

At the pond, July 2008

July was a good month. We had old friends coming back; we had a few firsts at the pond and had some fun or exciting sightings. The Wild Dogs have been visiting regularly at different times of day and night. One evening we saw them chase an Impala. The Impala ended up in the pond, swam to the other side and got out before the Crocodile could get to it. But the Wild Dogs chased it again and again it ended in the water. This time the Crocodile got it. Unfortunately we don't have pictures of that. We haven't seen many Elephants this month, but luckily we weren't completely without. Every now and then a small group or a bull or two visited the pond.

Some old friends that came back were the African Pied Wagtails. It was so good to see them again. They stayed around for a few days, treating us to their pretty song. We are certain they will pay us a visit again soon. The Crimson-breasted Shrike also came back to visit the pond. Far away from the cam, but we still had a very nice sighting, watching it foraging.



We also had a few new visitors at the pond. One evening we saw a Grey Duiker. It stayed around for a while and although we think we've seen it once before, being chased by a Jackal, this was the first real good sighting we had. The pair of Steenbok was also new to us. They are seen regularly now and we hope it means they have made their home close to the pond. And last but not least, we had a lovely sighting of a Springhare in daylight. We have seen a Springhare "blob" hopping along the beach at night at the pond once or twice, but this was really a great sighting.



A lovely sighting was of a Baboon baby and it's mother close to the hide. The mother was feeding off a bush and the little one was clinging to her belly and it almost looked like it was sucking it's thumb. Another interesting sighting was of Warthogs. The Crocodile had caught a Catfish a few days before and at part of it. The rest was floating around and was grabbed by an African Fish Eagle. The Eagle also fed on the dead fish, but left a big part behind. The Warthogs found it, sniffed it for a while and pulled it across the shoreline for a bit. They didn't feed on it though and left it behind.



These are just a few of the wonderful sightings we have at the pond, month after month. And then, of course, there is the pond itself, beautiful at night and beautiful during the day. It is a place where we all can enjoy the sights and sounds of Africa.



Enjoy the pond!

Afke
Pete's Pond
Mashatu

