

## The Whitley Awards



In May HRH the Princess Royal presented one of the world's top environmental awards, the Whitley Award, to Dr Patricia Medici of Brazil, for a project that uses tapirs as 'ambassadors' for conservation, introducing them to local communities and so capturing interest and support for active habitat conservation of benefit to many wildlife species.

Patricia is the wife of Arnaud Desbiez, one of RZSS's researchers also based in Brazil.

## Budongo Forest Reserve update

For many years the staff at BCFS have been running snare-removal patrols in the Budongo Forest Reserve. In June this project took a major step forward when hunters from the Nyakafunjo and Nyabyeya villages attended a two-day workshop organised by staff at BCFS. The workshop included topics such as entrepreneurship, the legal status of hunting, transmission of disease by bush meat, and forest conservation.

We were pleased when all the participants returned on the second day and all signed the letter in which they declared themselves to be ex-hunters.

The next stage is for our colleagues at the BCFS to form small groups of about five individuals and write a proposal to BCFS. This will state what kinds of alternative livelihood projects they would like to start, what kind of support they would expect and what resources they themselves are willing or able to contribute.

**PS** Congratulations to Fred Babweteera and his wife Caroline on the arrival of their son Timothy on 2 August.



## Fast forward moves forward

"Gofastforward" has been delivering dynamic training for managers in the Staff Training Suite at the top of the Mansion House – Callum Meikle, MD is pictured with Judith Auld, Head of Human Resources at RZSS – Judith says "The Society is committed to providing skills and teambuilding opportunities for managers through training."

## Tooth and Claw

An exciting new exhibition will open at Edinburgh Zoo from 1 November called "Tooth and Claw – Living alongside Britain's predators".

The Tooth and Claw Exhibition provides a fascinating insight into how we really feel about Britain's predators and what this tells us about our changing relationship with the natural world.

We are reminded of our fears, our prejudices and our inconsistencies. We are reminded too of our place in nature, as the most powerful predator of all.

## LifeLinks on line?

The Society currently communicates with over 11,000 people on a regular basis via email, keeping them up-to-date with our latest news on animals, events and special offers. Email is an economical and environmentally friendly way to keep in touch and we are delighted to extend this service by offering LifeLinks electronically as well. You are welcome to continue receiving LifeLinks by post, but if you would like to receive it by email, just let us know. Email your name and email address to [kmackay@rzss.org.uk](mailto:kmackay@rzss.org.uk) requesting Lifelinks to be emailed in the future. If you would also like next year's Annual Review by email instead of by post, just tell us in your email and we'll organise that too!

## Web gets new threads

Our dynamic new website was launched in May. It has additional features and is packed full of compelling content. All round, it offers a more enjoyable user experience so check it out for yourself at [www.edinburghzoo.org.uk](http://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk)

