

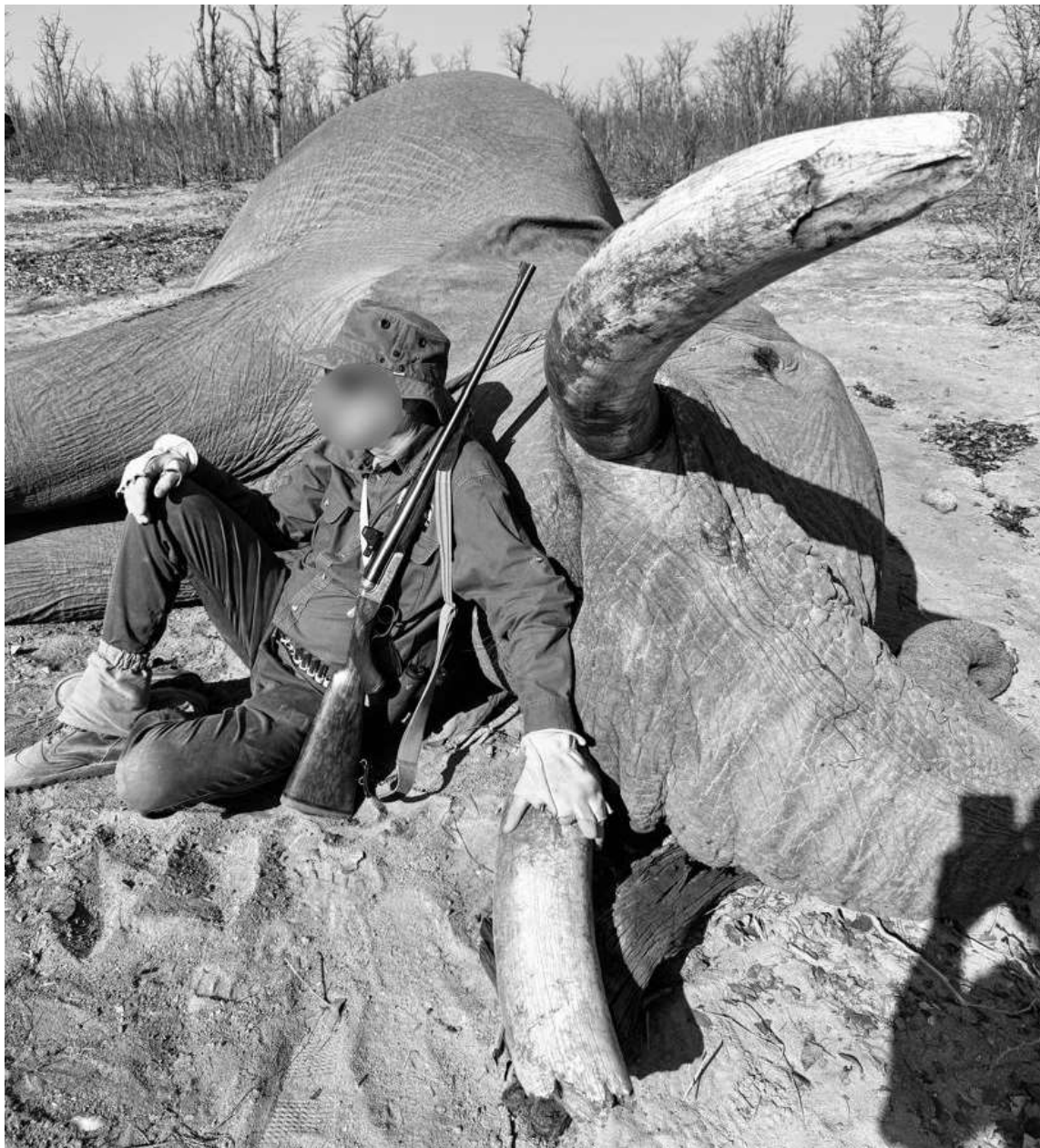


Festive Season Newsletter - 2024

Dear friends

How time flies! The 2024 season is officially finished. From a hunting perspective it was excellent with outstanding trophies taken throughout the year. It certainly was CMS best year for elephant bulls.

This was partly due to the severe drought we are experiencing but also due to the great anti-poaching and water projects that have been installed in all our big ele areas. Below are some of our big bulls this year.











As in the first part of the year the buffalo hunting was excellent with our PH really making a great effort on hunting only Dugga boys rather than the herds. This has paid off with some great old bulls been taken.

What it did do though was make the last few buff hunts pretty challenging as these old boys were on high alert! The good news is the herds are very relaxed and should our hunting policy of taking old dugga boys be correct the herds will expel the next batch of old bulls this rainy season which will give our buff hunters next year another outstanding hunting experience. In short it is totally sustainable and the quality of the bulls taken this year are proving this! Below are some of the old bulls we shot this year though out our area!!



















The lion and leopard hunting was very successful - all be it quite hard! The reason being is that with the severe drought, the cats were spoilt for choice and certainly did not have to come to bait as there were many dead animals for them to choose. All in all though we did get some great cats and remain 100% on lion despite unfortunately wounding and losing one big cat!









Some wonderful plains game was taken in Sentinel as well as our dangerous game areas including some big crocs and hippo. Of note was a 44.5" sable, a 40" Eland an 18" bushbuck and possible record hippo amongst other beautiful trophies.







DAPU

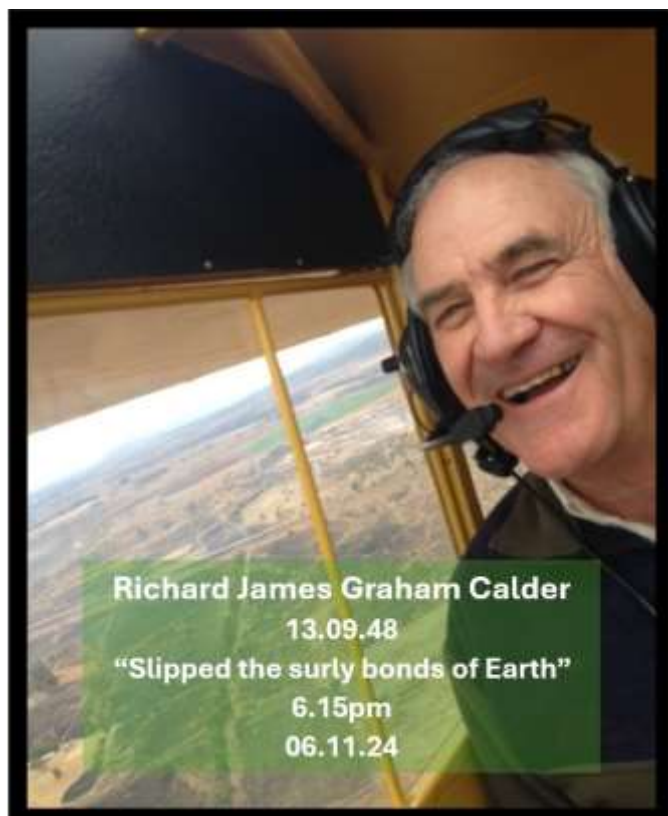
The drought and resultant total crop failure took poaching in many areas to levels never seen before. With sadness we decided to cancel and reschedule our Sengwa hunts. Sengwa geographically is surrounded on 3 sides by high populations and poaching got to a level where the owners took the very responsible and courageous decision to halt hunting and increase anti-poaching activities. We really hope and expect that they will get it under control and CMS will once again hunt this stunning area.

Dande was certainly not unaffected by the surge of poaching and as a result DAPU were under huge pressure and worked unbelievable hours to try and control it. Record number of snares and arrests were made for which we are incredibly grateful to our DAPU teams. Below is a link for the 2nd half of 2024.

<http://dapuzim.com/newsletters/DAPU2024-2.pdf>

It is with a very heavy heart that I write about a DAPU anti-poaching flight that was conducted last week in Dande, under the Flying For Wildlife Trust - who has given us invaluable support in DAPU efforts to stem poaching and other illegal activities.

On the 29th of October Richard Calder, Myles father in law, took off with Bonggi our DAPU anti-poaching manager on a regular flight. They spotted a dead sable and shortly afterwards they saw Allan with his hunting party. They intended to drop a note to the hunters, unfortunately something went terribly wrong and the Savannah crashed and burst into flames.



Despite Allan, his team and clients valiant efforts to get Rich and Bong out of the burning plane they both Rich and Bonggi suffered severe burns. They were casevaced to Harare and from there Rich was sent to South Africa to a burn centre and Bongo was treated in Harare. It is with great sadness to report that Rich did not make it. He was a dedicated husband, father and grandfather who loved flying and wildlife and was truly loved by all. He will be hugely missed by us all and Richie's family and friends are in our thoughts, please keep them in yours too!

Bongo was released from hospital yesterday. He suffered 2nd degree burns over 11% of his body. He was and still is in huge pain and will be recuperating at home for the next few months, going to an out-patient facility close to home for bi-weekly care.

While this tragedy certainly over shadowed the whole year, we do know that Rich of all people, who loved wildlife and adventure, would have wanted us to continue with our usual enthusiasm - which we will.

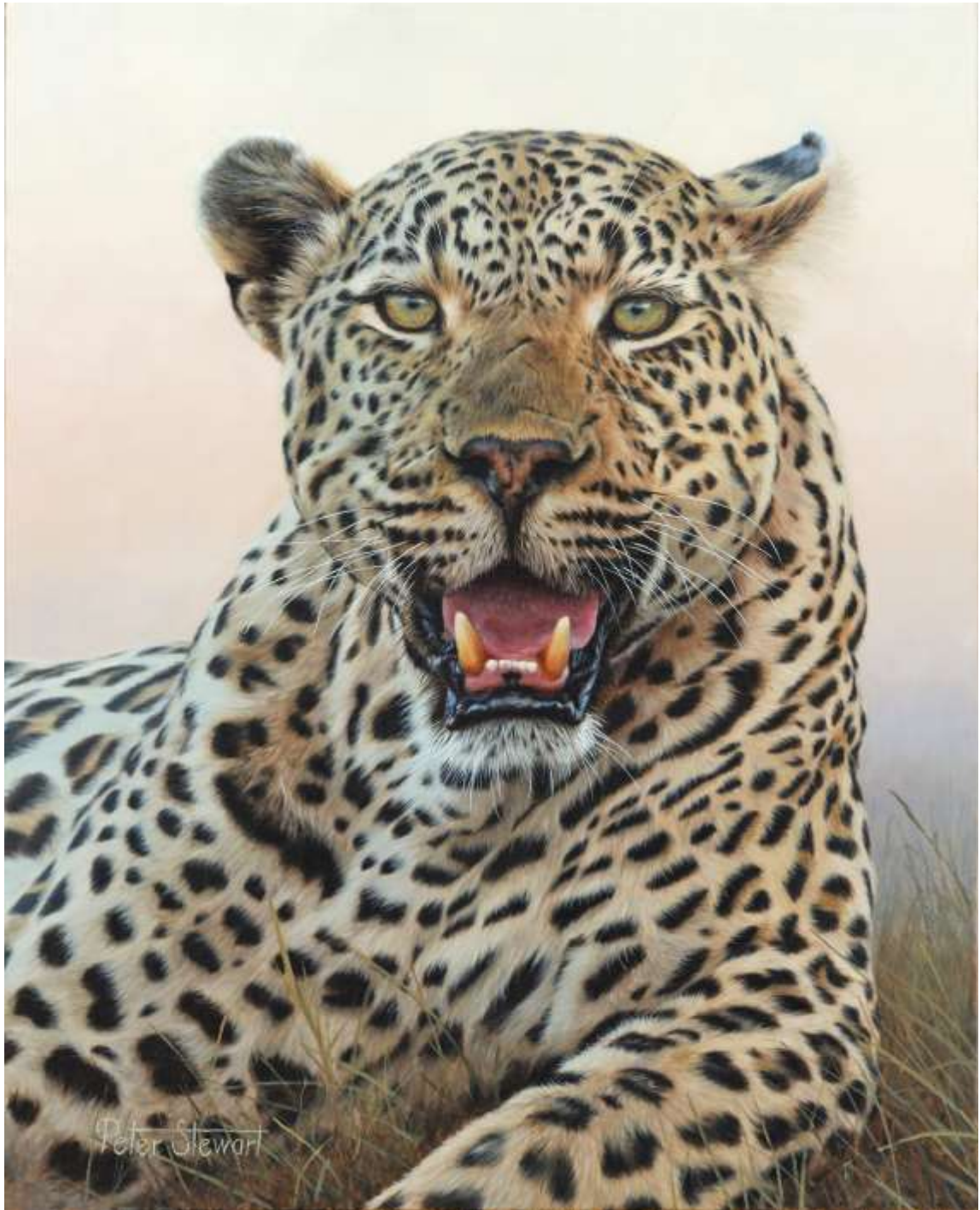
World renowned Artist Peter Stewart has kindly donated a few of his amazing personally signed prints. These are a 100% donation to DAPU. Please help us keep DAPU running by ordering these incredible works of art!

Please email hunting@cmsafaris.com to place your order. It is a first come first serve basis!

The prices below are the print costs in the USA, excluding shipping.



Adrenaline shot (leopard charge) - 22 x 30 inches - \$100



Afterglow (leopard portrait) - 16 x 20 inches - \$55



The custodian (elephant) - 35 x 48 inches - \$225



Brothers in arms - 27 x 36 inches - \$140



RAW - 26 x 32 inches - \$120

Remember to email us if you want any of these prints hunting@cmsafaris.com

Next year we look forward to seeing you all at

DSC Atlanta - 9 to 12 Jan - Booth 3348

SCI Nashville - 22 to 25 Jan - Booth 846/848

As we stand we have very few openings for 2025. But we do have the following awesome hunts left:

1 x Lion buffalo leopard – Dande

1 x trophy ele bull - Amadundamela

3 x Buff – Mozambique, Cahora Bassa South Bank

1 x Trophy ele bull - Maitengwe
1 x Roan buffalo plains game – Dande

Have a wonderful Christmas and new year
Cheers Buzz, Myles and the whole CMS team.

