



THE THIN GREEN LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

January – June 2013

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The Thin Green Line is a quarterly publication about the activities of the International Ranger Federation (IRF), an organization of non-governmental and governmental ranger organizations from around the world. If you have a submission for **The Thin Green Line**, please send it to executivepa@internationalrangers.org. Thank you to our volunteer translators--Oswaldo Barassi and Rebeca Mencos--for the Spanish edition.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

IRF President's update January to June 2013

Hi All. Apologies the newsletters are behind- we are in the process of getting this and other systems in place. We will be sending out a regular newsletter every 3 months and your contributions will be greatly appreciated. Apologies if any of this is outdated, and the next newsletter will be with you shortly so please send your reports in to...

- **World Ranger Day:**

I look forward to reading and hearing all about how everyone paid their respects and also celebrated the great work rangers are doing on World Ranger Day. Already on social media we have seen some great activities taking place and I look forward to receiving your reports about your day!

- **IRF Direction:**

The IRF Executive is concentrating on having a very defined set of goals over the next 4 years. Each of the executives has been asked to prioritise the top 6 actions from our Strategy and also identify those which they and member associations might help to implement. We see the IRF as being a major player in International discussions and declarations, as well as a strong representative body for Rangers on the ground. We will facilitate partnerships that bring meaningful awareness that create actions on the ground whether directly through IRF or its partners. But we need your involvement to make this work. The executive is doing its best, and if we are to achieve everything, we need your input and effort as

well. We need to professionalise the IRF with paid staff supporting our members and its member associations.

- **CITES Bangkok- March 3-13th:**

Under The Thin Green Line Foundation(TTGLF)/IRF banner I represented us at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species(CITES). CITES is the convention that governs the world's wildlife trade. I was there for 14 days and an important part of the congress was strong networks enforced. I spoke from the floor on issues affecting rangers, particularly Anti-poaching measures and the need for more support and consideration of the 'pointy-end' ramifications for our rangers from their bureaucratic decisions. It was very well received with a number of countries and NGOs, including the Secretary General referring to the statistics and sentiments I expressed. I am following up with International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), United States Fisheries and Wildlife (USFW), World Bank and many other organisations that showed a genuine interest. Jane Goodall connected us with some major players there in the conservation scene and this forum allowed us to create stronger international networks for funding and program implementation while highlighting the need for support of the Rangers on the ground. Additionally Prince Charles' Sustainability Unit was present and the speech and our presence there is what partly prompted my invitation to St James' Palace a few months later to represent Rangers.

- **UK trip:**

As some of you are aware, I was invited to a meeting by **HRH Prince Charles and Prince William** at St James Palace London to discuss Illegal wildlife trade with 100 other invited conservation and government leaders/guests from around the world. I think its great that we, as rangers, are now being invited to the table of these bigger meetings. Part of the meeting was to start and set the agenda for discussions of World Leaders later in the year. I had a 6 minute chat with Prince William and similar with Charles. Both were very intrigued with the situation facing rangers and Prince Charles was interested in helping connect us with donors for the widows and Prince William interested in possibly supporting TTGLF and IRF longer term. We've had follow up on both fronts and I'm heading back to the UK for a second meeting with Prince William's team at Kensington Palace. The UK Guardian/Observer 6 page feature article won't hurt either!

- On May 23rd I met with **BORN FREE** to discuss charity donation status in the UK and USA and using them as a conduit. While there it was great to also catch up with the UK rangers CMA, thanks to efforts from Roger Cole and Derek Evens. About 12 rangers attended and through the day we discussed priorities of the IRF and for them along with some ideas of expanding their association and involvement of members- we also visited some management areas in the Lea valley. Thanks to all the UK Rangers.
- From May 27-31st I met and stayed with **Jane Goodall** in London and we discussed linking her worldwide roots and shoots program with Rangers as well as other collaborative projects. We even went for a walk in the Park where five workers proudly told us they saved 5 ducklings. I let them know who Jane was and they were chuffed. They were worried they might get in trouble with the rangers for jumping the fence to release the ducklings and Jane said " he'll help you with that one!"

UPDATE: World Indigenous Network Exchange and Conference- May 20-31st

The Australian Government invited and contracted The Thin Green Line Foundation to organise and host an exchange of 6 indigenous rangers from Africa with Indigenous Rangers in Australia prior to the WIN Congress. The application process was sent out to IRF African member associations and other African contacts and 5 were eventually selected. Two Massai from Kenya, Wilson and Francis, 2 Kalahari bush people Jacobus and Helena, and Shaziri from Tanzania. Additionally through the IRF executive and our contacts we sent the application form for congress support to all regions and we selected a number of IRF members on recommendation.

All of the participants on the African exchange shared their knowledge with Indigenous rangers as they were guided through **Kakadu National park** by Victorian Rangers Association president Peter Cleary, who through the VRA, was contracted to guide the exchange component. Each ranger not only saw and shared with each other but they also received new equipment to take home such as GPS cameras, hiking boots and other gear. After the exchange Brent Masters, TTGLF operations, guided

the delegates through The WIN congress in Darwin. I feel proud that we could be part of providing this opportunity to our indigenous rangers, who went home proud, as were their families. These Rangers are now also interested to start their own Rangers association. It should be noted that IRF on its own would not have been granted these funds, so TTGLF was able to sign the legal contract and administer the funds. Equally TTGLF could not have got the delegates without the strong IRF network that have as our strength. Congratulation to all the rangers who participated and thank you to all the IRF representatives that helped with applications and who attend the congress and exchange.

- **Ranger Associations:**

Welcome to our new associations GRAA Zambian Chapter.

Also pending for future endorsement as Ranger Associations are Kyrgyzstan, Uganda, Kenyan, Massa Preservation Trust [...and others?]

We are also looking to reinvigorate and activate existing associations to create a more dynamic IRF. I will be soon travelling to South America to meet with ranger associations and encourage greater involvement with IRF and to see what IRF and TT can bring to support our Latin American colleagues. On that I would like to encourage further pairing of existing rangers associations with new or smaller associations in your regions. Some good examples already include, PAWA with PAMS and Brazil, etc. etc.

Please note: All activities undertaken by The IRF president were sponsored by TTGLF's administration funds (not donations or dependent's funds).

Thin Green Line update: As IRF's official manager of the Dependent's program here is an update on TTGLF's projects and activities supporting rangers and their families in coordination with the IRF and its members.

- **DRC Payments- February**

\$20,000 has been sent to Vicuna National Park DRC for the widows program there. From this funding 55 widows will be looked after and, on average, about 220-300 children. This money will keep them above the absolute poverty line. They will be given \$30 per month for one year. I have suggested that within six months we should also fund a project for sustainable farming and permaculture to ensure that, after 12 months, the widows have food and produce for sale to sustain them beyond 12 months. Therefore we will not be required to fund them in perpetuity and they are self-sustainable.

- **\$15,000 to rangers in elephant anti-poaching effort**

As we raised more than \$15,000 from the ABC story- "where have all the elephants gone" TTGLF shared the donations as follows along with some other TTGLF funds.

1. **\$7000 to PAMS foundation for Antipoaching support**
2. **\$5000 to Big Life/ Massai Preservation Trust for Ranger Anti-poaching Support**
3. **\$5000 to Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage For Ranger Anti-poaching support**
4. **\$3000 to IRF**
5. **\$5000 to IAPF for Anti-poaching training.**

- **International Anti Poaching Foundation (IAPF) Support.** Now a further \$43,000 has been collected due to Damien's good media and we will have this amount come in and out to support their ranger Anti-poaching work in Zimbabwe and beyond. This is little effort for us and provides a much needed service for a complimentary organisation. It also forms good relationships and show we walk our talk by working with our partners.

- **Anti-poaching Training IAPF- April South Africa-** I have passed on Damien Manders plan and training program to IRF and TGLF contacts who are involved in Anti-poaching training. We have also donated \$5000 to their Anti-poaching training sessions.
- **Green Line Grooves Cd - Shop release February 8th**
The CD is going well online and at markets and is expected to do well at Bluesfest. Please let your networks know of the CD's release in store and online at our website.
- **Gotye Raffle-Extended**
We have extended the raffle until Aug 3, the night of our World Ranger Day Dinner in Melbourne.
- **Byron Bay Bluesfest- March 28-April 1st**
Bluesfest was an out and out success: Last year we took in \$4000 this. ...Year it's was over \$15,000. We extended the support this year to have the Green Line Grooves advertised side of stage before acts; we had a stall in the general public, our CD in the Bluesfest CD tent, a guitar getting signed backstage.
The Cat Empire, Xavier Rudd and Nicky Bomba shouted out for us in front of 10-15,000 people. THE STALL sold close to 400 Green Line Grooves CDs as well as 112 Gotye Raffle tickets and other merchandise including our snare-wire jewellery. We had 6 volunteers that rotated in two shifts and they did a great job.

PROJECTS being undertaken:

-Ranger Banda upgrade: We will rethatch 100 ranger Bandas and repaint them for \$10,000. This will reduce the temperature by 8 degrees inside in a very hot area. Though the thatching is a temporary measure until we build the new accommodation for the rangers in partnership with UWA, UNDP and others.

-Equipment Donation: each year millions of tourists visit National Parks: I want to roll put a campaign for tourists to donate gear to rangers called; " Last stop? Why not drop!" where tourists will leave for rangers on their last stop items like mosquito nets, sleeping bags, boots, tents, torches, pocket knives and much more. We would regulate this with the Legal Authority and have main tourist hubs be collection points for other non-touristic areas. This could be rolled out worldwide and would have a significant impact for rangers without costing much except set-up and monitoring. It will also put us on the map with tourists who we also encourage to donate via our website- not on the ground.

Sean Willmore
President IRF & Member Victoria Rangers Association
president@internationalrangers.org

Vice President's Report

It is hard to believe that it is not far less than a year already since the International Ranger Federation (IRF) gathered in Arusha for our World Congress last November, and since the new committee was elected to lead the Federation till 2016. A lot of the Committee members have no doubt been finding it difficult to make the time to getting to do what we all committed to when accepting our nominations and when we first took 'office'. Volunteer work is not always the easiest, but it can be very rewarding when we do make the time and get stuck into putting some runs on the board for the team, and for our colleagues. I would like to encourage everyone to put in the extra bit of effort it takes to do something for IRF in ones free time, and to draw inspiration for it from those who lead by example.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the work of IRF over the past several months. In particular, it would be remiss of me however not to specifically mention the outstanding contributions that have been made already by our President, Sean Willmore. There has been a lot of activity from him and he has been showing what can be done when we put our mind to it and knuckle down to doing things that we believe in. I will not seek to regurgitate things here in terms of what all he has been doing, as

that can be seen in his President's report and elsewhere in The Thin Green Line newsletter. IRF Treasurer, Meg Weesner, has also been more active than most and is always keen to motivate the rest of the team to do more. I would like to join Meg in urging a greater team effort, and to remember that even doing small things count and add to the whole so let's all give something we can later be proud of having been a part of.

My main IRF related activities over the last number of months have been related to:

- representing IRF on the Board of TTGLF (which is something really worthwhile as it is a great cause for rangers and is very much focused on delivering results;
- maintaining partnership activities between IRF members and my own organisation in support of rangers on the ground, such as the provision of equipment, training, cash for patrols and assistance to rangers and their dependents whom have suffered personal losses and injury, etc. (here in particular the ongoing support from Portland Animal Welfare Associates (PAWA) and its individual members, TTGLF, and Victoria Rangers Association to the ranger groups we work with in Tanzania has been fantastic); and
- liaison with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).

I also investigated and arranged for IRF to endorse the newly established Belize National Ranger Training Academy (BNRTA), in recognition of the fact that there has been a lack of a regional training academy for rangers in Central America and the Caribbean. The BNRTA is deserving of our support as it not only fits within the vision for the IRF but we believe will also go a long way to fill this gap and deliver high quality training throughout the region for both Spanish and English speaking rangers.

On the IUCN front, the key developments to report are that:

- Andrew Nixon from Victoria Rangers Association in Australia has taken over from me as the IRF's lead for the "Mentorship and Ranger Exchanges" part of the overall capacity building programme being developed by the IUCN WCPA Capacity Development Advisory Committee;
- I am coordinating a team of authors from IRF and the Southern African Wildlife College to develop a WCPA best practice guideline on anti-poaching training for field rangers; and finally
- in addition to my role on the editorial team of the IUCN's magazine "PARKS", I am participating in publishing a paper led by Professor Marc Hockings outlining a 'code of practice for researchers in protected areas' that is to address issues of ethics, access to information, impacts of research, etc. wherein my role is primarily to make inputs to address the needs and requirements from the perspectives of rangers and reserve managers.

Should anyone have any enquiries concerning any of the above, or would like to become involved with and contribute to any IRF activities or initiatives more in any way, please do contact me directly on my email address below.

Best wishes and regards to all.

Wayne D. Lotter

Vice President IRF & Member Game Rangers Association of Africa

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Secretary's Report

Tegan Burton

Secretary IRF & Member New South Wales Rangers Association

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Treasurer's Report

The IRF has the equivalent of about US\$4,700 on deposit in its bank accounts in the United Kingdom. It also has US\$4,123 in a restricted account, held by the US Association of National Park Rangers, for the International **Young Conservationist Award** for 2013; this is from a grant from Parks Victoria, Australia.

Recent income includes four donations, totaling £98 that has been received through the PayPal link on the IRF's new webpage. Proceeds from the raffle (US\$300) and sales for IRF pins (US\$100) at the World Ranger Congress were deposited in the UK bank account.

The only on-going expense is for hosting the IRF website, which costs about US\$10 per month. Domain names have been pre-paid for two years.

Meg Weesner
IRF Treasurer
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Editor's Report

Outgoing Editor's Report

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as The Thin Green Line editor for the past 3+ years. It has been a "window into the world of rangers," one that has greatly expanded my view of conservation. Good luck to the new editor, Nicola Potger."

Dana M. Dierkes
Former Editor
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Introduction to New Volunteer Editor

I became interested in The Thin Green Line Foundation upon seeing the ABC (Australia) documentary aired in 2012, and volunteered with them to do anything at all to save our most noble giants from extinction in Africa. I have always had a deep and abiding love for elephants, in particular. My husband, a musician, and I had a musical fundraiser in our back garden, which we hope to repeat every year, and I met Sean Willmore. I noticed that all the emails I had sent to the website has been personally answered by him, and I offered to help as a kind of personal assistant if I could, as that situation seemed crazy. His workload must have been phenomenal.

So, as it's panned out, it will free most time up for him if I help him with the IRF, which is the same difference in the end. So, here I am, lending a helping hand so that you guys can get on with your important work.

Who am I? Well, I've had a lifetime working as an actress here and abroad. I still do the occasional guest roles, playing mothers and grandmothers, as that is what's left for us 50-something actresses who aren't in the top 3! Meantime, I attained a Master of Business and worked in the corporate world in the city for a few years. Hated the politics. We moved to the country and I also have an uncompleted qualification in Interior Design. After training as an actress and spending a lifetime trying to recover from the natural ability that training drained out of me, I decided to head straight on in to my own small design business without completing my degree. I figure you 'either got it or you ain't'!

After a year of trying to convince the folk in the country region where I live that they should let me style their houses for sale, I've changed tack and am starting an online store to support my interior decoration clients, many of whom are situated in remote locations miles away from groovy interiors shops. My background is on the land, and I have four sisters married back onto it. My father was a conservationist, although he didn't describe himself as one. Farmers are the original conservationists in my opinion, as they have a tradition of handing something better to the next generation.

Nicola Potger
Volunteer Editor
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REGIONAL REPORTS

Oceania Regional Representative Report

Council of Australian Rangers Associations (CARA) 2013

Amongst the coastal mallee scrub of Innes National Park on South Australia's Yorke Peninsula, surrounding by groups of emus and mobs of kangaroos, a great location for CARA's annual meeting had been chosen. Delegates from Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and Queensland came together and we were also delighted to have two delegates from across the ditch, representing New Zealand.



After a traditional Welcome to Country, each association gave their yearly report on their achievements and this session showed in how many different ways an Association can deliver, presenting opportunities and possible projects for delegates to formulate actions for their home Associations. It is sensed that Associations do go through ebbs and flows, however great outcomes are achieved when members work together towards defined outcomes.

International Ranger Federation President, Sean Willmore, phoned in from Uganda, to welcome us and report on his progress. He spoke of his recent meetings with Prince Charles and Prince William and flagged the idea that rangers in Uganda could benefit from fire training. This prompted a lengthy discussion about capacity building rangers in Oceania from within CARA. It was encouraged that each Association could work with rangers from within Oceania to promote and support them in their roles. Whether this resulted in bringing rangers to Australia or sending appropriately qualified rangers across to train rangers on site, there certainly is a potential for this to occur. Formal qualifications are an extremely important outcome from this process.



A Motley Crew – Paul (QLD), Derek (SA) and Baz from Tas

At the recent World Indigenous Network conference in Darwin, several groups of delegates embarked on pre-conference tours. African delegates toured Kakadu National Park, Maori delegates toured around Yalata in South Australia, Mexican delegates visited the Kimberley and Solomon Islander delegates visited the Tiwi islands. Reports of the experiences delegates gained from these tours has been extremely positive and they feel recharged and energised to take ideas home and hope to pass on their knowledge and understanding. There is a great opportunity for CARA to help facilitate similar exchanges at the upcoming World Parks Congress in Sydney, in 2014. Opportunities for formal training may also be linked to these visits. I believe this should be one of the key focuses of CARA in the next 12-18 months. Funding needs to be sourced and programs outlined.



The CARA baton was passed from SARA to QRA. A BIG thanks to the South Australian Rangers for hosting and especially to Derek Snowball and Wendy Cliff. Our next CARA meeting will be in Atherton in March hosted by the Queensland Rangers. It promises to be another motivating experience!

Where does the IRF Oceania fit in?

This is one of the questions I quite often asked as a member of the VRA.

The IRF is the mother ship of our associations and can often provide opportunities and support for fellow associations. In the last 12 months, I know of rangers visiting Australia from Norway and Africa (2 Massai, 2 Kalahari and a Tanzanian) embarking upon professional development programs for mutual benefit.



Thomas Roedstal from Norway arranged his tour through the IRF secretary and this flowed down to member associations, from which a tour was outlined, including skills he would be undertaking and participating in, organised and ratified by his agency, a 6 month process.



In another effort, 5 African rangers were funded through IRF and TGLF connections, to attend the WIN conference in Darwin. They embarked on a pre-conference tour of world heritage Kakadu, especially focusing on the cultural landscape. From my experience of seeing it first hand, the rangers felt greatly inspired and empowered from the experience. They had so many ideas to take home and develop.



In my new role as IRF Oceania rep, I hope to be able to develop more opportunities, focusing on our immediate region. It will take much legwork by individuals and associations to make these projects successful but with commitment and enthusiasm, the rewards are enormous. With the World Parks Congress in Sydney next year, this will be one of the IRF's main focuses. I really hope each association can be involved.

Yours in protecting our cultural and natural resources,

Peter Cleary
CARA Facilitator and IRF Oceania Rep

Peter Cleary
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North America Regional Representative Report

After leaving the World Ranger Congress, I enjoyed the hospitality of five East African countries. I met with several national directors and park superintendents and passed along information on the IRF and TGL. Since returning home, I have established contacts with Interpol and International Association of Chiefs of Police's Environmental Crime Units. I've had discussion with the Agua Caliente Tribal rangers to join the IRF. I tried to make contact with the National Association of State Park Directors but they will not return my messages. I traveled to North Dakota and West Virginia and touched base with state park rangers and various tribal rangers introducing them to the IRF.

Congratulations to the Three Rivers Park District Park Police, Minnesota, for receiving 2012 honorable mention by the International Association of Chiefs of Police for excellence in environmental crimes

enforcement and education. The 2011 winner was India's Ministry of Environment & Forests Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

In March, I attended CSPRA and PRAC's annual California Parks Training. It was held near Monterey, California. Besides the many interesting sessions, the new director for California State Parks talked about his vision for the agency. Movie Star Clint Eastwood was made an honorary CSPRA ranger. Congratulations to two medal recipients for their service.

A Medal of Valor was presented to Sacramento County Park Ranger Chris Kemp. On Aug 15 2011, Ranger Kemp was off duty and stopped for gas in Stockton – per multiple news accounts Ranger Kemp's need for fuel stopped a murder from occurring. From his vantage point at the gas station Ranger Kemp, off duty and in civilian attire, saw an adult male over 6 foot tall and about 300 pounds viscously beating a woman in a nearby Wal-Mart. Other bystanders were trying to intervene but with out success. The victim, a local school principle, had been beaten unconscious and per news reports was being "tossed like a rag doll". Ranger Kemp, without regard for his own safety, called 9-1-1 and ran to assist the victim. Ranger Kemp needed to draw his weapon to stop the suspect from continuing to beat the victim. Ranger Kemp's actions stopped the assault. The suspect fled the scene and Ranger Kemp remained with the victim to protect her and render aid. The suspect was later arrested and charged with multiple felony crimes including attempted murder, stalking, domestic violence and multiple other charges, According to the victim and witnesses in the local news Ranger Kemp's actions prevented the death of the victim.

A Life Saving Medal was presented to East Bay Regional Park Police Officer William DeLeon-Granados. On July 15, 2012, Officer DeLeon-Granados was on uniformed patrol of Tilden Regional Park – South Park Drive when he found an unresponsive adult male bicyclist lying on the ground. Officer De Leon-Granados immediately rendered first aid and was unable to locate a pulse on the bicyclist. Officer DeLeon-Granados notified Dispatch to send emergency medical service to his location, where upon he then performed CPR (compressions and mouth-to-mouth) on the victim. By the time that local fire department medical personnel arrived on scene to provide further medical assistance, and to relieve Officer DeLeon-Granados, the victim regained consciousness thanks to the lifesaving efforts of Officer DeLeon-Granados efforts. The victim was later air transported to a local hospital in Bay Area Valley for medical treatment.

This summer I worked with Mike Wells of CSPRA to coordinated distribution of 25 backpacks from Zion National Park and 50 ballistic vests to Tanzania.

The Hilton St. Louis (Missouri) at the Ballpark is the location for ANPR's Ranger Rendezvous 36. The conference begins with an evening reception on Sunday, Oct. 27, and concludes by noon on Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013.

PLEA cordially invites you to their annual conference February 4-6, 2014 in Punta Gorda, Florida. Punta Gorda is in West Central Florida about 45 minutes north of Fort Myers and has been an excellent host for previous conferences. Scheduled speakers include Deputy Chief Billy Evans from Boston PD to talk about the marathon bombings, response and mutual aid considerations; Leadership in Crises presented by Special Deputy Dave Crisler from Marion County Indiana; Marine Law Enforcement Issues presented by Chief Mike Johnson from Fond du lac Park District, Peoria Illinois; and Managing the Unexpected in Customer Service presented by Chief Pat Fuller from Austin, TX Parks. Other topics include managing property encroachments, patrolling sensitive archaeological sites and a tour of island operations on Cayo Costa Island State Park.

Jeff Ohlfs
International Ranger Federation
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Europe Regional Representative Report

Croatia Rangers Annual Seminar

In May 2013 the IRF was invited to present a keynote address to the 13th Annual Seminar of rangers involved with nature protection in Croatia and I volunteered to do this on behalf of IRF as the IRF Europe representative Florin Halastauan was halfway up a mountain in Norway!

There were well over 100 rangers present at the meeting in beautiful Trogir (on the Dalmatian coast) including rangers from the neighbouring countries of Slovenia; Montenegro and Bosnia & Herzegovina. The seminar included sessions covering both international as well as domestic interest. The welcoming address was given by former ranger, Nenad Strizrep who is the Assistant Minister for Environment & Nature Protection.

Like rangers everywhere, the passion of the Croatian Rangers in carrying out their day-to-day work was very much in evidence. And like rangers everywhere, when the chance came to socialise then Croatian Rangers can certainly “party”! I’ve never tasted such a wide range of alcoholic beverages brewed from a wide variety of fruits and herbs and we also enjoyed beautiful Klappa harmony music followed by informal singing, which went on until the early hours of the morning!

We also had discussions on the potential for the Croatia Ranger Association to host the 2014 IRF European Ranger Seminar with the support of the Ministry of Environment & Nature Protection. The IRF is very keen for this to happen given that the last European Ranger Seminar was in 2008. If things work out satisfactorily then it is likely that this seminar will be held during the last week of May 2014 based at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Plitvice Lakes National Park.





Roger Cole; International Ranger Federation
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COMMITTEES & STAFF

No current reports.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

IRF President visits UK



Following his attendance at the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) meeting in Thailand in April 2013, Sean Willmore the International Ranger Federation (IRF) President was invited to attend a “royal” meeting on “Illegal Wildlife Trade” at St James Palace, LONDON in May 2013. At the meeting Sean met with Prince Charles and Prince William in 'one-on-one' sessions and both princes were supportive regarding the plight of rangers and their families and classed this as a “conservation imperative”.

Prince William agreed that the work of the IRF and The Thin Green Line Foundation mirrors the three pillars of The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry viz. Military (anti-poaching initiatives), Children (supporting the orphans and widows of rangers) and of course Conservation and that he was interested in continuing the conversation and following-up on the potential for their foundation to support rangers. Such talks have already started with the princes' aids. Prince Charles asked about what was required to give the widows and children of the rangers killed support and dignity and he said that he was interested in pursuing it given that it's relatively achievable (\$2 million). Sean also presented him with a copy of The Thin Green Line film, which he gratefully accepted. Following the meeting Prince William subsequently sent a message of support to all rangers to coincide with World Ranger Day (31st July).

Whilst in London, Sean was able to spend some time meeting UK rangers (members of the Countryside Management Association) at Lee Valley Park (Essex) during which Nick Stanley (Langdon Hills Country Park) presented a cheque to Sean to support the work of TGL.



Roger Cole
Countryside Management Association.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Hello all.

I am managing a project on behalf of the IRF Executive – **Mentoring, Coaching and Exchange for Protected Area professionals (MC&Ex)** I wanted to let you know of this, particularly as it was introduced at the World Ranger Congress (see congress summation). At Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge Wayne Lotter together with Moses Wafula Mapesa presented the session ‘Global Partnerships for the Professionalising of Protected Area Management’. This is a project that can and will have direct value to IRF members and the world ranger community. So, you may be interested?

The project is part of an IUCN – WCPA initiative over the next 3 years. Under the program banner of the **Global Partnerships for the Professionalising of Protected Area Management**, IRF is delivering the MC&Ex project, one of four, for the **Education and Learning Work Group** chaired by WCPA member Eduard Muller.

Three months prior to the World Ranger Congress, the IRF had made a commitment (at last year’s World Conservation Congress, Jeju Korea), to take a lead in this particular aspect of the program. We were able to

outline the project and our commitment at Wayne and Moses' presentation. The 'Rangers without Borders' project (Jay Wells and Elaine Thomas) also has a strong connection to this new IRF action. To make this happen I would be interested to hear from any member association persons who may like to play a small part. In this early stage, next few months, I will be working on scoping the project. It is intended to introduce each of the four Education & Learning Work Group projects at next year's World Parks Congress, Sydney Australia. You may like to have a look at the WCPA-IUCN webpage at http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/gpap_home/gpap_capacity2

If you would like to connect with me and other IRF colleagues on this project let me know via andrew.nixon@parks.vic.gov.au

I look forward to hearing from some keen rangers!

Andrew Nixon

Victorian Rangers Association, Australia

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Please Contribute to Future Issues of the PARKS Journal

PARKS, the International Journal of Protected Areas and Conservation, had a successful re-launch at the World Conservation Congress in September 2012, and we want to keep the momentum up. Please join us in improving the only peer-reviewed journal dedicated wholly to protected areas: <http://www.iucn.org/parks>.

Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Wilderness 10 Conference	Salamanca, Spain	4-10 October 2013
ANPR Ranger Rendezvous	St Louis, Missouri	27-31 October 2013
World Parks Congress	Sydney, Australia	12-19 November 2014

MEMBER DIRECTORY (September 10, 2013))

The following is for quick reference only and does not include the names of individual ranger associations. Where more than one name is listed for a given nation, it is because there's more than one ranger association in that country. For a complete list, please contact IRF Secretary Tegan Burton at the address listed below.

OFFICERS

Position	Name	Country	E-mail
President	Sean Willmore	Australia	president@internationalrangers.org
Vice President	Wayne Lotter	Tanzania	wayne@pamsfoundation.org
Treasurer	Meg Weesner	United States	mweesner@att.net
Secretary	Tegan Burton	Australia	secretary@internationalrangers.org

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¹ National

² National

³ State - California

⁴ National

⁵ State - California

⁶ State – Alaska (provisional member)

⁷ State (Northern Territory)

⁸ State (New South Wales)

⁹ State - Queensland

¹⁰ State – South Australia

¹¹ State - Tasmania

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¹⁴ Fauna Flora International

¹⁵ Great Apes Survival Project (UNEP)

¹⁶ International Centre for Protected Landscapes

¹⁷ International Union for Conservation of Nature

¹⁸ World Commission on Protected Areas

¹⁹ Royal Society for the Protection of Birds