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Monday, June 14, 2010

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Shenton Safaris - Newsletter archive

November 2002

Greetings!

For the last month I've been having some email problems but now at last I am able to send this out and inform you of our new email address which replaces the previous "stratosmail" address:

kaingo@super-hub.com and we have also enabled info@kaingo.com which is easy to remember.



So - for us another safari season is over; both Kaingo and Mwamba camps are now packed and closed for the rains which are just beginning at the moment. We are hoping for a good rainy season to allow the valley to replenish itself - good rains are good for wildlife and vegetation alike.

While not the busiest of years due to a combination of factors that were out of our control including 9/11, the Zimbabwean situation and some negative publicity from the regional famine, we had a good safari season mainly thanks to all our return guests and their referrals.

It is worth noting that Zambia is as peaceful as ever and that our visitors who made it out here on holidays this year were not in the least affected by the above mentioned regional problems. From wherever you came from including the US, Canada, South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Japan, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, The Netherlands, France, The UK and Australia, thanks for your support and we look forward to being of service to you again in the future. Visitors Book comment-of-the-season goes to the Lambie family of Nevada,USA: "I don't need to go to heaven, I've just been there."

Game-wise, this season was as spectacular as any before and the area around Kaingo and Mwamba maintained its reputation for being one of the most prolific and exciting areas in the Park. As the outlying water dried up over the season and the game got closer to the river, the scene was set for dramatic interaction between species competing for the limited resources. Of course this makes it easier for the numerous predators; there were some spectacular duels between lion prides and hyena and also crocodile/lion over various kills late in the season.

One small incident stands out in my mind: a young male Thornicroft Giraffe spent an hour smelling and licking the bones of a giraffe that had lost its life after breaking a leg in fight two months earlier - remorse or wonder?

As I reflect on all the amazing things I've seen and learned about nature this season I am reminded of some song-lines from a traditional song entitled "Precious Memories":

"As I travel down life's pathways knowing not what the years may hold... As I ponder, hope grows fonder,
Precious Memories flood my soul... "

I will be looking forward sharing with you some of next season's precious memories.

Until then - salani bwino - keep well - and best wishes for the festive season.

Derek Shenton

Our new email address is kaingo@super-hub.com or info@kaingo.com

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