

# HHK Safaris – Newsletter 2021



Graham & Tammy



Martin & Andy

Compliments of the season friends, here's to 2021 being everything 2020 was not. What a year last year proved to be, who could envisage that the whole safari industry would be shut down for most of the year. I don't think there has been an industry more affected by Covid than the hospitality business.

The good news is we have survived the virus and are raring to go in 2021. It has been tough and we cannot thank our loyal staff and PH's enough, they have endured a lot, worked for less than 50% normal wages and yet show up every day with a smile on their faces and cheerful disposition.

Thanks must go to our clients who have donated to our anti-poaching efforts and to the Dallas Safari Club with their extraordinary grants not just to HHK but to outfitters all over Africa. A Big Thanks also to John Jackson and his Conservation Force team who made it happen.



We thank our partners in our concessions who in 2020 received no trophy fees at all, the villagers in Dande and Mukwishi and the land owners at Savuli and Makuti who have asked for nothing and pray for the future. To Hunters and Guides in Deka who have kept that operation afloat this whole year.

HHK Safaris has been in business since I started the company back in 1989, that's 31 years, we are one of Zimbabwe's oldest safari companies still in business. We have survived where many have not and there is a reason for that. When we look back over the past 31 years that HHK has been operating, our success was brought home when a couple of days ago I received a phone call from an old friend from Texas, one of our first clients from way back in 1989, he phoned to see if we were all ok here in Zimbabwe. It means the world to us knowing that the friends we have made over the years are the reason HHK Safaris is still as strong as ever.

Despite all the negativity that Covid has brought, we like to take the positives out of it, in 2020 we built a new camp on the Zambezi River in Mana Pools called Chitembe River Lodge, we now offer our clients the chance to fish some of the best waters the Zambezi River has to offer, it's definitely worth taking a couple of extra days to visit.



Chitembe River Lodge Under Construction

## HeadOffice

**Kevin Baisley** our general manager, has been with HHK Safaris for over 12 years now. In addition to holding a full PH License and Guiding for HHK, Kevin has also managed Chirisa and Sengwa Research, our Matetsi operation which included Unit 1, 3 and Dekka. For the past 4 years he has been in charge of all operations from head office.

**Jules Meredith** our client logistics, marketing and trophy export manager has been in the safari business for as long as I can remember, she is an absolute stalwart for the company and has probably forgotten more about the safari business than most people will ever know.

**My wife Tammy and Lavona May** run the logistics side of things, ensuring the camps are well supplied and on top of that Tammy runs the Chitembe booking sheets which is a big job in itself

**Tariro Marumahoko** assists Jules and **Sheelah Crause** who handles all the company accounts.

**Roger William Jørgensen** is our North American Representative, who helps organize our Hunting Shows, as well as Website, & Is Our Contact in The West.

## FieldOperations

**Arthur Baisley** – We are so fortunate to have Arthur with us, he has become a legendary anti-poaching expert, training many of our AP teams and in 2021 Arthur will operate a roving AP unit which will move between our areas, doing blitz operations as well as assisting & giving guidance to our Rangers on the ground.



*Arthur Inspecting Some Recovered Snares*



*HHK Anti-Poaching Patrol Ready for Business*

**Josh Rumhungwe** – Josh is the manager in charge of our Dekka Safari Area – he has now taken on the added responsibility of running Dekka Tail as well. Josh has also passed his learner PH license.



## **Professional Hunters**

*We are blessed to have some of the best PH's in Zimbabwe, they have been with HHK for years, some have done their apprenticeships with us.*

### **Derek "Gomez" Adams**

Arguably one Zimbabwe and Africa's most experienced PHs. Gomez was a senior ranger with Zimbabwe National Parks, involved in all aspect of wildlife management such as elephant control, Problem Animal control, anti-poaching etc. He has previously guided in Tanzania and has now been with HHK for over 20 years. Gomez is an authority on birds and runs a successful birding operation in the off season, taking clients to the far corners of Zimbabwe to find and photograph rare species such as the African Pitta. Gomez's record speaks for itself, over 100 leopard successfully guided with a 95% success rate, numerous trophy bull elephants and huge lions, buffalo and many more species.



### **Ross Johnston**

Ross has worked with HHK Safaris for over 20 years as well, he has guided well over 200 clients for HHK over the years. Ross is one of Zimbabwe's most experienced PH's and highly respected. He has a passion for snakes and all things reptilian and is an expert on the capture, handling and relocation of these often feared, animals.



### **Johan Bezuidenhout**

Bez as he is affectionately known has been with HHK for 10 years now, he is an accomplished PH with a success record second to none. Cats, elephant, buff, hippo, croc Johan is an expert on all of them. He knows our areas backwards and is always available to help out with some PAC work or AP advice. Johan is a family man and will take his boys, at any opportunity, into the bush hunting, fishing, camping – bringing through the next generation of Ph's no doubt.



### **Anthony Crick**

Anthony has been hunting for many years, he has a huge amount of experience and knows our areas like the back of his hand. Anthony is an expert on firearms and competes in hand gun shooting competitions. He has been an examiner for learner PH's and is well respected for his knowledge of the laws and regulations governing the hunting industry in Zimbabwe.

### **Matt Pilkington**

Matt started his career with HHK Safaris as a learner professional hunter in the Chete Safari Area way back in 2003. He has worked for the company ever since. Matt became an expert anti-poaching operative in the Chirisa Safari Area and has many a story to tell of interaction with armed poachers. He has developed into a highly proficient professional hunter and has a bright future in the industry.



### Shepherd Chaukura

Shepherd finished his apprenticeship with HHK Safaris and is now qualified with a full professional hunters license. Shepherd has grown up in the Dande Area in Masoka so has been around wildlife his entire life. In addition to guiding for HHK, Shepherd has also assisted with the management of our Dande area and camp. He has been active in anti-poaching operations and problem animal control. Shepherd is an excellent hunter and a great asset to the company.



### Bruce Hingston

Having finished up in college, Bruce has worked as a learner PH for HHK for the past two and a half years, he is the holder of a learner PH license and hopes to qualify as a PH at the end of this year. Bruce has assisted with AP and PAC work and also with camp management. We look forward to Bruce qualifying and guiding our clients in the future.



## Hunting Areas & Safari Camps

2020 has been an opportunity to button the hatches and reflect on what we as a safari operation need, we have taken steps to extricate ourselves from the Omay North and South Operations. Despite the potential the two areas may have, a 20 year culture of mismanagement of the areas made it very difficult to make our operation work there. We felt that we would be better off focusing on our core areas and operate and manage them as they should be managed.

**HHK Safaris currently holds long term leases for the following areas in Zimbabwe.**

### **Dande South and Mukwishi Campfire Areas**

Every year for the past 8 years Dande South has gotten better and better, we have introduced a robust anti-poaching program and managed our quota offtakes to ensure they are sustainable. Our success rate in Dande on leopard has been over 90% for 10 years, the Zambezi Valley has always been a top destination for leopard and Dande does not disappoint. In addition buffalo, sable, lion and general plains game such as bushbuck, waterbuck, impala and kudu are all readily available. With a full years rest from hunting Dande will be as good as ever in 2021.

Adjacent to Dande is our Mukwishi Area which incorporates the southern third of the Chewore South Safari Area and a large section of the Hurungwe Communal area. This area had been pretty much abandoned when we took over the lease in 2018. We have rehabilitated the roads, rebuilt the camp and introduced an active anti-poaching program. The results have been astounding, buffalo, sable, roan antelope, kudu, eland are all now common in the area as well as leopard and lion.

Together these two blocks make a continuous area in excess of half a million acres on which HHK has the exclusive rights.



**Dande  
Murara  
Camp**



**Mukwishi  
Angwa  
Camp**



## Makuti Safari Area

Also located in the Zambezi Valley and bordering onto Mukwishi is the National Parks Makuti Safari Area, we have the long term rights to the eastern section on the Makuti Safari Area. Makuti offers superb buffalo and leopard, as well as tuskless and trophy bull elephant, sable, eland, kudu, bushbuck and general plains game.



## Makuti Camp

### Savuli Conservancy

Located in the Save Valley Conservancy in the south eastern part of Zimbabwe, the Savuli Conservancy is a private property to which HHK has signed a long term agreement. The Save Valley Conservancy (SVC) is a world famous wildlife area, it is home to the big five, as well as wild dogs, brown hyena and a wide variety of plains game. In 2021 we are constructing a new tented camp as we are tired of our old camp being continuously flooded out having been originally built on a low bank on a river. Savuli has a 100% success rate on leopard and buffalo and also offers excellent lion and all plains game species including Nyala and sable.



## Savuli Camp

## Deka Safari Area

Located in the north western part of Zimbabwe, on the northern border of the Hwange National Park. This National Parks controlled safari block offers some of the finest big game hunting in Africa. In December of 2019, together with our partner in Deka, Hunters and Guides, we acquired the adjacent Deka Tail Safari Area. This now gives us a contiguous boundary with Hwange National Park of over 75km. The Covid Pandemic put paid to any real hunting in Deka in 2020 apart from one elephant hunt late in the year. With a full years rest we can't wait to see what 2021 gives up.



Deka – Lukosi Camp

## Chitembe River Lodge

In 2020 during the lockdown, HHK was instrumental in developing our Chitembe River lodge which is owned by myself along with some friends. This gives HHK and our clients full access to the lodge and some of the finest fishing on the Zambezi – source to mouth. In addition it's a great option to spend a couple of days after a safari enjoying Mana Pools and the mighty Zambezi River.



Chitembe River Lodge

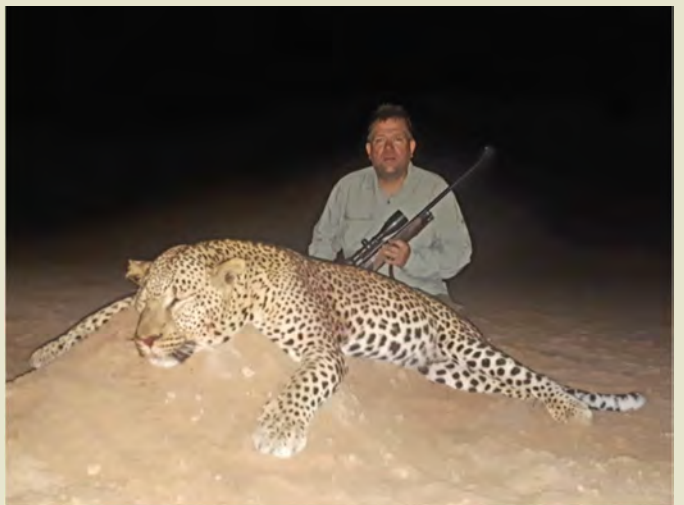


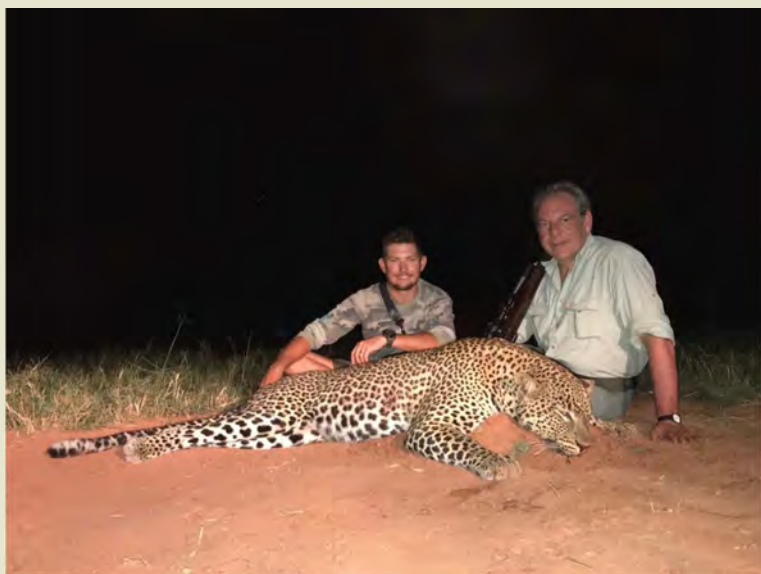
## Gallery

*Over the years HHK Safaris through our brilliant PH's have taken some world class trophies. Here is a gallery of some of the best – enjoy.*

















## Finale

Finally folks my apologies if this newsletter is more like a brochure than a newsletter, but I just wanted you to know that we are still in business and still as strong as ever, we look forward to the next thirty years as our younger generation come through. It's exciting times ahead, Africa and Zimbabwe have a lot to offer and we are both privileged and proud to be a part of making that happen.

Here's what's waiting for you – come and find them.....



*Waidmannsheil & We Hope to See You All Soon*



*Regards,*

*Graham Hingeston & Martin Neuper & The Rest of the HHK Family*

Please Join us By Contacting one of our Three Offices

Europe

Martin Neuper  
[neuper.martin@gmx.at](mailto:neuper.martin@gmx.at)  
+43 664 1334870

Africa

Graham Hingeston  
[graham@hhksafaris.com](mailto:graham@hhksafaris.com)  
+263 7 72470066

Americas

Roger William Jørgensen  
[hhksafarisusa@gmail.com](mailto:hhksafarisusa@gmail.com)  
+1 970 393 7647