

A Strange Looking Creature Spotted on the Estate

A strange looking animal was seen in the vicinity of the Paarl sewerage treatment facility by the game rangers.

Is it a rat, a rock hyrax, a mongoose or is it a guinea pig that escaped from captivity?



This particular animal grunts like a pig when it sees danger. It doesn't run very fast and feeds on roots, shoots and stems of different grasses and reeds. This animal is never found far from water, swamp areas, rivers and dams. It has a tail of about 20 cm long.

The name of this creature is a Greater Canerat / Marsh Cane-Rat / Riet Rot or ***Thryonomys swinderianus*** and it's the second largest rodent found in nature. It can grow to a length of 50 cm and can weigh up to 4, 5 kilograms. Up in Central Africa and down in Kwa-Zulu Natal cane rats are considered to be a delicacy; often in great demand.

Interesting fact: The largest rodent found on the Estate is the porcupine.

Warthogs Everywhere



The winter months resulted in a large number of warthogs moving into town.

Residents have become accustomed to seeing females and their young in between the houses. At the beginning of June a number of male warthogs started showing up. The two warts on either side of the face of this male can clearly be seen. The pig on the right was photographed in the garden of number 6 Khutswane Street. The length of his tusks is estimated to be 12 inches.

On August 1 a total number of 39 warthogs were counted in gardens all over Ledibeng.



Monkey Business



This monkey was monkeying around in the vicinity of Lephale Street.

Residents are requested to **keep their garbage and black bags INSIDE a garbage bin or container.**

This could be the beginning of a lot of trouble!

Float Like a Butterfly, Sting Like a Bee!

'Honey' I don't care what you have to do but make sure they get taken away!

On Tuesday 10 August a resident living at 7 Luvuvhu Street called on the wildlife management team to remove a swarm of bees that moved into a tree right next to the front door. With Spring on our doorstep too, the insect activity has increased significantly. Usually small bee swarms will rest in a tree for a day or two and then move on. A bee keeper had to be called in to remove the bees. This is usually done at night.



Peace has been restored to 7 Levuvhu Street but unfortunately no honey was left behind.



Gotcha!

A baby warthog was killed by a jackal at the watering hole located in the bushes south of Lephale Street.

Not much was left behind...







An Early Christmas?

With the financial turmoil all over the world, even Ledibeng seems to be affected!

Money seems to be in short supply and this year it seems that the red & white danger tape will have to replace fancy decorations on the Christmas tree, or is there perhaps an alternative explanation?

Perhaps the kudu have something to do with all of this!



We would like to hear your story!

Should you have an event or story you would like to share, please send us your photos and a few words to wildlife@lantic.net

First New Chick of the Season

This chick was seen on 11 August 2011. The question now is: which bird species does it belong to?

The following clues might help:

- It is ground-living;
- The adults fly to open water holes to get a drink just before dark every day;
- The adult is about the size of a dove and they are usually found in pairs;
- They feed on seeds such as carrot grass seed and the seeds produced by a plant called the Mexican poppy / Bloudissel or also known as ***Argenome subfusiformis***.

The name of this chick will be revealed in the next issue of the Ledibos.



For information on property sales contact:

Tel: **012 665 5308**

Email: info@cranbrook.co.za

From your Wildlife Management Team

