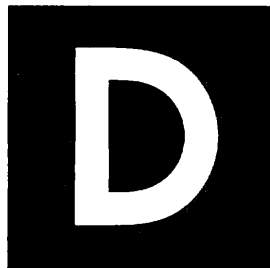


profile

DR IAN PLAYER

Conservationist extraordinaire and patron of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation



Dr Ian Player has been invited to become a patron of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation in recognition of his outstanding achievements in conservation, both national and interna-


tional. In particular, he was among those whose pioneering work ultimately led to the survival of the white rhino in South Africa.

Between 1952 and 1974, Ian Player was with the Natal Parks Board, first as a game ranger and later in other roles, eventually retiring as chief nature conservator. During this phase of his life, his accomplishments were many. He was involved in initiating the programme and leading the team that saved the white rhinoceros from extinction; he played a major role in this regard. He introduced wilderness trails to the game reserves of Natal and founded the unique Wilderness Leadership School. His originality and vision have had considerable impact in environmental education both for adults and children.

Moreover, his commitment to and belief in the education of young children in conservation matters, regardless of race, colour or creed, has been an inspiration for many environmental

educators in South Africa and around the world today. He has travelled extensively, lecturing, promoting conservation films, and raising money for the numerous environmental projects with which he has been associated.

In 1974 he launched the International Leadership Foundation, which sponsored the four successful World Wilderness Congresses. The event was first held in South Africa in 1977, then in Australia in 1980, in Scotland in 1983 and in the Rocky Mountains near Denver, Colorado, in 1987. He is a participant in a number of important wildlife organisations, and has published extensively to share the results of his work and expound on conservation themes. I read his *White Rhino Saga* on a flight in May 1975 en route to San Antonio, Texas, in a Varig Airlines 707, high above the Atlantic Ocean, and this played a part in the inspiration I had for founding the Endangered Wildlife Trust the same year.

Ian has received awards from too many organisations to list them all here. In 1984, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of philosophy and in the same year received the Declaration for Meritorious Service, the highest civilian award given by the South African Government, in recognition of his wide-ranging contributions to African and international conservation and education. 

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Cover Picture

Pastel drawing of a great one-horned rhinoceros
(Indian rhino) by Peter Chancellor whose work is
in the permanent collection of the Hong Kong
Museum of Art (see article on p24).

Line drawings by Clive Walker.

Photographs by Clive Walker except where indicated.

The views expressed in this journal are not
necessarily those of the Rhino and Elephant
Foundation.



The Rhino and Elephant Foundation is
a member of IUCN, the World
Conservation Union.



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PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE RHINO AND ELEPHANT FOUNDATION

MARCH 1990
APRIL 1991

Over R500 000 was finally transferred to the National Parks Trust Fund for the purchase of additional land at Addo Elephant Park (see article on p18).

Apart from this considerable expenditure, the Rhino and Elephant Foundation contributed more than R150 000 to the conservation of rhino and elephant in Southern Africa in the last fourteen months.

Botswana black rhino project: R2 100 has so far been spent on this project which is linked to the creation of a rhino sanctuary in eastern Botswana (see article on p9).

Itala: REF contributed R32 947 to the reintroduction of elephant to Itala Game Reserve in December last year (see article on p31). Time Shoppe Sales of Natal assisted with a most generous donation of R20 000 to this project.

Kasane environmental project: A mobile education unit to the value of R6 000 was handed over to Delys Spear in March 1991 (see p8). This project was supported by Mr B Searle (USA) and Mechanised Farming (Gaborone/Botswana).

Koedoe 32/2: R1 640 was allocated to the National Parks Board for the production of its journal (see p8).