

AfriCat and Tusk Trust

Tusk Trust celebrated its 25th anniversary in May 2015 with a dinner hosted by its patron, the Duke of Cambridge, at Windsor Castle. Donna Hanssen was honoured to attend on behalf of AfriCat, one of two projects that Tusk supports in Namibia.

TUSK was one of AfriCat's earliest supporters, and provides finance for an array of the Foundation's projects. In 1999 it co-sponsored the first electrified perimeter fence, which kick-started the Cheetah Rehabilitation Project. TUSK was the first group outside of Okonjima that believed in the Foundation's vision that an 'orphaned' cheetah could learn how to hunt through trial and error, and with support and time, hone its skills to become independent.

Since 2012, TUSK has been the main sponsor of AfriCat's Environmental Education Programme. The programme is an enormous success, exposing young Namibians to some of the major environmental and conservation challenges facing their generation. The programme is set to expand to increase the number of learners who pass through its doors.

The challenges to predator conservation in Africa are large indeed, for as human populations continue to grow, the land left over for wildlife shrinks almost daily. Namibia is not immune to this phenomenon and the conflict between humans and wildlife requires continuous managing.

Our sincere thanks go to TUSK for their invaluable support.

INTRODUCING DR DIETHARDT RODENWOLDT

Read more about Dr Diethardt Rodenwoldt: <http://www.africat.org/about/team-africat/our-vet-team/dietdardt-rodenwoldt>

"I am used to working within a team, and I aim to part-time assist The AfriCat Foundation during 2015/2016. Since August 2015 it has been my responsibility for some of the health and welfare of AfriCat's longer-term residents as well as several of the carnivores in the Okonjima Nature Reserve and assisting AfriCat North with the AfriCat Lion Research Programme.

During 2015/2016, I will link-up, be part of and contribute positively to the working activities of an already respected, proven, functional unit which is Team AfriCat. Together, we would like to achieve the ultimate for wild cats, canines and herbivores in terms of conservation, education, veterinary care and research.

We also plan to contribute not only to the establishment of basic farming principles for a mutual, beneficial co-existence between carnivores and cattle ranching, but simultaneously improve the ecology of the fauna and flora of the Okonjima Nature Reserve over time. I am excited and look forward to a new era of exciting challenges."

Dr Rodenwoldt, together with other veterinaries working with AfriCat, will also be involved with the workings of The Foundation from both a veterinary and a conservation perspective as well as several of the research projects which have been undertaken, helping to guide its work into the most challenging areas of conserving Africa's large predators in the face of ever-growing competition for the planet's limited resources.



AfriCat Research & Community Support

Read more about the AfriCat and Okonjima Leopard Density Study-Phase 1 Combretum:
<http://www.africat.org/projects/the-africat-predator-population-density-study-in-the-okonjima-nature-reserve/aoppds-phase-1>

The AfriCat and Okonjima Leopard Density Study - Phase 1 Combretum - Okonjima Dam 24 Jul - 11 Sep 2015



The AfriCat and Okonjima leopard density study aims to assess the density and population size of leopards (*Panthera pardus*) in the Okonjima Nature Reserve and to provide scientific data on their demography as well as spatial and temporal distribution patterns by using photographic capture-recapture sampling

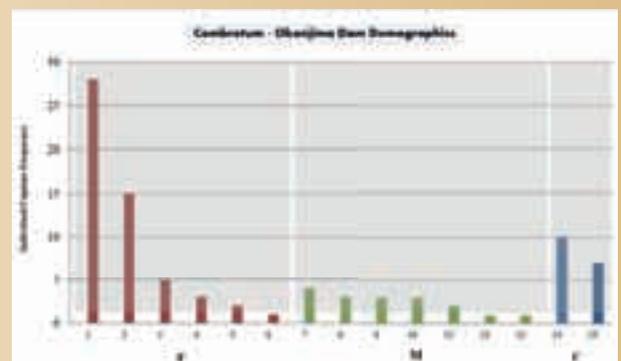
Therefore, the 20 000 ha study area was sub-divided into five approximately equally sized blocks of 4 000 ha (3 692.2 ha \pm 510.5). Each sub-block will be sampled sequentially for 50 continuous days and will be monitored by a set number of remotely triggered flash cameras (Cuddeback Triple Flash, model C123).

The first block situated in the south-west of the reserve was monitored from the 24th July 2015 - 11th September 2015.

13 individual adult leopards (six females and seven males) and two dependent juvenile leopards were photographed during 50 trapping occasions and were captured a total of 87 times. Capture frequencies ranged from 1 - 28 captures per individual (5.86 ± 7.21). Leopards were photographed at 19 out of 20 camera stations. The leopard activity index (frequency of leopards caught per 100 trap nights) was 9.05 ± 5.9 but differed significantly between camera stations.

Nine out of the 13 adult leopards that were caught during the survey period were collared individuals. While only two out of six males were collared individuals, all captured females were equipped with a radio collar. Female capture frequencies were significantly higher (9 ± 10.60) compared to male capture frequencies (2.42 ± 1.13), but showed more variations (1 - 28 captures) within their demographic class. The two juvenile leopards that were recorded during the sampling period were of approximately 6 months and 12 months of age, respectively. Both cubs' origin could be allocated to two collared females. Density was 3.9 leopards per 10 km² within the first sampling block.

Spatial distribution patterns of radio-collared individuals as displayed by the movement between the camera stations will be compared to the movement patterns established via the use of VHF-telemetry after completion of the entire study period of 250 days.





An attempt of social integration of two unrelated wild dog packs and re-introduction in the Okonjima Nature Reserve

Rehabilitation and re-introductions of wild dogs are often unsuccessful due to the lack of survival skills and their complex social and foraging behavior. Studies showed that captive-bred animals - when released together with wild caught-individuals - obtained hunting skills more rapidly (Maddock, 1992; Mills et al. 1998) than groups that solely consisted out of captive-raised individuals.

After spending eight months in close proximity to the AfriCat Carnivore Care Centre, as part of their rehabilitation programme, our three orphaned wild dog pups Yogi, Messi and Robin were relocated into a 5 ha soft release camp situated within the 20 000 ha Okonjima Nature Reserve. A fence dividing the camp into two sections was erected in preparation for the introduction of the three young wild dog to the two ten-year old wild dog females, Ricky and Raine. We had hoped by introducing the three young wild dogs (i) Ricky and Raine could gain direct benefits from an increased and stronger pack, and (ii) the three youngsters would acquire the needed hunting skills from the experienced females, in order to survive in the wild.

After an initial soft acclimatization period of 39 days of only visual, auditory and olfactory contact, the gate of the dividing fence was opened and the dogs experienced their first direct physical contact. While Ricky sought direct physical contact with the young dogs and was showing submissive behaviour in response to aggression, Raine generally avoided confrontations through physical withdrawal. Submissive behaviour was tested by the younger dogs through continuous nipping at hind legs and ears which caused multiple, superficial bite wounds to the two older females. Escalated fighting was observed - mainly initiated by the young female. Based on the high degree of aggression and perceived reluctance to incorporate Ricky and Raine into their pack, both groups were separated again.

On the morning of 13 July 2015 the three yearlings were released into the 20 000 ha Okonjima Nature Reserve. Two weeks later, the gates of Alcatraz also opened for Ricky and Raine. The second encounter - this time outside Alcatraz - was accompanied by less excitement and aggression. Raine still kept her distance, while Ricky initiated contact by constantly approaching the three young dogs constantly. The following day Raine was fatally attacked by the youngsters and died due to multiple puncture wounds causing a septic peritonitis due to a bacterial contamination. Ricky who was showing submissive behavior from the start was ultimately accepted into the pack.

Almost four months after release, AfriCat's three orphaned wild dog puppies Yogi, Messi and Robin and their newly recruited pack member Ricky are on the best way to become a fully independent and self-sustaining pack of wild dogs which is regularly seen on kills and is roaming vast areas of the 20 000 ha Okonjima Nature Reserve.



Conservation Through Education!

Read more about AfriCat's Environmental Education Programme:
<http://www.africat.org/program/education/enviromental-education>

"There is no Relevant Education without Environmental Education." Fortunately more and more people are realizing this and our Environmental Education programme is becoming better known and more sought after. We believe that quality education is preferable to quantity as we feel that this results in more committed students.

TUSK, as our main sponsor, has supported AfriCat's Environmental Education Programme since 2012 and contributes the salary of the EE Educators and the project's running costs

The Pupkewitz Foundation has donated a new Nissan pick-up to project, which will help us considerably in our work.

The challenges we still face though, are accommodation for a prospective second full time teacher, and acquiring a quad bike for use by the assistants.

We plan to host more secondary schools this year and in conjunction with the University of Namibia's Faculty of Education, hope to include at least one week of Environmental Education in each school semester.

Onguta Primary School

(Onguta Village, Ehirovipuka Conservancy, Kunene Region, north-west Namibia)

The AfriCat CCCP is committed to empowering farming communities in carnivore-conflict zones, to better manage and protect their livestock, ultimately mitigating conflict and reducing carnivore persecution.

Through their Community Support programmes, AfriCat aims to upgrade rural schools in the !Khoa di //Hoas and Ehirovipuka Conservancies.

One such school in the Ehirovipuka Conservancy, the Onguta Primary School, which offers Grades 1-4 to approximately 50 students, comprises three tents as classrooms, sand floors and a metal trunk for storage; extreme heat and dust makes for less than ideal learning conditions! Yet, the three teachers and community are dedicated and keen to educate their children as best possible. The traditional leader, Chief Fanuel Ndjwiwa, is a conservationist, a visionary and an exemplary leader: his aim is to offer schooling to 150 children from pre-school age (5-6 years) to grade 3 (lower primary), is committed to the AfriCat Livestock Protection Programme (LPP) and is instrumental in minimising the persecution of large carnivores in his area of jurisdiction.

AfriCat's mission is to further support this pro-active community by developing a formal school. The site for the school has been allocated by the Chief and his community; a school playground was built by AfriCat in April 2015, assisted by students of the Private School Swakopmund.



A strange discovery and a new surgical procedure!

Read more about A Strange Discovery and a New Surgical Procedure!: <http://africat.org/a-strange-discovery-and-a-new-surgical-procedure>



During the 2014 and 2015 health examinations on our cheetahs at AfriCat, the vets used an ultrasound scanner to make sure that all the animal's internal organs look healthy. When it was 12-year-old Curly's turn in July 2014, no one was expecting anything abnormal. However, a worrying mass was found in her mid right abdominal cavity.

Fortunately Dr Hartman, a specialist surgeon, was part of the team. He offered to use a surgical technique called laparoscopy to get a closer look at the growth inside Curly. Laparoscopy is sometimes called 'Keyhole Surgery' because instead of having to make a long cut to be able to see the area, the surgeons use special instruments and a camera, which they place inside through tiny cuts (keyholes).

We all watched on a large screen as Doctor Hartman moved the camera around inside Curly's abdomen, and suddenly there it was – a strange, bumpy, round pink ball of tissue – the mysterious mass. The decision was made to perform a type of surgery never before performed on a cheetah.

Once the mass was out, a sickle-bush *Dichrostachys cinerea* thorn was found right in the middle of it. Curly had a 'foreign body-induced granuloma' and not a tumour!

Over the past hundred years, commercial farming has caused much damage to Namibia's



natural habitat through over-grazing and a lack of natural fires that has allowed the ascendancy of certain bush species and resulted in the majority of Namibia's open plains, including on Okonjima, to become thorny thickets. This is now the environment where the cheetah, a sprinter, has to hunt to survive. Cheetahs' speed and binocular vision allow them to spot prey from afar which gives them an advantage over their competitors. They therefore prefer living in open plains.

The thorn may either have entered Curly through her skin or been swallowed. Cheetahs don't chew their food, and so sometimes grass, leaves and sand are swallowed with their meat. In Curly's case, we suspect a sickle bush thorn went down too! The thorn must have poked right through the stomach wall and ended up floating loose in the abdomen, causing enough irritation there that Curly's body began to build a granuloma around it.

Curly recovered very quickly from her surgery and is still perfectly fit and healthy. She seems completely unaware that she made medical history that day!



Cheetahs in captivity need a better diet

Captive cheetahs commonly suffer from chronic inflammation of the stomach lining, various forms of kidney failure, apparent low libido and immune system abnormalities, which are rarely seen in their wild counterparts. The reasons for this are largely unknown, but it now seems that unnatural food – rather than captivity itself – is the cause of their known health problems in captivity.

A collaborative study analysed the blood and urine samples from more than 50 captive and wild cheetahs at the AfriCat Foundation to generate some basic information about captive cheetah physiology and metabolism

The results of the study indicate that the diets of high-protein, rich muscle-meat fed to captive cheetah lead to the production of low levels of dopamine and serotonin and excessive amounts of the stress hormone cortisol, which could lead to chronic psychological problems and organ damage.

A more balanced, healthy diet of fat, skin, blood, organs and just a little muscle meat, reflecting their natural diet, may be what cheetahs in captivity need to thrive.

"Likes" don't save lives!

Liking something on social media might make us feel as if we are contributing, but are we having an impact? Not much, according to UNICEF, who in a recent YouTube commercial send a clear message:
 'Likes don't save lives. Money does.'
 A crucial part of our work at The

AfriCat Foundation is raising the necessary funds for our cause. We also run a number of important projects in need of continuous funding. We have against likes, but taking care of the rescued carnivores at our Carnivore Care Centre and monitoring the rehabilitated cats in the 200km² Okonjima Nature Reserve costs money and WE NEED YOUR HELP!
 Here is a list of how you can really make a difference for AfriCat:

- N\$50 food for 1 day for a big cat
- N\$250 food for 1 week
- N\$250 weekend stay for 1 student at our Environmental Education Programme
- N\$3,000 VHF-radio collar for tracking and research purposes
- N\$10,000 one serious veterinary procedure
- N\$10,000 two trail cameras for the Namibian African Wild Dog Project
- N\$25,000 GPS-Satellite collar for one lion

N\$60,000 building of one stock-kraal to protect cattle and goats for one village



AfriCat Projects 2015-2016

- AfriCat Hobatere Lion Research Project
- The Namibian African Wild Dog Project
- AfriCat Environmental Education Programme
- AfriCat Cheetah Rehabilitation Project
- AfriCat Predator and Prey Population Density Study in the 20 000ha Okonjima Nature Reserve
- Management of Invasive Acacia Species in the 20 000ha Okonjima Nature Reserve

Support the monitoring of recently rehabilitated carnivore in the 20,000ha ONR

Many of AfriCat's carnivores rescued from substandard captive conditions are fit enough to be rehabilitated into the 20 000 ha Okonjima Nature Reserve. To do this effectively, we need anaesthetic drugs, equipment for tracking and monitoring, supplementary meat and fuel for daily tracking.
 Fuel costs for 1 week: N\$400 / Meat for a recently released Cheetah for 1 month: N\$600

Human-wildlife Conflict Mitigation & Community Support

For most Namibians, livestock are their lifeline. AfriCat strives to find workable solutions to this conflict by introducing Livestock Management Programmes which include improved livestock protection.
 The Livestock Protection Programme at AfriCat North includes the building of cattle and goat kraals (pens) in communal conservancies.
 Materials to build an average-sized kraal: approximately N\$60 000

Adopt a spot

When you symbolically ADOPT-A-SPOT for AfriCat, you are contributing to the conservation of large carnivores in Namibia. At our new Carnivore Care and Information Centre we have painted life size cats on our wall but their spots and rosettes are not coloured in yet – as soon as you ADOPT-A-SPOT, the Cheetahs and Leopards will regain their spots!



The funding goes towards AfriCat's general running costs, veterinary expenses, computers, vehicles, cameras, collars, telemetry, research and fuel.



Adopt a Carnivore

Read more about each cat at www.africat.org/support/adopt-a-carnivore
 This programme supports the animals in our Carnivore Care Centre (CCC) where you can 'adopt' individual animals and fund their upkeep and veterinary costs.

Environmental Education...the only chance for co-existence

Conservation through Education is our motto: a weekend (2 nights) for a school class at the AfriCat Environmental Education Centre costs approximately N\$250 per child. Donations to this project support the costs of educational materials, transport, food and refreshments.

"There is no relevant Education without Environmental Education."
 Ms. Meryl Barry, Head of the Pupkewitz Foundation, surprised AfriCat with a special donation towards Environmental Education! In her speech Ms Barry appreciated the conservation work of the AfriCat Foundation and in particular that of the Environmental Education Programme.



It's nice to have Practical Diagnostic Tools:

The X-RAY and ULTRA-SOUND MACHINE enables and speeds up the accuracy of diagnostic non-invasive ways on sick or injured wild animals. It helps reducing the length, the number of anaesthesia's to be given and the stress levels of affected patients before the start of targeted treatment.
 Presently we have to immobilise the animals for the transport for medical attention to and from veterinary facilities far distances away from their home".

Research

Sponsor a collar or trail cameras

AfriCat North uses GPS-enabled collars to track Lions; data collected will determine the frequency of Lions crossing the Etosha and Hobatere Park boundaries and how the conflict between Lions and farmers could be minimised. In more accessible areas, AfriCat also uses VHF radio & satellite iridium collars on Leopard, Cheetah, Spotted and Brown Hyaena as well as Caracal. A Predator and Prey Population Density Study is soon to commence within the Okonjima Private Nature Reserve.

- GPS-Satellite Collars for Lion: N\$50 000
- VHF Radio Collars: N\$3 500 per collar
- Satellite Collar (Iridium): N\$20 000



SPONSOR A CAT MASK FOR AFRICAT'S ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

"PLEASE HELP AFRICAT make the experience more enjoyable and unforgettable for our young, future leaders who visit AfriCat, by sponsoring cat masks.

A cheetah, leopard or lion mask, with vital 'cat-statistics' printed on the inside, is handed over to our scholars when they visit the AfriCat Carnivore Care Centre to take back home as a 'memento'. We need a sponsor to cover printing and design costs."



Long-Time AfriCat Supporter -

BRUCE ALLEN, SPONSORS THE CHEETAH LURE @ AFRICAT'S CARNIVORE CARE CENTRE!

AfriCat's non-releasable 'ambassadors' housed in the Carnivore Care Centre need exercise and the Cheetah Lure encourages cheetah to run at high speed, emulating 'the chase in the wild' It also serves as a great education tool for visitors, both children and grownups, to see the cheetahs at full speed, doing what nature intended them to.

Bruce generously funded a much-needed, specially designed, cheetah, exercise, lure system which has come all the way from the US. This lure will be a fantastic way to keep the cats at our Carnivore Care Centre fit and also serves as a great education tool for visitors, both children and grownups, to see the cheetahs at full speed, doing what nature intended them to. These lures were initially designed for greyhounds, but also work very well for cheetahs.

Lorraine Brookes runs half-marathon to raise funds

Lorraine Brookes contacted AfriCat UK in April 2015. She wanted to run the Ikano Robin Hood half-marathon to raise funds. She told us she had never run before and was setting herself a 'personal challenge', which she met with a highly creditable time of 3 hours 5 mins and exceeded her target of £1,000 for AfriCat. Lorraine is passionate about all life and feels strongly that, should the big cats disappear from the wild, the world would be much diminished. To encourage donations Lorraine arranged a raffle for those who donated. She also attended the AfriCat film 'Night' in London which gave AfriCat UK a chance to thank her personally. AfriCat UK would love to hear from you if you would like to take on a person challenge for AfriCat and we can help you with publicity info-uk@africat.org



AfriCat UK fundraiser for the Lion Guards

There was a very positive response to this appeal especially from supporters who appreciated the way AfriCat and the community were working together to find a solution. Frequent reference was made to our expectations that, while we struggle to live alongside our predators in the UK, we expect other people to live with much more dangerous animals.



At one event donations were received from people entering competitions for prizes. External events helped the appeal, with increased donations after the shooting of 'Cecil'. To date we have raised £1,473 and have the promise of more from ticket sales and donations from the recent film Night. In November Paul's Jazz Evening is being held in aid of all AfriCat's lion work including the Lion Guards. A new webpage has been developed for ongoing donations to all of AfriCat's lion projects. <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/africatlions>. AfriCat UK has been delighted by the response and would like to thank all those who have kindly contributed and enabled AfriCat to continue the work of the Lion Guards.

Putman Group Sponsors Second Livestock Kraal

Stichting SPOTS, Netherlands, has supported the AfriCat Livestock Protection Programme since 2010; the Orumaua Kraal is SPOTS' tenth kraal and the second donation by The Putman Group. The Orumaua village is situated approximately 2 km from the Etosha National Park fence, in a so-called lion 'hot-spot'; earlier this year, 3 cows were killed by lions and spotted hyaenas.



At the hand-over, the resident Ehirovipuka Committee member, Mr Pinias Katjirumbu and his community, thanked Lion Guardians Jackson & Kandavii for their help, committing to AfriCat's conditions to kraal their livestock at night, to maintain & repair the kraal and to refraining from persecuting large carnivores. Sincere gratitude goes to *The Putman Group and Stichting SPOTS*. "Simone Eckhardt and your Team... AfriCat, the LIONS & the COMMUNITIES, thank you!"



Chiara Witt is an extraordinary young lady (13 yrs), who decided it was time to do something for Namibia's free-ranging lions... "I heard people talking of the trouble facing our lions and thought of an idea to help". Her mom, Yvonne, set the scene by hand-making survival wrist-bands in aid of Save The Rhino Trust; Chiara followed suit by roping in two of her friends, Megan & Sean, and together they began the 'Loomies for Lions' factory, ready to compete against a number of other young people in the Bank Windhoek Bizz Kids Competition, December 2014; here the enthusiastic trio raised approx. N\$ 3 000.00.



fltr: AfriCat's Jenny & Selma, Chiara Witt, Sean & Megan Jansen van Rensburg



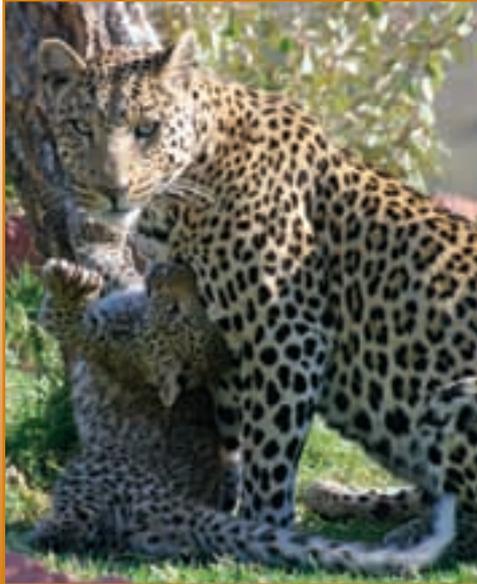
This was just the beginning ...2015

Annabel Pope

a wildlife artist has a history of supporting charities and encouraging travel. Her passion for her subject matter is captured in her unique style and variety of mediums. Annabel a supporter of Tusk recently stayed at Okonjima, which she said was a wonderful experience with a real chance to observe behavioural characteristic at close quarters which she finds important in her work. Her kind donation of a painted called Contended Pair was shown at the recent AfriCat Film Night with the intention of offering for Auction, However it captured the heart of Camilla and she made AfriCat a generous offer which was accepted. AfriCat UK is delighted that Annabel is happy to work with AfriCat in the future and has kindly offered to donate a percentage of any sales to AfriCat supporters. Check out her website and see what you might like....



they set up a stand at the Windhoek Kids Carneval (KIKAWI), where Chiara sat for hours selling her Loombands, another N\$ 4 000.00 came in for AfriCat North's Lion Research Programme! As a token of thanks, the hardworking trio have been invited to see AfriCat behind-the-scenes!



MJ and Shanti

MJ, Okonjima's legendary female leopard is now 15yrs old and still going strong.

Towards the end of March 2013 she stayed up in the mountains and we suspected that she is having cubs again. On 13 May 2013 it was confirmed. One of Okonjima's guides spotted her with a beautiful little cub. Her 4th litter. Since then MJ and the little one has been spotted frequently, entertaining our Okonjima's guests with awesome sightings. When the cub was a year old and by now confirmed as a female, MJ started pushing her away to start going by herself. We decided it was time to collar the cub and on 25 Apr 2014 she was darted and collared. We named her Shanti – meaning "quiet", "peace", "tranquillity" in Sanskrit.

3 months later she was seen more and more by herself in the western side of MJ's territory doing very well on her own. Meanwhile MJ landed in some fights with new comers Jo Jo Farque and Lila trying to win some of her territory. She had some bad injuries, but still seem to keep her territory.

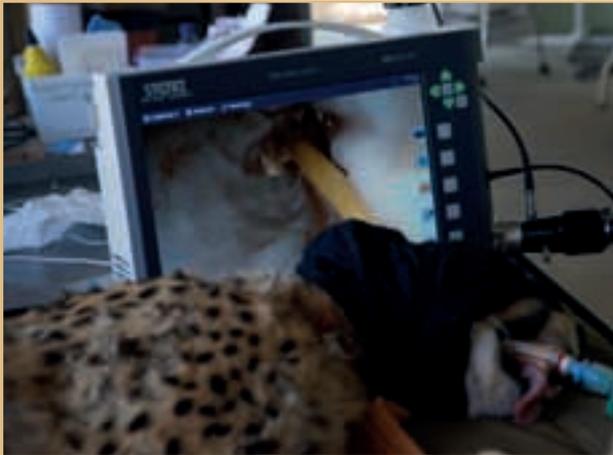
Mother and daughter – now 2yrs and 8 months old are in great condition and giving Okonjima guests sightings to remember a life time.



Endoscopic Research

In addition to the dental and oral examinations Dr Steenkamp also performed the endoscopy of the stomachs and took biopsies to evaluate the level of gastritis in the AfriCat cheetahs. He used a flexible endoscope, a camera with which to visualize the inside of the oesophagus and stomach. Cheetahs in captivity frequently suffer from gastritis, an inflammatory condition of the stomach lining, often associated with the bacteria *Helicobacter*.

Small biopsies of the stomach lining were collected for examination under a microscope. The underlying cause of gastritis in captive cheetahs is unknown. It is our hope that this work at AfriCat will provide some answers to this mystery...



The Motorbike 'gang' released into the Okonjima Nature Reserve

A new group of cheetahs was finally released into the Okonjima Nature Reserve in September 2015. The 'motorbike'-gang Harley, Aprilia and Ducati arrived as 5-months old orphans at AfriCat in 2009.

Their mother had been shot and after the farmer caught them they were kept in a chicken cage for four weeks. Starsky and his brother Hutch came to AfriCat's care when they were 3 months old. Sharing the same fate, Starsky and Hutch were introduced to Harley, Aprilia and Ducati. About 6 months later, Hutch died sadly and unexpectedly of natural causes.

After spending almost six years at AfriCat's Carnivore Care Centre, the Motorbikes were finally released and given their second chance in the wild on the 16th of September 2015. After several split ups during their first weeks of freedom, the motorbike 'gang' finally reunited again and managed to make their first kill. Two weeks later Harley and Starsky split from the females once again moving towards the eastern fence line where they ultimately settled down. Aprilia and Ducati moved westwards into the open plains before they eventually started moving towards their brothers. Presently Ducati joined up with her brothers, while Aprilia remained on her own. We are hoping that the siblings will meet up with each other again as soon as possible for their chances of survival would be so much better if they'd stay together as a coalition.



The AfriCat Story evening report

A very successful Film Night at the Framestore, London

Lorraine Kelly one of AfriCat's patron's discussed with David, chairman of AfriCat UK, her interest in conservation in general and AfriCat in particular. Questions were asked and answered including the impact of the shooting of 'Cecil' the lion and how we can work together to support people and wildlife. As well as listening to Lorraine those attending were able to see some short films taken by another AfriCat patron Chris Packham on the work of AfriCat and catch up on the current projects.

The audience learned that:

The AfriCat Foundation was founded in the early 90's. Since that time AfriCat has grown significantly but has stayed faithful to its mission. But what developed into a carnivore welfare organisation has over the years identified the need to include a focus on education and research as being essential to accomplishing our mission - the long-term conservation of Namibia's large carnivores and the enhancement of the surrounding communities.



Lorraine Kelly with AfriCat's Chair David Farquharson

A raffle and other fund raising activities on the evening raised £350 to help fund AfriCat's Lion Guards work near the Etosha National Park, Namibia.

Thank You's

1. CYMOT, Campmore/Greensport: camping equipment for 'lion guardians' and base camp
2. TUSK: For Sponsoring our Environmental Education Educator
3. Graham and Shirley Vickery: Monthly donors of AfriCat since 2012
4. Anel and Peet Du Toit: Sole sponsors of leopard at AfriCat Carnivore Care Centre since 2013
5. Elizabeth M Simanaga: Monthly donor of AfriCat Environmental Education since 2014
6. Dr Adrian Tordiffe and Dr Gerhard Steenkamp- for organising the 2015 Annual Health Checks
7. Chiara Witts- 13 years old, raised funds for AfriCat's lions by selling 'Loomies for Lions' at the Bank Windhoek Bizz Kids Competition and at KIKAWI (Windhoek Kids' Carnival).
8. Steppes Discovery/Steppes Travel, Ultimate Safaris and Wilderness Travel: for sponsoring the 2015 Annual Health Checks
9. Bruce Allen, UK: For sponsoring the AfriCat Cheetah Lure Project
10. Dr Diethardt Rodenwoldt: For readily assisting the AfriCat Central & AfriCat North with supervising and ensuring scientifically sound Large Carnivore Research Projects, managed and monitored the animals in our Carnivore Care Centre.
11. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Namibia: for assisting AfriCat with facility registrations and permit renewals
12. Okonjima Lodge: For their constant support
13. Ignition Law & David Farquharson
14. Ubuntu, Namibia
15. Stichting SPOTS, Netherlands: Kraal material, GPS-Satellite Lion collars
16. Ms. Meryl Barry, Head of the Pukewitz Foundation for sponsoring the 2x4 Nissan 'pick-up' for the AfriCat Environmental Education Programme

Cover photograph:

Many thanks to
 Anja Denker Wildlife
 Photography & Visual Art



Update

Perivoli Okonjima Country School (POCS)

This very important part of our educational program continued as one of the extra-curricular programs in the afternoons. One of the recent projects was re-using and recycling and this included preparing numerous containers and placing them at the different lodges to collect all kinds of food and drinks packaging.

These in turn could be re-used for art and crafts assignments throughout the rest of the year. This particular environmental project coincided with Namibia's Independence Day. A school celebration day with lots of fun activities was planned and in preparation for the occasion, all the different grades had to use some of the recyclable materials to finish



'their' designated part of the national flag. The end result was a painted egg-carton model with a few other waste products finishing off the finer details. The day was a roaring success with lots of fun

competitions between our two teams: the Leopards and the Cheetahs. The local DJ also assisted with the last part of the day, which featured line dancing and some sort of new dance invented by the little ones. It was quite an event!



AfriCat WORLDWIDE

Please take note:

If you are a UK or USA tax payer you can take advantage of Gift Aid by contacting our representative in the USA or UK. Our UK programme works in partnership with the TUSK Trust, who administer donations on our behalf. If you are interested in information on legacy donations please contact our AfriCat representative.

AfriCat UK

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AfriCat America

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SPOTS

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 NGO with anbi recognition.
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AfriCat
NAMIBIA



AfriCat's Wish List 2014/2015
"In order to make a real difference, your support on any level will be sincerely appreciated"
- the AfriCat Team in the field -

Essential Salaries:
Research Veterinarian: A much-needed professional will supervise & ensure scientifically sound Large Carnivore Research Projects, manage & monitor the animals in our Carnivore Care Centre and support farming communities in conflict zones.
NS 325 000.00 per annum
http://www.africat.org/about/team-africat/our-vet-team

Lion & Wild Dog Guards: these dedicated community members are elected by their Conservancies, essentially carrying the message of 'conservation from the highest authorities to the farmer.'
Cost approx.: NS 20 000.00 per month / NS260 000.00 per annum.

Livestock Protection Programme:
To effectively reduce livestock loss through better protection and to minimise the destruction of lions & other carnivores, AfriCat builds nocturnal kraals for committed communities, assisted by community leaders and the Lion Guards. http://www.africat.org/support/donate/build-a-kraal
Approx. Cost per livestock kraal (depending on size/number of livestock):
NS 40 000.00 - NS60 000.00 per kraal;

AfriCat North Research & Community Support Projects:
Field Vehicles, 4x4 pick-ups fitted with extra long-range fuel tanks, water containers, heavy-duty springs and tyres, etc. http://www.africat.org/about/africat-north
Costs: NS350 000.00 - NS650 000.00

'Conservation Through Education':
AfriCat's Environmental Education programme is popular amongst schools nationwide and requires a second Educator's Salary and accommodation close to the EE Centre. Costs approx: Educator's Salary NS20 000.00 per month / NS 260 000.00 per annum.

Motion Detection Cameras (Trail Cameras) / GPS-Satellite & VHF Collars:
to effectively gather data, both visual (trail cameras) and location, movement, etc. (collars), the various projects require
Cost approx.: NS8 000.00 per camera | Collars: Lion GPS / Satellite \$28 000.00 - NS 30 000.00 each; Cheetah | Leopard VHF collars approx. NS3 500.00 each.

Mobile Field Clinic:
4x4 truck, with long-range fuel tanks, water containers, heavy-duty springs and tyres, extra power-supply, etc. AfriCat's field projects are expanding to include communal support and will be modified to allow basic surgical procedures in the field.
Cost approx.: Vehicle NS 800 000.00.

Community School and Hostel:
The 'Onguta Primary School' in the Etirovupuka Conservancy, Kunene Region, north-western Namibia, provides a basic education for grades 1-4; the classrooms comprise two, dilapidated Safari-tents, sand floors and too few desks and chairs.
Cost Phase 1 approx.: (2 classrooms, store room + 4 toilets) approx. NS 600 000.00 - 800 000.00

Land Purchase to establish 'Centre for Adult Learning', Kunene Region, north-west Namibia:
AfriCat proposes the development of a Centre of Learning for Adults and Youth in the Kunene Region, supporting communal conservancies. For this, a portion of land must be purchased in close proximity to communal farmland.
Cost: approx. NS 2 250 000.00.

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ING 'Goede Doelentfonds voor medewerkers'

