 100% financial donation with our Equip the Amazon postcards or the perfect cup to keep - the KeepCup!

We also have PAWA T'Shirts, Thin Green Line DVD's and much more for sale.

The concept of *dois coelhos numa so* applies to ALL of PAWA's merchandise. All proceeds from our merchandise go directly to support PAWA activities and projects.

Order forms included at the back of this newsletter or can be down loaded from our website.

**Show your support for protected areas,  
spend your money wisely, show you care  
and invest in the future of conservation.**



Amazon River, Brazil

us  
rainforest.  
uma so!

place  
stamp  
here

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PAWA is working in partnership with the Amazon Conservation Team Brazil and the Associação dos Povos Indígenas Tiriyo, Kaxuyana e Txikiyana to help build capacity within the indigenous communities of Tumucumaque Indigenous Park, north-eastern Brazil, helping them protect these high conservation value lands from the external threats and manage them sustainably into the future.



www.pawansw.org



Image kindly provided by A.Burton [www.aburtondocumentary.com](http://www.aburtondocumentary.com)

**Spend your hard earned money wisely this Christmas.  
Check out some ideas below, you might be surprised and you just  
might buy one...**

### Conserve India

Born of a desire to reduce India's mountain of waste, improve energy efficiency, and help some of Delhi's poorest out of the city's slums, Conserve India achieves all this by turning plastic bags into high fashion.

Conserve started as a fledgling recycling project but quickly adapted to confront the biggest challenge it was facing – what to do with the thousands of plastic bags that could not be composted or recycled locally.

After much experimentation, the Conserve team hit upon the idea of not recycling, but upcycling by washing, drying, and pressing the bags into sheets. Handmade Recycled Plastic (HRP) was born and designs for handbags, wallets, shoes and belts quickly came flooding in. The challenge was obvious: Use high fashion to support better lives for the poorest and a cleaner environment for all.

Today, Conserve India employs and trains hundreds of people from Delhi's most disadvantaged communities to clear their streets of the plague of plastic bag waste. Once the waste bags are turned into HRP products they are sold for profits which can be spent in those same communities on education and welfare programmes.

By buying a Conserve bag, belt, wallet, shoe, or necklace, you not only get to be a trend setter with a beautiful, funky piece of high fashion – you will also be helping some of India's poorest people, and its environment.

[www.conserveindia.org](http://www.conserveindia.org)



### Trashy Bags

It is estimated that in Ghana, waste produced from plastic packaging amounts to 270 tonnes per day; most of it non-biodegradable. That adds up to over 22,000 tons of plastic in one year.

This figure has risen in just ten years by about 70%. Despite this rise, it is estimated that only 2% of plastic waste is recycled. You may ask what happens to the remaining 98%.

Whatever is not disposed of by the local authorities ends up on the streets of Ghana and other West African countries, which are littered with rubbish; one of the most common items being plastic drinking water and ice-cream sachets that have been discarded after use. This is choking the drains causing frequent flooding and increasing the risk of disease. Our products are made from reclaimed plastic drinking water and ice-cream sachets which we do not reprocess in any way apart from washing and disinfecting. This has the benefit that very little energy is used in order to add value to material that would otherwise be dumped or burned.

In addition, by incorporating the original and complete sachets into our products, it demonstrates in a very visible way that it is possible to increase the life span of plastic packaging and so help to tackle the very serious problem of environmental pollution in Africa and elsewhere.

[www.trashybags.org](http://www.trashybags.org)

Bag right - up to 135 waste plastic sachets used to make this bag!



The Narran Lake Nature Reserve is situated in the north-west of New South Wales (NSW), approximately 75 kilometres north-west of Walgett and 50 kilometres north-east of Brewarrina. Narran Lake Nature Reserve covers part of a large terminal wetland of the Narran River in the Northern Plains Region of NSW at the end of the Condamine Balonne Catchments which flows from Queensland. The Condamine Balonne catchments lie within the Murray-Darling Basin.

Narran Lake Nature Reserve is Ramsar listed site that contains two open water areas, Clear Lake (Surface Area 5.4Km<sup>2</sup>, Storage Volume 4476ML) and Back Lake (Surface Area 1.3Km<sup>2</sup>, Storage Volume 861ML). Annual inflows to the Narran wetlands are highly variable and Back and Clear Lakes will usually retain water for approximately 4-6 months following inundation.

This year flows at Narran Park Weir (the point of water entering from the Narran River into the Narran Lake Nature Reserve) started flowing after rains on Christmas day 2009, as illustrated by Figure 1.

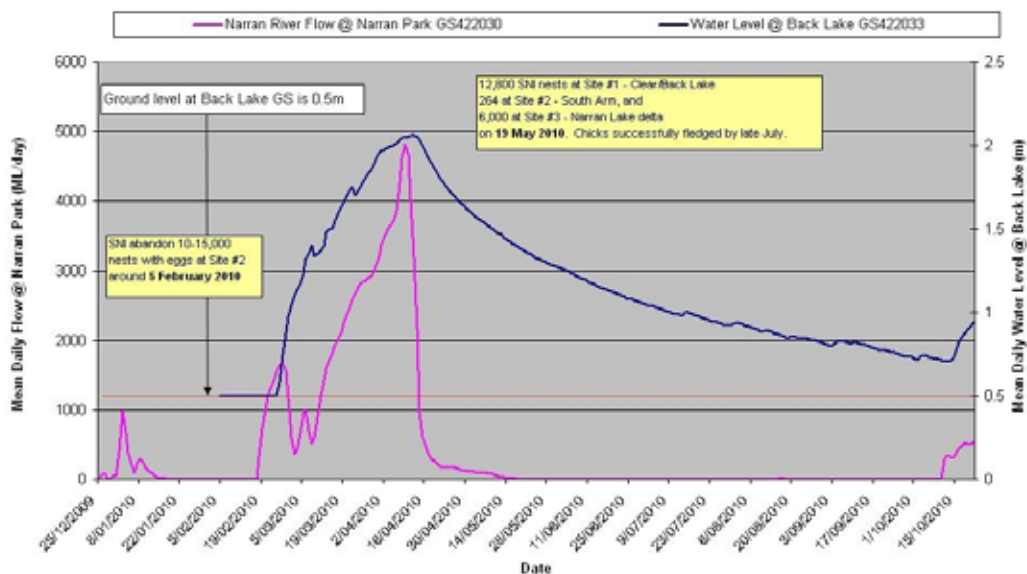
This water with river inflows filled Clear and Back Lake and 60% Filled Narran Lake proper (situated on private property Surface Area 122.9Km<sup>2</sup>,

wetlands vegetated with Lignum, River Cooba, and River Red Gum. The vegetation communities within the Nature Reserve include sedges and ephemeral herbs, Common Reed, Coolibah and Black Box woodland. The Lignum, River Red Gum, River Cooba and Coolibah communities received flooding to grow and regenerate and currently look the best they have for a number of years.

Narran Lake Nature Reserve provides habitat for numerous species some listed under international migratory bird conservation agreements include Greenshank, Marsh Sandpiper, Latham's Snipe, Black-tailed Godwit, Curlew Sandpiper and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. The extensive area of Lignum is a particularly important habitat for bird breeding events, supporting large nesting colonies of Ibis, Spoonbills, Cormorants, and other waterbird species.

The combination of water and vegetation determine suitability of the Colonial nesting species (predominantly Straw-necked Ibis), this year has proven suitable for Ibis breeding activities already, with one failed bird breeding event (water duration not suitable), one successful and another breeding event poised ready for this summer. So watch out for updates next issue.

Figure 1: Flows at Narran Park and Water Level at Back Lake since Xmas 2009



Storage Volume 122876ML. This was the first time water has entered Narran Lake proper past the Delta in a decade. The lakes are surrounded by extensive channelised

Narran Lake NR Ranger  
Michael Mulholland

## VISITING FRIENDS IN AFRICA

From 9 August to 7 October 2010 I was visiting some African friend colleagues I met some years ago. The travel comprised four countries: Kenya, Uganda, Dem. Rep. Of Congo and Tanzania. My contacts were Daniel Onsembe in Kenya, John Makombo in Uganda, Jobogo Mirindi in Congo and Wayne Lotter in Tanzania.

At my arrival in Nairobi Daniel, the first African ranger I met in my life (in Poland in 1995) was waiting for me and that was the very beginning of an unforgettable travel. Since that day the mentioned friends were always ready to pave the road of my trip and help me in all ways. Sincerely I did not expect to receive the formidable attention I enjoyed during all the time I spent in East Africa. While everybody I met was very willing to help my travel be the best rewarding as possible, I have to mention the commitment of Jobogo Mirindi. While living in Goma, Congo, Jobogo travelled to Kampala, Uganda, some days before my visit to have a meeting with John Makombo and together make the itinerary of my trip.

The itinerary was very seriously prepared and the timing was just perfect, so I was able to experience different ecosystems and protected area management. Daniel Onsembe first took me to visit Lake Nakuru NP, a very interesting park where Kenyans are able to maintain a good population of Rhinos in spite of having a city beside the park. The management of the basin of the lake has improved

recently and flamingos are coming back to the lake. Later I went to Mount Elgon where I was kindly welcomed by the manager A.O. Ibrahimand who provided a guide to me, so I could visit the famous cave where elephants enter in search of minerals. Then we travelled to South Turkana NP, located in a remote area where some Turkana people approached to see me, and some also to touch my hands, because the sight of a white person is not common there. The Turkana area is wild and we saw young men armed with AK 47 herding cattle. There was an event to open a new school financed by the Kenya Wildlife Service, and after the speeches and abundant lunch I heard two shots, probably a dispute between the herdmen. At the end of the visit Daniel took me close to the border with Uganda.

My first morning in Kampala I went very early to the Head Quarters of the Uganda Wildlife Authority and John was already there. I met John during the IRF Congress in Kruger in 2000. I remember that his hand was the first African hand that took mine to talk walking, a pure demonstration of friendship, something I learnt to do and did more than once during this trip. In Uganda I first went to Lake Mburo NP and was introduced to the manager Masereka Johnson. There was a wild fire and I took part in the fire control for a while, until rangers left the place. Fighting fire with branches was something I had not done since my visit to Mozambique ten years ago.

*Image below: A halt to spend the night during a long joint patrol, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Uganda.*



Later I visited Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP. There I met Charles Tumwesigye, the manager who invited me to visit a habituated group of gorillas, something I had wanted to do ever since I learnt of these animals when I was ten. Later I took part in a memorable three day long joint patrol. The party was comprised by rangers from different parts of the park and we had a great time together. Everything was remarkable during this activity, but I will always remember the kind leadership of Erik and the warm feeling of being part of a team.

It was not easy to walk up and down the steep slopes of the mountains covered by a very green forest, which the second day showed to be near impenetrable, with my beloved backpack. The first night we slept some 200m from a gorilla group, something we discovered next morning when saw them. The second night we did not find running water where expected, in a stream which was now dry, and we had to continue further down slope. When water appeared we set camp in a new place and Erik named it "Carlos". During the patrol one time we met a gorilla group under habituation and they escaped immediately. There was no illegal activity, but the rangers went to inspect some noises. It was an old man searching for gold at the right side of the stream, something allowed.

After that I visited Mgahinga Gorilla NP. First I was invited to see the golden monkeys, a very nice experience, and later I went to visit a gorilla group. There are many opinions concerning the existence of more or less gorilla subspecies, but to me these ones look different from the ones of Bwindi. While at Mgahinga I was able to speak several times with the manager Pontious Ezuma who made me feel I was part of the team. I was not allowed to enter Rwanda and had to go back to Uganda and wait for Jobogo to get to the border. After spending some very nice days in the community bandas of Bwindi I was taken to the border and Joined Jobogo in his country.

Fortunately Jobogo had arranged my visit to be enriched with the presence of two young Italian filmmakers : Alessandro and Jenny. They were producing a documentary to show among other things the support provided to the widows of rangers by Federparcci, the federation of Italian

National Parks. We travelled many kilometers and visited several villages. There were different kinds of projects, for younger widows there were projects to teach them how to make clothes and how to cook food for special events, and for older widows with less opportunities to develop a new skill the support was to give them a couple of goats to provide milk for the family.



*Image above: Widows of rangers from Virunga National Park working with sewing machines supported by the Italian Federation of Parks, Uganda.*

*Image below: Tanzania has the biggest population of lions in Africa. Serengeti National Park.*

While in Rumangabo, the headquarters of the southern sector of Virunga NP, the Director was elsewhere but I was glad to meet Joel



Wengamulayi, the Administrative Officer. While I was waiting to meet him a young Belgium man came to me and in a friendly way told me that he was there to develop the ecotourism activities in Virunga. When I told to the young Belgium expert that I was planning to see the gorillas in Kahuzi-Biega, he asked me if that was in Uruguay! I was so surprised by his response that I am not sure what I answered. No doubt this expert will learn many things in the Congo. For some reason it seems that in some countries foreigners are easily welcomed as experts while the true experts are locals. My country falls in this category too, but the lack of knowledge of this Belgium expert was insulting.

At the other tip of the chain of human characters, I also met Mr. Katembo Samedi at Rumangabo, one of the heroes of nature conservation whom was shot in the knee while performing an anti-deforestation patrol. He has been shot nearly a month before and fortunately was recovering well.

After visiting the southern sector of the park I crossed Lake Kivu and visited Kahuzi-Biega NP, home of the east lowland gorillas. Radar Nishuli the manager of the park immediately arranged my visit to a group of gorillas and I was able to see them two hours after my arrival to the park. I bought a goat, some potatoes and beer and that night we had a very good meal among colleagues and new friends. I told the 24 rangers gathered that the IRF has the idea of creating a Rangers Without Borders program. I asked them what their opinion would be of something like that and we shared some ideas. At one moment one of the rangers stood and said he was talking in the name of all, he said they were very happy for a visit by someone from the IRF, he said they felt warmed by the visit, and that even when we were many men and there was only one goat the value of that dinner was of a thousand goats because of the friendship. All ten were willing that RWB comes true and they would be able to share the day to day life of the Congolese rangers with colleagues from other countries. Prior to this I had spoken about the possibility of creating RWB with all the park managers I met and all of them were very enthusiastic about the program.

After visiting Kahuzi-Biega I again crossed Lake Kivu and joined Jobogo and the Italian filmmakers one more time. We travelled to the central sector of Virunga NP and we stopped to visit the memorial of the rangers killed while defending the integrity of Virunga. The epitaph is located in a beautiful place beside a magical river, and behind the memorial there are tall hills covered with trees. We were only four persons, but we all separated and I believe we all wanted to have some minutes by our own, maybe to share the moment with those whom we will never meet and whom died defending what I believe is the most beautiful national park I have seen in Africa. The low sound of the running water helped me to escape from the moment and think. Several times Jobogo told me "You do not know the abundance of wildlife that this park had" and several times I replied to him I can see it, and the wildlife will come back. Virunga still has very good habitat. I felt the same while with Roberto Zolho during a visit to Gorongosa NP, Mozambique. I felt that nature is forgiving and rewards the effort of rangers. Recently I was told that Gorongosa has many animals again, and the same will happen in Virunga.

After visiting the Congo I returned to Uganda to visit Queen Elizabeth NP. Tom Okello the manager was waiting for me and also arranged a very nice itinerary. The welcome given by nature was a leopard kill we discovered among the bush and two lionesses sleeping on a tree. From there I visited the last protected area in Uganda: Kibale where I met Asa Musinguzi. At Kibale I was surprised by a forest recovery project, the best I have seen and later I was invited to take part in the chimpanzee tracking. This activity was impressive due to the difficulty of tracking these animals, the beauty of the rainforest and the activity of the chimps. When I came back to Kampala John Makombo unfortunately was suffering a malaria attack and I could not see him.

Then I travelled to Tanzania, met Wayne Lotter and Kristine Clark, stayed with them some days, and began a second part of my trip dedicated to visiting some protected areas on my own. I must say that Krissie Clark surprised me by her many skills and kindness, I am very glad to know that she will organise the next IRF Congress. She is one

of those people that when they are committed to doing something, they do it very well.

To end I must say that it was very nice to know that the name of Sean Willmore, Thin Green Line and IRF is very well remembered in several national parks I visited, no doubt the help provided to the widows of some rangers is something that our colleagues appreciate very much. Unfortunately my English does not let me express myself as I wish I could, but I want to thank very much all the

friends and colleagues I met during this trip and I wish one day I could do something for them. I met many more colleagues than the few mentioned here but to all of them I want to say a couple of words which I loved to pronounce and that I will always miss.

Asante sana! (Many thanks)  
 Juan Carlos (Juca) Gambarotta  
 Ranger, Uruguay



**News from our partners**

**Tumucumaque Expedition**

Expeditions to Parque Indígena do Tumucumaque Parú de Leste (Apalai and Waiana) and the indigenous lands Parú de Oeste (Tiriyó and Kaxuiana) occurred in the month of July. They were financed by ACT and implemented by Apitikatxi and Apitu. The coordinators of the expedition, together with rangers and indigenous representatives from the visited villages, conducted aerial surveillance over areas where illicit activities were suspected. During the expedition to Parú de Oeste, ACT also provided a Basic Course in Repairs and Maintenance of Outboard Motors. Approximately 15 indigenous rangers participated in the four days of training, amongst them Tiriyós and Kaxuianas.

**Ranger Training in Pará**

Apitikatxi and ACT Brasil carried out, from 3rd to 23rd September, the first Indigenous Ranger Training in the state of Pará. The training, which occurred in Sede Valjaboque, in Alter do Chão,



trained 30 indigenous people from 10 different ethnic groups in protection of the forest. The participants had lessons in indigenous and environmental legislation, and practicals in first aid, land and water rescue, combat and management of fire, amongst others.

Source: ACT em Foco, October 2010  
 Images: ACT Brasil/Divulgação.



World Ranger Day 2010 came and went. PAWA profiled 8 rangers from around the world. Each rangers shared their history, what is important to them and what they love most about their jobs. Check out the PAWA website and download the pdf's. Please consider posting these in your tea room, wash rooms, Depots, offices and encourage people to join PAWA.

World Ranger Day is observed on the 31st of July each year. It is the day to commemorate the many Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty. It is also the day to celebrate Rangers and the work they do to protect the world's natural and cultural treasures. World Ranger Day is promoted by the 54 member associations of the International Ranger Federation (IRF), by the

Thin Green Line Foundation, and by individuals who support the work of Rangers and the IRF. The first World Ranger Day was observed in 2007 on the 15th anniversary of the founding of the IRF.

Would you like to be part of the 2011 profile series. It's easy email the editor of PAWA Press and answer some really simple questions, send a pickie and your done!!!

**MEGAN BOWDEN**  
AUSTRALIA, NEW NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
KRECIUSKO NATIONAL PARK  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

After completing a Bachelor of Science in Physics, various research & research jobs with the NPWS, I was successful in gaining a Ranger position based at Kreciusko National Park (NSW). Always wanted to be a Ranger or Forester, loved the bush, plants and animals, always wanted to work at Kreci & get a job in the bush.

Kreci is the largest national park in NSW & one of the largest conservation reserves in Australia. The Park was declared in 1984 & is now a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. It contains continental Australia's highest mountains as well as outstanding scenery, diverse landscapes, unusual climate & temperate rain forest bushland. The cultural landscapes of the park are multi-layered & provide a large number of cultural reserves & habitats. The park's history is the mountain prairie some of Australia's most important water catchments. The park's natural & cultural features extend about 22 miles from the snow-capped peaks, down to bushland, along mountain ridges, snow & water, from rock & tree-lined trails.

As a land manager I am responsible for planning & implementing weed & feral animal control programs, tree & revegetation work, camping areas, walking tracks, historic (huts) & interpretive site conservation, fire suppression & fuel management, search & rescue (bush & air work).

I have mostly enjoyed rangers' responsibilities. It has that mix of being in the bush, working with staff, volunteers from the local community & family members, being out on the ground, in the snow, weatherboard, split trails to top camps, using traditional techniques like lighting camp with a trail & fire. With these management has been one of the most challenging aspects.

In the future I hope the green line will have more support so people become aware of the dedication & sacrifice of Rangers in Africa to other countries, fantastic tradition.

**GRIFF WALLACE**  
AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIAN BIODIVERSITY OFFICE  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I am the Ranger for Ngunnaw Nature Reserve & other reserves. The Reserve contains a large area of dry forest vegetation communities close to the coast. It has a large of rare & threatened fauna & flora species. It also contains landscapes & sites of significance to local Aboriginal communities. I have been in this job for 5 years, however started working as a ranger in 1993.

While I was growing up I enjoyed watching documentaries working with wildlife in Africa. This sparked my interest, the rangers' journey about the environment & I like a lot of nature.

When I finished high school I worked as a taxicab, then completed a science degree, worked in a variety of jobs including tourism & worked in a law-firming business. I then worked in agricultural research & while doing that I did survey work I got a temporary ranger job about 10 yrs I joined a permanent ranger job.

I paid my reserves, identify work, prepare environmental assessments & have with a crew of field staff who assist in the work, other work involves meeting with park rangers, wildlife ecologists, planning & undertaking control having consulting business, liaising with Aboriginal communities enforcement & dealing with many wildlife issues such as a dog attack.

I managed the re-development of a picnic area in Farall National Park, it was a degraded area with an Aboriginal site. The development took 18 months to plan & construct, although the work in the form of art & a large 'rock' looking cultural stones.

This year we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Cumberland & Dorrigo Aboriginal Peoples for the local people that

**KRISSE CLARK**  
TANZANIA, PARAS FORESTATION  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I work in a forest through forest. I am the executive director of Paras Forest Foundation. My work centers on community managed wildlife areas. Much of Tanzania's wildlife exists outside formally protected areas (i.e., approximately 60% of Tanzania's elephants live outside of a protected area).

I have been in this job for 2 years. I was a forester, wildlife & wildlife management at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. I got my first ranger job in the Kruger National Park, South Africa.

I write briefing protocols, identify for much needed funds to support rangers & conservation projects. When I am lucky I manage to spend some time in the field supervising these projects.

There are no fences, wildlife such as elephants, buffalo, wildboar, zebra, African wild dogs live in the bush with the park. One of the best times was when I was supervising at the 20% of water in the Mbaraka wetland, I noticed a great herd of elephants pass down by. I had been watching them overhead. They looked so much like a herd of elephants that I was very excited to see them. Another time I was in the forest on a road of village game reserves when they heard they could win a brand new set of the book they had confirmed that an environmental club was something so important to me to do. I made the one.

Some of my most days are when you have been making very closely with a colleague & friend, it was fun but it is actually correct & involved in the bush, people & timber logging, that you are desperately trying to help.

My greatest achievement is still to come... As it will be the day I can see that the amazing wilderness area in Southern Tanzania are free of poaching & are being managed in a sustainable manner which benefits not only wildlife but also the communities that are the custodians of the land.

**OLALLA MARTINEZ**  
AUSTRALIA, NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I have been a ranger for 11 years, for the last 6 years I have been working at Barrow Island State Park, in the centre of Australia. I am in charge of the Barrow Island Reserve, the main tourist area of the park.

Originally the Barrow Island Reserve was situated at the top of Cockatoo Bay Headland. It is a large island that is surrounded by water, with a small inlet to the west. The main reason for the park is to protect the head of the water catchment & a surrounding water to alcohol. The entire population of cockatoos, which live in the park, is a result of this unique environment called Barrow Island, a place where several species of albatross nest, we have been working on different conservation projects, such as the barrow Island which is the main tourist attraction.

I was studying biological sciences at the university & realized that I did not like to study the way & do something more practical, so I joined the National Park Control Office in Barrow Island & started realizing that I had a love for the National Park & the work of a ranger. I had no doubt, I wanted to do that for the rest of my life. With the realization of wanting to work in the park, so we are a very clean & well as all of the things that we do.

My main responsibility is to organize the activities & do the planning with my area. I also run the educational program with local schools. Most of the work involves me taking the park, so we are a very clean & well as all of the things that we do.

Well, my biggest challenge is the danger involved in doing this in Australia. It is difficult to do as a ranger. Rangers usually live in isolated places, even in their own countries. It is the long distance, it's difficult to travel & share opinions, but I find the opportunity of travelling & learning about different protected areas has great value.

I hope to eventually live in Africa in what this job doing & making positive small things.

**ASIWEFE TIRIYO**  
BRAZIL, ACT BRASIL MACAPA  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I work for ACT Brasil in Macapa, in the State of Amapa, Brazil. My position is "Técnico". I have worked 45 years here in "Reserva Indígena do Tamacuaré", it is well known as an area rich of compounds. I wanted to be a ranger in order to improve the quality of the

participate in our projects, economic, and

not such as could work as a ranger to understand the

**ISSA NDOMONDO**  
SOUTHERN TANZANIA, NANTINDO DISTRICT  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I am Issa. I work in Southern Tanzania in the Nantindio District as the Acting District Game Officer. I started 10 years ago. I volunteered for 8 years & I now receive a small salary.

The special values of my job is that it is a community run wildlife area which still supports much wildlife, such as wildebeest, zebra, buffalo, lion & wild dog.

I was initially selected as a volunteer village game scout at Nantindio village. I was then selected as a member of the village natural resource committee. The District Game Officer at the time was impressed by my skills & sent me for training in 1991 at Sikani Community Based Learning Centre. In 1991 I studied at Mwanza & received a certificate in Wildlife Management. Throughout I was employed by the District & ultimately a ranger.

My job is varied. I go through various activities concerning wildlife management in the Nantindio District. This includes assisting rangers, going on patrol, checking up on rangers' control, monitoring information about poaching, keeping records on wildlife hunting, writing reports and meeting with the village assemblies in the area to discuss hunting quotas & the natural resource use levels.

**JESSICA HERDER**  
AUSTRALIA, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
RANGERS HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE. SERIES ONE

I am an Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer. I have been working for the Department of Environment & Heritage for 10 years. I have been working for the Department since 2002. I have the responsibility to record, protect & assess sites, objects & places of cultural significance to Aboriginal communities.

I grew up spending a lot of time in National Parks, bush walking, camping, swimming, reading & fishing. I always loved to be in the bush. In school I studied subjects that would help me get to University. I got into Environmental Science & in the first year applied for an Aboriginal Heritage Ranger with the National Parks. This was a great opportunity as I was studying full time & part time with 20-40 hours. When I finished my degree I was offered a Ranger position at the Royal National Park. I had just finished National Park. I worked at Royal National Park before I moved to the ACT area.

I always wanted to be a Ranger to work outdoors. In particular the park for nature conservation. I like contributing to the protection of my people's cultural heritage & to foster appreciation & understanding of my people's culture & heritage.

My biggest challenge is finding the time to do everything that I want to do. There is a lot of work to be done, we have lost a major Aboriginal site in the planning of a park. My main work is to do this, there is not enough time to do everything I would like to do.

I would like to see a lot more understanding of the linkages between cultural & natural heritage management. Whether it is the way things are managed, the need to think long term, to consider the future, think & combine ideas globally & so.

It is like to think that in 10 years time we don't refer to a "thin green line" because the thin green line has become a big green island, covering the earth.



## MEMBERSHIP FORM - Protected Area Workers Association NSW

A Protected Area Worker - is a person who works in a field operations position, or who supervises or supports the work of people in field operations positions in NSW protected areas. PAWA is a non-profit professional organisation. Ordinary and retired members have full voting rights. Supporting and student members do not have voting rights. Membership fees and travel costs to meetings and functions are legitimate tax deductions. Membership of PAWA also includes membership of the Australian Ranger Federation and the International Ranger Federation, and receipt of their newsletters, 'Paperbark', 'The Thin Green Line' and 'Guardaparque' as well as our own 'PAWA Press'!

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If you would like to contribute to the next edition, please e-mail text to [michele.cooper@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:michele.cooper@environment.nsw.gov.au) and forward images on a cd to M.Cooper, PO Box 3031, Asquith, NSW 2077.

PAWA Press is the newsletter of the Protected Area Workers Association NSW (PAWA).

**Deadlines for articles, etc: March 12th June 12th Oct 12**

**Editions due out: April 12th July 12th Nov 12th**

Editor/Layout: Michele Cooper. All photos and artwork supplied by authors of articles.






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Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that information in this newsletter is accurate at time of printing, PAWA does not accept responsibility for errors or omissions.

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June 10

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