



SAVE FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA (INC)

1996

Patrons:-

The Lord McAlpine of West Green
David Gower OBE
Bryce Courtenay AM
Nick Price

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JANUARY NEWSHEET

New Patrons

We are delighted to announce we have a further two Patrons to add to Lord Alister McAlpine and David Gower, these being **Bryce Courtenay** and **Nick Price**. Both are from southern Africa and have a genuine love of it's wildlife and concern for it's future wellbeing, and are glad to be our Patrons.

Bryce Courtenay came to Australia from South Africa in 1958 and had a highly successful career in advertising together with a goal to become a best-selling author. Everyone knows of his success with *The Power of One* and it became the **largest-selling novel**(over two million copies)by a living Australian author. This was followed by *Tandia* and *April Fool's Day* and in November, Bryce's latest novel, *The Potato Factory*, was launched. Later in the year we hope to have **Bryce as our special guest at a fundraising dinner in Perth**.

Nick Price was raised in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, and became a professional golfer before joining the World Tour. In order to enhance his career he moved to the U.S.A. and is now based in Florida. Nick has risen to become the **world's number 2 ranked player**, after his great friend Greg Norman. We do hope that we will see him in this country in the not too distant future and he will then be able to lend his support to a function. In the meantime, Nick intends making available some **selected memorabilia** from himself and his colleagues that we can use for fundraising purposes.

Your Executive is really proud to have these **two fine international celebrities** associated with our Foundation and we look forward to their continuing involvement with the work we do in southern Africa.

Rhino Update

The news from the rhino scene in Zimbabwe is still **very positive** as we now approach the **two year mark** since the last death from poaching was reported. In this time a number of calves have been born and we still get reports of new sightings, both in the Intensive Protection Zones(I.P.Z.) and the private conservancies. The greatest birthrate of all has come from the **Bubiana Conservancy** where their numbers have risen to 54 rhinos from 39 just three years ago. We also hear that there is a strong possibility that one of the rhinos from **Western Plains Zoo** has become pregnant but this has not yet been officially confirmed.

During November and December a number of **radio collars** donated by the **SAVE FOUNDATION** were put on rhinos in **Sinamatella** and **Matusadona**. This will enable accurate monitoring of their movements to be made over the course of the next few years. Everyone was encouraged by the number of rhinos that were found and we congratulate the successful operating team of vets **Mike Kock** and **Mark Atkinson**, helicopter pilot **Andy Searle**, and all the **trackers** and **scouts** who located the rhinos prior to their darting and collaring. It was a great team effort and we are sure of the future well-being of these rhinos.

T-Shirts

Attractive T-Shirts are available from the Perth office, with the same motif as on the top of this newsheet, together with the words "**Extinction is Forever**". They come in black, white, khaki and unbleached beige and are available for \$25.00 from the office or \$27.00 by post. They make an ideal present for yourself or a friend.

Recent Purchases - over \$40,000 value

In the past month we have made a number of purchases from different suppliers and the main ones are as follows:-
A) 40hp outboard motor for Mana Pools, the centre of operations on the middle Zambezi Valley. B) 66 spare radio batteries to be divided between Matobo I.P.Z. and Bubiana Conservancy. C) Motorola radio for a National Parks plane. C) Personal kit for a 12 man anti-poaching unit in Zambia. D) Personal kit for scouts in Matusadona, Chipinge, Matobo, Bubiana and Midlands. E) Boots and backpacks for a 20 man anti-poaching unit to protect the gorillas in Rwanda. F) Landrover spare parts and 50 used tyres(again kindly donated by Cyril Groomsbridge). G) Bedford engine re-conditioning kits and 20 tyres. H) 40 GPS units for accurate map work and field analysis, to be distributed around the Conservancies and I.P.Z.'s. I) 40 cartons of donated used clothing to be shipped to Durban in early February and then by truck to Zimbabwe. We particularly thank Marielle Sloss from Leonora for all the work that she has done in her local community to supply so many of these cartons. The total expenditure of all of these items is approximately \$28,400, with a realistic value of over \$40,000, and your Executive always endeavours to obtain the best possible purchasing price of any goods that are needed.

We are committed to maintaining the momentum within the field patrols and making the work of the scouts and rangers as pleasant and effective as possible, both by supplying hi-tech equipment and items of a personal nature. Recently, the Zimbabwe Government has reduced it's budget to the National Parks and we are offering Z\$25,000 towards maintenance and subsistence payments in the I.P.Z.'s. These funds are from the David Gower Rhino Fund, held in Harare, and are part of the proceeds of last year's Black Rhino Challenge Cricket.

Extraordinary General Meeting

An E.G.M. will be held on Thursday 7 March 1996 at 7.30pm at the Loftus Community Centre at which a detailed report will be presented by the President, Vice President and Treasurer from their fact-finding mission to five rhino projects between 16 - 26 February 1996. Some video will be shown and it should be a most interesting and informative evening, just like the last General Meeting that was held there in November. In addition to the updates, a couple of minor Constitutional changes need to be offered for ratification.

Membership Renewal

You may be receiving your membership renewal with this newsheet and we urge you to rejoin as soon as you can as it should be apparent that the progress made in the past two years has been encouraging and that funds are constantly needed to maintain this level of effectiveness. Our audited 1994/95 accounts show less than 1% is spent on administration. Please post back your cheque or credit card number at your earliest convenience. Thanks.

Dubbo Weekend

Following the success of last year's Western Plains Zoo visit, members of the SAVE FOUNDATION from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth will meet over the weekend 16 - 17 March for some work sessions, social gatherings and rhino visits. It really is a wonderful way for all of us to get to meet each other, and to share experiences, ideas and suggestions, in order to become a bigger and better Foundation with a greater overall commitment to the cause. Please contact your local Branch or the Head Office in Perth.

Safari '96

Following the five previous successful safaris to Southern Africa we are holding our next one in late August/early September, featuring the very best of Zimbabwe, Botswana and (new to us all) Capetown and the vineyards of Cape Province. This is an exclusive safari and is strictly limited to 12 people and should be of great interest to our keen members and those who like a better-than-usual type of holiday. You will be guaranteed rhino sightings and plenty of interesting people. Please contact 09 444 1545 for further details.

Future Events

We are planning a golf day at Burswood in April, we hope to have Bryce Courtenay as our very special guest some time in June, and we may be holding a cocktail party on Friday 13 September at a venue still to be decided. Naturally, we will keep you posted and will seek your support for them as we get closer to the dates.

If anyone can spare a few hours for clerical work in the Perth Office we do have the need for this from time to time and perhaps you could call the office to find out the sort of jobs you could help with. Thank you.