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## APRIL 2008 NEWSLETTER

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In proud association with





## 1. Message from the Chief Operating Officer

April was another busy month for the Lion Rehabilitation & Release into the Wild Program.

On April 12<sup>th</sup> in Livingstone ALERT attended a public meeting to review the Environmental Impact Assessment for our proposed expansion of the release program to the Dambwa Forest in Livingstone, Zambia.

The meeting gave local communities the opportunity to raise concerns about the program, mostly based around the safety aspects of the project so that the Environmental Council of Zambia can make a ruling as to whether the project can go ahead. We expect to get a final answer on this in early May.

On April 13<sup>th</sup>, coinciding with one of our supporters, Lucy Bickerton, running the London Marathon in aid of ALERT, we released a pride of six females into our release site at Dollar Block in Zimbabwe. To read how they got on see our stage two update in this newsletter.

Preliminary results from our hunting behaviour and character studies are providing interesting insights and again, you can read some of the details in this issue.

And so we look forward to May. We are working on links to other conservation organizations, more research and community development programs as well as a new program to facilitate more independent research.

As ever, we thank you for your support as we continue to do our part in saving the African lion.

Kindest regards

**David Youldon**

ALERT Chief Operating Officer



## 2. What is ALERT?



**The African Lion & Environmental Research Trust (ALERT)** is a non-profit organization working with governments, wildlife authorities and private organizations to identify suitable release sites for African lions. ALERT will also provide infrastructure to those sites to facilitate the release and to protect local communities. It was founded in 2005 to support the work of the four-stage African Encounter Lion Rehabilitation and Release into the Wild Program, founded in 1999 at Antelope Park in Gweru, Zimbabwe.

ALERT also carries out scientific research through the **Conservation Centre for Wild Africa (CCWA)**, either in its own right or in conjunction with external conservation organizations and educational institutions. CCWA engages in a diversity of research and conservation related programs, not just for lions but on a wide range of African wildlife to ensure that we can pass on balanced ecosystems to future generations. CCWA is already undertaking a number of research activities throughout Zimbabwe's National Park system.

In addition, the **ALERT Communities Trust (ACT)** is a means to give back to communities bordering conservation areas such that they receive tangible benefits for supporting those conservation programs. A primary element of this is our community education and awareness program to further understanding of the importance and relevance of sound conservation practices. Local communities are involved in eco-tourism ventures related to the conservation programs, and money generated by those programs goes back into development schemes, agreed as priorities with the local community, such as building schools or providing medical supplies.



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### 3. Stage One Update

#### Msasa: First Kill

Aged only 15 months **Msasa** has made her first kill. The young female stalked a gang of banded mongooses, managing to catch and kill one before the gang slipped away into holes.

#### The 3Ss go from strength to strength

The otherwise shy cubs of **Sango, Swahili & Sahara** are enjoying life in the Park immensely.

The three are growing in confidence every day and are charging around the place without a care in the world.

Everyday they are being walked for at least seven hours and as a result they are experiencing new things every day, including regular contact with the game in the area.

Sango is the current leader of the group, whilst the girls, and especially Swahili, are more likely to take over and start to stalk any game they encounter.

Swahili is still very much the shy one of the trio, but even she is coming out of her shell more and more as the days go by and they spend more time out in the Bush.

All three are gorgeous looking cubs and have used up many a camera memory card by guests joining their walks.



#### CNNs Retire

**Chaka, Nandi & Nduna** have now been retired from walks and will shortly commence their *Night Encounter* campaign.

We will also be looking to split them up in the near future. Chaka and Nduna, the two males, will join Amandla, Chabalala, Chando & Chengeta, whilst Nandi will be introduced to the two females of Acacia & Amghela.

The process is likely to take some time as Acacia & Amghela are two large females who do not take well to newcomers. We will begin by adding all three of the CNNs to the two girls, and once stable the boys will be removed.





## A Day in the Life of a Lions' Manager

This is **Cara Watts**; qualified in Animal Management & Welfare, she is the current **Lions' Manager** at our Antelope Park stage one location in Zimbabwe. In case you thought this was a terribly glamorous job, here is a diary from a typical day:

**0600h** The day starts with a guides' meeting at which all the day's activities are planned out and any information on the cub feeding schedule or any unwell animals is shared.

**0615h** Delegate the daily tasks for the lion handlers and liaise with the voluntourist project managers as to which tasks they will be assisting the guides and handlers with today.



**0630h** There is a walking cub and a breeding program lion feed today. Yesterday Cara arranged for a vehicle to go out early morning to fetch meat for the day's feed and as it arrives she separates the different pieces, weighs them and puts what is not needed for today into cold storage. What is left is chopped up into the correct sizes for each lion. She is assisted by the "cage boys" a team of staff who work with the breeding program lions.

This kind of start to the day is not everyone's cup of tea, but with so much meat required to feed the lions each week, someone has got to do it. A huge part of the Lions Manager's role



is sourcing meat, so once today's is prepared its off to the office to call around to try and find more for tomorrow. Of course, Cara makes sure that all the office staff get to share the smell of the meat on her hands.



**0830h** Time for a quick breakfast and a chance to check in with the guides and handlers as to how their walks this morning went as well as reconfirming the times for the various feeds.

**0930h** Drive up to breeding program to make a check on all the lions. Quite a few are due to be fed today and others need to be cleaned out. There are currently forty one lions at breeding program which create a lot of poo, all of which needs to be picked up, along with any old bones from their last feed. It's a smelly job.

**1030h** The guests arrive from the cub feed to watch the adult lions being fed. They are given a talk about the program and an introduction to the lions they are watching.





**1115h** Once the guests have left for their next activity there is time to organize moving some of the lions around. At the moment Cara is in the process of bonding the females in the next release pride together. The three females to be introduced today are guided along management corridors to a new enclosure next to the other females that they are going to meet.

This is always a tense time as you can never be sure how lions are going to react when they first meet each other, except to know that such encounters can rapidly become aggressive. This time the different groups of females accept each other very quickly and the two parts of the pride are united in the same enclosure after only a few days.



**1200h** Back in camp there is time to do a bit of routine maintenance on the vehicle before following up on the phone calls made this morning to source meat for tomorrow.

**1300h** Lunch

**1400h** A meeting with camp management to discuss tonight's *Night Encounter*. This serves to ensure that all safety procedures have been followed to inform all staff that lions will be out tonight and confirm who is driving, that the spotlights are working and who is taking data for the research program. All seems to be in order.



**1430h** Records are kept of all the lions and part of the job is to keep these updated. A radio call comes in from one of the guides to say that one of the young cubs has developed an abscess. Cara goes to visit the young lion and is happy that the abscess is not causing distress, but it does need to be treated. This is a common problem in young lions when they are teething, and in the wild is frequently a cause of death. Cara contacts our consultant vets to advise them and confirm a course of antibiotics to treat it. The lion handlers are advised of the situation and a medication regime is approved.



**1530h** Cara has been on the go for 9 ½ hours by now, but the day is only half way through! She takes a minute by the dam to catch her breath. A call comes in to say that a local farmer has some meat for us. Cara has to arrange a driver and vehicle to go out and collect it. Some guests arrive and their assigned guide is currently out on a horse ride with some guests that arrived earlier. Cara is called to take the new arrivals on a cub encounter to meet the youngest lions in the program. This is a chance for Cara to give a lot more information about the release program and the aim that we have for these young cubs.



**1630h** Some voluntourists that arrived at Antelope Park yesterday are going to get their first of a number of training walks this afternoon. These walks ensure that voluntourists assisting the staff work with the lions do so safely and to the highest standard of animal care. Cara will be leading the walk with the 3Ss, three lions aged six months old.

**1800h** As it gets dark Cara starts to prepare for the evening's activities. Dinner is a rushed affair.

**1830h** Guests joining the *Night Encounter* are given a safety briefing.

**1845h** The *Night Encounter* departs. Tonight the 4Ls of Lokothula, Langa, Ltalo & Landela are going out. Cara will be taking the data for the research study. It's a slow start, but around 8pm the lions come across a herd of wildebeest. It's extremely challenging to keep track of which lions are doing what in the hunt in the dark, but it looks like Landela has made another successful kill, which he graciously shares with his brothers. They take a long time to eat and even longer to walk back to their enclosure.

**2230h** Cara finally gets back to camp and after a quick drink with colleagues she reflects back on a long, busy, challenging, but highly enjoyable day. "See you at 6am tomorrow!"



## Hunting Behaviour



With 156 *Night Encounters* undertaken at Antelope Park to date, we now have sufficient data to start looking at patterns in hunting behaviour. The results from our captive bred lion cubs were compared to those from a study of adult lions in the Kruger National Park to identify similarities or differences. Here is what we found:

1. There was no difference in the probability that females ( $P = 0.24$ ) or males ( $P = 0.23$ ) would ignore or make no attempt to hunt prey they had encountered.

*Our result:* Our females showed a similar probability to make no attempt to hunt to the lions in the wild lion study ( $P = 0.25$ ) but our males had a slightly higher probability ( $P = 0.29$ ). The Kruger study did not look at mixed gender groups; we found that ours were less likely overall to attempt to hunt prey they had encountered than single gender groups. ( $P = 0.36$ )



2. There was no significant difference in the overall probability of hunting success for males and females.

*Our result:* Our study concurred with this showing only a 2% difference in hunting success between males and females. We did find that mixed gender groups were significantly (10%) less likely to make a successful hunt.

3. There was a significant relationship, with one or two adult lions having similar low probability of hunting successfully ( $P = 0.21$ ), compared to higher success rates for three ( $P = 0.39$ ) or four adults ( $P = 0.35$ ). There was no difference in the success rate for groups of three or four hunting lions. In contrast to this, Schaller (1972) looking at lions in the Serengeti showed that female pairs were twice as successful as singletons, but that success did not improve with larger groups.

*Our result:*

| Probability of Hunting Success | 2 lions | 3 lions | 4 lions |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| All Groups                     | 0.44    | 0.41    | 0.53    |
| Male Only Groups               | 0.46    | 0.33    | 0.50    |
| Female Only Groups             | 0.46    | 0.54    | No data |
| Mixed Gender Groups            | 0.17    | 0.37    | 0.53    |

Contrary to the Kruger study our lion groups of either two or three lions have a similar probability of success, but with significant differences dependent on the gender mix, and contrary to the Schaller study success did improve when four lions hunted together.

What we can see is that mixed gender groups dramatically increase in probability in hunting success as each additional individual takes part in the hunt, regardless of gender. The most successful hunting group in our study ( $P = 0.67$ ) is a mixed gender group of one male and three females.





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4. Hunts of impala and medium-sized prey were significantly more likely to be successful when the lions did not stalk their prey but rather chased them immediately upon detection...

*Our result:* Yes. 67% of successful hunts on these prey species did not include a stalk but a chase only.

...the opposite was true for small-sized prey species...

*Our result:* Yes. 64% of successful hunts on these prey species did include a stalk.

...however, lions were more likely to stalk impala and medium-sized species, whereas they were less likely to stalk small-sized prey. Females are significantly more likely to stalk anything.

*Our result:*

| Probability of Stalking     | All  | Females | Males |
|-----------------------------|------|---------|-------|
|                             |      |         |       |
| <b>Small Species</b>        | 0.86 | 0.88    | 0.83  |
| <b>Impala</b>               | 0.84 | 0.89    | 0.75  |
| <b>Medium-sized Species</b> | 0.77 | 0.76    | 0.79  |
| <b>Large Species</b>        | 0.82 | 0.88    | 0.67  |
|                             |      |         |       |
| <b>Small + Large</b>        | 0.86 | 0.88    | 0.81  |
| <b>Impala + Medium</b>      | 0.81 | 0.84    | 0.77  |
|                             |      |         |       |
| <b>All Species</b>          | 0.84 | 0.87    | 0.82  |

Contrary to the wild lion study we found that in fact our lions were more likely to stalk the smaller and larger prey species. Given the Kruger study showed that the highest success rates for lions were found to be on small-prey species where the lions stalked rather than giving immediate chase on detecting the animal may explain why our lions on average have a higher probability of a successful hunt than those observed in the wild lion study. Females are more likely to stalk than males in our study.

5. Hunts of small herds (1-3 animals,  $P = 0.34$ ) had a significantly higher probability of success than hunts of medium-sized herds (4-15 animals)

*Our Result:* Yes. 67% of successful hunts were against herds of 1 – 3 animals.

There is a lot more study to be done before any of these results can be considered conclusive and we will continue to take data to add to the study.



## References

Funston, P. J., Mills, M. G. L., Biggs, H. C. (2001). *Factors affecting the hunting success of male and female lions in the Kruger National Park*. J. Zool., Lond. 253, 419-431

Schaller, G. B. (1972). *The Serengeti lion*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Funston, P. J., Mills, M. G. L., Biggs, H. C. & Richardson, P. R. K. (1988). *Hunting by male lions: ecological influences and socio-ecological implications*. Anim. Behav. 56: 1333-1345.



Cooperative hunting brings a greater probability of success in lion hunts, but a question exists on whether pre-planned cooperation is taking place or that lions are making use of opportunities brought about by the presence of other lions. [Stander 1991]

Studies of the tactics of group hunting by lions give a similar basic plan of the hunting process. When the group spots the prey a hunt is often initiated by a single lion looking at it, to which the other lions respond by looking in the same direction – the only clear form of “communication” evidenced in the hunting process. The group fans out, with certain lions stalking at a greater distance to encircle the prey. The encircling lions launch the attack, seemingly to drive the prey towards the other lions who ambush from their cover position. [Barry & Dalrymple-Smith 2005]

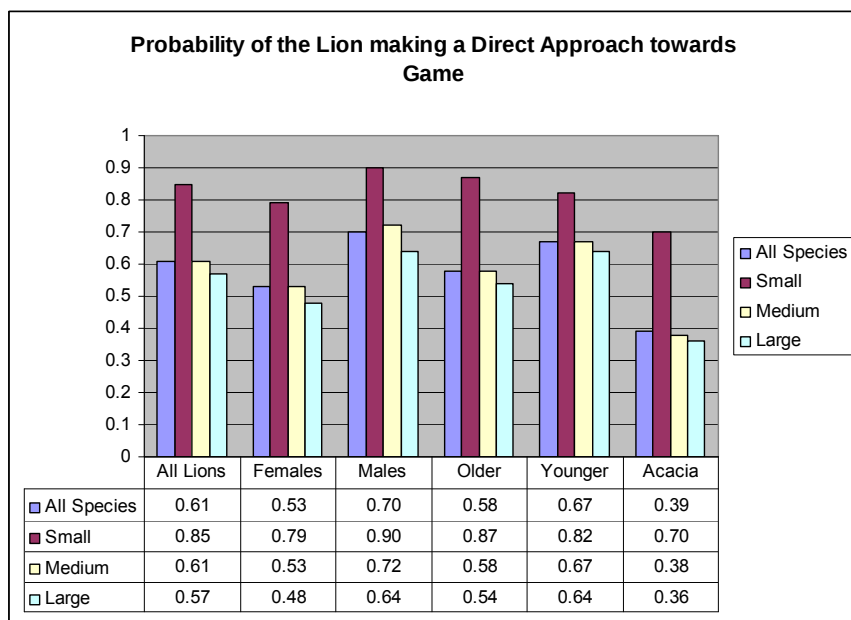
Stander suggested that lions often, but not exclusively, followed the same hunting patterns and divided lions into stalking roles; left, centre & right wing positions. Lions hunting in their preferred roles increased the success of the group by 9%.

2567 diurnal lion / prey interactions were observed over a seven month period from September 2007 to April 2008 at Antelope Park with lions aged 6 to 18 months old in varying group structures.

The probability that the lions were observed to make a central approach towards game was significantly higher ( $P=0.61$ ) than either a left or right wing approach, however a central approach was more likely ( $P=0.85$ ) if hunting small-sized game (warthog, duiker etc) and less likely ( $P=0.57$ ) if hunting large-sized game (zebra, giraffe etc). Females were less likely ( $P=0.53$ ) to take a central approach than males ( $P=0.70$ ) towards all sizes of game.

Older cubs (13 – 18 months) were less likely to take a central approach towards medium ( $P=0.58$ ) or large-sized game ( $P=0.54$ ) but more likely to take a central approach towards small-sized game ( $P=0.87$ ). The converse is true of the younger lions (6 – 12 months) suggesting that these hunting strategies may be a learnt behaviour.

Of all lions in the study, one female named Acacia, was least likely to take a central approach against any sized game species (All  $P=0.39$ , Small  $P=0.70$ , Medium  $P=0.38$ , Large  $P=0.36$ )



80 hunts were observed over three months with one lion group consisting of **Acacia** (f), **Amghela** (f) (both aged 14 months at the start of the study) and **Chengeta** (m) (aged 13 months at this time).

Acacia had no clear position preference (left:  $P=0.36$ , right:  $P=0.30$ , centre;  $P=0.34$ ). Amghela had a preference for a central approach ( $P=0.46$ ), but not as strong as Chengeta ( $P=0.68$ ). On many hunts ( $N=44$ ) more than one lion took the same approach angle; central.

The most common approach where each lion took a different angle was Amghela on the left, Acacia, right and Chengeta central, however this was also the least successful hunting technique. The greatest chance of success was any combination with Chengeta taking the left flank, but this was also the combination observed least.

Of 37 occasions where the lions progressed from stalking to a charge at the game this was most commonly ( $N=19$ ) launched by the lion in the centre, but this was the least successful tactic. The most successful attack was launched from the lion on the left wing irrespective of which lion did so, although the greatest success was achieved if the attack was launched by Chengeta from this position, but it was most likely to be launched by Acacia.

## References:

[Stander, 1991] P. E. Stander. Cooperative hunting in lions: the role of the individual. *Behav. Ecol. Sociobiol.*, 29:445–454, 1991.

[Barry & Dalrymple-Smith 2005] Visual Communication and Social Structure – The Group Predation of Lions



## Character Traits in Lions

We have now completed twenty-one character studies on stage one lions. Despite a small sample to date, the results are already showing some interesting patterns. The walks are conducted by guides and voluntourists over a seven-day period around the third month anniversary of each lion. Each day the lions are assessed against different criteria with an average taken from the week in order to quantify twelve character traits such as; sociable, irritable, playful and active. In addition, data is taken from walks and feeds for a 15 day period around the third month anniversary to look at other traits such as bold and aggressive.

We hope that these traits will become predictors of the lions' likely role in a release pride enabling us to better group lions together in the future. In females for example we expect lionesses to take one of three roles; that of "alpha female" – the lioness that decides when the pride moves, when they hunt and when they rest; "the hunters" – those females that are particularly skilled at catching prey for the pride; and "the mothers" – those lionesses that are most successful at raising cubs and looking after the young whilst the hunters move out to provide for them



The first indications to come out of the analysis so far is that by taking an overall average of both genders at all ages there is very little difference between males and females for the majority of character traits assessed. The greatest divergence is in the traits of "playful", "irritable", "bold" and "aggressive". The first three are traits much stronger in the females, whilst the last is more indicative of the males. No huge surprises there, but when you look at the data broken down by age group different patterns start to show.

At a young age the males are significantly more likely to lead the pride. By 15 months old the females are as likely as the males to be leading, and by 18 months old the females are clearly in charge. There is little difference in the "enduring" or "active" traits between males and females at any age, possibly suggesting that this change in which gender most often leads the group is not explained by the males becoming less able or less willing to take control.

A marked change in the boldness of the female lions in moving towards the different game species is also evident just before they start to take over leadership of the movement of the pride in any situation.

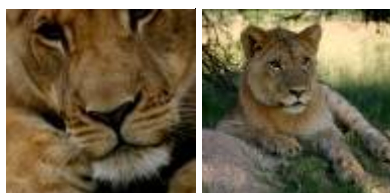
There are clear differences between lions of the same age and gender. Amongst the females the traits showing the greatest divergence are "playful", "sociable", "active", "bold" and "aggressive". Between the males the greatest differences are seen in the traits of "enduring", "playful", "testing", "intolerant" and "aggressive"

With this number of samples the results can hardly be called conclusive, but as the data set grows it is hoped that these and other emerging patterns may be confirmed and assist in future pride selection.

Female most likely to lead: **Nandi**  
Male most likely to lead: **Luangwa**

Boldest female: **Msasa**  
Boldest male: **Lozi**

Most irritable female: **Acacia**  
Most irritable male: **Chaka**





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#### 4. Stage Two Update

##### Dollar Block: The first four days

Just before 11am on Sunday 13th April 2008 ALERT released a pride of six females into our stage two release site at Dollar Block in Zimbabwe. Three of these females; **Ashanti, Phyre & Kenge**, have been re-released following an initial release into the site in August last year where they have been successfully hunting, including eland, impala, warthog & giraffe. The other three females released are **Athena, Nala & Narnia**.

A CCWA research team is at the site to monitor the lions and we are also facilitating an independent researcher who is on secondment from the Zimbabwean Parks & Wildlife Authority and is studying with the University of Zimbabwe. This study will provide an independent review of our release protocols as well as looking at the role of captive lion breeding in lion conservation within Zimbabwe and the extent to which these lions withdraw from their human imprinting. The final aim of the study is to assist the Zimbabwean authorities create appropriate legislation within the country regarding captive lion breeding and the use of these animals; regulations that do not currently exist. It is ALERT's hope that such regulation can be used not only to improve the situation for captive lions within Zimbabwe, but may also be used as a template to urge other countries with no applicable regulations to implement such.

Just before dark on the first night all six lionesses are found about 1½ km south of the release gate, resting next to a dry river bed. Nala is the most social of the six greeting Athena, Narnia and Phyre, the youngest of the original lions.

The following morning the pride is found at the far south of the release site by a water hole. They are lying asleep in a pile. As they wake there is a frenzy of social interactions that lasts 2 hours.

At 06:15AM on the morning of day 3 the females are on the Eland Vlei; location of the southern waterhole. All in all they seem to be getting on well as a pride and taking it very easy. At 11:55AM that day the pride is seen heading north. They have moved over 2km from where we left them this morning and are taking a tried and tested route to the northern waterhole another kilometre further north. Whilst Ashanti, Kenge & Phyre settle down for another nap, Athena, Nala & Narnia explore. For about 20 minutes they sniff around before rejoining the others. Nala & Narnia have a sisterly allo-grooming session. Then they all fall asleep. At 10:21PM: All six lions are back at the southern end and are highly active.

Early morning on day four we find the pride about 300m from the southern boundary in mixed mopane and acacia woodland. They have killed a wildebeest. From what is left we believe it to be a small adult female or a sub-adult with an estimated kill time around 5am. The three largest females clearly ate first as they are already sitting off to one side, except Phyre who has fallen asleep with her head in the carcass. Ashanti has clearly eaten the most but none of the lions seem overly fat. The pride spend the day lying about and exploring the southern half of the release area, led by Ashanti. Late evening on the fourth day Ashanti leads the pride on a march back up to the northern water hole.



The lions have gone on to make further successful kills every three or four days; in between this has given us a chance to have a look at the social aspects of the group:

The lions initiating the most social interactions are the two youngest, Narnia (44%) and Nala (37%). This was also the case last year when Phyre, the youngest at the time, was also the lioness initiating the most social interactions.

So far the lionesses receiving the most attention are Athena (54%), Ashanti (39%) and Phyre (28%). These are the three largest females; again this matches what we saw last year when the largest female received the most attention from the others.

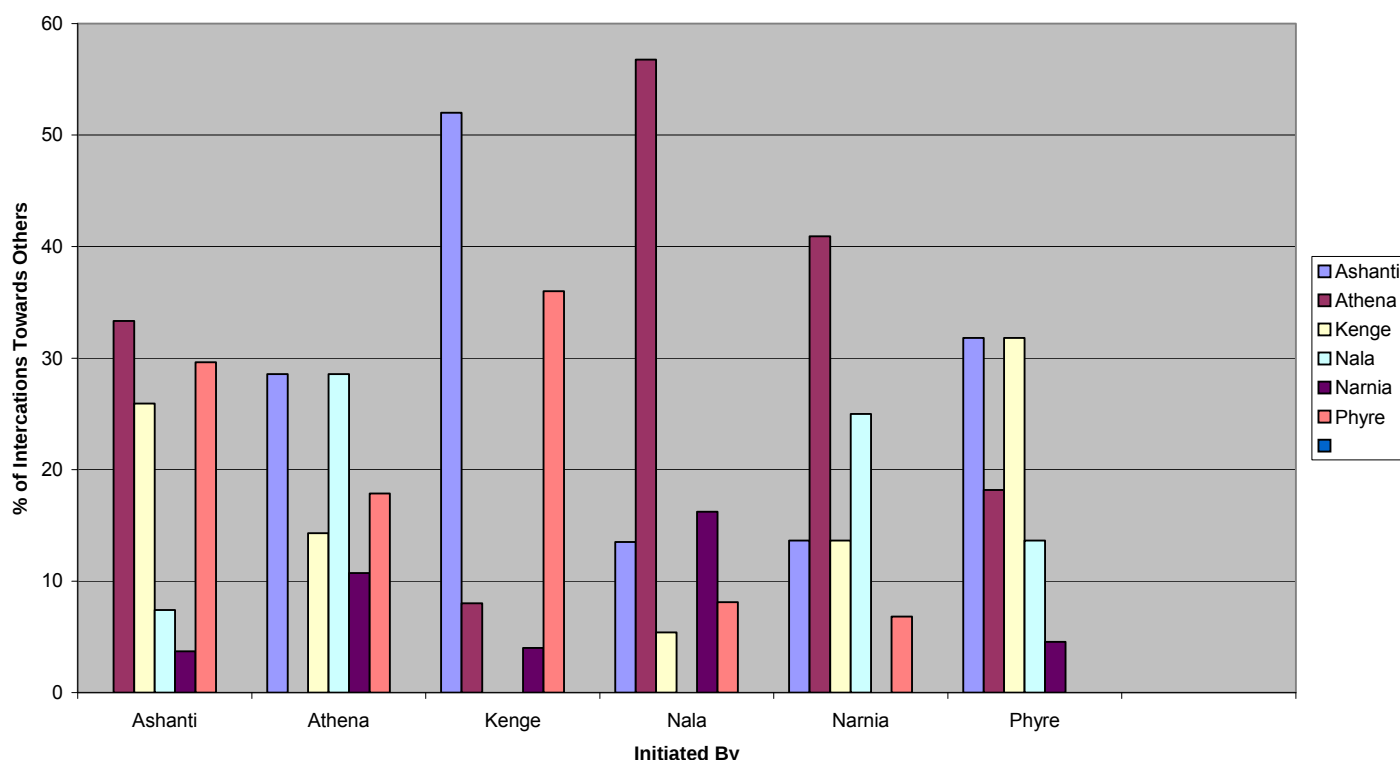
The question to ask is whether Ashanti is maintaining her alpha female position in the group or is Athena likely to take the role. It is impossible to tell at this early stage, but we have seen Ashanti maintain the title of lion most likely to decide when the group moves and when it rests. Also, Athena shows clear submissive behaviour to Ashanti whenever she is close. Not only does Athena greet Ashanti more than any other lion, but when approached by the alpha Athena will bow her head and often crouch down in front of Ashanti, who stands over her, very much looking like a queen.

Whilst Phyre is at least making some effort to show an interest in the three new females in her life, Kenge is definitely not sure about them. She spends all her time with Ashanti & Phyre and almost completely ignores the new females. Again, this is something we saw last year where Kenge had her favourites and stuck with them, ignoring the rest.

The pride has spent much of the time together as a six, but all except Kenge have gone off on their own for short periods, and occasionally Athena, Nala & Narnia will head off to explore together, returning to the pride alpha regularly.

We will continue to monitor the lions in order to confirm when we are happy that they have met the two conditions of stage two: to be socially stable and self-sustaining; they appear to be doing well so far on both counts.

**Social Interactions Initiated Towards Other Lions**



## The Last Roar

The ALERT supporters' pack is available for download from our web site [www.lionalert.org](http://www.lionalert.org)

**Thank you to everyone who has already sponsored a cub. Your contribution will go a long way towards our next release.**

By sponsoring a lion you will help pay for its food, housing, veterinary bills, micro-chipping, radio collaring, permits, research and its release. You can sponsor an individual lion, or make a big saving for sponsoring multiple lions in a group or a litter, and can pay in either monthly or annual installments.

For your generous donation you will receive:

- ☐ A copy of the ALERT DVD
- ☐ A photo & biography of your lion by email
- ☐ The monthly ALERT newsletter by email
- ☐ Quarterly updates & photos by email for your lion
- ☐ A 5% discount off of any stage one Lion Walk
- ☐ A 5% discount off any African Impact program
- ☐ Priority booking to see the release of your lion.

For your chance to make a difference to these lions simply email [alert@africanencounter.org](mailto:alert@africanencounter.org) with the following details, stating "Lion Sponsorship" in the subject line:

- ☐ Full name
- ☐ Confirm the email address you would prefer that we use to send you your invoice and updates
- ☐ Your mailing address so that we can send you your copy of the ALERT DVD
- ☐ Whether you would prefer to make monthly or annual payments
- ☐ Whether the sponsorship is for yourself or as a gift. If it is a gift we will also need the recipients mailing and email addresses.

| Lion/s      | Example                              | Donation Per Month |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Single Lion | Acacia                               | £10.00             |
| Two Lions   | Echo & Etosha                        | £15.00             |
| Three Lions | Acacia, Amghela & Chengeta           | £17.50             |
| Four Lions  | Langa, Ltalo, Landela & Lokothula    | £20.00             |
| Five Lions  | Lungile, Lina, Lisha, Lozi & Luangwa | £22.50             |

All donations given to ALERT may be used for any of the projects of ALERT, CCWA and ACT at the discretion of the trustees based on their assessment of the various priorities of those projects at the time the donation is received. Any donor wishing for their donation to be used by a specific division of ALERT, CCWA or ACT, or for a specific project undertaken by any of those divisions should write to [alert@africanencounter.org](mailto:alert@africanencounter.org) specifying the intended division or project for that donation. Should restricted donations be for projects that are fully funded at the time of the donation, ALERT will contact the donor, where practicable to do so, offering alternative projects for the donation to go towards or offer a refund of that donation.

African Lion & Environmental Research Trust is a registered charity in the United Kingdom at 39 St. James's Place, London SW1A 1NS. The Charity Commission number is 1120572. Contact email [alert@africanencounter.org](mailto:alert@africanencounter.org)

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