



July 2011

Written and edited by John Lemon and Daniel Scarparolo ©PDCInc 2011

Painted Dog Conservation Inc

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Vice Chairman - Angela Lemon
Secretary - Maxene Kowaleski
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Patrons: Tony Park
Bradley Trevor Greive



From the Chairman

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through 2011 already-what a huge year it has been!

In breaking news, Painted Dog Conservation Inc is very proud and pleased to announce that we have a new supporter on board. **Sir Richard Branson** is now officially endorsing the activities of PDC Inc! We are thrilled to be involved with the "Virgin Unite" arm of Sir Richard's enterprise-so watch this space for more news!



Additionally, we have provided \$8000US for the provision of a Motorbike for field research in Liuwa Plains for the Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP), and the two vehicles for the project which were shipped to Africa in December 2010 (one donated by Syd Chipchase and one purchased) have also finally arrived and have been put to good use already! The Landrover is being utilized for education activities with Chipembele Wildlife Trust and with field work with the local schoolchildren with ZCP. The Rodeo has been a godsend to the project, enabling travel between Lusaka and Liuwa Plains virtually pain free, and also saving the project on expensive airfares and bus trips to travel between the field study sites. We have also pledged \$5000US to Painted Dog Conservation in Zimbabwe for essential maintenance on the rehabilitation Centre and \$7000US to our latest supported project the Lowveld Wild Dog Project or Educational materials and teacher stipend.



We have also continued to grow our Life Memberships and Pack Adoptions; and continue our Bore Hole Appeal run by Sue Chipchase from Pet Magic Cannington. Sue also continues to stock our very own Pet product range, branded as PDC Inc with the Picasso caricature by Leah Austin of Custom Vintage. We have already had one successful fundraiser at Zebra's African Restaurant in April with over \$8,000 being raised, and we are leading up to our next event, **"Picture for Painted Dogs" – a family film night at Perth Zoo on 15 July 2011.**



This is being followed by the return of our patron and Australia's best selling author **Tony Park to Perth on 17 August 2011** – his annual book launch at the Hyatt Hotel. This year's event will be extra special as we will have **Dr Matt Becker**, Director of the Zambian Carnivore Programme as a second guest speaker-so you will have the opportunity to meet and greet one of our field researchers in the flesh!



Amongst all of this activity, we are also running a **Raffle**, which is being drawn at the Tony Park event on 17 August. There are a great range of prizes, including a Double Pass to WASO, Limited Edition "Painted Wolf Wine" from South Africa, Tribal Textiles Table Linen and a Double Entry Pass to Perth Zoo. Tickets are \$2 each



and available in Books of 10.

All the results are not possible without the assistance of our committee, members, supporters and our donors. Continued support from the SAVE Foundation committee, Nicholas Duncan, Mike Palmer, Kim and Geoff Hoddy, Nia Carras, Steve Harrison and Eveline Wong is always outstanding and donors like Perth Zoo, Syd and Sue Chipchase, Chris and Margie McClelland and others are always there to continue their support.

Special mention must be made for Mike Palmer who continues to support my airfares for my annual field trip. Our Patrons Bradley Trevor Grieve and Tony Park not only sell our message across our great country but also on the International front.

Our membership base is continually growing and their support is priceless. Since our last newsletter I would like to welcome Life Members Kim Hoddy, Jeff Beaton and Leigh Shersby. In addition, "Pack Adoptees" Brendan Scully, Renate Allcock and Julie Smith and general members: Brendan Scully (VIC); Tony Quance (NSW); Helen Fairnie (WA); Wally Hammond (UK); Sean Wilkin (WA); Nuala Piper (WA); Nicole Anderson (SA); Alyson Handfield (WA).

Sadly we also had to say goodbye to two beautiful and sadly missed supporters of PDC Inc which greatly impacted on my life. I will always cherish the moments I spent with both of them.

Carol Trevillian, wife of our committee member John, passed away in April. Her support and friendship developed through her interest in the Painted Dogs not only through being a Perth Zoo Docent, but a passionate member and supporter of PDC Inc.

Roma Griffiths a Perth Zoo Docent passed away in June. She always had a smile and kiss for me when we would meet in the Zoo grounds and was also passionate about Painted Dogs and PDC Inc. So much so, that on her 80th Birthday back in 2004 she asked

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guests to donate to PDC Inc in lieu of presents with a total of \$905 being raised. As a surprise guest at the party I showed up dressed in our dog suit to her great delight. In honour of her contribution we named an alpha female Painted Dog in Zimbabwe "Roma" in her honour.

Roma chose her favourite song for her funeral, We'll Meet Again by Vera Lynn and for those of you who know the song I hope one day we will all meet up again.

Best Wishes
John Lemon, Chairman, PDC Inc.



Left to right: John and Carol Trevillian at our Tony Park book launch at the Hyatt Hotel in 2009. "Roma" the Painted Dog in Zimbabwe. Photo P.Blinston.

The Vehicles Arrive

Matt Becker, *Zambian Carnivore Programme*

Not much happens fast in Zambia, except maybe changes of plan, which happen frequently and quickly. Thus while it was frustrating it wasn't surprising when after setting sail from Australia in January and arriving in Zambia's capital of Lusaka weeks later, the long-awaited vehicles donated by generous patrons of PDC Inc. were tied up in customs for months despite the best efforts of everyone involved. However the change of seasons and the end of the rains brought good news as both the Land Rover and the Isuzu truck were cleared in May-June, with the land rover heading north into the Luangwa where it was immediately put to good use with Chipembele's educational programmes, and the truck remaining in Lusaka where I flew in from Mfuwe to pick it up.

However every so often delays can have their upside and this time it was fortunate to have the truck in Lusaka because we had a long trip ahead of us. While we have several vehicles suited for field work, they're made for the bush and bad things happen when they get on the tarmac, thus the truck provides the perfect means for transportation between field sites, and hopefully the days of endurance epics on local bus lines to and from Western Province are over! In addition after our first wet season in Liuwa resulted in numerous vehicle problems, PDC Inc. generously provided funding for an additional motorcycle to allow our crew to continue work. So I was thrilled to be driving the truck to Liuwa and Kafue this time, particularly since we had a motorcycle to carry to Liuwa, and another long drive





north in Kafue to get to our field site.

Nevertheless Liuwa Plain, while stunning and a key area for wild dogs, is an exercise in painful logistics. Nearly on the border to Angola, seasonal flooding of the park's bordering rivers cut off the park from the only road connection from Lusaka—the town of Mongu—from December to August. Thus a trip to camp requires a 600km drive from the capital, a 2.5 hour boat ride to park headquarters in Kalabo, and then a 1.5 hour drive to our field camp in Matamanene. Consequently doing anything and getting anything in or out of camp is a logistical nightmare, and something as large as a motorbike is no small task. And as we jokingly say on our team "What could possibly go wrong?"

However we're happy to report that aside from rats chewing up much of the electrical wiring on the truck while it was delayed in customs, this was a rare problem-free trip as we simply removed the truck shell, loaded the bike up in the back, made the long journey to Mongu with the truck performing superbly, and then loaded the bike into an African Parks boat for the ride, getting in just at dark. The bike fired right up and today the Liuwa Project Leader Jassiel M'soka and I made the

long-awaited ride into Liuwa to put our new bike to work and perhaps give the other bike a rest as it has already put on thousands of kilometers across the plains of Liuwa.

As the wildebeest migrate north and the plains dry up in earnest the Liuwa dog packs begin denning, and so we spent the week casing the park on the bikes to locate them. And thanks to the new bike we were able to locate a new pack's den! A collared subordinate female from the Sausage Tree pack, who dispersed in late Nov. 2010, had been associating with males from the Palm Pack, and after a long bumpy bike ride through the tussocks far to the north of camp, Jassiel picked up the her signal and found them at a new den! While they're a small pack hopefully they can successfully raise pups and we are thrilled to have the first new pack formed during the study, and their location would not have been possible without PDC Inc's assistance with the vehicles.

Words cannot express our gratitude to PDC Inc. for their generosity and assistance; so much of our work would not be possible without your efforts and we appreciate it immensely!



In April 2011, Chairman John Lemon was invited and sponsored by Pittsburgh Zoo to attend the African Painted Dog Workshop to present a paper on PDC Inc. This is the first workshop focusing on African painted dogs to bring together international conservationists from Africa as well as from zoos in North America, Europe, and Australia.

The workshop was held at the Pittsburgh Zoo on Thursday, April 14th, and then on Friday, April 15th it was held at the zoo's new 724-acre International Conservation Centre, dedicated to breeding endangered species, including African painted dogs.

Speakers included researchers, keepers, caregivers, veterinarians and others with papers based on all aspects of painted dog care and management, both in captivity and in the field. Discussions also included the status of the dogs in the wild, field projects, captive husbandry, and veterinary care.

Many thanks go to the Pittsburgh Zoo for their support and in particular Dr Barbara Baker CEO Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, Ken Kaemmerer Mammal Curator, Karen Vacco Assistant Mammal Curator and Terry Deluliis PA to the CEO.

African Painted Dog Workshop, Pittsburgh Zoo, USA

By Ric Dunlop PDC Inc Life Member

As the Painted Dog Conservation Inc first Life Member I had an exceptional opportunity to accompany the PDC Inc chairman, John Lemon, to the United States and attend the African Painted Dog Workshop held at Pittsburgh Zoo.

The opportunity to take a short but very hectic tour of Washington, Pittsburgh and New York was incredible but to also meet so many people from around the United States, Europe and the United Kingdom who all shared a commitment to the Painted Dog was an experience to remember. The hospitality of the staff from Pittsburgh Zoo, Dr Barbara Baker (CEO), Ken Kaemmerer, Karen Vacco and Terry Deluliis to name a few and a host of other dedicated people such as Dr Tico McNutt - Director of the Botswana Predator Conservation Trust, Dr Mike Briggs - CEO African Predator Conservation Research Organization and Micaela Gunther - Asst. Professor Department of Wildlife Humbolt State University to name just a few.

The presentation of papers was varied and extremely interesting, of course this was an opportunity for the PDC Inc chairman, John Lemon, to present the great work being done by the dedicated people here in Australia and on the African continent in Zambia, Namibia and Zimbabwe. John's paper was received with great interest and in a way this seemed to be an appropriate step onto the world stage for PDC Inc and overdue recognition for John's work.

The first day of sessions was held in the Pittsburgh Zoo with



Ric Dunlop and Dr Michael Briggs on the humble Golf Buggy – excellent fun!

a great tour of the zoo in the afternoon and a dinner in the Aquarium that night. As a zoo keeper, like all of my peers, took in not only all the great and interesting sites and information on offer, but also updating myself on how Australia compared to the rest of the zoo world in husbandry of animals.

Our second day of sessions was held some two hours away in Somerset at the International Conservation Center, some 700 acres of prime land to be dedicated to the breeding of endangered species in the Pittsburgh Zoo collection. Mode of transport to see some of this property was the humble golf buggy; all the delegates had a memorable time just getting around the property without becoming stuck in the mud.

We both had the pleasure to meet a young lady from Houston Zoo, Renee Bumpus, who informed John that she had just had Xmas Mpofu from the Zimbabwe Project over at the Houston Zoo about two weeks prior to our arrival. Renee has worked in the field with the Zimbabwe boys and reminded John of the high regard they have for him and Angela and explained how Xmas was upset to find that they would not be able to catch up during his time in the United States.

This opportunity has opened some extremely valuable doors for Painted Dog Conservation Inc in Australia and I am sure will be the basis for a world wide effort of support and communication in the protection and conservation of Painted Dogs in Africa.



John with Dr Barbara Baker, CEO of Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium.

Sir Richard Branson Endorses PDC Inc.



Painted Dog Conservation Inc (PDC Inc) is excited to announce that Sir Richard Branson now officially endorses the activities of PDC Inc! We are looking forward to working closely with Sir Richard's "Virgin Unite" group in the future – so watch this space!

Many, many thanks goes to the staff at Virgin Unite

who have been instrumental in assisting us in establishing this partnership.

Sir Richard Branson is Founder of the Virgin Group. Virgin is one of the world's most recognised and respected brands and has expanded into many diverse sectors from air and ground travel to telecommunications, health, space travel and renewable energy through more than 200 companies worldwide, employing approximately 50,000 people in 29 countries.

In 2004, Richard established Virgin Unite, the non-profit foundation of the Virgin Group. It mobilises the talent and resources from across the Virgin Group and beyond, to tackle tough social and environmental problems in an entrepreneurial way. It is built on the belief that, the only way we can address the scale of the challenges facing the world today is by revolutionising the way businesses, government and the social sector work together – driving business as a force for good. Virgin Unite works with the Virgin businesses to put people and planet at their core. Richard has been working closely with Virgin Unite to bring together the right partners to help create new global leadership models to address conflict, climate change and disease.

Richard and his close friend, Peter Gabriel, had an idea about the need for a new leadership model for our 'global village'.

Inspired by the role that elders play in traditional societies, as a source of advice, wisdom and experience, they took the idea to Nelson Mandela and were thrilled when he agreed to help bring a group of 'global elders' together. Founded in 2007 with the support of Virgin Unite and a great group of partners, The Elders comprises ten visionary leaders including Graça Machel, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Kofi Annan and President Carter. They work both publicly and behind the scenes, collectively and individually, in areas of conflict such as; Kenya, Cyprus, Darfur and Zimbabwe and also work on a number of global issues, such as health and gender equality.

In 2009, Richard brought together a group of the world's top entrepreneurs to initiate the Carbon War Room. The vision is to mobilise capital, innovation, expertise and international collaboration to increase the effectiveness of climate change efforts already underway and to focus on filling any gaps. These keen entrepreneurial minds will work together to help speed and scale solutions that will deliver a low carbon economy.

Richard and Virgin Unite also support a number of initiatives that lead to economic empowerment and healthy communities. These initiatives range from; the creation of sustainable healthcare models in Africa, to supporting young entrepreneurs through the Branson Centre of Entrepreneurship in South Africa, to creating opportunities for vulnerable and at-risk young people in the US, Canada, Australia and the UK.

Richard is married to his wife Joan and they have two wonderful children, Holly and Sam.

Branson was awarded a Knighthood in 1999 and became Sir Richard Branson for his contribution to entrepreneurship.

In 2011, Sir Richard has endorsed Painted Dog Conservation Inc and our activities. "I am proud to endorse the activities of Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated, and encourage you to support their cause to prevent the extinction of this unique species."

ClubStays and PDC Inc.

PDC Inc's newest fundraising initiative can be used to generate much needed funds for our project by joining ClubStays.

What is ClubStays I hear you ask?

ClubStays.com.au is a unique accommodation site developed to help clubs, charities and not-for-profit organisations raise additional revenue for their causes.

An accommodation booking cannot be made via ClubStays.com.au without selecting a preferred charity, club or not-for-profit organisation.

Once a booking has been completed, they will make a

donation to your chosen recipient.

They believe that at the time of booking you'll find their rates are comparable, if not cheaper, than each of the properties own websites.

Their prices have not been marked up to cover the donations they make to your chosen recipient.

They won't charge any booking fees or a credit card surcharge on deposits. Thanks for helping others by booking your accommodation through ClubStays.com.au

<https://www.clubstays.com.au/PropertySelection.aspx?bfdid=7e129e0b-c697-4e3a-a62c-2b9fd7238930>



Raffle

Painted Dog Conservation Inc is hosting a mid-year raffle to raise funds for its frontline projects in Africa.

Tickets are \$2 each and available in books of 10.

To purchase your tickets, please contact PDC Inc Secretary Maxene Kowalewski on ozimaxi2007@gmail.com. You can pay directly by Direct Bank Transfer into our account, or via your credit card and your tickets will be posted out immediately.

First Prize

Double Pass to see the West Australian Symphony Orchestra

Second Prize

1 bottle of South African "Painted Wolf Guillermo Pinotage Wine"*

Third Prize

Tribal Textiles Table Linen

Fourth Prize

Two Adult Entry Passes to Perth Zoo

Raffle drawn on **17 August 2011** at our "Evening With Tony Park" at the Hyatt Hotel.

PDC Inc thanks WASO, Painted Wolf Wines, African Ambience and Perth Zoo for the donation of the Raffle Prizes. *Painted Wolf Wines is a vineyard in South Africa that has not only won many awards and accolades for its wine, but also directly supports Painted Dog conservation in the field. Please visit the website at www.paintedwolfwines.com. This wine is not yet available commercially in Australia, so this prize is the only bottle of its kind in Australia.

Tribal Textiles is a community development initiative based in the Mfuwe Region of Zambia, employing over 100 people. Each piece is a unique, hand-made and painted design. African Ambience is the Australian distributor of these beautiful products. Please visit www.africanambience.com.au.

My Life in the Slow Lane PDC Inc Patron Bradley Trevor Greive

John Lemon and I are so well acquainted that he once removed his shorts to show me where he had been bitten on the buttocks by a Cheetah. But curiously, having proudly supported PDC Inc since the first day of its existence, it wasn't actually until August last year that I finally had the honour of meeting Peter Blinston and Dr Gregory Rasmussen in the flesh from the Zimbabwean Project.

As it happened the venue for our charismatic collision was neither in Zimbabwe or Tasmania, but somewhere vaguely in the middle - We zeroed in on each other's alarmed smiles at the 2010 American Wildlife Conservation Expo in San Francisco, one of the most surprising, informative, inspiring and thoroughly delightful conservation gatherings I have ever attended. It was terrific to hear Greg and Peter's first-hand accounts from the field, and I enjoyed their public presentation enormously.

As an aside: the AMC Expo luncheon offerings of an organic 'mushroom sandwich' (!?) came back to haunt me and fellow passengers flying to Los Angeles that evening, but this unpleasant episode was probably not Peter or Greg's fault. The fact is that after so many years of emails, reports and newsletters I was genuinely grateful to put faces to names and, needless to say, a fine time was had by all.

But here's the twist: Shortly after Peter, Greg and myself embraced as brothers, I disappeared. Never to be heard from again ... Until now. Obviously.

Recent rumours of my being incarcerated in a Central American prison for unspeakable crimes are, by and large, untrue. Yes, I was pulled over at gun point by tight-panted police officers and my Toyota utility subsequently searched for machine guns, explosives and narcotics however, sadly for power hungry judicial figures and my perversely overpaid lawyers, nothing illegal was ever brought to light and thus I am still enjoying my liberty in one of the most stunning countries on this earth - Costa Rica.

As another aside: My beloved life partner, Amy Melin, speaks perfect Spanish. I do not. Things were simpler, nay wonderfully easy while she was here with me over Christmas ... We were



Peter, Anonymous Plush Toy, BTG & Greg at the 2010 American Wildlife Conservation Expo.

able to experience so much, and made so many new friends. However within minutes of her departure I had added Costa Rica to the list of Spanish Speaking counties I have mortally offended (which now includes: Argentina, Chile, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Spain itself, and the entire Latin floor of the United Nations Building in New York). I think my most common mistake is to try to create Spanish words from similar sounding English words. I call this affliction 'Toxic Tourist Tongue', or simply 'T3' for short. The problem is that sometimes, due to the hybridised nature of all European languages, you can actually get away with this: Zoo, for example, means the same thing in both languages. And does animal, chocolate, invisible, doctor, piano and jungle, though of course the Spanish pronunciation is far sexier. I could go on, but instead I'll offer you a free tip: If you are telling an off-colour joke to any member of the clergy, especially a nun, and it goes over rather badly, which it probably will, do NOT apologize by saying, I'm sorry for embarrassing you, if in doing so you employ the similar sounding Spanish word, 'embarazada', as this adjective means to make or become 'pregnant'. I know, I know, it could happen to anyone ... But trust me, if you are not certain of your foreign language skills then it's always better to smile, point and grunt ... with the only exception being when trying to purchase contraceptives in a catholic country ... But that's another story.

For the record I have been enjoying the matchless beauty of this tropical paradise these many months while working on a new book. You may ask, "Why, of all places did you need to move to Costa Rica to write a book"? But I am already sick of your silly questions and so will ignore your bleating and move on the essence of this letter - which is, in itself, a far more interesting question:

Question: What do Sloth and Painted Dogs have in common?

Answer: Nothing.

...well, almost nothing, except that that I adore both creatures, and that both creatures are often mortal casualties of human ignorance and recklessness. Allow me to explain.

In the spirit of openness we now share I must confess that my first intimate encounter with a Sloth was not consensual.

To be clear, it was about six or seven years ago, I had just arrived in the Brazilian Amazon, and I honestly thought I was doing the right thing. I recollect that I was strolling along a patch of river sand when I spotted a young female Three-Toed Sloth swimming haphazardly across the water in my general direction in a slow, slapping freestyle ... much like a drunk geriatric wearing waterlogged pyjamas.

Thinking that at any minute I was about to witness this poor creature being savaged by piranhas I did what any reasonable person would do - I stared wide eyed while frantically groping about every pocket on my person for a camera. As it happened no camera could be found and so then, as the guilt of violent voyeurism yielded to something that was almost diluted valour, I stepped forward and 'rescued' the sloth from the river.



Left: BTG and his reluctant three-toed temptress. Right: BTG "rescues" a young female sloth from the Amazon Negro. She was not amused... and is pictured here trying to kill him in slow motion.

It turns out that sloth are actually pretty good swimmers – ungainly, yes, but confident and purposeful nonetheless. Needless to say the sloth was not pleased by my misguided heroics and soon let me know. Hissing and slashing at my hands and arms with slow yet furious intent. I got the hint and relocated her to a suitable tree nearby, where she immediately recovered her composure and ascended to safety, one deliberate three toed overhand gripping movement at a time.

When I asked a local guide why in God's name she had been swimming across the river in the first place he informed me that it is not uncommon for female sloth to move about through the trees, across water, or along the ground, looking for new territories, better foraging and a mate. Sloth, it turns out, are much like koalas in their habits, and can spend up to 18 hours a day sleeping. But while the larger male sloth can stay in the same tree for almost their entire life, coming down to earth only once a week to defecate with pained indignity - a feeling with which those of us who have ingested far too much airline food can empathise – female sloth have a far more mobile and active life. It is for this reason that the great majority of sloths seriously injured and killed when traversing powerlines, attacked by domestic dogs, and hit by oblivious motorists are female. And sadly, to make matters worse, a great many of these females have infants in their care.

I should point out that neither three-toed nor two-toed sloth are, by definition, endangered species. However they are, by virtue of their specialised adaptation, lack of defensive capability and their astonishingly slow movement, highly vulnerable to harm as a result of human actions. As such, it is important that

we do what we can to protect these creatures, and to assist those in need.

The majority of injured animals received at The Sloth Sanctuary of Costa Rica are nursing mothers and helpless infants like this little fellow.

Recently I had the privilege to visit The Sloth Sanctuary of Costa Rica (www.slothrescue.org) and learn about their work firsthand.

The first interesting thing I learned about The Sloth Sanctuary (TSS) is that it is privately run. Just like PDC Inc, TSS has no government support of note, and is entirely dependent upon private citizens to realise their important and compassionate mission. Without donations and volunteers, nothing could be achieved.



The majority of injured animals received at The Sloth Sanctuary of Costa Rica are nursing mothers and helpless infants like this little fellow.

TSS was started by a remarkable woman named Judy Arroyo, who, in the aftermath of the devastating 1991 Limon earthquake, took in an injured baby sloth. Not being able to find expert help, she shouldered on the job of rehabilitating the animal herself and, when her efforts were successful, word spread. Soon locals were bringing her sloth hit by speeding cars, mauled by dogs, and in some especially sad cases, violently abused by ignorant and delinquent children.

Realising that caring for injured and orphaned sloth was not enough, Judy knew she had to educate the public about this unique animal's needs and the many challenges they face in an increasingly fast moving world. And so she funded and built a small centre by her home which, over the past twenty years, has grown into one of the most popular nature attractions on Costa Rica's Caribbean coast.

Judy Arroyo is now considered one of the world's leading experts on sloth care, and while I was here she opened a second Sloth Rescue Centre in Monte Verde, home of Costa Rica's most celebrated Cloud Forests. Thanks to the efforts of TSS, new road signs are now being created to warn motorists to be on the look out for the world's slowest pedestrians, and people living near sloth habitat are educated about which trees to leave alone, and are also made aware of the need to keep their domestic pets restrained when sloth are on the move. These are simple goals, but to achieve any measure of progress has taken the complete devotion of Judy and her entire extended family, not to mention the commitment of countless volunteers and supporters. And there is still a long way to go...

I greatly admired what Judy and her team were doing, and was glad to make a modest donation towards their noble cause. But without in any way belittling the important work being done by TSS, I must point out that the goals of PDC Inc are far more urgent, the needs are far greater, the challenges are far more difficult, and our available resources are far less.

Increasing our commitment to education within the Painted Dog's range states and around the world, is essential if we hope to reduce the number of animals caught in poaching snares, shot by farmers, and hit by motorists. So too an increase in protected areas and a more comprehensive breeding and release program will be needed if we truly want this amazing and beautiful animal to survive.

There is a joke in Costa Rica that there are actually three species of Sloth: The strictly leaf-eating Three-Toed Sloth, the larger omnivorous Two-Toed Sloth, and the biggest and laziest of them all – the insatiable Five-Toed Sloth...by which they mean human beings who never do anything of real value with their lives...It's usually a jab aimed at politicians...I've honestly no idea why...

So then, apart from being repulsed at your Patron's dark and curious urges once again, the key lesson to take away at this point is to observe to the ways of the Sloth, and then simply do the opposite: The PDC Inc needs your energy. Please be generous!

In closing I ask you to consider doing one or more of the following four things.

1. Renew your membership, and then invite two friends to become members as well. Membership numbers are the

lifeblood of all our conservation endeavours.

2. Spread the word about the plight of Painted Dogs with friends and colleagues. With only 3,000 Painted Dogs left alive in the wild today it is vital that people know how critical their plight really is.
3. Make a tax deductible Donation, Adopt a Dog, and/or offer your time and skills to the PDC Inc as a valued Volunteer.
4. Purchase some of the fun and beautiful fundraising products via the PDC Inc website (<http://www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au/new-page-2.htm>), or from supporting vendors - like the stunning wares available at African Ambience (<http://www.africanambience.com.au/>) for yourself (if you are an unashamedly selfish narcissist like me), or better yet as birthday and Christmas gifts for family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. By doing so you not only enjoy sharing some unique and beautiful items, but also help spread the message and raise badly needed funds for PDC Inc field work and education.

Thank you once again for tolerating your Patron, and more importantly for your ongoing support of Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated – we couldn't accomplish anything without you!

Bradley Trevor Greive, Patron



The mother of all yawns!



The fate of this sleepy Two-Toed Sloth, and all of the creatures with whom we share this planet, rests entirely in our care.

Update from Patron Tony Park

I can't believe how fast this year has gone by. It only seems like yesterday that I got back from my last six-month trip to Africa and now it's nearly time for me to go back.

I managed to squeeze in a quick trip to South Africa and Botswana in May to attend the Franschhoek Literary Festival, near Cape Town, and to spend time with a veterinarian, Dr Clay Wilson, who lives in Kasane on the edge of Botswana's Chobe National Park. Clay, an expatriate American, is a real human dynamo who sold his lucrative Florida vet practice to relocate to Africa and devote his life to protecting wildlife. One of Clay's major achievements has been to vaccinate – twice in as many years – every dog in the town of Kasane, following two distemper outbreaks.

Clay had to raise the money himself to carry out the vaccinations, but the work was essential to prevent the disease from jumping to the local predator population. He holds great fears for the areas hyena's – their numbers have been severely down since the first outbreak, but it looks like he was able to save other animals. He's recently reported seeing lions in the area of the park near town recently and when I visited him we had a fantastic sighting of 12 painted dogs not far from the park entry point!

Painted Dogs featured in my fourth novel, Safari (that's how I became acquainted with Painted Dog Conservation Inc – John and Angela Lemon contacted me after reading it). I'm pleased to say they'll be featuring in my ninth novel, which I'm currently writing. This book, due out in 2012, will focus on the international illegal trade in live wildlife.

My eighth book, 'African Dawn', an historical family saga set



in Rhodesia and Zimbabwe from 1959 to the present, is due out this August. PDC Inc is organizing a cocktail function to promote the launch of the book in Perth in early August, so stay tuned for more details. African Dawn stars a couple of characters who were named after two great supporters of PDC Inc, Sue Chipchase and Bev Poor, paid to have their friends' names used in the book. The characters are Bev's friend Victoria Reagan, a plucky helicopter pilot; and SAVE Foundation President Nicholas Duncan (whose name was purchased by Sue). Appropriately, Nicholas' character is a rhino researcher in Zimbabwe.

I'm looking forward to getting back to Africa and starting on a 10th book, and hopefully calling on more of the fantastic projects supported by PDC Inc.

Cheers

Tony



The Afriqan Times is a new multi-media conceived to project the character and spirit of Africans in Australia and around the world.

The past decade has seen tens of thousands of Africans integrating into Australia and the Asia Pacific region. Before the last decade, there were others who also made Australia their home. They have made, and continue to make significant contributions to economic growth, intellectual development and cultural diversity.

The Afriqan Times is a unique platform for such pioneers and countless others whose collective experiences embody life in the 21st century.

Operating from Perth in Western Australia, Afriqan Times Australia will reflect accurately the aspirations of the

Australian community with an African flavour, and a tasteful reach to people everywhere.

They constantly feature variety of news on politics, business, sports, fashion and entertainment. Regular profiles will reveal ordinary people doing extraordinary things to make a difference. They are committed to contributing to the richness of life, and beyond that, truly stand up to the challenges of our times.

Thanks to Len Fretwell and Lena Kozak-Fretwell who assisted in showcasing PDC Inc in the latest June edition see attached link http://issuu.com/afriqantimesmagazine/docs/afriqan_times_magazine_-_june

To subscribe to the Afriqan Times magazine, please follow this link: <http://www.afriqantimes.com/temp/subscribe.html>

Painted Dog Conservation Inc invites you to an evening with Australian bestselling author, Tony Park.

PDC Inc is proud to announce the return of Tony Park to Perth. Please join us for the launch of his eighth book *African Dawn* at The Hyatt Hotel on 17 August 2011. Tony will also be talking about his recent travels through Africa and you can be in the running to win your name in his next book.

In addition, we are pleased to announce an extra special guest. Dr Matt Becker, Director of the Zambian Carnivore Programme in Zambia, will also be a guest speaker on the evening. He will be speaking about the recent achievements directly from the field.

This year we have a very unique auction item – UK Wildlife Artist of the Year (2010) Nick Mackman is creating a one off piece especially for us. Please visit her website at www.clayanimalsculptures.co.uk to see her amazing talent!

7:30pm 'til late

Wednesday 17 August 2011

Plaza Ballroom 1, Hyatt Hotel

Cnr Adelaide Tce and Plain Street, East Perth

(Parking is available under the hotel or along the terrace)

\$60 per head

(includes drinks and canapes for the duration)

Please reserve your seat and payment details by contacting Angela Lemon on 9455 6073, lemonj@ozemail.com.au or sending in the order form. Numbers are strictly limited. Please RSVP by 10 August 2011.



Ticket Order and Payment Form: An Evening with Tony Park

Please note that PDC Inc does not recommend provision of credit card details via email, and will not request them.

Name:

Address:

Number of tickets required: x \$60 = \$

Payment Method: Cheque Visa Mastercard

Card Number.....Expiry Date.....

Name on Card.....

Signature:.....

This transaction will show as "Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated" on your statement.

Please send completed order forms to
49 Waratah Boulevard
Canning Vale WA 6155.

Painted Dog Conservation Inc
www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au





The PDC Inc vehicle and pupils & various conservation staff.

Chipembele Wildlife Conservation Trust Update

Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated (PDC Inc) sends our Congratulations to Steve and Anna Tolan, Directors and Founding Trustees of Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust for their hard work and dedication to saving the wildlife of the South Luangwa over the last 10 years!

As a small token of our appreciation, PDC Inc sponsored the activities of Chipembele's recent Open Day- a celebration of their achievements during this time! Our support contributed towards the catering for the 110 guests, and also for the Educational Prizes awarded to the students on the day.

Please find below a report on the day's activities, from Jude Price and Kay Brown, Australian volunteers and Fundraisers for Chipembele –we are pleased to say that the recently donated Landrover by PDC Inc was utilised during the celebrations too (see pictures below)! In addition, Chipembele also organised a celebration day for World Environment Day called "Hands Up for Conservation", which also features in this newsletter.

"On Saturday 28 May 2011 - the day dawned cool and cloudy. Perfect weather for the feverish activity in organising the final requirements for the Chipembele Open Day you so kindly sponsored.

Lovely to see those of you who could make it on the day, thank you so much for coming. Also, for the best wishes from many of you who could not attend. It was a perfect and happy day!

Distinguished guests in attendance were HRH, The Chief Kakumbi, The British High Commissioner, The Hon. Ms Carolyn Davidson, The Department Education Board (DEBS) Mrs Ngoma, The District Administrative Officer, Mr Charles Sakala representing The District Commissioner, Councillor Mrs Monica Phiri and Mr Matthew Phiri. The Heads of School and

Conservation and Chongololo Club Patrons of the 6 schools in Chipembele's catchment area were also in attendance accompanied by Conservation Club members representing their School Clubs both as guides in the Wildlife Education Centre and as contestants in the Senior Quiz. The children really shone on the day and we acknowledge their valuable contribution, energy and passion in sharing their environmental knowledge and showcasing Chipembele to all the invited guests.

The Logistics for the day were complex, Victor Phiri, Chipembele's Driver/Mechanic at the wheel of the Chipembele Transport truck did two runs the 20+ kilometres to ferry in 60 guests, with a 6.00 am start at Kawaza Village arriving at Chipembele at 8:45 and the second run from Mfuwe arriving at 10:45. As guests on the second transport and in vehicles arrived, the wonderful Kawaza Community Dance Troupe, led by Constance, performed a welcome dance accompanied by drumming and singing much to the delight of the new arrivals. By 11.30am all were in attendance and proceedings began with a welcome from Jude who was the Master of Ceremonies for the day. A 10th Anniversary speech by Anna Tolan, Co-founder and Director, a spirited and lengthily traditional dance performance by the Kawaza Dance Troupe and a speech on behalf of the community by Mr Charles Zulu, Head Teacher of Chiwawatala Basic School saw the morning full and fun!

At 12.30 visiting dignitaries and guests were introduced to the twelve Conservation Club members who then took their 'stations' at their exhibits in the Chipembele Centre. HRH Chief Kakumbi and his entourage and other distinguished guests toured the centre ably guided by the passionate and knowledgeable young people. Guests were free at leisure for



Distinguished Guests, head teachers and Club Patrons with Anna and Steve Tolan

an hour or so to explore the Centre, Chipembele's grounds including the Elephant Boma area, sit by the Luangwa River and view and discuss our partner's displays represented by South Luangwa Conservation Society, Project Luangwa, The Awley Chilli Fence Project and Zambian Carnivore Programme. Steve Tolan offered rides on his quad bike and in the Pinzgauer! Another highlight was the arrival of the donated Land Rover from Painted Dog Conservation Inc (Perth) brightly painted with Wild Dog paw prints and bearing the logos of the conservation organisations benefiting of PDC Inc's generous donation SLCS, ZCP and Chipembele. Thank you PDC Inc! Rochelle and Eunice encouraged all attending to imprint their handprint with paint on the 4 metre long "Hands Up for Conservation" banner which will be used in Saturday's upcoming community parade to celebrate World Environment Day.

With your generous support we were able to provide a hot service lunch for the 110 guests. Kaye as Head Chef assisted by Cook Stanley and Kitchen Hand, Daniel prepared Nshima, Rice, Chicken Curry and Vegetable Curry. All cooked over a 5 metre long open fire pit in huge pots. Kaye's beautifully presented fruit platters including grapes, watermelon, honey dew melon and oranges were served mid afternoon to the obvious delight of the guests, if the time the fruit took to disappear is any indication. Soft drinks, cordial and bottled water were also provided.

(A very special thanks to Flatdogs Camp for assistance in allowing us the use of their cool-room for the week between delivery and service and for providing ice on the day.)

Your sponsorship also provided the prizes for the Conservation Club Inter-school Quiz held as the last part of formal events at 2.30 (14h30). The Quiz was hotly contested by the 12 Conservation Club Members. For Chiwawatala Basic School - Memory Milenda and Cypriano Phiri (Team Buffaloes), for Kakumbi Basic School - Nshanga Mwale and Scholar Phiri (Team Rhinos), for Kawaza Basic School - Margaret Phiri and Devson Zulu (Team Lions), for Yosefe Basic School - Milimo Mwetwa and Esnart Phiri (Team Zebras), for Mfuwe Secondary School - Kings Chimungu and Mabvuto Moyo (Team Leopards) and for Mfuwe Basic School - Noah Ndhobvu and Violet Mwanza (Team Elephants). The 30 quiz questions were complex and varied! Yet the pupils who have been attending Chipembele Wildlife Education Classes and the Conservation Club activities knew



The Kawaza Community Dance troupe perform their welcome dance.

their stuff. The quiz consisted of exhibits, questions and True or False?

Identification of Exhibits included:

- Identify this skull (a female impala skull held aloft)
- Identify this picture (a serval)
- Name this seed (held aloft and shown to the contestants) with the Nyanja, botanical and common names. (A Tamarind seed).
- Name this scat. (A basket of civet droppings)

Questions included:

- What is the only cat that lives in social groups?
- Name a scavenger.
- In what District is the source of the Luangwa River?

True or false questions included:

- "Birds are cold-blooded vertebrates"
- "An owl can turn its head 270 degrees".
- "The Portuguese were the first Europeans to come to Zambia."

The winners were the Conservation Club members representing Kawaza Basic School, Margaret Phiri and Devson Zulu (Team Lions). Congratulations Margaret and Devson. The winning prizes were a rechargeable (inc. wind up) lantern "Northern Lights", which also has a mobile phone charge capacity. The lamps were \$US110 each of excellent quality and will last Margaret and Devson and their families many years. Each of the participants were awarded as a special "Thank you gift" with a Curruther's Guide to the Wildlife of Southern Africa (worth \$US25.00) and the prizes were presented by HRH. The Chief Kakumbi. Lastly - the day was completed with speeches from DEBS - Mrs Ngoma and the District Commissioners' representative Mr Sekale and finally, HRH Chief Kakumbi.

During the day your logo was on prominent display on the new "Chipembele - Celebrating 10 Years!" banner at the front of the staging area and thanks given to your organisation, named twice during speeches and MC segues and the wrap up of the day. Your logos have been prominent on the Chipembele website, the Chipembele Facebook page, Jude and Kaye's

'At Large in Zambia Blog' and are currently up on posters on many trees and shops throughout the Mfuwe area on the tar road from the Mfuwe Airport to the South Luangwa National Park gates advertising our June 4 World Environment Day Community Event for this Saturday! Your sponsorship has made these celebrations of Chipembele's 10th Anniversary possible and for this we are very grateful.

We thank you, on behalf of Anna and Steve Tolan for your generosity in sponsoring these events and look forward to your ongoing friendship and support over the next ten years!

Kind regards

Jude Price and Kaye Brown, Chipembele Cheer Squad 2011!



Top to bottom: The 12 Conservation Club pupils introduced by Jude to the dignitaries, guests and gathering. The BHC. Hon Ms Carolyn Davidson and Violet Mwanza. Lion Camp's Nathalie and Emma with Margaret and Devson

Top to bottom: Steve Tolan takes guests for a spin on the quaddie. Kaye and Stanley at the fire pit. Daniel, Stanley, Richarb and Moses serving lunch.

Painted Dog Anti-snaring Team Update by South Luangwa Conservation Society Zambia

The 2010 wet season made certain that the South Luangwa Conservation Society / Zambian Carnivore Programme Painted Dog anti-snaring team proudly sponsored by PDC Inc and Perth Zoo were kept busy in the field, sometimes for up to twenty days at a time in bleak conditions. Snaring traditionally decreases in Luangwa during the wet season for a variety of reasons including, dense vegetation growth with the onset of the rains making it difficult to set and check on snares and, because wildlife is generally spread out due to availability of water making it difficult to have positive catches. However the anti-snaring team did not relax in any of their duties and while regular anti-snaring day patrols were conducted, the scouts also took part in our annual wet season fly camp anti-poaching program. All this is made possible with the generous funding we received from Painted Dog Conservation Inc and Perth Zoo.

During the wet season the park becomes largely inaccessible and safari bush camps close down resulting in an increase in poaching in remote areas. The fly camps act as a deterrent to poachers in these areas as the scouts patrol far from the base during long field patrols, covering a much wider area and allowing more chance to apprehend suspects. The fly camps consist of a temporary base camp, fully equipped with solar and radio communications. Eight scouts are deployed at a time and

operate on a rotational twenty day patrol period to ensure that the areas are well covered for the duration of the wet season. From the base camps, long patrols, short patrols and day patrols are conducted routinely and the scouts are available for rapid action responses in the area. The effectiveness of the scouts is also enhanced by the availability of canoes and motor boats for river crossings, enabling them to react to illegal activities on both sides of the Luangwa River.

Our four man Painted Dog anti-snaring team formed part of these groups and added to the success of the fly camps including the removal of a number of snares. In addition to these patrols, the Zambian Carnivore Team has regularly provided us with valuable GPS data that inform us of dog pack whereabouts enabling our team to scour these particular areas for snares.

From January to May 2011, 106 snares have been removed from the bush, 3 x 20 day fly camps have been conducted, 25 x day patrols and 2 x short patrols accomplished. Thankfully no Painted Dogs have been seen or reported with snares but the team have come across a few snared animals including this zebra which unfortunately we were too late to help, and a snared elephant which luckily we were able to immobilize, remove the snare and treat the wound.



Snared immobilized elephant.



Snared dead zebra.

Zebra's Dinner Event — 1 April 2011

On 1 April 2011, Painted Dog Conservation Inc hosted a Dinner event at Zebra's Steakhouse in Bicton. Over 70 guests were in attendance to hear John Lemon give an update on our recent activities and growth in Zambia, in addition to our support of a new project in Zimbabwe (see separate story) and also the exciting news that Sir Richard Branson now officially endorses PDC Inc! (see story in newsletter).

As always, Nicholas Duncan from SAVE Foundation entertained the crowd with his Auctioneering skills—over \$8,000 was raised on the night! In addition, all PDC Inc Life Members were presented with a bottle of wine to show our gratitude!

Thanks to all members and guests who attended and participated in the evening's activities!

Lowveld Wild Dog Project, South-east Zimbabwe

By Dr Rosemary Groom, African Wildlife Conservation Fund

In Early 2011 PDC Inc began supporting our fourth in-situ Painted Dog project, notably the Lowveld Wild Dog Project in South-East Zimbabwe. The project is lead by Dr Rosemary Groom, a Conservation Biologist with the African Wildlife Conservation Fund. To date PDC Inc has funded the development of educational materials, indigenous teacher stipend and teacher training workshops to be held in August 2011.

Rosemary has advised PDC Inc that the Zimbabwean primary school teacher we are supporting (Stanley) is an excellent asset! He is assisting with the development of the learning materials, and will also be assisting with the planned workshops. In addition, Rosemary has also had recent promising meetings with the local Ministry of Education and many of the local Primary School Head Teachers in the district, which was fantastic.

The Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA), which encompasses parts of Zimbabwe, Mozambique and South Africa, hosts globally significant populations of wild dogs. However, this fragile and enigmatic species is threatened in the Zimbabwean part of the GLTFCA, largely as a result of the Land Reform Program, which began in 2000.

Major threats include habitat loss and/or fragmentation, wire snaring, disease, prey depletion (through illegal and unsustainable bushmeat hunting as well as habitat loss), human persecution and competition with lions. Habitat loss has also caused a decline in genetic diversity and increasing genetic isolation of the population.

Lowveld Wild Dog Project

Having established and quantified the impact of the major threats to wild dog survival, this project aims to improve the conservation status of the wild dogs by mitigating these threats, through a combination of hands-on conservation work, policy intervention and education and outreach. Our overall goal is

To mitigate the major threats to wild dogs in the Zimbabwean

part of the GLTFCA, whilst promoting the effectiveness of the transfrontier park for the conservation of the endangered African wild dog.

Specific objectives include:

- Monitoring existing wild dog populations for information on survival rates and population dynamics
- Investigating levels of genetic diversity and connectivity between populations
- Holding vaccination campaigns in domestic dog populations to reduce the threat from disease
- Supporting and extending current anti poaching efforts to reduce wild dog deaths in snares
- Expanding environmental education and community outreach efforts
- Investigating and enhancing the effectiveness of the GLTFCA for wild dog conservation

Conservation consequences

This project will help to ensure the survival of the endangered African wild dog in the Zimbabwean part of the GLTFCA. Without such efforts, wild dogs will continue to decline through disease, snaring, persecution, habitat loss and natural inter-specific competition, and are very likely to become extirpated in all but the largest of the protected areas. Our vaccination campaigns and anti-poaching efforts will benefit conservation of all wildlife, and the establishment of long-term, sustainable environmental education programs will be of considerable benefit to conservation in the region for years to come.

Collaborators: Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, Savé Valley Conservancy, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Wildlife Veterinary Unit, University of Zimbabwe and Chishakwe Ranch.



School children doing a food-chain project



Rosemary de-snaring a wild dog



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Conservation through action and education

Find us on the Web
www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au
pdmembers@iinet.net.au

The Object of the Association is:

To advance conservation for the public benefit of the African Painted Dog, (also referred to as a Wild Dog) *Lycaon pictus*, through education promoting and disseminating research into such conservation and seeking to achieve their sustainable management.



Would You Like To Help?

Our supported projects do NOT receive any government funding and is wholly reliant on donations to continue its operations.

The key factor in retaining the workers from the local communities – both skilled and unskilled who are classed as staff – is to have sufficient funding available to pay them a reasonable wage.

Please consider a donation for the work to continue.

All donations received are put without deduction to the benefit of the African Painted Dog.

Here's What to Do

Forward a cheque or money order (within Australia) made payable to:

**Painted Dog Conservation Inc
C/- The Treasurer
Post Office Box 637
South Perth WA 6951**

Credit cards (Overseas and Australia): We can accept either Visa or Mastercard. Please tear off the slip below and forward to the Treasurer, whose address appears above.

Credit Card Transaction

Please note that PDC Inc does not recommend provision of credit card details via email, and will not request them.

Name:

Address:

Credit Card Type: Visa / Mastercard

Card Number.....Expiry Date.....

Name on Card.....

Amount:.....\$AUD / \$USD Signature:.....

Australian Residents: Donations or gifts over \$2.00 are tax deductible.