



THORNTREE

NEWS ON THE BUSHWIRE

COMPILED BY **ELEANOR SOUTHERN-WILKINS**

Pedal for paws

Jeremy and Emma Borg of Painted Wolf Wines have launched a cycling initiative called Pedals 4 Paws. Their Rare Carnivore Rides (bike safaris) raise awareness and funds for endangered carnivores such as cheetah and African wild dog, among others. The brand is also the wine sponsor for the Tour De Tuli in South Africa, which raises around 80,000 rand (about US\$5500) per year for Children in the Wilderness.



PAINTED WOLF WINES

Fun feast

The Boma, the iconic restaurant at Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls, has revamped its popular dinner and drum show, with food refreshed by South African celebrity chef Arnold Tanzer, including local Zimbabwean delicacies such as warthog steak and Zambezi bream. As well as food, there is a full evening of entertainment with dance, songs, storytelling, face painting and music.



AFRICA ALBIDA, TUDORISK



BIG CAT PEOPLE

Jonathan and Angela Scott will be speaking at London's Royal Geographical Society on 30 November. Both are award-winning photographers; Jonathan is best known for his TV work, presenting the BBC's popular *Big Cat Diary*, among other series. Proceeds will go to Friends of Conservation (FOC).

UNTITLED FILM FOR NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

CHUGGING IN STYLE

The Victoria Falls Hotel is offering a new experience: a steam engine ride to the majestic Victoria Falls Bridge at sunset. The train stops at this historical landmark, so you can get off to enjoy the view, or stay on board to take full advantage of the drinks and canapés. The *Bushtracks Express* is currently up and running every Tuesday and Friday.



A STAR IS RISING

IN AN ARTICLE IN THE *DAILY NATION*, KENYA HAS BEEN NAMED AS HAVING THE LARGEST GROWTH IN TOURIST BOOKINGS GLOBALLY THIS YEAR. THE KENYAN TOURISM FEDERATION IS MAKING THE MOST OF THIS, OFFERING INCENTIVES FOR BOOKINGS, DISCOUNTS TO REPEAT VISITORS AND FORGING A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH BA. SO PERHAPS NOW IS THE TIME TO GO!

GREEN OSCARS AFRICANS WON THREE OF THE SEVEN PRESTIGIOUS WHITLEY AWARDS THIS YEAR — THE SO-CALLED 'GREEN OSCARS' HONOURING CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MAKALA JASPER WORKED WITH COMMUNITIES TO PRESERVE FOREST IN TANZANIA; JULIETTE VELOSOA IS SAVING THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SIDE-NECKED TURTLE IN MADAGASCAR; AND GILBERT BAASE ADUM (RIGHT) HAS BEEN PROTECTING GHANA'S RARE GIANT SQUEAKER FROG. ALL WINNERS RECEIVED PROJECT FUNDING OF £35,000.



THERESA THOMPSON



RIP It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Tim Best in July after a short illness. Founder of longstanding tour operator Tim Best Direct, he was a giant of the travel and tourism business and will be much missed.