

DECEMBER EDITION



PRIMATES AFRICA

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HOTLINE: 084 432 997

KEY THIS NUMBER INTO YOUR CELLPHONE NOW!

Remember – This is the baby season – if you find an abandoned or injured baby - please rescue the baby and phone the hotline immediately

In this newsletter...

- WHEN MOTHERS ARE KILLED FOR FOOD OR MUTI, BABIES ARE BEING SOLD
- KILLING OF MONKEYS OUTSTRIPS BREEDING RATES
- BABOONS ARE STILL BEING KILLED TO MAXIMISE PROFITS
- A NEW PRIMATE REHABILITATION CENTRE IN THE CAPE – SPONSOR A MONKEY
- WHAT MONKEY BUSINESS HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?
- JOIN US IN OUR QUEST TO CONSERVE PRIMATES

WHEN MOTHERS ARE KILLED FOR FOOD OR MUTI, BABIES ARE BEING SOLD

In our last newsletter we featured an article on how people who are desperate for food are now eating monkeys - snaring monkeys, killing them and eating them. To make money, they are selling dead monkeys on the side of the road, along with the avocados and bananas, on the N2 South Coast highway in Kwazulu Natal. Many of these monkeys being killed, are mothers with young babies. These babies who's mothers are killed are often abused and killed in the most horrific ways, or left to die of exposure and starvation or are being sold by the hunters to tourists – often being kept in plastic bags where they die of suffocation or dehydration if not bought quickly enough.

We would recommend that if you come across someone who is selling a baby monkey, don't let him leave with the monkey – no matter what! Try not to buy the monkey but confiscate it instead, and make it clear to the seller that it is illegal to hunt or sell monkeys. If the seller will not give you the monkey, then unfortunately, you will have to buy it. Try to educate him about monkeys and why it is bad for his health to eat them. Give him the hotline number to phone if he comes across more babies or injured monkeys. Take the monkey from him and phone the hotline immediately. You are our eyes and ears – please don't turn a blind eye to someone selling monkeys – you can alleviate terrible suffering! *A baby bought for R5. So cute but not a pet!*





PLEASE DO NOT KEEP A BABY MONKEY – WHEN THEY GROW UP, THEY DO NOT MAKE GOOD PETS.

If you find a baby monkey it is very tempting to keep it because it is so similar to a human baby. Babies have been handed to Primates Africa that have been fed on cow's milk, rice, bread, polony etc. This food is totally inappropriate and could lead to their death. Also, the babies have already suffered the loss of their mother, then eventually bond with their new carers after much crying and stress, only for the carers to later abandon the monkey when they become uncontrollable – yet another abandonment. So, please phone the hotline, and you will be instructed on how to care for the baby monkey until it can join other abandoned babies being cared for by qualified, surrogate mothers who are trained and approved by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.

A pet monkey is not taught monkey manners by its monkey mother and troop, but still has monkey genetic programming, so when it is reared by a human, it think it's human but behaves like a monkey – it will try to become a higher ranking monkey by biting its human family – typical of a monkey lacking monkey socialization. People are often bitten by pet monkeys and think all monkeys behave in this way. These are delinquent monkeys and are not the same as wild, naturally socialized monkeys. Pet monkeys are doomed to a miserable life of being neither a monkey nor a human, so **PLEASE DON'T MAKE A MONKEY A PET.**

KILLING OF MONKEYS OUTSTRIPS BREEDING RATES

People who hate monkeys always get particularly frantic about them during the monkey breeding season (October – February) as they worry that monkeys' breeding rate is so high. Monkey numbers are declining because their breeding rate is outstripped by the rate at which monkeys are being killed or are dying.

Female monkeys have their first baby at about 4 years of age. Many of the females giving birth in our towns now look quite small when they have their 1st baby. This is not because they are younger, but because our urban monkeys are malnourished and therefore smaller than the rural monkeys. They do not have enough protein in their diets and often do not have enough food. Each adult female has 1 baby per year and on average, less than half the babies born in a year survive their first year – let alone to adulthood.

Babies die for many reasons: they are hunted prolifically by Crowned Eagles; they are often paralysed by the mother accidentally bumping the baby's back on a wall, branch etc (the baby then cannot hang onto its mother and its lower body gets hit over and over until it eventually dies of a fatal injury; they sometimes fall out of trees when



**stop
the
murder**





learning to jump from branch to branch and when the tree is very tall, they can be paralysed; they are shot with pellet guns or their mother are shot and if she dies, her baby dies of starvation; their mothers are hunted and they are killed; they are poisoned by eating poisonous substances in refuse (they don't always know what the correct food is); if the mother dies of disease, the baby dies; young mothers often lose their babies and the abandoned baby dies of exposure and dehydration; dogs kill babies and often injure their mothers when they try to rescue their babies; cars kill many mothers and babies as they are slow when crossing roads and some awful people actually try to run them over; and, thankfully, a decreasing number of farmers actually have 'hunts' where they shoot monkeys at this time of the year and give special bonuses for killing 2 with 1 bullet – mother and baby; like human babies, they are susceptible to colds, flu, pneumonia etc and with no medication and wet weather, they often die.

A monkey normally lives for about 10 years in the wild, although they can live well over 20 years in captivity. Many monkeys die early in their second year, when they try to cross roads independently of their mother. They have not learned road sense yet (look left, right and left again!!!) and their little legs cannot run very fast. Then as they get a little older, just like our toddlers, they get up to all sorts of mischief. As a result, they are shot at, beaten or poisoned - all of these activities are illegal and punishable with a R30 000 fine or 1 year imprisonment. They are also bitten by snakes.

Many monkeys (especially males) injure other monkeys during fights that are more intense when monkeys are stressed because of food being scarce and/or territories are reduced in size due to human development. Many urban monkeys scavenge for food in dustbins and gardens and eat all sorts of foods that are either rotten or have been sprayed with insecticides. This causes diseases in monkeys such as cancer. The stress that they live under also weakens their immune systems, so many are succumbing to disease including human diseases. In addition, they are now being hunted like never before.

- The DEAT are holding workshops to devise the Norms and Standards for Conflict/Damage causing Animals (that include our monkeys and baboons).
 - We would like you to write to the DEAT asking them to ban all types of killing methods for problem/conflict causing animals.
- OB Director: Mr Madikizela
Regulation and Monitoring Services,
Dept of Environmental Affairs and Tourism,
P/Bag X447, Pretoria
0001
Tel: 012 310 3308
Fax:012 320 2733 or 012 322 2682
Email: HBmadikizela@deat.gov.za



BABOONS ARE STILL BEING KILLED TO MAXIMISE PROFITS

In our last issue, we had a detailed article on two companies - Komatieland Forestry and York have been suspected by environmental Stakeholders that baboons have been deliberately killed in their plantations after an eye-witness reported this to a stakeholder. This was being done without these companies notifying the stakeholders as was agreed. Komatieland Forestry admitted killing baboons and intends killing many more baboons. York denied doing so but admit that they are considering killing baboons in the future.

A stakeholders' meeting was held in September to discuss non-lethal methods of baboon control on the plantations. Although the attendees felt that agreements were generally positive, progress subsequent to this meeting has been slow. KLF has continued killing baboons by trapping and shooting and will continue to do so until York and Stakeholders organize the relocation of baboons. They did not even mention other alternative control methods. By this action, KLF imply that they are no longer interested in spending any further time on trying alternative methods. Poor show for a company that purports to be environmentally friendly.

On the positive side, it was agreed that there are to be 2 new members included in the Baboon Damage Working Group that will come from environmental groups and scientific groups. They have also agreed to set up a website with a blog section so that any member of the public or primate groups can comment on actions taken by foresters or contribute with suggestions or knowledge. Unfortunately, nearly 2 month later, the site is still not completed and the blog non-existent. We hope to soon have some better news on this front.

Unfortunately, at the first Baboon Damage Workgroup meeting since the aforementioned meeting, York has announced that their resumption of the killing of baboons. It seems these companies have no shame!



If
you
are against
the killing of
baboons and have
not signed the petition
against it, simply sign the
petition on the internet by going
to [http://www.thepetitionsite.com/
tell-a-friend/1202382](http://www.thepetitionsite.com/tell-a-friend/1202382)
and follow the instructions.



A NEW PRIMATE REHABILITATION CENTRE IN THE CAPE

Karin Saks has been rescuing monkeys for Primates Africa for the past two years and she is now well known in her area as a primate rescuer and rehabilitator. She rescues both baboons and monkeys, although she is actually a baboon specialist.



Her organization is called Darwin Primates Group.

Karin built an enclosure last year, but desperately needs funding for building more cages and needs regular funding income for the care of her primates. If she cannot achieve this, Cape Nature Conservation will close her down and all her monkeys and her baboon will have to be re-homed. She will also then not be able to rescue for Primates Africa. Her dedication to our primates is invaluable as both baboons and monkeys are treated very badly in the Eastern Cape – such a beautiful area – Knysna forest, Knoetzie Beach, George. Here are some of her stories:



Kajjika is one and a half year old, rescued baby baboon that thinks he's a monkey and is especially attached to one monkey called Monki: After having ex-rays and tests done on Kajjika, it was found that he has likely suffered from pesticide poisoning and has permanent lung damage. He interacts from a safe distance with the wild baboon troop that visit, showing he has not lost touch at all with his own kind. Karin also takes him to interact with one of the baboon troops close by that she has been observing for 6 years. Although Karin has found his family troop, she has been unable to release him back with them due to his physical vulnerability and waits to see if his condition improves before making a decision about his future.



Zambi is one of the orphans who came in from Knysna in 2007 with a head wound. She was found alone in the bush and taken to the Knysna Animal Welfare. She has nerve damage, has been accepted entirely by the other monkeys and is aware of all the necessary social skills required to be part of the troop. Although able to lead a qualitative life she will be unable to be released into the wild. Zambi: the nerve damage can be seen in her pupils.



Kajika playing with Monki



Diddy Kong grows up

Bandit is another snare victim from the Knysna area - Bandit has one back leg that is paralysed and dangling:



Ozzie on arrival (left). Ozzie had been crying for two days in the bush before she was found. Although the couple that found her had heard her screams, they were unable at first to locate her whereabouts. Ozzie, a few months later (right).



Ghandi (Mr No Hands) has no hands! Karin rescued him recently. He probably lost his hands due to being snared. Ghandi had been sighted in the Knysna area for the last one and half years surviving without hands. He was often seen tightrope walking across electricity lines to reach a destination rather than choose the difficult route of jumping from tree to tree. During the same period the Knysna Ani-

mal Welfare were alerted to at least 6 monkeys without limbs in the same area.



Upon closer inspection of a few of them their scars and wounds appeared to be a result of snares. Some unfortunately died of gangrene before they could be rescued. Gandhi was brought to Karin by the Animal Welfare, after a guest house owner insisted he would be shot if he was not removed.



Kennedy in front with Ozzie at the back:



Koko



Mango

PLEASE SPONSOR A MONKEY BY CHOOSING FROM THE FOLLOWING SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS FOR THE MONKEY YOU HAVE CHOSEN AND COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW.



SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS

You can make a once off donation or you can sponsor the following amounts for a year, and get great added value.

PAY	R75 (£5) Once off	R45 (£3) Per Month	R90 (£6) Per Month	R150 (£10) Per Month	R300 (£20) Per Month
Membership	✓	✓	✓	✓	Family
Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Photo		✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
Certificate			✓	✓	✓
Fluffy Monkey				✓	Personalized
Visit					Free for 5 people

PLEASE NOTE: PRIMATES AFRICA IS A REGISTERED PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATION SO ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE or MAY BE ALLOCATED TO YOUR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY BUDGET for South Africans. For more information on how to claim your deduction from tax, please contact us. **DARWIN PRIMATE GROUP CENTRE WILL RECEIVE ALL THE DONATIONS COLLECTED BY PRIMATES AFRICA FOR THIS MONKEY SPONSORSHIP APPEAL COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IT TO US WITH YOUR CHEQUE, DEPOSIT SLIP OR COMPLETED DIRECT DEBIT ORDER FORM**

TITLE: _____ FIRST NAMES: _____

SURNAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

OPTION: _____ **METHOD OF PAYMENT:** _____

DATE OF PAYMENT: _____

AMOUNT: _____ **BANK TRANSFER REFERENCE:** _____

BANK DETAILS: PRIMATES AFRICA, NEDBANK, GATEWAY BRANCH, BRANCH NO: 189905,

ACCOUNT NO: 1899030964

POST TO: PRIMATES AFRICA, PO BOX 2335, MECC, MT EDGEcombe, 4301, SOUTH AFRICA

DIRECT DEBIT ORDER (BANK DETAILS): I hereby give Primates Africa authorization to debit my account monthly commencing on DATE: _____

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S NAME: _____

BANK: _____

BRANCH: _____ BRANCH CODE: _____

ACCOUNT NO: _____ AMOUNT: _____

NO. OF MONTHS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR _____ (name of monkey)

PRIMATES AFRICA

WHAT MONKEY BUSINESS HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

SWALLOWS FUNDRAISER

The Swallows fundraiser on the first Sunday of November, was judged a great success if you can go on the comments from the eighty people who attended! It seems we will have to repeat this on a yearly basis. The tickets were pre-paid and for that you received a braai pack, salad and a roll. Beverages were also available. All our 'monkey' information was on display with key rings and magnets for sale.

An extract from a thank you letter:

'Just a quickie to thank you for the super day on Sunday and to let you know just how much we enjoyed it. It was a first for us and although the weather wasn't that great it did not deter the swallows.

We found it very relaxing (there is always so much to do at home) and the braai and salads were scrummy. Well done to you all for all your efforts. We look forward to attending another function. I must admit that I was very interested in reading your leaflets and I am now not nearly so irritated with our grey furry clan when they visit us on occasions.'



Up to Monkey Business at the Swallows

viewing site at Mt Moreland

Sue at the Virginia Bush Alien Plant awareness day



VIRGINIA BUSH ALIEN PLANT AWARENESS DAY

The Virginia Bush Conservancy organized an Alien Plant Awareness Day on 18th October where different NGO's were invited to join them. Primates Africa was there with their educational stall. There were many indigenous plants for sale – great for all the wildlife! A big thank you goes to Jenni Els for inviting Primates Africa, and to Thami and his team for helping with the preparations and for always doing his best to protect the wildlife. He's a real example to other conservationists!

THE STORY OF TOBIAS

In the last newsletter, we mentioned a little monkey, Tobias, who was orphaned and came to the attention of our hotline ladies. The story was eventually completed by Sue. Just to recap: Tobias is the last remaining member of his troop and is only a little monkey. However, he relied on the kindness of 2 residents of Salt Rock for survival.

This is the story of 1 of those kind residents, Rosemary.

"There have always been a small resident troop of monkeys. Their sleep tree is a tall palm further up our drive and they spent every night there. There were tenants renting the house next door and one afternoon I became aware of pellets going past my front stoep.

I checked, leaning against the wall of the servants quarters, was a man trying to shoot the Loerie which was in my wild plum tree. We told him it was an offence to shoot in a built up area and also to shoot the loerie and we were told to get lost.



About a week later my husband called me at 5 am and we found the matriarch (Tobias') grandmother had been shot and bitten by a dog and was paralysed. There was a tiny baby trying to cling to her. We phoned all round and eventually got hold of Primates Africa who came and took the baby and the mother away. The baby survived and the mother was put down.

The young female took over the troop. Slowly the troop dwindled. The birthing tree was ploughed down next door and because Simbithi came on line another much larger troop came into this area and my little troop was hounded daily sometimes only coming in to sleep after dark.

Eventually there was Horace and his sister Grizelda and Boetie, their dad, left. Horace was a tiny baby as was Grizelda when the Grandmother was destroyed. Horace was fascinated with my white hair and used to come and touch it if I sat still and used to touch my elbow as well. He used to take food gently from me and it was as though he understood me when I chatted to him.

Boetie left the troop and Grizelda arrived in January this year with a tiny baby Tobias. Now the troop consisted of the two females and Horace and tiny Tobias. About April Sue phoned to say there was a monkey at the flats on the beach, badly injured. It was Grizelda but search and call as I may she never showed for four days and then arrived back with horrible injuries. The baby had a very bad slash across the spine and Grizelda was very badly slashed across the arms. Horace had a few bites but nothing like Grizelda. She and little Tobias healed slowly. They hung around a week while they recovered. They sometimes spent the day close and others charged past in the front of the larger troop. In May this year they went missing again. Horace used to come on his own and when I called Grizelda or Tobias he always looked towards the sleep place on the beach. Eventually he brought this tiny little monkey back to me with a damaged arm and no mother. I discovered that the fingers moved but the arm was immobile and he ate very slowly and need help peeling the bananas so I cut them into rounds and rolled them to him otherwise Horace would eat them. No Grizelda and about 6 weeks later the neighbor mentioned that there had been a dead monkey on the road near his house. It must have been Grizelda. Horace used to bring Tobias here most days and sometimes he took him with him up near the gates at Simbithi and sometimes Tobias stuck around here all day. Horace left with Tobias one morning about 8 weeks ago and I have never seen him again. I have asked around and it is as though he just vanished.'

The hotline received a call from another Salt Rock resident, Julie, to say that she had this little male monkey hanging around in her garden and he was on his own (in the palm behind Julie in the picture below). She had been feeding him because she felt so sorry for him. Sue put 2 and 2 together and realized that this little monkey was Tobias and on investigation she was proved correct. Julie then caught Tobias and Sue took



him to Joan's Burchal Rehabilitation Centre where he is living happily with other monkeys. Julie with captured Tobias and the palm tree behind where he lived for a number of days

WAVES PUB & GRILL GENEROUS TO MONKEYS

On Saturday 30 August Waves Pub and Grill hosted a fund raiser for Vervet Monkey ICU cages for Tracy Rowles, Tracy is a rescuer based in Umkomaas, and her ICU cages need to be enlarged to allow her to handle more injured and orphaned Vervet monkeys. The fund raising event was completely sold out, and the 70 people who attended were treated to a fantastic fish braai organized by the owners of Waves Pub and Grill, Alan and Deon. In an act of immense generosity, at the end of the evening Alan and Deon unexpectedly donated their share of the proceeds that were meant to cover the cost of the food. This brought the total funds raised on the evening to over R5700. Tracy and Primates Africa wishes to express a heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended the fund raiser, and especially to Alan and Deon at Waves Pub and Grill.

PRIMATES AFRICA'S BUSY WEEKEND AT TOC, RYDVALE GROUNDS, PHOENIX & BOTSOC INDIGENOUS PLANT FAIR

- The TOC Academy Fun Day was held on Rydevale grounds in Phoenix on the 6th September. Anderson Governder met Primates Africa volunteers at the Kwanunu Exhibition and invited us to do a presentation to the children, parents and staff. Jean Senogles gave an informative vervet talk. To raise funds Jane, Mandy and Sue Friedman made cup cakes. Claude, Collette and Fran made popcorn, and sold key-rings. Sue Fiedman, Fran and Jill van Wyk (member and monitor) manned



Primates Africa girls at the Toc Academy Fun Day



Judwiga and hubby at the BOTSOC Indigenous Plant Fair

the stand at the Annual BOTSOC Indigenous Plant Fair. It was great to be part of a Fair where people are so motivated in making a difference to our planet. We are grateful to the BOTSOC KZN Coastal Branch for allowing us to attend and we look forward to being part of it next year. On Sunday 7 September Sue Shafto, Jadwiga Richmond (member and monitor) and Stephen Ncgobo met at the Indigenous Fair. Thanks to Jean Senogles who also helped out.



TREE PLANTING IN UMHLANGA FOR ARBOR DAY

Two of our monitors in Umhlanga informed Primates Africa that there was a need for more trees to be planted in the Weaver Crescent area. After doing some research with much help from Lidsey Boxshall-Smith, we, with the assistance of Andrew Davidson from the Ethekweni Parks and Recreation Unit, decided to plant about 30 trees in a park off Weaver Crescent. We hope the birds and monkeys will enjoy them in the future! If anyone lives nearby, please water and feed them when necessary!!!



Andrew Davidson from Ethekweni Council and Sue Shafto (chairperson of Primates Africa)



MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON AND KEEP YOU SAFE – TO ALL ‘MAL’ MONKEY MANIACS - A MERRY CHRISTMAS & A PROSPEROUS PRIMATE NEW YEAR!!!

JOIN US IN OUR QUEST TO CONSERVE PRIMATES

If you haven't got time to volunteer but would like to help us in some way, simply become a member or give a Primates Africa membership to an animal loving friend or relative for their birthday. Just complete the form below and send it in to us. As a member you will receive our quarterly FREE newsletter.



PRIMATES AFRICA

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4301

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PBO No. 930026589

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



Contact person: Title:..... First Name:..... Surname:..... Date:.....

Company name (if applicable):..... Telephone:..... Fax:.....

Address:.....

..... Code:.....

Contact person: Telephone:..... Cell:..... Email:.....

Would you like to volunteer your assistance? Yes No

May we contact you by email or phone? Yes No

Membership categories: please indicate (per annum)

Individual membership R 100

Junior membership R 50

Family membership R 150

Corporate business R 150

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Please send this form together with a cheque or postal order or deposit slip to:-

P O Box 2335
M.E.C.C.
Mount Edgecombe
4301

or, deposit membership fees into the following account -
-please use the reference: 'MemYourName' e.g. memSamFox:

NEDBANK GATEWAY
A/c no: 1899030964
Branch no: 189905

Any enquiries should be directed to our monkey hotline:-

Tel: 0844329974

