

AND N

# The rising role of women in conservation Empowering women in Zambia

2023

# Rhinos: what we see in 2023

An update on populations and challenges

1

# Your



# Room to rhino appeal

Rhino relocation in India

## 3 Coming full circle

4 Your impact

Laikipia

rhino-range

expansio

- 6 Rhinos: what we see in 2023
- 8 Rhino running around the world
- 10 Kenya Laikipia rhino-range expansion
- 12 The rhinos are back in town
- 14 Kenya Rainfall and resilient landscapes
- **16 Kenya** Empowering people to engage in conservation
- 17 Kenya Establishing elephant exclusion zones for rhinos
- **18 Indonesia** The Javan rhino: A century of teetering on the brink
- 19 Indonesia A new hope for Sumatran rhinos!
- 20 Appeal Room to rhino: Help us restore Sumatra's rainforest
- 22 Zimbabwe Just for interest (rates)...
- 24 Zambia The rising role of women in conservation
- **26 India** Preparing for rhino relocations by supporting local communities
- 28 South Africa Project Blood Orange
- 29 South Africa Sensing success
- 30 Viet Nam Wildlife internet trade in Viet Nam
- 31 South Africa The life of a rhino monitor
- 32 Africa-wide Going wild for rhinos
- 33 Namibia A beacon of hope for black rhinos in Kunene
- 34 Namibia Rhino trek Namibia
- **36** Partnering for Pachyderms
- 37 Kenya Conservation careers
- 38 Rhino goodies

Rhino trek Namibia





# **Coming full circle**

Conservation isn't a challenge well-suited to people who like simple solutions. As one of the largest land mammals remaining on the planet, rhinos are dependent upon extensive areas connected to intricate webs of other species.

Additionally, rhinos are threatened by networks of organised criminals, spreading through shifting channels to different consumers. The five rhino species sit at the nexus of these two huge global threats to nature – illegal wildlife trade and loss of habitat, exacerbated by climate change – acting as important indicators for biodiversity. And the complexities of these threats mean that saving rhinos means saving other species, ecosystems and the people linked to them, too.

Ecosystems and crime networks both consist of a myriad of interconnections and cycles – like life. Sometimes we find ourselves taking one path and ending up somewhere completely unexpected, sometimes we take a path that loops full circle back to where we started. As some of you may know, I am currently on the second of those paths. After volunteering and then working for Save the Rhino in the late 1990s, I moved to Africa to study black rhino ecology and help grow their numbers. Then, as the poaching threats to rhinos increased, I shifted to working for TRAFFIC and then WWF on illegal wildlife trade. It is a huge honour and great pleasure to now come full circle, back at the amazing organisation that is Save the Rhino.

> Global rhino numbers are also changing, with different waves of poaching crises and other threats driving numbers down and successful conservation actions driving their recovery.

> > The latest information released by the IUCN African Rhino Specialist Group shows that last year white rhino numbers increased for the first time in a decade, to more than 16,800 – a great achievement after 15 years of intense poaching losses.

At the other end of the scale, the very recent birth of a female Sumatran rhino calf at the Sanctuary in Way Kambas is also welcome news though serves as a critical reminder that there are fewer than 50 individuals of this entire species left.

### In February 2024, it will be 30 years since David Stirling and Johnny Roberts created Save the Rhino

Thankfully, Save the Rhino isn't a quick fix solution kind of organisation. We're adaptable, knowledgeable and determined. But most of all, we're in it for rhinos, wild places and the people around them, through every up and down, for the long haul. In February 2024, it will be 30 years since David Stirling and Johnny Roberts created Save the Rhino.

As we enter our third decade, we start a new phase with much to reflect and look back on – and much more to look forward to and do – we look forward to continuing to share our journey with you.

**Dr Jo Shaw** CEO, Save the Rhino International

# Your Impact

Whil st rhinos remain under threat, we are making progress. Your passion and support helps us provide funding, resources and expertise to our partners around the world. Together, we are making a positive impact. Here are a few highlights from the past 12 months.



3,200 RÁNGERS

2 areas

# Africa-wide

#### **Providing insurance for rangers**

It may not be glamorous or exciting, but we can all understand the value of insurance, especially when things go wrong. Yet, for the brave rangers that work in difficult and dangerous conditions every day, having access to health and life insurance isn't guaranteed.

Last year, thanks to many of you, ForRangers helped to provide more than 3,200 rangers across 62 protected areas with access to life and health insurance. The cover has ensured several rangers can receive the urgent and effective medical treatment they need, without having to worry about the costs.



 $\mathbf{0}\mathbf{B}$ Greater one-horned rhinos

## India

#### **Expanding space for** Greater one-horned rhinos

Thanks to consistent conservation activities, the Greater one-horned rhino population is heading towards recovery. With more than 4,000 individuals at the last official count, their growing number means they are reaching capacity in current locations.

In Manas National Park, India, your donations have supported efforts to restore key habitats by reducing the impact of invasive species and planting native grasses, in turn providing secure areas for these incredible rhinos to thrive.



# Indonesia

A new Sumatran rhino!

The Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas National Park is now home to nine rhinos, after the birth of a new calf in September 2023. The rhinos are watched over day and night, protected by rangers and cared for by specialist onsite vets.

The new baby represents hope for a species that's in urgent trouble. We're doing everything we can to support and protect all Sumatran rhinos.

Find out more on page 19.

# Kenya

#### A zero-poaching year in Kenya

Whilst poaching continues to be an intense threat in other countries. Kenya's rhinos remain well-protected. In 2022, the country achieved a great success: zero rhino poaching! It is the second time in three years this record has been achieved (2020 was also a zero-poaching year, the first time since 1999).

With almost 2,000 rhinos across the country, representing the world's thirdlargest rhino population, protecting them and helping them to grow in number is essential. Alongside our partners and thanks to your donations, we're supporting efforts to ensure they have enough safe, resilient and connected places to live.



Newborn Sumatran rhino calf

30 September 2023

poaching 2020, 2022

# Rhino running **around the world**

Working in African conservation for 32 years, with most of this time directly focusing on rhino breeding, reintroductions and antipoaching, **Brad Schroder** is one of our most passionate and knowledgeable fundraisers. His journey started in London in 2014, and almost 10 years later, he's completed an incredible fundraising challenge.

This is Brad's story.

Brad Schroder | Fundraiser



In 2014, Cathy Dean, Save the Rhino's then CEO, convinced me to run my first London Marathon in the "rhino". Whilst I, like many others that cross that tough marathon finish line, asked "Why did I sign up for this?" and initially stated, "Never again. Ever", inside, I knew I felt compelled to take it on again.

After a few beers, I created a group called the Running Rhinos, alongside my friend Greg Canning (*above*, *left*) and other participants from around

the world. We had a big aim. To complete marathons, in rhino costumes, on all seven continents, raising funds and stimulating awareness of the plight of rhinos.

Sadly, Greg picked up a kidney disease, halting his rhino journey. But he supported me the entire way.

Antarctica 2023

money

ww savetherhi

London 2014, 2015



Over the next few years, I 'ticked off' marathons around the world. Initially, taking on London one more time in 2015, before completing the Great Wall Marathon in China, Sydney Marathon in Australia and Marakele Marathon in South Africa. Then Covid-19 got in the way.

BLACKMORES SYDNEY RUNNING FESTIV

> By 2022, I had three continents to go. Thankfully, my knees hadn't quite given up on me. In 2022 I ran the Rio Marathon in Brazil and the Royal Victoria Marathon in Canada.

In March 2023, after much planning, delays, and packing, I arrived in Antarctica and took on the world's southernmost marathon. Finally, the original aim had been achieved.

The journey has been long and tough, but utterly amazing. One of the greatest rewards I received during this journey was the understanding of how little the world knows about the plight of rhinos or any threatened wildlife species. For me, having the opportunity to present and create awareness throughout the world has been a true privilege.

With my incredible, passionate and supportive friends, family, colleagues and other loved ones, we have raised more than £20,000. All funds raised throughout the marathons have been directly sent to Save the Rhino, so I can officially say that after almost a decade of running in the rhino, both my body and bank balance are broken! However, given the opportunity, I would do it again in a heartbeat for such an amazing cause.

I challenge each and every one of you reading this article to help Save the Rhino by running in a rhino, donating, raising awareness or doing anything you can. If we had a million people donate just £1, we would raise a £1,000,000 – small steps make huge progress – so we need your help! Marakele, South Africa 2019



I leave you with these amazing words for our five rhino species around the world:

**Sydney** 2017

"There may be days when I can't help you, but the day will never come that I won't try." – unknown

### Royal Victoria 2022





## **Rhino goodies**

# Members get a 10% online // discount | Just // log in

## 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  $\pounds 6.00 \text{ per month}$ 

#### **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.

## Mulberry Mongoose jewellery

Local craftswomen in South Luangwa, Zambia repurpose snare wire recovered from poaching traps to create jewellery inspired by the African bush.

From £31.50

# **NEW Rhino** jumpers £40

Our eco-friendly hoodies will keep you warm and cosy on cold winter days. Lots of new designs and old favourites to choose from.

100% organic cotton. Various colours. Size S, M, L, XL and XXL\*





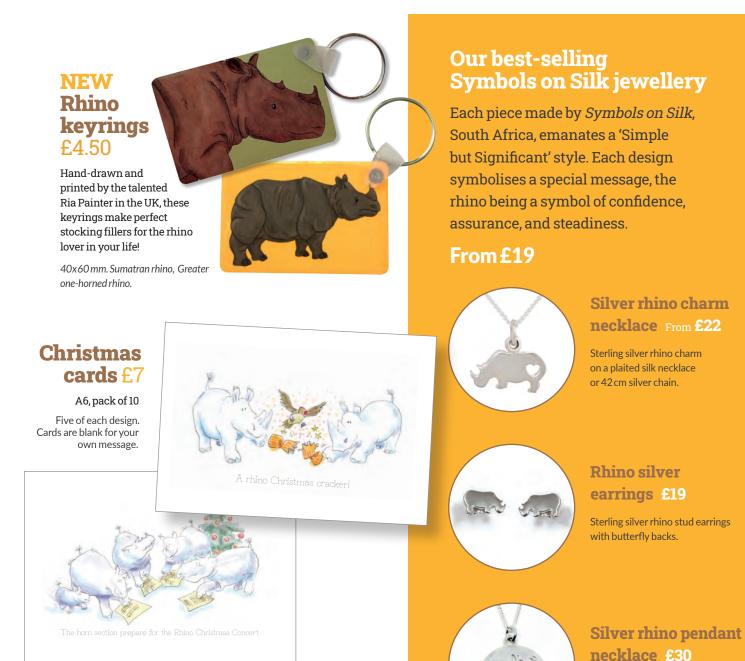
# NEW Kid's t-shirts £14

New designs and old favourites to choose from.

100% organic cotton. Various colours. Sized by age, 3 to 12 years\*

\*Please check the sizing chart provided on each garment page. Colours shown are matched as closely as printing process allows. See our website for more details about payment options and terms and conditions.

# at checkout | Members get a 10% online discount | Just log in at checkout



# 2024 Rhino calendar

The 2024 Rhino Calendar is here! Featuring stunning images from our supporters.

A4 (297 x 210 mm). Printed on 100% carbon-neutral, recycled paper, using environmentally friendly inks.





IT'S EASY TO ORDER Visit our store at www.savetherhino.org See lots more rhino goodies online!

Sterling silver on a 42 cm silver chain.

#### Honorary President Dave Stirling

#### Trustees

Alistair Weaver Claire Curtin George Stephenson | *Chair* Henry Chaplin | *Treasurer* Joe Steidl Megan Greenwood Sianne Haldane

#### **Founder Patrons**

Douglas Adams Michael Werikhe

#### Patrons

Polly Adams **Benedict Allen Clive Anderson** Louise Aspinall Nick Baker Simon Barnes Paul Blackthorne Suzi Bullough Mark Carwardine Giles Coren Mark Coreth Dina de Angelo Robert Devereux Kenneth Donaldson Sam Fletcher Christina Franco Jim Hearn **Tim Holmes** Ben Hoskyns-Abrahall Angus Innes Fergal Keane Tom Kenyon-Slaney Francesco Nardelli Martina Navratilova Viscount Petersham Alex Rhind Mark Sainsbury Alec Seccombe Tira Shubart James Sunley William Todd-Jones Friederike von Houwald Jack Whitehall

#### **Founder Directors**

Johnny Roberts David Stirling

#### Ambassadors

Chris 'Rhino Boy' Green Lara Jackson

#### Staff

Saffron Cawley | Social Media Officer Vasily Chernov | Events Manager Cathy Dean | Grants Manager Melanie Gelderd | Michael Hearn Intern 2023-24 Lizzie Gorell | Charity Administrator Darion Moore | Partnerships Manager Yasmin Morowa | Operations Manager Raj Pandya | Community Fundraising Officer Emma Pereira | Communications Manager Jimmy Rutherford | Programmes Officer Jo Shaw | CEO Jon Taylor | Managing Director

Design and layout Alex Rhind www.alexrhind.co.uk

**Printing** Park Communications www.parkcom.co.uk

This magazine is printed using 100% vegetable-oil based links on a paper containing 100% Environmental Chlorine Free (ECF) virgin fibre sourced from FSC-certified forests.

On average 99% of any waste associated with this production will be recycled.





Save the Rhino International Unit 3, Coach House Mews, 217 Long Lane, London SE1 4PR

T: +44 (0)20 7357 7474 E: info@savetherhino.org www.savetherhino.org

COVER AND

Registered UK Charity No. 1035072

- www.facebook.com/savetherhinointernational
  - www.youtube.com/user/SaveTheRhinoOfficial
- @savetherhinointernational
- 🥑 🦳 @savetherhino
- @savetherhinoint

