



INGWELALA

GATE LETTER

JANUARY 2017

Dear Member,

The staff take this opportunity to wish you a prosperous 2017, and many enjoyable visits to Ingwelala through the year.

The 2016 year-end produced a maximum temperature of 43 degrees Celsius and a minimum temperature of 18 degrees Celsius. The summer rains finally arrived, measuring 145.9 mm at the camp weather station. Of interest is the placement of a rain gauge at Buffels Hide which measured 80.5 mm, showing a variance of 65.4mm of rainfall between the two positions. The Sekgobela and Hammerkop rivers flowed strongly twice, both tributaries to the Nhlalalumi River. The Nhlalalumi River itself has not flowed upstream of the Sekgobela confluence.

Big Five sightings continued to be excellent with the lions active on buffalo kills and three young cubs seen frequently near Third Crossing on Buffelsbed. Leopard sightings were fewer than anticipated, perhaps a factor of improved concealment with the bush eventually thickening up?

There was only one sighting of wild dogs, which is disappointing as the dogs are usually very active in summer, coinciding with the impala lambing.

General game sightings recorded were hippo, impala, kudu, nyala, bush buck, grey duiker, steenbok, hyena, giraffe, zebra, blue wildebeest, waterbuck, genet, spring hare and honey badger. A crocodile was seen in Camp Dam.

The Birders listed Fish Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle, Southern Carmine Bee-eater, European Bee-eater, Ground Hornbill, Levillant's Cuckoo, Jacobin Cuckoo, African Pygmy Kingfisher, Spur-winged Goose, African Spoonbill, Black Stork, Marabou Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Saddle-billed Stork, Bronze-winged Courser, Hadedda and Eurasian Hobby.

The vervet monkeys are relentless in the reception car park, opportunistic robbers of any unattended snacks and drinks. Please secure your goods and keep a close eye on the younger children, who the monkeys find easier targets.

General:

1. For security measures, please continue to disclose your Bungalow number when requesting a "radio check". Please continue to assist field staff by reporting any suspicious vehicles/persons that you suspect to be a security risk or any fresh human spoor seen (outside of camp). Your assistance in this regard is highly appreciated.
2. Gate staff are requested to ensure that Gate Indemnity Forms are correctly completed when entering the Reserve.
3. If for any reason, you are using your "town vehicle" for game viewing, please ensure you obtain temporary decals from Reception before traversing on Ingwelala so all vehicles are easily identifiable.
4. Because of direct and indirect feeding of animals resulting in unnatural behavioural changes, it became necessary to euthanase the entire camp baboon troop. To avoid a recurrence of this unfortunate action in future, it remains imperative that **no feeding of any form of wildlife, including birds and any small creature**

is strictly adhered to. The same applies to Sibon Camp and all the picnic sites, hides and bomas. Continue to draw blinds and curtains when leaving the unit unoccupied and ensure all doors and windows are locked.

5. General Working hours are:

	Shop	Reception	Fuel	Workshop
Monday – Friday	08h00 - 12h00 14h30 - 17h00	08h00 - 12h00 14h30 - 17h00	07h30 - 12h00 14h30 - 17h00	08h00 - 12h00 14h30 - 17h00
Saturday	08h00 - 13h00	08h00 - 13h00	07h30 - 13h00	08h00 - 13h00
Sunday	08h00 - 12h00	08h00 - 12h00	07h30 - 12h00	08h00 - 12h00

6. A Duty Manager is available to assist you after hours with **emergencies**, contactable via the Gate Staff on radio Channel 1. An after hour **call out fee** of R 530.00 is applicable.

7. Please report any water leaks as well as trees that may have been pushed over onto the roads by elephants.

8. The Do's and Don'ts and Game Drive Etiquette are attached for your attention.

9. For your convenience I list several local service providers contactable should you require their services:

Building:

Chameleon Builders Francois on 073 205 4951

Dukes Construction Carl on 079 492 8432

Solar:

Bushmasters Louis on 079 525 2122

Hoedspruit Electrical Fred on 082 557 9211

Ingwelala Robere through Reception

Gas:

Bosbok Gas Nathan on 015 793 0118

The Gas Man Carl on 079 492 8432

Wellness:

Timbavati Travel Spa Tania on 072 398 8053

Groceries:

Pick n Pay Moses on 015 793 0482

Thatch Vac: Fred on 082 813 8013

John Llewellyn

Reserve Manager
Ingwelala Share Block Ltd.