

The HBF Howzit

All the latest news from Galagos Wildlife Conservation

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ISSUE 4



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Silvia's Wonderland – 8 weeks in Africa

This is my last night here on the reserve and within 30 hours (hopefully) I'll be back to Italy. At this moment, I am sitting on the bed that was mine for eight weeks asking myself how I will feel when I get back to Milan. At the same time, I am looking for the one thousandth thousandth time through all the photos I have taken during these weeks.



Still now, I can't decide which is my best memory. But how could I decide?

Maybe it could be the unexpected leopard release the second day after my arrival?

Or the elephant that paid us a welcome visit inside the camp just behind my room?

Or feeling the breath of Pam, the elephant, with my hand during her darting which followed my first helicopter flight?

Or falling in love with the helicopter pilot?

Perhaps, the triangulation lecture with the students, waking up at 4 in the morning and to see a leopard sit in the middle of the road?

Or baking in the hot sun to make the hole for the swimming pool?

Or how could I forget the first time that I saw Milo (my favourite lioness) only one meter away from the car, together with her sister and brother while they were hunting?

Or heard hippo's snorting in the dam below when we spent the night sleeping out in the bushes

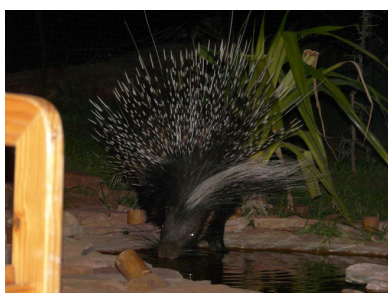
Or wait every day sitting at the table close to the birdbath for the punctual visitors (a large group of mongoose) at 5.30 pm just to try to take one very nice picture (but in the end I did!!) and have dinner every night with three scrubhares!!



Or the romantic week-end at Little Muck for baboon watch? Even if it was not so romantic as we were scandalized by an unexpected indecent love scene!!!

I am also proud of myself, after 8 weeks of dedication I finally saw the destroyer, that almost every night was spreading all our waste around the camp...damn porcupine!!!! But it was so cute!!!

Of course, the most comic moment was when we were stuck in the mud and had to dig out the 4x4....





But this period was not only about animals, but was also an immersion in what I call, South African Hollywood.

Indeed, I was plunged into the middle of several movie sets during my time here.

For example, I met the Indiana Jones' father at Mapungubwe national park where he taught us about human society and settlements of the past.

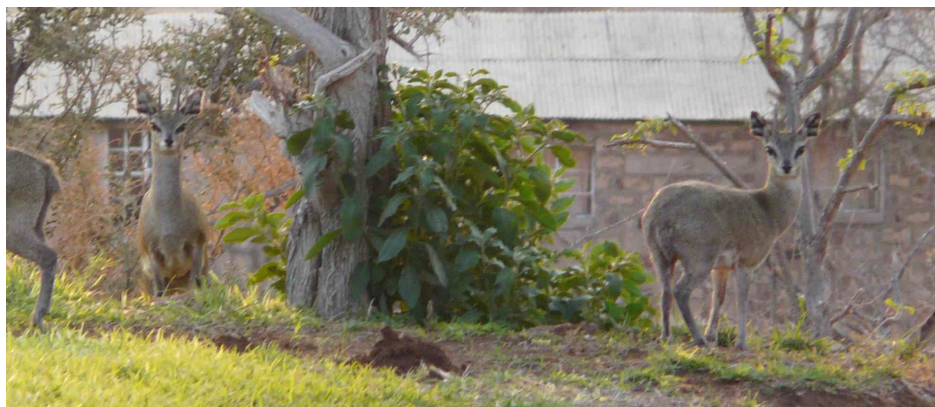
I also ran into the modern day blonde version of Rossella O'hara, not in a carriage but in a 4X4 tracking lions.



I was also very surprised to meet the fake version of Brad Pitt at Lizzuela during a break between different shootings of his new movie, together with the English Bruce Willis!!



And lastly I also had a meeting with two E.T. look-alikes at Little Muck....



Well, I can't summarize all that happened to me in eight weeks in few words. I can only say that I am not the same person as when I arrived, this experience is something that can change you!!

I have to thank you all very much, the community of the VLNR. In particular, I'm happy to have contributed to conservation on the VLNR. Thank you to Galagos for making my summer so unforgettable and hope to see you all soon!!!



GWC would like to say a big thank you to Silvia for all her hard work whilst at the project! This month we'd also like to extend another big thank you to Jane & Richard Pugh for all their hard graft and input! Hope you managed to find some time to relax and chill in Cape Town, after all you were on holiday ☺

The swimming pool is complete..... & very welcome in the summer heat!



Water going in.....



Starting work on the finishing touches.....



Big thanks to everyone who worked on it, we & all future volunteers appreciate the effort you put in.

Thank you to Aquamarine Pools for your donation, advice and input on the project.

Ahh Finished!
Dive in.....



So that's it for another month at Galagos Wildlife Conservation.....

Why not take a break from hectic life and come and join us for a 'lekker' time and experience this amazing beautiful place for yourself whilst giving back to nature.

Contact Us:

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Hope you all have a fantastic month and we look forward to meeting some of you soon ☺
Nicole

Fact File

Myth or Fact

Fact: A common fact about a chameleon is that it can change its colours—that's the truth!

Myth: A chameleon changes colours to match its environment—this is false!

Chameleons already match their environment; however, their body temperature and emotional status are the factors that cause the chameleon to change its colours. The warmer or angrier the chameleon is, the brighter its colour becomes.