

QNHG Speaker Programme

Wednesday 2 May 2012, 7:00pm at [DESS](#)

“Achievements and Challenges from Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation”



Speaker: Dr Tim Bouts, Director, Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation

Summary of Presentation: Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation (AWWP) is a well hidden secret within Qatar but has gained wide recognition within the broader zoo and conservation community. AWWP hold large groups of endangered animals and specializes in blue macaws, birds of paradise and small gazelles and antelopes. AWWP has several in-situ conservation programmes and is actively involved in a reintroduction project with the Spix's Macaw in Brazil. The presentation will look back at some of the achievements in the past and some of the challenges ahead.

Speaker bio: Dr Tim Bouts is a graduate of Ghent University in Belgium in 2000. Upon graduation he started working at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Ghent at the department of Surgery and Anaesthesiology of large animals. In 2002 he did an MSc in Wild Animal Health at the Royal Veterinary College in London and ZSL London Zoo. He returned to the faculty in Ghent to work as an assistant in anaesthesia of large animals and here he developed a new anaesthetic table for Koi carps.

He then moved to SW England to work at the Duchy of Cornwall veterinary hospital in Newquay, a referral centre for exotic pets. He was also the attending veterinarian for Newquay Zoo, The Cornish Bird of Prey Centre and Blue Reef Aquarium. After this job he moved to the UAE to become the Head of the Veterinary Department of the private collection of the president, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nayan (Management of Nature Conservation). He was also the chief vet in a private zoo specialized in breeding wild cats (e.g. cheetahs and clouded leopards). Afterwards he returned to the UK, taking a post in Whipsnade Zoo as the sole clinician and perfecting his anaesthesia skills in large herbivores. He also researched elephant medicine, including research into the lethal disease elephant endotheliotropic herpes virus. Currently he works as the Director in Qatar in Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation, a breeding and conservation centre for endangered wildlife, and is actively involved in the reintroduction of Spix's Macaws in the wild.

Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation website: [click here](#)