

# Painted Dog Conservation Inc

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Chairman – John Lemon | Vice Chairman/Secretary – Angela Lemon | Treasurer – Carol Shannon

Patrons: Tony Park, Bradley Trevor Greive and Simon Reeve

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Written and edited by John Lemon, Angela Lemon and Daniel Scarparolo



## From the Chairman

The year so far can be described as one of triumph and tragedy. The brutal murder of our co-founder and former Chairman Greg Gibbard has deeply affected all who knew him and something that will stay with me for life. To receive an email from him less than 12 hours before he was senselessly taken from us with the words "I am so proud of what you have achieved" engrained in my heart and mind.

And we have done him proud with our efforts in fundraising, field conservation and education, along with building our non-profit to expectations far behind our imagination some 12 years ago.

The year began with a great fundraising evening with Dr Tammie Matson in February followed by the very first PDC Inc. Safari in June. At the completion of the safari we held functions with Kevin Richardson "The Lion Whisperer" in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne with resounding success. Our thanks go out to everyone who has supported our fundraising activities and those including artist and photographers who donated items for our auctions.

Thanks also to those who supported our colleagues and ourselves through the loss of Greg and the continued support of donors including Perth Zoo, Air Mauritius, Monarto Zoo, Save the African Rhino Foundation, Human Society

International, Kevin Richardson and Kim and Geoff Hoddy. As always, thanks to Dan Scarparolo for helping with the production of our newsletters and function flyers. In addition, we would like to make special mention of Scott McCall of Westcare Incorporated for donating the printing of our latest membership flyers and "With Comp" slips. A big thank you to Pam Goldfarb for her amazing support and assistance with the widespread promotion of our recent Kevin Richardson fundraising events and online auctions, which has made a real difference to our capacity to support our field projects.

To our members and Life Members, thanks for the continued support and welcome to new Life Members Samantha Hordern, Gillian Shave, Denise Rado-Lynch, Jeff Lynch, Roslyn Mitchell and Hector and Sandy Lamb.

We will be holding our AGM on 13 October with details to follow. In addition, we are arranging details for our second PDC Inc. Safari to Zambia for 2016. If interested please contact me on [lemonj@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lemonj@ozemail.com.au).

To our committee, thanks for all that you do. Until next time may Africa's Painted Dog stay safe and prosper.

John Lemon  
Chairman PDC Inc.



## Vale Gregory Gibbard

On 7 April 2015 co-founder and former Chairman Greg Gibbard was brutally murdered at Painted Dog Conservation (PDC) Headquarters in Hwange Zimbabwe. The perpetrator, a former PDC employee, has been arrested and charged with the murder.

The pain of the loss that we are all still coming to grips with had some closure with a beautiful Service in Bulawayo Zimbabwe on 15 April followed by one in Perth on 29 April.

Our sincere condolences went out to Greg's family, friends and colleagues.

Our gratitude to Peter Blinston, Executive Director of Painted Dog Conservation, for organising the memorial in Zimbabwe and along with Last Marozhe (PDC Mechanic and Greg's best friend at the project) for returning Greg's ashes home.

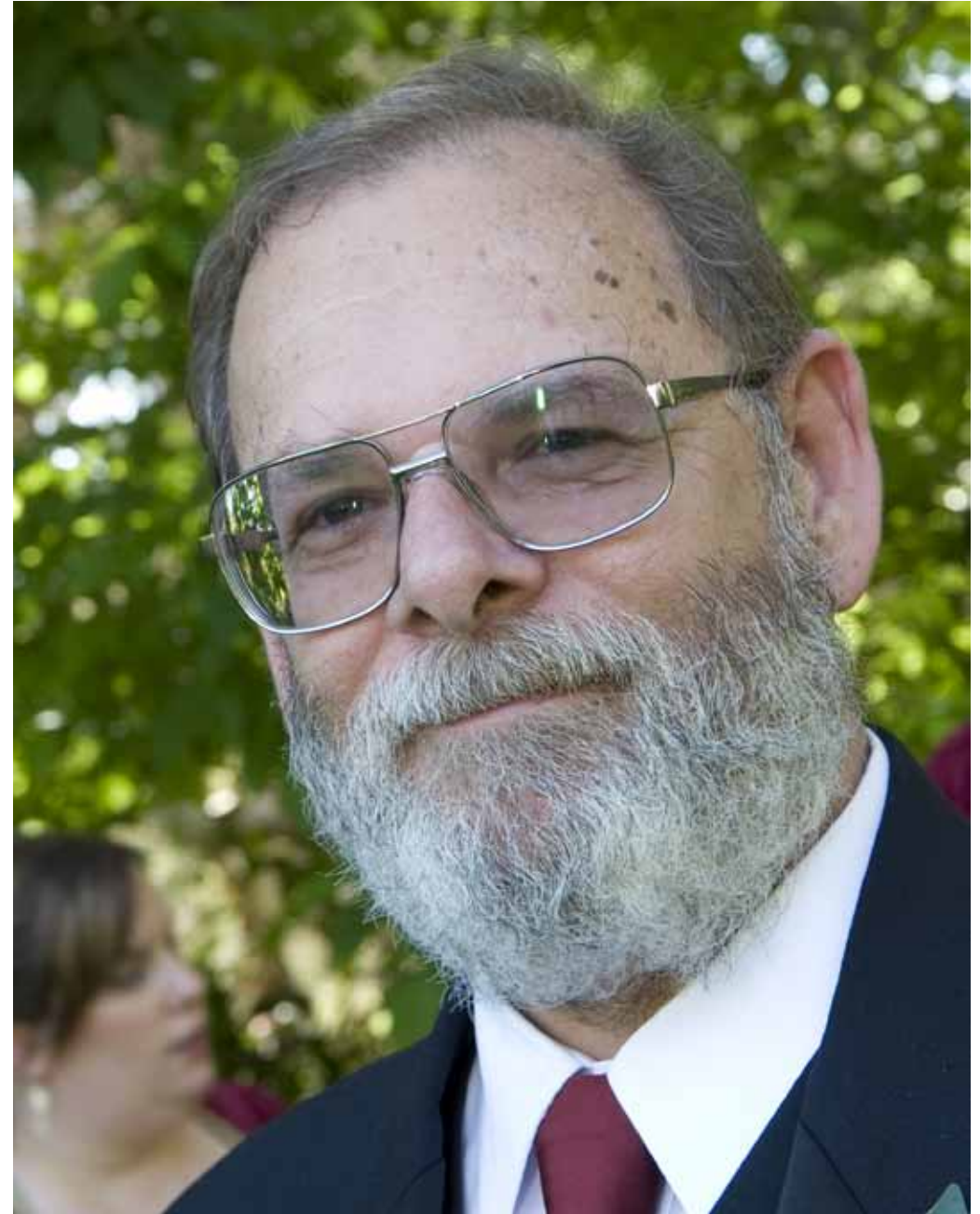
Greg will be remembered for his kindness, gratitude and his infectious laugh. He was hard working and committed and never one to let you down. He had a love for Africa, its people and the animals and most of all our beloved Painted Dogs.

My dear friend you will be sadly missed. I hope we meet again to share a beer and laugh and look down on what we have achieved.

Rest in Peace.



*Peter Blinston, Last Marozhe and John Lemon at Greg's Perth Memorial.*





## PDC Inc.'s First African Safari by John Lemon



On 1 June 2015 I led PDC Inc's first African Safari to escort 10 paying guests to explore the South Luangwa Valley and the projects that we support plus a visit to one of the natural Seven Wonders of the World, Victoria Falls.

We stayed at Kafunta River Lodge, a classic Zambian Safari Lodge that combines all the essentials for a great Safari. Consisting of eight private safari chalets built on raised wooden platforms with thatched rooves, Kafunta has access to a pontoon five minutes from the lodge that takes you into the more remote areas of South Luangwa National Park, giving access to extraordinarily good wildlife encounters.

Our days, though busy, were jam packed with outstanding wildlife viewing with sightings of dogs and lion daily. We spent time in the field with Dr Matt Becker and Jonathon Merkle

from Zambian Carnivore Programme, Rachel McRobb from South Luangwa Conservation Society, Anna Tolan and Emma Still from Chipembele Education Trust, visits to community development projects Mulberry Mongoose Jewellery and Tribal Textiles and tours through the local village.

Travelling onto Livingstone we stayed at the Zambezi Sun Hotel, located on the edge of the eastern cataract of the Victoria Falls. Between gazing at the Falls we spread our time between helicopter flights over the falls, walking to Zimbabwe to shop in the market place and dine at the Victoria Falls Hotel, dining on the majestic Royal Livingstone Express and at the Royal Livingstone Hotel.

After travelling and working in Africa for over 16 years, the game viewing and activities were of

the highest order. I would like to thank Anke and Ron Cowan from Kafunta for their hospitality and generosity (reducing costs to enable this to happen!), Wayne Hamilton and Soula Burgess from Swagman Tours for putting together the Safari and taking bookings, Matt, Jonathon, Rachel, Anna and Emma for your time to share your work and passion with my guests. And of course to my guests, thank you for your support and making this such an enjoyable trip.

On our return Wayne Hamilton, Swagman Tours Director, donated \$8000 from the ticket prices that have been distributed to the projects we support.

We are now planning next year's Safari so stayed tuned for dates!



## Painted Dog Tour of Zambia by Peter Cliff, PDC Inc. Life Member

Setting off from Perth for 13 days in June this year, I was honoured to be among 11 people who had the privilege to be on the first Painted Dog Conservation Inc. tour of Zambia, hosted by our chairman John Lemon. The tour included visits to PDC Inc. supported projects, the Zambian Carnivore Programme, South Luangwa Conservation Society and Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust.

After a few flights we finally made it to Kafunta River Lodge near Mfuwe in the South Luangwa Valley. The lodge is situated just outside the South Luangwa National Park in a perfect spot next to a permanent waterhole off the Luangwa River. Arriving at night we were unable to see just what was in store for us. The next morning, awoken by the grunting of hippos, we were greeted by a magnificent view over the flood plain. The decking in the main area where we ate our breakfast and dinner made for great game viewing, which is exceptional in this area.

The morning game drive negotiated the nearby pontoon crossing over the Luangwa River (which would never meet any sort of safety standard in Australia or the western world but worked fabulously) and within the first hour were greeted by sightings of lions, elephant, giraffe, puku, impala and a variety of abundant birdlife. This pretty much set the standard for the next week.

On next morning's game drive we were joined by Zambian Carnivore Programme's Luangwa Project Manager Johnathan Merkle. There are a number of Painted Dog packs in the area and

several have had radio tracking collars fitted. With Jonathan driving a 4x4 and John sitting on a roof rack above the vehicle with antenna in hand, we were able to track and locate two different packs in the park and nearby game management area with some good sightings. Our first visit to one of PDC Inc's supported projects found us on the banks of the Luangwa

River at the base camp of the Zambian Carnivore Programme, where we were greeted by the CEO Dr Matt Becker.

Matt and staff showed us the running of the programme, staff quarters, kitchen, office and around the base camp. A very keen and proud storeman showed us his shipping container (also supplied by PDC Inc.) full of spare parts for the





vehicles which cop a fair bashing in the bush.

Next day Matt took to the air in a Cessna which ZCP now have at their disposal. He was able to locate a pack of 14 dogs and a female lion with her two cubs that had been collared. Later in the day we had some exceptional viewing watching the dogs rise from their afternoon slumber and start to play in the slightly cooler late afternoon.

A visit to the South Luangwa Conservation Society found us right in the centre of Mfuwe. We were given a warm welcome by Rachael McRobb who is now running the South Luangwa anti-poaching patrols of the park. Rachael gave an excellent presentation which really cemented the importance of their role and the fantastic work being done.

We saw one group of scouts about to go out on patrol, AK47 in hand, showed they meant business. Rachael advised us that without this valuable local resource, poaching would be rampant and would move into the park in force and virtually decimate the wildlife area. SLCS work in combination with the Zambian Wildlife Authority ZAWA and do an excellent job in deterring poaching and rescuing wildlife from snare wire which is fast becoming a serious threat to Africa's wildlife.

A trip to the local Mfuwe Chipembele office in Mfuwe saw us back to the school room with a presentation done by Henry from ZCP with feedback given by the students on a survey they completed with local people on animal man conflict in the area. We were shown around by Eunice who was very informative and passionate about her role.



A morning game drive saw one vehicle privileged to witness the pack of 14 dogs just after an impala kill. The pups were seen to zealously devour their breakfast, and then run around cleaning and grooming themselves. The adults were keen for another kill as impala were still close by but with all the chirping and noise made by the pups only a half-hearted attempt was made.

On our visit to Chipembele we were greeted by director Anna Tolan and Emma Still (from

Adelaide) who is acting Conservation Education Manager. Anna's husband and co-director Steve was away on another archaeological dig somewhere in Zambia adding to his already extensive collection of antiques.

Anna openly welcomed us into her home showing off her own little rehabilitation facility with orphaned baby baboons and vervet monkeys. We headed to the education centre when Anna gave an excellent talk on Chipembele and the education that they are

providing to the local children on wildlife protection.

The facility here is first class and would give some organisations at home a run for their money on the quality of the displays. Two students from Chipembele have already gone on to complete university degrees and have returned to the Valley with important skills to pass on and have become mentors for other children to aspire to.

Saturday we took a day trip to the salt springs in the Nsefu sector of the park. This rarely visited area is a wildlife haven with the valley being continuously supplied with water from an underground hot aquifer. We had an interesting lunch near some large trees where several hundred cranes had taken up residence and were nesting, a spectacular sight.

After our morning game drive a visit to Mulberry mongoose (on the way to Kafunta) showed us the good work being done employing local people showing off their talent and imagination making jewellery items from snare wire. Purchases were made of earrings, necklaces and bracelets and other items.

After seven magnificent days and nights spent at Kafunta River Lodge, numerous game drives, sightings of various wildlife and our beloved painted dogs, visits to PDC supported projects, a few very rowdy nights spent around the camp fire with various alcoholic beverages being consumed, sometimes in great quantities.

Our tour of the valley had to come to an end. On our final morning after an early breakfast

and a farewell to the staff at Kafunta we headed to Mfuwe airport but not before a quick stop at tribal textiles shop and factory. Staff showed us around the outdoor facility which employs about 50 people from the local area. This gave all an opportunity to empty their wallets even further with numerous items purchased.

A short flight saw us land in Livingstone and spend the final two days at the Zambezi Sun Hotel. Being right on the doorstep of the magnificent Victoria Falls this was a great way to finish the tour.

With exceptional viewings of the falls and a trip over the border to Victoria Falls town and the Victoria Falls Hotel, some last minute purchases of carved wood trophies were made to bring home.

Finally if there is one thing this tour has done it has left me wanting more, to become more involved, to contribute, to make a difference, to help wildlife and the Painted Dogs' plight even further and to get on the ground and get my hands dirty in this beautiful area that is so far largely unspoilt.

Zambia so far has been largely overlooked by the majority of tourists (thank god, no religious pun intended) but is slowly opening up. Hopefully it will not become another Kenya with mass tourism.

If the real Africa is what you desire or wish to see, this is it, full stop! The local people are so friendly and quick with a huge smile and a wave, something that seems to have been lost in Australia, even in a lot of country towns.

As a group I want to express our sincere gratitude to the following organisations that showed us what they do to educate local people and improve and make aware of the plight of wildlife in the magnificent area of the South Luangwa National Park and valley. PCD supported projects Zambian Carnivore Programme, South Luangwa Conservation Society and Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust. Thanks to PDC Inc. and Wayne Hamilton of Swagman Tours for all the organisation for making this a reality (I know a lot of work went into it).

A big thank you to Anke and Ron Cowan of Kafunta River lodge who also without their support this tour would not have come to fruition and we would have had no where to stay. Excellent camp, highly recommended! The hospitably shown by the staff was outstanding and all appeared to enjoy our company. I will miss the bees at breakfast!

And finally a special thank you goes to the chairman John Lemon. Without his enthusiasm and passion this tour would not have been the success it was. John put in extra effort and took us to places that everyday tourists would not see and made sure we got the full experience and saw what really happens with the contributions made by PDC Inc. And it IS making a difference. I don't think anyone came away from this tour without being changed in some way and becoming a conservationist. Thanks again John, you were great. Looking forward to the next one!

## PDC Inc. on Tour by Kerryn Chewe

Eleven excited holiday-makers travelled from various parts of Australia to join John Lemon's first Painted Dog Conservation Inc. Tour, departing from Perth on 1 June. John and Angela had created an interesting and educational itinerary for us, which started at a fast pace from Day 1. After a long journey from the land-down-under to remote Mfuwe in the South Luangwa Valley of Zambia was finally complete, we were warmly welcomed at Kafunta River Lodge. A few cold drinks went down well, which was a healthy beginning to what was the first of many social evenings around the camp fire.

The tour was spent at a hectic pace, with so much to see, hear, smell and learn. John's passion for the area and the wild life was contagious and we soaked up his words as we bumped around in the jeep in search of action.

The lucky eleven of us had a fantastic viewing of three beautiful lionesses resting in the shade on our first game drive, and the South Luangwa Valley just kept on giving. Our first night drive we saw the same lionesses hunting. One was just about close enough to touch. We sat, perfectly still, wide-eyed, hearts beating fast, as they cruised by the jeep without seeming to notice us. Our Zambian guides, the very popular, Abel and Pius, were alert to the language of the jungle and we felt in capable hands at all times.

John's beloved painted dogs were high on our 'have to see' priority list and all stumps were pulled to find them. Matt, the CEO of the Zambian Carnivore Programme, was flying high

in search of the dogs. We had three enthusiastic trackers, with antennas held high and eyes on the ground, looking and listening for any sign of the previously collared dogs. Our trackers, Henry, a local ZCP employee and biology student, Johnathan, a ZCP field worker and of course, our 'own' John, finally got a blip on the radar and we weaved and bounced our way through the bush, to see a pack of nine painted dogs resting in the shade in the heat of the day. We were in awe of their individual colours and photos were being snapped off at a great rate. We were lucky enough to come across a different

pack of 14 painted dogs over the next few days and saw them snoozing in the shade one day, then the next day after a kill (their coats stained red with blood and bellies bloated) and playing and yipping with each other. We were close enough to hear them crunching and smell their feral, doggy scent. My No 1 experience though, seeing them hunt. Such strategy – what a team they were, spreading out to cover so much ground on the river bank chasing a bush buck. The hunt was unsuccessful, but this was just after they had eaten and apparently they weren't 'serious' about a kill.







The ten days we spent at Kafunta Lodge started at 5.30am with a wake-up knock on the door, a quick breakfast and then off on safari. Back for lunch and a quick swim and spa, or a rest and relax, and then off on safari again at 3.30pm, which included 'sundowners'. (Ah a cold gin & tonic watching the African sun set - pretty awesome). The afternoon drives turned into night drives and we spotted mongoose, genet, civet, hares, leopards, hyenas, bushbabies and many more hippos out grazing in the cool of the evening.

We had many experiences seeing families of elephant, cape buffalo, warthog, zebra, giraffe, lion, kudu, wildebeest and more. The bird

life was also stunning, with my favourite the redbilled hornbill and lilac breasted roller...oh and the colourful guinea fowl.

If you're planning a trip to Zambia, I highly recommend Kafunta Lodge. The 'entertainment', dining, swimming, camp fire area, and our chalet's verandas, overlooked a wet land and large floodplain, where hippos munched and snorted, crocs sun bathed, giraffe and elephant came to drink, baboon families just hung out, and a resident African sea eagle watched all. And of course, there was always present the 'fast-food' of Africa, impalas and bush bucks.

John's itinerary was so much more than 'just'

wildlife. We were fortunate to visit the South Luangwa Conservation Society and meet the Remarkable Rachel McRobb, Benson and the team. To hear about their work and the challenges the rangers face in conserving the precious park and wild life was awe-inspiring, but also a bit grim to hear of the poaching of elephants and lion for an unfathomably overseas market, and of the painted dogs who get caught in the snares set for bush meat and are left with horrible injuries.

I quickly gained an appreciation of the importance of PDC's fund raising to support this vital organisation and in John's own words "it doesn't stop just 'cause you can't see it". So I think about this often now from the comforts of home in our first world.

I loved our visit to the local secondary school and sitting in on Henry's 'Conservation Club', which is made up of students from Year 7 to 12 participating in extra school curricula, learning about the importance of conservation in their precious Valley. The students were enthusiastic and just gorgeous (as was their teacher).

Another inspiring visit was to Chipembele Education Trust. Anna and Steve, the trust founders, and Emma, the education manager and resident artist, proudly showed us around the centre and we were all in great admiration of the job they have done setting up this charitable trust to support local Zambian communities. Students from six local schools participate in outreach programmes with fun activities, lessons and field excursions, all with a view to expanding their knowledge and respect





of conservation and the benefits it will bring their communities and future. Many of us had 'packed with purpose' and left here with a deep feeling of satisfaction, leaving the centre with packets of new pens, pencils and much more. John also took us to Mulberry Mongoose, a local manufacturer of jewellery, where they make use of recycled snare wire, and donate part of the profits to conservation work in the Valley. We saw local artists making jewellery from local products and were immediately in shopping heaven. We all lined up with our purchases and the Mulberry

Mongoose cash register was bustling 'ka-ching', another beautiful and individual piece was coming home to Oz. Oh, and we were helping to save the painted dogs to boot! Oh, and we (ten women, one man!) were on holidays and hadn't been to any shops for six days! A similar experience was at Tribal Textiles – a local company, employing local people, using local products and drawing inspiration for their pieces from the stunning Luangwa Valley....'ka-ching'!

We departed Kafunta after ten days of action, education and fun (the bar at the Lodge also

had the cash register zinging!) All our senses had been touched by this wonderful Valley and the inspirational people who love and support its future. Especially 'our' John Lemon. Anyone reading this article, I say 'Just Go There'. And if you can go on a John Lemon Tour - all the better. And maybe Angela will make it to the next one, so even better still!

The last couple of days were spent at Livingstone, witnessing and being drenched by, one of the seven wonders of the natural world, Victoria Falls. Fantastic.

Some of us also ventured on a day trip to Zimbabwe, led across the border, over the Zambezi River into 'Zim'. Once again we were all very thankful for our capable and caring guide, John Lemon. It was pretty full on, with locals keen to exchange our US dollars for their goods. John had quite a bit of the local lingo and kept the sellers at bay, telling them to leave all of his 'wives' alone... "they have plenty". He said other stuff in Zim too, but perhaps it was just as well we couldn't understand it!

We farewelled each other with a sunset cruise on the Zambezi, and then dinner and drinks at the beautiful and historic Royal Livingstone Hotel. The majority of the group had become firm friends by this stage and have plans for a reunion in the future. A hearty toast was made to our much loved guide and friend, John Lemon, who could not have done more to ensure we had the best trip possible.

I could write so much more...but as the saying goes..."what happens in Africa...."

## Two New Project Vehicles

Keeping vehicles functional during the arduous field season's, year in and year out, is challenging to say the least. New fleet vehicles can be expensive in Africa and as life goes you get what you pay for.

In saying this, after a successful fundraising tour with Kevin Richardson, I set out to find vehicles that would fit the purpose. After serving the Australian Army and having fantastic mechanical service records I looked at the Land Rover Perenties as the answer.

The Land Rover Perentie is a nickname for the Land Rover 110 produced by JRA Limited for the Australian Army, and part manufactured and assembled in Moorebank, New South Wales, during the 1980s and 1990s. The Perentie was based on the Land Rover Defender 110, and was introduced in 1987 to replace the ageing fleet of Series 2A and 3 Land Rovers. The Land Rover Perenties were produced in 4x4 and 6x6 variants and powered by an Isuzu 3.9-litre four-cylinder



4BD1 diesel engine or 4BD1-T turbo and has proven itself both in Australia and on operations overseas, including in Somalia, Timor Leste, the Solomon Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The major differences between the Land Rover Perentie and British Land Rovers include a widened rear chassis due to the relocation of the spare wheel to a position under the rear of the load area, a galvanised chassis and the Isuzu engine, which was also commonly used in the 1980s on Australian-built long-wheelbase civilian versions of the Series and Defender Land Rovers. The 6x6 version has a wider cab and load sharing leaf-sprung rear axles. The 6x6 also has a turbocharger. The original order was for 2,500 4x4 and 400 6x6 vehicles between 1987 and 1990, while further vehicles were later added under Project Bushranger.

The name Perentie originates from Land Rover's successful tender to Project Perentie, which was the official Australian Army trial to select new 1 and 2-tonne light vehicles. During the Project Perentie trials the Land Rover/Isuzu 110 and 6x6 variants were compared against the Jeep AM10, the Mercedes-Benz 300GD and the Unimog, while the Toyota Landcruiser was evaluated two years later. The origin of the name comes from the Perentie (*Varanus giganteus*) lizard species, which is the largest lizard native to Australia.

Stay tuned for the African Field test after their Indian Ocean and road transport to the Dark Continent.

## Dogs and Drones



A generous donor who regularly supported PDC Inc. and many of our projects (and wishes to continue to stay anonymous) recently provided us with a professional quality drone to utilise in the field and achieve aerial shots of the field work we undertake.

DJI has cornered the consumer drone market by making its products accessible and easy to use. Despite the "Professional" name, the Phantom 3 is a 4K video drone that's perfect for the masses.

The Professional is the first Phantom to shoot in ultra HD, which widens its appeal to videographers and budding creative types who want eyeball-slicing sharp footage.

Its 1080p is smooth and sharp while the 4k footage is astonishingly crisp, detailed and rich. We hope to trial it in the field by the end of the year so stay tuned for some awesome shots and possibly a Hollywood blockbuster!

Thanks again to our donor who we will just call George!



## South Luangwa Conservation Society Update by Rachel McRobb

We had two fantastic PDC related visits in June, one from John Lemon and a PDC Inc tour group and one from PDC Inc. Patron Simon Reeves. It was a pleasure presenting our work to them and spending long overdue time with John. Thank you both for coming out to Luangwa.

We are also thrilled that PDC Inc has continued to fund SLCS and has pledged three years funding financed by Perth Zoo for our Painted dog anti-snaring team and aircraft support, both of which are invaluable to our work here.

As the park dries out, snaring increases and this year we've already combined forces with ZCP on a number of occasions to de-snare painted dogs.

Using valuable aerial tracking with our joint conservation and research aircraft, ZCP have been able to closely monitor all Painted dog packs from both the air and subsequently with ground follow ups ensuring that any snared individuals can be attended to immediately.

Our wildlife veterinarian, Dr Sichande recently immobilized a snared painted dog that if left any longer would probably not have survived. The snare was on her waist and had cut through her abdomen but luckily it had not severed any of her internal organs. Recent sightings by ZCP shows she is making progress and recovering well. Anti-snaring teams were immediately sent in to the general area to sweep through for snares.



# Zambian Carnivore Programme Update by Matt Becker

Dear PDC Inc. Supporters,

*As you know the Zambian Carnivore Programme's work has relied heavily on the support and generosity of PDC Inc. throughout our existence. At this writing however we're running out of superlatives to describe PDC Inc's contributions to conservation of Zambia's wildlife and wild places. Each year's contributions exceed the previous years, enabling us to continue to strengthen the impacts of our work. Funding for our operations is a continual challenge and is never easy, and we entered the 2015 season in a definite financial bottleneck. But as we near the start of the hot dry season in Zambia, and the height of our work, we are yet again bolstered by another amazing influx of PDC Inc. support that keeps our work going. We are collectively overwhelmed by the support and hope we can continue to translate it into on the ground conservation impacts for Zambia's carnivores, prey, habitat and the wildlife-based economies that depend on them. Once again on behalf of everyone, thank you!*

Matt Becker



## John and PDC Inc. Supporters Come to the Luangwa

In early June 2015 we welcomed John Lemon and a large group of PDC Inc supporters to the Luangwa for nearly a week's safari in the valley, with of course a special focus on the dogs. And the dogs did not disappoint, as we were treated to great sightings every day, with a total of 4 packs making themselves available for the visit. It was a great opportunity for the PDC Inc crew to see firsthand the spectacular wildlife of Zambia, its dogs, and the collaborative work between ZCP, SLCS, and CWET that is supported by PDC Inc. and we hope to make it an annual event.

## PDC Inc. Patron Simon Reeve and family come to the Luangwa

Making June the PDC Inc visit month, we were also fortunate in to meet PDC Inc Patron Simon Reeve and his family as they stayed at The Bushcamp Company's Mfuwe Lodge and Kapamba Bushcamp. Simon of course wanted to

see Painted dogs in particular during his stay, and was treated to a spectacular kill by one of three of the resident packs in the Bushcamp Company's area, as the 14 dogs of the Manzi pack brought down a puku ram in front of the vehicle.

## Conservation Biologist Training

For many aspiring conservation biologists in Zambian universities, gaining field experience on projects is very challenging given the lack of opportunities; as a result most students complete degrees and rarely have the field experience to complement their educational training and make them competitive for biologist positions. Consequently in 2014 we expanded our university internship programme into a Conservation Biologist Training Programme to address this gap and allow ZCP to implement a comprehensive training programme for recently graduated university students designed to provide them the skills and experience to work as a conservation biologist before employing them full-time on ZCP field projects. This work has been highly successful





and funding from PDC Inc. in 2015 makes it possible for ZCP to continue to train and employ an entirely new cohort of aspiring conservation biologists from Zambia's new graduates.

### **Aerial Support, De-snaring and Zambian Wildlife Vets**

With the threat of snaring across all ecosystems in 2016 we employed Dr. Kambwiri Banda in Kafue and Liuwa to assist with all these operations. PDC Inc. provided critical support for Dr. Banda's employment and already it has paid dividends in enabling ZCP crews to effectively track, find and de-snare Painted dogs and other species. Within his first month of work in Kafue Dr. Banda de-snared wild dogs and darted an array of other species in both Kafue and Liuwa.

Aerial support for ZCP again proved invaluable in our work, particularly in the Luangwa where despite 10% of the dogs in our study population getting snared in 2015 we were able



*A snared dog in Kafue National Park darted and treated by Dr. Banda*

to successfully follow packs and de-snare them if needed. One of the largest packs in the study area and the one providing the most dispersing dogs into new packs, the Hot Springs Pack, had 60% of its dogs snared in 2014 but is alive and well at this writing thanks to the collaborative efforts of ZCP, SLCS, ZAWA and PDC Inc.

### **Scientific Papers—ZCP contributes to new paper on developing fencing policies in dryland systems**

A recent resurgence in calls for more fences has resulted in an array of work by ZCP to demonstrate that little is still known about the impacts of fencing on wildlife, people and ecosystems. Following our 2013 paper demonstrating that more lions are conserved in unfenced ecosystems at a smaller cost than fenced ecosystems, without the harmful effects of fencing (Creel et al 2013, Conserving Large Populations of Lions: The Case for Fencing



*SLCS/ZCP vet Dr. Mwamba Sichande and ZCP Luangwa Project Manager Johnathan Merkle de-snare a Painted dog.*

Has Holes), we assisted in the publication of a scientific paper on fencing guidelines for dryland ecosystems (Durant et al. 2015, Developing Fencing Policies for Dryland Ecosystems).

The paper, authored by a wide array of scientists and managers across Africa, provided a framework and research agenda to address



*De-snaring a lioness after tracking her pride for a month over some of Luangwa's most remote and rugged terrain.*



*An all-Mfuwe team: Henry Mwape (L), Dr. Kambwiri Banda (C), and Stanley Mwanza collaring a hyena in Liuwa.*

knowledge gaps and better evaluate the impacts of large-scale fencing. Six research areas were identified that are key to informing evaluations of fencing initiatives: economics; edge permeability; reserve design; connectivity; ecosystem services; and communities. All ecosystems can potentially be threatened by the negative impacts of fencing, but dryland ecosystems are especially vulnerable given the need for mobility of wildlife and people to respond to unpredictable rainfall patterns, which will likely be heavily influenced by climate change. Given the increasing awareness of the threats posed by large scale fencing, our research agenda was welcomed by the Secretariat of the Convention of Migratory Species (CMS). The CMS is international convention charged with protecting migratory species, signed in recognition that wildlife does not adhere to national and political boundaries and international cooperation is required for conservation. Our paper prompted the Scientific Council of CMS to propose the formation of a Working Group on "Fencing problems and policies in dryland ecosystems," comprised of scientific advisors, representatives of UNCCD and World Heritage Conventions' scientific bodies, as well as scientists active in the field. The Working Group will utilize our suggested framework to catalogue problems and solutions regarding fencing interventions and agree on a set of recommendations, which can eventually be adopted by the Conferences of the Parties of the respective conventions, where appropriate. If our proposed research agenda and framework is addressed, through the support of CMS and

others, the resulting evidence base will enable better evaluation of fencing interventions and facilitate wise decision-making.

### **Leopards and Land Rovers**

A relatively new initiative for ZCP's Luangwa work was the expansion into leopard work in 2012. Despite being known as the "Valley of the Leopard," virtually nothing is known about leopard populations in the area and they have been trophy hunted for decades prior to a 2013-2014 moratorium. From intensive camera trapping efforts from 2012-2014 we completed analyses and submitted a scientific paper entitled "Estimating Leopard Density Across a Protected Area Gradient." Led by long-time ZCP researcher and Montana State University graduate student Elias Rosenblatt, the study looked at the density and survival of leopards in South Luangwa National park's core safari area and compared it to an area across the Luangwa in Upper Lupande GMA and bordering Nsefu sector. Despite similar



survival rates, leopard density was 71% lower on the GMA side, likely due to prey depletion from snaring and other poaching. Additional analyses of human and ecological factors influencing herbivore density and distribution are currently underway to further address the growing threats to ecological networks in Zambia. These data were provided to the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) to accompany joint recommendations on leopard hunting (given leopard hunting began again in 2015). Leopard work will continue to also evaluate the impacts of trophy hunting on populations in the study area.

As with all field work this project relied heavily on our fleet of field vehicles, as well as the parts, service and repair work that PDC Inc. has funded. Support for field vehicles continues in 2015 with the sponsorship of additional tires, a spare engine and transmission, and the construction of a mechanic's pit at our camp—all invaluable to our efforts.

### **Wildebeest Work**

In 2012 John Lemon and Geoff Hoddy assisted ZCP to launch a long-term collaborative study on the Liuwa wildebeest, a keystone species in the Liuwa-Mussumma Transfrontier Conservation Area and thought to be the second-largest wildebeest migration remaining in Africa. We concluded the first granting period for the study in June and are busy working up the data on wildebeest demography and migration, as well as the ecological and human drivers of wildebeest dynamics. Given the rates of predation and poaching, collaring of additional animals is a regular and costly operation and in 2015 will be made possible by PDC Inc support.



# News from Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust by Anna Tolan

We are proud to report that Australian supporters of Chipembele have had a very strong influence on our organisation so far this year in terms of financial support, direct work in the programmes and 'big mobs' of people visiting the projects. We are particularly grateful for PDC Inc.'s facilitation of a three year grant from Perth Zoo which is used to support our Conservation Education Outreach Programme in local schools.

We were also thrilled when John Lemon led a team of PDC Inc. supporters to Zambia in June and spent a morning visiting our Conservation Education Centre in South Luangwa. They all brought a large quantity of stationery and other items suitable to present as prizes in our programmes for which we are enormously grateful. Thanks everyone! One of the group, Lorraine Dunn, also kindly brought over 15 good quality second hand cameras that she had collected from friends and colleagues. We are planning to put them to good use next year, particularly in our week-long wildlife photography workshops for both our students and staff.

Thanks also to PDC Inc. for their very generous donation which was generated from the trip.

In March, Janette Moore (a talented graphic designer/artist working at Adelaide Zoo) and her husband Johnny returned to Chipembele for four weeks to voluntarily complete the work in the interpretive room of our Conservation Education Centre that they had begun in 2014 and had not quite completed. Whilst here they made more incredible displays and models, and the room

is now a world-class natural history exhibition focussed on the wildlife and environment of South Luangwa. The room can be appreciated by children and adults alike and from all backgrounds, thanks to Janette's clever design skills.

Emma Still, Senior Educator at Monarto Zoo took six months of unpaid leave to work for Chipembele from January to July this year. She spent the last two and a half months completely reinventing the classroom at our Centre. The walls of the classroom now have bright murals of the South Luangwa landscape and there is a whole range of models and decorations that give the room more of a 3-D feel and an atmosphere of being steeped in nature.

We also received visitors from the ZoosSA Volunteer Group, Monarto Zoo Education Department, Jude Price and Kaye Brown (Chipembele Trustees, Adelaide) and friends and relatives of Emma Still who ran a fund raising 'beauty and hairdressing day' while they were in South Luangwa called Smiles and Styles. We are fortunate indeed to have such an enthusiastic, fun and creative supporter base.

Our animal rehabilitation programme keeps us on our toes with 3 young orphaned vervet monkeys, 3 orphaned yellow baboons, thirteen Lillian's lovebirds (whose flight feathers had been pulled off in readiness to be sold for the pot) and, of course, Douglas the hippo. Douglas is now two and a half years old and leads an independent life though has not yet joined the local pod. In late July he was attacked at night by two lions. One jumped on his back and the other



*Top: Anna Tolan, John Lemon, Emma Still and Pluto the yellow baboon.*

on his rear legs but he somehow managed to escape and run into the safety of the Chipembele pond, though the lions were hot on his heels. He received two very deep puncture wounds to his shoulders and some slashes to his tail and rear legs. He is recovering well but for quite a few days after never ventured far from the house. Life in wild Africa is always an adventure!

## Of Bison and Bliss: BTG's Patron's Letter

Wow!!!

What a truly amazing year it has been ... for me. Look, I'd like to be more inclusive, but the truth is I've been in such a euphoric state lately that I'm finding it increasingly difficult to consider the feelings of others. Sorry.

Rest assured, fellow Members and Supporters, that I wish you nothing but the very best - After all, your good health and good fortune represents the good health and good fortune of Painted Dog Conservation Inc. And God knows we can always use more of that.

But let us just accept that in this particular Patron's Letter I am going to be infuriatingly oblivious to anything and everything except that which inflated my soul with champagne and sunshine.

So what, you may ask, has happened in the last twelve months to make me so unbearably joyous? Well, let's see: plenty of travel, a new book or two on the way, several new TV shows, only one serious injury, I may have discovered a new beetle species, lots of time spent tracking giant brown bears in Alaska, you get the idea, all very exciting, blah blah blah ... Oh yes, and one more thing - I finally got married!!!

I have to admit, I honestly thought this special day might never come - but at last it has and I am absolutely over the moon!

As you can clearly see, Amy, My Wife (how I love saying that), is a luminous Goddess. Though why on earth such a brilliant and beautiful women would want to marry a feral book-beast like me I

have no idea ... all I know is that I am the luckiest feral book-beast in the known universe!!!

Our wedding day was nothing short of magical - the ceremony took place outdoors on a small verdant ridgeline amidst the majestic Santa Monica Mountains, in Southern California.

We chose this site, not just for it's rugged and



inspiring vistas, but also because it was only two or three hours drive from LAX, and thus was relatively easy to get to for both my family (flying in from Australia), and My Wife's family (jetting in from Texas and the Bahamas).

Unlike my dear friends and neighbours in Tasmania, who have been enduring a deep freeze thus far this winter, we had absolutely glorious weather in Southern California - maybe even a little too glorious. After a month of "June gloom" the local TV weatherman promised the smoggy skies would clear up and we would enjoy mild, sunny conditions for the week of our nuptials ... but it turned out he was a bloody liar! It was 40°C and change when we walked down the aisle beneath the scorching sun and those of us in the wedding party wearing sweat-drenched penguin suits almost keeled over. Luckily my sunburned and sweaty cheeks merely amplified my radiant inner glow of newlywed bliss, and no one perished during our sweltering celebration of love and adventure ... so far as I know ... I really wasn't paying attention ... because I was transfixed by the preternatural beauty of My Wife ... as indeed I still am.

What was I talking about?

Ah yes, wedding guests succumbing to heatstroke. Bottom line: It never happened.

However the truth is that a great many wedding guests might well have died very badly if I'd gone ahead with my idea to have a White Bison roaming around our open air wedding venue.

I should explain, for those who do not know,



that a White Bison is just a normal Bison (aka American Buffalo (*Bison bison*)) that is leucistic – which is to say, it is lacking in natural pigment (though not an albino) – and these animals are incredibly rare. Exactly how rare, you ask? Well, only one White Bison calf will be born out of every ten million. Which, I think you'll agree, is pretty rare.

Sufficed to say that most people will never ever see a White Bison in the flesh - and for almost all of my life I was one of those people. These exotic looking bovids are so rare they have been afforded a legendary, nay almost mythical status, and indeed many Native Americans, especially the Sioux Nation from the Great Plains, still consider that these hulking animals are of deep spiritual importance, bordering on the divine. John Lame Deer, a First Nations spiritual leader, has said that "A White Buffalo is the most sacred living thing you could ever encounter."

According to the 2,000 year old Lakota legend, the White Buffalo is a living symbol of the White Buffalo Calf Woman; a divine spirit who taught the people of the Sioux Nation the Seven Sacred Prayers. Each of the Seven Sacred Prayers has a specific ceremonial purpose, including one prayer that will unite a husband and wife in marriage.

To this day there are many member of America's First Nations (and others as well) who believe the appearance of a White Bison is a symbol that their prayers have been answered, and a reminder that one day the White Buffalo Calf Woman will return to bring peace, abundance and happiness to those that honour Her and have respected the sacred teachings She gave them.

Sufficed to say, as someone with a deep interest in Indigenous Lore, the more I learned about this extraordinary legend the more I felt our white wedding really should have a White Bison present. I could think of no better witness to stand watch over us as we thanked the First Nations for letting us stand on their earth and as we prayed for our marriage to bring out the best in each other, and also to embody our hope that all those we love might enjoy good health, happiness and prosperity.

But where to find one?

Well, I'm proud to say that in the past 45 years I've become the sort of man who probably knows someone who knows someone who has access to such a wondrous creature. I also make a pretty damn good pancake breakfast – just ask My Wife.



Still, as you might imagine, it took me a little while to track down a White Buffalo that might be willing to attend our wedding. But eventually, after driving across the Mojave Desert, I found myself face to snout with an adolescent female named White Cloud. And here she is:

I have to admit, I was incredibly excited to stand before what is such a sublime creature, it almost felt as if I was dreaming. Looking upon her ivory fleece and hearing her huff and puff, and stamp the earth was incredibly special. I was thrilled when the sacred Bison's caretakers said I could feed White Cloud a carrot ... though I was less pleased when she spat my carrot out into the dirt with evident disgust ... and then I began to worry that this could be a bad omen for my pending marriage, or might possibly indicate dire sexual problems in the years ahead. Stupid carrot.

However while everyone was very happy for White Cloud to attend our wedding the only problem was that the feisty Bison teenager herself was far too rambunctious to be allowed to roam unsupervised, and she was already too big to be restrained by a rope halter and lead. This meant that we would have to build a small corral for White Cloud or risk her goring and trampling our wedding guests before our altar of love.

When I finally arrived home, after the long and dusty drive back across the desert, I looked deep into the eyes of my beloved Amy and told her exactly what I'd found out. She was disappointed, as you'd expect, when I explained to her that it was undignified and wholly unacceptable to put such a special animal inside a petting zoo pen. Then I shared some good

news by pointing out that there were a number of relatives coming to our wedding that, quite frankly, we would both like trampled. Sadly she was not convinced.

And so in the end we went in another direction – I arranged for an enormous African Spurred Tortoise, named Big Ralph, to be our ring bearer. Big Ralph proved an excellent choice for this sober responsibility - he didn't drop the rings and, unlike some other members of the wedding party, he didn't get drunk and dance like a depraved fool, nor did he say anything offensive

to any of the other guests (primarily because he spent the entire day stuffing his happy reptilian face with fresh grass and rose petals).

I guess a tortoise should be considered a good metaphor for a long and happy marriage. They always seem relaxed, never raise their voice, and of course they live for more than 150 years. So I suppose at this juncture I should try to summarise whatever point I was trying to make by drawing some tenuous parallels between our joyous wedding in the Santa Monica Mountains and the extraordinary White Bison and what we

are trying to achieve this year at PDC Inc.

But, look, I'm not going to try too hard because, honestly, it hurts my brain to think about anything except My Wife.

What I can say is that life, for all the ups and downs, contains some rare and precious moments that we will treasure for the rest of our lives.

You may not always think of this, but by supporting PDC Inc, and thus helping to save Africa's Painted Dogs from extinction, you are guaranteeing just such a rare and precious moment for someone, some day, who, thanks to you, will come face to face with this unique and extraordinary creature for the first time - perhaps even on their honeymoon.

In closing I thank you, once again, for all you have done and continue to do to keep PDC Inc moving forward. Please take this opportunity to renew your PDC Inc membership and invite at least two friends to join you at the next fundraising event with a view to their signing up as well. Also, beyond from considering a cash donation, please get in touch with Angela and John Lemon and ask how you can use your secret talents and your largely untapped well of psychosexual energy to help keep the good work going.

Cheers!





## Patron Update from Simon Reeve

Since my family and I lived in Maun in Botswana 15 years ago, I've been lucky to return to Africa many times to indulge my obsession. But my long suffering partner Linda and our daughter Stella had never been back. So along with our son Sam, I insisted it was high time for a family holiday to the places I love so much. Despite the prospect of days on end without Wi-Fi, the kids agreed.

We caught up with old friends in Maun before heading into the incomparable beauty of the Delta.

Frosty, foggy mornings giving way to warm, brilliant blue sky days, with all the stunning blues and greens reflected in the waters of the Okavango in the late afternoon. There really is nothing like it on the planet. After some memorable days at the extraordinary Seba camp in the western Delta, we flew on to Zambia.

John and Ange had long told me what a wonderful bloke Andy Hogg is. Andy heads up the Bushcamp Company in South Luangwa, a place I had always dreamed of seeing. Andy is also one of the great supporters of Painted Dog Conservation Inc, never failing to throw in a safari for all the PDC Inc. fund raisers over the years and helping out in a big way on the ground with the Zambia Carnivores Programme as well.

Andy has also become a good friend of one of my best mates, Brad Horn from Epic Private Journeys, based out of Brisbane. Brad sends a healthy amount of business Andy's way, because of the highest standards established by the Bushcamp's product and its people. So with great anticipation, we headed for Mfuwe Lodge,

10 minutes' drive from the main gate at South Luangwa, and just a 45 minute drive from Mfuwe International airport. We had a memorable safari over 6 days, staying at Mfuwe and also, (my personal favourite) Bilimungwe camp. All I can say is that the hospitality, the food, the people, the area and the experience, ranks with the very best Africa has to offer. It's a superb operation, underpinned by respect. Respect for

the bush, respect for staff and local people and a uniquely warm and genuine respect for the guests. We had the great pleasure of a private guide, Fannuel Banda, who lives with his wife Jen, their 2 boys and newly minted baby girl Marian, in the village just outside the main gate. Fannuel is a superstar, with an encyclopaedic knowledge of the bush and its mystical workings. I recommend to anyone going on safari, if you're



able of course, to save some extra pennies for a private guide – even for 2 or 3 days. It adds so much to the quality of the experience and gives you flexibility to make your own plans. It sounds indulgent, it's a little more expensive, but it is absolutely worth the extra dollars.

South Luangwa was everything and more that I had imagined. We did get to do a walk one day, something which the Park is famous for. If you don't know of him, make sure you google the name Norman Carr. Norman was a giant of conservation in Zambia and indeed through Southern Africa. He was a great advocate for walking safaris and his legacy lives on in South Luangwa today.

One of the highlights of our safari was getting to meet and spend time with Dr Matt Becker from the Zambia Carnivores Programme and Rachel McRobb head of the South Luangwa Conservation Society. This is where chunks of John and Ange's money land, directly helping fund the ongoing research and activities of these marvellous organisations and the inspirational people who lead them. Talk about dedication to the cause. Matt, backed by Montana State University, carries the torch for painted dogs and Rachel is a Zambian who has committed her life's work to conservation in the region and all the complexity that goes with it. Matt and I were fortunate to see a dog pack bring down a puku early one morning, poignant in its own way, but the stuff of life every day on the savannahs and in the woodlands of Africa.

For members and supporters of Painted Dog Conservation Inc, this is the coal face of conservation. This is where your money is spent. In the battle against poaching and the saving of animals. In the support of education and the promotion of jobs in local communities. In the daily management of conflict between wildlife and people. It's compelling to see close up. I know many of you have been lucky enough to witness these yourselves. If not, get there when you can.

Matt and Rachel are very special people. Their lives are devoid of many of the things we take for granted. They've given up a lot of material comforts but have no doubt been enriched in many other ways. I have the deepest admiration for them. Conservationists of their standing and stature are rare and I'm very glad in a very small way to be a little part of this picture.

So please keep up the support for John and Ange everyone. Believe me; they are making a real difference with their devotion to the great cause.

Cheers, Simon





# The Return of Kevin Richardson to Australia

After a successful tour of Australia in 2013 with our special International Guest Kevin Richardson-The Lion Whisperer, PDC Inc once again partnered with Kevin in June 2015!

Three events were held in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne, with over 600 people attending the functions, and both Sydney and Melbourne completely SOLD OUT!

Our Patron Simon Reeve was our MC for both Perth and Sydney events, and we were excited to have Allison Langdon from 60 Minutes Australia as our MC in Melbourne, as she had previously interviewed Kevin last year.

A busy week for all as soon as Kevin arrived – 3 functions in 3 states in 5 days...PLUS we auctioned an additional 3 special events-a private lunch/dinner with Kevin as well. In addition, we also escorted Kevin to the set of Channel 7's Sunrise, and radio interviews leading up to his trip!

Kevin entertained the crowd with his stories and sense of humour, whilst at the same time educating everyone about the Canned Hunting Industry and making people aware of what they can do as an informed consumer to really make a difference. Kevin's discussion around the "Life Cycle of a Canned Lion" was most informative and had a big impact on everyone.

This year we had an extensive array of Auction items including jewellery, sculptures, books, textiles, Photographs, RARE Bags -sourced both locally and from overseas-so we were overwhelmed by those that were able to donate items to help us raise much needed funds. On

offer was a wide range of artwork including Anna Rita Centura (Italy), Richard Symonds, Amanda Weatherlake, Paula Weigmink, Fuz Caforio (South Africa), Tom Gray (UK), Suzanne Unrein (US) Suzanne Elizabeth (SA), Allen Pashai, Steve Morvell and many more.

Five lucky bidders also won an opportunity of a lifetime-a weeks' volunteering at Kevin's Sanctuary in South Africa! We were also pleased to host a very special guest at our Sydney event-Ace Bourke of "Christian the Lion" Fame, who very generously donated signed copies of his books for our auctions.

We would also like to thank all of the venues for making it all possible – The Hyatt Regency Perth, Park Hyatt Melbourne and the Crowne Plaza Coogee in Sydney. In addition, thank you to Alex Cearn of Houndstooth Studio (Perth), Andy Seagar (Sydney) and Jason Arundell of Metropolis Studio (Melbourne) for taking great photos for us! And of course we couldn't have brought it all together without the support of our committee, and for all of you for your support.

As a result of these functions, we raised \$114,000 for our frontline projects so thank you all for your generosity!

*Top (left to right): PDC Inc Treasurer Carol Shannon, Kevin Richardson, PDC Inc Vice and Chairman Angela and John Lemon, Allison Langdon, PDC Inc Committee member Wayne Hamilton (Melbourne). Middle: Kevin Richardson, PDC Inc Vice and Chairman Angela and John Lemon, PDC Inc Patron Simon Reeve (Sydney). Bottom: PDC Inc Chairman John Lemon and Ace Bourke (Sydney)*



## An Evening with Tammie Matson

PDC Inc were thrilled to host the exclusive WA screening of *Let Elephants be Elephants* on the 13 February 2015 – the investigation into the Ivory Trade by Australian researcher Dr Tammie Matson.

Tammie was born in Townsville, and grew up surrounded by animals, both wild and domestic. After visiting Zimbabwe with her father at the age of fifteen, she fell in love with Africa and turned her life upside down to build a future for herself there.

The *Let Elephants be Elephants* project started in early 2013 on a life changing safari in Kenya where she met Nadya Hutagalung (TV Host of *Asia's Got Talent*). That amazing trip into the heart of Africa's elephant poaching crisis, and a subsequent journey into the ivory markets in Bangkok, led to a half-hour documentary *Let Elephants Be Elephants*.

The documentary screened across Asia on the National Geographic Channel, accompanied by a public service announcement linked to the ivory campaign. The documentary was nominated for best documentary at the Asian TV awards in 2014.

One hundred people attended this event at the Perth Zoo Lecture Theatre, and were moved and motivated by what they saw. We are pleased to say that due to people's generosity at our Auction we held on the night, we were able to purchase three new motorbikes for Rosemary Groom's project (African Wildlife Conservation Fund).



Top: John presenting a "Certificate of Appreciation" to Tammie Matson. Bottom: The three bikes purchased for Rosemary Groom's project in Save Valley conservancy in Zimbabwe.

## Perth Science Festival

Following from its popularity from the 2014 event, 2015 welcomed back the Perth Science Festival, on the weekend of Saturday 15 August and Sunday 16 August at the Perth Cultural Centre in Northbridge.

This interesting and unique annual festival is in its 3rd year and marks the launch of National Science Week in Western Australia, celebrating a combination of science, art, innovation and technology. Previous years' festivals proved successful, and the popularity of the event resulted in nearly 10,000 people engaging with interactive, hands-on science activities, shows and everyone's favorite school memory – experiments and explosions!

This year PDC Inc. was invited to speak in association with Ben Britton from Wild Animal Encounters and Nat Geo Wild Fame. Thanks to Ben and the team from Scitech for allowing us to share the stage and educate future conservationists.





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### **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.

### **Conservation through action and education**

**Find us on the web: [www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au](http://www.painteddogconservation.iinet.net.au) | [pdmembers@iinet.net.au](mailto:pdmembers@iinet.net.au) | [www.facebook.com/PaintedDogConservationInc](https://www.facebook.com/PaintedDogConservationInc)**

### **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.

## **Major Sponsors**

