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March 2006

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Painted Dog Conservation Inc

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Chairman—Gregory Gibbard
Vice Chairman - John Lemon
Treasurer—Richard Watson

Patrons : Dr Luke Hunter
Bradley Trevor Greive



From the Chairman

Welcome to 2006 and I hope everyone has had an enjoyable break over the Christmas and New Year period.

Many of you have supported us by providing your email addresses and for that a very big thankyou.

Our membership is now quite diverse and as summarised on the website for March 2006 is;

Australia (WA) 71, Interstate 17, Canada 1, France 1, Germany 2, India 2, United Kingdom 2, United States 4 and Zimbabwe 1.

A total of 101.

At this date we have received membership renewals of approximately 2/3rds, which includes several members who elected to advance pay their membership and have issued a renewal notice for those that may have mislaid the invoice with the notice of the AGM that was held on the 22nd of this month.

Your renewal is very important to us.

This month saw John being invited to deliver a talk to Veterinary students at the Murdoch University Wildlife Association along with representatives of the Asian Rhino, Australian Orang-utan and Sunbear projects.

John was supported by Jon Keates, Antony Taggart and myself and we all fielded questions at our table where merchandise was offered for sale.

Such was the interest in the dogs that most had never heard of!!

MUWA will be providing the attending organisations \$250.00, a quarter of the

ticket sales, which has been split between the four projects. Thanks to MUWA for providing the venue.

This year both John Lemon and Jon Keates will be visiting the project. It has been planned that John will be involved in the translocation of dogs from South Africa and Jon will be there to film the event for use in a documentary.

To enable this we have invested in photographic equipment which has been sourced by Jon.

2006 looks very promising for the Dogs and the project in Zimbabwe. They will be building on their successes with the local community by way of the free Bush camp for the children and the continuing success of the anti poaching units under Martin Stierner's leadership. John will review the training and effectiveness of the keepers he trained a couple of years ago while in Zimbabwe.

We have held our second AGM and we also got a clean ticket for our 2004 accounts audit. Thanks To Dean Ward in South Australia who now has the 2005 accounts to do for us.

Refer picture at right - Chris and Margie McClelland have produced a new drawing entitled "Who are You" and are kindly offering a part of the cost as a donation to us. Visit their website at www.users.bigpond.com/wildprints and place an order. There are only 300 prints being made.

And to all our members I would like to apologise for the lateness of this newsletter



Lycaon pictus "
African Painted Dog



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Perth Zoo—In-situ Conservation



John Lemon has been busy raising funds in November with the help of Kathy Starr and Jon Keates at the 3rd Australasian Training and Conditioning Workshop with \$1,110.00 for merchandise and

drinks sold and between the 26th and 30th of March John will be attending the ARAZPA conference hosted by Perth Zoo where we will be given the opportunity to showcase ourselves.

For this special event we have purchased some articles which will be offered for sale.

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



The Naming of the Animated Logo



Thanks to Bradley Trevor Greive for suggesting a name for the motif that adorns some of our T-shirts and our reusable calico shopping bags.

"It has been named "Picasso", for the following reasons;

1. Picasso is the most famous painter and thus makes your branding friendly and memorable

2. The Painted Dog's colouration composition is vaguely cubist (I choose to ignore Braque's contribution as indeed will history)."

*CONSERVATION
THROUGH ACTION
AND EDUCATION*

ARAZPA Conference - Perth Zoo

Perth Zoo hosted the annual conference for ARAZPA, (Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria), between the 26th and 30th March 2006.

John also spoke to the Education Specialist Advisory Group .

Along with Zoo Peru, Asian Rhino's, Australian Orang u tans and Sun Bear projects and others we showcased the Zim-babwean project and offered merchandise for sale.

Setting up and manning of the table was done by Jon Keates and John Lemon. John also presented a talk on the Project and PDCInc which was well attended. Sales in excess of \$1,900 were taken at this event.

I would very much like to thank Perth Zoo for allowing us to showcase our organisation. Thank you.



Murdoch University Wildlife Project Bonanza

The Murdoch University Wildlife Association presents

Wild Life
conservation project
bonanza

Thursday 2nd March

Featuring:
-Project Sunbear
-The Australian Orangutan Project
-The Asian Rhino Project
-The African Painted Dog Project

For ticket information:
email muwa@guid.murdoch.edu.au

Tickets \$15
NO DOOR SALES

Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre
6:45pm Start

PDCInc were invited to present a talk to students at Murdoch University on the 2nd March 2006.

Antony Taggart, Jon Keates, John Lemon and Greg Gibbard attended a table with our wares and fielded many questions after John's presentation about the project and in particular the painted dog as many had not been aware of the ani-

mal before this talk.

We have had some enquiries for students about joining the project in an ecovolunteer role and look forward to being more involved in arranging this activity in conjunction with the requirements of the Project.

MUWA have donated the ticket sales equally to each of the four organisations that attended.

Thanks to Nicolette Findlay, MUWA, for the invitation and facilities on the night..





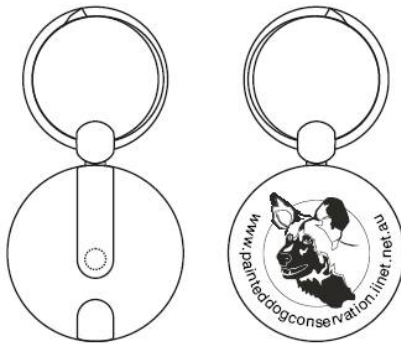
Merchandise

We have expanded our merchandise from T-shirts, calico shopping bags and cloth badges as well as the educational card game to include, pens, can/bottle coolers (stubby holders), key rings

In line with our branding we have taken the opportunity to re-brand the T-shirts with our new logo.



Reusable Calico shopping Bag



Metal Key Ring with halogen light

Please email pdinc@iinet.net.au for pricing:

In Australia the prices range from \$AUD2.00 to \$30.00

Overseas including postage the range is \$USD2.50 to \$40.00



Ballpoint Pen



Can/Bottle Cooler (Stubby Holder)



Feature—Other Wildlife—Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)



The biggest ruminant and the tallest mammal. Very long neck with short, upstanding mane, high shoulders sloping steeply to hindquarters; long legs nearly equal in length. Male wt 1100-1932 kg, shoulder ht 2.7-3.3 m, top of horns up to 5.5 m; Female wt 700 -1182 kg, female shoulder ht 0.6m shorter. Head tapers to point; long, prehensile tongue. Horns: solid bone, skin covered; a main pair in both sexes but female's thin and tufted; male's thick and bald on top, up to 13.5 cm. Colour brown to rich chestnut (old males darker, even black), dissected into intricate tapestry by patches and blotches of lighter hair, pattern unique in each giraffe. Scent glands: possible glands on eyelids, nose, lips; adult males have pungent smell. Teats: 4.

RELATIVES - The rare okapi, *Okapia johnstoni*, confined to a small region within the Congo Basin and only discovered by Europeans in 1901.

WHERE IT LIVES - Formerly throughout arid and dry savannah zones south of the Sahara, wherever trees occur. Eliminated from most of West African and southern Kalahari range but still reasonably common even outside wildlife preserves.

PREDATORS - 50 to 75% of calves fall prey to lions and spotted hyenas the first months, despite hiding and the

mother's determined defence. As adults are too big to be regular prey, a mother will stand over and defend her calf against lions, which run the risk of being kicked to death if they get within striking distance. Females never use their horns, and males only use theirs in contests with peers.

COMMUNICATION - The idea that giraffes are mute is a myth. Though normally silent, calves bleat and make a mewling call, cows seeking lost calves bellow, and courting bulls may emit a raucous cough. Giraffes also give alarm snorts, and moaning, snoring hissing, and flutelike sounds have been reported.

Hello, up there! - Giraffes are the tallest land animals. A giraffe could look into a second-story window without even having to stand on its tiptoes! A giraffe's 1.8-metre neck weighs about 272 kilograms. The legs of a giraffe are also 1.8 meters long. The back legs look shorter than the front legs, but they are about the same length. A giraffe's heart is 0.6 metres long and weighs about 11 kilograms, and its lungs can hold 55 litres of air!

A long neck - How many bones are there in a giraffe's neck? Just like humans, giraffes have seven neck [vertebrae](#). For giraffes, however, each one can be over 25.4 centimetres long!

Eating the trees - It takes a lot of leaves to fuel such a large animal. A giraffe may eat up to 34 kilograms of food per day. Giraffes spend most of their day eating because they get just a few leaves in each bite. Their favourite leaves are from the acacia tree. Acacia trees have long thorns that keep most animals from eating the leaves. But those thorns don't stop the giraffes! They simply use their 46 centimetre tongues to reach around the thorns. It is thought that the dark colour of their tongues protect them from getting sunburned while reaching for leaves on trees. They also have thick, sticky saliva that coats any thorns they might swallow. The giraffe is a [ruminant](#) and has a stomach with four compartments that digests the leaves it eats. When giraffes aren't eating, they are chewing their [cud](#). After they swallow the leaves the first time, a ball of

(Continued on page 5)

Membership

Please welcome the following new members to our association:

Kath McCann (VIC), Phillip Lewis (WA), Rosy & Graham Eden (VIC), Mia Fida (VIC), Kathy Herrmann (VIC), Leonie Mynott (VIC), Brent Clohessy (VIC), Donald Pedigo (USA), Poonan Dhanwatey, (India,

Harshawardhan Dhanwatey (India), Cheryl Bettridge (WA).

Members of note: Harshawardhan and his wife Poonan are the Project co-ordinators and researchers for the Tiger Research & Conservation project in Tadoba - Andhari Tiger Reserve in Nagpur, India.

Our current membership for 2006 is 101 and includes 13 international members.

Thank you for your continued support.



Flame Lily - Zimbabwe's national wildflower



Feature—Other Wildlife—Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)

(Continued from page 4)

leaves will travel all the way back up the throat into the mouth for more grinding. Acacia leaves contain a lot of water, so giraffes can go a long time without drinking. When they do get thirsty, giraffes have to bend a long way down to drink from a lake or stream. When they're bent over, it is easier for a [predator](#), like a [crocodile](#), to grab hold of the giraffe. So, giraffes go to a watering hole together and take turns watching for predators. If water is easily available, they can drink around 38 litres a day.

A lumpy head - Both male and female giraffes have two distinct, hair-covered horns called [ossicones](#). Male giraffes use their horns to playfully fight with one another. As male giraffes age, calcium deposits form on their skulls and other horn-like bumps develop. Giraffes can have up to three of these large bumps, two in the rear of the skull and one in the forehead region, so that it may look like they have five horns.

Spotted Coat - There is only one [species](#) of giraffe, with nine currently recognized [subspecies](#). The different subspecies can be recognized by their patterns and also by where they live in Africa. Masai giraffes *Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*, from Kenya, have patterns that look like oak leaves. Others have a square-shaped pattern that looks like the giraffe is covered by a net. This is the [Reticulated](#) giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*. Giraffe coat colours vary from light tan to practically black.



The differences occur due to what the giraffes eat and where they live.

Defence - Giraffes are so big that they really don't need to hide from predators. Besides humans, they are hunted only by [lions](#) and crocodiles. When they have to, giraffes defend themselves with a deadly kick. Their speed, the way they move, and their body designs also help them to escape predators if they need to. Giraffes have a way of moving, or gait, in which both the front and back legs on one side move forward together, then the other two legs on the other side move forward. It's called "pacing." Giraffes can run very fast— 48 kilometres an hour.

Dropping in - After a gestation period of between 421-457 days a giraffe baby, called a calf, is born; it drops to the ground head first, about a 1.8 metre drop! The fall and the landing don't hurt the calf, but they do cause it to take a big breath. The calf can stand up and walk after about an

hour. Sometimes the mother will leave the calf alone for most of the day. The youngster sits quietly by itself until she returns.

When the calves get older, many mothers will leave them together in a "nursery." One of the mums will stay and baby-sit while the others go out to eat. The young giraffes can eat leaves at the age of four months.

Conservation Status - Although their numbers have decreased in the past century, giraffes are not currently [endangered](#), but listed as "lower risk" with fairly stable [populations](#). There is one subspecies that is in trouble though. Studies show there are only about 445 Uganda giraffes *Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi* left in the wild. 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.

Other names: Kameelperd (Afrikaans), Htundla (Ndebele), Ndluamithi (Zulu)

Fast Facts:

Common Name:	Giraffe
Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Mammalia
Order:	Artiodactyla
Family:	Giraffidae
Genus:	Giraffa
Species:	G. camelopardalis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Total Length	3.8m - 4.7m Head - Body
Tail Length:	80 - 100cm (excluding tassel)
Shoulder Height	Male 4.7 - 5.3m Female 3.9 - 4.5m
Weight	800 - 1,930kg Female 550 - 1180kg
Gestation	453 - 464 days
Litter size:	1
Longevity	In the Wild - 25 years Captivity - Up to 28 years

References: The New Encyclopaedia of Mammals p520 - 527 (David MacDonald), http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giraffe#Giraffe_Subspecies, <http://www.sandiegozoo.org/animalbytes/t-giraffe.html>



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**Conservation through action and
 education**

For the diary

19 April 2006 : Committee meeting
 22 April 2006 Lisa Barnard (Tiki Hywood Trust) at Perth Zoo

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

April 2006 - HSI emailed advice of a donation
 April 2006 - SAVE NSW emailed advice of a donation
 May 2006 - John Lemon & Jon Keates to South Africa
 June 2006 - Greg Gibbard to Zimbabwe

We have some snare art and other items for sale. Made by artisans at the Arts and Craft centre in Zimbabwe. John, Jon and Greg will be bringing more back from their trips.

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 Treasurer
 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 _____

Please note that that the entry on your Statement will be "Chris & Margie McClelland, Oxley"

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

