

# Loops and Z-bends upgraded at Kalbarri

Generations of tourists (and CALM staff) have staggered and tripped along the rough, rugged and rocky paths that lead to two of the most spectacular and popular tourist attractions in WA, The Z-Bend and The Loop in Kalbarri National Park.

However, in the last 12 months CALM's Kalbarri team (rangers Roy Harris, Gerry Deegan and David Burton, assisted by a small team of local youths supported by grants) have completely upgraded the

carparks, picnic areas and the walk trails to the gorges, making the rough and the rugged considerably less so.

Upgrading the paths was tough manual labour, with gravel having to be carted in, formed up and rolled.

Steps were then set in place using local stone and recycled railway sleepers and drainage measures concreted in place.

The result is one good, safe and attractive path where numerous rough and dangerous paths existed before.

Ranger Roy Harris said the team worked right through the heat of summer so they could avoid a clash with peak visitor periods.

"But it was worth it to get such a good result and now all we need is some rain so we can upgrade the roads to the gorges as well," Roy said.

Recently, a contract was let to carry out a major road upgrade in the Park.

If the work is completed this year, Kalbarri will not only be one of our most beautiful parks, but also one of the most user-friendly.



*The Kalbarri team, left to right: Roy Harris, Gerry Deegan and Dave Burton on the new path to The Loop. Photo by Alex Errington*

