

Beho Beho

Bushmail

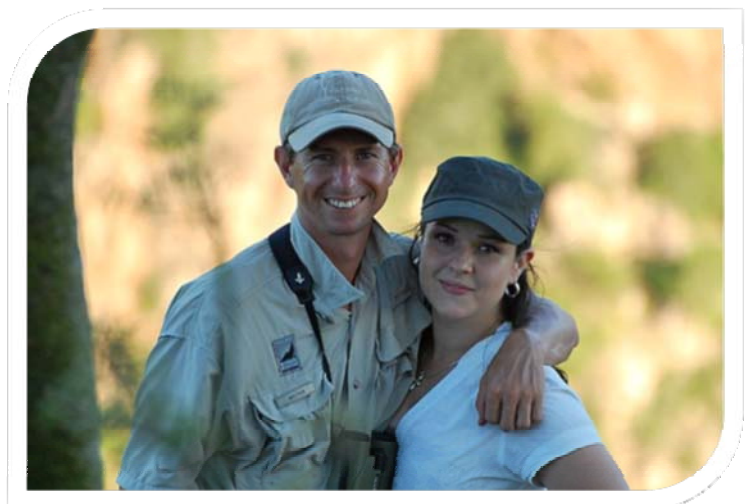
June 2011

We kick off the new season of 2011-2012 with some new faces as a breath of fresh air blows through Beho Beho and its hills. This changing breeze brings with it renewed passion and excitement as it invigorates the camp. But don't worry - no major changes here— and long-standing staff who are part of the Beho Beho family are here to stay and keep the Beho Beho tradition marching forwards. We are proud to welcome THREE new managers to join our camp manager – each trained in their unique fields and each with passion and zeal for what they do!



Meet Kimberley...She spent her last two years working in Ruaha National Park, Tanzania and had her first big gulp of camp management at Mwangusi Safari Camp. During this period, she discovered her hidden passion for hospitality especially in a safari camp environment. With the excitement of a daily changing spectacle of wildlife, seasons and visitors – Kimberley loves welcoming others into the place she calls home and sharing in their special experience of Africa. She has a special love of all things African – and Tanzania, its people, its wildlife and its language have already nestled a special place in her heart. As hospitality manager at Beho Beho, Kimberley will be responsible for looking after the end to end guest experience – ensuring you have the most memorable stay possible!

Meet Karin and Walter...Since she was a little girl helping her beloved grandmother in the family kitchen, Karin developed a love for food. She followed her heart and a career in becoming a chef ensued, studying at the esteemed Prue Leith's College of Food and Wine and working at a few established Boutique Hotels and a Luxury Lodge in the Kruger National Park, South Africa. Now she is the resident foodie at Beho Beho. As the F&B manager, it is her responsibility to ensure that guests get the most delicious food and drink to be had in all of the Selous. Walter has always had a



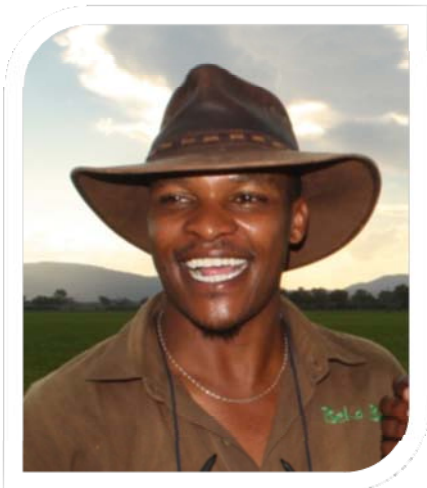
fascination and attraction for nature and wildlife, and for the past ten years he has been working and living in the wild, guiding at various Southern African lodges and part taking in monitoring and running research projects in conservation. Walter's role within Beho Beho is to give the guests an exclusive, guided experience, and also to contribute by setting up and assisting with guide training, in essence being Beho Beho's Training manager and one of our walking trails' guides. Karin and Walter decided to make the move to East Africa and undertake a new adventure together.

Here at Beho Beho, we have used the low season as a time to continually improve what we have to offer guests—and have made some small improvements to the rooms, which include a stone-built front veranda seat and sides with new cushions, a stone headboard with classic wooden tops and a permanent stone luggage holder in the change rooms. All with the aim to give our guests improvements where form meets function and additional storage space for their belongings.

This season, we also welcome Onesmo into a new position at Beho Beho. He steps up in to the prestigious position of head guide and will be responsible for ensuring our guest's wildlife experience is nothing short of incredible! Currently Onesmo is completing his Certificate of Tourism at



Tanzania's College of African Wildlife Management and we wish him luck with his final exams!



During the low season, Heribert took the opportunity to take a trip to South Africa. Here he undertook some field guide training in Pafuri, Kruger, where he learnt about new species and bio-diversity. Then on to Durban for a day at the Internationally attended Conference for tourism called The Travel Indaba. This big event focuses only on travel and tourism in Africa and was a great opportunity to meet old contacts and establish lots of new ones! Then a meander down the 'Garden Route', stopping off to ride an ostrich and visit the phenomenal Cango Caves. Then to Cape Town, with its incredible botanical gardens and incredibly varied Birdlife and to Boulders Beach to see the penguins was a highlight!



This season Salum takes an opportunity to complete further studies. He will start a 1 year Wildlife Management course at the prestigious Pansansi College based in Mwanza, North-western Tanzania at Lake Victoria. His studies will encompass all wildlife elements from amphibians, reptiles, birds and plants to courses in conservation and protection of wildlife, law enforcement, statistics, firearm skills and first aid.

We are also proud to announce that we were one of the winners at the prestigious Good Safari Guide Awards this year. Regaining our Best Camp in East Africa

Award that we won 2 years ago. We must say a BIG Thank you to everyone - guests and friends alike who helped make this possible!

The Selous is looking lush and green, although the signs of it beginning to dry out are starting to show – Giant Baobabs turn orange as their leaves fall and the grasses on the plains yellow out. And yet, there is still good amounts of water in and around the



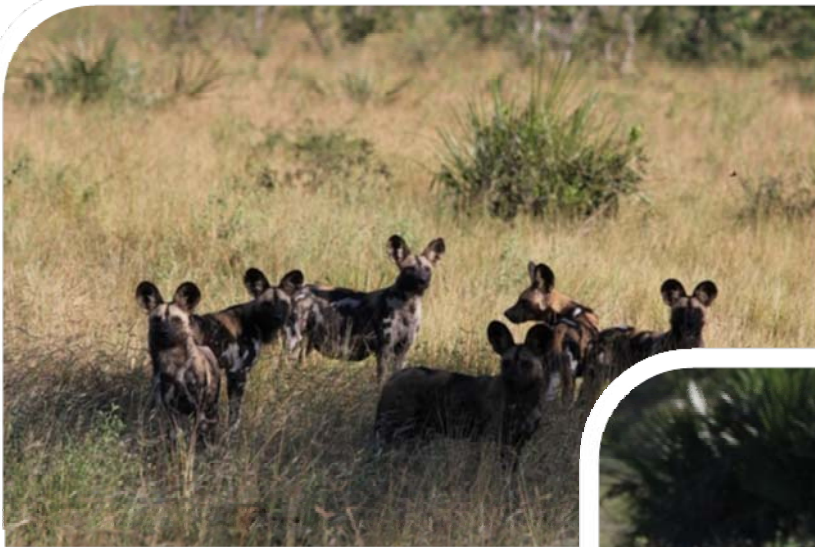
Beho Beho area, with hippo and buffalo enjoying the hidden pans and small pools. Some welcoming afternoon rains are still falling, after the sun has baked the landscape during most part of the day, and often we see rolling rain clouds gently approach over the topographical escarpment.



Good amounts of general game are being seen in mixed herds. The magnificent towering giraffe watch over the heads of the wildebeest, zebra and impala whilst the Yellow Baboons, move from grass tuft to grass tuft. Buffalo have started to group together and large herds of a couple of hundred are becoming a normal occurrence.

At night the camp echoes with the usual night sounds – grunting hippo and whooping hyenas. The regular visitors pass by – bull elephants and hippo coming up to feed on the grass. Recently a dirty hyena even jumped into the watering hole probably to cool off and have a bath of sorts! Civet and

Genet patrol around the camp in the darkness looking for tasty insect snacks. The night skies are full of swift-flying bats who swoop and fall catching the plentiful insects.



A special treat for all in camp have been the wonderful Wild



Dog sightings. Recently the resident wild dog pack lead by the Alpha Male, who is nicknamed 'Blackie' with very unusual dark colouring, has been very active in the area. At the start of the season, in early June we were treated to our first brief sighting of them bounding across the plains in front of Beho Beho, followed shortly by a great sighting of them on a morning drive as twelve dogs ran across the battlefields into the Riverine vegetation following the course of the Msini River. Thereafter things seemed to just get better and better, with them running past guests enjoying early evening sundowners after an afternoon walk. And one morning guests were overjoyed to find them snoozing on the airstrip. The morning light was perfect and everyone watched them stretch, play, and go through the usual greeting ceremonies and wake-up routines. Karin, Kimberley and Heribert joined the guests in another vehicle – keen not to miss out on anything! The beautiful 'painted dogs' as they can be called then tried to run down a male impala – but he was off before they had a chance to pursue. A rotund heavily pregnant alpha female was then roused from the grass and strolled across our path – looking a bit uncomfortable and very ready to be rid of her load of pups. We hope that 'Blackie's pack' will choose the Beho Beho area as a great place to start their new family – and will continue to be optimistic that they may den in the area. This would bring regular sightings to our game drives and walks!

For those who enjoy looking at birds or who are true twitchers, some good species have been seen including: Malagasy Pond-heron, Common Waxbill, Village Indigo bird, Grey headed Kingfisher, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Bohm's Bee-eater, Martial Eagle, White-headed Vulture, Yellow-throated Longclaw and Yellow-rumped Seed-eater.

The lion within the vicinity have been seen quite regularly, in particular the Manze boys, roaming around marking their territories. Twice we have seen these old boys at Tagalala before guests enjoyed a leisurely ride around the lake. And then later that same week they were seen with three cubs. A pride of two females, three cubs and a male have also been seen moving around the Beho Beho River close to camp.



And the main highlight for everyone who works at Beho Beho was a very special sighting – which happened only once last year – and only when you're lucky! Everyone was over-the-moon when in the first week of opening – we saw not only one but three grey figures in the distance. And there before our eyes three indigenous East African black rhino – strolled along. The mother walked ahead in a leisurely fashion with her younger baby trailing behind. It was an incredibly beautiful sight – to see them in their natural habitat looking calm and relaxed. It was the perfect start to what we feel will be an incredibly promising season!!

With that in mind, we say adieu and hope that sharing in this Bushmail, the first of the season has brought cherished memories of your time here in Africa and with the Beho Beho family back to life.

Ian, Kimberley, Walter, Karin, Onesmo, Heribert, Salum and the rest of the Beho Beho team!