

Broadening horizons

It's hard to believe my first year at Save the Rhino is up. Joining SRI has been a life-changing experience: I've run a marathon in rhino costume, cycled 80 miles in a day, and I've signed up for the Marathon des Sables for 2003...

More importantly, over the last year, Save the Rhino has expanded and developed its experience, expertise and contacts.

As you'll read in this newsletter, we have continued our support for the Laikipia Wildlife Forum in Kenya, Mkomazi Game Reserve in Tanzania and Save the Rhino Trust in Namibia. We have given a new grant to the Waterberg Plateau Park in Namibia, and have also supported the field research expenses of Hassan Sachedina who is about to embark on a PhD at Oxford. His subject - the impact of community-based biodiversity enterprises in pastoral areas and their potential influence on rhino conservation through economic incentives, improved

governance and livelihood benefits - will be of direct relevance to Save the Rhino's future funding strategies.

In the 1990s, we funded a field research project in Way Kambas and monitoring patrols in Kerinci National Parks in Sumatra, but for the last five years we have concentrated almost exclusively on African projects. Now, thanks to the fund-raising efforts of our supporters and improved communications with projects and other conservation charities, we have broadened our horizons. Save the Rhino International is back in Asia.

Save the Rhino is expanding in other ways too. We're developing a wider range of events so you won't have to be super-fit to participate. We'll be working with selected schools to educate a younger audience in the importance of wildlife and environment conservation. And via our website and new monthly e-zine we're reaching a more widespread audience than ever before.



Please join us: become a member, come to an event, run a marathon, or just make a donation. Step out of your own immediate experience and think of the Kenyan savannah, the Namibian deserts, the rainforests in Indonesia, and especially the wildlife that lives there. Help us save the rhino.

Cathy Dean, Director

Front cover image:

We usually like to have a picture of a rhino as the main image on the cover of the Horn. This time we're featuring the runners in the Marathon des Sables: the most successful fundraising event we've ever done. Thanks to the team and the people who so generously supported them, we have been able to make a series of exciting grants to new and existing projects in the field.

One small step for Javan rhinos, one giant leap for...

Four new Javan rhinos have been born over the last three years in Java's Ujung Kulon National Park, home to approximately 50 of the world's 60 Javan rhinos (the rest are in Vietnam).

The Javan rhino is not only the rarest of the five species of rhino, but possibly the rarest large mammal in the world. It lives alongside the overgrown watercourses of the Asian rainforests and is elusive and shy by nature - few people have been lucky enough to see it. Only via the use of camera traps, DNA analysis of droppings and other tracking methods, were WWF researchers able to establish the existence of the new rhinos.

The WWF aims to build the Park's population up to its estimated carrying capacity of 80 animals, and then translocate some of the rhinos to a different area of Indonesia to found a second population.

Kirstie Wielandt

