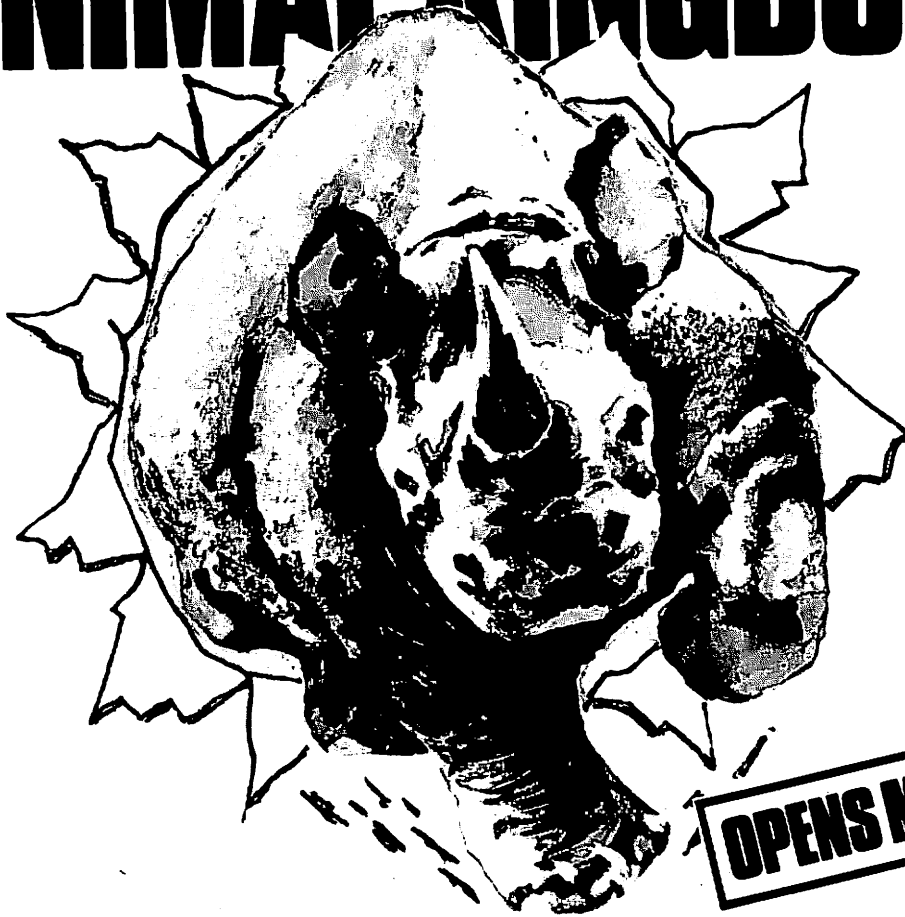


WOBURN WILD ANIMAL KINGDOM



OPENS MAY 20

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TWO SONGS FOR WILDLIFE

If a picture's worth a thousand words, is a song worth a thousand pictures?

Suzanne Harris may not yet be a familiar name to many readers of this magazine – but we believe it will be very soon. Last month we reported her presence at the ECY Conference at Strasbourg, and now we have pleasure in reporting that a record of her two conservation songs – *We're Using Up the World* and *Here Come the Beautiful People* – is available.

This record will eventually be obtainable through ordinary record shops, but initially it is being offered exclusively to ANIMALS readers. We are proud of this coup, for we believe that Suzanne Harris's songs will get the conservation message across to a wide audience in a dramatic and compelling way. It is an old cliché that one picture's worth a thousand words: it could be that one good song is worth a

HRH Prince Philip talks to Suzanne Harris at the ECY Conference in Strasbourg in February. She sang her songs on several occasions during the conference which was attended by delegates from about 20 countries



thousand pictures. And if wildlife benefits, nobody will be more pleased than us.

But what of Miss Harris herself? She grew up on an apple ranch in the State of Washington, in the United States, and wildlife and the outdoors was very much a part of her childhood.

'I owe most of my feeling for wildlife to my father,' she says. 'He taught me to respect living things, how to spot animal tracks, that sort of thing. As children we often used to go camping, usually on horseback, in the nearby Cascade Mountains. And I remember keeping a daily log of everything that I saw – all the animals, flowers, and so on were meticulously entered into my diary every day.'

'The family was very conservation-minded. My father even used to dig out dead-fall traps to catch hunters who trespassed on our property. If a hunter fell into one of these pits, he would find a bell inside which he rang for help in getting out: we were really quite humane, you see! And that wasn't the only digging we did. I remember a lake that was dug out for fish, and also to attract birds.'

As Suzanne describes her childhood it sounds idyllic. And it is no surprise that in her songs she now expresses such a deep feeling for wildlife conservation. 'There were so many animals living all round us. Black bears, cougars, bobcats, coyotes – I once raised some young coyotes whose mother had been shot – foxes, beavers, deer, and then of course, raccoons and many other smaller creatures. I used to ride a lot (I still do when I get the chance), and as a child I rode ponies and horses to

school every day. That's the best way to see wildlife in my opinion – from the back of a horse.

'One of my favourite pastimes was riding into the mountains and following trap-lines. I would take great delight in springing any traps that I found by throwing rocks at them; if I was mounted, and some distance away, it was possible to do this without leaving any tell-tale footprints. You know, anyone who has seen an animal caught in a steel trap will remember it as long as he lives. I am still haunted by memories of trapped wild mink, their blood staining the snow around them.'

Suzanne first got interested in music by listening to the banjos and guitars played by the migratory workers who came to apples on her family's ranch. Then she went to college, and music took a back seat while she studied political science. But after she had graduated she realised that music was what interested her most – and so she taught herself to play and sing.

She has written something like 100 songs ('though I actually perform only about 40 of these'). Which is remarkable for someone who is completely self-taught. She lives in England at present and though by no means all her songs are about wildlife, this subject is currently one of her major interests. And we believe that she will be able to play an important role, though her songs, in European Conservation Year.

Suzanne has several television appearances booked, and can also be heard in person at the WWF folk concert at Dudley on 5th June (see page 88 for details).

EXCLUSIVE Record Offer

Suzanne Harris sings her two compositions *We're Using Up the World* and *Here Come the Beautiful People*. One 45 rpm single-play record, arranged and conducted by Derrick Newman. Attractively packed in an EP-style cardboard sleeve. Available only from *Animals* as an exclusive offer for readers at 10s, including purchase tax and postage and packing. Overseas readers should add 2s, to cover additional postage. (Note: We shall be happy to mail this record anywhere in the world – but we cannot be responsible for any import duties that may be payable.)

To: Wildlife Record Offer, ANIMALS
21-22 Great Castle Street, London W.1.
Please send me.....Suzanne Harris
record(s) at 10s each (incl. PT & p. & p.)

Name.....
Address.....
.....
.....

I enclose correct payment.