



# SUMMER

EDITION





# SUMMER

EDITION

## In this issue

<b>MESSAGE FROM DR K</b>	2
<b>MEET THE DIRECTORS</b>	4
Dr Karin Lourens	4
Wendy Willson	5
Elna Pretorius	5
<b>PANGOLINS: THE UNDIMINISHED EFFORT</b>	6
The Battle Against Poaching	7
Critical Care and Rehabilitation	7
Community Involvement	7
Investec Partnership	7
<b>THE SERVAL SAGA: GROWTH, ENRICHMENT, AND FREEDOM</b>	8
Preparing for the Wild	9
The Marble Hall Serval Kittens	9
<b>FREEDOM FOR THE AFRICAN WILD CAT: A JOURNEY OF PRESERVATION</b>	10
<b>LITTLE EXPLORER: A RESILIENT BUSH SQUIRREL</b>	11
<b>GALE FORCE WINDS: THE RESCUE OF GREY AND BLACK-HEADED HERONS</b>	12
<b>LEAVE THE BANG: AN APPEAL FOR WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY CELEBRATIONS</b>	13
Legal Framework and Guidelines	13
A Plea for Compassion and Action	13
Reflecting on the Campaign's Success	13
<b>MORE ABOUT OUR COMMITMENT TO LEGAL ADVOCACY</b>	14
Justice for Wildlife in South Africa	14
The Importance of Legal Advocacy	14
<b>JUSTICE IN THE WILD: A VERVET'S VOICE: A LANDMARK LEGAL BATTLE FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS</b>	15
<b>GOLDEN STAR AWARDS</b>	16
Dr Karin Lourens: A Lifelong Passion for Wildlife	16
Wendy Willson: Championing Legal Advocacy for Wildlife	16
<b>WILDLIFE RESCUES</b>	17
Ostrich Rescue with Brakpan SPCA	17
Honey Badger Liberation	17
Grey Duiker Rescue	17
<b>YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE</b>	18
A New Home for Wildlife's Future	19
Every Contribution Helps	20
<b>WISH LIST</b>	21
Feedback and Acknowledgements	21
What We Still Need	22
Shop till you drop	23

YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION ON ALL OF THESE STORIES AND MORE ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.JOHANNESBURGWILDLIFEVET.COM](http://WWW.JOHANNESBURGWILDLIFEVET.COM)



Karin

# MESSAGE FROM Dr K

## Summer...

Summer unfolds, bringing with it a season of growth and renewal. It is also a season when the sheer volume and variety of creatures we care for becomes overwhelming. However, **we remain steadfast in our task and the responsibility we have shouldered** in taking on the treatment and care of animals.

We have had times of sadness, times of joy and proud moments.

We have witnessed remarkable milestones and faced challenges – from the ongoing threat of poaching faced by pangolins to frequent examples of parental loss, as witnessed by the young servals who came through our doors. **The work we do highlights the multifaceted nature of the problems facing our city's wildlife.**

One of my personal and precious stories was of our baby Blue Wildebeest, Fancy Face. This 3-day-old came to us as an orphan on 8 January. We treated her and gave her all the care and love a baby would need. It did not take her long to get the hang of her bottle, and within a week she was drinking between 3 and 4 litres a day, and gained 6kg in just 23 days!

She loved racing around, jumping and kicking – all for fun! Only the young (of any species) can express unbridled joy without words. A beautiful happy creature that melted my heart!

As happy as I was to see her healthy, joyful, and ready to take on the next part of her journey, it was a bittersweet moment when she was moved to another trusted rehabilitation facility – she needed more space and other herd antelope to reach her full wildebeest potential. My heart will always hold a special place for her.

Thank you to those people who helped sponsor her food costs via **#OneMeal!**

**The stories in this newsletter are a glimpse into the intricate conservation, care, community engagement, dedication and love that defines our work and all the bittersweet moments that make every minute worthwhile...**

We hope you find these stories informative and inspiring. If this is your first time delving into our world, I hope that we awaken a passion in you to play a small part in protecting our heritage.



IN THE END, WE WILL  
CONSERVE ONLY WHAT WE LOVE;

WE WILL LOVE ONLY  
WHAT WE UNDERSTAND;  
AND WE WILL UNDERSTAND  
ONLY WHAT WE ARE TAUGHT.

– BABA DIOUM

Karin

## MESSAGE FROM Dr K (CONTINUED)

### Our Search for a New Home Continues

In our Spring newsletter, we shared our vision of finding a new home for JWVH. **We continue to face the challenge of finding and funding new premises.** It is not an easy task considering the specific requirements of our immediate medical operations in the form of the veterinary hospital, and our subsequent work of rehabilitation, socialisation, and release back into the wild.

While our search continues, **I want to thank our team outside of the hospital, without whom the consideration of a new home would not be a reality.** This includes the community who support us through their volunteer work and donations of blankets and food, the vigilant many who alert us to wildlife in distress, and all those who diligently follow the progress of our patients online and give us the motivation to continue.

Your support, be it through time, resources or spreading our message, is the cornerstone of our success. Please see pages 19 to 20 for more on our plans and ways you can help us in this and other initiatives.

### Recognition

It has been an honour for me and Director Wendy Willson to have been **nominated for the 2023 Golden Star Award by Worldwide Vets.** This nomination is shared with our entire team as it recognises the part we all play in wildlife conservation.

The 2023 nominations reflected work being done all around the world, with advocates from every continent represented.

**The overwhelming scope of participants and the extent to which wildlife conservation and animal welfare are being championed, put our efforts into a global context.**

The winner was announced late last year and came from the Iraq-Kurdistan region. While we didn't take the award, it doesn't diminish the acknowledgement we received from Worldwide Vets. This inspires us even more to keep doing what we are doing, the way we are doing it.

Every one of our difficult days, and every worthwhile success adds to a worldwide effort to effect change in the lives of wildlife.

### A COMMUNITY THAT VALUES AND PROTECTS ITS NATURAL HERITAGE IS THE ONLY WAY TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE PATH TOWARDS WILDLIFE THAT THRIVES.

Autumn will be upon us soon with all the challenges this brings. For now, I am grateful for beautiful summer days, the new lives that we have come to know, and the progress we have made. **I invite you to join us in this ongoing journey.**

May our summer stories inspire you to continue our collective efforts in wildlife conservation.

*Dr Karin Lourens*



**#OneMeal**  
costs R10.50

Feeding SIX times a day means it costs R111 per day to feed her!

If you would like to sponsor her next meal, please scan to donate:



SnapScan





# MEET THE DIRECTORS OF THE JOHANNESBURG WILDLIFE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Abridged CVs and information are provided below. For full CVs of our Directors, please visit our website at [www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com](http://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com).



## Dr Karin Lourens

Dr Karin Lourens (Dr K) is the co-founder and head veterinarian of the Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital (JWVH). Her journey in veterinary medicine began in 2002, but it was her deep-seated passion for wildlife rehabilitation, especially of small and medium South African species, that led her to specialise in wildlife veterinary medicine in 2010. This culminated in the establishment of JWVH in 2017.

Dr K is internationally recognised for her work with the elusive Temminck's pangolin. Her master's thesis contributed significantly to the understanding of pangolin physiology and health management. She is currently one of the world's leading veterinary experts on pangolin care.

**"THE MORE PEOPLE KNOW, THE MORE THEY CAN HELP  
CREATE A BETTER FUTURE FOR ANIMALS."**

– Dr K





## Wendy Willson

Wendy Willson's career has been a testament to her tenacity and dedication to the voiceless. After her university tenure, she channelled her vigour into combating animal crime, climbing through the ranks of the South African Police Service to spearhead conservation efforts, and founding the NSPCA Special Investigations Unit.

Wendy's accolades include the Woman in Law Enforcement Award for Heroism in 2018, which speaks to her bravery in confronting violent animal crime head-on. Wendy took on the role as operations and legal lead with JWVH in 2022. Under her stewardship, JWVH has taken leaps in legal recourse for marginalised wild animal species.

## Elna Pretorius

Elna Pretorius is a trailblazer in the digital market research arena, having co-founded Columinate in 2008, South Africa's first agency in this field.

Elna has an academic background as a research psychologist and this is the cornerstone of her expertise in managing client relationships, sales, marketing, branding, and people management. Elna's exceptional ability to develop strategies for companies has been recognised through numerous accolades and awards.

Elna is committed to making a difference by dedicating her time and skills to selected non-profit organisations. Notably, playing a pivotal role on the Gauteng EXCO board for Reach for a Dream, where she crafted their 2023 strategy pro bono. Elna's guidance will assist us in extending the impact of JWVH.







# PANGOLINS:

# THE UNDIMINISHED EFFORT

Caring for and rehabilitating pangolins is an ongoing effort, and we are always ready for new arrivals. Our commitment and dedication remain undiminished.



## The Battle Against Poaching

Pangolin poaching is a “very serious” crisis that threatens the survival of these unique animals. Our team is actively involved in sting operations to rescue pangolins from the clutches of illegal trade. We never tire of our work in protecting these fascinating creatures.

**Interesting Fact:** Pangolins are at the heart of one of the most devastating wildlife crises due to their status as the most trafficked mammal in the world. They are sought after for both their unique keratin scales (**believed to have medicinal properties**) and their meat (**considered a delicacy in some cultures**). Despite their critical ecological role in controlling ant and termite populations, the demand in illegal wildlife markets puts their survival at risk.

## Critical Care and Rehabilitation

Each pangolin receives specialised treatment and care. Dr K, one of the few vets in South Africa qualified to treat pangolins, oversees their recovery. **The journey of rehabilitation is extensive and intricate, often spanning several months.** However, it is a crucial phase that ensures the pangolins are healthy and capable for eventual release into monitored private reserves.

The road to recovery is paved with challenges. **Not every story ends in triumph; however, the ripple effect of each success story is profound.** Our hospital staff draws strength from the victories, no matter how small.

The heartwarming news we regularly receive of former patients not only integrating into the wild, but also thriving and growing in number, motivates our staff and clearly shows that **our efforts do make a difference.**

## Community Involvement and Education

The role of the community in pangolin conservation cannot be overstated. We rely on the support of our community, dedicated volunteers and donors to carry out this work. At the same time, **educating the public on the plight of pangolins and the importance of their conservation is a key part of our mission.**

## Investec Partnership

Our collaboration with Investec has been instrumental in our fight to safeguard pangolins. **The inception of Africa’s first pangolin-specific veterinary ward in 2020 marked a pivotal step in rescuing a species on the brink of extinction.** It has allowed many to be nurtured back to health within the tranquil, temperature-controlled walls of a specialised ward. The impact this facility has on the psychological healing of the pangolins under its care is immense, with the environment being crucial for their overall recovery.

Investec’s sponsorship facilitated the acquisition of a brand new X-ray machine and developer. Pangolins are challenging medical cases, and one of **our biggest aids in their treatment this year has been the ability to add unlimited radiographs (X-rays) to their diagnostic panel.** To be able to take multiple radiographs whenever needed in-house without the stress of transporting them is critical in the initial stages of their treatment, and **with the help of Investec, we were able to purchase our very own X-ray machine in 2023.** This tool is a must-have for every veterinary practice, but even more so for us.

The success stories stemming from this are not just anecdotal. Since the ward’s establishment, **there has been an improvement in the rate of successful pangolin recoveries, from 50% to 80%.** This is a testament to the hospital’s holistic approach to wildlife care, combining medical treatment with rehabilitation.

Investec’s support has extended beyond the physical confines of the ward. **Each pangolin patient is equipped with satellite and VHF telemetry to ensure they are monitored as they adjust to their new environment.** This tracking is vital as pangolins are adept at evading detection – their quiet, elusive nature earning them the moniker “ghosts of the animal kingdom”.

Visit the [JWVH Blog](#) and [Investec’s feature](#) to learn more about our efforts in conservation and how you can contribute to preserving the future of pangolins.

Our pangolin patients are housed off-site at our [Investec location](#), a measure taken for their protection and the safety of our staff.



**#OneMeal**  
costs R39

Feeding four times a day means it costs R156 per day to feed a pangolin!

If you would like to sponsor their next meal, please scan to donate:



 SnapScan





# THE SERVAL SAGA: GROWTH, • ENRICHMENT, AND FREEDOM







## Preparing for the Wild

We received three tiny serval kittens (among many) into our care in 2023. These adorable felines have come a long way since then. Over the subsequent months, they were weaned off milk and were soon relishing a diet of solid foods, with a notable preference for avian delicacies. **Their care involved mental stimulation and encouraging natural behaviour.**

This was crucial, since they lacked the guidance of their mother.

**The trio is now poised for the next step in their rehabilitation journey, a carefully monitored slow-release process allowing them to adapt to a more natural setting.**

Various enrichment activities were designed to engage their minds and hone their innate instincts, preparing them for eventual release into a safe environment. These are diverse and imaginative, simulating conditions they would encounter in the wild. From splash pools with frozen fish to snake skins and pinecone puzzles, **each activity is tailored to encourage natural behaviour and cognitive development.** Their interaction with natural elements such as leaves, branches and different scents is integral to preparing them for life in the wild. Even something as simple as a cardboard box becomes a tool for exploration and play!

The rehabilitation journey of each animal in our care is unique. **The servals' recovery has required a blend of nurturing care, scientific understanding, and respect for the natural world.** We have no doubt that the day these servals step into their natural habitat, they will be prepared and confident.

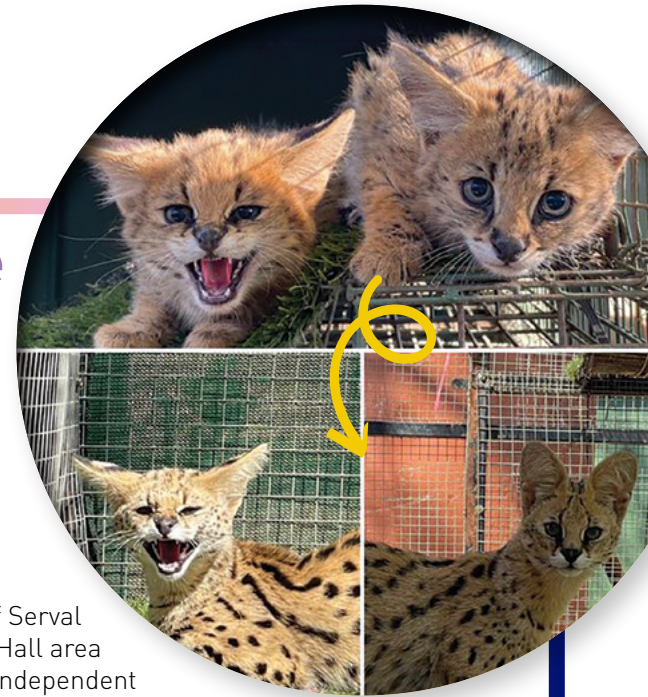
To follow their journey and learn more about their progress, visit our [Facebook page](#)



## The Marble Hall Serval Kittens: A Journey to the Wild

Another close-knit set of Serval kittens from the Marble Hall area have grown into strong, independent individuals, and are ready to embrace the freedom of their natural habitat. They have matured beautifully, demonstrating the remarkable resilience and adaptability of wildlife under the right conditions. **Their release into a reserve, a habitat full of rivers for fishing and expansive grasslands for hunting and roaming, offers everything they need to thrive.**

The release of these two Servals is a moment of celebration. For those who have followed the journey of these and other Servals under the care of JVVH, the successful release will be gratifying.



**#OneMeal**  
costs R8.50

Feeding every three hours means it costs R68 per day to feed a serval!

If you would like to sponsor their next meal, please scan to donate:



SnapScan





# FREEDOM FOR THE AFRICAN WILD CAT: A JOURNEY OF PRESERVATION



In a story that **emphasises** the importance of wildlife identification, an African wild cat trapped on a farm found refuge and care at JWWH, with assistance from LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary. To ensure the integrity of this wild cat's lineage, **DNA tests were conducted, confirming its status as a purebred African wild cat.**

**Interesting Fact:** African wild cats hold a unique place in the animal kingdom as the **ancestors of domestic cats**. This small yet fierce feline species has a genetic lineage that traces back to the Near East, where they first became associated with humans around 9 000 years ago.

Unlike their domestic descendants, African wild cats are **highly adaptable survivors**, proficient in hunting and living in a variety of habitats across Africa. They closely resemble domestic cats, but boast a leaner build, longer legs, and distinctive reddish or yellowish fur with clear, dark markings. Their ability to live near human settlements while maintaining their wild nature sets them apart.

The process to secure this wild cat's future was meticulous. A safe and suitable habitat for her release was identified and all necessary permits acquired to ensure a smooth transition back into the wild. **Adult wild patients don't usually undergo a pre-release process, but she spent time in an enclosure at our facility while all formalities were completed.**

She was then moved to the chosen reserve, where the plan was for her to spend another two weeks in a pre-release enclosure before her final release. But the wild cat's instinct to roam free kicked in earlier than anticipated. **She made her escape on the first night, digging her way out of the pre-release enclosure – a reminder of the determined spirit of wild animals.**

The successful rehabilitation and release of this cat represents a small but significant victory in our broader efforts.

For more on this story and to view photos of her journey, visit our [Facebook page](#) to see where it all started







## LITTLE EXPLORER: A RESILIENT BUSH SQUIRREL

Recently, JWH welcomed two Smith's bush squirrels. The circumstances surrounding their arrival suggested a **distressing separation from their mother**, an all-too-common tale in wildlife rescue.

Tragically, one of the squirrels displayed neurological symptoms and, despite our best efforts, passed away shortly after arrival. **The loss of wildlife, in any circumstances, is always a difficult reality.**

However, **the surviving female squirrel showed resilience**, and with a healthy appetite and an adventurous demeanour, this little explorer quickly adapted to life at JWH. **Once weaned from her milk formula, she was ready for the transition to a release site near Bela Bela.**

At Bela Bela, she entered a slow release process to ensure successful reintegration into the wild. Here, **she is expected to meet other bush squirrels** of a similar age, forming new bonds and social structures. The Bela Bela site **mirrors her natural habitat** and is the ideal setting for her to flourish and eventually embrace full independence.

The journey of this little bush squirrel, **from a vulnerable orphan to a thriving individual** poised for a return to the wild, reflects the realities of wildlife rehabilitation.





## GALE FORCE WINDS: THE RESCUE OF GREY AND BLACK-HEADED HERONS



The tumultuous gale-force winds that hit Potchefstroom in late 2023 almost spelt disaster for two herons, a grey heron and a black-headed heron. **Displaced from their natural habitat, these two majestic birds were unable to return to their nests.**

On arrival at JWVH, both herons displayed an astonishing ability to adapt, and their voracious appetites surprised us daily. We are providing the best care for these displaced herons, to eventually reintroduce them into a suitable environment where they can thrive.

**Interesting Fact:** Herons live in colonies known as heronries, where **both male and female parents actively participate in raising their chicks**. This cooperative parenting includes incubation and feeding, ensuring the survival and growth of their offspring. Heron eggs hatch in a staggered manner, resulting in a diverse range of chick sizes within the same heronry.





# LEAVE THE BANG: AN APPEAL FOR WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY CELEBRATIONS



JVWH launched its “Leave the Bang” campaign, urging the community to **consider the wellbeing of wildlife during New Year’s Eve celebrations.**

Fireworks have been a means of celebrations for people over the centuries, featuring on New Year’s Eve, Diwali and Guy Fawkes Day, to name a few.

However, what expresses celebration for us causes fear for animals. **Unlike humans, animals do not perceive fireworks as a festive display.**

The loud, unexpected noises from fireworks are vastly different from natural thunderstorms, which animals can anticipate due to their acute hearing and ability to sense changes in barometric pressure. **Fireworks cause fear and disorientation in wildlife, leading to potentially harmful behaviour.** This panic can result in animals fleeing and losing track of their nests or burrows, often leaving vulnerable young behind. The consequences can be severe, with animals injuring themselves or displaying erratic behaviour, such as birds flying into buildings or windows.

## Legal Framework and Guidelines

The campaign highlighted the legal regulations governing the use of fireworks under the

**Explosives Act of 1956.** These laws restrict the use of fireworks in public spaces and near sensitive areas like hospitals, clinics, petrol stations, nursing homes, AND animal welfare organisations.

## A Plea for Compassion and Action

Our message was clear: **choose to celebrate without loud bangs.** The campaign’s goal was to raise awareness and to encourage actions that protect our urban wildlife. The hospital urged anyone who comes across compromised wildlife, due to fireworks or other reasons, to contact us.

## Reflecting on the Campaign’s Success

Reflecting on the campaign’s success, “Leave the Bang” was a significant initiative in raising awareness about unintended consequences.

Although at times it feels like the same year-on-year appeals to the community fall on deaf ears, **it is important to stand steadfast and call for the need for a shift in our celebration habits,** considering the broader impact on the environment and its inhabitants.

**AND, WE WILL CALL TO “LEAVE THE BANG” AGAIN NEXT YEAR! IN THE MEANTIME, BE VIGILANT AND BE CARING TO THOSE AMONG US WHO RELY ON OUR PROTECTION.**







## MORE ABOUT OUR COMMITMENT TO LEGAL ADVOCACY

### Justice for Wildlife in South Africa

JWVH proudly collaborated with the Inside Out Centre for the Arts for a crucial fundraising talk titled "Justice for Wildlife in South Africa." This event, held on November 30th, was **a significant platform for discussing the often-overlooked plight of small indigenous wildlife species** within the South African justice system.

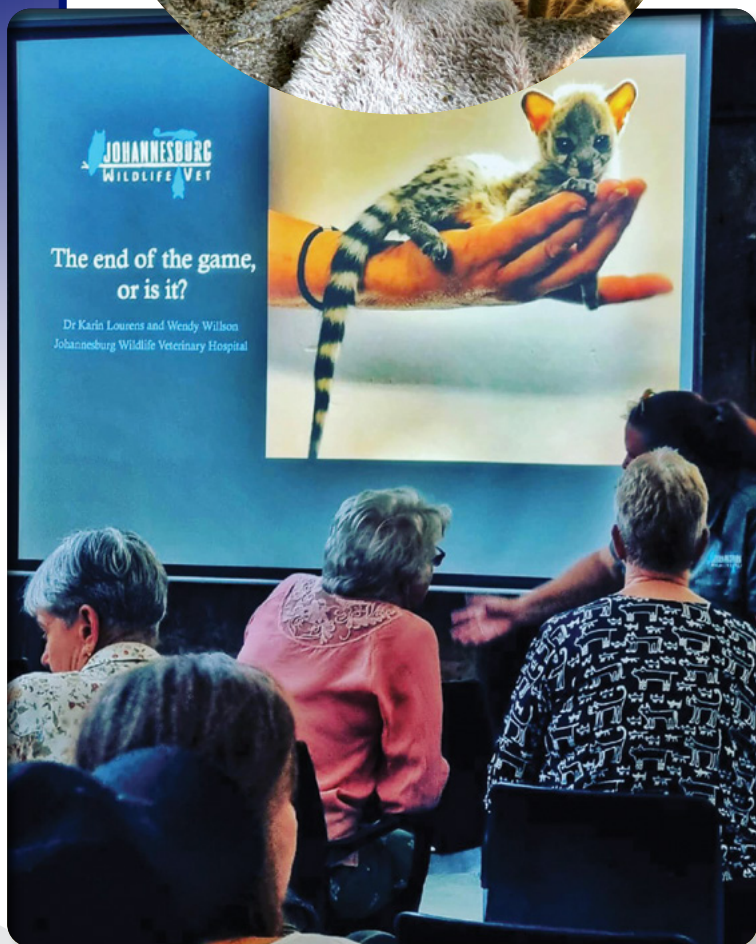
Dr K and Wendy Willson led the conversation, **sharing insights on the protection of wildlife and prosecution of crime and cruelty.** The talk was an informative session and call to action on the urgent need to address ill-treatment of animals. **The risks associated with such illegal activities should far outweigh the potential rewards,** and progress is being made in making this so.

### The Importance of Legal Advocacy

Enforcing laws and prosecuting wildlife crimes are essential to safeguarding South Africa's natural heritage. JWVH's involvement in these legal battles and our commitment to raising awareness through events like the fundraising talk are pivotal in changing the narrative for wildlife protection.

Further to this, the call for support from the community through public awareness and involvement ensures that justice for wildlife is not **just a legal matter but a societal priority as well.**

**For more information and to support JWVH's animal advocacy work, visit our [Facebook page](#) and consider attending future events and talks that shed light on these vital issues.**







THIS VICTORY IS A TESTAMENT TO THE POWER OF TEAMWORK AMONG INDIVIDUALS DEDICATED TO ANIMAL WELFARE. THE PURSUIT OF LEGAL RECOURSE FOR ANIMALS SUBJECTED TO NEGLECT AND VIOLENCE IS A CRUCIAL STEP IN CHANGING THE NARRATIVE FOR ANIMAL WELL-BEING.



## JUSTICE IN THE WILD – A VERVET’S VOICE: A LANDMARK LEGAL BATTLE FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS

In a groundbreaking case, **a Vervet monkey became the centre of a landmark legal battle** at the Lehurutshe Magistrates Court.

The saga began with a tip-off from a concerned community member about **a monkey being cruelly chained up in the sun by a man posing as a traditional healer**. The South African Police Service’s Stock Theft Unit and Cat Angel Refuge T/a Angels Refuge SA took prompt action, leading to the rescue of the monkey. Despite the best efforts of Dr K and the team at JWH, **the Vervet’s health was too compromised**, a victim of the zoonoses it had contracted from its captors.

### Legal Action and Prosecution

The case took a serious turn when extensive evidence of animal abuse and possession of indigenous animal skins and feathers was found against the accused, Lesotho national Tshediso Pitso and his girlfriend, Hlompho Mary Seohla. Both were **arrested and denied bail**, facing charges under the Animals Protection Act, the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act, and the Immigration Act.

State prosecutors Neo Sedumedi and Bennie Kalakagosi, with Cat Angel Refuge, attended each court sitting and kept JWH updated on all developments. **The accused pleaded guilty**, and Magistrate Nkomo expressed his vehement disapproval of their actions, emphasising **the true role of traditional healers in causing no harm and using herbs, not living animals, for healing**.

In an impactful sentencing, Magistrate Nkomo denounced the guilty parties as a disgrace, **deporting them with immediate effect** and imposing suspended sentences should they be caught contravening the law again. The court emphasised its **zero-tolerance** stance on animal cruelty.

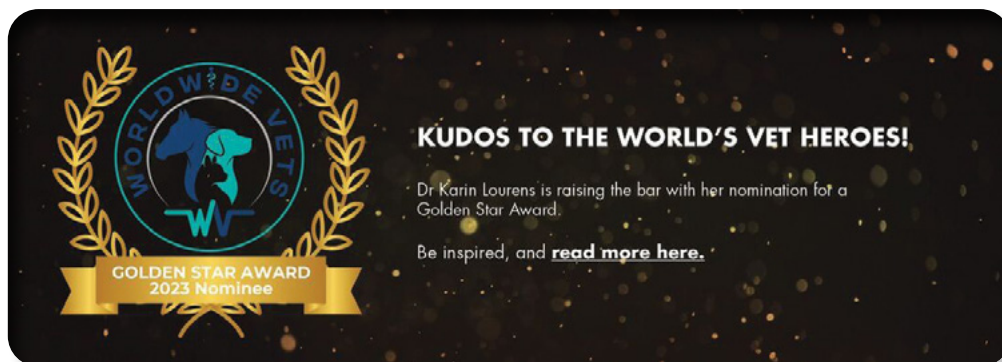
**Interesting Fact:** Vervet monkeys have shown fascinating behaviour that mirrors human activity... they **consume fermented fruit and even steal alcoholic beverages** from humans when given the opportunity. Studies have observed vervet monkeys in areas where tourists frequent, watching them consume drinks left unattended. What’s intriguing is that their drinking behaviour varies among individuals, much like humans, with **some showing a preference for moderate amounts, others indulging excessively, and a few abstaining altogether**. This helps us understand our nature as well as it provides insight into the evolutionary basis of alcohol consumption and preferences.





THIS YEAR'S NOMINEES REPRESENTED A WIDE ARRAY OF COUNTRIES. ADVOCATES FROM PERU, ALEPPO, ROMANIA, INDIA, USA, UKRAINE, NICARAGUA, AUSTRIA, IRAQI-KURDISTAN, COSTA RICA, ZIMBABWE, GERMANY, CHINA, UK, PAKISTAN, THE WEST BANK, THAILAND, GAMBOA, INDONESIA, SOUTH AFRICA, ISRAEL, SPAIN, AUSTRALIA, LIBERIA, GHANA, AND ZAMBIA WERE HONOURED.

WINNER: NOMINEE FROM IRAQI-KURDISTAN



## GOLDEN STAR AWARDS

In November of 2023, JWH had the honour of celebrating two nominations for the [Golden Star Award by Worldwide Vets](#). Dr Karin Lourens, co-founder and head vet and Wendy Willson, operations, and legal lead, were nominated for their contributions to wildlife welfare.

### Dr Karin Lourens: A Lifelong Passion for Wildlife

Dr Karin Lourens has **dedicated her life to the care and protection of wildlife**. Her passion, **evident since childhood**, led her to specialise in the treatment of small indigenous wildlife, particularly focusing on species often overshadowed in conservation efforts. Her **expertise in treating pangolins**, a secretive and endangered species, has been a significant part of her career. Having treated her first Temminck's pangolin seven years ago, she has since **provided care to almost 200 pangolins**.

**For more information on Dr Karin Lourens's career, and her impact at JWH, read her bio on our website at [www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com](http://www.johannesburgwildlifevet.com)**

### Wendy Willson: Championing Legal Advocacy for Wildlife

Wendy's **career spans multiple roles**, from volunteering at the Johannesburg Zoo to leading the NSPCA Special Investigations Unit. At JWH, Wendy has been **instrumental in pursuing legal actions** for underrepresented wild animal species, ensuring that the laws protect them from cruelty and illegal activities.

**For more information on Wendy Willson's career, and her impact at JWH, read her bio on our [website](#).**

The dual nominations of Dr Karin and Wendy are also a reflection of JWH's collective commitment to wildlife conservation and legal advocacy.

### Nominations do not drive us to do what we do.

However, these public acknowledgments serve as a motivation for us to continue our work, knowing that **we stand alongside many dedicated individuals and organisations worldwide**.

It was a worthwhile opportunity to remind us that **there is a global network of like-minded individuals and organisations, each contributing to their regions**. The challenges we face in wildlife conservation and advocacy are shared by our comrades in different parts of the world. This solidarity assures us that we are making a significant impact in safeguarding our planet's biodiversity.



# WILDLIFE RESCUES

While most of our work is centred around our bustling hospital, there are days when our outreach extends beyond these walls, as we respond to wildlife in distress across various locations.

## Ostrich Rescue with Brakpan SPCA

We teamed up with the Brakpan SPCA to assist an Ostrich trapped in mud. While the SPCA team skilfully extracted the bird from its predicament, **our role was to provide essential medical treatment.**



## Honey Badger Liberation

A Honey badger found herself ensnared in a fence, requiring immediate assistance. The badger was sedated, her injuries were assessed, and we were relieved to be able to **release her back into the wild without delay.**



## Grey Duiker Rescue

In Roodepoort, two police officers spotted a Grey-duiker in distress, likely a victim of a vehicle collision. Fortunately, the duiker sustained no broken bones but was severely dehydrated. After providing necessary medical care and hydration, **we identified a suitable nearby reserve for its release.**





# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

JVWH proudly stands as a non-profit organisation. Our existence and the success of our mission are **rooted in the generosity and support of the public** and various organisations.

We face an ongoing challenge of meeting operational needs while striving towards our long-term goals. These goals are not just about maintaining our current level of care, but also about **expanding our capacity to make an even greater impact.**

Our stories of rescue and recovery are only possible through the support of our community and the financial contributions we receive – **no donation is too small.** Each donation directly impacts our ability to respond to these emergency calls and provide the best care possible.

We recognise that each supporter has a unique capacity and way of contributing. Hence, we have developed a range of projects and avenues through which you

can support us. *Whether it's a **financial donation, volunteering your time, or providing supplies,** every contribution is invaluable.*

We invite you to explore the various projects and initiatives JVWH has undertaken.

Find the one that speaks to your heart and **aligns with your passion** for wildlife conservation. Your support, in any form, is a step towards securing a better future for our wildlife and ensuring the **continued success of JVWH** in making a difference in their lives.

Together, we can ensure the survival and well-being of these incredible animals that call South Africa their home.

Your ongoing support is the **lifeblood of our operations,** and we thank you for being a part of our journey.

**“NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD; INDEED, IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.”**

**– MARGARET MEAD**







## A New Home for Wildlife's Future

As we have mentioned in the past, a new location is essential for us to continue our work. A new space is not just about physical expansion, it is about **broadening our impact and deepening our commitments**.

### Empowerment through Education and Space

We aim to create **a dynamic environment that offers enhanced opportunities** for current and future veterinarians, vet nurses, and engaged citizens who are eager to learn and contribute to wildlife conservation.

Our vision is to establish **a centre that not only treats and rehabilitates wildlife but also serves as a hub of learning and inspiration**. By supporting our quest for a new home, you are helping shape a future where humans and wildlife thrive together.

### Be a Part of Our Vision

Join us in this chapter of our journey. Your support will help us maintain and evolve a centre dedicated to the welfare of wildlife and the education of those who seek to protect it.

To participate in shaping the future of wildlife and to learn more about our vision, please visit:  
[Future for Wildlife – JWH Campaign](#)





## Every Contribution Helps

### The Impact of Your Support

Our monthly **costs average around R400 000**, covering consumables, medical supplies, surgical expenses, and more.

Raising funds is an ongoing challenge and something we need **continuous assistance** with. **One of the most important elements of our work is the day-to-day feeding of the patients in our care, which amounts to between R30 000 and R40 000 a month.** We understand this seems insurmountable, but with the assistance of our community, it is a very manageable hurdle to overcome. Whether through **cash or food donations, every bit helps.** Our goal is to be able to consistently and reliably ensure that this monthly food budget is met so that we can adequately care for our patients.

One way to support our efforts is through our **#OneMeal** initiative, which enables us to **share the cost of one meal for a specific species at a specific age and stage of development.** This collaborative effort, involving our vet, rehabilitation specialists, and YOU, **directly impacts our ability to do our work.**

We invite you to consider donating to our #OneMeal initiative via SnapScan or your preferred donation channel.

Learn more about **#OneMeal** [here](#)



SnapScan



### Join Our Cause

By adding JWVH as a beneficiary and making a regular donation, you become an integral part of our efforts to save and protect wildlife.

### Beyond Monetary Donations

Your support need not be limited to monetary contributions. We welcome donations in kind, such as **blankets, vegetables, and other daily necessities** for our hospital.

We understand that **everyone's capacity to give varies**, and we appreciate every form of support. Our needs are unending, and your personal contributions continue to support our mission.

Here are ways you can contribute:

1. **Small Donations:** Regular small donations can add up and significantly aid our operational needs.
2. **Unwanted Items:** Do you have items you no longer need or want? We can make use of various items in our day-to-day operations.
3. **Garden Contributions:** Your garden can be a source of valuable donations. Greenery, fruits, and vegetables from your garden can provide food and enrichment for the animals in our care.

### Find a Project That Resonates with You and Be Part of our Mission

We have several ongoing projects and initiatives aimed at the preservation and rehabilitation of wildlife. We invite you to **explore these projects and find one that resonates with you.** Whether it is contributing to our medical supplies, supporting our educational programmes, or helping with the upkeep of our facilities, there is a project for everyone.

### Get in Touch to Make a Difference

If you are interested in supporting us or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@jwvh.org.za](mailto:info@jwvh.org.za). Your generosity and involvement make a real difference in the lives of countless wild animals and contribute to the preservation of our natural heritage.

**Together, we can make a change.**

**“NO ONE HAS EVER BECOME POOR BY GIVING.”**

**– ANNE FRANK**







At Johannesburg Wildlife Vet, **we treat indigenous wildlife free of charge**, relying solely on our community for donations and support. Our clinical staff have put together a list of items that would make our clinic even more effective!

## FEEDBACK AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Cosmic Pets Carriers

As our clinic continues to expand, the demand for quality equipment like Cosmic Carriers becomes increasingly vital. Some of our older carriers, cherished and well-maintained over the years, had reached the end of their lifespan, while the expansion of our services necessitated the acquisition of additional carriers.

**Thanks to the incredible support from our community**, our recent campaign with [Different.org](https://different.org) exceeded all expectations. By simply sharing our cause on social media, **you played a crucial role in raising essential funds** – for every share, [Different.org](https://different.org) generously donated R5. While some may underestimate the impact of such campaigns, **this simple act** made a significant difference! We successfully reached our campaign goal and were **able to procure a variety of Cosmic Pets Cosmic Carriers** for our clinic.





# WHAT WE STILL NEED



## ANIMAL-RELATED EQUIPMENT

- Pet plastic carriers: Vari kennels (all sizes to transport animals)
- Transport boxes: wooden or plastic
- Plastic (lightweight) dog igloos/kennels
- Specialised catch nets
- Aviary nets



## MAINTENANCE / EQUIPMENT

- Cable ties (all sizes)
- Shade netting – green (from most large outdoor retailers)
- Gardening tools
- Long hose pipes
- Two Wendy houses/wooden huts



## INDOOR

- Tissues and toilet paper
- Repti-Glo 5.0 UVB screw and bayonet globes
- Exo-Terra 40W Heat Wave lamps (Ceramic heat emitters)
- Towels



## FOOD

- 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 ([www.silkwormshop.zo.za](http://www.silkwormshop.zo.za))
- Floating duck pellets (available from Midfeeds/Milmac)
- Chick Chick (No 1)
- Sorghum



## CLEANING

- Automatic washing powder
- Scrubbing brushes
- Tea cloths



## STATIONERY

- Copy paper
- Whiteboard markers
- Laminating pouches
- Black pens
- Wooden clip boards

## 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](mailto:info@JWVH.org.za)

See our wish list online [here](#)



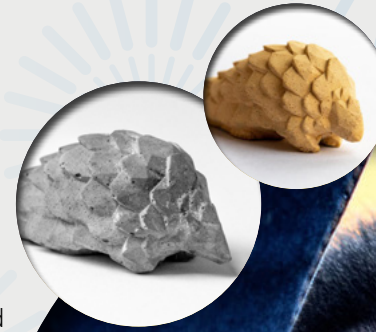
## SHOP TILL YOU DROP

Discover the charm of wildlife-inspired items at our online store! We have curated a range of delightful products, each with a touch of nature's beauty. Our collection includes:

- **#PangoPeaks Caps** from Blewberry, featuring stylish and unique designs.
- **Custom-made Relate Bracelets** in two unique designs, embodying a love for wildlife.
- **Mini KREET pangolins**, adorable and ideal for collectors or as thoughtful gifts.
- **Copper poppers and pendants** from First Prize, adding a touch of nature to your jewellery collection.
- **Collective Nouns for Africa book**, a fun read filled with interesting wildlife insights.
- Practical yet stylish **buffs and shopping bags**.
- **BraveBooks children's pangolin reader**, a wonderful way to introduce young minds to the importance of conservation.
- And of course, **our annual calendars**, featuring stunning photographs of our patients and their journeys to recovery. It is not too late to purchase one of our beautiful calendars. You will fall in love with our creatures. All pictures are of animals that we have loved and saved!

Explore our wildlife treasures now: [JWVH Online Store](#)

**SHOP, SUPPORT, AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**







**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP OUR WILDLIFE WILD.**

More information on our stories can be found on our:

[Website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [Instagram](#)