



# Askarian

ASKARI WILDERNESS CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

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THE PEOPLE ASPECT | HEAVY RAINS | RELOCATING LIONS

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his month the "**Accabaddies**" group joined us. They came from The Netherlands, The U.K., Belgium, as well as the Fleming College students from Canada. As a group they came together and showed comraderie throughout their time shared at Askari.

They became a family and we know that their bond will last a lifetime. Beautiful memories were made and we hope to welcome them all back in the future!



Siya, our collared female cheetah, is thriving - making her way between Pidwa East and Langa. She has been hunting on her own, and finding any shady tree under which she can laze

We are so happy to have her part of the Askari Wildlife adventure, and know volunteers from across the globe are rooting for her too!



**F**ebruary brought heavy rains to the northern provinces of South Africa, transforming the landscape into a lush, vibrant paradise. The downpours replenished water sources and left the reserve teeming with new life. While the rain made for some muddy adventures, it didn't stop the volunteers from making the most of their time in the bush!

A butterfly walk led to some incredible sightings as these delicate pollinators fluttered between freshly blooming wildflowers. The team also took on the challenge of clearing the cheetah reservoir, ensuring the water remained clean and accessible for the wildlife that depend on it. And, of course, no week would be complete without getting their hands (and boots) dirty—botany lessons turned into a fun, mud-filled experience as they explored the incredible plant life flourishing after the rains.

Through every activity, the volunteers embraced the elements, proving that conservation is as rewarding as it is unpredictable!



A visit to the nearby village turned into a heartwarming and unforgettable experience for the volunteers. Greeted with wide smiles and open arms, they spent the day immersed in the vibrant community. High-fives, games, and playful moments filled the air as the volunteers embraced the energy and joy of their young hosts, who sang and performed for them.

Beyond the fun and games, the group joined a local family in preparing a traditional meal, learning firsthand about the flavours and techniques that make the cuisine so special. Cooking side by side with their hostess.



## Up Close with the Pride

An unforgettable experience as they assisted with the relocation of two sub-adult male lions to a neighbouring reserve. They assisted in moving the darted lions onto the vehicles and transporting them off the reserve.

Along the way, they learned about the importance of our conservation efforts in maintaining an ecosystem by minimising the effects of a 5 male coalition.

**C**ongratulations to **Rory** for being selected as Volunteer of the Month!  
Affectionately nicknamed "Silly Little Sausage," Rory's lighthearted nature and fun-loving attitude remind us all to enjoy the journey. Thank you, Rory, for your dedication and for making Askari an even brighter place!



# JANUARY'S WORDFINDER ANSWER SHEET

## MAMALS FOUND ON PIDWA WILDERNESS

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We would be honoured to invite you to become part of something truly special—working hands-on to protect and restore the environment while living among incredible wildlife. As a volunteer, you'll assist with vital conservation efforts, from habitat restoration and wildlife monitoring to game drives. Every day is an opportunity to learn, contribute, and immerse yourself in the rhythms of the bush.

Click the link below for more info on how you can get involved and make a difference.

[ASKARIWCP.COM](http://ASKARIWCP.COM)

