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[Game Drives](#)
[Gallery](#)
[Fauna & Flora](#)
[Members](#)

Game Drive no 212 by Neil and Morag Hulett unit 45

Hi, Everyone,

Monday 9 am, Hows the saying go? Red sky in the morning, shepherds warning, red sky at night, shepherds delight, well plenty of red this am, so pretty sure it's going to be a hot one, game wise, started slow but picked up towards the end of the drive, up kudu and along the e/e, then down to hide, impala here and there, we take hide loop and then up onto sunset, in doing so, we miss the lion on the jackal plains road, who's called by Eric, but we continue on up the 4 pylons for double, search around for the leopard, no luck, move onto big, impala, and a couple of giraffe, also a number of puddles on the road, seems just the very north east of lisbon got some rain, because when we pass natural pan, dry as a bone, down to sand, plenty of impala here, so south for rhino and sable, kudu and giraffe, at the crossing of the palm, plus a few impala, around the wallows, all quiet at sable dam, sable plains, single pylons and all the way along zozo hut to the RWLR, we check out ian's loop then down the palm for warthog, impala coming into drink, plus 3 warthog, then up the airstrip, and down glacier valley and finally along pels, plenty of game along the river, impala, baboon, monkeys, waterbuck, giraffe, bushbuck 3 rams and 2 doe's, plus a nyala bull and a couple of cows, really great, plus good birds as well, little sparrow hawk, oriole, bee-eaters, little, whitefronted, & eurasian, barbets, to name a few. home.

Another hot day, we pop down to the river once more, impala, giraffe and baboon and monkeys.

Tuesday 10 am, Heavy overcast, clouds moving in from the west, we get a few drops for a short while, then starts to clear up, lion, mating pair on warthog, then 2 males at hide, the one guy does not look too great, looks like his back left leg maybe broken??? from here continue along kudu loop for sand, then down to big and then double, not a great deal about, impala here and there between the 2 dams. Leopards seem to have moved off, but 6 wildebeest come into drink, we take the cut line all the way to beacon bend, then along the klaserie road and in at tamboti link, small herd of impala, through big once more, 4 pylons and south for rhino, find a very large herd of impala, around the water and on the plains, across to sable, and then along sable plains, impala, and a couple of giraffe in the palm, when we cross under the pylons, turn right, back along zozo ext, then up snake alley, through buff plains, more impala and some warthogs, stop at Geoff's table for breakfast, office, fuel etc, chat to Mario about the lion, could this guy have been hit by the train as well? anyway Mario checks him out and decides quite rightly, that if it is broken, there's little choice but to humanely put this guy down, so Mario arranges for Gerrit Scheepers, (the vet), to come across and dart the guy, and the very good news is, there is no break but he has been very badly bitten through the knee, so a selection of different drugs are injected and we will keep an eye on him over the next week or so, anyway much excitement, as Eric and ourselves plus Simon & Ashley, from unit 80, are involved in helping out, I think I will let the pic's do the talking, hope they come through OK, just special. We sit around till after 7, waiting for him to come round, Mario drops an impala carcass close by and another some way off, as there are the mating pair and a further male close by.

Wednesday 11 am We are away early as Shirleen starts her journey back to Collisheen, but Eric reports in that all looks good.

Thursday 12, We arrive back in the afternoon, bump into Mario on the RWLR, says all is a OK with the lion, great.

Friday 13 am, Away early, going to be another very hot day, think this is going to continue until the rains come, no sign of any of the lion, impala here and there, but not in any numbers, then 4 zebra,

near sand, couple of giraffe near hide, kudu along the palm, jackal on sable plains, a few impala, between big and double, and 3 wildebeest, come into drink while we are having breakfast at hide and then finally, 2 klipspringer right at the house, eating all the new leaves on our impala lilies, Martial eagle on 4 pylons, red backed shrikes have returned, suddenly everywhere.

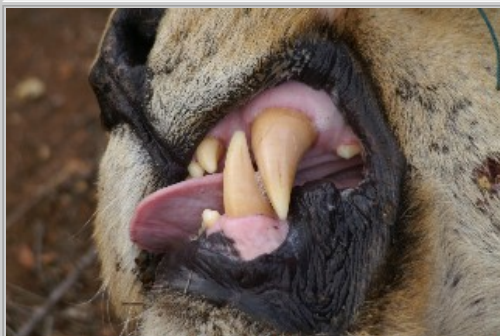
Subject: STOP PRESS14 November 2009 6:06:56 AM

Hi, around 2,30 a huge storm rolls over us, at 6 am, on the hill 70mm, at the Eric's 70 as well, fantastic, N&M

Saturday 14, Already sent out the stop press, still raining, no drive at this stage. This evening take a run around, check on the dams etc, all full of course, and some damage and wash on some roads, and the river is up, impala here and there, we decide to have a drink at worlds view, watch the sunset, from the direction of hide, a lion calls, a few minutes later 2 lion answer from the pride rock area, we go that way and find 2 of the lion coming along the single pylons from Dinidza, they eventually come all the way up to the RWLR and we leave them there and head for home.

Sunday 15, Lovely cool wind and very overcast, huge drop in the temp, what a change, add another 3 mm's to the rain, looks like we may get more. Enjoy the pic's, I'm not sure how many I will send, having only GPRS, pic's take time, thats the lot, You all take care now,

Roars & Trumpets, N&M...





left to right Edward, Gerrit,(our wonderful vet) Mario, Neil, Shirleen, Eric, Simon, Ashley and the Star of the Show Mr Lion



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