

# Three more baboons killed

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THREE more baboons, said to be "habituated and raiding" animals, have been killed. These include two animals from the Tokai troop and one male from Da Gama.

This was confirmed in a joint press release by the City of Cape Town, SANParks and CapeNature – known jointly as the Baboon Technical Team (BTT).

This was issued on Thursday, although two of the baboons were killed in early September.

The release states: "The euthanasia took place in order to reduce the frequency and severity of raiding behaviour."

It identifies the Da Gama baboon as DG4, known to baboon activists as Carpenter.

According to authorities he joined the Da Gama splinter group in 2010 and became an aggressive raider. In November, it adds, he was castrated in an attempt to reduce his aggression, rather than euthanise him. "Unfortunately this did not curtail his raiding frequency or levels of aggression when raiding."

The BTT says between December 2011 and June 2012, DG4 was involved in the raiding of over a dozen homes. In late May, he "continually raided" a property in Mountain Road, Fish Hoek, over a three-day period whenever the owners left their house.

The BTT continues: "He regularly raided homes in Glencairn, most notably in Cockburn and Clan Stewart streets and Timmerman Close. This included breaking windows to gain access to properties and attacking dogs."

The BTT adds his removal will encourage the females and juveniles from his splinter group to re-join their original Da Gama main

troop. They say this will allow the two field ranger teams to work as one unit to more effectively monitor a single large troop.

In Tokai, two male baboons, TK17 and TK18, said to have been the "most problematic" baboons in the Tokai area were killed.

The BTT says they broke away from the troop, predominantly to the Firgrove Road area in Constantia Hills. They say TK17 has been responsible for 40% of the raids which took place in the Tokai/Constantia area.

TK18 reportedly went into the kitchen of a home in Airlie Street, Constantia Hills. A resident in Rodgers Avenue provided evidence that TK18 had been in her house on two occasions while the house was occupied. "Their display of threatening behaviour illustrated that they had no fear (of) humans and their sole aim was to source food from suburban homes."

The release states: "On numerous occasions neither of the two males responded to rangers' efforts to prevent them from entering the urban areas. They were also the prominent raiders of buildings on SANParks property, Porter Estate, Chrysalis Academy and the stables in the area."

The BTT reports since the euthanasia of these two animals in early September, there has been a "dramatic reduction" in raids by solitary males.



There are four troops in the area, which rangers from Human Wildlife Solutions regard as the northern region. Tokai has two troops, Constantia has a third troop, and there is a mountain troop that has never entered the urban areas.

The four troops are hemmed in on all sides by human settlement and yet their population continues to increase. "Young male baboons from the burgeoning population of baboons in the Tokai-Constantia area, which would naturally disperse away from the troop, invariably become raiders. This threatens the safety and security of residents and their pets in the suburbs," says the BTT.

**KILLED:** Carpenter grooms a female the day after another baboon, Peter, was killed. Carpenter, known to authorities as DG4, has also since been killed by authorities. Photo: Supplied

## Fish Hoek Methodist Church

Welcomes you to their Sunday Services  
08h30, 10h15 & 18h00  
Sunday School 08h30

Minister Ronnie Cawood

Further enquiries phone Church

Office Mon - Fri 08h30 - 15h00 - Telephone 782 11569

Sunday School Grade 0 - 12, All children welcome

Cocoon / Mother's room available.

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21st Oct Jesus Grace - Am I accepted  
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