

Hello from us!

The prime hunting season is now! And what a spectacular few months we have had, with two hunters going home with their much deserved leopard trophies, several sables and roans, some very good kudu and many satisfied hunters! We hope you enjoy our newsletter, greetings from the Oelofse family and the Jan Oelofse Hunting Safaris TEAM!

Introducing the Tsessebe

About 15 years ago, a small group of tsessebe were first introduced into the Okonjati Game reserve, but unfortunately did not survive very long. Beginning of July 2015, the Oelofse family bought and let loose another three individuals, but this time into a smaller pen, in order for them to acclimatize and reach sustainable numbers. Once these individuals have established themselves, more tsessebes are to be introduced into the area. The three tsessebe are in excellent condition.

Tsessebes are currently not considered to be at risk of extinction, but decreasing populations may become more vulnerable around 2025. They will remain a non-huntable specie at Okonjati until their numbers have increased substantially.

Amy Bell Sholarship Recipient 2015

Albertina Haimbala was chosen to be the first recipient of the Amy Bell scholarship, initiated by Ellen & Larry Bell in loving memory of their daughter Amy, who passed away in her 30s, but left behind many gifts to children all around Africa, in the form of scholarships and other programs.

Albertina has attended the Mount Etjo Private School from Grade 1-6, where after she continued her studies at a high school in Otjiwarongo. She has achieved top marks at her school, serves as a prefect, and is



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committed to achieving an independent life so that one day she may support her family. Both her parents Taina & Levi work at Mount Etjo Safari Lodge and Okonjati game reserve. Albertina has 5 siblings, two of whom are handicapped and may need special care sometime in their lives.



Annette hugging Albertina, recipient of the first AMY BELL SCHOLARSHIP. Tears of joy were streaming down Albertina's face. She will be forever grateful.

The Amy Bell scholarship will financially support Albertina in her studies up to University level, covering schooling, tuition and accommodation fees. We know that she will make us proud, that she will be an inspiration and role model to all fellow students at our private school and that many will follow in her footsteps in the following years.



Albertina with her family. Her elder sister has cerebral palsy, one younger sister is physically disabled. Albertina has learnt to care for them from an early age and is committed to do so in the future.

RHINO CONSERVATION - Aspiring PH and guide Danie will be attending the first military-style course on rhino protection this coming week-end. He will be learning how to track, find, identify and protect rhinos in the Okonjati game reserve.

New Helicopter Robinson R44

With the "old" helicopter having served us well (both Annette & Alex did their training on it), it was time to let the old helicopter go in order to still receive a worthwhile selling price. Time to order a new one, brand new out of the box this time! And why not exactly the same one, same colour, same style... Congrats and always happy landings Annette & Alex!



Alex and Annette standing next to the new Robinson R44 helicopter. Both of them already have over 50 hours under the belt and are aiming for their commercial license next.



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Game Count 2015

With the new helicopter, the yearly game count proved to be much easier than in previous years by plane. Most specie numbers were decreased through live sales, meat & trophy hunting, but many specie numbers are critically high, including Springbuck: 1890, Blue Wildebeest: 930, Giraffe: 920, Burchell Zebra: 430, and Eland: 320. Thanks to regular rabies vaccinations and some live purchases, it was great to see that the Kudu population had increased substantially to 360.

Renovation Works

With about 72 permanent employees and their large families staying on the property, staff housing has to be renovated on a regular basis. All families are provided with their own homes, electricity and water, free schooling and a church, and all tools and equipment required to renovate their own homes. Annette courageously undertook the seemingly endless task of supervising the renovation works, but can now after 5 months of hard work look back on a fully revamped and beautiful village!

Matt Taggart with his beautiful Kudu – hunted up in the mountains! Well DONE! Especially for climbing the mountain a second time to look for PH Steve's dog!



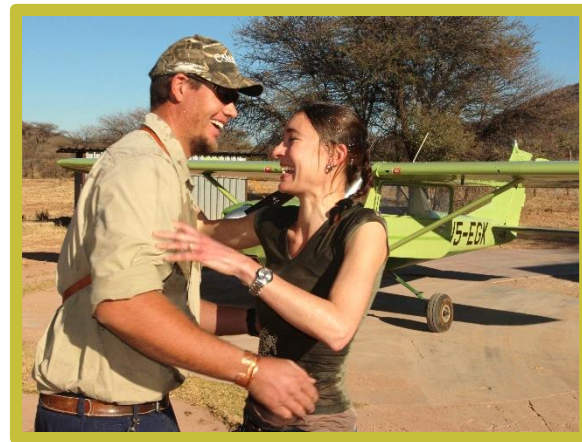
Britt & Debbie Nishijo have been to Jan Oelofse Hunting Safaris many times. This time for a leopard! After spending many cold hours in the middle of winter waiting in the blind, they got this beautiful individual.



On 10th August 2015 Carola did her first solo flight on the green Cessna 150. She needs a total of at least 40 hours to obtain the private pilot's license, but she is almost half way! If one wants to be part of the Oelofse family, one needs to fly! ☺

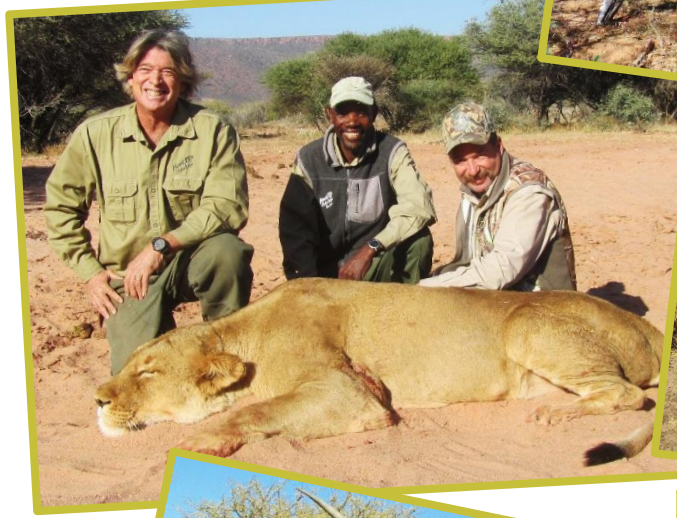


Carola was delighted to supervise the painting of the Mount Etjo Village wall. The kids used their own designs and were each responsible for colouring in an animal which was subsequently tagged as theirs with an everlasting handprint! On the whole, over 37 animals were painted on the wall, to be seen by everyone driving past!



Jan Oelofse Hunting Safaris

To the LEFT: SCI pathfinder recipient TOMMY CLACK lost 3 limbs during the Vietnam war, but there is much, much more to Tommy than the eyes behold. A heartfelt motivational speaker, Tommy is also an avid hunter, a single parent of 2 children, and has a huge heart for kids. His donated hunt included 10 days, 10 animals, hunting with PH Rudie de Klerk. Well done, Tommy. It was an enormous pleasure having you hunt with us!



Always in good hunting!
Best regards from all at Jan Oelofse Hunting Safaris!
Annette, Alex & Carola
Steve, Rudie, Naftali, Flippie & Brigitte with the TEAM