



**AUT
UMN**
EDITION

Former patient, Maple the aardwolf,
now wild and free.

AUTUMN

EDITION

...AUTUMN SIGNIFIES THE END OF THE GROWING SEASON.
 DAYLIGHT GROWS SHORTER, THE TEMPERATURE COOLS AND LEAVES
 ON TREES TURN YELLOW, ORANGE, RED AND BROWN.

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For animals, there are some long, cold months ahead. For many, there is little activity – coats grow thicker and fluff up to trap the heat.

In Gauteng, days are shorter, cold, and dry. Seasonal changes cause a change in the behaviour and physicality of mammals, reptiles and birds as they adapt according to the season.

For example, bird activity decreases and reptiles go into a form of torpor.

In this autumn edition we showcase some great rescue and recovery stories and show how some of these little animals are growing with the care and help from the JWWH.

**YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION
 ON ALL OF THESE STORIES AND
 MORE ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.JOHANNESBURGWILDLIFEVET.COM/**

Karin

MESSAGE FROM DR K

To all our wildlife warriors and supports:

It has been such a long time since our last newsletter, but we are back with a bang!

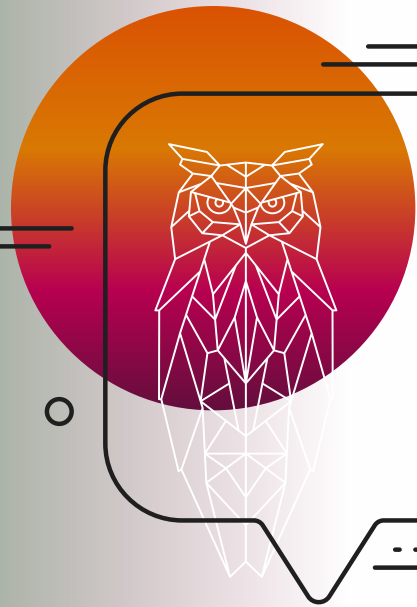
On 15 March 2023 we celebrated our 6th birthday, and we are happy to share that we have helped more than 11 500 wild animals since we opened. What a privilege to have been part of this incredible journey, from only having 5 in patients, to now having, on average, 40 patients at a time, sometimes 80 during our busy months. To say we have grown is an understatement!

In fact, we have grown so much that we are now in desperate need of a property much larger than the one we are currently renting. Our future plan is to build a bespoke facility with all the bells and whistles, a state of the art hospital, with large outside enclosures, all built to our specifications. This new facility would be a teaching hospital and animal care learning base with onsite accommodation for both our local and international students. This is going to be an exciting project, and anyone interested in helping us to realise this dream is welcome to contact me on info@jwvh.org.za.

We also welcomed a new interim director, Wendy Willson, who has joined us as our Legal and Operations lead. Wendy has 28 years of experience in wildlife, animal welfare and best of all, prosecuting animal crime. The hospital is not only pursuing our own cases against the perpetrators of animal cruelty and wildlife crime that are brought into our hospital, but we are now in a position to assist countless other organisations with their own animal crime cases. At the time of this newsletter we are now actively involved in over 30 court cases with many of them already in trial in both magisterial and regional courts. Our goal here is to fight for the rights of the smaller, underrepresented and often overlooked, wildlife species. Our cases currently seek justice for creatures that include chameleons, owls, terrapins and tortoises, monitors, hares and a variety of birds etc. These cases will serve to create awareness around the plight of these animals and build punishment platforms for animals that have never had a voice in our courts before.

I would like to thank every person who has helped us and continues to help us to achieve our successes. Whether it is a R5 donation or a R100 000 donation, every bit gives us the support to do what we do best – to be the voice for the voiceless.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR **CONTINUED SUPPORT**
AND WE WISH YOU A **HAPPY AUTUMN**



TAKING FLIGHT

“IN ORDER TO SEE BIRDS, IT IS
NECESSARY TO BECOME A **PART**
OF THE SILENCE.”

ROBERT LYND



WHY IS BIRD RINGING SO IMPORTANT

Our recently released Pale chanting goshawk (*Melierax canorus*) patient was found injured on the side of the road thanks to his SAFRING.

He had a slightly swollen right foot and an injury on his right hock, which was infected. Pain medication, anti-inflammatories and antibiotics assisted in getting the infection under control after which the injury needed to be debrided (medically removing damaged tissue) under sedation.

He was starved when he arrived as he would have needed both legs to be healthy to hunt and eat effectively.

While we aren't sure what caused his injuries, we are glad that he made a full recovery and he was released again on 24 March in a safe and protected area.

This is a wonderful example of how SAFRINGS assist in research and enable us to follow up with former patients, when needed.

To read more about ringing: <http://safring.adu.org.za/>



BARN OWL NEEDING HELP

A Barn owl (*Tyto alba*) was recently found at Kream Restaurant, Mall of Africa. With the help of one of our animal ambulance team members, the owl was brought to our hospital for assistance.

An examination and blood tests indicated severe muscle injury. He was in shock and hypoglycaemic on arrival. After 24 hours on iv fluids and EmerAidVet carnivore tube feeding, he was feeling much better. He started eating well on his own and follow-up blood tests showed a massive improvement. He has since been released back into the wild.

We are delighted that this lovely Barn owl has been released once more!





STUNNING STORK

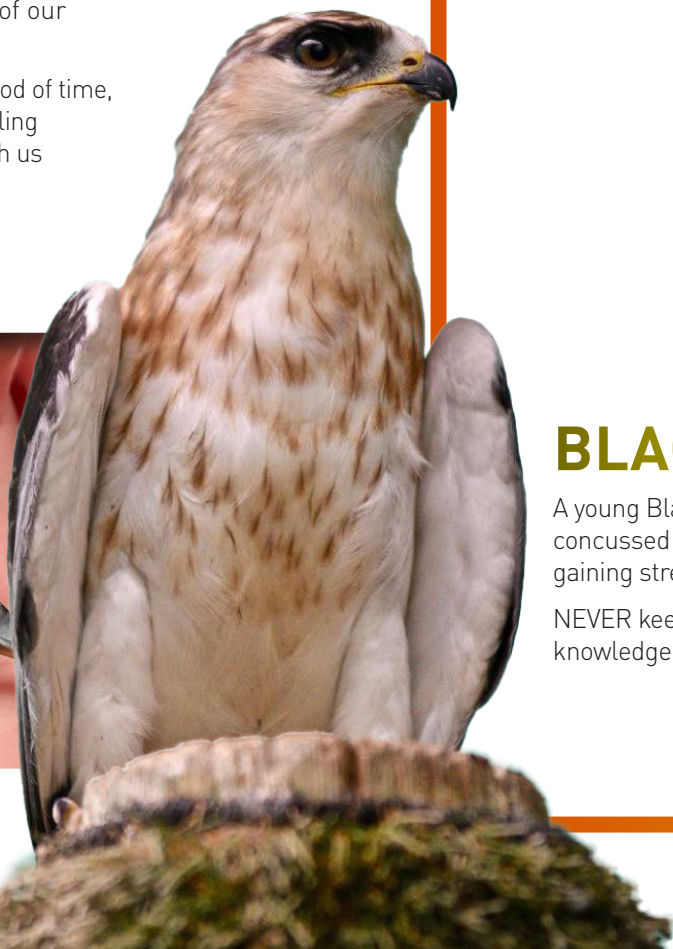
The lovely stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) that was admitted for rodenticide poisoning has finally made a full recovery, and just in time for his migration back to Europe. We opted to take radiographs to check that he hadn't eaten anything that might have been in his system still (storks are known for eating all sorts of things that sometimes get stuck in their stomachs or digestive tracts). We wanted to make sure he was 100% before his big journey.

Thankfully there were no foreign objects in his digestive system, however he had been shot by a pellet gun, as there was a pellet in his chest muscle. This did not have to be removed (they only become a problem when ingested or in bone marrow), and removing the pellet would've meant a longer recovery time and that the stork would have to stay with us in SA over the Winter period, something that would be unusual for him, and likely stressful.

DINKY DUCK

Patients come in all shapes and sizes, and this little Yellow-billed duckling (*Anas undulata*) is currently one of our smallest patients.

Found alone in someone's yard for an extended period of time, the decision was made to intervene before the duckling became too compromised. This little one will be with us for some time until it is old enough to fend for itself.



BLACK-WINGED BEAUTY

A young Black-winged kite (*Elanus caeruleus*) was surrendered to an SPCA concussed after a suspected hit by car. This beauty is now in an outside enclosure gaining strength and clocking flight hours prior to release.

NEVER keep indigenous wildlife in captivity - without the necessary permits and knowledge, it is illegal and cruel.



CELEBRATIONS CELEBRATED!

JWV CELEBRATE SPECIAL DAYS - ANIMAL DAYS OR
HUMAN CELEBRATION DAYS WHERE JWV STILL CELEBRATE ANIMALS!

WORLD PANGOLIN DAY (18 FEBRUARY)

World pangolin day was on the 18th of February this year (it is on a different date every year as it falls on the third Saturday in February).

Thank you to everyone who has supported our efforts at treatment, recovery and release of this unique species. Your support matters and we are making a difference!



VALENTINES DAY RESCUE

No chocolates and balloons for Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital on Valentines Day. Instead, give us animals rescued from the wildlife trade any day!

A huge thank you to the vigilant Honeydew motorist who spotted a man trying to sell a tortoise at Lazer Park intersection in Honeydew and to Ramond van der Walt from SB Security and Captain J Venter for their super-fast response, interception and arrest of the perpetrator who also had a marsh terrapin crammed into his backpack!

We met the rescue team at the Honeydew police station to assess the animals and open a police case. Both tortoise and terrapin were treated for dehydration and the poacher appeared in court later that same week.





ON 15 MARCH WE CELEBRATED OUR PAST SIX YEARS

...AT THE JOHANNESBURG WILDLIFE VET, WE TREAT
INDIGENOUS WILDLIFE FREE OF CHARGE, RELYING SOLELY
ON OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY FOR DONATIONS AND
SUPPORT.

OUR CLINIC STAFF HAVE PUT TOGETHER A LIST OF
ITEMS THAT WE NEED AND THAT WOULD MAKE OUR
CLINIC EVEN BETTER!

**THANK YOU SO MUCH TO EVERYONE THAT SUPPORTS
OUR WORK, WE NOTICE YOU, WE APPRECIATE YOU,
AND WE ARE REALLY GRATEFUL!**





LOOK HOW THEY HAVE GROWN!

YOUNG ANIMALS ARE SOME OF THE MOST VULNERABLE OF THOSE THAT WE TREAT. WITHOUT IMMEDIATE CARE AND ROUND THE CLOCK MONITORING, FEEDING AND TREATMENT, MANY OF THESE WILL NOT GROW UP TO BE THE **BEAUTIFUL CREATURES THEY DESERVE TO BE.**

BELOW ARE SOME GREAT STORIES OF HOW SOME OF **OUR SPECIAL-NEEDS BABIES HAVE GROWN.**

LOOK AT ME NOW!

This once debilitated and mange infested Black-backed jackal (*Canis mesomelas*) is now a whole lot happier and healthier! Initially in a bad way, with the help of MSD Bravecto South Africa and our friends at Over and Above Africa, this jackal is thriving!

With a healthy appetite and growing coat, this jackal was ready for the next phase in his release journey in no time at all! He is currently in a pre-release boma to acclimatise to his new home prior to release. Massive thank you to both MSD, Over and Above Africa and everyone else who donated towards his care, we appreciate you!



NOW OVER 70 GRAMS

A teeny Lesser bush baby (*Galago moholi*) had hearts exploding with his size, and determination for life! This little one started off at Zwartkop Animal Clinic and was then transferred to us. He was a mere 10 grams when we first met him, and at well past 70 grams now, he is ready to begin his slow release process.

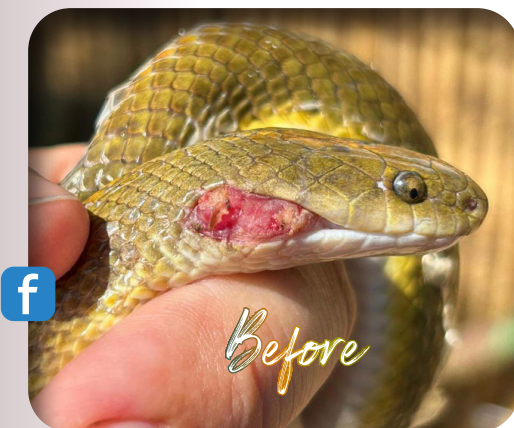
Little Pebble has since been introduced to a friend of a similar age, and they are going through the slow release process together.



HEALED HOUSE SNAKE

This Aurora house snake (*Lamprophis aurora*) was found in the middle of a busy road by Matthew Cook, a snake enthusiast and rescuer. The snake had multiple puncture wounds and a large laceration on the side of his mouth. We suspect that this snake might've sustained his injuries while being predated on by a bird.

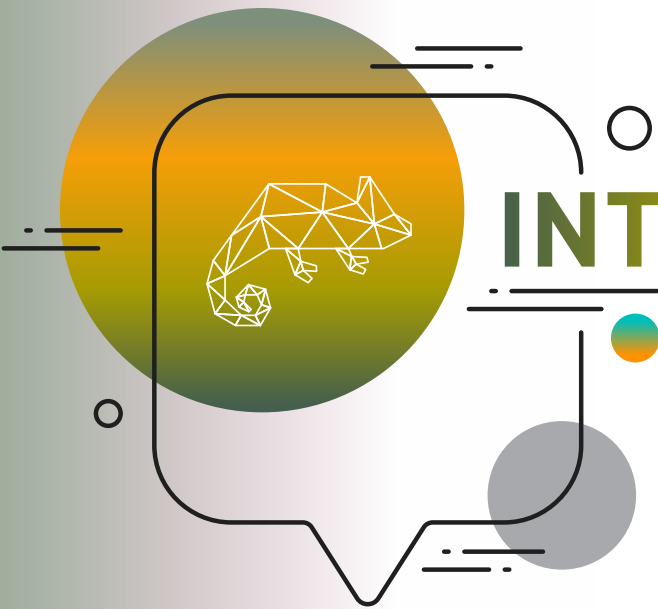
He received pain and anti-inflammatory meds, subcutaneous fluids and local wound treatment. While recuperating he was tubed regularly with EmerAidVet carnivore, and he was able to maintain his weight. He made a remarkable recovery and was released by Matthew Cook.



READY FOR REHABILITATION

Our 5 Black-backed jackal pups (*Canis mesomelas*) turned into 7 when another two youngsters arrived! They settled in well together and were soon ready for the next step in their rehabilitation journey.

They are currently in a boma at a private reserve, acclimatising to their new environment, and receiving support feeding. Soon they will have the ability to leave the boma, and return for food, should they wish. They will finally begin finding their own food and will not require the food offerings, as they will be finding their own.

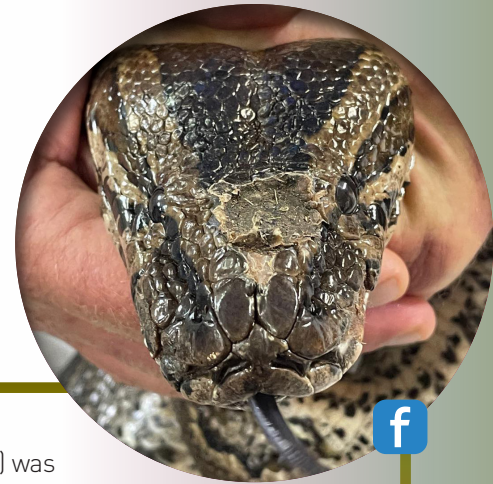


INTERCEPTION

SALE INTERCEPTED

SPCA Rustenburg became aware of a python in desperate need of help. Someone was trying to sell her for R3 000. This large female Southern African Python (*Python natalensis*) was kept in a metal box for quite some time. With the assistance of The Department of Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA), the snake was confiscated and brought to our hospital.

We treated Rainha (as she was affectionately named) for dehydration, a wound on her face and emaciation. With the assistance of EmerAidVet, she gained 2.5kg and she was successfully released in a safe grassland area with a lovely river for this semi-aquatic beauty to enjoy!



LUCKY CHAMELEON

Yet another illegal Chameleon sale was intercepted by Friends of Rescued Animals (FORA) at the Tarlton intersection. This Flap-necked chameleon (*Chamaeleo dilepis*) was rescued from her poachers and rushed to our hospital. She arrived dehydrated and distressed but after some TLC, she improved, began eating on her own and has subsequently been released.

The individual who caught and attempted to sell her is a well-known repeat offender and was arrested.

We implore everyone who sees indigenous wildlife being sold to contact their local Nature Conservation body, SPCA or police station.

A LACK OF INFORMATION OBSCURES THE TRUE SCALE OF THE GLOBAL ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE. JWWH TOGETHER WITH VARIOUS PARTNERSHIPS TRY TO DO THEIR BIT TO ENSURE WILD ANIMALS ARE SAVED.





HOW CAN YOU HELP?

SAVING ONE ANIMAL WILL NOT CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT FOR THAT ONE ANIMAL
THE WORLD WILL CHANGE FOREVER.

BRAVE BEAR BOOKS

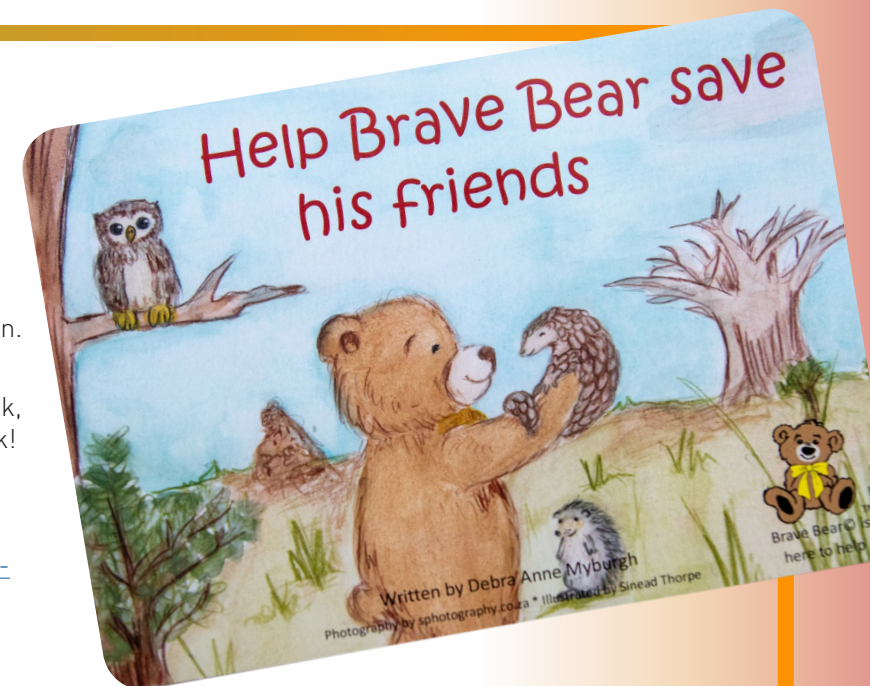
As we start February and approach World Pangolin Day, we are thrilled to share that we have collaborated with the team at BraveBooks to create a book about saving the Temminck's pangolin! Creating books that relate to every day issues and assisting kids through life's challenges.

We are so excited that the Brave Book team decided to create a book about the plight of the pangolin.

The Brave Book team include parents, psychologists and teachers who are passionate about creating stories to assist children and instil bravery. We are honoured to have assisted with this book, and send a heartfelt thank you for all the effort the book team put into this colourful, insightful book!

Proceeds from the book go toward our hospitalisation, rehabilitation, and conservation costs for Temminck's pangolin patients.

To get your hands on one, click here: <https://shop.johannesburgwildlifevet.com/product/10197/help-brave-bear-save-his-friends>



OUR WISHLIST



ANIMAL RELATED EQUIPMENT

- Cosmic pet carriers (small medium and large sizes) - these are VERY versatile and useful in our clinic!
- Pet plastic carriers: Vari kennels (all sizes to transport animals)
- Transport boxes: wooden
- Plastic (light weight) dog igloos/ kennels
- Specialised Catch Nets
- Aviary net



MAINTENANCE / EQUIPMENT

- Inverter
- Plastic pump bottles and spray bottles
- Duct tape
- Cable ties (all sizes)
- 2 wendy houses / wooden huts



INDOOR

- Tissues and toilet paper
- Repti-Glo- 5.0 UVB screw and bayonet globes
- Exo-Terra -40W – Heat wave lamp (Ceramic heat emitters)
- Towels, linen, bath towels – especially large sizes
- Heating pads
- Blankets (no grey dog blankets or knitted blankets)
- Cotton wool and ear buds



FOOD

- Aviplus/Kaytee parrot hand rearing formula - phase 1 (sold in most exotic pet stores)
- Royal Canin Kitty milk
- Royal Canin Puppy milk
- Eggs
- Mealworms and crickets (<https://silkwormshop.co.za/>)
- Floating duck pellets (available from Midfeeds / Milmac) (<https://www.midfeeds.co.za/>)
- Chick chick No 1 and No 2
- Sorghum



CLEANING

- Dishwashing liquid
- Handy Andy
- Washing powder
- Anti-bacterial liquid soap
- Scrubbing brushes
- Tea cloths
- F10 cleaning products (available from any large vet practice or pet store)



STATIONERY

- Copy paper
- Whiteboard markers
- Laminating pouches
- Clipboards – plastic only

DROP OFF AND COLLECTION DETAILS:

Please arrange a drop off at our clinic: 101 Macgillivray Road, Midrand, Johannesburg.

Alternatively, contact us to arrange collection: info@JWVH.org.za

<https://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com/our-wishlist.html>



WE TREAT INDIGENOUS ANIMALS FREE OF CHARGE, RELYING SOLELY ON THE
DONATIONS AND SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY.