

Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

July 2019



Aurora

Aurora continues to live here at CCF with her fellow group of females (Harry, Hermione and

Rainbow) and resident male Romeo (who very much lives up to his name!). She is now 6 years old. Aurora was captured when she was a few weeks old. The farmer initially saw two cubs but was only able to catch one and decided to keep her as a pet. After keeping her for two weeks the farmer called CCF; they found her claws had been cut and she was malnourished. She recovered incredibly well and is now one of our super star runners for the public.

Aurora is always easy to tell apart from the other females because of her facial expression and markings, she always looks angry! Aurora also loves to be in high places and can always be found sitting on the roof of her house, a termite mound or on a low hanging branch of a tree. Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily Aurora is very

happy to come inside a catch cage and have injections due to her training. Auroras favourite treat is heart and kidney, so her keepers always make sure there's some ready for her any time she needs important veterinary work done!

Aurora is still one of our superstar runners on the purpose-built lure course. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers. Before every cheetah run, Aurora is always racing around her holding enclosure waiting for the run to start! If she is even brought into the same holding area just for feeding, Aurora will still race around, playing with anything she can find from bones to rocks. She pats them between her paws and flicks them into the air to play with them.

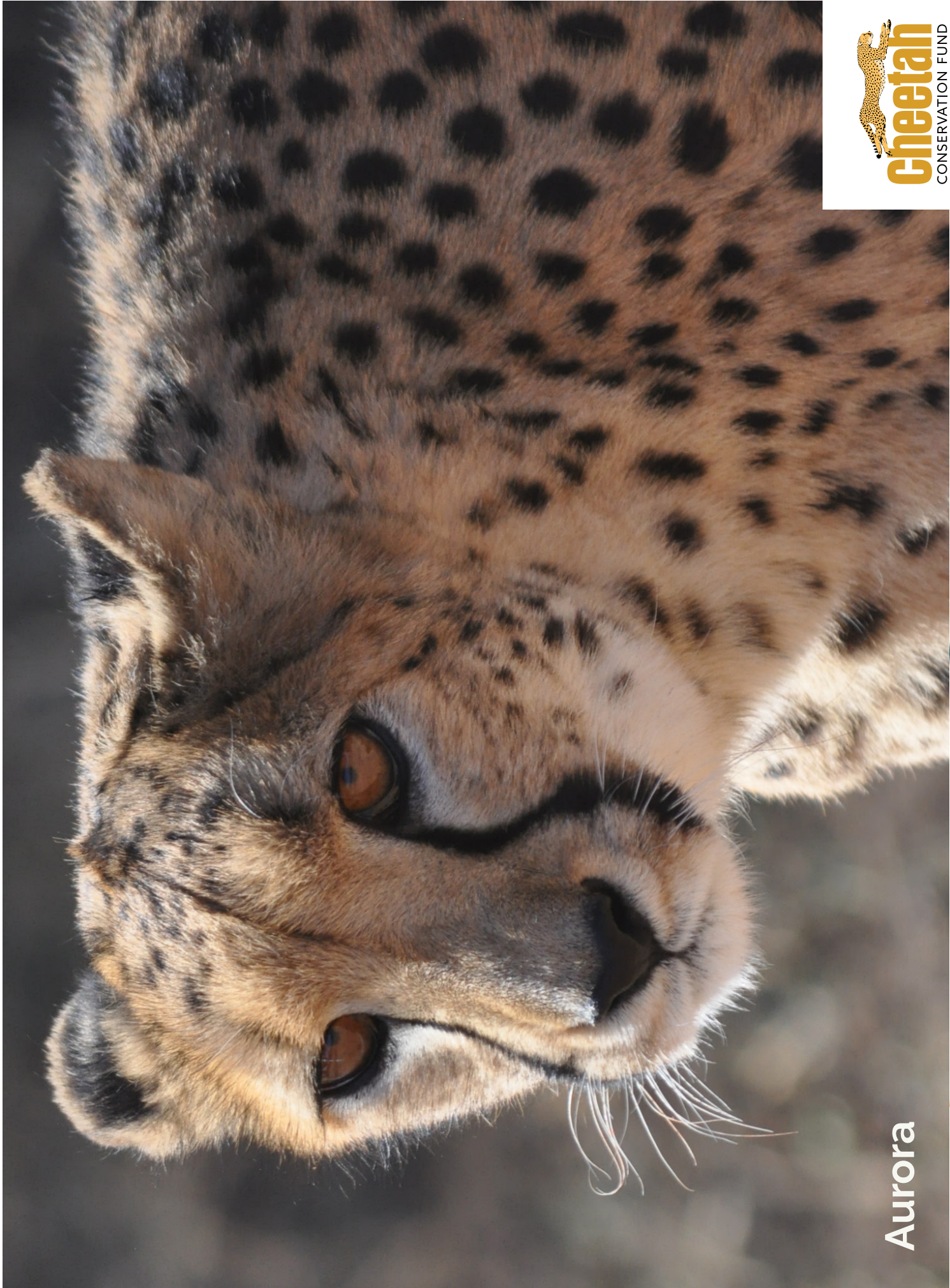
Aurora is loved by all our visiting guests because of her playful nature, but also because of the way she loves to lay in her enclosure. Once Aurora has finished eating, she will lay upside down along the fence and put her feet up against the fence to relax!

Thank you for sharing our vision: To see a world in which cheetahs live and flourish in coexistence with people and the environment.

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Aurora

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Bella

Bella came to CCF in December 2017 at around a year and a half old. Bella was kept as a pet on a private farm with a male (Katiti). After not having permits granted to continue keeping them, the pair were handed over to CCF. Before arriving at CCF, the pair had a poor diet of chicken necks so have been transferred on to a diet of red meat with a vitamin and mineral supplement to help them grow and develop properly.

Bella is very habituated to people and will always purr whenever people are around her. Bella has settled into her friendship group well now and has bonded especially well with the males! It's very unusual for a female to live with males as they would normally be solitary in the wild. Unfortunately for Bella, she doesn't get on with other females very well, so her keepers had to make a new plan for her. Her best friend, Katiti, lives with two other easy-going males so it was decided to trial the unnatural set-up. It has worked perfectly, and Bella prefers male company to female company. Even though the group get on nicely, Bella can get very protective around feeding time, so her keepers always make sure to separate her to give her the space she needs to eat. Once feeding time is over, Bella will always be laying against the fence ready to go back in with her males.

Bella exercises on CCF's lure course a couple of times a week. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers. Bella is a fantastic

runner and is always first pick by his keepers if they ever need to show off how fast a cheetah can really run for a film crew! Guests love Bella during the cheetah run because she is always very expressive, once she's done running, she will slowly walk towards the guest safety area and flop on the floor as hard and loud as possible to show everyone she's tired.

Bella is now 2 years old! This is around the time cheetah females would start to leave mum in the wild, so she has become much more independent recently and flirty. Because of this behaviour and the male company that she keeps, her keepers decided it was time to give Bella a contraceptive implant as it's illegal to breed in captivity in Namibia. It's a short and quick procedure that can be done whilst Bella is awake. It looks very similar to the human contraceptive implant that females have inside their arm, a small little tube that is quickly injected into the back of Bella's scruff. The procedure is over in less than a minute, just in time for Bella to gulp her treats down as fast as possible without realising.

Last month was also an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! So, whilst Bella was having her contraceptive implant put in, she also had her vaccinations at the same time. It's much less stressful for all our cheetahs if we do everything just at one time then they can relax afterwards!

Due to Bella's initial background of being hand raised, she's incredibly easy to manage and handle so small procedures such as these are made easy and stress free.

Bella is a very confident and affectionate

cheetah; she loves to interact with humans, so she is a perfect cheetah to have at the main centre. Even though she can never be released, she makes a perfect ambassador for her species! She helps to educate local schools, many people from the local community and guests that travel from all over the world that come to visit CCF too.



Bella



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B2

B2 continues to live here with 'his best friend' and "older brother" Phoenix. He is now 4 years old.

Born in 2014 and orphaned at five months, B2 is still like a teenager – not quite sure what to make of the other sex, or even his handlers, come to think of it. He has a unique way of expressing himself which range from burbles, chirps and growls (He usually sounds much like a baby crocodile!). You can always hear his noises from far away when it's feeding time! This year,

B2 met a new young female named Savannah who joined in February. She's still very young and nervous, very similar to B2 in fact! She moved into the enclosure next door to him, so he was very interested at the start! He would watch her from a distance just to check her out and eventually became brave enough to walk near the fence and interact with her. Both cheetahs are very similar, so their first encounter involved a lot of weird vocalisations on both parts. It seems to work for them both as they now interact positively through the fence to each other most days!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! B2 is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. He will happily go inside the catch cage even without treats, usually the vaccinations are over in minutes and B2 can go straight back into his enclosure to have his main meal. Due to B2's calm nature, the veterinary interns were able to get close to

him without stress and learn more about the process from the veterinarian.

Compared to the other cheetahs, B2 has his own way of exercising when his keepers aren't around! This includes running and chasing the horses that he can see from his enclosure, chasing small mammals that get inside and the odd baboon too! He's always very proud of himself and if he is ever caught doing these things, he will wander off away from his keepers, pretending that he wasn't up to no good!

B2 is a very shy cheetah by nature and is always unsure of new people. Because of this, his keepers keep his routine the same and the people that he sees to keep him stress free! This year, one of his keepers managed to get a purr from B2 after spending a lot of one on one time with him! This is something that his keepers are always very happy about, as it shows that he is content and feels safe in his environment.

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B2



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Darwin

here at CCF with his brothers Livingston and Fossey (also known as "The Scientists") and is now 13 years old. Along with his brothers, Darwin was trapped as a cub for hunting blesbok and springbok in 2006. They were kept in a garage with no daylight for about six months, which caused calcium deficiencies that stunted their growth.

Unfortunately, in February of this year, Darwin lost his brother Fossey due to renal failure. Male cheetahs live in coalitions in the wild, these coalitions usually consist of siblings but can include males they have met when very young and have first left mum. The bond is for life and they will hunt together, look for females together, everything. In captivity these bonds are just as strong, so when a member of the coalition passes away it can affect the group a little.

Both Darwin and his brother Livingston have become closer than ever since the loss of their brother and the keepers noticed during the first week that they would be scent marking a lot and sniffing more than usual. This was probably to try and locate him again, generally cheetahs deal with loss quickly as it can happen quickly in the wild, so they adapt fast and move on.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Darwin is a well-trained catch cage cheetah and has no

problem with sitting and having his annual vaccinations. He has done the routine many years in a row and knows to sit patiently.

Darwin is always given his main meal of the day to keep him distracted and the injections are over in less than a minute! He is let straight back out to cause as little stress as possible!

Now that Darwin is getting older, his keepers have started to notice the metabolic bone disease effects more (especially in these colder months). Darwin is starting to slow down so he now takes extra supplement to help ease his joints and the exercise he does is very gentle.

His keepers decided this year to move Darwin and his brother to a retirement area, where their lives will be calmer, and they will have to move less than normal to help with their bad joints. The new enclosure will be a bit further in the bush, so it will be nice and quiet, with extra wildlife passing through for them to watch!

Darwin is the more confident brother and will always run inside for his food. Food is everything to him so it's easy for his keepers to do any training with him as he's very food motivated! Considering their age again, it's important for his keepers to keep up regular training sessions with him in case he needs any extra intensive care as he gets older such as fluid therapy.



Darwin



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Dominic

Dominic came to CCF in May 2018, he was taken in by a lady who's farm workers had found him orphaned and alone. Cheetahs are very difficult to care for and unfortunately, she did not have the right facilities or diet for him so after he became unwell, he was taken to a vet and eventually brought to CCF. A cub as young as Dominic needed 24hr care and attention, he was only 10 days old on arrival, so he had to be bottle fed and hand raised by the dedicated staff here.

Due to the high amount of human contact her received whilst being raised, he cannot be released in to the wild and must remain at CCF as a resident ambassador. Dominic has grown up incredibly fast this year and is becoming more and more independent every day.

Dominic and his friend Sasha's friendship has gone strength to strength and they now play together very well. Initially Dominic wasn't sure of Sasha's very forward playing technique. Sasha loved to run as fast as possible at Dom and pat him on his back end to instigate play. At the beginning she used to scare him but this year their keepers have noticed that the play is on more of an even ground now and they will both chase each other around, tapping each other to instigate more play. It's been a great relief to their keepers that they've been able to figure each other out, especially Dominic who never really knew how to "speak" cheetah. Luckily his friend Sasha was able to teach him a lot of what he knows now.

In April of this year, another young cheetah named Savannah joined CCF after being rescued from someone keeping her as a pet.

Savannah is the same age, so she made a perfect fit for the newcomer. When Dominic first met her, he was very cautious, he would continue to run back to his keepers every time she made a vocalisation towards him. Over the coming months they spent lots of time together and learned to communicate through a variety of squeaks, they also learned to play together eventually.

Dominic has now perfected the cheetah run and loves to show off his speed to everyone, he's still very young though (just over a year old) and usually gets very tired very quickly.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! This was Dominic's first vaccination here as a grown-up cheetah, so his keepers made sure he had lots of practise entering a catch cage calmly before the big day. To every one's surprise, Dominic was one of the calmest cheetahs during the vaccinations and even allowed our veterinary students to get close enough to observe. His keepers were very proud!

Now that Dominic is reaching sexual maturity and lives with two females, it was also time for him to have a contraceptive implant. Here in Namibia it is illegal to breed captive carnivores so it's important for Dominic to stay within regulations. It's a short and quick procedure that can be done whilst Dominic is awake. It looks very similar to the human contraceptive implant that females have inside their arm, a small little tube that is quickly injected into the back of Dominic's scruff. The process is over in less than a minute, just in time for Dominic to gulp down all his treats!

Even though Dominic is growing up fast and becoming an independent male, he's still very attached to his surrogate mothers (Head Keeper Lora and Cheetah Keeper Becky) who raised him from 10 days old. As soon as he hears their voice, he will always run over purring away and seek affection. He's a very affectionate male and loves to be around the main centre watching all the guests that visit CCF.



Dominic



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Harry

July 2019

Harry continues to live here at CCF with her fellow group of females (Hermione, Rainbow and Aurora) and resident male Romeo (who very much lives up to his name!).

Harry originally came to CCF with her two siblings (Ron and Hermione) also known as the "Harry Potter Trio" in 2005, as two-month-old orphaned cubs. CCF staff named them after the kids in the popular book and film series. Harry is now 14 years old and doing well!!

Having several female cheetahs living together is quite unnatural in the wild. Female cheetahs are solitary once they leave their mother at around two years old. They hunt alone, raise cubs alone, and live alone. However, Harry and her group mates get along very well and enjoy one another's company.

Even though Harry is one of the oldest females we have at CCF, she still really enjoys joining the cheetah run for our guests. Harry normally waits for the other females to do some sprints before having a really big stretch and walking over to join in. She only likes to run once and take her treats from her keepers, then she goes back to laying under her favourite tree.

It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Harry isn't always a big fan of this time of year, so her keepers always practise with her a few weeks before the big day to make sure she's comfortable.

Harry normally needs a lot of encouragement to come inside the catch cage with her favourite treats, but once she's inside the veterinarian is very fast and Harry's keepers let her straight back out and give her a reward causing as little stress as possible in less than a few minutes.

Harry is one of the shyest cheetahs we have at CCF and is very sensitive to changes in her routine. Because of this, her keepers make sure she has structure through out her day to keep her happy in retirement!

Over the next few months, Harry and her sister Hermione are going to be moved to a new enclosure on the other side of CCF main centre. We describe this is our retirement area! Harry and her sister will get to live out the rest of their lives in a nice big enclosure with two females they previously lived with when they were younger. Their keepers decided it would be a nice change for them as the new area is much more peaceful and nicer for the older ladies!



Harry



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Hermione

Aurora) and resident male Romeo (who very much lives up to his name!).

Harry originally came to CCF with her two siblings (Ron and Hermione) also known as the "Harry Potter Trio" in 2005, as two-month-old orphaned cubs. CCF staff named them after the kids in the popular book and film series.

Hermione is now 14 years old and doing well!! Having several female cheetahs living together is quite unnatural in the wild. Female cheetahs are solitary once they leave their mother at around two years old. They hunt alone, raise cubs alone, and live alone. However, Hermione and her group mates get along very well and enjoy one another's company.

Even though Hermone is one of the oldest females we have at CCF, she still really enjoys joining the cheetah run for our guests. Harry normally waits for the other females to do some sprints before having a really big stretch and walking over to join in. She only likes to run once and take her treats from her keepers, then she goes back to laying under her favourite tree.

It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers. Hermione's favourite keeper came back recently and

during the cheetah runs she always makes an effort to approach him with big eyes to try to get extra free treats even though she hasn't run!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Hermione isn't always a big fan of this time of year, so her keepers always practise with her a few weeks before the big day to make sure she's comfortable.

Hermione normally needs a lot of encouragement to come inside the catch cage with her favourite treats, but once she's inside the veterinarian is very fast and Hermione's keepers let her straight back out and give her a reward causing as little stress as possible in less than a few minutes.

Over the next few months, Hermione and her sister Harry are going to be moved to a new enclosure on the other side of CCF main centre. We describe this as our retirement area! Hermione and her sister will get to live out the rest of their lives in a nice big enclosure with two females they previously lived with when they were younger. Their keepers decided it would be a nice change for them as the new area is much more peaceful and nicer for the older ladies!

Hermione is one of our shyest cheetahs and likes to have structure and routine in her daily life. Her keepers always make sure to keep her routine the same during the day to keep her as happy as possible! Hermione is also a very quiet cheetah, rather than vocalise, she uses facial expressions and body posture to communicate with her keepers!

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Hermione



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Katiti

Katiti came to CCF in December 2017 at around a year old. Katiti was kept as a pet on a private farm

with a female (Bella). After not having permits granted to continue keeping them, the pair were handed over to CCF.

Before arriving at CCF, the pair had a poor diet of chicken necks so have been transferred on to a diet of red meat with a vitamin and mineral supplement to help them grow and develop properly.

Katiti exercises on CCF's lure course a couple of times a week. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers.

Katiti loves running on the purpose-built lure course but is still very nervous in nature. Usually he needs a little encouragement to start running to help boost his confidence. Once he's running, he seems to forget that there are guests around and will fly past them as fast as he can.

Due to his nervous nature, his keepers always make sure he gets to catch the rag away from the public so he can have his treats one on one with his keepers. His keepers have worked really hard with him this year and he now has the confidence to eat his treats close to them without freaking out and running away. He still likes to give a small hiss when the treat time is done just to let them know where they stand.

Katiti has settled into his friendship group well now and has bonded especially well with the two brothers, Niko and Koya! Every time Katiti comes into the feeding camps, Niko and Koya will always greet him with a little head rub and a loud purr! His keepers couldn't be happier as this is exactly how they want the young males to bond, like family. Katiti is unrelated but they have all bonded like brothers.

Males live together in the wild, in groups called coalitions. This is usually brothers and the bonds are for life, hunting together, looking for females together, everything. Katiti eats at "Centre Feeding" every day which is a public presentation where guests can see the cheetahs eat and learn about their stories. Katiti is still a little unsure about all the guests so will take his piece of meat and sit by a tree at the back of the feeding camp where it's nice and shaded. He's usually very messy by the time he's done eating. Luckily for Katiti he has two other coalition mates that can groom him and help him clean up! Usually after centre feeding the three males can be found in a pile purring as loud as possible, licking each other's faces!

Katiti is now 2 years old! This is around the time cheetah males would start to leave mum in the wild so he has become much more independent recently, especially showing off that he's a mature male, making sure that he is scent marking everywhere that he can and telling his keepers off when they don't bring his food quick enough.



Katiti



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Khayjay

known as the "Ambassadors". He is now 8 years old and doing well.

The Ambassadors were brought to CCF at just 3 weeks old and were bottle fed and hand raised. This means they are very accustomed to people and enjoy a lot of attention from the staff, or anyone willing to talk to them whilst they purr as loud as possible through the fence. Unfortunately, due to their love of people, they cannot be released into the wild so remain ambassadors for their species here at CCF helping educate the guests that come through every day!

Khayjay has had a change in routine this year and has started spending time in two new enclosures at the centre during the night with his siblings. One of the enclosures is called "The run pen" this is where Khayjay and his siblings exercise early in the morning on our purpose-built lure course. It is great way for him to exercise and stay lean! CCF visitors love him during the "Cheetah Run" because whilst he is showing off his speed, he can become distracted and run the complete opposite direction towards a new smell he likes! Everyone finds his short attention span hilarious!

It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and

bonding with their keepers. Khayjay and his siblings love to spend time sniffing the entire enclosure because lots of other cheetahs go in and out of it. Their keepers decided it would be a nice opportunity for them to spend nights in there so they could sniff as much as possible and explore the enclosure at night. Perfect natural enrichment!

Last month was vaccination month for all CCF's cheetahs! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Khayjay doesn't mind having a vaccination and will happily eat his bowl of special organ treats (such as heart – his favourite!) whilst the veterinarian quickly jabs him. It's usually over in a few seconds, just in time for him to gulp down all his treats as fast as possible.

His keepers always make sure to do all the siblings at the same time as they like to sit near each other for support. Khayjay is always very patient with his keepers when they are teaching him new things or moving him around enclosures. He always gets very excited about treats and will come flying in when he is called so he can be the first to eat them all. He loves to be around people and always comes to his keepers in the morning to greet them after not seeing them all night - even if they don't have treats!

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Khayjay



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Koya

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Koya came to CCF in July 2017 after being captured on a farm at around 6 months old. Koya

doesn't accidentally swallow the piece of fabric. He's come on in leaps and bounds and now, after catching the rag, will look up for his keepers to see where they are with his treats rather than trying to eat the rag! His keepers are very proud of how far he has come.

and his brother (Nico) were kept on the farm for nearly 2 months before CCF were called. He was kept in a small chicken coop, given a poor diet and had no exercise, so was very overweight when he arrived.

Cheetahs are incredibly sensitive when it comes to nutrition, so a proper diet is very important for their health. Unfortunately, due to his poor living conditions, Koya developed metabolic bone disease in his front legs. Metabolic bone disease is caused by an imbalance of vitamins and nutrients, particularly a lack of calcium, which weakens the bones. CCF is happy to say that both Koya and his brother Nico have recovered well here at CCF due to proper diet, exercise, and regular health check-ups.

Koya exercises on CCF's lure course a couple of times a week. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers. Koya is a fantastic runner and is always first pick by his keepers if they ever need to show off how fast a cheetah can really run for a film crew!

Koya had a naughty habit last year of catching the ran on the lure course and immediately trying to swallow the whole rag in excitement. This year his keepers have worked very hard with him to stop this behaviour so that he

Koya is very tall and muscular already, so his keepers believe he's going to be a very big handsome cheetah as he grows up (he already is very handsome in their eyes!). Koya has settled into his friendship group well now and has bonded especially well with the newcomer Katiti! Every time Koya greets his brother Niko with a purr or a head rub, he always makes sure to greet Katiti the same! His keepers couldn't be happier as this is exactly how they want the young males to bond, like family. Katiti is unrelated but they have all bonded like brothers.

Males live together in the wild, in groups called coalitions. This is usually brothers and the bonds are for life, hunting together, looking for females together, everything. Even though he's the largest cheetah in his coalition, he's also the largest baby. Koya is always the submissive one during feeding time and if separated from his coalition mates, will chirp and whine until he finds them. Koya still eats with both of his front paws in his bowl, which is a very unnatural behaviour for a cheetah.

Since he doesn't know what it is like to be a wild cheetah that must worry about other predators, Koya has decided it's easier to hold his food down with his paws rather than in the natural crouched position! So, he's usually very messy by the time he's done eating. Luckily for Koya he has two other coalition mates that can groom him and help him clean up! Usually after centre feeding the three males can be found in

a pile purring as loud as possible, licking each other's faces!

Koya is now 2 years old! This is around the time cheetah males would start to leave mum in the wild so he has become much more independent recently, especially showing off that he's a mature male, making sure that he is scent marking everywhere that he can.



Koya

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25 Years

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(Hello)

July 2019



Little C.

Shunga, Ron and N'Dunge.

Little C. continues to live here at CCF in his male coalition group with his close friends

it's important for his keepers and veterinarian to know where he's at. This is also a quick process for Little C, luckily, he lays down nicely in a catch cage, so the veterinarian was able to use the big vein at the base of his tail to take a blood sample! It all came back clear, and Little C. is still fit and healthy.

Little C. came to CCF as a month-old orphan from the Okahandja area. His mother got too close to a farmer's sheep and was killed by the farmer's dogs along with Little C's siblings. The farmer caught Little C. in a tree and hand raised him for a month before CCF acquired him. He is now 12 years old.

Every morning he will come into the feeding camps purring as loud as possible to greet his keepers. His keepers couldn't be happier as this is the Little C. they have always known.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Little C. is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. Little C. practises coming inside the catch cage regularly with his brothers just in case he needs any medical treatment going forward in his life.

Little C. loves the catch cage and will come running inside even when there is no treats or food inside! The process is always over very quickly, and Little C. is let back outside to get his main meal as a reward.

This year, because Little C. is now 12, his keepers decided it would be good to take some blood and check his internal health. Renal disease is common in older cheetahs and

Little C. has been going through some extra training with his coalition mates recently, so that his keepers can take safari vehicles into his huge enclosure and guests can learn about his story and CCF from a distance. Little C. has already mastered this training compared to his coalition mates and is always very calm and chilled out around the safari vehicles. The last training session he did, he was so calm he was falling asleep upright!

Compared to his coalition mates, Little C. is very easy to tell apart because of his size! Little C. is one of the biggest cheetahs at CCF, weighing just over 50kg! He also has a much darker and fluffier coat than his coalition mates.

Little C. loves his treats, and whenever any of his coalition mates are having their daily medication, he always pushes right to the front purring as loud as possible expecting medicine treats too. Even though he's not sick!

He still loves to exercise every day, although he now exercises in a bit of a different way compared to his old lure course days. His keepers have trained him to chase the feeding vehicle and once he's finished, he receives his main meal as a reward! This way is much nicer for Little C. as his keepers can decide what speed they would like to do each day now that he's getting older. Sometimes it's a fast sprint, other days he will only do a gentle jog!



Little C.



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July 2019



Livingstone

Livingston continues to live in the 13-hectare (nearly 30 acres) enclosure we call the 'Elands pen' here at CCF with his brothers Darwin and Fossey (also known as "The Scientists") and is now 13 years old.

Along with his brothers, Livingston was trapped as a cub for hunting blesbok and springbok in 2006. They were kept in a garage with no daylight for about six months, which caused calcium deficiencies that stunted their growth. Livingston is the quieter of the brothers and tends to keep to himself.

Unfortunately, in February of this year, Livingston lost his brother Fossey due to renal failure. Male cheetahs live in coalitions in the wild, these coalitions usually consist of siblings but can include males they have met when very young and have first left mum. The bond is for life and they will hunt together, look for females together, everything. In captivity these bonds are just as strong, so when a member of the coalition passes away it can affect the group a little.

Both Livingston and his brother Darwin have become closer than ever since the loss of their brother and the keepers noticed during the first week that they would be scent marking a lot and sniffing more than usual. This was probably to try and locate him again, generally cheetahs deal with loss quickly as it can happen quickly in the wild, so they adapt fast and move on.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual

vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Livingston is a well-trained catch cage cheetah and has no problem with sitting and having his annual vaccinations. He has done the routine many years in a row and knows to sit patiently.

Livingston is always given his main meal of the day to keep him distracted and the injections are over in less than a minute! He is let straight back out to cause as little stress as possible! Now that Livingston is getting older, his keepers have started to notice the metabolic bone disease effects more (especially in these colder months). Livingston is starting to slow down so he now takes extra supplement to help ease his joints and the exercise he does is very gentle.

His keepers decided this year to move Livingston and his brother to a retirement area, where their lives will be calmer, and they will have to move less than normal to help with their bad joints. The new enclosure will be a bit further in the bush, so it will be nice and quiet, with extra wildlife passing through for them to watch!

Livingston is the quiet brother but will always run inside for his food. Food is everything to him so it's easy for his keepers to do any training with him as he's very food motivated! Considering their age again, it's important for his keepers to keep up regular training sessions with him in case he needs any extra intensive care as he gets older such as fluid therapy.



Livingstone



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

July 2019

As of July 2019, the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF)

has welcomed 4 litters of Livestock Guarding Dogs (LGDs) into the world. The litters mean we now have a total of 25 new LGD puppies.

The first litter of the year, by Ushi, consisted of 1 male and 5 females. All puppies were placed on their farms at the beginning of June after being sterilized.

The second litter came from our female Lady, who gave birth to 5 (3M, 2F) puppies. Four of these puppies were placed on their farms in June apart from one female who has been named Koda. We are keeping her at CCF to become a working and breeding female.

The third litter came from another one of our females, Susie, who gave birth to 3 (3M) puppies. These puppies will be placed on their farms at the end of August once they have been sterilized.

Our final litter came from Repet, who gave birth to 11 puppies (4M, 7F). These puppies will be placed on their farm at the start of September once they have been sterilized.

All these puppies will be assisting CCF in our conservation efforts by protecting farmers' livestock from predation by cheetahs and other predators. In return the farmers allow these predators to live freely and safely on their land.

In the second half of the year we are hoping to receive two new breeding

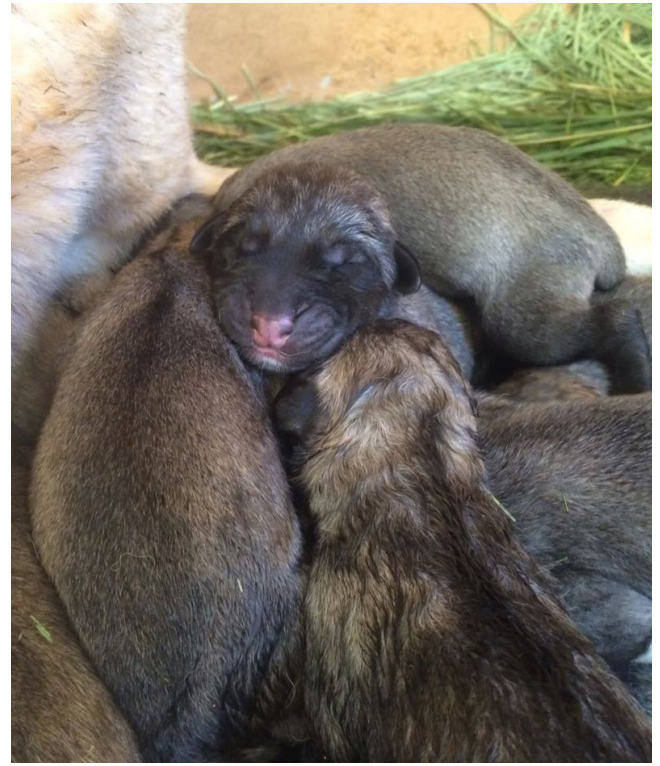
females and one new breeding male to further our breeding program here at CCF as well as bring in new genetic bloodlines. We currently have a two-year waiting list for farmers wanting a dog because of the success of the programme therefore increasing the number of breeding dogs will hopefully allow us to be able to accommodate this ever-increasing number of applications.

All the puppies placed so far in 2019 are thriving and all the farmers are satisfied with the progress we've seen.

In early March, CCF also conducted numerous workshops in the area on predator friendly livestock management, livestock health, and care and training of livestock guarding dogs. All workshops were well received and CCF will be returning in late June to complete assessments on the progress farmers have made based off of the information provided at the workshops. CCF will also complete the 6 months visits for the three puppies placed.

Despite all the good aspects of 2019, there was also some sadness. CCF unfortunately had to euthanize one of our beloved retired females, Karibib (9 years old). This special lady meant a lot to the staff that worked with her over the years. Karibib had an undiagnosed illness that was causing a rapid decline in her health and she was in pain. Though it was hard for us to say goodbye, it was the most humane option for her.

CCF is very happy with the progress of 2019 and hopes this success continues throughout the rest of the year. Thank you for your continued support.



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July 2019



Mischief

Mischief continues to live here at CCF and is now 10 years old.

Mischief was one of a group of 2.5-month-old cubs trapped and brought to CCF after a radio-collared mother cheetah was found dead. He lives in a large enclosure with his brother Phil a little way out from our education centre in the African bush. These males have remained tightly bonded and are never found without each other!

Mischief is easy to tell apart from his brother as he is bigger and litter in coat colour. He also likes to vocalise as loud as possible before feeding time! Both Mischief and his brother Phil have a very large kink at the end of their tails. Over the years, CCF has noticed this trend in wild and captive cheetahs. It signifies low genetic diversity within that blood line of cheetah. Something that the species struggles with as a whole after the species bottlenecked in the past. CCF don't want the genetic diversity to become any worse, so wherever possible, take sperm samples from every male they can to add to our sample bank (we have the largest in the world here at CCF!).

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Mischief is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. He will happily go inside the catch cage even without treats! The process is over very quickly, and Mischief is let straight back out to receive his main meal as a reward. Mischief is one of the favourites

amongst our guests as he is very vocal before and during feeding time!

Mischief is part of a "Behind the Scenes" experience where guests get to spend time with the keepers and learn more about what they do at CCF. Mischief will always come running inside to greet the guests so fast that he always causes a dust cloud when he stops in front of the guest! Usually followed by a lot of meows and chirps! Mischief is very impatient and after a few minutes will start to make even louder noises in case his keepers didn't notice he was there!

He still loves to exercise every day and always gets very excited when the feeding vehicle turns up. Mischief and his brother are some of the fastest cheetahs at CCF and always love to show off to our guests! Now that Mischief and his brother are getting older his keepers can decide what speed they would like to do each day. Sometimes it's a fast sprint, other days they will only do a gentle jog!

Last month, Mischief and his brother, Phil, decided to take their exercise to the next level and managed to catch a warthog that broke through their enclosure fence. When their keepers turned up in the morning, both the brothers were laying in the sun with fat bellies and messy, meat covered faces! After investigating inside their enclosure, to their keeper's surprise, they found a fresh warthog carcass! It's safe to say the brothers didn't need feeding for a few days after that! They were very pleased with themselves!



Mischief



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N'Dunge

Little C, Ron and Shunga.

N'Dunge and his brother Shunga were found without a mother in the Gobabis region. The two cubs were brought to CCF in July 2008 when they were three months old. During their first few weeks here at CCF their keepers noticed that N'Dunge was the first to become comfortable in his new surroundings and quickly picked up on the feeding routines earning him the nickname "Smart-Man". He is now 11 years old.

N'dunge unfortunately now has no teeth left due to his old age, after a few of them started to cause pain and infection inside his gums, the veterinarian decided it was best for him to have them removed. Having no teeth doesn't affect his quality of life at all! To help him eat, his keepers chop up all his meat into smaller pieces that are easy to swallow so he doesn't have to chew anymore. His appetite if anything, has increased since having them removed as he now has no pain! Because of this his routine is a little different from the other cheetahs, his keepers always bring him in separately and give him extra time to eat away from his coalition. He figured out this routine very quickly and wastes no time standing and waiting in front of his regular door that he comes in through, chirping as loud as possible if his keepers aren't fast enough!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual

vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! N'dunge is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. N'dunge practises coming inside the catch cage regularly with his brothers just in case he needs any medical treatment going forward in his life. He loves the catch cage and will come running inside even when there is no treats or food inside! The process is always over very quickly, and he is let back outside to get his main meal as a reward.

This year, because N'dunge is now 11, his keepers decided it would be good to take some blood and check his internal health. Renal disease is common in older cheetahs and it's important for his keepers and veterinarian to know where he's at. This is also a quick process for him, luckily, he lays down nicely in a catch cage, so the veterinarian was able to use the big vein at the base of his tail to take a blood sample! It all came back clear, and N'dunge is still fit and healthy.

N'dunge has been going through some extra training with his coalition mates recently, so that his keepers can take safari vehicles into his huge enclosure and guests can learn about his story and CCF from a distance. N'dunge is one of the naughtiest of his coalition and loves to investigate the tyres of the vehicle a little too much! His keepers have been working closely with him and he is improving after every training session!

Compared to his coalition mates, he is very easy to tell apart because of his face and personality. He's incredibly vocal and always makes the loudest chirps, meows and general calls as possible so everyone always knows where he is. He also has a very specific trot

when he runs towards his keepers, it looks more like a fast waddle so even from a distance they know its him!



N'Dunge



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

July 2019



Niko

Niko came to CCF in July 2017 after being captured on a farm at around 6 months old. Niko

and his brother (Koya) were kept on the farm for nearly 2 months before CCF were called.

He was kept in a small chicken coop, given a poor diet and had no exercise, so was very overweight when he arrived. Cheetahs are incredibly sensitive when it comes to nutrition, so a proper diet is very important for their health.

Unfortunately, due to his poor living conditions, Niko developed metabolic bone disease in his front legs. Metabolic bone disease is caused by an imbalance of vitamins and nutrients, particularly a lack of calcium, which weakens the bones. CCF is happy to say that both Niko and his brother Koya have recovered well here at CCF due to proper diet, exercise, and regular health checks.

Niko exercises on CCF's lure course a couple of times a week. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers.

Niko wasn't always a big fan of the cheetah run and it took him a little while to figure out how it worked and get into the swing of things. He's not figured it out perfectly and shows off to our guests every cheetah run! Niko does have a naughty habit though! Every time another cheetah catches the rag, Niko will always wander over to try and take their treats or see if he's allowed extra, even though he hasn't run.

Niko has settled into his friendship group well now and has bonded especially well with the newcomer Katiti! Every time Niko greets his brother Koya with a purr or a head rub, he always makes sure to greet Katiti the same! His keepers couldn't be happier as this is exactly how they want the young males to bond, like family. Katiti is unrelated but they have all bonded like brothers.

Males live together in the wild, in groups called coalitions. This is usually brothers and the bonds are for life, hunting together, looking for females together, everything. Niko still eats with both of his front paws in his bowl, which is a very unnatural behaviour for a cheetah. Since he doesn't know what it is like to be a wild cheetah that must worry about other predators, Niko has decided it's easier to hold his food down with his paws rather than in the natural crouched position! So, he's usually very messy by the time he's done eating. Luckily for Niko he has two other coalition mates that can groom him and help him clean up! Usually after centre feeding the three males can be found in a pile purring as loud as possible, licking each other's faces!

Niko is now 2 years old! This is around the time cheetah males would start to leave mum in the wild so he has become much more independent recently, especially showing off that he's a mature male, making sure that he is scent marking everywhere that he can!

Within the last 6 months, Niko has started to mature a lot. He went through a growth spurt that made him particularly grumpy but has come out the other side looking more like an adult cheetah now. His mantle has nearly disappeared and he's becoming more muscular. Niko likes to pretend he's a big tough male cheetah now, but his keepers know his soft, affectionate side and aren't fooled by his sassy behaviour!



Niko

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Phil

Phil continues to live here at CCF and is now 10 years old. Phil was one of a group of 2.5-month-old cubs trapped and brought to CCF after a radio-collared mother cheetah was found dead.

He lives in a large enclosure with his brother Mischief a little way out from our education centre in the African bush. These males have remained tightly bonded and are never found without each other!

Phil is easy to tell apart because he is missing a canine in the front of his mouth. This was from a very old injury and his tooth needed to be removed, so whenever you look at Phil from the front, his upper lip is usually stuck in the gap and it looks as though he's constantly snarling! Phil is also darker than his brother.

Both Phil and his brother Mischief have a very large kink at the end of their tails. Over the years, CCF has noticed this trend in wild and captive cheetahs. It signifies low genetic diversity within that blood line of cheetah. Something that the species struggles with as a whole after the species bottle necked in the past. CCF don't want the genetic diversity to become any worse, so wherever possible, take sperm samples from every male they can to add to our sample bank (we have the largest in the world here at CCF!).

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Phil is a catch cage

professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. He will happily go inside the catch cage even without treats! The process is over very quickly, and Phil is let straight back out to receive his main meal as a reward. Phil is one of the favourites amongst our guests as he is very vocal before and during feeding time!

Phil is part of a "Behind the Scenes" experience where guests get to spend time with the keepers and learn more about what they do at CCF. Phil will always come running inside to greet the guests with lots of meows and chirps! Phil is very impatient and after a few minutes will start to make even louder noises in case his keepers didn't notice he was there! He still loves to exercise every day and always gets very excited when the feeding vehicle turns up. Phil and his brother are some of the fastest cheetahs at CCF and always love to show off to our guests!

Now that Phil and his brother are getting older his keepers can decide what speed they would like to do each day. Sometimes it's a fast sprint, other days they will only do a gentle jog! Last month, Phil and his brother, Mischief, decided to take their exercise to the next level and managed to catch a warthog that broke through their enclosure fence. When their keepers turned up in the morning, both the brothers were laying in the sun with fat bellies and messy, meat covered faces! After investigating inside their enclosure, to their keeper's surprise, they found a fresh warthog carcass! It's safe to say the brothers didn't need feeding for a few days after that! They were very pleased with themselves!



Phil



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Phoenix

Phoenix continues to live here at CCF with his 'best friend' B2. Phoenix had a tough start in

life, in 2008 a farmer shot his mother – but performed a hasty C-section when he realized that she was heavily pregnant, and a neighbour alerted CCF.

Phoenix was brought to CCF at just 2 days old. He was bottle fed and hand raised here by the staff so is completely habituated and not afraid of humans, unfortunately he spent no time with his mother and didn't learn the important skills necessary to live in the wild alone; such as how to hunt effectively, what to hunt and which predators to avoid.

Phoenix is one of the bigger males we have at CCF weighing nearly 50kg, even though he's big he's a very gentle giant. His keepers can rely on him to make any cheetah feel welcome because he loves to meet and greet all cheetahs which is why he lives next to the young cheetah enclosure.

This year, Phoenix met a new young female named Savannah who joined in February. She's still very young and nervous so a cheetah like Phoenix living next door was perfect to help bring her out of her shell. Phoenix sat by the fence line every day, purring as loud as possible until she was brave enough to interact with him. Usually when another cheetah comes to the fence, Phoenix will always rub along it as hard as he can (usually bending the fence a little!) to make friends.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time!

It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Phoenix is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. He will happily go inside the catch cage even without treats.

This year, because Phoenix is now nearly 11, his keepers decided it would be good to take some blood and check his internal health. Renal disease is common in older cheetahs and it's important for his keepers and veterinarian to know where he's at. This is also a quick process for Phoenix, luckily, he lays down nicely in a catch cage, so the veterinarian was able to use the big vein at the base of his tail to take a blood sample! Due to Phoenix's calm nature, the veterinary interns were able to get close to him without stress and learn more about the process from the veterinarian. His blood tests all came back clear, and Phoenix is still fit and healthy.

Compared to the other cheetahs, Phoenix has his own way of exercising when his keepers aren't around! This includes running and chasing the horses that he can see from his enclosure, chasing small mammals that get inside and the odd baboon too! He's always very proud of himself and if he is ever caught doing these things, immediately runs over to his keepers purring away, pretending that he wasn't up to no good!



Phoenix



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Polly

Polly continues to live here at CCF and is now 10 years old. Polly was one of a group of 2-month-old cubs trapped and brought to CCF after a radio-collared mother cheetah was found dead.

She has been living in a 13-hectare enclosure (nearly 30 acres) with her 'friend' Rohini for nearly 4 years now with "The Scientist boys". She's now been living with the males for over a year and the group dynamic has settled down perfectly.

Unfortunately, Polly lost one of her male pen mates this year Fossey, who passed away from renal failure. Females live solitary in the wild so compared to the other males it did not affect Polly too much, but the keepers noticed it definitely made the group bond much closer since losing him.

The beginning of this year Polly had a bit of a rough time. One morning when her keepers went to check on her and feed her, she didn't want to come inside her feeding camp and sat under a tree at the back of her enclosure, which is very unusual. It's important for the keepers to know their cheetahs inside out so that when small changes occur, they can pick up straight away that something might be wrong. Over the next few days Polly behaved the same way and eventually stopped eating. Her keepers tried everything over those few days to encourage her and even went down to her favourite spot to deliver her dinner. When she stopped eating, they decided it was time to dart her and bring her into the veterinary clinic for an examination. After a quick procedure in our veterinary clinic,

it was clear that Polly had gastritis (A stomach infection quite common in cheetahs). Luckily, it's fairly easy to treat so Polly was given fluids and a course of treatment over the coming weeks to help her get better.

After the first day of medication she started eating again and has now made a full recovery! During her recovery, Polly was given smaller meals through out the day to help her digest food easily and not have too much in one go. Her pen mate Rohini was quite jealous of her multiple meals and would always follow Polly inside looking for extra treats too! On quite a few occasions Rohini would end up having extra treats after making lots of chirps at her keepers to be treated the same way, even though she wasn't sick! Luckily Polly is very food motivated, so giving her medication is easy for her keepers. The same as your domestic house cat, Polly's keepers hid her pills inside her favourite treat, and she would gulp it down as fast as possible without realising there was anything inside!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Polly isn't always a fan of this time of the year, so her keepers made sure to practise her catch cage training as much as possible coming up to the big day! To every one's surprise, Polly behaved perfectly, and the process was over in under a few minutes. Polly could then go straight back outside with her main meal of the day as a reward!

Polly is one of the favourites amongst guests and keepers because she is (in the cheetah world) a very beautiful cheetah. She has a perfectly shaped face with equal black tear

marks and a darker orange coat than the other females. She is a very calm and patient cheetah who can be very curious at times! She always poses for any photographer that comes to CCF, so she makes the perfect cheetah model.



Polly



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)



Peter

known as the "Ambassadors".

He is now 8 years old and doing well. The Ambassadors were brought to CCF at just 3 weeks old and were bottle fed and hand raised. This means they are very accustomed to people and enjoy a lot of attention from the staff, or anyone willing to talk to them whilst they purr as loud as possible through the fence. Unfortunately, due to their love of people, they cannot be released into the wild so remain ambassadors for their species here at CCF helping educate the guests that come through every day!

Peter has had a change in routine this year and has started spending time in two new enclosures at the centre during the night with his siblings. One of the enclosures is called "The run pen" this is where Peter and his siblings exercise early in the morning on our purpose-built lure course. It is great way for him to exercise and stay lean! CCF visitors love him during the "Cheetah Run" because whilst he is showing off his speed he can become distracted and run the complete opposite direction towards a new smell he likes! Everyone finds his short attention span hilarious! Even after bailing out during a cheetah run, he will still approach his favourite keeper (CCF Curator Eli) and beg for extra treats!

It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical

health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers.

Peter and his siblings love to spend time sniffing the entire enclosure because lots of other cheetahs go in and out of it. Their keepers decided it would be a nice opportunity for them to spend nights in there so they could sniff as much as possible and explore the enclosure at night. Perfect natural enrichment!

Last month was vaccination month for all CCF's cheetahs! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Peter doesn't mind having a vaccination and will happily eat his bowl of special organ treats (such as heart – his favourite!) whilst the veterinarian quickly jabs him. It's usually over in just a few seconds, enough time for him to gulp down all his treats as fast as possible. His keepers always make sure to do all the siblings at the same time as they like to sit near each other for support.

Peter is still one of the best-behaved cheetahs and is always very patient with his keepers when they are teaching him new things or moving him around enclosures. He loves to be around people and always comes to his keepers in the morning to greet them after not seeing them all night, even if they don't have treats!

This year Peter unfortunately laid in a patch of sticky plants that covered his whole body and belly and caused lots of matts in his fur. Luckily, due to his patient and calm nature, his keepers were able to pick them all out and left him feeling much more comfortable and cleaner!

July 2019



Peter



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)



Rainbow

Aurora) and resident male Romeo (who very much lives up to his name!). She is now 6 years old and is as bouncy as ever!

A farmer near Otjiwarongo found Rainbow on the side of a road and decided to try nursing her back to health. Rainbow was abandoned, although it is unclear what happened to the mother. After a week the farmer, called CCF to come pick her up. She had not eaten much and was being held in a small cage; she was not hand fed, but she had a high level of human contact during this time, so she cannot be released into the wild.

Rainbow is still one of the most energetic cheetahs here at CCF and continues to love running on our lure course, well, running anywhere! Usually before the cheetah run, Rainbow will be flying around her holding area in pure excitement for the cheetah run. Rainbow is a very vocal cheetah and always

chats away to her keepers with a variety of chirps and meows. Her new favourite game this year is to sit in front of the door her keepers need to go through, when she's asked to move by her keepers, she will chirp as loud as possible and spin around in circles expecting treats for moving.

Last month was an important month for Rainbow, vaccination month! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily Rainbow is one of the best catch cage trained cheetahs CCF has and will happily sit inside the catch cage patiently whilst she receives her injections. After any procedure inside the catch cage, Rainbow will always have to be encouraged back out as she is so accustomed to waiting inside and getting treats. The perfect catch cage trained cheetah!

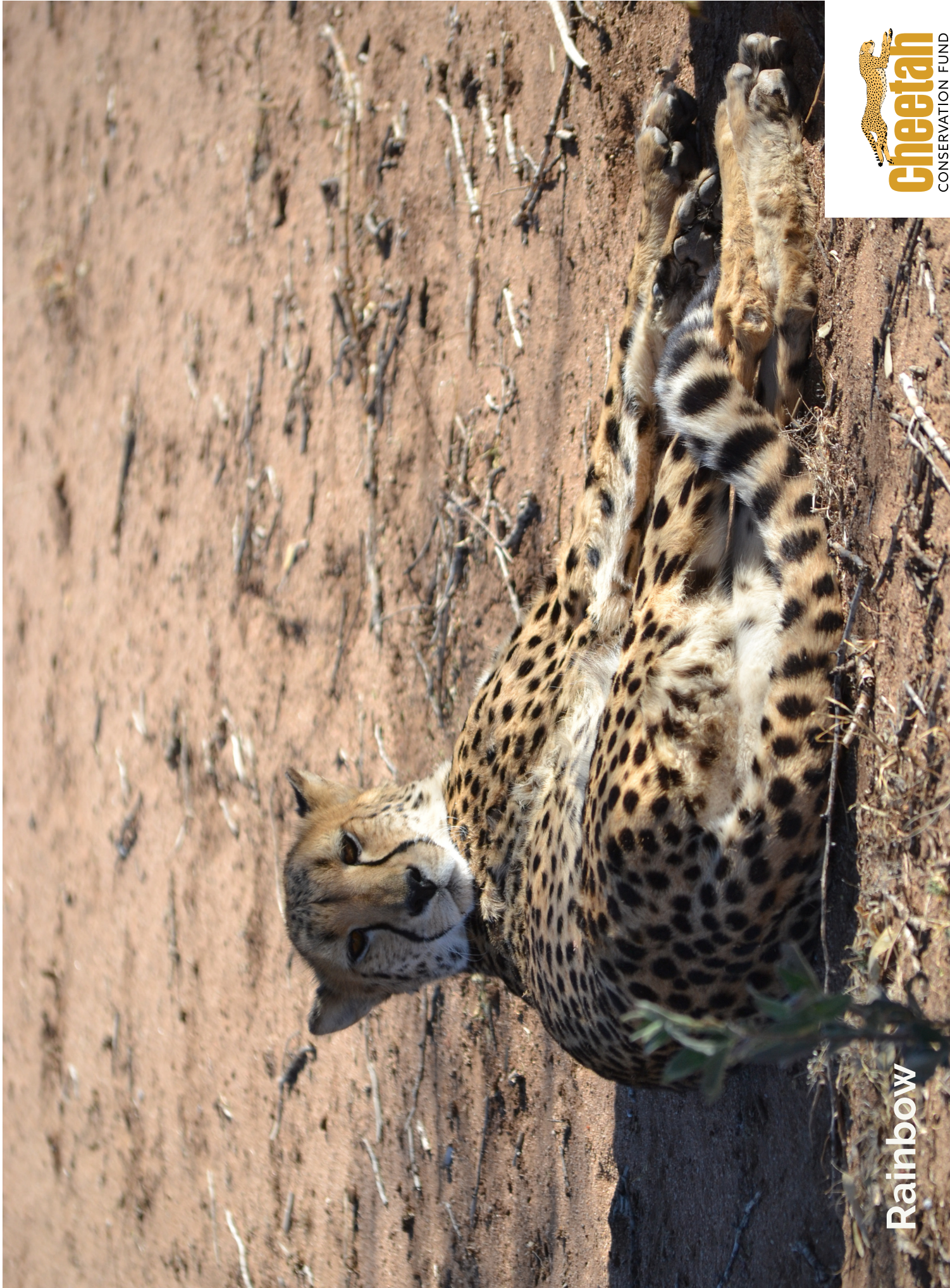
Rainbow is one of the keeper's favourites because she's quite clumsy. You would expect a cheetah to be agile and nimble on their feet, but Rainbow continues to trip over her own feet or bump into something whilst running which makes her incredibly lovable!

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Rainbow



Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)



Rohini

July 2019

Rohini continues to live here at CCF and is now 9 years old. Rohini was confiscated from a farm by the Ministry of Environment (MET) in the western communal areas (known as Damaraland) in early 2010 and CCF was asked to then take care of her for the rest of her life.

She was about three months old at the time and has lived at CCF ever since. She has been living in a 13-hectare (30 acre) enclosure with her friend Polly for nearly 3 years with "The Scientist boys. She's now been living with the males for over a year and the group dynamic has settled down perfectly.

Unfortunately, Rohini lost one of her male pen mates this year Fossey, who passed away from renal failure. Females live solitary in the wild so compared to the other males it did not affect Polly too much, but the keepers noticed it definitely made the group bond much closer since losing him.

Rohini has had a peaceful year so far and continues to enjoy living in her huge enclosure near the wild animals. Due to Rohini's bad start in life, she lacks the necessary skills to be a wild cheetah as she never had the chance to learn from mum. This doesn't ever stop Rohini from attempting to still be a wild cheetah at heart, at the beginning of this year an unfortunate duiker (small antelope) wandered too close to Rohini's fence line. To everybody's surprised and amazement she managed to kill the small antelope through the fence! When her keepers arrived in the morning to feed her, she was nowhere to be found, her keepers immediately drove around to look for her to check she was

ok. To their shock they found Rohini with a huge belly sat next to the duiker she had managed to drag through the fence to eat. It's safe to say she didn't need feeding for a few days after that, as she was very fat and happy, purring away!

Rohini has always been a greedy cheetah and loves to eat as much as possible! Her pen mate Polly unfortunately had a case of gastritis this year. During her recovery, Polly was given smaller meals throughout the day to help her digest food easily and not have too much in one go. Rohini was quite jealous of her multiple meals and would always follow Polly inside looking for extra treats too! On quite a few occasions Rohini would end up having extra treats after making lots of chirps at her keepers to be treated the same way, even though she wasn't sick!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Rohini isn't always a fan of this time of the year, so her keepers made sure to practise her catch cage training as much as possible coming up to the big day! To every one's surprise, Rohini behaved perfectly and even laid down calmly in the cage! Whilst Rohini was inside the cage, her keepers decided it would be a perfect opportunity for a bit of cheetah grooming! For the first part of this year, Rohini had managed to get a mat of sticky plants stuck to the side of her face, she would never let her keepers touch it, until vaccination day! Whilst she was calm and relaxed, her keepers slowly managed to get the entire thing out! Rohini could then go straight back outside with her main meal of the day as a reward!

Rohini is one of the favourites amongst guests and keepers because she is very calm and

patient but very wild at heart! She always poses for any photographer than comes to CCF, so she makes the perfect cheetah model.



Rohini



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

July 2019



Ron

Shunga and N'Dunge.

Ron originally came to CCF with his two sisters (Harry and Hermione) also known as the "Harry Potter Trio" in 2005, as two-month-old orphaned cubs. CCF staff named them after the kids in the popular book and film series.

Ron is now 14 years old (one of our oldest cheetahs!) and doing very well. Ron has flourished in his new retirement area away from the busy crowds at the centre. Every morning he will come into the feeding camps purring as loud as possible to greet his keepers. His keepers couldn't be happier as this is the Ron they have always known.

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Ron is never a fan of this time of year and because he has had so many over the course of his life he knows when the veterinarian arrives and will refuse to come inside, no matter how much his keepers practise with him! Because of this, his keepers always have to be sneaky and hide the veterinarian from him, so he thinks it's a normal feeding day. Once he is inside the catch cage, the veterinarian is super-fast, so the process is over quickly.

This year, because Ron is now 14, his keepers decided it would be good to take some blood and check his internal health. Renal disease is

common in older cheetahs and it's important for his keepers and veterinarian to know where he's at. This is also a quick process for Ron, luckily, he lays down nicely in a catch cage once he's finally inside, so the veterinarian was able to use the big vein at the base of his tail to take a blood sample! It all came back clear, and Ron is still fit and healthy.

Ron has been going through some extra training with his coalition mates recently, so that his keepers can take safari vehicles into his huge enclosure and guests can learn about his story and CCF from a distance. Ron has already mastered this training compared to his coalition mates and is always very calm and chilled out around the safari vehicles. The last training session he did, he was so calm he laid as flat as possible in the sun and his keepers could barely see him!

Compared to his coalition mates, Ron is very easy to tell apart, he's constantly purring and usually dribbling a lot! His keepers have recently been trying to get some nice photographs of him and he's either dribbling or blowing bubbles out of the side of his mouth! He is a very slender, small male only weighing around 40kg! He looks a lot like a female cheetah from a distance. Ron still loves to exercise every day, although he now exercises in a bit of a different way compared to his old lure course days. His keepers have trained him to chase the feeding vehicle and once he's finished, he receives his main meal as a reward! This way is much nicer for Ron as his keepers can decide what speed they would like to do each day now that he's getting older. Sometimes it's a fast sprint, other days he will only do a gentle jog!



Ron



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(Hello)

July 2019



Romeo

Romeo continues to live here at CCF with his four female cheetah friends Hermione, Harry, Rainbow and Aurora. Romeo was the family pet of a farmer in the Grootfontein area. He was well cared for and hand-raised, but the practice of keeping cheetahs as pets is illegal in Namibia.

CCF was called in December 2014 to take charge of Romeo. He does not get along with the other males at the centre as he doesn't speak "cheetah" very well and they become very frustrated with him. So instead he gets to live with four lucky ladies!

Romeo is 13 years old now, so that makes him one of our oldest cheetahs. However, he is healthy, happy, and living a good easy retirement here at CCF!

Unlike our other cheetahs at the centre, Romeo doesn't like to run on our cheetah lure course! To make sure he stays in shape like the other cheetahs, his keepers made him his own personal workout plan which involves chasing their feeding vehicle around the fence line of his enclosure. Once he has finished, his keepers reward him with treats or his normal meal depending on the day.

Romeo is very popular with our daily guests that visit due to his size and fluffy, dark coat. Romeo is a particularly big male cheetah weighing over 50kg! One of the largest we have here at CCF. He's also well loved for his incredibly loud purr after feeding time to show his content!

Recently, Romeo has picked up a new habit

after feeding time. He is usually separated from his female cheetah friends because he needs extra time to eat and something a little softer due to his bad teeth. Once he's finished eating, he's started chirping at his keepers as loud as possible for attention. Once his keepers bring guests down to him, he automatically starts purring, so his keepers have started to assume he chirps for attention!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Romeo is very comfortable and calm during his injections and is happy to eat treats in exchange for a quick jab. Because of Romeo's nice and calm nature, our veterinary students were able to participate and learn a lot! Due to Romeo's upbringing, he's incredibly laid back and easy to handle when necessary.

Going forward in the next month or so, Romeo will be getting some new cheetah friends joining him in his enclosure. Sasha and Savannah! Two young females that need to learn the ropes at the main centre. Romeo is a very easy cheetah to mix in with others as he seems to enjoy female company!



Romeo



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

July 2019



Sasha

Sasha came to CCF in January 2018 at around 5 months old. She was rescued by a farmer who found

her on his farm incredibly sick and weak.

She was turned over to us for rehabilitation. During her first week at CCF, she had a routine check-up and a mass was found in her stomach. She had emergency surgery to remove it. After lots of rest and love from her keepers, she recovered very well.

Sasha has grown up incredibly fast this year and is becoming more and more independent every day. Sasha and her friend Dominic's friendship has gone strength to strength and they now play together very well. Initially Dominic wasn't sure of Sasha's very forward playing technique. Sasha loved to run as fast as possible at Dom and pat him on his back end to instigate play. At the beginning she used to scare him but this year their keepers have noticed that the play is on more of an even ground now and they will both chase each other around, tapping each other to instigate more play. It's been a great relief to their keepers that they've been able to figure each other out.

In April of this year, another young cheetah named Savannah joined CCF after being rescued from someone keeping her as a pet. Sasha is the same age, so she made a perfect fit for the newcomer. When Sasha first met her new friend, she walked right up to her and checked her out, after a few minutes Sasha went and sat back down on her mound calmly making it quite clear to her keepers that she was satisfied with her new friend. Over the coming months they learned to play together

as well, except Savannah was much more accepting of Sasha's chasing game and their friendship blossomed as soon as Sasha realised Savannah also loved to be chased!

Sasha is still being trained on the cheetah run, unfortunately she is always more interested in what the other cheetahs around her are doing, exploring the enclosure or watching the neighbouring cheetahs so her training is very slow. She has also become very comfortable with guests at the main centre now, which is also part of her training, so she is usually found under a tree watching everyone during the day!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! This was Sasha's first awake vaccination here, (her previous she was under anaesthetic), so her keepers made sure she had lots of practise entering a catch cage calmly before the big day. To every one's surprise, Sasha was one of the calmest cheetahs during the vaccinations and even allowed our veterinary students to get close enough to observe. Her keepers were very proud! Sasha is a very calm and gentle cheetah who is incredibly curious! Whenever her keepers clean her enclosure, she always likes to investigate what they are taking away before she allows them to leave with it. This can be very time consuming when she wants to investigate every piece of faeces her keepers pick up!

Because of her calm nature, she was introduced through a fence to one of the newest arrivals who is only 12 weeks old! Sasha always lays nicely along the fence with her and purrs to her when she's playing outside.



Sasha



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(Hello)



Senay

July 2019

Senay continues to live here at CCF with her three siblings Khayjay, Tigerlily and Peter; also known

as the "Ambassadors". She is now 8 years old and doing well. The Ambassadors were brought to CCF at just 3 weeks old and were bottle fed and hand raised. This means they are very accustomed to people and enjoy a lot of attention from the staff, or anyone willing to talk to them whilst they purr as loud as possible through the fence.

Unfortunately, due to their love of people, they cannot be released into the wild so remain ambassadors for their species here at CCF helping educate the guests that come through every day!

Senay has had a change in routine this year and has started spending time in two new enclosures at the centre during the night with her siblings. One of the enclosures is called "The run pen" this is where Senay and her siblings exercise early in the morning on our purpose-built lure course. It is great way for her to exercise and stay lean!

CCF visitors love her during the "Cheetah Run" because she will show off her speed once, then come and sit right by the viewing area posing for guests. Once Senay has ran once, she always thinks she deserves treats for just standing near her keepers and purring. She will usually focus on her favourite keeper (CCF Head Keeper Lora) and stare with big brown eyes purring, hoping to score extra treats. During a longer cheetah run Senay can be found following her keepers just in case they want to give her some free treats for not

doing anything! It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interaction and bonding with their keepers.

Tigerlily and her siblings love to spend time sniffing the entire enclosure because lots of other cheetahs go in and out of it. Their keepers decided it would be a nice opportunity for them to spend nights in there so they could sniff as much as possible and explore the enclosure at night. Perfect natural enrichment!

Last month was vaccination month for all CCF's cheetahs! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Senay doesn't mind having a vaccination and will happily eat her bowl of special organ treats (such as heart – her favourite!) whilst the veterinarian quickly jabs her. It's usually over in just a few seconds and after Senay has finished her treats she will always purr as loud as possible to her keepers and the veterinarian, so they know they are forgiven! Her keepers always make sure to do all the siblings at the same time as they like to sit near each other for support. Senay is still very aloof and only likes the keepers she knows well. She will always make it clear who she doesn't like by walking casually by them with her head held high and ignore them completely. Senay is also very picky with her food, luckily her keepers know her very well so can make sure her diet is kept to it's strict routine. One of her keepers favourite picky moments is her refusal to eat lung (organ meat). If a piece of lung has even brushed her normal food, she will refuse to eat it! Very fussy!



Senay



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(Hello)

July 2019



Shunga

Shunga continues to live here at CCF in his male coalition group with his close friends

Little C, N'Dunge and Ron. Shunga and his brother N'Dunge were found without a mother in the Gobabis region. The two cubs were brought to CCF in July 2008 when they were three months old.

During their first few weeks here at CCF their keepers noticed that Shunga wasn't the brightest cheetah and he gained the nickname "Blondeman". He is now 11 years old. Shunga is loved by any guest that visits him because of his chatty nature. He loves to vocalise to everyone to let them know how he's feeling! Everyday he comes into the feeding camps for his keepers, he will chirp and meow as loud as possible until he is fed! Usually he is already waiting for them by the gate when they arrive, he knows his routine very well!

Last month was an important month on the CCF cheetah calendar, vaccination time! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Shunga is a catch cage professional and is never a problem for his keepers this time of year. Shunga practises coming inside the catch cage regularly with his brothers just in case he needs any medical treatment going forward in his life. He loves the catch cage and will come running inside even when there is no treats or food inside! Sometimes, his keepers don't even need to shut the doors of the cage and he will still sit there perfectly happy. The process is always over very quickly, and he is let back outside to get his main meal as a reward after the

vaccinations. This year, because Shunga is now 11, his keepers decided it would be good to take some blood and check his internal health. Renal disease is common in older cheetahs and it's important for his keepers and veterinarian to know where he's at. This is also a quick process for him, luckily, he lays down nicely in a catch cage, so the veterinarian was able to use the big vein at the base of his tail to take a blood sample! It all came back clear, and Shunga is still fit and healthy.

Shunga has been going through some extra training with his coalition mates recently, so that his keepers can take safari vehicles into his huge enclosure and guests can learn about his story and CCF from a distance. Shunga is one of the naughtiest of his coalition and loves to investigate the tyres of the vehicle a little too much! His keepers have been working closely with him and he is improving after every training session!

Compared to his coalition mates, he is very easy to tell apart because of his constant loud noises and very round face! He also has a very specific trot when he runs towards his keepers, it looks more like a fast waddle so even from a distance they know its him! He still loves to exercise every day, although he now exercises in a bit of a different way compared to his old lure course days. His keepers have trained him to chase the feeding vehicle and once he's finished, he receives his main meal as a reward! This way is much nicer for Shunga as his keepers can decide what speed they would like to do each day now that he's getting older. Sometimes it's a fast sprint, other days he will only do a gentle jog!



Shunga



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Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)



Tigerlily

July 2019

Tigerlily continues to live here at CCF with her three siblings Khayjay, Senay and Peter;

also known as the "Ambassadors". She is now 8 years old and doing well. The Ambassadors were brought to CCF at just 3 weeks old and were bottle fed and hand raised. This means they are very accustomed to people and enjoy a lot of attention from the staff, or anyone willing to talk to them whilst they purr as loud as possible through the fence.

Unfortunately, due to their love of people, they cannot be released into the wild so remain ambassadors for their species here at CCF helping educate the guests that come through every day!

Tigerlily has had a change in routine this year and has started spending time in two new enclosures at the centre during the night with her siblings. One of the enclosures is called "The run pen" this is where Tigerlily and her siblings exercise early in the morning on our purpose-built lure course. It is great way for her to exercise and stay lean! CCF visitors love her during the "Cheetah Run" because she will show off her speed once, then come and sit right by the viewing area posing for guests. It is important that we exercise all our cheetahs here as they do not hunt for themselves. Not only is it good for their physical health but also their mental health. It is an enjoyable activity for them where they can engage in play and positive interactions.

Tigerlily and her siblings love to spend time sniffing the entire enclosure because lots of other cheetahs go in and out of it. Their keepers

decided it would be a nice opportunity for them to spend nights in there so they could sniff as much as possible and explore the enclosure at night. Perfect natural enrichment! Last month was vaccination month for all CCF's cheetahs! It's important for our cheetahs to get annual vaccinations to protect them from feline diseases and rabies! Luckily, Tigerlily doesn't mind having a vaccination and will happily eat her bowl of special organ treats (such as heart – her favourite!) whilst the veterinarian quickly jabs her. It's usually over in just a few seconds. Her keepers always make sure to do all the siblings at the same time as they like to sit near each other for support. Tigerlily is still incredibly independent and likes to push her keepers' boundaries. At the beginning of the year,

Tigerlily started to misbehave and not come to her keepers when she was called. She would sit across her enclosure and turn her ears towards her keepers so they knew Tigerlily could hear them, but she would choose to not come. Because of this naughty behaviour, her keepers decided to do some top-up training with her and since then, she now has perfect recall again! When her keepers call, she comes running inside and straight to them for her delicious treats!



Tigerlily



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LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOG PROGRAM
25 Years

Your Update for Veepi!

(Hello)

Veepi will be two years old in February and has been with us for a year and a half, after he was surrendered by his owner and placed under our care in Hargeisa, the capital of Somaliland. He has grown into a beautiful young male cheetah, although continues to be shy with people, probably as a result of the treatment he received as a pet.

His severe case of bone deformation known as Metabolic Bone Disease, or MBD, is slight now. It is difficult to believe that when he was turned over to our team in Hargeisa, his front legs were completely deformed due to poor nutrition and he had difficulty walking. Even though MBD is incurable, with the carefully-balanced diet he has been receiving there has resulted in much improvement.

Since his arrival in June 2017, Veepi had been living in a 'safe' house we rented for him and his companion Dhoobi, who came to us a day earlier. As the young cubs grew, we needed a better facility for them, as there was no soft ground for them; most homeowners in Hargeisa cover their yards with tile. In April of this year we moved him to our other facility where an older cheetah, Indie, had been living since his confiscation in July 2016. This facility house, unlike the other, has soil and even grass when it rains! We were hoping that the three males would form a coalition. However, Veepi would have none of it. He and Indie ignore each other, even though they are only separated by a fence. As such, Veepi has an enclosure all to himself ever since his mate Dhoobi suddenly passed away in May. Fortunately, he and Indie

have plenty of entertainment with the other confiscated animals at this facility under the care of our Hargeisa team, which currently include two kudus, a gazelle, a gerenuk and two vultures, in addition to two other cheetahs. Indie and Veepi stalk and watch their yard mates through their fences when they are not just resting in the sun. None of the other animals seem to mind, and occasionally they approach the cheetah enclosures for a mutual smelling session.

Veepi really seems to enjoy human presence. He purrs loudly and rolls over when his caretakers approach. This is good because it makes it easier to handle him when needed; however, this also lessens any chances of him going back to the wild. Sadly, most cheetah cubs stolen from the wild at a very young age for the pet trade must be hand raised and they lose their fear of humans. This has the potential of resulting in conflict if he were released into the wild, as he would most likely approach human settlements in search for food.

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Thank you for sharing our vision: To see a world in which cheetahs live and flourish in coexistence with people and the environment.

Celebrate CCF's Year of the Livestock Guarding Dog! We hope you will join CCF and hundreds of Namibian farmers in celebrating the 25th anniversary of CCF's Livestock Guarding Dog (LGD) program this year. Your sponsorship support ensures the future of our LGD program along with all of CCF's science-based, conservation focused, holistic programs across the cheetah's range.





 **Cheetah**
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Veepi

Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

As of December 2018, the LGD program has placed 32 puppies throughout Namibia, including five puppies born in 2017. This year, five litters of puppies were born. Of these litters, five puppies will not be placed until 2019 as they were only born in November 2018, to CCF's female, Kiri. Due to old age, three of our breeding females have been retired from the breeding program and sterilized – this includes Kiri, Karibib, and Aleya. CCF hopes to acquire new dogs in 2019 to expand the breeding program and replace the retired females.

The two master students from Bristol University completed their masters projects on the Livestock Guarding Dogs (LGD). One study was focused on studying the personality traits that make a good LGD – by scoring the dogs doing different behaviours. Below are the personality traits that were compared to efficacy of dog's working skills:

- Five personality traits were found: Playfulness, trainability, independence, sociability with people, and reactivity.
- Working dogs were found to be more independent than breeding dogs.
- Dogs with a higher trainability and a lower reactivity were likely to be more effective LGDs.
- Dogs that were more playful with people were more likely to play roughly with the stock

The second study was focused on the proximity of guarding dogs to the herd throughout the day. We used satellite collars on both the lead goat and the dog to track how close they were to each other during the day.

July 2019

- The LGDs are closest the lead goat at the beginning and end of their working day.
- LGDs were closer in proximity to the lead goat in areas of dense vegetation and were the furthest from the lead goat in low vegetation.
- All three dogs observed out with the herd spent most of their guarding time walking ahead of the herd and oriented in the direction of travel, suggesting they are on the lookout for predators
- The three observed dogs all also scent marked throughout their guarding period

Completing research such as the above, allows us to continue updating our knowledge on the use and techniques of guarding dogs which allows CCF to provide this information to farmers and other organizations interested in this mitigation tool.

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Livestock Guarding Dogs



Ongeyipi from Namibia!

(Hello)

BONUS! CCF SCAT DOG UPDATE

July 2019

The Scat Detection Dog Programme has continuously grown over the years. In May of 2018, Tim Hofmann, dog handler, and his dog Ole, a six-year-old Weimaraner, joined Quentin de Jager and the CCF scat dogs. Tim joined the team as the Scat Dog Research Coordinator. In mid 2017, Tim first came to CCF as an intern in order to do research for his master's thesis, looking at factors that influence the success of scat dogs in detection. Before coming to CCF, Ole was used in several research projects as a tracking dog and has already made great progress in his new role as a scat detection dog. With two scat detection teams, the area that can be covered has increased and the teams have proven to be fully operational, scat detection teams. With the programme's growth in 2018, the teams were able to visit farms in the Otjozondjupa, Omaheke and Oshikoto regions of Namibia. A large number of scat samples have been acquired and it is hoped to the efforts in the upcoming year of 2019.

As another addition to the scat dog team, four Belgian Malinois puppies were donated to CCF from the Otjiwarongo Neighbourhood Watch. Two of the puppies were donated by CCF to collaborators at Ongava Game Reserve to aid their work in the protection of endangered wildlife. The other two puppies – Enyakwa (Enya) and Gamena (Mena) – remained at CCF and are currently being trained to become the next generation of scat detection dogs. Enyakwa and Gamena were named by donors via a Facebook initiative – we would like to thank the participants for their generous support to CCF's scat dogs. Enya is a very active dog with the typical temperament of a Malinois, whereas Mena is more relaxed but still motivated for the job.

In 2018, both sisters have taken their first steps in becoming professional working dogs. They have now matured from their puppy-stage

and are ready to start serious training in scat detection work. The distance of their searches and intensity of their training will be gradually increased. Thick bush areas will be added to their training to improve their performances. Enya and Mena's performances and improvements will be evaluated regularly with assessment transects in 2019.

Quentin and Levi became a part of a three-year project involving long-term CCF collaborator Dr Ezequiel Fabiano – obtained his MSc and PhD through CCF and is now a lecturer at the University of Namibia – and CIBIO (Centro de Investigação em Biodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos). To kick off the project, Quentin and Levi travelled to Angola from the 10th until the 30th of June 2018 to search for and collect carnivore scat samples in local National Parks. CCF's scat detection team covered more than 7 km per day while searching and found a total of 71 scat samples from a range of carnivores including leopard, caracal and African wild dog on which Levi indicated. No cheetah samples were found. The samples will be used in the research of three graduate students. The data collected from analysed scat samples and camera trap photos will be combined to determine the predator and prey population sizes and how they are integrated.

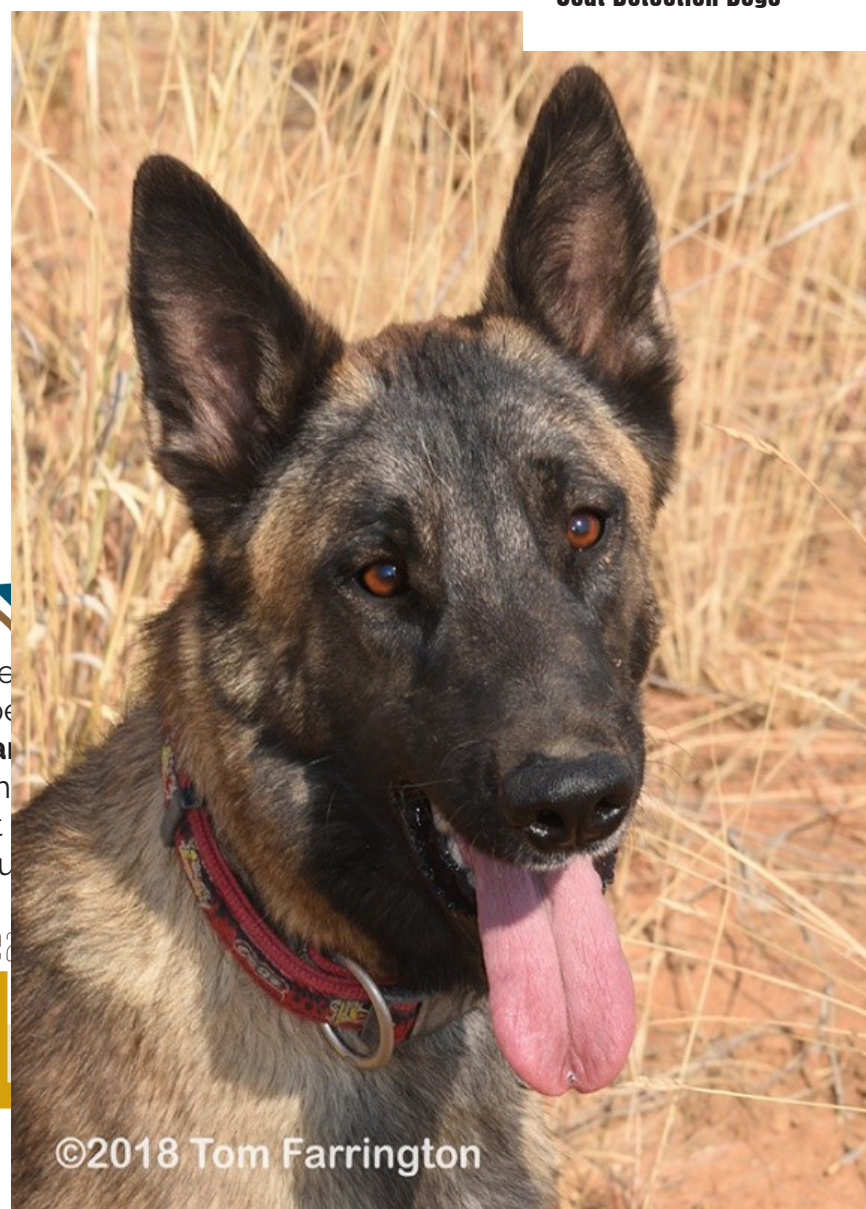
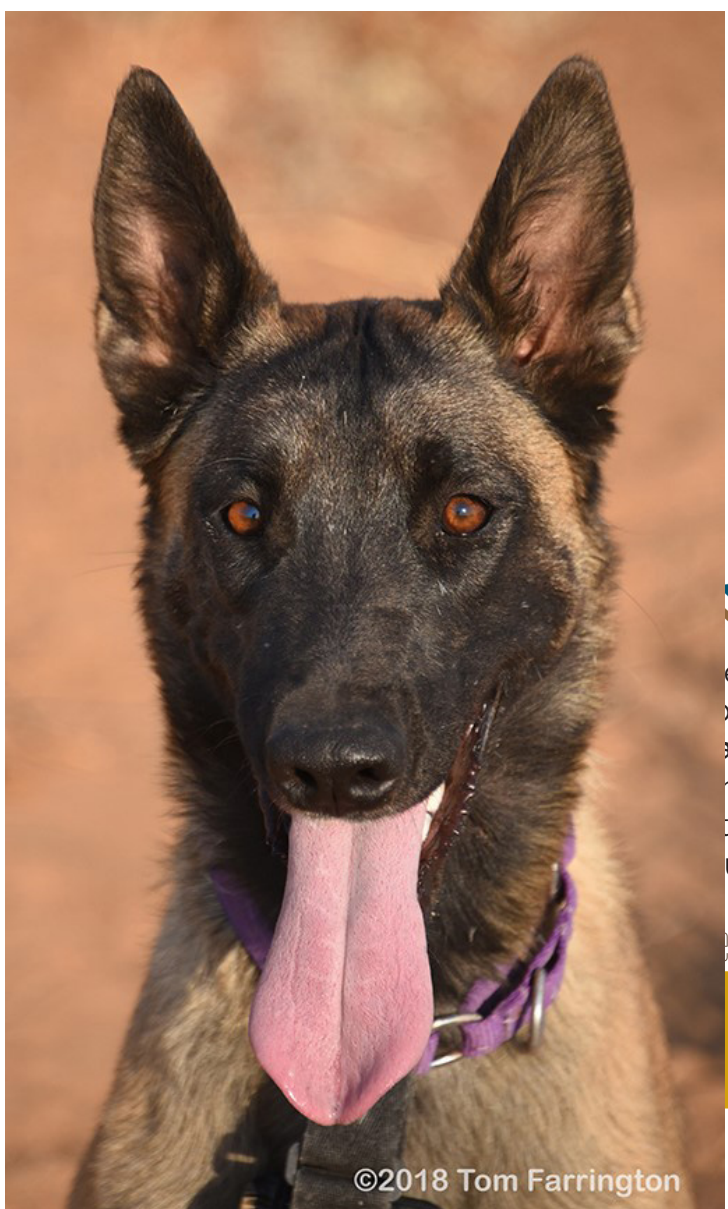
In 2018, CCF's scat detection dog team trained an ammunition detection dog for NYIME Anti-Poaching Unit. The trained dog has proven effective since returning to its handler at NYIME and has gained attention from ISAP, as well as various other Anti-Poaching organizations. Starting at the end of December 2018, the two Belgian Malinois dogs that were donated by CCF to Ongava Game Reserve will be trained in ammunition detection and human scent tracking to aid Ongava in their fight against poaching. The two Malinois will be ready to start their work in combating poaching by March 2019.

Images: Map 1. Green shows dog movement on a search, flags indicate ammunition detection and human scent tracking. Market Car A – lifer wild samples found and marked AWD 112 for a Wild Dog Training Aid use to keep our dogs motivated. Top center: left to right: Levi (dog), Quentin, Tim and Ole (dog). Bottom: Ciné combatting poaching.



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Scat Detection Dogs



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