

Dear Trustees of the Animal Ark

The relationship that the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust enjoys with the Animal Ark is a beneficial and dynamic one.

The relationship feels as if it has always been there so it is in fact difficult to work out a starting time. My guess is that it was some 5 or 6 years ago.

Four of our cheetahs have found homes at the Animal Ark sanctuary and have worked tirelessly for their wild brothers and sister raising many thousands of \$. This funding has been applied directly to the conservation of free roaming cheetah in the form of GPS collars, remote triggers cameras and veterinary costs.

Furthermore the excellent cheetah running programme has resulted in healthy ambassador cheetahs. We run our ambassadors twice a week. Members of the public can view this and it is a source of revenue to us. The high speed running project was fully funded and implemented by the Animal Ark.

Animal Ark have also been part of a vital volunteer programme which has led to the upgrade of many of our facilities. The first of this upgrade was the volunteer house "Kaie Lamolotadi" which means "The House of Rainbows".

The latest volunteer intervention has included a much needed overhaul of black worker's houses. This included a skills transfer project and the provision of tools to workers.

The De Wildt Trust sees the relationship with Animal Ark as one that enhances our mission which is:

"To conserve, breed and wherever possible, re-introduce indigenous endangered species back into their natural habitat. To educate South Africans, and especially the younger generation to recognize and appreciate the fauna and flora of their country and to value their natural heritage. To conduct veterinary research into wildlife diseases relating to the animals bred at the Centre. To develop strategies for the conservation of the free roaming cheetahs."

Long live this partnership!!

Yours sincerely

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