



RESERVE REPORT

October 2018

Introduction

Chris Mayes, our Conservation Manager reports:

“The earlier parts of October were relatively incident free with regards elephant incursions and their associated impact within the camp area. This changed dramatically in the latter days of the month. Multiple breaks of the perimeter fence is again becoming the norm during my morning inspection. As I write this there are five separate breaks from last night that require repair today. This is again putting pressure on the conservation team to effect repairs as our other current projects are been delayed, mostly the completion of the Telkom poles and cable removal along our portion of Argyle Road. The most notable damage was to Bungalow #19 lath fencing and the solar panel installation at Bungalow #145. The elephant responsible for this damage is the same bull reported on in previous months, easily identifiable from his tusk configuration. However, this is not the bull that was translocated to southern Timbavati. He has subsequently been joined by a larger bull with impressive symmetrical and matching ivory, my staff confirm having seen him previously visiting camp.

We have experimented with the trampoline springs on Fence Number #3 which is close to the Airstrip. It remains early days for this trial, but the results are not as successful as we hoped for. The idea is to create more elasticity in the fence, making it difficult for the fence wires to snap instantaneously. In this way the elephant is vulnerable to a longer pulse shock which we hoped would serve as a better deterrent. The Conservation Team will continue to experiment with different options to increase the level of deterrent.

A manual pole driver jig was designed and then welded up by Dave Annandale in the Maintenance Team to assist with Y-standard and earth spike installations. This assists with the earthing grid for the fence. Due to the extreme dry conditions it is critical to improve the earthing characteristics of the electric fence. This is unfortunately on hold as the daily fence repairs are undertaken.

The replacement of the steel wire strands has continued whenever possible. This will now be done in conjunction with the new Y- standard supports as mentioned above.”

The Conservation Team is spending an enormous amount of its working hours managing the elephant incursions into camp and the necessary fence repairs that need to be undertaken. In turn, the Maintenance Team is spending a great deal of its time searching for water leaks, infrastructure damage and reporting this damage to the various affected Members. I don't recall ever seeing such massive piles of opened Job Cards in the Maintenance Office!

It seems never ending, but hopefully with some useful rain and the veld greening up, the elephant pressure may ease up in camp.



Nyala Incident

A very unfortunate incident occurred when a nyala bull gored Brad Waggoner from Bungalow # 74. The incident happened near the bungalow around 08h00 one morning. Massive acknowledgement and thanks must go to everyone who rushed to the scene to assist Brad and his wife Joan. The paramedic from Africa Safe-T, deployed from the Hoedspruit node, was outstanding, as was the crisis management from our insurance broker firstEquity and the SATIB 24 CRISIS CALL facility. The support was simply amazing, with a helicopter deployed from Johannesburg to airlift Brad to a Nelspruit medical facility.

On site, Members in Bungalow # 209 and # 197 assisted hugely. Staff Members Chris Mayes and Dave Annandale who attended the scene deserve special thanks. Back in the office Janet Mayes, Adél Annandale and Daphne Strydom kept a calm approach and administratively kept all the logistical arrangements in hand. Well done to everyone who helped save Brad's life!

As an awareness initiative, to remind our community how remote Ingwelala really is when "things go wrong", Joan asked me to publish in the Reserve Report her letter of gratitude written to the Board:

"Dear Belinda,

Thank you so much for your email, your concern and your good thoughts.
We so, so much appreciate it.

Brad is doing well. And improving daily albeit slowly. It will take time and
There are a few hurdles ahead but so far so good. And for that we are
extremely grateful.

We are also extremely grateful to John and the Ingwelala family for all
They did on the day. They, along with the members, who rushed to our
Bungalow, literally saved his life.

The facilities in the medical suite were top notch. The staff were incredible.
We would not be here in Nelspruit hospital on the mend were it not for what
Everyone did to help us.

We are eternally grateful to John, Dave, Chris, Daphne, Adel, Janet, Natalie –
and also to Chris and Auriel Thorpe - we are eternally grateful as we also are to
Connie and his daughter Robyn and her partner - the Ingwelala members who
came to our aid. We believe it was their initial efforts which helped stabilise Brad
and keep him with us before we got to the Ingwelala Medical Centre
and the staff took over as we waited for the helicopter.

So many of our Ingwelala family did so much for us and so fast. Were it
not for them and the organising of the ambulance and helicopter I don't
think I would be writing this today.

There are no words that can express how thankful and grateful we are
for all everyone did for us. We appreciate it with all our hearts and will

Be eternally grateful to you all.

God bless you and thank you all. We look forward to seeing you all and having a hug and thanking you each in person soon.

With love and deep appreciation,

**Joan & Brad Waggoner
Bungalow #74”**

Brad is recovering really well and has been given the green light to fly home on 13 November. Join us in wishing Brad a full and speedy recovery.

Annual Umbabat Game Census

The annual Umbabat Game Census was carried out in the second week of September. The census is done by means of a helicopter, with a team consisting of the pilot, two counters and a recorder. Transects are flown over the entire reserve, all sightings are recorded, meaning it is a total count.

Species	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Baboon Troops	1	1	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	1	0
Blue Wildebeest	27	11	13	23	16	17	20	22	36	6	4
Buffalo	32	24	839	308	202	47	452	380	794	272	189
Bushbuck	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Duiker	5	6	3	1	10	7	10	12	10	6	4
Elephant	166	163	90	192	73	30	231	219	248	141	351
Giraffe	20	23	26	27	21	18	27	29	27	15	31
Grysbuck	0	0	0	1	1	5	10	1	6	3	11
Ground Hornbill	5	9	11	8	6	14	12	18	16	16	27
Hippo	2	4	1	2	1	8	8	10	23	5	7
Hyena	0	0	1	0	0	5	1	1	19	1	9
Impala	1430	1538	1418	1483	1518	1271	2016	1805	1497	2558	2171
Jackal,black backed	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kudu	94	61	90	74	83	61	114	107	90	153	99
Leopard	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	3	1	3	1
Nyala	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	15	15
Steenbuck	27	21	18	17	31	23	37	51	30	21	21
Vulture Nests	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0
Warthog	36	15	37	44	17	30	48	46	21	38	38
Waterbuck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	2	1	13
Zebra	114	111	83	47	53	31	73	87	162	72	82
Honey badger	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Ostrich	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raptors nest	0	0	2	1	2	2	1	2	0	2	4
Wild dogs								4	0	0	
Monkey Troops								2	0	2	
Crocodile								1	0	2	

With an annual census that is a “once off” count on one particular day in the year, the numbers counted and recorded must be considered in that light. It is an open ecological system where animals have free movement in and out of the various Reserves and KNP. Its rather like a person taking a snap shot of their bank balance on one particular day, the number will be very different on pay day compared to month end!

Its therefore useful to look at the numbers for the species over a longer term, in this case the numbers provided are over the past decade. There are no long-term trends in any one species that raise any alarms.



Meet the Team



Sibongile Mathebula joined the Housekeeping Team on 01 March 2010. In 2011 Sibongile was requested to assist with housekeeping duties in the management staff residences. During the busy periods Sibongile often assists Members with Bungalow cleans and chars and asked that special mention be made that the generosity of Members is hugely appreciated by all the staff.

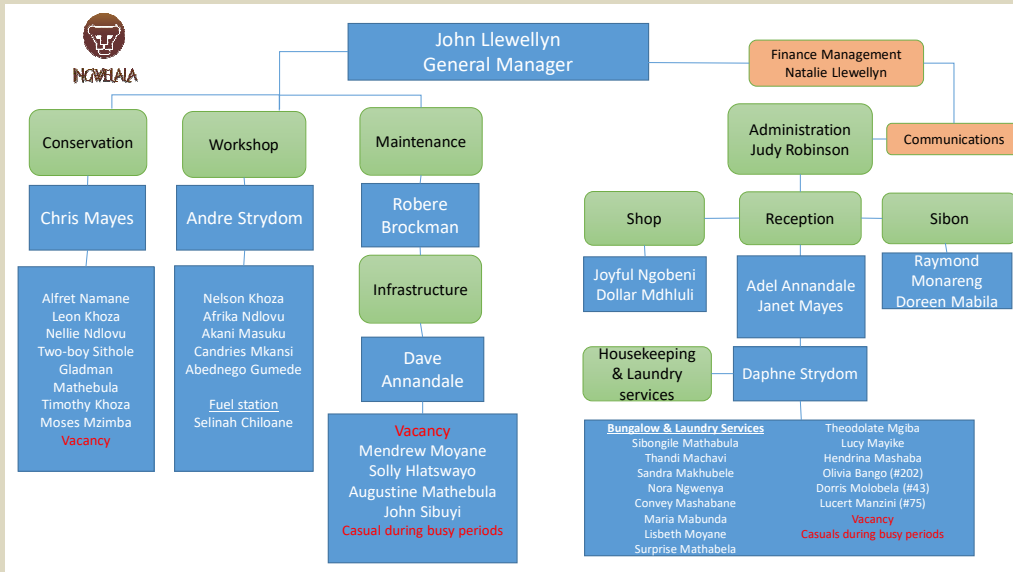
Sibongile was the oldest of seven siblings, herself and three brothers and three sisters grew up in the Hlabekisa Village near Manyeleti Game Reserve. Her father was a builder who assisted local government to build schools and clinics. At school, Sibongile obtained a matric pass.

Sibongile loves animals, especially domestic dogs, but in the wild environment enjoys seeing big bull elephants, as she is in sheer awe of their magnificent body size. Tree wise, the marula comes up trumps because the fruit are used for brewing beer and making jams and jellies.

In her private time back home, Sibongile markets and sells cosmetics and toiletries to help with additional income to look after her (only) son (32 years old) and daughter-in-law and their two children.

On the sports front, football is closely followed on television and Sibongile is a huge fan of Orlando Pirates.

Staff complement



Staff Movement

Nil.

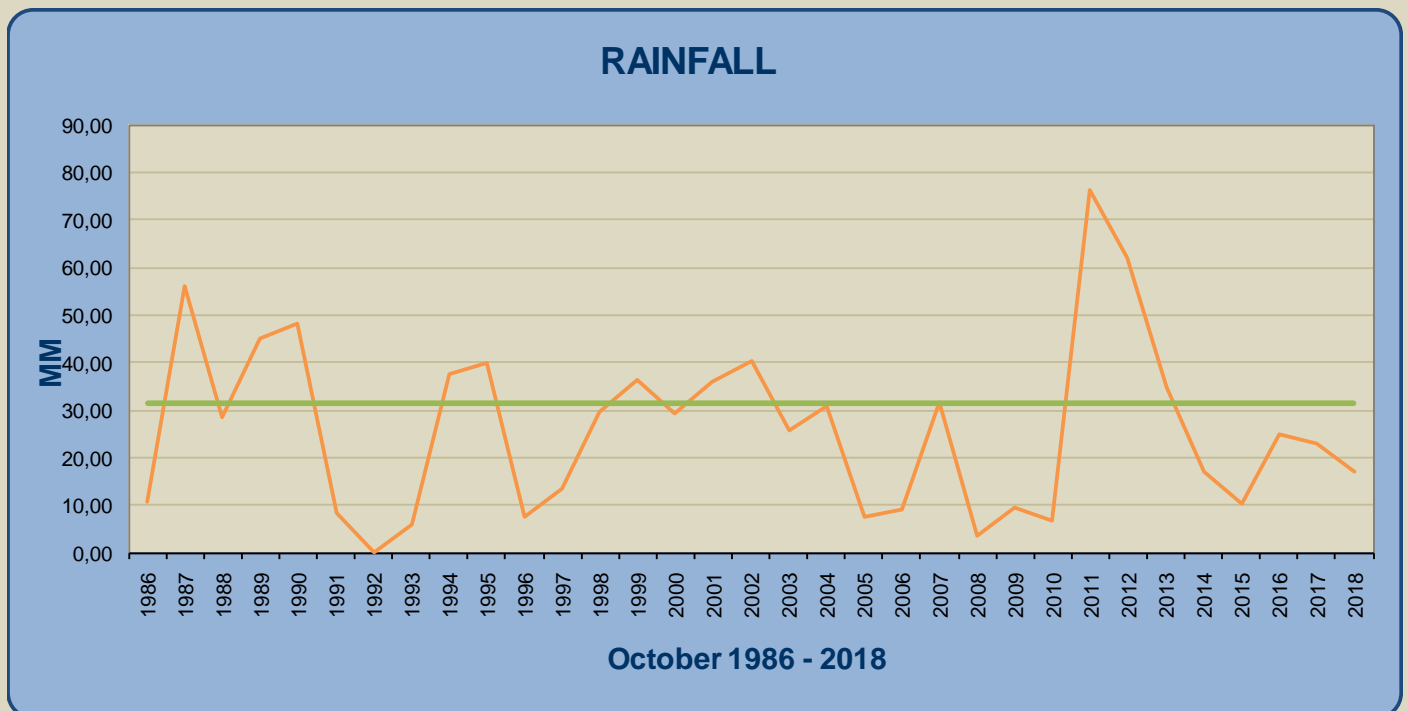
Bungalows for sale

Bungalow # 22, a full share sale, 100% of 8 shares for R4.50 million.

Climate and rainfall (summary for Ingwelala)

Rainfall: 17.2mm
 Minimum temperature: 10 degrees Celsius.
 Maximum temperature: 38 degrees Celsius.

The following graph summarises total rainfall recorded at Ingwelala for the month of October over the past 33 years.



(Note: October 2018: 17.2 mm rainfall is well below the monthly average of 31.6mm)

Conservation

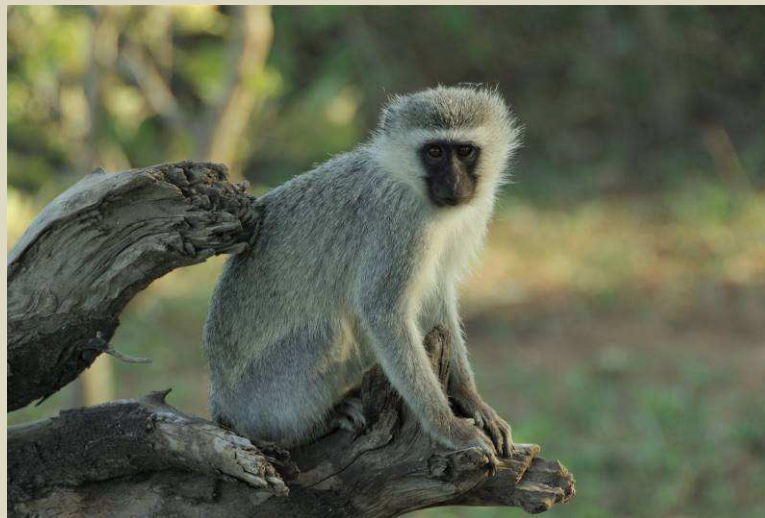
Baboons in Camp

There is once again a resident troop of baboons in camp. Please ensure that through the eyes of a baboon our human behaviour in no way associates us with food. This will include all dwellings, the Administration Complex & Members' Area and all vehicles, especially game viewing vehicles. We must do everything possible to keep this troop of baboons "wild" so that they remain wary of people and do not habituate towards humans by learning that bungalows and vehicles are a source of "fast" food. No food should be visible through windows to baboons. There are two male staff, deployed as "**baboon spotters**" to keep the pressure on the baboons to forage for food outside of the camp environment. These men are identifiable by wearing **day-glow vests**.



Monkeys

Reports from Sibon guests are that the monkey troop is becoming a major concern and a major pest to the guests, especially the women and children. An intervention is planned to catch and translocate the individuals identified as been the main offenders. This may deter the subordinates in the troop from frequenting the camp area.



Alien plant eradication

The Mexican poppy (*Argemone mexicana*) which established itself in all the river systems post the 2012 floods will need attending to. This is a suitable project for Members interested in joining the volunteer "work parties" to assist the Conservation Team.

Veld Rehabilitation

With the arrival of the first decent downpour of rain at the time of writing, we are awaiting the first green flush of plant growth to evaluate fully the effectiveness of the follow up treatment done on the Buffelsbed Eastern River Road in June and July. Initial indications are that there will be some minor follow up work required.

Erosion Control

Nil.

Roads and Tracks

The humps along Ingwelala Drive were repaired between the Gate and Bungalow #141, this will assist in deterring speeding and the endless road kills that takes place.

Repair work was carried out to the Fence Road crossing on the Nhlalalumi River. The remaining protruding rocks were removed from the same crossing using the tractor and a ripper.

Fence Road was dragged with tractor and tyre and encroaching branches cut back.

Drainage humps between Bungalows #49 and #44 were serviced.

Airstrip

No major work on the airstrip surface was required during the reporting period, other than removing elephant droppings.

The new heavy-duty roller was used along the airstrip as a test run. It is clear that this implement will be a great addition for the compaction and maintenance of any road surface, obviously it will be more effective post some useful rainfall.

The airstrip surface was inspected on a regular basis and the general condition recorded in a register. Any identified hazards were removed from the runway surface.

A reminder please that all airstrip users must complete (once off) an ***Ingwelala Airstrip Indemnity Form*** before landing. Indemnity forms are obtainable from reception@ingwelala.co.za Guest pilots must also complete the form before using the airstrip.

Fencing

This month the fence was breeched on nine occasions, occasionally this involved multiple breaks on the different sections of fencing. Repairs were carried out; the elephant challenges are documented in the Introduction of this report.

The Corkwood energizer repairs are complete.

We have commenced with the replacing of the steel wires on the camp fence, this is work in progress, and will be ongoing into the foreseeable future.

Hides, Bomas & Picnic Sites

Nil.

Game & Bird Sightings

During the past period there has been significant lion activity resulting in some excellent sightings, one included 14 lions at the concrete causeway, wonderful to see! Four lions cornered a buffalo at Buffelsbed Hide that managed to escape into the Kruger with injuries. There were some large gatherings of elephants, one entry in the sightings register reported 50-60 elephants at Elephant Pan Hide, fantastic viewing. Lots of breeding herds around. Leopard sightings were almost a daily occurrence, some with impala kills, some with mom and cubs and some with just cubs.

General game sightings included giraffe, zebra, impala, nyala, kudu, klipspringer, waterbuck, civet, genet, porcupine, spring hare and spotted hyena.

Bird sightings mentioned were Kori Bustard, Ground Hornbill, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Paradise Flycatcher and White-fronted Bee eater.

The warmer summer weather will result in an increase in snake and scorpion activity. Be sure to wear closed shoes after dark and carry a reasonable torch to spot these creatures who can inflict nasty bites and stings.

Security

No incidents on Ingwelala during the reporting period.

Road Kills

X 1 Hornbill.
X1 Natal Spurfowl.
X 2 Scrub Hares.
X4 Squirrels.

General Fire Risk Management

Veld fire and general fire risk rating is currently very high given the extremely dry conditions.

Fire-fighting equipment is checked on a weekly basis.

X 1 tractor available to assist with fire-fighting (x2 water drawn carts).

X 1 "Bakkie-Sakkie" serviceable and responsive on a "first call" basis.

X 20 fire beaters and x4 knap-sack sprays in good working order.

X 2 "frog pumps" fully operational.

Umbabat

The removal of the redundant Telkom poles commenced on the Ingwelala portions of Argyle Road. A total of 52 poles were identified for removal. The method involved cutting the cable with a bolt cutter and then removing the pole by pushing it over with a tractor. Interestingly, 60% of the poles removed were rotten in the centre core.

After the repairs to the Causeway were completed, the service provider involved was requested to return to implement full a clean-up and site rehabilitation to our satisfaction. The on-site TLB was also used to level the Hammerkop River site where river sand is harvested for the maintenance of building purposes.

A security meeting was held at Ndlopfu in the later part of October. The meeting was very productive and informative, various topics and challenges were discussed in detail.

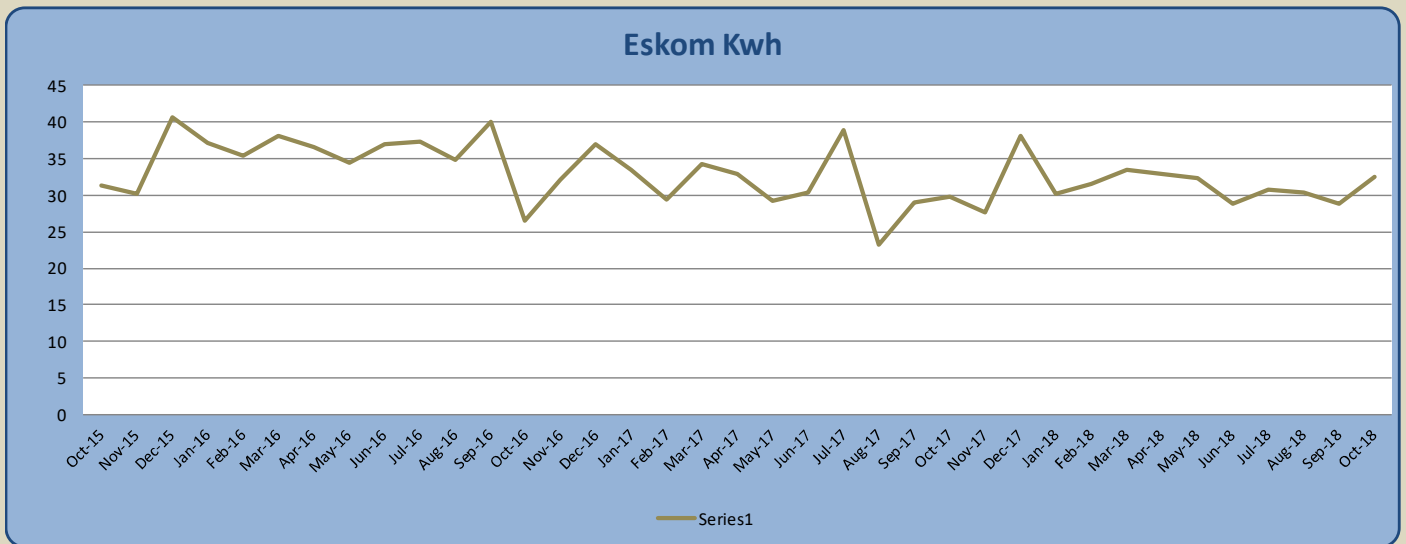
Vehicles and Workshop

WORKSHOP	OCT 18	SEPT 18	AUG 18	JULY 18	JUN 18	MAY 18	APR 18	MAR 18	FEB 18	JAN 18	DEC 17	NOV 17
JOB CARDS OPENED	52	65	67	62	68	51	61	60	23	51	64	36
JOB CARDS CLOSED	56	57	66	36	89	72	49	46	23	49	66	37
GENERATOR HOURS	31.8	1.9	0.5	17	0	7.1	0	1.4	18.9	1.8	22	1.1
DIESEL TANK (L)	780	730	750	750	900	900	970	970	990	530	80	345

The general fleet and static plant maintenance are 100% compliant with the servicing schedule.

Eskom Usage

The following graph shows the monthly Eskom Usage (Kwh) for Ingwelala.



Building projects in progress

Bung No	Name	Work requested	Approval	Builder	% Complete
18	James Luyt	Screed patio floor & solar upgrade	October 2018	Chameleon	50 %
58	Wayne Bartholomew	New built-in-braai and storage cupboard	May 2018	Owner builder	0 %
81	Andrew Hauptfleisch	Rethatch and revamp patio	August 2018	Dukes Construction	40 %
93	Deidre Penfold	Internal changes & patio changes	June 2018	Dukes Construction	75 %
106	Georg Schwaeble	Rethatch & gazebo changes	June 2018	Dukes Construction	65%
126	Graham Leuner	Rethatch	October 2018	Dukes Construction	25%

Reception Statistics

GATE STATISTICS	OCT 18	SEP 18	AUG 18	JULY 18	JUN 18	MAY 18	APR 18	MAR 18	FEB 18	JAN 18	DEC 17	NOV 17
VEHICLES	256	273	321	273	304	171	311	340	138	128	347	135
MEMBERS GUESTS	742	751	1002	793	907	453	988	956	356	357	1060	399
UNACCOMP GUESTS	29	4	0	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	7	2
UNITS OCCUPIED	134	141	168	170	160	135	233	173	75	136	177	81
AIRBORNE VISITORS	18	9	8	5	3	8	4	3	3	9	1	6

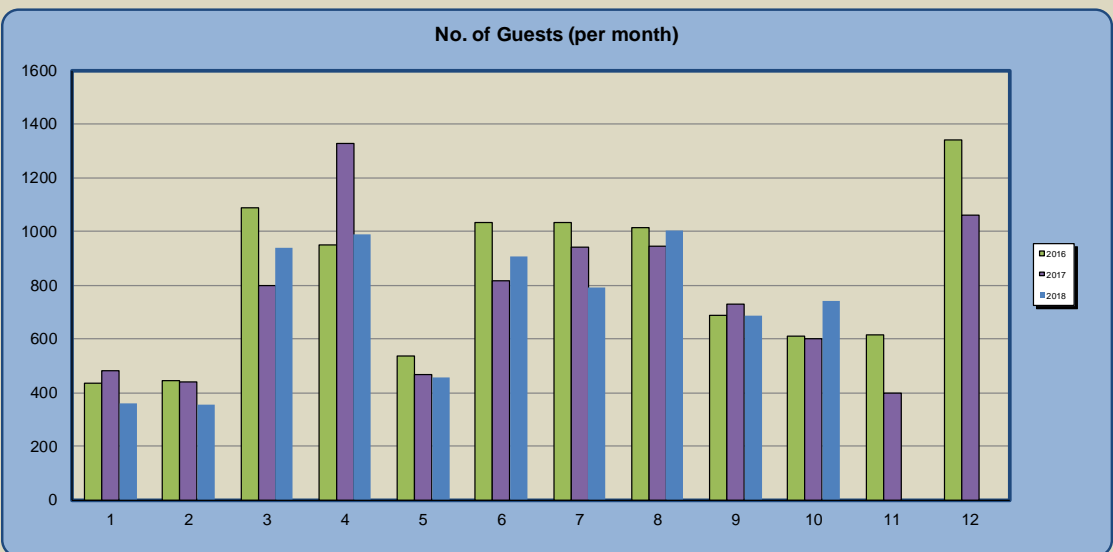
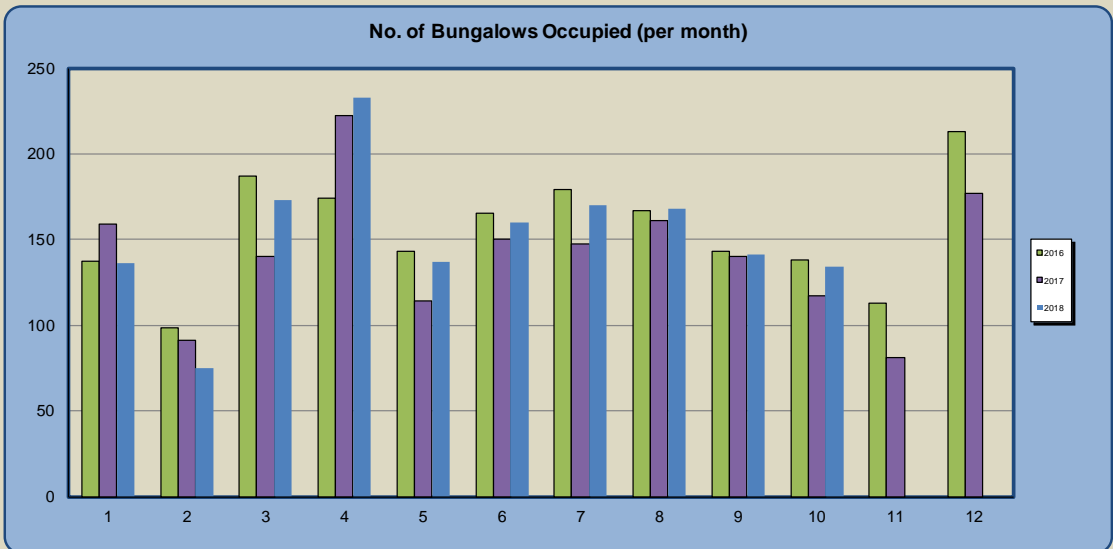
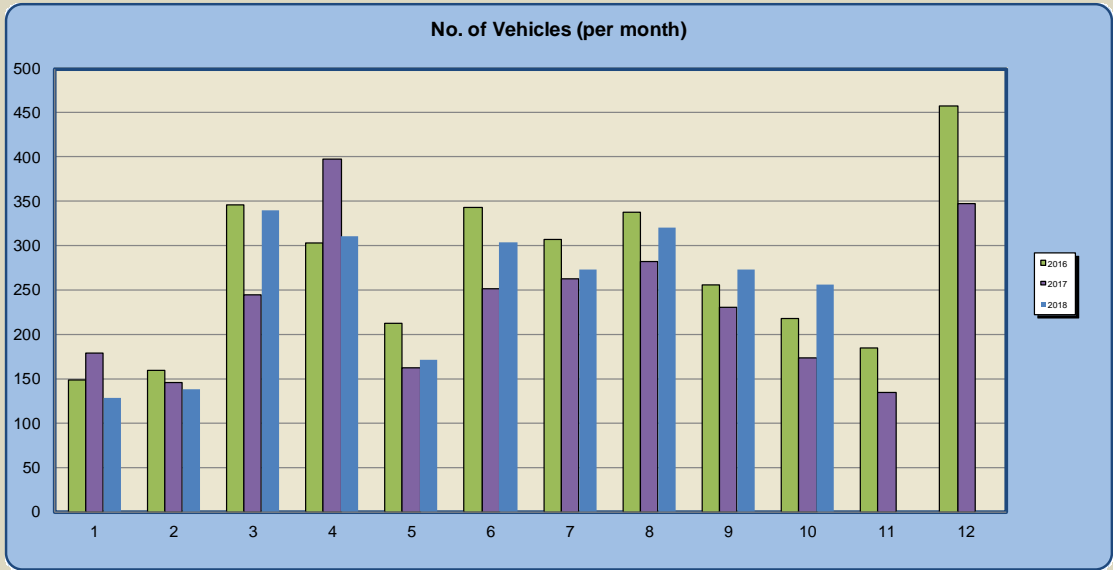
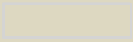
COTTAGE NIGHTS	OCT 18	SEPT 18	AUG 18	JULY 18	JUN 18	MAY 18	APR 18	MAR 18	FEB 18	JAN 18	DEC 17	NOV 17
HORNBILL	6	17	4	13	21	5	22	17	5	15	27	15
FRANCOLIN	10	14	8	14	26	3	15	12	4	10	18	7
GUINEAFOWL	0	7	15	21	19	3	15	16	7	5	15	3

General

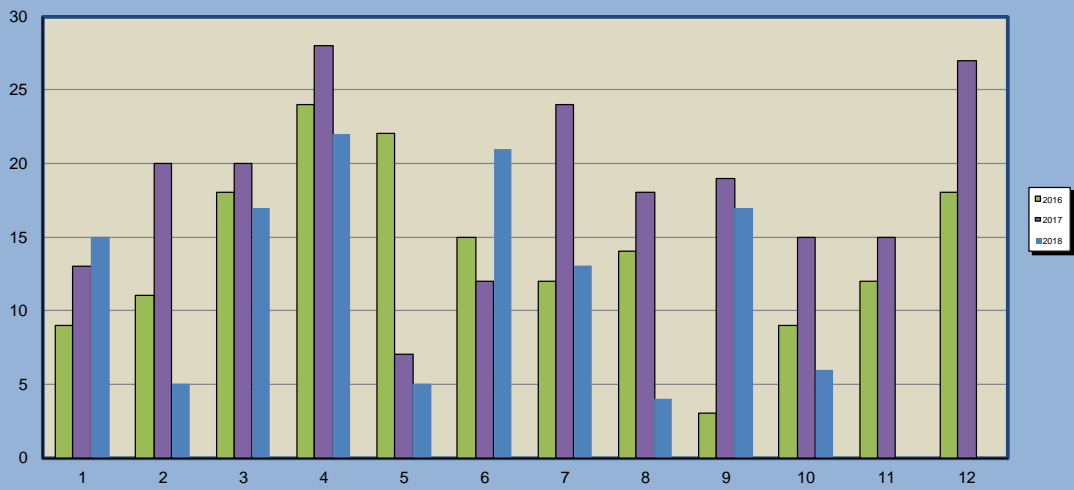
1. Our sincerest condolences to the Schoeman family in Bungalow #46 over the recent passing away of a close family member.
2. The 2018 AGM will be held on 20 November at the Country Club Johannesburg, Woodmead.

Thank you for your continued support.

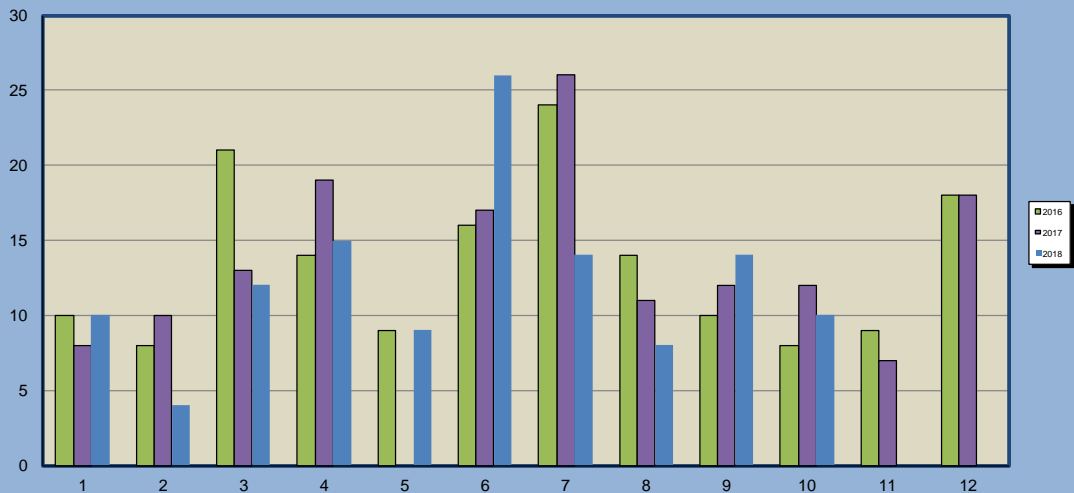
John Llewellyn
Reserve Manager
Ingwelala Share Block (Pty) Ltd.
October 2018.



Hornbill Occupancy (nights per month)



Francolin Occupancy (nights per month)



Guineafowl Occupancy (nights per month)

