

Life's in love with Terry at Geikie

by Rhianna Mooney

TERRY Bloomer loves his nomadic life.

He has been a mobile ranger in the Department for the past 11 years and has worked in most areas of the state.

At the moment, Terry is based at Geikie Gorge National Park where he conducts boat tours and other park duties. He is very popular with park visitors who enjoy his stories and sense of humour.

Terry said it takes a special kind of person to be a mobile ranger and he enjoys the variety and independence that being a mobile ranger gives him.

"We're different to normal people, for example other people pack up their bags when they're going on holidays and stay in a caravan, mobile rangers pack up their caravans and spend their holidays in houses," Terry said.

"We really are nomadic and a bit like snails . . . we make everywhere a home."

Terry said that mobile rangers usually spent the dry season in the Kimberley or the north of the state and the summer anywhere south to Esperance.

Former District Manager at Shark Bay and the Gascoyne, Ron Shepherd said the whole time he knew Terry he always grew veggies.

"He would pack up the pots, put them in the caravan and take them wherever he went," he said.



Terry, captaining his boat on a Geikie Gorge tour. Photo by Maria Duthie.

"When I worked with him, Terry's diet usually consisted of wild goat, homebrew and the veggies from his veggie patch.

"He probably grew them because it was the only way to guarantee you would get fresh produce when you're in the sticks."

Ron said that Terry was one of the hardest physical workers he'd ever worked with.

"Many of the walk trails and facilities at Mount Augustus are a tribute to his dedication," Ron said.

"The truth is, I really enjoy my job," Terry said.



**THANK YOU
FOR NOT
SMOKING**