

Rhinos and Elephants

Black Rhinoceros Conservation Co-operation

In December 1989, representatives of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation (Dr Anthony Hall-Martin and Mr Clive Walker), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (Dr John Ledger), the Wildlife Society of Southern Africa (Mr Tony Ferrar), the Southern African Nature Foundation (Dr Allan Heydon and Mr Rob Soutter) and Save the Rhino Trust Fund of Namibia (Ms Sharon Montgomery) met in Stellenbosch at the headquarters of the Southern African Nature Foundation to develop a joint strategy to promote effective protection of both the black and white rhinoceros. The meeting was chaired by Dr John Hanks, Director of WWF-International's Africa conservation programme. Dr Hanks, who has since been appointed Director of the Southern African Nature Foundation from 1 June 1990, stressed that "the level of financial support required for this work requires major fund raising and with several organisations involved and the urgency of the situation, there is a danger of duplication of effort and confusion for the general public."

The meeting was called in the wake of intense public campaigning and fund raising for rhino conservation. It was agreed to form a "rhino conservation co-ordinating group" with the aim of co-operating in fund raising initiatives and identifying priority projects.

Elliott International Moving to save the Black Rhinoceros



Mr Tom Ansley, Chairman of Elliott International with one of the company's vehicles.

In July 1989, Elliott International decided to embark upon a joint venture with the Rhino and Elephant Foundation as a contribution to the conservation and protection of the black rhinoceros.

The objectives of Elliott's campaign are to generate increased awareness of the plight of the black rhinoceros among the people of South Africa and the 1 000 Elliott agencies around the world; to encourage the participation of all Elliott's staff; and to make a meaningful financial contribution to the Rhino and Elephant Foundation.

A radio advertisement for Elliott International, which featured the plight of the black rhinoceros, was produced and aired extensively in South Africa. 'Elliott moves to save the black rhinoceros' was sign-written on Elliott vehicles and all stationery and outgoing facsimiles carried this slogan.

Elliott International has assisted the Foundation with R10 000 which was allocated to the translocation of ten black rhino from Ndumu Game Reserve to the Kruger National Park, a project undertaken by the KwaZulu Bureau of Natural Resources and the National Parks Board in conjunction with Rhino and Elephant Foundation. A further R5 000 was contributed for the translocation of six black rhino from Umfolozi Game Reserve to the Andries Vosloo Nature Reserve by the Natal Parks Board.



Avis Lease Pro/Am Golf Day

As part of the Rhino & Elephant Foundation's major fund raising drive during 1989, AVIS LEASE organized the Black Rhino Corporate Challenge. Companies and individuals were invited to adopt a rhino at R10 000 and participate in a golf tournament, playing with top professional golfers at Skukuza Golf Club. This private course is usually closed to the public but following a decision by the National Parks Board to support the campaign, the club's members agreed to the AVIS LEASE ProAm as an exception.

Each company or individual who adopted a rhino for R10 000 will be presented with a miniature bronze black rhino sculpture by Keith Calder, at a function to take place later this year.

The Foundation's President, Dr. Mangosuthu G. Buthelezi was guest of honour at the evening function. Nkosi B.P. Biyela, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs of the KwaZulu Government, also attended.

We thank the following individuals and companies for their participation and support which made this event such a success:

Mr. Glen van Heerden and staff of AVIS.
Dr. Salmon Joubert and staff of the Kruger National Park.
Mr. Jacques Verster and staff of Verster, Viljoen and Associates.
Mr. John Cockayne and staff of Gold Palm Promotions.
Ms. Liz Dick of the SABC's '50/50'.
Ms. Noelle Bolton.

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Participating companies and individuals

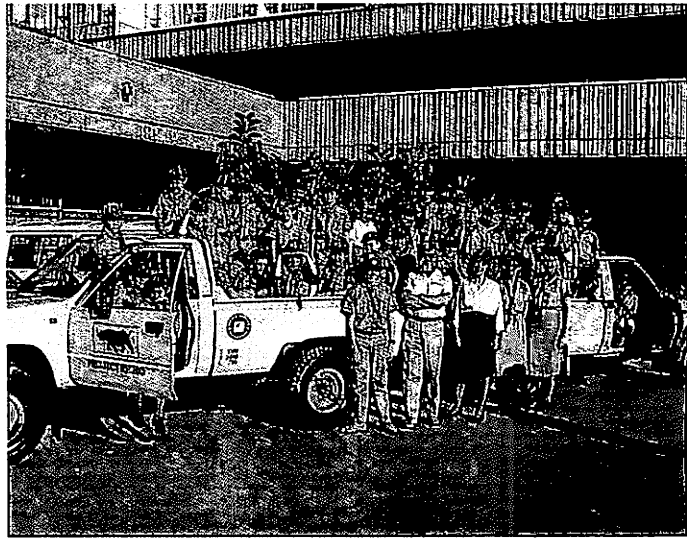
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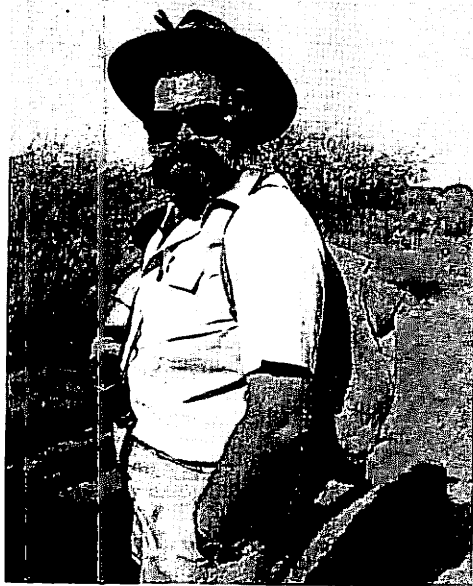


Clifton Prep. School raised R6 500 for the rhinos of Damaraland by organising a sponsored walk, and a raffle, selling popcorn, and "begging, borrowing and stealing". Seen with Clive Walker are, from left to right: Mr George Collins, Vice Headmaster of Clifton Prep. School and pupils Fozile Ludidi, Ian McKenzie, Jessica Worrall and Howard Baxter.



Cubs of the 9th Benoni Cub Pack, who collected funds for Project Rhino in 1989, and two of the vehicles donated by the Foundation for anti-poaching work in Etosha National Park, Namibia. Seen in the foreground with the group are Clive Walker and Rozanne Savory of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation.

Profile



Dave Holt-Biddle of Radio RSA

This is the first of a number of profiles on selected members of the news media who have played an active role in promoting an awareness of conservation activities and issues and to whom we would like to say "thank you".

David Holt-Biddle has been with the SABC for nearly twenty years where he began writing full-time on the Radio News Desk. He joined Radio RSA, South Africa's world service, five years ago and took over the weekly 'Our Wild Heritage' programme, one of the favourite slots among the station's many millions of listeners around the world.

Dave was born in London in 1943 and emigrated to South Africa with his family in the mid 50's. He was educated in England and South Africa, eventually graduating from UNISA in 1981 with a BA degree in communication and political science.

Always an animal lover, Dave took quite naturally to Africa but it was only about ten years ago that he became actively involved in environmental matters. It was then that he started to make programmes for Springbok Radio's well-known 'Top Level' series. He later started his own weekly environmental conservation programme for what is now the Global News Service.

During his years with the SABC, Dave was nominated three times for the SABC Artes Award, and seven times for the Bokmakierie Award (Radio RSA's equivalent of the Artes award). He won a Bokmakierie Award for an in-depth report on the troubles in the Eastern Cape in 1986, and in 1988 was given the Smirnoff/SASA (Soccer Association of Southern Africa) Media Award for the Most Outstanding Contribution (Radio) to the Development of Amateur Soccer, a grassroots project in black urban and rural areas. In 1989 he was joint runner-up (with James Clarke) for the South African Breweries Conservation Journalist of the Year Award.

With microphone in hand, Dave has been on assignment throughout South Africa from game capture operations and expeditions into the Kalahari and Namib deserts, to the Okavango Swamps in a Tiger Moth biplane, the Magaliesberg in a hot-air balloon and out to sea on a marine scientific voyage and ocean racing with South Africa's legendary Bertie Reed. Among his favourite interviews were those with Unita's Dr Jonas Savimbi, King Zwelithini Goodwill kaBhekuzulu and Professor Phillip Tobias.

Dave has been on the Council of the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa for three or four years, writes environmental articles for sundry publications, has delivered papers, chaired workshop sessions and produced television documentaries. He has introduced a series on environmental conservation for the SABC's five black language services on radio, and a series on conservation for the handicapped for both the local and international services. He has done countless Special Reports for 'Radio Today' and contributes to other local programmes including 'Talking of Nature'.

Dave and his wife Sue have been married for nineteen years. They have travelled on all six continents under all conceivable conditions, and live in Westdene, Johannesburg with a dog and sundry wild fauna and flora. They still spend as much time as possible in the bush, and Dave is never happier than when sitting around a camp-fire with friends and other conservationists, with a "lemonade" in hand.

Dave is pictured here during a trip to the Tuli Block in Botswana with Clive Walker.

Thank you Noelle

During 1989, Noelle Bolton raised more than R100 000 for the Rhino and Elephant Foundation by organising a regatta at her home on the Vaal river. She assisted with several other major fund raising events including National Pledge Day on October 28, the Avis Pro/Am Golf Day at Skukuza on 2 December and a Rhino Art Auction at the Everard Read Gallery on November 22.

The Chairman and Trustees of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation would like to place on record their sincere thanks and appreciation for Noelle's considerable support and concerned interest.

Strategic Planning Workshop

In January 1990, Mr Etienne Ernst, Executive Director of MTL Manpower Consulting Services (Pty) Ltd ran a two-day strategic planning workshop for the Trustees and staff of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation at the Heia Safari Ranch, just outside Johannesburg.

Mr Ernst, one of the most highly qualified men in his field, gave his time at no cost to the Foundation.

Several strategic decisions were taken during the workshop, which dealt with the Foundation's strategy, structure and business activities.

The Trustees and Staff greatly appreciate Mr Ernst's assistance and record their thanks to the Heia Safari Ranch.

Magnus Penny Bushboots

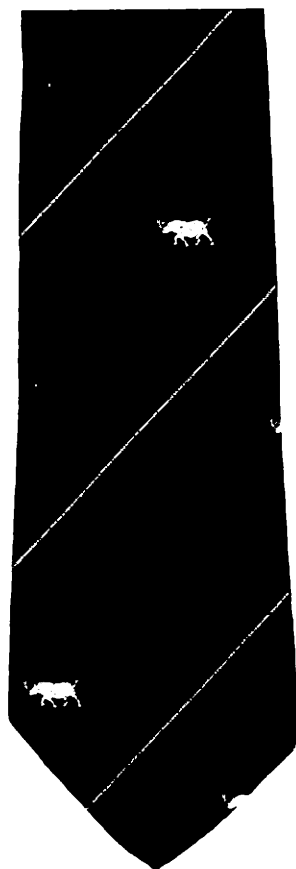
Magnus Penny Bush Boots are the result of years of tramping through the bush in a variety of makes which generally proved unsatisfactory. These boots are Magnus's idea of the perfect, all round Bush Boot with a life expectancy of more than 900 km.

The boots have self-adjusting laces which are fast to tie and even faster to untie – important when tired or wet. They have air vents to prevent sweating and the tread gives an incredibly good grip.

The boots are hand-made by disabled Zulus in the Stanger area and each pair features a leather Project Rhino label stitched to the heel.

Not only are these boots excellent value for money, but R10 from the sale of each Project Rhino pair is donated to the Foundation by Magnus.

For further information: Magnus Penny Bushboots
P.O. Box 664
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Telephone (011) 315-1189 (O)
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NEW FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP TIE AVAILABLE

We have produced a new Rhino and Elephant Foundation membership tie now available from the Foundation at R30.

The tie is navy blue with red elephants, white rhinos and narrow red and white stripes running diagonally.

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED MY CHEQUE/POSTAL ORDER FOR R30 MADE PAYABLE TO THE RHINO AND ELEPHANT FOUNDATION FOR A NEW MEMBERSHIP TIE.

Name: _____

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RHINO & ELEPHANT FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 381, BEDFORDVIEW, 2008. TEL. (011) 882-0606/7/8

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