



Charlton McCallum
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Festive Season Newsletter

Dear friends

It's that time of year where we would normally summarise a full and eventful hunting season and wish all our new and old friends a happy Christmas and New Year. Unfortunately, we like everyone in the world, were heavily affected by the dreaded Coronavirus.

We did manage to get in a lion hunt in February before COVID effectively closed the safari industry down till the last few weeks of the year. We were fortunate enough to get an amazing old lion by tracking which, with the heavy grass, was a wonderful accomplishment complementing an amazing trophy.



With the worldwide travel ban, we did manage a few local hunts for Buffalo which was a great way to get back in the field and a wonderful opportunity for local Zimbabwean hunters to experience the beauty of Dande.







Late season travel began again but under a lot of uncertainty, and we only managed to do one lion hunt. Again thanks to amazing tracking the client got an exceptional lion not to mention several other great trophies! The lion has been aged at 12 years old which has been the oldest lion taken in Zimbabwe this year! Resulting in CMS being given an award for most outstanding lion by ZPGA.





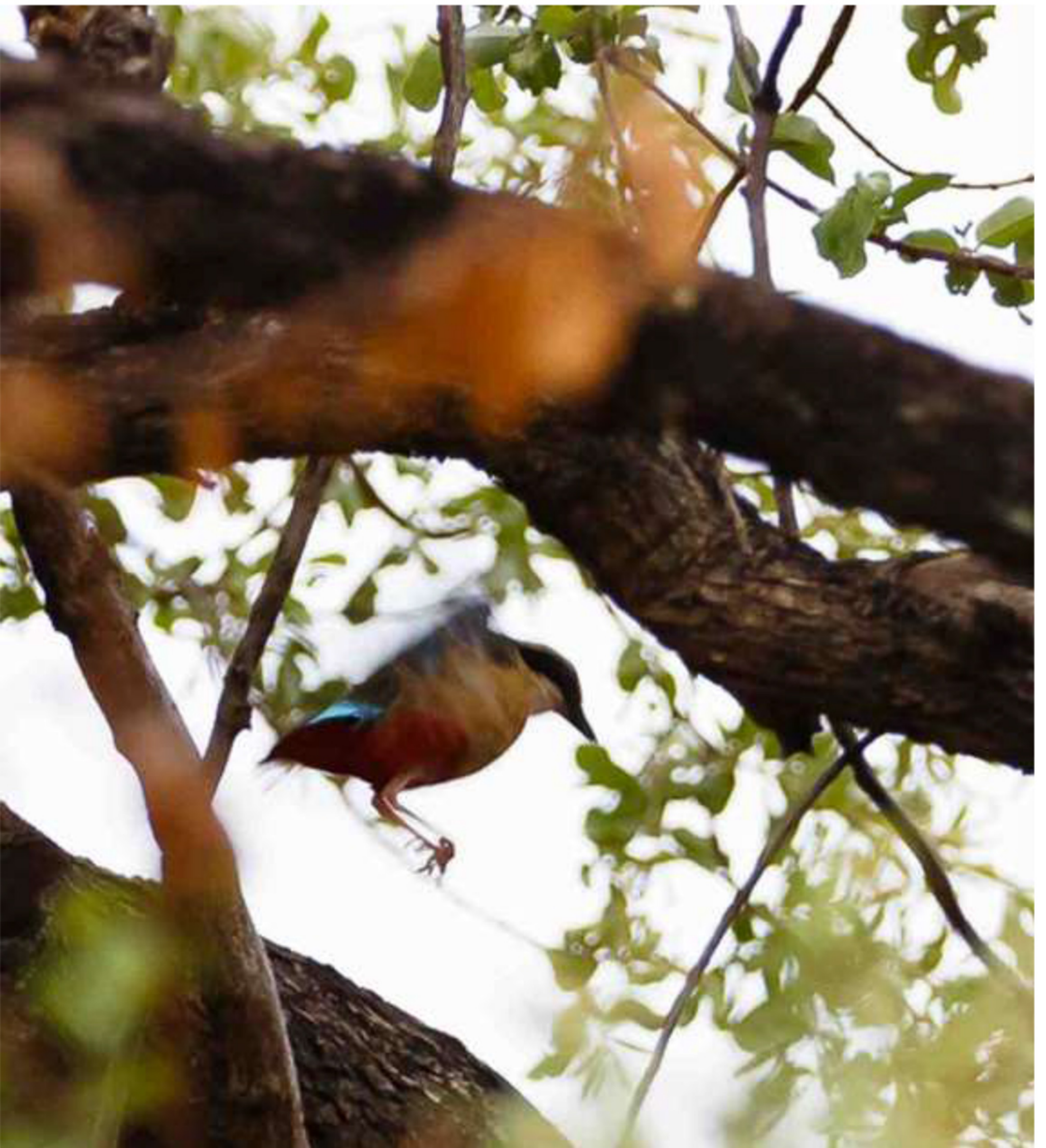






With so little hunting we took the opportunity to upgrade Mukanga and Matombo camp. Mukanga is now a completely solar camp with new en-suite bathrooms and has become a popular bird safari camp in the off season for the illusive Pitta amongst other rare birds, as well as having the attraction of Dinosaur tracks.





Matombo camp now boasts a beautiful dining room, two new tents and a wonderful swimming pool! You simply cannot beat the views from this beautiful camp. The camp has become popular as a top-notch fishing and photographic destination in the hotter months.





COVID did not only affect us, but the knock down effect on the community was massive. Like us they received no income and combined with crop failure last season the people were desperate. It came as no surprise that the meat poaching increased and as a result the DAPU scouts were extremely busy containing it.

DAPU found it hugely frustrating, as despite arresting numerous poachers including several repeat offenders, we simply were not getting the convictions. This was partly due to the fact that there was a government policy with COVID 19 not to convict what they termed as minor offences as they did not want to over crowd the jails with the Corona virus a major threat.

On a brighter note, DAPU was very successful arresting and getting the convictions of several ivory poachers applying their trade outside of Dande.

As one can imagine CM Safaris is hugely indebted to all of our very generous donors, whom without their help and with no income being generated from hunting, DAPU would not have been able to continue their excellent work. A massive thank you to all of you for your kind generosity and especially to Dallas Safari Club who remain the backbone of our anti-poaching unit. DAPU will provide a full newsletter in mid-January for those interested in reading about our anti-poaching endeavours.



BOTSWANA - CMS

A new and very exciting development for CM Safaris, we will now be hunting in Botswana. CM Safaris has been known for providing great quality elephant hunts and with the reopening of Botswana, we have an agreement with Kwatale Safaris who operate in NG43 which is one of Botswana's premier elephant destinations.

This area boasts nearly 500,000 acres of pure wilderness with no communities, and is sandwiched between several National Parks. Len Taylor, who is considered one of Africa's premier elephant hunters, has moved to Botswana and will hunt with CMS clients there. Should he be busy, then our clients will be in the very capable hands of Frans van der Merwe a much experienced Botswana elephant hunter. More information on these hunts can be found on <http://www.cmsafaris.com/botswana.html>



The Dande has been very blessed with excellent rains and all the pans are full – rivers in flood! This bodes well for an excellent 2021 season!



**Outfitter of the Year
Award Winner**
Charlton McCallum Safaris



Please join DSC in congratulating Charlton McCallum Safaris as the DSC 2021 Outfitter of the Year. DSC is proud to announce the winner in advance of the DSC Convention, [Reflections](#).

With the cancellations of all the shows in USA and Europe, we will unfortunately miss seeing many of our friends. However, next year looks very busy and we hope with a vaccine in place life will return to normal!

A highlight for CM Safaris this year was certainly being awarded Operator of the Year by Dallas Safari Club. We are very proud and humbled to be awarded this very prestigious prize and we assure all our new and old clients that we will continue to maintain our company policy of good personal and professional hunts throughout Zimbabwe and now Botswana.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Buzz, Myles & the CMS team