

Australia to host next International Ranger Association conference

AUSTRALIA will host the next International Ranger Association congress, at Wilson's Promenary in Victoria, with up to 400 Rangers world wide attending, according to the Australian Ranger Association's (ARA) WA executive member Steve Dutton.

The Australian Ranger Association, a professional association for rangers across Australia, met in Perth before the IRA congress.

CALM support

"We had excellent support from CALM," ARA President, Kristen Appel, senior district ranger at the Watarrka National Park in the Northern Territory, said. "They made staff available and arranged guides and transport for field trips.

"The great part about our jobs is that people go to National Parks for holidays, while we go to work and on holidays to National Parks!"

Her comments were echoed by Glen Jameson from Warrandyte State Park in Victoria, who said CALM had gone to great lengths to ensure they had an enjoyable,

educational and worthwhile conference.

Wildflower attraction

"And because of the wildflowers it was a terrific time to come," he said.

Kristen Appel said one of the first things to be

auctioned for fundraising for the International Congress would be her vest which sports all IRA world congress and ranger badges, and badges from Australian rangers in every state.

She has sewn them to a NSW Parks and Wildlife

Commission's fleeced-lined vest. The Australian patches are on the front and the international patches on the back.

Kristen said any money she made would be returned to the IRA and the ARA, which were self-funded.



Pictured at John Forrest National Park included (from left) John Forrest National Park's retired senior ranger and delegation tour guide, George Duxbury; John Forrest's ranger-in-charge, Keith Tresidder; East Kimberley's ranger-in-charge, Ross McGill; Victoria's Warrandyte State Park ranger Glen Jameson (front); Queensland's Porcupine Gorge and White Mountains National Park ranger Grant Anchen (back); Northern Territory's Watarrka National Park's senior district ranger, Kristen Appel; Uluru Kata Tjuta National Park ranger Matt Le Duc; and the ranger-in-charge of Yalgorup National Park, south of Perth, Steve Dutton (front right). Photo by Rolph Percy



Kristen Appel models the vest to be auctioned.



A37



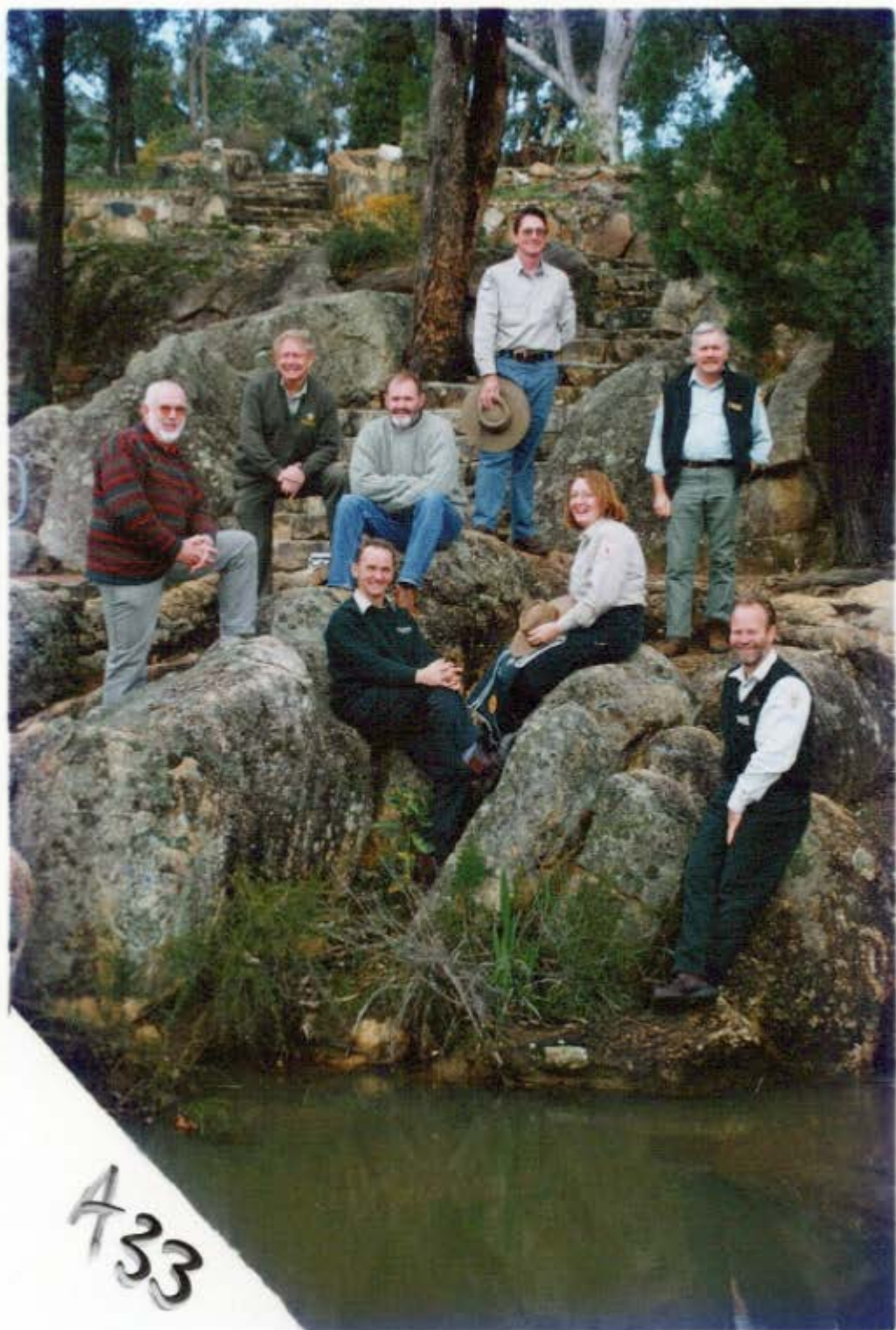
A35



A34



48



A33



13