

## Kenyan Rangers back on the road

Mounting effective anti-poaching patrols to protect elephants across the 12,000 sq km of Tsavo National Park is no small challenge, but reliable vehicles and well maintained dirt roads make it easier.

After five years of daily pounding on bumpy bush tracks, four anti-poaching Land Rovers CFTWI had donated to the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) in 1998, finally packed up. With a shortfall of vehicles the rangers feared that poaching would rise unchecked, particularly in outlying areas. Fortunately CFTWI was able to fund an extensive overhaul of the Land Rovers. Anti-roll bars and extra seating were also added to each vehicle to improve the rangers' safety.

Heavy rains and regular use had also taken its toll on the park's roads, so re-grading was urgently needed. CFTWI provided raw materials, wages, fuel and replacement parts for the machinery. Thankfully, this year, roads around the KWS Ithumba Headquarters in Tsavo, as well as 40kms of track in the Chyulu Hills are as good as new.

## Guilty verdict for Tuli elephant cruelty

After a long wait the South African Supreme Court finally passed a ruling on the Tuli elephant case.

Mr Riccardo Ghiazza, Wayne Stockigt and the company African Game Services who mistreated and kept 30 young wild elephants in appalling conditions, have been found guilty and were fined just over £5000 for contravening South Africa's Animal Protection Act. The two men also received a six month suspended jail sentence.

CFTWI first became involved in this case when the animals were trapped and separated from their families in Botswana in 1998. Since then we have funded the attendance of expert witnesses in the long-running legal battle, donated funds for legal bills and helped to keep the case in the public eye. We will continue to highlight the plight of young elephants, who are snatched from the wild to spend their life in captivity.

## Rolf lends voice to elephants

Rolf Harris kindly agreed to narrate our latest video update for supporters of our unique elephant and rhino adoption programme. Full Circle follows the young elephants from sunrise to sunset in the stunningly beautiful Tsavo East National Park. The video also allows us to meet up with older orphans who have successfully integrated into wild elephant herds, catches up with Makosa, the rhino and his unusual friend Rugby and introduces Burra, victim of a poacher's wire snare.

If you would like to find out more, please telephone us on 01306 627900 or write to us at CFTWI, The Granary, Tickfold Farm, Kingsfold, West Sussex RH12 3SE.



# rhinonews



## Baixinha settles in

Baixinha, the old black rhino saved from being shot in a 'canned hunt' in 2001, has flourished since arriving in her new home - the SanWild Wildlife Sanctuary in South Africa. Baixinha has made friends with local warthogs but doesn't seem to like zebras very much. She always takes a keen interest in new arrivals at the sanctuary; so much so that she sometimes gets underfoot and has to be lured away with fruit. SanWild's owner Louise Joubert describes her as 'terribly naughty, but typical Black rhino... keeping all of us on our toes'.

**Baixinha has now been added to the CFTWI Rhino adoption programme, please contact us for details on 01306 627900.**

## When Makosa met Rugby

Makosa, the four year old rhino on our adoption programme, is enjoying his life in Kenya's Nairobi National Park.

Lately Makosa has had some unusual company. Rugby, a rather crafty warthog, has become his steady if unusual companion. Rugby can be identified by his particularly short tail, which Makosa accidentally bit off when the two animals shared a boisterous mud bath. Thanks to his foster parents, Makosa has grown into a healthy and high-spirited rhino. Orphanage staff have had to strengthen security now that Makosa roams about during the night, after he accidentally smashed through a glass-door, overturning plant pots and garden furniture.

## Mayday for rhinos

The UK Rhino Group's annual event 'Rhino MayDay' combines a symposium of rhino experts and enthusiasts with fundraising activities for rhino conservation projects around the world.

23rd May 2003 was the date of this year's event, which took place at The Charity Centre in London. The meeting was considered a great success and a wide range of topics were discussed including current conservation strategies and practices. Planning for the next Rhino MayDay in 2004 is already underway, and details of the event will be posted on the UK Rhino Group's website in due course. For further details see [www.rhinogroup.org.uk](http://www.rhinogroup.org.uk)

# Not their war

CFTWI brings relief to Iraq's zoo animals  
- but evacuations ruled out by Iraqis  
**Barbara Maas** reports on a unique  
rescue mission.



In April 2003, CFTWI was the first UK wildlife charity to answer a desperate call for help from a conservationist who had just reached Iraq to investigate the plight of the country's zoo animals. Having suffered recurring aerial bombardments, food and water shortage, abandonment and ruthless looting, the few remaining animals at the Baghdad Zoo were in a dismal state. Kuwait was my first port of call. From there, I travelled for two days as part of a convoy and under a military escort, to deliver one and a half tonnes of food and emergency veterinary supplies for the zoo's traumatised lions, tigers, bears, cheetahs, dogs and other animals.

On reaching Iraq CFTWI and other conservationists, zoo staff and a military representative established the Baghdad Zoo Committee to work out how best to address the animals' dire conditions, improve their barren and damaged enclosures, and distribute all necessary tasks concerning the future of the Zoo.

After addressing some of the zoo's immediate priorities, with the help of the American military, we then rescued more than 40 animals from the privately owned Lunar Park Zoo, part of a public amusement park. With temperatures reaching more than 40°C in the shade, most of the animals there were in a pitiful condition, mostly without water or shade, their cages desperately small and dirty - some were close to death. It was an emotional experience for me, but together we managed to move a wolf, two monkeys, birds of prey, foxes, porcupines, a gazelle, a camel and other wildlife to the relative safety of Baghdad Zoo. I also helped to home several emaciated dogs from the zoo to US servicemen



who were keen to offer them a family home back in America.

Current conditions at the Baghdad Zoo are still far from ideal, but the animals in its care at least receive regular meals and water and are kept relatively clean. Some animals previously confined to small indoor cages now have access to outside enclosures. Others remain locked up as before. Much remains to be done to make the lives of the animals held there more tolerable, but lack of awareness about modern zoo husbandry and a rising sense of patriotic defiance have hampered the implementation of many improvements. Since CFTWI's early emergency relief mission, other organisations have joined the Zoo Committee and taken on the difficult task of bringing about much needed improvements. Work to restore the Zoo's shattered infrastructure also continues.

Sadly, CFTWI was prevented from carrying out its plan to evacuate nine lions from the private zoo of one of Saddam Hussein's sons, Uday, at the eleventh hour. With all preparations in place, and backed by other international wildlife organisations, CFTWI fought hard to free the lions from their small, dull and unsuitable cages to SanWild's large natural bush enclosure in South Africa. We had also arranged for an elderly blind bear to be moved to a spacious woodland sanctuary in Greece, where a veterinary surgeon was to restore her sight. However, Iraqi authorities saw fit to overturn their original promise, leaving the lions and the blind bear stranded.

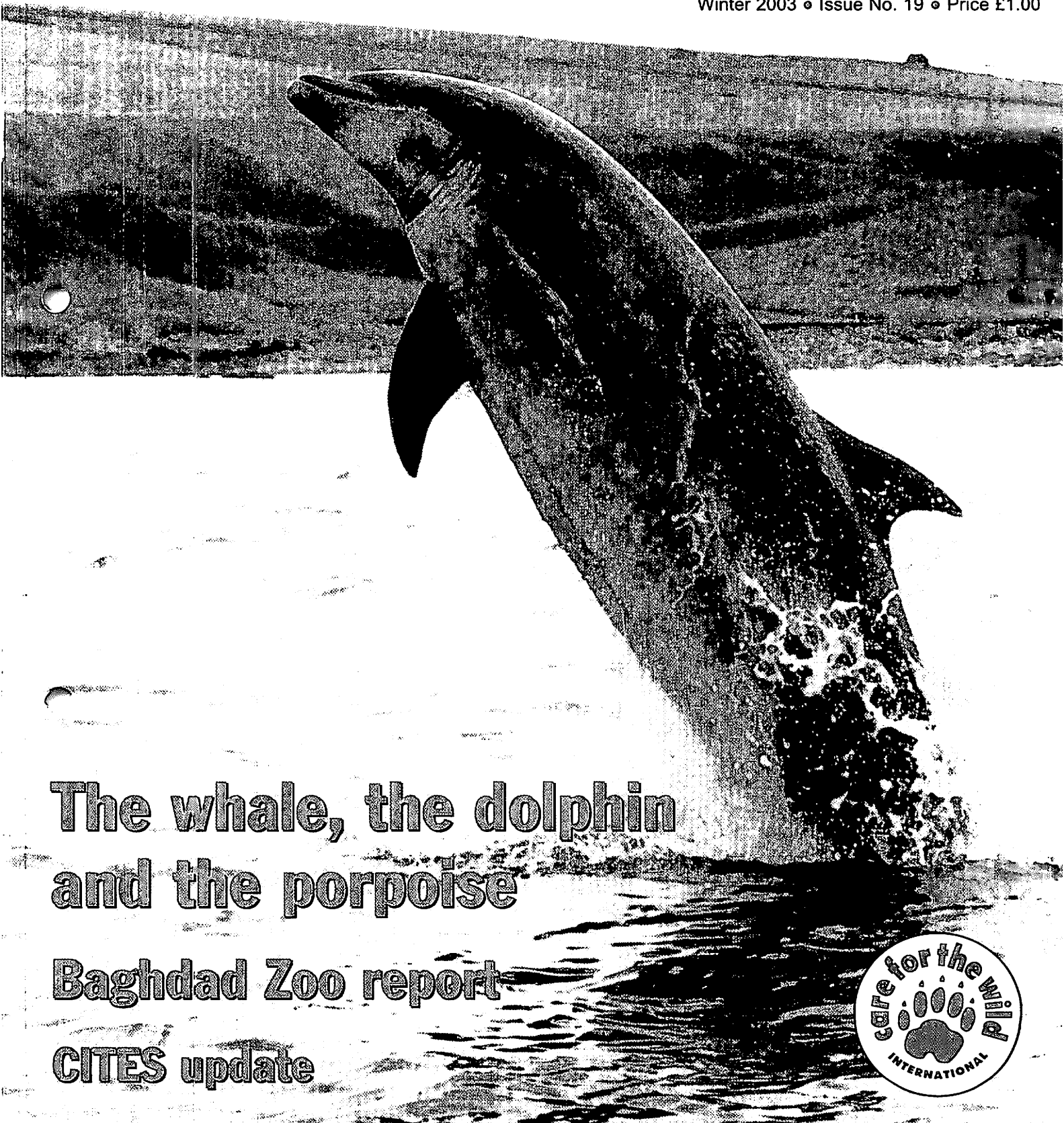
The Iraqis concerned say they plan to build their own lion sanctuary in Baghdad - despite being advised by leading experts that this multi million pound project is not a feasible option in the short or medium term.

We remain concerned about the living conditions of these animals and regret that a unique opportunity to provide them with a better life has been ignored.

Despite our deep disappointment for the lions and the bear, everyone at CFTWI is pleased to have been involved in a mission to bring desperately needed food and medicines to these beleaguered survivors of the war in Iraq. We would like to thank all those who have supported us in this effort including FedEx who flew custom-built transport crates from South Africa to Kuwait, Emirates Airlines who offered to fly the animals to South Africa and Greece, the US Marine Corps who had volunteered to fly crates and animals to and from Baghdad, Louise Joubert of SanWild and Lazaros Georgiadis of Arcturos Bear Sanctuary who were willing to offer them a better home, as well as countless others who lent a helping hand, each time way beyond the call of duty. Special thanks are due to the staff at the Humanitarian Operations Centre in Kuwait. Last, but by no means least, we would like to thank everyone who generously donated to our appeal. You have helped to make a lasting difference to the lives of the animals at the Baghdad Zoo. We will continue to monitor the situation in Baghdad and update you with any news.

# Care for the Wild news

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**The whale, the dolphin  
and the porpoise**

**Baghdad Zoo report**

**CITES update**



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# message from the CEO

Dear Supporters,

Large or small, Care for the Wild International champions the cause of imperilled wild animals from hedgehogs threatened by culling in the Hebrides to draught-stricken hippos in Africa. All of us here work hard to support not only CFTWI's longstanding projects, but to advance the charity's contribution to animal welfare and conservation by adding many new initiatives, which save or improve the lives of hundreds of animals. CFTWI is about protecting individuals and populations. Since the publication of our last newsletter, we have helped an orphaned Canadian black bear back to the wild, challenged the right of trophy hunters to shoot 2500 captive-bred lions in South Africa, were the first British charity to provide food and veterinary care to the starving and traumatised zoo animals in Baghdad and provided new scientific arguments against whaling at the International Whaling Commission.

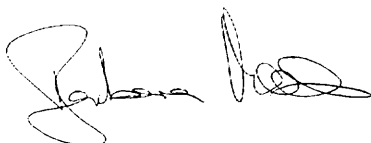
CFTWI's wildlife adoption schemes offer you the opportunity to form a unique connection with individual wild animals. At the same time, these programmes make a genuine and lasting difference to the conservation and welfare of the species concerned. I am therefore excited to tell you about our new adoption programme for dolphins in the Moray Firth and snow leopards in Kyrgyzstan (see page 18).

Many of you have contacted us about CFTWI gifts. As a registered charity, CFTWI is not permitted to sell merchandise. We therefore set up Care for the Wild Trading (CWT), a company which passes on 100% of its profits to support the charity's wildlife work. Christmas is just around the corner, so why not take a look at our exclusive winter wildlife Christmas cards; and if you are looking for a 2004 calendar for yourself or perhaps as a present, like animals as well as a bargain which helps wildlife, our truly stunning wall calendar may be for you (see page 27).

I am proud to say that CFTWI is there for wild animals in need when and where it matters, thanks to your support.

I know you will enjoy reading through our newsletter and agree with me that we are committed to making your money count, and care for the wild.

Warm regards,



Dr Barbara Maas

