



## Rhino rescue

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PHOTO CONSERVANCY

PHOTO CONSERVANCY



BRO HUMAS KURN

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# Same, same, but different



In 1992, in leather brogues and with very little training, William Todd-Jones, wearing a rhino costume, alongside our co-founders, Dave Stirling and Jonny Roberts, crossed the finish line of the London Marathon on Sunday 12 April. None of them realised the tradition they had just established.

**Cathy Dean** | CEO, Save the Rhino International

Now, every year, rhino runners from around the world gather in London for this special event. Some wear a costume (we have around 20 of those in total), and others proudly show our logo on their t-shirts, all taking on 26.2 miles of the city's streets.

Of course, things look quite different now to the early 90s; we've not since had a runner wearing brogues (if you enjoy blister-related torture, please get in touch...), and our finish-line picnic in St James' Park is a space ready to welcome 50 or 60 people. Yet the essence of the day has remained: people coming together to do something extraordinary and raise funds for rhinos.

The concept of doing the same thing, differently, is true for many other aspects of our work at Save the Rhino. Because, despite the best efforts of ourselves and many of our conservation partners, many of the threats that rhinos face now aren't very different from the ones they faced when we started. Poaching, despite the respite in the late 1990s and early 2000s, continues to devastate rhino populations, though thankfully it's decreased in recent years. Habitat degradation and loss still push rhinos into smaller and often fragmented territories. And the impacts of the climate crisis are being felt through shifting rainfall patterns that reduce food availability for rhinos.

Yet, whilst the challenges we faced in the 1990s persist today, the actions that we take to overcome them have evolved. For example, addressing the poaching threat now entails more than just security guards on patrol; it also includes international collaboration, intelligence

gathering, uncovering illicit financial flows, and behaviour-change campaigns to address the source of the demand for illegal wildlife products.

Tackling the same problem over time can feel hopeless. But thankfully, we know that our new strategies, coupled with everyday actions such as supporting rangers and protecting vital habitats, are making a difference (take a look at pages 4-5 for some highlights).

Looking ahead, it seems the next few years are likely to be even more turbulent than the ones before them. We'll be doing the same as we've always done; supporting rhinos, and the people and places they depend on. And we'll be doing this in the most effective ways that we can – testing new and innovative strategies alongside tried and tested methods.

It's only by thinking long-term and having dedicated, passionate and generous supporters like you that we can accomplish any of this. So, from me, and the rest of our team, thank you so much.

This year, on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that first run in a rhino costume, nearly 70 rhino supporters, including me and other members of Save the Rhino's team, will be once again running the London Marathon to raise awareness and funds for rhinos. The world has changed a great deal in the past 30 years, but some things, reassuringly, stay the same.

Cathy Dean, CEO



# Your impact

The last few years have been incredibly tough. Thankfully, with your ongoing and generous support, there have been many important conservation actions in the past year.

Here are a handful of significant wins that you've helped achieve in the last 12 months.

## African-wide

### Experts gather and report to CITES

Every two to three years, experts within the IUCN SSC African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) come together to discuss the state of African rhinos.

This year, as travel restrictions remained, the Group met online to share expertise, develop knowledge, and discuss the future of Africa's rhinos. Whilst Zoom calls may not be your first thought for what rhino conservation involves, the importance of the AfRSG's network cannot be underestimated: without it, creating strategies for the conservation of African rhinos would be much more difficult.



LARA JACKSON



RENAUD FULCONIS

## India

### Greater one-horned rhinos increase

A recent count brought excellent news for India's Greater one-horned rhinos. Since 2019, the number of Greater one-horned rhinos in the country has increased to a total population of 3,262! Reaching beyond 3,000 rhinos is a huge milestone, especially when poaching continues to be a significant threat.

Now, we've got to ensure there is enough space for these rhinos and their future generations to thrive.



INDONESIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY

## Indonesia

### New hope for Sumatran rhinos

On 24 March 2022, the future for Sumatran rhinos got a little bit brighter. A new female calf was born at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas National Park, Indonesia.

When there are estimated to be only 34-47 Sumatran rhinos left in the world – as revealed in the latest IUCN / TRAFFIC report for CITES CoP19 – and their biggest challenge is finding each other to mate, the arrival of this little rhino is a huge achievement. So far, the calf and her mother, Rosa, are doing well under the expert care of the Sanctuary's onsite keepers and veterinarians.

## South Africa

### Improving enforcement to tackle poaching

In recent years, significant strides have been taken to ensure that law enforcement authorities find and arrest individuals responsible for poaching, their contacts, and those trafficking horns out of the country.

Between January and June 2022, 69 people were arrested in South Africa in connection with rhino poaching and horn trafficking. Not only do these arrests press pause on immediate poaching activity, but they also help to dismantle international criminal networks.



DAVE ROBERTSON

## Once... Twice... Three times to Summit

As a Best Man, how do you come up with a stag party that will stand out from the rest? How do you ensure it meets the expectations of the groom-to-be, whilst also remaining a lasting memory for everyone that dishes out the cash to join the party?

Ryan Nappi | Fundraiser and Best Man

### Ben Nevis

We began at the foot of Ben Nevis (*bottom, opposite*). The idea was to stay together, but this challenge is 90% psychological and 10% physical. After 20 minutes, we began to spread out. The wind was low, rain clouds non-existent, and the sun shone on the face of the peak – perfect visibility. The climb is long with steep

ascents and switchback after switchback taking us into the clouds.

The first groups made it to the coveted trig point in around two hours. As the following climbers made their way up, Steve and I summited an extra three times to ensure everyone had their photo taken and to help the final climbers come back down the peak. Anyone

who has taken on the challenge will tell you, the descent is the painful part! It plays havoc on the knees. Proudly, all 17 climbers managed to summit the highest peak in the UK.

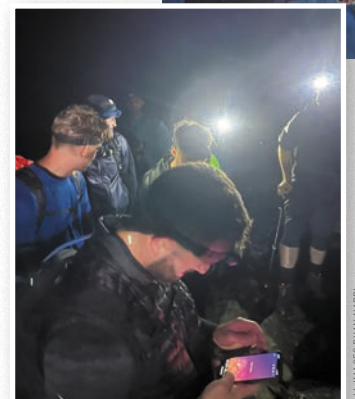
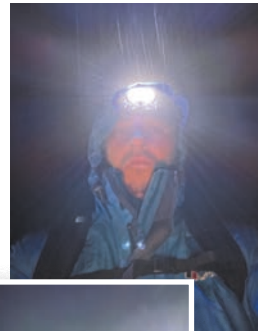
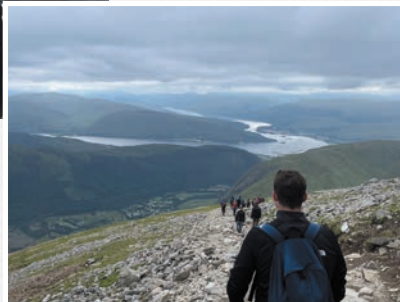
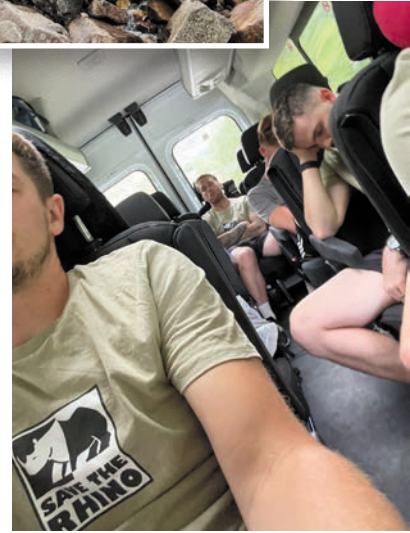
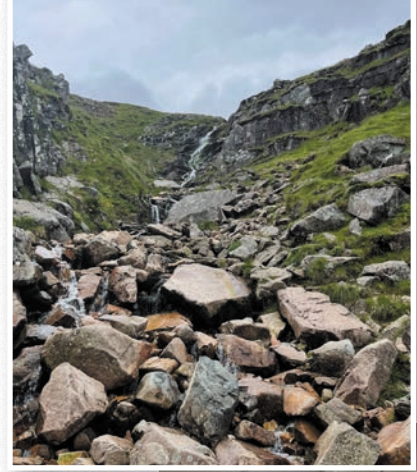
### Scafell Pike

We left Scotland two and a half hours later than planned, so we knew already that the 24-hour finish time was out of our hands. Still, we wanted to complete the peaks as quickly as we could. At 11 pm, with spitting rain and in pitch black, we approached Scafell in the Peak District. Torches and GPS at the ready, we got going. Scafell is much like the description of Tolkien's mountainous ranges of Mordor – desolate and unforgiving. As we set off, a handful of climbers decided to sit this one out. A couple more turned back halfway due to injury. Ten of us continued the arduous journey to the summit, where we would go off route approximately once every five minutes. The conditions were not in our favour at all. Even when we were within touching distance of the matching

Our Groom, Steve Yates, is an active guy who always has something in the diary to train for. Whether it's a marathon or a personal record on a weeknight run, he loves to achieve new feats. He is also a keen fundraiser, namely for endangered animals. So, the answer seemed simple...

The National Three Peaks Challenge: climbing 23 vertical miles (the equivalent of 17,000 stair runs) in 24 hours, summiting the UK's three highest peaks; Ben Nevis (Scotland), Scafell Pike (England) and Snowdon (Wales). And whilst we are at it, let's try to raise £1,000 per peak for a well-loved charity, which, of course, was Save the Rhino. I shared the idea with a few of the lads to make sure I wasn't crazy. Surprisingly, they were captivated. In a matter of minutes, they were looking up routes and researching hiking boots. My backup plan of flying to Benidorm was looking less likely.

In total, 17 climbers signed up. The main hurdle to overcome was securing designated drivers. For that, I am forever grateful to the fathers of the bride and groom, Graham and Cliff.



ALL IMAGES RYAN NAPPI



trig of those at Ben Nevis and Snowdon, we couldn't find it with our torches. We searched on until someone finally caught a glimpse and we made a run for the stone. We were soaked through, and it was freezing. We didn't hang around.

long time – only cemented further knowing we helped Save the Rhino along our path.

If you ever climb, you'll think you're mad at 1.30 am trying to find your way down Scafell Pike. But when you look across the lakes of Snowdon on your final peak, you'll know that you've done something amazing. If you want an unforgettable experience and to support a great charity, grab your boots, walking poles and rain coats, and get out there.

## Snowdon

As we left the Peak District, we were begging for the heating to be switched to the maximum in the vans. Our wet boots, coats and gear hung in the back as we tried to get some rest. Before you knew it, we were in Snowdonia. The sky was dark and ready to burst at 11 am.

I hadn't thought about the possibility that this final peak would also be covered by rainfall and was now checking local forecasts, hoping for a dry climb... 95% chance of heavy rain and 40 mph winds. We were way behind schedule at this point and our after-party was still four hours away in Cardiff. The clock was ticking. Seven of us took on the final peak. Our boots felt like fishbowls. The wind made the final stretch tricky, but we managed to summit as a group to find zero visibility at the peak. Every step down was tough, but together we pushed on to the very end. We made it in just under three and a half hours.

### Job done: all three peaks in just under 29 hours

And that was that. We regrouped at the bottom of Snowdon. Freezing cold, we got out of our climbing gear and into the vans with the heater turned up to sauna level. It was a whirlwind of a journey and it wasn't until we arrived to a hero's welcome in Cardiff that we realised what we had achieved. I know we will remember the feat we accomplished together for a very

**Climbers:** Steve Yates, Lawrence Smith, Liam Siva, Jordan Walsh, Gavin Boseley, Ryan Nappi, James Buck, Liam Bell, Grant Bell, Ryan Vear, Kieran Huggett, Ben Thorne, Tom Goodchild, Lewis Sartin, Ali Thorogood and Steve Campbell.

**Drivers:** Cliff Yates and Graham Huggett.



# Fundraising and supporting rangers

*ForRangers is a fundraising initiative set up to support the lives of wildlife rangers in sub-Saharan Africa. In partnership with Save the Rhino International, ForRangers raises funds to improve training, purchase equipment, and support rangers' wellbeing.*

*Find out more at [www.forrangers.com](http://www.forrangers.com)*



Rangers are a lifeline for rhinos. Every day they risk their lives to protect wildlife, often using 'tired' kit, only having basic training, and not receiving enough general support given the demands of the job.

Founded in 2015, ForRangers set out to change this. ForRangers aims to support Africa's wildlife rangers by undertaking epic fundraising challenges, including ultra-marathons, mountaineering expeditions, and other extreme endurance events.

Since its inception, ForRangers has raised millions to support projects that improve rangers' lives. The following are a few of the highlights from the past year.

ALL IMAGES RICHARD DUNWOODY UNLESS NOTED

## Riding high - Fundraising for rangers' life insurance at the Gaucho Derby

In March 2022, Sam Taylor, alongside friends and teammates Simon Kenyon and Charlotte Outram, took on the Gaucho Derby, a 10-day, 500 km horseback adventure race across the wild Patagonian landscape.

The team endured many twists, turns and tumbles along the way. Thankfully, they got through the full event (with the help of some much-needed pain medication, and of course, their four-legged friends), raising \$60,000 to support the life and health insurance cover for more than 3,200 rangers across 62 protected areas in Africa.

While we always hope the insurance isn't needed, it's vital for rangers and their families, providing peace of mind that they and their loved ones will be supported if an injury - or worse - occurs.







### Providing patrol equipment at OI Pejeta

Covid-19 has had an enormous impact on all wildlife reserves. When faced with fewer tourists, and in turn, less funding, OI Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya had to take strong measures to ensure it remained operational, implementing salary cuts, cancelling orders for new uniforms and training programmes, and reducing fuel budgets.

The effect this had on the rangers who work hard to protect the Conservancy's wildlife was particularly severe. Having appropriate equipment readily available is essential to maintain not only effectiveness but also morale.

To support the team, ForRangers was able to provide key equipment including GPS units to support the rangers' patrols, as well as waterproof and thermal clothes to keep them warm and dry during night-time deployments (top). Having warm clothing has boosted the team's wellbeing enormously, contributing to more effective anti-poaching patrols and security efforts.



### Supporting women in North Luangwa

As we strive to boost diversity within all ranger teams, reducing the impact of the challenges faced by individual rangers is a top priority. If the ranger is a woman, they may face additional challenges specific to their gender.

Women motivated to work in conservation face social barriers, such as an opposition to spending long periods away from home, and procedural barriers, such as selection processes that were designed for men. They also face the obstacle of period poverty.

In October 2021, ForRangers sent a grant to North Luangwa Conservation Programme, in Zambia, to purchase 100 'ufulu' sanitary pads for the 50 women that work as Wildlife Police Officers, Fencers, Community Scouts and Sector Scouts in North Luangwa's team.

The pads are supporting each woman's health and wellbeing, providing them with the opportunity to continue taking part in physically strenuous and remote assignments during menstruation.



# It's not just about **numbers**

Good news: rhino poaching is decreasing! Across the African continent, there were 2,707 recorded incidents of illegal killings of rhinos from 2018 to 2021 inclusive; 90.0% of these were recorded in South Africa. Whilst this total is much too high, poaching rates dropped during this time, from 3.9% of the continental population in 2018 to 2.3% in 2021. In the dark days of 2015, it was 5.3%.

**Sam Ferreira** | Scientific Officer, IUCN Species Survival Commission African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG)

*The African Rhino Specialist group is the go-to scientific body for rhino conservation and population statistics.*

Nevertheless, these numbers can never be perfectly accurate. Finding every poached rhino is almost impossible. Typically, authorities will find 80-90% of the rhinos that are killed, and often with them, they may also find a calf that's died next to its mother.



SHAUN MOUSLEY

With this in mind, for rhino numbers to increase, poaching must remain below 2.3% of the total population. These are some of the findings that the AfRSG has recently reported as part of our joint report with the Asian Rhino Specialist Group and TRAFFIC - the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network - to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which will soon be hosting its 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties in Panama this November.



LARA JACKSON

The report noted that, at the end of 2021, the world had an estimated 23,432 African rhinos. Of these, the 6,195 black rhinos in the wild were increasing at 3% per annum. Sadly, the 15,942 white rhinos were decreasing at -3.1%. Worryingly, this meant that overall, African rhinos were decreasing at -1.6% per year.

Yet, despite this continental trend, there are many places where you could say that rhinos are doing too well. Several places recorded reduced population growth because the current rhino numbers exceed the ecological potential of the landscape, meaning that there aren't enough resources (food, water, space)





for rhinos. In turn, this reduces breeding and often leads to more fights between rhinos. For many of these places, finding more, suitable habitats is proving tough.

One of the key options is to establish more partnerships with local people, including communities and private industry. For instance, our report noted that, where rhino populations are managed in diverse models (i.e. not only managed in State areas), they performed better. This was true for all African rhino subspecies other than Northern white rhinos (only two remain, both female, in Kenya).

### When a female rhino is lost to poaching, we also lose an average of 4.5 future calves.

Although accountability for rhino conservation is embedded within the mandates of range States, the threats to rhinos are on a global scale and include environmental change. Therefore, international cooperation is key. The only way we can address the unclear risks and threats ahead is by working together to find solutions that support rhino conservation outcomes.

Our vision in the AfrSG is "Thriving wild African rhinos valued by people and contributing to their wellbeing." Reaching this doesn't just mean boosting the number of rhinos across range States, it means meaningful participation by, and equitable partnerships with, local people, so that rhinos, and the people they impact, have positive futures.

#### Since 2017, African range States have...

- Translocated 391 individual rhinos
- Dehorned 2,217 rhinos
- Treated 57 injured and wounded rhinos
- Recovered 42 rhino orphans

## Securing our legacy now and in the future

**Jon Taylor** | Managing Director, Save the Rhino International

In a past life, I worked for many years on climate change, and I would talk to people about the kind of things we might see in the future if the climate crisis and other environmental challenges weren't taken seriously. And even though I believed the science, the future world I was describing seemed like something many years away.

In recent years, we have become too used to seeing terrible fires in California, Australia, and this year in Europe too. We have lived through a global pandemic that has crossed from other species to humans and affected the whole world. And as I write this, droughts in China and elsewhere are uncovering archaeology not seen for centuries, while one-third of Pakistan is underwater.

The decisions we make in this crucial decade, in these next few years, will determine the type of world that we bequeath to our children and grandchildren. And Save the Rhino will be at the heart of those discussions, fighting for a climate-resilient world in which people can thrive, buffered, protected and uplifted by healthy, diverse ecosystems that are full of iconic and magnificent wildlife – including, forgive the bias, lots of rhinos!

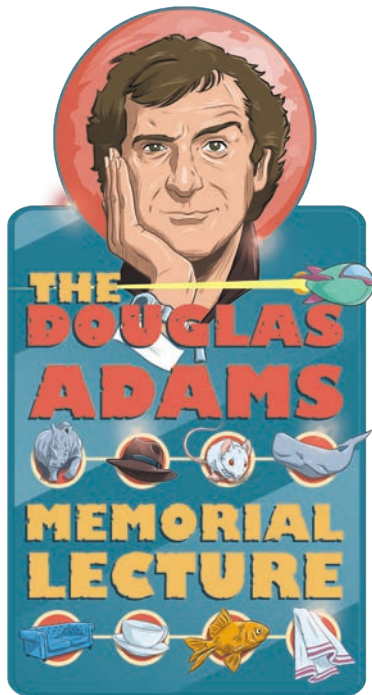
Of course, all of us who love our natural world need to be acting now, in these crucial times. Perhaps you're considering how to travel more sustainably, donating to boost rhino conservation activities, or encouraging more wildlife into a nearby green space. But beyond this, you may think about leaving a gift to rhino conservation in your will, to make sure that vital conservation can continue in the years to come.

If that sounds like you, then Save the Rhino has a partnership with the award-winning Farewill team to provide a free will-writing service, either online or, if your will is more complex, by telephone. Just use the code RHINO-HORN22.

Alternatively, if you would like to speak to someone at Save the Rhino about leaving a gift, please call me, Jon Taylor, Save the Rhino's Managing Director, on +44 (0)20 3918 9057 or email [jon@savetherhino.org](mailto:jon@savetherhino.org)

A wonderful legacy for future generations is still a possibility. But to achieve this, all of us need to pull together, pull hard, and pull now. I promise you that Save the Rhino will be leading the charge.





Kids like me grew up with Douglas Adams. We had Blondie and Led Zeppelin posters on our bedroom walls (and some of us had a good smattering of rhino and tiger pictures as well), and we had ‘The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy’ on our bookshelf. That book helped shape my sense of humour; many of my oldest and best jokes are stolen straight from Douglas.

**Jon Taylor** | Managing Director,  
Save the Rhino International

# Celebrating Douglas Adams

I never met the great man as he was recording his *Last Chance To See* series about endangered species, or when he worked with Save the Rhino’s founders in the 1990s. Since his untimely death in 2001, Save the Rhino has held a Douglas Adams Memorial Lecture to celebrate his life and further his conservation aspirations.

This year marked an important anniversary: 11 March 2022 would have been Douglas’s seventieth birthday. The year also marked the first time in three years that Save the Rhino has been able to hold a physical event, and our very first hybrid event, with the activities on stage being streamed live to a worldwide audience. So it was that an unlikely and lovely mix of entertainers, comedians and conservationists gathered at the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) to try something that was new to all of us.

While a small and socially distanced audience gathered in the RGS’s beautiful Ondaatje Lecture Theatre, our staff anxiously checked cameras and prepared to broadcast on the global internet. Angus Dunican opened the evening with wise words from Douglas on the hazards of charitable activities, after which the wonderful Rachel Wheeley took up her superb compering of the evening. Later, comedy continued when the Story Beast gave magnificent renditions of some of Douglas’s poems, culminating in being joined onstage by the rarely seen



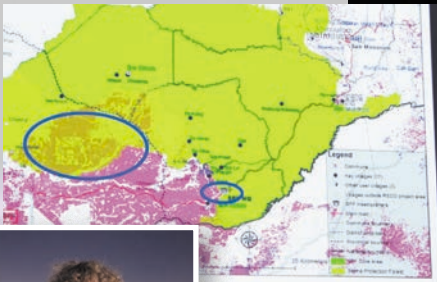
ALL IMAGES: JULIA MASSEY STEWART

ballet ‘Dancing Rhino in Tutu’ (thanks to the brilliant Nell Thomas, *below*).

In the interval, people were able to visit a marvellous display of Douglas Adams memorabilia from the Cambridge archives, curated by Kevin Jon Davies, as well as an exhibition by the ZZ9 fan group.

*A rhino ballet dancing on stage was one of the highlights of the 2022 Douglas Adams Memorial Lecture!*





At the core of the evening were two fantastic conservation lectures. Dr Fay Clark of Anglia Ruskin University and the University of Bristol (left), who quoted Douglas Adams on the first page of her PhD thesis, gave a superb talk on the psychology and cognition of dolphins, and the many ways in which these wonderful animals are so similar, and yet so different, to us.



And E.J. Milner-Gulland, Tasso Leventis Professor of Biodiversity at the University of Oxford and Director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Conservation Science (top right), gave a great talk on the importance of Conservation Optimism in times of so many environmental challenges.

entertainment and heavyweight conservation science was evident in the closing Q&A session with the conservation speakers, which would have gone on into the early hours had the RGS staff not needed to go home.

Perhaps most rewarding was hearing members of Douglas's family saying how much they had enjoyed the evening, leaving only one lingering concern for the Save the Rhino team – how do we top this?

Drawing from her own work on the conservation of Saiga antelope in Kazakhstan, E.J. highlighted the need to harness our optimism if we are to have a real conservation impact.

The success of this unlikely blend of hilarious

The 2022 Lecture was hosted by comedian and serial Douglas fan, Rachel Wheeley.



The newest addition to our Close Encounter Collection

### NEW Sipi the Sumatran rhino

We're thrilled to have worked with artist Kate Simpson to bring her incredible artwork to life with this detailed pencil sketch.

Available on a wide range of products, from prints to water bottles.

From £9



### Join our herd!

Each and every one of our members helps us to make a difference. All membership options are available to purchase as a gift.

#### Individual membership

Show your personal passion with our Individual membership. Make your membership donation go further by choosing paperless. **From £3.50 per month**

#### Herd membership for 2-6 people

Share a membership with your loved ones through our Herd membership option. Paperless option available. **From £6.00 per month**

#### Ambassador membership

Make an even bigger impact and become a rhino champion with our Ambassador membership. Exclusive goodies and discounts included. **From £12 per month**

See our website for more details about membership types/ details, payment options and T&Cs.

### NEW Core range

Our fresh new merchandise range featuring the patterns and colours that represent Save the Rhino. These fun designs are available on several products, including t-shirts, tote bags and water bottles. Every piece is printed order to minimise waste.

From £16



### 2023 Rhino calendar

Includes 12 incredible images from supporters.

Printed on 100% carbon-neutral, recycled paper, using environmentally friendly inks.

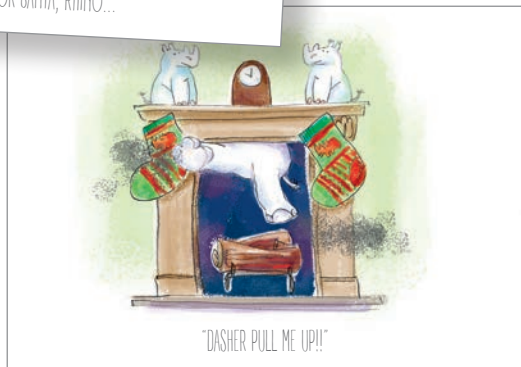
From £10.99

checkout | **Members get a 10% online discount**

## Turning brutality into beauty

Handmade by local craftswomen in South Luangwa, Zambia, every item of **Mulberry Mongoose jewellery** is unique. Created from recovered snare wire from nearby landscapes and inspired by the African bush.

From £29.50



## Christmas cards £7

A6, pack of 10

Five of each design. Cards are blank for your own message.



## Kango crochet rhino toy

This Little Ndaba crocheted rhino toy is handmade in Lusaka, Zambia.

Length: 14cm. 100% organic cotton.

£16



## Our best-selling Symbols on Silk jewellery

Each piece made by *Symbols on Silk*, a small company in South Africa, emanates a 'Simple but Significant' style. Every design symbolises a special message, the rhino being a symbol of confidence, assurance, and steadiness

From £19



Silver rhino charm bracelet **£20**

Sterling silver rhino charm on a plaited bracelet.



Rhino silver earrings **£19**

Sterling silver rhino stud earrings with butterfly backs.



Silver pendant necklace **From £28**

Sterling silver rhino or Africa charm. Available as a silk or silver chain necklaces.

**IT'S EASY TO ORDER**  
Visit our store at [www.savetherhino.org](http://www.savetherhino.org)  
See lots more rhino goodies online!