

Wally's Week

During a visit to the Barber Shop Wally decides to ask advice from the professional.....

WANT to see Wally experience your joke? Then why not e-mail your humorous farming experiences to jokes@wallysweek.co.za? Contributors will receive an embroidered cap.

Letter of the month

The winner of the letter of the month published below on 30 January is by Anna Merz for her views on how rhino could be better protected from poaching. She wins Olympus binoculars.

The rhino horn issue

I REFER TO ABRÉ J STEYN'S article of 5 December 2009. I agree with his disgust over what's happening to rhino, not just in South Africa, but wherever they occur.

But I disagree with him on how to tackle the situation and believe his solution would make

'Yes, it's possible to dehorn rhino, but the process costs more than a bullet.'

matters considerably worse. When it was illegal to trade in ivory the killing of elephant was reduced and their numbers recovered. As soon as CITES allowed a limited trade in ivory, poaching of elephant escalated.

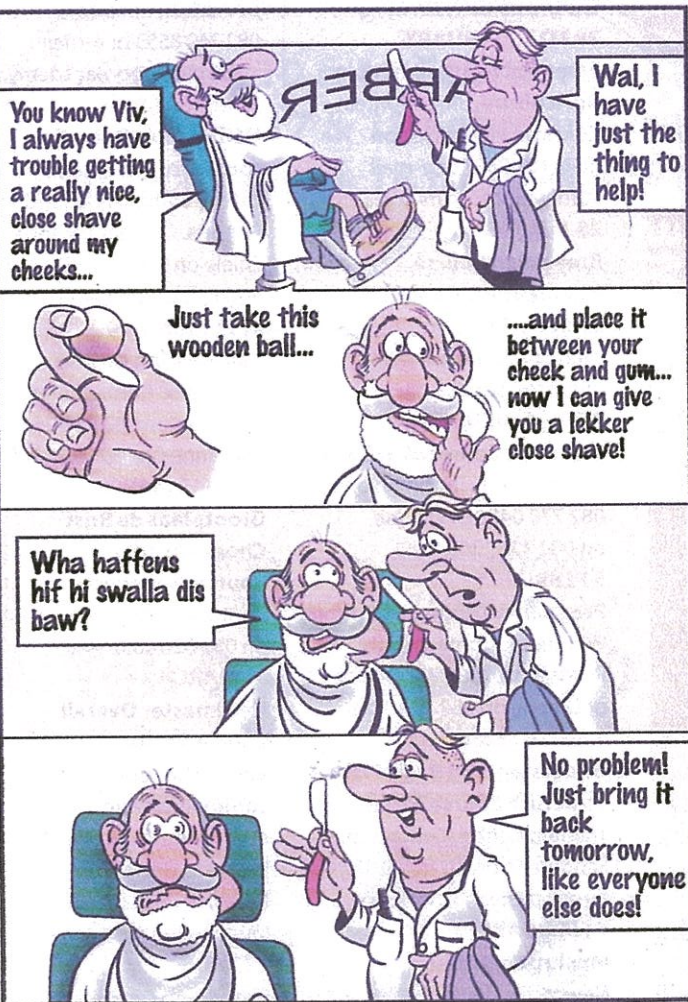
I ran a rhino sanctuary in north-east Kenya for 15 years, now known as the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, where large numbers of elephant were killed, mainly by Somalis. Their deaths allowed more AK47s to fuel the current crisis. The same is happening in Chad where elephant are massacred by the Janjaweed to buy guns to kill the

wretched inhabitants of Dafur. If the sale of rhino horn is legalised the killing will vastly increase, and with fewer rhino to kill the horn will become more valuable than ivory. From a practical point of view, it's impossible to differentiate between legal and illegal horn, so legalising it could result in total disaster.

Yes, it's possible to dehorn rhino, but the process costs more than a bullet. If a female is darted when pregnant she's likely to abort and if darted when nursing her milk could dry up, not to mention she needs her horn to protect her calf against predators and aggressive males. And even if the horn is sawn off there is still about a kilogram in the nasal cup, making the animal worth killing.

What's needed is for government and private owners to invest in the adequate protection of their wildlife resources. We protect great works of art, but of the great beasts with whom we share our planet we seem to think they should exist only if they are commercially viable.

Anna Merz, by e-mail



By Miles & Hartley

THE END OF BLUNT KNIVES!
BLADE BUDDY®
 A SHARP KNIFE WITHIN SECONDS WITH THIS PRECISION KNIFE SHARPENER!
IDEAL FOR:
 ▶ Hunters
 ▶ Butcheries
 ▶ Restaurants
 ▶ Hotels
R1 550
DIFFERENT GRID BELTS AVAILABLE
 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FOR KNIFE MAKERS & SHARPENERS
 Also available: Biltong/fruit dryers
B.C. TECHNOLOGIES
 082 403 2638 / 082 322 5756
 Tel/Fax: 016 362 3733

LEO'S
TRAILER MANUFACTURERS
 P.O. Box 155 BRONKHORSTSPRUIT
 TEL: 011 9 538-4151/2
 CELL: 082 682 3274 / 083 412 8832
 EMAIL: sales@leostrailers.co.za
 WEBSITE: leostrailers.co.za
MODEL: LEO - S2 - 2 TON

 Double deck with removable top rail.
 Excellent quality workmanship and service guaranteed.
**14 STANDARD MODELS AVAILABLE
 PRICES FROM R8 000 TO R30 000
 3 YEAR FACTORY GUARANTEE**



WIN



One lucky contributor to Wally's Week will receive a R500-00 gift voucher from Midas once a month.
 Store locator number: 082 280 0055

www.midas.co.za