

# Rhinos at large - Chester, Edinburgh and Woburn

It's been a busy summer and autumn for Save the Rhino, as we've charged up and down the country to visit our friends at a number of zoos and safari parks.

Cathy Dean, Director

We began in June with a Rhino Weekend at Chester Zoo. I gave a talk to Zoo Members about the work that Chester co-funds with us in Kenya and Tanzania, only to be outdone by the star of the evening, Rosie the Rhino. She and her pal Baringo had discovered a talent for painting. With a light dusting of red powder paint on upper lips, the pair of them enthusiastically snuffled away at over 20 sheets of paper, before a damp sponge and new coatings of turquoise, acid yellow and jade green turned monochrome studies into abstract masterpieces. The audience thought so too, and enthusiastically bid for Rosie's first painting.

The rest of the rhinos' paintings were sold over the weekend to more connoisseur collectors, while the keepers gave talks, conducted a rhino-sized jigsaw competition and bought every last T-shirt from our new range. But we were all eclipsed by little Sammy, the five-year old male from Japan, who spent the whole of Saturday trying to mate with his lady love. Let's hope he gets taller quickly...

Radio Dee 106.3 turned up on Sunday to give a live broadcast from the Zoo, and to pit their Cheshire cat mascot against one of our rhinos. No prizes for guessing who won. The weekend's events raised over £1,100 for Save the Rhino, and our immense thanks to Chester Zoo and all the staff for their fantastic support.



I'll be giving another talk at Edinburgh Zoo on Thursday 30 September. The last time I visited was long before I was involved with Save the Rhino, and all I remember was the Sunday lunchtime penguin parade, so it'll be good to have a proper look round and to meet rhino and conservation staff.

Finally, we're going back to Woburn Safari Park on Sunday 17 October for the Woburn Rhino Run. We're expecting up to 500 keen runners for a 10km run through the stunning Deer Park, with a 4km fun run for kids (or those who have only just begun training...). We fully intend to spend some *quality time* in the Safari Park itself, checking up on Otsi and Arthur. Last year, Otsi, the young male, was just beginning to test his strength, and there were some serious sparring matches as they sorted out who was the boss. Any bets for this year?