



# Wildsfees 2014 festivities

Above: The Laeveld Trekkers exhibition at the Hoedspruit Wildsfees (Blyde Wildlife Estate) drew boys (and girls) of all ages!



Must Love Dogs first annual Dog Show at the 2014 Hoedspruit Wildsfees was a huge success with nine dogs that participated in three different categories: agility, owner and dog dress up and best trick. All proceeds will go to Hoedspruit PAWS for the construction of their much needed kennels and cattery.



The Working on Fire Bell Huey helicopter display at the 28th Hoedspruit Wildsfees drew many eyes to the skies as this 1966 model helicopter with two rotors and a cruising speed of approximately 145 km/h when carrying a full bambi bucket was put through its paces.



## Get closer at HESC

Desiré Wright

**HOEDSPRUIT** – The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) on Sunday officially opened their cheetah island when eight of the endangered cats were released into the one hectare camp with a viewing island in the centre. So far the cheetahs enjoy exploring their new

surroundings and visitors can't stop talking about the fantastic photo opportunities they have from the slightly elevated vantage point.

Now visitors to the centre are no longer confined to the veranda when not out on a scheduled game drive. You can take an unaccompanied walk down a fenced pathway, with cheetahs on either side, to the

island where you can enjoy the majestic cats without having to peep through a diamond mesh fence.

'This (HESC) is not a rehabilitation centre or a zoo. Here we focus on research and education. More than 70 research articles and papers have been published where HESC has been the source of data' says owner and founder of the Centre, Lente Roode.

Willa Riekert, who is the 'all rounder' maintenance manager at the Centre, designed the island and camp. She explained that the moat which does not encircle the island entirely is filled with rain water from the veld. Willa designed a system that allows for drainage water from the veld to fill the moat and when the moat is full, it overflows to fill a dam in another camp lower down. 'Visitors and animals are kept apart by a high voltage electric fence to keep everyone safe' adds Willa.

HESC thanks BUCO Hoedspruit for donating bricks for the construction and are also very grateful to PPC Cement Hercules branch for their donation of cement for the entire project.



*Thank you and farewell!*

**Century 21 would like to bid Farewell To Christine Tiley who will be leaving in August.**

Christine has been with Century 21 Wildlife Properties from it opening 5 years ago. She has been a rock to the organisation and an important member of our organisation. Christine and Ed are moving to Hartbeesfontein, we would like to wish them all the best in their endeavours and take this opportunity to thank Christine for all her hard work, dedication and loyalty.

**With love and fondness Rob, Michelle, Corné, Delaine and Tom Century 21 Wildlife Properties**

**CENTURY 21 Wildlife is now recruiting an administrator**

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