



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024



SAVE RHINOS, SAVE PEOPLE, SAVE TOMORROW

2024 Year of New

Opportunities

Welcome to Care for Wild's 'new look' newsletter, designed to offer you a better opportunity to stay up-to-date with the latest developments at the sanctuary in South Africa, as well as news about how you can get involved locally and continue to support Care for Wild from wherever you live.

As we continue on our mission, the urgency and severity of the biodiversity crisis have never been clearer. The 30x30 NOW campaign serves as a stark reminder that time is running out to protect nature, not just in South Africa but across the globe. Care for Wild is firmly committed to the global objective of preserving a minimum of 30% of the Earth's land and sea by 2030. We recognise the critical importance of this goal in safeguarding biodiversity and aspire to play a significant role in its realisation.

We are so excited for 2024, and we are confident that the upcoming year will bring exciting developments, amazing opportunities, incredible milestones, and the chance to further make a tangible impact on the conservation and protection of rhinos and biodiversity. Your support remains pivotal as we safeguard the rhino population, fortify anti-poaching measures, expand habitat restoration projects, and empower local communities to serve as custodians in our ongoing conservation efforts.

We could not undertake this vital work without the support and passion of people such as you. Thank you for standing with us.



Rhino News



Annie's calf was born on the 1st December 2023

Three New Calves Born

Towards the end of 2023 and the start of 2024, we celebrated a significant milestone with the birth of three new calves born to orphans Annie, Rose and Lolly. All three new mothers were orphaned when they were small babies, underwent comprehensive rehabilitation, and have now been successfully rewilded and released into the Intensive Protection Zone. This brings the total number of births at Care for Wild to an impressive 11. This accomplishment aligns with Care for Wild's vision of establishing sustainable breeding populations for both black and white rhinos, showcasing a decade of dedicated work in rhino orphan rehabilitation and rewilding.

It is hard to put into words the overwhelming emotion experienced whilst driving through the Intensive Protection Zone, seeing the orphans thriving and walking proudly with their own calves. From their first breaths to the immediate bond with their mothers, watching these new rhinos navigate the world with innocent curiosity is a privilege and an immense responsibility. Our commitment remains steadfast in ensuring that these rhino calves grow up in an environment of safety and peace, and will continue on to ensure the survival of their species.



Rose and her newborn son born on
10th Jan 2024



Lolly and her newborn daughter born
12th Jan 2024

Anti-Poaching News



Celebrating Success: Field Rangers' Graduation

Care for Wild proudly announces the successful graduation of six Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) members who completed their rigorous field ranger training course. Among them are candidates who had previously finished the Mounted Unit training. Alongside them, 17 new recruits, some destined for the

Care for Wild Anti-Poaching Unit, completed the intensive 3-month course.

The training covers essential skills such as First Aid Levels 1-3, Basic Plant Identification, observation, patrolling with hand signals, tracking methods, and team tracking. Participants engage in practical patrolling, attend lectures on dangerous animals and threatened species, and learn about animal spoor, weapon training, fire and movement, and communication with radios.

Additionally, the program includes night navigation and the ethical collection of evidence while respecting suspect rights.



We are especially proud of our two female rangers. Ranger Amelia, awarded 'best in class,' has already graduated from the Mounted Unit course and brought her son to the awards ceremony. 'I want him to be proud of me and to aspire to be a ranger, to do something to be proud of'.



Our guardians of nature: supporting women in conservation

Care for Wild would like to express our sincere and heartfelt appreciation to
Baby Rhino Rescue and One Land Love It
for their generous sponsorship and invaluable support, making this course possible.

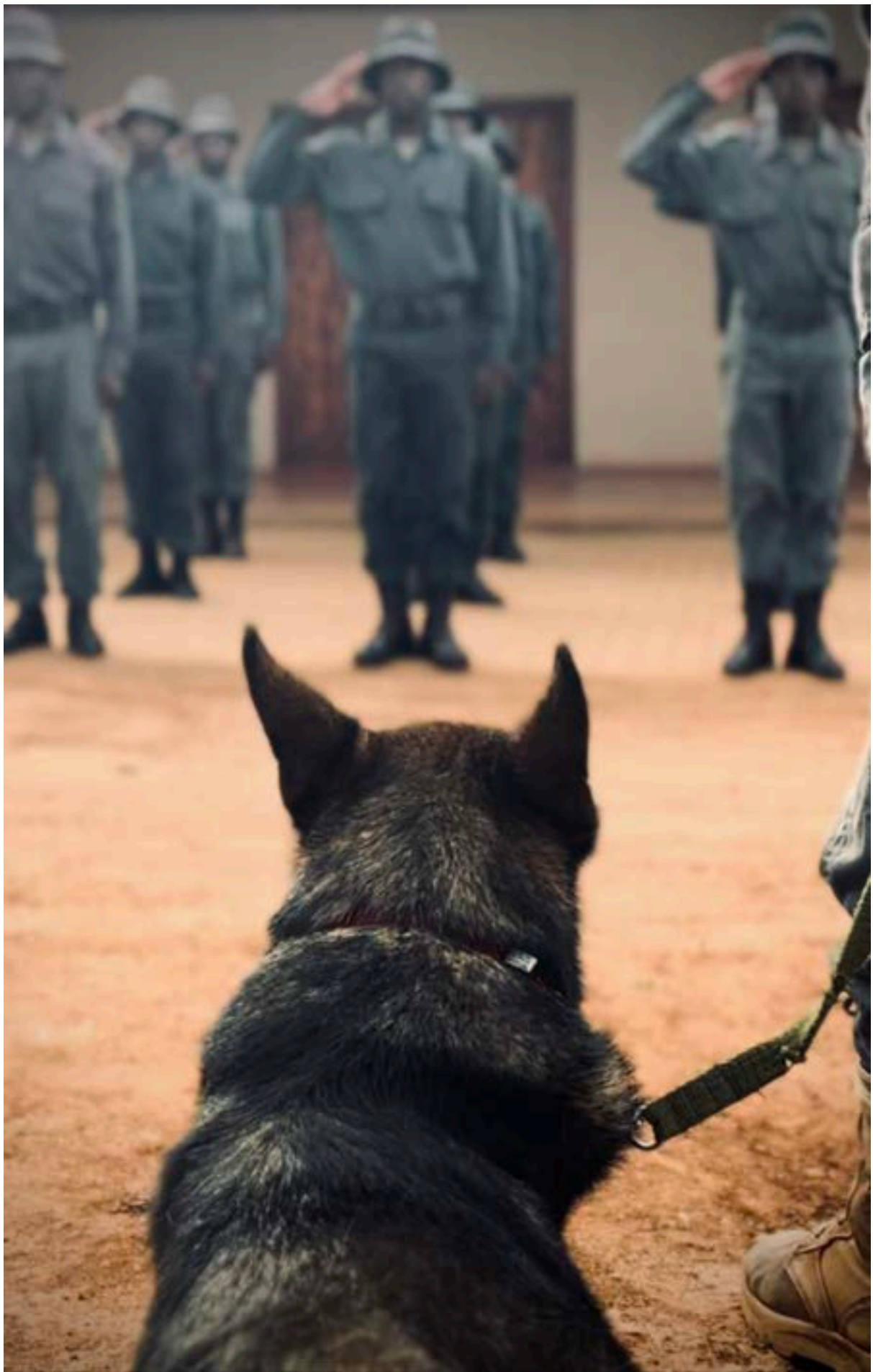


An Emotional Farewell to Our Retiring K9 Heroes

This month we gathered to bid an emotional farewell to two true heroes, Alpha and Reaper. Our K9 Unit is an integral element of the Anti-Poaching Unit. Trained in tracking, detection and apprehension, they are a formidable force multiplier.

Reflecting on their countless moments of bravery during late-night patrols and scorching days, we acknowledge Alpha and Reaper's unparalleled dedication to ensuring the safety of both rhinos and the Care for Wild community. The bond between these loyal companions and their human partners is a privilege to witness.

As Alpha and Reaper embark together on a well-deserved retirement with their new family, we wish them restful days, playful runs, and an abundance of love. Thank you, Alpha and Reaper, for your service, loyalty, and companionship. You leave behind an inspiring legacy for our new recruits and we will miss you dearly.



Community News



Essential Food Support

Many communities across Africa grapple with significant nutritional challenges, including food insecurity, limited access to fresh produce, malnutrition, and a lack of clean water and sanitation. Insufficient infrastructure in many regions hampers the transportation and storage of fresh produce, exacerbating deficiencies in essential vitamins and minerals. Malnutrition persists, particularly among children. Care for Wild is addressing these challenges through various community outreach projects, including assisting people in creating their own vegetable gardens at their homes. We also provide food packages to specific families in great need, comprising non-perishable items and fresh vegetables from the Care for Wild veggie garden.



Exploring Nature's Wonders

Care for Wild's Rhino School of Conservation kicked off the new year with its first lesson in January. We welcomed back the Junior Rangers, along with some new faces too. The initial session focused on 'creepy crawlies,' aiming to shift the perception that they are inherently 'creepy.' For example, spiders play a crucial role in the ecosystem, and it's vital for children to understand the importance of respecting and protecting them. The children even had the opportunity to create their own spider friends to take home!

Our Rhino School of Conservation provides a secure environment for local children to learn about the environment and the important role they can play in preserving their heritage. Programs run throughout term time and school holidays, offering not only educational opportunities but also providing a nourishing meal and supporting the development of language, social skills, and self confidence.



Rhino Cup Soccer Tournament: Empowering Communities through Sport and Unity

Care for Wild's newest endeavour, the Rhino Cup Soccer Tournament, seeks to empower local communities by involving young men aged 18-25, who often grapple with unemployment and societal pressures that can make them vulnerable to illegal activities. The project provides a platform for these men to cultivate self-confidence, self-respect, and communication skills while fostering strong bonds and friendships with others in their communities. Involvement in all aspects of the tournament, from club-level organisation to gameplay, instills

a sense of ownership and empowerment.

Our long-term vision includes establishing both senior and junior teams in all the villages bordering the Protected Area and creating professional teams from each. The project has just begun with initial activities including village visits to outline the project's vision and collaborative meetings with the team to begin planing for the first tournament. There are already 16 teams from 5 villages registered to participate and so the first tournament is set for February.



Further Highlights



A Decade to Remember

In April 2011, Petronel moved from Limpopo to Mpumalanga, establishing Care for Wild Africa, a rehabilitation centre for African indigenous wildlife. The sanctuary received its first orphan rhino in 2012, prompting Petronel to seek a larger property for a purpose-built facility. With a small team of staff and volunteers, the sanctuary began to grow as more orphans arrived.

As the poaching crisis in South Africa intensified, Petronel partnered with South African National Parks (SANParks) in 2014 to aid in the rescue, rehabilitation, and protection of orphaned, injured and abandoned rhinos. The sanctuary's rescue and conservation efforts gained global attention and in 2014, Care for Wild applied to register as a non-profit organisation.

From humble beginnings, Care for Wild has evolved into a world-leading rhino care facility and conservation organisation. March 2024 marks our ten-year anniversary since the arrival of our first orphan from the Kruger National Park, Satara. Keep following us on social media over the next month as we countdown to this milestone and look back at the last decade of Care for Wild history.



Meet Emily, our Paris Marathon runner in 2024!

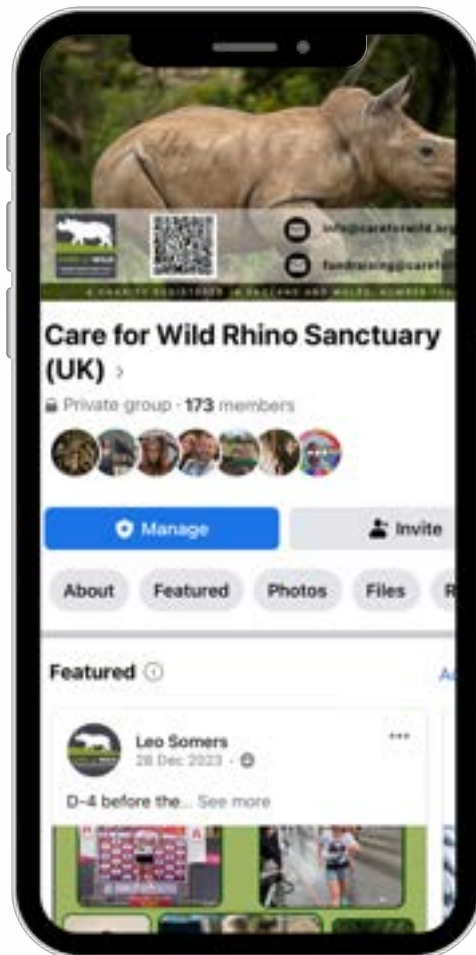
“I have been fortunate enough to visit Care For Wild twice now and witness first-hand the vitally important work they do. Their ability to rehabilitate traumatised orphans to the point where they can be rewilded and have calves of their own is awe-inspiring and critical to securing the future of black and white rhino populations. And whilst this is admirable work in itself, it’s the ethos of Care For Wild that makes it so special. From the incredibly committed team of rhino caregivers to the anti-poaching team that risk their lives daily to protect the rhinos and the local community that are fundamental to the long-term success of the orphanage, it’s so clear to see what Care For Wild is trying to achieve. It’s an organisation making the world a better place for both wildlife and people.

It is for this reason that on the 7th of April, I will be running the Paris Marathon. Whilst running the marathon is going to be an overwhelming test, it’s the long winter of training runs in the dark, wind and rain that are proving to be the real challenge. As such, any donation to [this page](#) will be hugely appreciated and make all the aches and pains feel that little bit better!”

Feeling inspired by Emily’s story?

Check out [RUN FOR CHARITY](#) and choose from 900 races in the UK to support Care for Wild.

JOIN THE RACE



Join Our UK Facebook Group

Join our Care for Wild UK Facebook group - a hub for our passionate UK supporters, volunteers, and advocates, guided by our dedicated UK team. From the heart of the UK, we spark initiatives that truly impact conservation in South Africa.

Discover ideas from charity runs to wine tastings and Rhino Bingos to support Care for Wild right here in the UK. Connect, collaborate, and share success stories, whether you're a seasoned volunteer or just starting out. Plus, access fundraising materials from your couch! Download resources, insights and tips from the group's files section to champion Care for Wild's mission. Together,

we're crafting a brighter future for all. Hop on board and bring your wildlife-loving friends along

HOP ON BOARD



Who's on Team Care for Wild UK?

Meet Madeleine Morgan, our creative rhino champion!

Maddy, our behind-the-scenes secret weapon, brought her creative flair to Care for Wild UK after volunteering in South Africa in 2022. She designed our fundraising pack, infographics, Rhino Quiz and Rhino Bingo Cards, giving our conservation efforts a serious upgrade.

“I've loved collaborating with Leo and the UK team to expand the charity's awareness initiatives. This has been so fulfilling, I look forward to deepening my involvement in the future.”

Inspired? JOIN [#TEAMCAREFORWILDUK](#)

Bring your skills onboard and help us make our voice louder in the UK

US News



Welcome Toni Condon, Chief Development Officer

We would like to formally welcome and introduce you to Toni Condon. Toni is responsible for Care for Wild's global fundraising strategy and leads all activities related to fundraising revenue generation. She has spent the past 25 years building the capacity of mission-centered international and regional non-profit organizations. Her strong passion for nature, along with her life-long love of animals, are the driving forces behind her work.

Toni previously served as the Executive Director of African Parks Foundation of America, where her leadership of the US fundraising activities, played a significant role in doubling African Parks' footprint. Prior to joining African Parks, Toni led the Philanthropy Team at the Humane Society of the United States and was responsible for securing major gifts for key campaigns to advance the protection of animals globally. She has extensive experience in planning and executing fundraising campaigns, including 10 years at institutions of higher education. Toni holds a BA in English Literature from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a Master's degree in Communication from Miami University in Oxford Ohio.

January Gratitude

It is with deepest gratitude that we say thank you for your support and unwavering commitment:

Sponsors

Investec Rhino Lifeline, Spirit Wildlife Fund, Pepperl + Fuchs, Monica Burkard, Michele Burkard, Molly Young, Lorna Davies, Sylvie Benatar, Versus Socks, Pan African Resources, Konica Minolta, James Millis Jnr, Black Wattle Bisichi Mining PLC, TRAC, Andrea Lapsley, Kathryn Mitchell, Bright Light Solar, Sectional Titles Solutions, Yvonne Bieler, Singita Lowveld Trust, Laurent Claret, Sabie Valley Coffee, Cecilia Schuman, Sean Muir, Deborah Millis, Chemstrat Industrial, Sirius Group, SORAI, Caterpillar Financial, Olsen Animal Trust, Azura AG AS Trust

South Africa Donations & Adoptions

Joel Masket, Maria Aurora Cubillas, Daniel Afanasjev, Silvan Burkhard, Marshall Strowbridge, Frederik Haedicke, Elarda Potgieter, Karl Steiner, Richard Harvey, Nika Stele, Veronika Dolejsova, Paz and Patrick Mueller, Mary Stewart, Kaleigh Strachan, Alice Chipman, Bev Geldard, M.Stroh, Sundarar Group, Dona, AW James, Chazelle Keller, Clarise Du Plessis, Papenfus, Black Olive, John & Sally Morgan

South Africa Paypal & Rhino Market

Daniel Dold, Chandra Morris, Philippe Rivalli, Frank Matthes, Travis Lewicki, Jessica Lau, Ron Hackaspeker, Birgit Ahrens, Rockras LLC, Nick Huppert, Victoria Warren, Dee Reed, Royal Seacrest, Jonathan Bell, Thomas Keywood

United States of America Donations & Adoptions

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United States of America Paypal

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United Kingdom Donations

Amanda Smith, Faye Tucker, Victoria Fitzpatrick, Lana Creighton, Grace Whittaker, Pearl Lloyd, Brett Malen, Emma Flight, Jeni Thomson, Ian Dennison, Little Owl Lodge, Tony Gilbert, Ria Mohammed, Danella Mayo, Libby Page, Appleton Thorn Mums, Sophie Rhind, Charlie Hinchliffe, Domenica More Gordon, Libby Page, Emily Fairhurst's Paris Marathon.

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Francoise Michel, Carolyn Fabbro, Jill Hedgecock



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