



From the Chairman

For me returning to Zimbabwe was a highlight and seeing all the work that I had only read about was inspirational. As well while there, there was a stream of individuals only too eager to help out on the project. I was also able to see where PDCInc could be of most use. I will expand on these people in the next newsletter.



In the last newsletter, I neglected to thank Bradley Trevor Greive and his charming partner for attending our function at Zebra's restaurant 30th March 2005. Also I would like to thank Nicholas Duncan for directing the evening which was organised by Jon Keates and his then marketing team.

The evening was a lot of fun for all of us.

Further, Bradley had come from a speaking engagement to join us and donated his fee to us. Thank you Bradley.

Colin Wallbank has left the Perth Zoo and now works for a real estate agency. Colin has kindly offered to donate a part of the fee to the association for any sales that are put his way.

Please contact Colin on 9495 4022 if

Perth Zoo—In-situ Conservation



For the second year running, John Lemon has been successful in being awarded a grant from Perth Zoo. Last year the monies provided by Perth Zoo helped with the purchase of much

you or you know anyone considering selling their property. This is a most generous offer by Colin.

Painted Dog Conservation Inc. has now been entered to the Register of Environmental Organisations which will now allow us to offer tax deductibility for any donation.

At the Committee meeting in October, we invited Helen Pittman to fill the vacancy left by Lyn Clune. Thanks Lyn! Helen brings many skills to the table and has worked for WWF.

Tim Clift, of Swell Graphic Design, (NSW) has donated his time and presented PDCInc with a logo which is used for the first time in this newsletter and is now on our website.

Over the past two years we have put out a good quality newsletter in colour, however the production cost has forced us to consider the format and delivery. In the last two newsletters we asked members to advise us of a preference to email the newsletter. The take up was not as expected so at the October committee meeting a vote was taken to offer the colour version by email only with a black and white print to be available by mail.

An invoice will be forwarded shortly for membership renewal and you will be requested to indicate your preference for the delivery of the newsletter as well as updating any of your membership details.

As 2005 draws to a close I should like to wish all members and the Committee a Happy and safe Christmas and an equally prosperous New year.

needed equipment for use by the Projects Anti - poaching team members. Details were in this years first newsletter.

Monies from this years grant are to be split between use for the Rehabilitation Centre and the rehabilitation of the resident dogs, (Release into the wild).

Thanks to Perth Zoo for their continuing commitment to the work of PDCInc.



Lycaon pictus "
African Painted Dog

◆ Special points of interest:

- ◆ The Association is formed for the betterment of the species.
- ◆ 75% of membership subscription is put towards the Dog. 25% is used for fundraising and news.
- ◆ 100% of donations and fundraising is put towards the Dog.
- ◆ No member gains financially from the Association.
- ◆ The membership will be notified through this newsletter or by email of merchandise offers.



Jon Keates presenting a plaque on behalf of PDCInc to Kathmandu Retail Manager, Megan Kennedy recognising their contribution over the last 2 years to the Project of clothing, distributed to staff and schoolchildren in Zimbabwe.

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The Project at Work

It is fitting that as we approach the end of 2005, we review some of the happenings of the Project which we support, since our registration as an organisation a little over two years ago.

Both John Lemon and Greg Gibbard visited the project at different times during 2005.

In John's case this was a culmination of the work that he had done over the past three years in getting the Projects Rehabilitation Facility operational.

In Greg's case, it was his first visit since work seriously started on the building of the Complex in 2002.

From past newsletters and information available on the web, you will know of the successful completion and implementation of the Children's Bush Camp, an educational experience provided free of charge to local schoolchildren in the Hwange area. The facility is also open to other schools within Zimbabwe and will eventually be made available on a fee basis for International schools.

The completion of the Rehabilitation Centre, fitting out and training of local staff by John and its almost immediate use in the treatment and recovery of a badly injured dog, snarling, which was called "Heritage" fully justified the commitment by all in its construction.

As well two pups, pictures in the last newsletter, were brought to the facility in very poor condition. These dogs had been so badly mistreated that they will spend their entire life in captivity.

John oversaw the transport and temporary release of four translocated dogs from the rehabilitation facility onto an island in Lake Kariba so they could hone their hunting skill



April 2005 - Four dogs collared and released on Starvation Is

October 2005 - These dogs have now been released into the Matusadona National Park

s and work as a pack should do. This was not without its problems, however for all involved it was a world first achievement and the dogs have, during October 2005, been recaptured and released into the wild into Matusadona National Park. All four dogs are collared.

The facility is currently being prepared for 21 dogs that have been deemed to be excess to the carrying population in the Pilansburg area of South Africa.

The Painted Dog Project gained approval for the transfer of these dogs to Zimbabwe and permits have been issued by the South African authorities. It is intended to use the same methods and reintroduction will probably be done in the Hwange area.

The Project now has two fully equipped and very successful anti-poaching teams with a third being considered. Funding, ongoing, is still being sought .

Painted Dog Conservation in Zimbabwe is a Registered Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO).

The project has eight vehicles that are in constant use and are badly in need of complete overhauls, if not replacement. While Greg was there it was not uncommon on any given day for three if not four vehicles in the workshop. All credit to Gilbert and to Hans for keeping the project running.

Signs for 2006 for the dogs is improving as while Greg was in Zimbabwe, there were plenty of spoor sightings in the National Park area and around the airport, with reports from Sinametella of 20+ dogs and the sighting of 17 dogs



September 2005 - Pack of 15 dogs including puppies located near Caterpillar dam.

October 2005 - Collars placed on two dogs by Greg Rasmussen at Makwa dam



*Conservation
through action
and education*

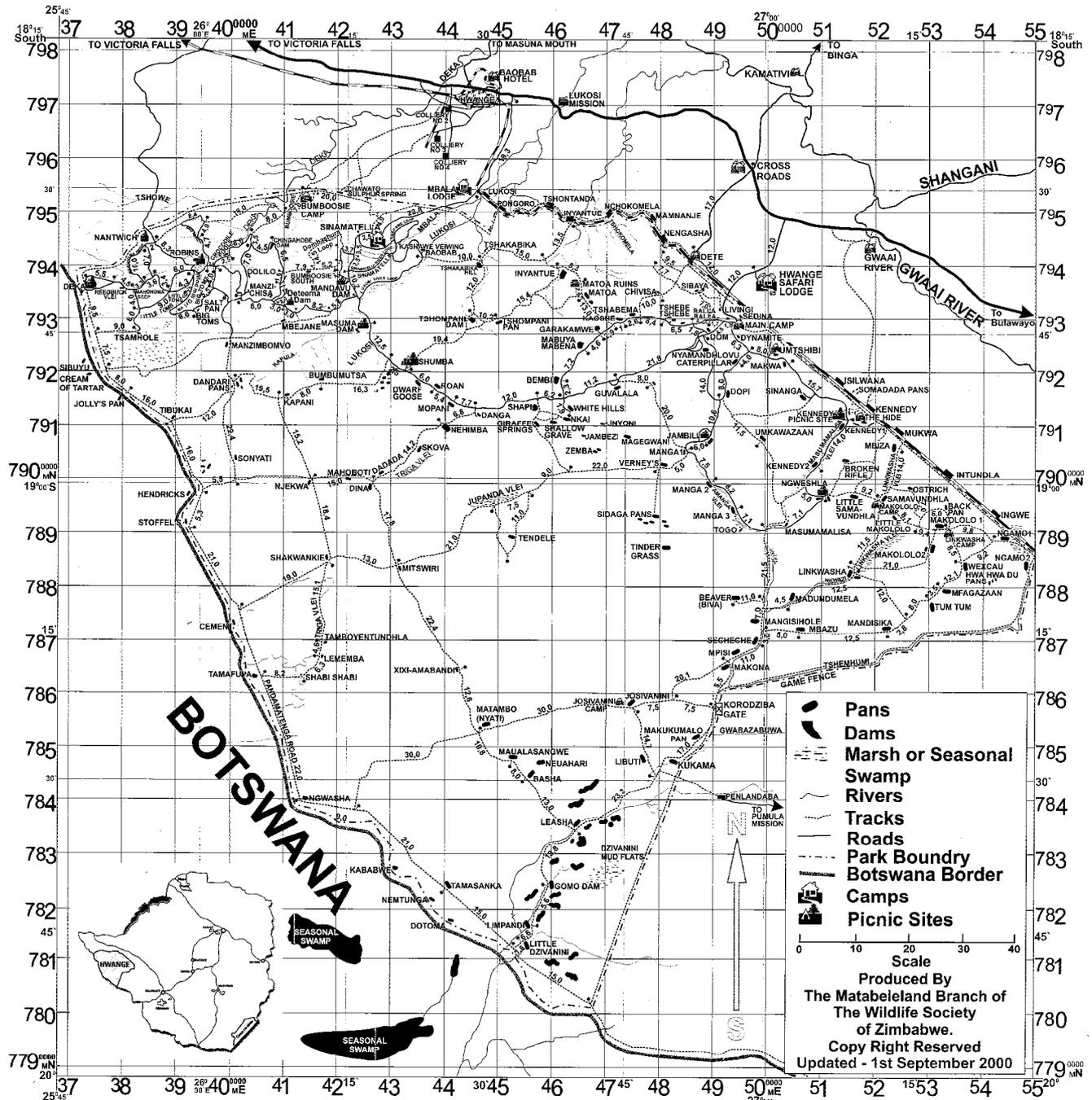


Hwange National Park Area Map

Last year in our third newsletter was a map and story about the study area of Hwange.

Apart from a select few, few of our members have been anywhere near the project, let alone Zimbabwe.

In many of our talks and correspondence including the two websites we have mentioned several place names that most of you have patiently listened to and acknowledged in your own way.



1999 - Dogs at Mana Pools

© GSA Rasmussen





Project—Zimbabwe Dogs 2005



© John Lemon

April 2005 Dog release Starvation Island

October 2005 These dogs have been rounded up and released into Matusadona National Park

November 2005 Sporadic sightings have been reported. All well.



© Martin Stierner

September 2005 Puppies (June 2005?)

October 2005 Adult members collared



© John Lemon



© Martin Stierner

Membership

Please welcome the following new members to our association:

Allan & Scela Glover (NSW), Western Plains Zoo, (WPZ) (F Cameron) (NSW), Ren'ee Bumpus, (Canada), Nyree-anne Terry (NT), Helen Pitman (WA), Livia McRee, (USA).

Members of note: (WPZ) is an

open plains Zoo in Dubbo and has dogs on display. Ren'ee Bumpus is the Head Keeper of Carnivores at the Mountain View Conservation & Breeding Centre in British Columbia.

Our membership for 2005 is 83 and includes 9 international members. Late applications from India (2) from visitors to the Project in July. More in the next newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.



Flame Lily - Zimbabwe's national wildflower



Feature—Other Wildlife—African Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*)



Classified as an endangered species, and listed in Appendix I (which includes species that are most threatened) of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Between 5,000 and 15,000 may remain in Africa.

The **Cheetah** is an atypical member of the cat family (Felidae) that hunts by speed rather than by stealth or pack tactics. It is the fastest of all terrestrial animals and can reach speeds of up to 100 km/h in short bursts.

It is not an aggressive animal, using flight versus fight. With its weak jaws and small teeth—the price it paid for speed, it cannot fight larger predators to protect its kills or young

Often mistaken for a leopard, the cheetahs distinguishing marks are the long teardrop-shaped lines on each side of the nose from the corner of its eyes to its mouth. The cheetah's coat is tan, or buff coloured, with black spots. There are no spots on its white belly, and the tail has spots that merge to form four to six dark rings at the end. The tail usually ends in a bushy white tuft

Distribution: Estimated in 1900, more than 100,000 cheetahs were found in at least 44 countries throughout Africa and Asia. Today the species is extinct from +20 countries and between 9,000 to 12,000 animals remain, found mostly in small-pocketed populations in 24 to 26 countries in Africa and +200 in Iran.

Free-ranging cheetahs still inhabit a broad section of Africa, including areas of North Africa, the Sahel, East Africa, and southern Africa. Viable populations may be found in less than half of the countries where cheetahs still exist. These declining populations mean that those cheetah which survive, come from a smaller, less diverse gene pool. Populations continue to decline from loss of habitat, decline of prey species, and conflict with livestock farming. Throughout Africa, cheetahs are not doing well in protected wildlife reserves due to increased competition from other larger predators, such as lion and hyenas, and most protected areas are unable to maintain viable cheetah populations. Therefore, a large percentage of the remaining cheetah populations are outside of protected reserves, placing them in greater conflict with humans. There are now only two remaining population strongholds: Namibia/Botswana in southern Africa, and Kenya/Tanzania in East Africa

Habitat: Savannah & dry forest areas.

Diet: In Africa, mainly middle sized antelope, Thomson's gazelle,

Puku and Impala, Springbok, Steenbok and Duiker. Also hares, and newborn gazelles which are flushed out while walking in the long grass.

Reproduction: Cheetah acquires sexual maturity in 20 to 24 months. Mating season is throughout the year. Kittens weigh from 150 to 300 g at birth. Unlike some other cats, cheetahs will be born with their characteristic spots and are also born with a downy underlying fur on their necks, extending to mid-back. This gives them a mane or mohawk type appearance, this fur is shed as the cheetahs mature. Death-rate is very high during the early weeks and up to 90% of the kittens are killed during this time.. They leave their mother between thirteen and twenty months after birth.

Predators: Lions, Hyenas, Leopard or even by eagles.

Other names: Jagluiper (Afrikaans), Ihlosi (Ndebele), Hlosi (Zulu)

Fast Facts:

Common Name: Cheetah
Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Carnivora
Family: Felidae
Genus: Acinonyx
Species: jubatus

Total Length 112 - 135cm Head - Body

Tail Length: 66 - 84cm

Shoulder Height Male 73 - 94cm
 Female 67 - 84cm

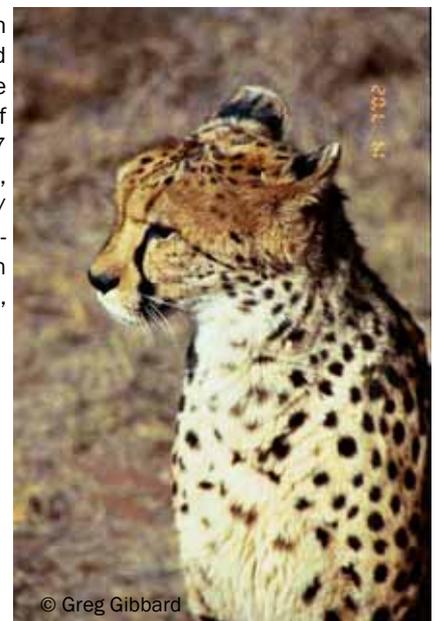
Weight 29 - 65kg
 Female 21 - 63kg

Gestation 90 - 98 days

Litter size: Up to 9, Avg 3 - 5

Longevity In the Wild - No more than 12 years
 Captivity - Up to 21 years

References: Cheetah Conservation Fund (www.cheetah.org), The New Encyclopaedia of Mammals p22 - 27 (David MacDonald), <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheetah>, The Complete Book of Southern African Mammals, p177, (Gus Mills, Lex Hes)



© Greg Gibbard



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*Conservation through action and
 education*

For the diary

- February 2006 :** Committee meeting
- March 2006:** Annual General Meeting - Perth Zoo 7pm
- April 2006:** Committee meeting
- All dates to be confirmed.

Would you like to help

The project in Zimbabwe does **NOT** receive any Government assistance 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 dog.

The objects of the Association are;

To advance conservation for the public benefit of the African Painted Hunting 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.

FIND US ON THE WEB

WWW.PAINTEDDOGCONSERVATION.IINET.NET.AU

EMAIL

PDCINC@IINET.NET.AU

Late news

October 2005 - Project website has moved to:
<http://www.painteddog.org>

3 November 2005 - PDCInc is registered on the Register of Environmental Organisations and can now issue Tax deductible receipts for Donations or Gifts.

We have some snare art and other items for sale. Made by artisans at the Arts and Craft centre in Zimbabwe. Please check the website for details.

Here's what to do

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

"Painted Dog Conservation Inc."
 C/- The Secretary
 10 Blackboy Way
 Morangup WA 6083

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

Credit card transaction (Please note that PDCInc does not recommend provision of credit details by email, and it will not be requested by PDCInc)

Please photocopy or cut along the line below and mail to the Secretary, address details above.

Thank you for your generous donation

**Circle card Visa / MasterCard Payment

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: ____/____ (mm/yy)

Name on Card: _____ **Block Letters only

Amount: \$ _____ : _____ \$AUD / \$USD **Circle Currency Signature _____
 **Other Currency Please specify

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

The Painted Dog Conservation Incorporated Public Fund is a public fund listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations under item 6.1.1 of subsection 30-55(1) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997

