



# THE Horn

NEWS UPDATE

## → The Horn Newsletter

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## Parks & Recreation

## RUNNER'S WORLD



Save The Rhino at the New York Marathon

## → The New York Marathon

This was my first marathon and as such Sunday 2nd November 1997 was one of the most exhilarating days of my life. I ran the New York Marathon as a "zookeeper", my mission to have one or more of the eight rhino participants under my wing for the course of the race and supply them with water, food when available, guidance when necessary, and plenty of moral support. Rhinos and zookeepers started out as a group, surging excitedly up onto the Verrezano Narrows Bridge, full of anticipation after the weeks of preparation, emotive music blaring out.

Brooklyn, the rhinos had dispersed, I made a second toilet stop and began to feel more comfortable. I settled into my stride, stopped worrying about my lack of sleep over the last few nights and put on a spurt.

I found Alex rhino, thrusting a plastic cup of water into the rhino head. Our partnership began, we didn't see another rhino until the finish, but were kept informed of James rhino's progress ahead by the vigilant and noisily enthusiastic crowd who simply love the rhino costumes (one of the highlights of the day).

As the race progresses the bond between rhino and zookeeper increases, the rhino becoming ever more dependent for water and encouragement, or bullying and bribery. I bribed Alex with sweets, given to me by eager children lining the route, if he ran to the next mile marker he could have a sweet and a walk for a couple of hundred yards. In this way we progressed quite well, Alex getting odd moments of respite from the chafing and →

pain inflicted by the weight and awkwardness of the costume, but never walking for too long.

Mile sixteen, we crossed into Manhattan, the heavens opened and what had been light drizzle became torrential downpour. The runners literally slogged their way up First Avenue which seemed more river than street. The rhino costumes and running shoes took up water and the going became even heavier. I began to shiver, Alex inside the costume still steaming with heat.

Central Park, the last few miles, the rain had abated, the sun shone and the Autumn

colours were amazing. The finish line was just around the park and the crowds became ever denser and more encouraging. I repeated their yelled admirations into the dark hole of the costume along with more and more water to pour over Alex's head. Against this background of cheers I continued my progress report; as I shouted "only one mile to go", "here's mile twenty-six" and "I can see the finish line" I became more and more choked with emotion, our huge achievement in sight.

I couldn't resist sprinting to the finish and

then turning to join the cheering crowd welcoming my exhausted rhino across the line. Five and a half hours, not a bad time at all and second rhino finisher out of eight. Alex was ceremoniously presented with a medal and yet more admiration. I reminded the race organisers that I had run a marathon, and please could I have one too!

If you want to join the rhino team in the London or New York Marathons, call us for information - you don't have to run in the costume - we also welcome "normal" runners.  
Jane Morris

## → Over To Cape Town...

I had the good fortune of escaping a rainy British January by joining Ben Harbour and Shani Glover - the Save The Rhino team in Cape Town - to help co-ordinate our attendance at the Investment In Mining Conference and the annual Save The Rhino Gala Evening for conference delegates.

The Gala Evening started with a Champagne Reception and an excellent talk by Stephen Boler, the owner of Tswalu, the largest private game reserve in Africa. Tswalu is home to the black rhino and, in recent years, Stephen has dedicated himself to ensuring the survival of this species. The talk was riveting, matching the stunning surroundings; Stephen spoke in front of a huge tank in the predator room of the Waterfront Aquarium.

The guests were then transported by boat, to the Hard Rock Cafe for dinner and a fundraising auction. The evening was a great success and was enjoyed by everyone.

I left Ben and Shani busy recruiting cyclists for the Argus Cycle marathon around the Cape and building the merchandise business at the barrow stall in the Waterfront Arcade, to return to a rainy British February.

Our thanks to Stephen Boler for giving his time to come along to speak at the Gala Evening.  
Kate Halliday

## → The Georgina Coltart Trust

Georgina Coltart was due to attend The Horny Ball to raise funds for Dan's trip. Writing to Dan's brother Andy, she expressed her excitement about the event, "We are really looking forward to it, it sounds ace, and in London Zoo as well - how cool?"

Tragically, Georgina died just before the Ball took place. As this was her last commitment to a charity, her parents established a Commemorative Trust, with funds being donated to SRI. To date, more than £1,300 has been donated by her friends and family throughout the world, in memory of Georgina.

After close consultation with the Coltart Family, SRI used the money to establish a Radio Communication Centre in Kenya's Tsavo National Park. Located within the Centre is a plaque, dedicating the area to Georgina, to highlight what a unique and special person she was; who managed to fit so much into such a short space of time.

Says Andy Ling, "George's greatest quality was her selflessness and the time she had for other people. No doubt, had she been around today, she would still be supporting projects such as this, and it is thanks to the strength of her friends and especially her wonderful family that has made this possible."

## → Cycle Across Africa

Save The Rhino is approached by an increasing number of individuals and groups with crazy ideas for fundraising expeditions with the rhino costume; but few have come close to the efficiency of organisation achieved by Dan Ling's cycle across Africa.

Dan and three university friends arrived in Cape Town after a 4,000 km, 40 day ride from Victoria Falls, vowing never to sit on a bicycle again! Instead, they enlisted the help of the British High Commissioner, who handed over a cheque for £7,500 to SRI, on their behalf.

The rhino costume made frequent appearances on the bikes throughout the trip to maximise publicity and fundraising potential, but the majority of the funds were raised from The Horny Ball held at London Zoo on February 15th 1997.

Special thanks to sponsors Virgin, for flying the four to Africa, Land Rover for the support vehicle, Yurgen for the caravan, Cadac for camping supplies, Vodacom, the British High Commissioner and Col Paul Davies along with Col David Steele for invaluable support.

## → John O'Groats To Lands End

A huge Thank You must go to Chris Watkins, who on 8 August 1997 started his 1042 mile cycle ride from John O'Groats to Lands End to raise funds for Save The Rhino International and Survival International.

15 days later, Chris signed his name in the Land's End Book to celebrate his achievement. Says Chris, "I took one day off for some beer, had one puncture and replaced crank bearings, completed a record 103 miles in one day, encountered hot sun and driving rain and suffered from a very painful bottom and even worse hands, which take the most punishment".

In Dumfries, Chris came across a kitch 1960's bus shelter with a huge plastic rhino on its top! (Sadly his camera didn't work on that day; it would have been a sight to behold). He wryly comments that despite completing his "End to End" to raise funds for charity, he still had to pay the entrance fee and officials tried to charge him £5.00 to take a photograph under the final signpost! Good job that Chris believes it's the journey that counts, not the end!



Chris Watkins

## → Mkomazi: The Rhinos Return Safely

In our last newsletter, we included information about the rhinos which were due to be returned to the Mkomazi Game Reserve.

We are delighted to announce that 4 black rhinos were safely delivered from South Africa to Mkomazi on November 4th 1997. All went smoothly and the animals were calm.

The handover was attended by large numbers of Tanzanian and South African politicians, including the South African High Commissioner of Tanzania.

We understand that the rhinos are settling in well and we will give you an update, complete with photographs, in our next newsletter.

Our thanks to Motorola and their Kenyan dealer, ICS who donated essential radio equipment.



# The Case Study → Namibia



# → Background

Save The Rhino first visited Namibia in 1992, and spent an incredible week in Damaraland, the arid north-western section of the country, which is the home of a unique group of desert-adapted black rhino. Looked after by Save The Rhino Trust, the local rhino organisation run by Blythe Loutit, Save The Rhino saw how the last genuinely wild rhino population left in the world were protected by a sensitive blend of local involvement and directed international support.

As is so often the case, the black rhino of Damaraland owes its survival to the inspiration and vision of one individual, Blythe, backed up by support from money channelled in from Namibia, as well as further afield.

At the outset, Save The Rhino International supported Blythe's programme by donating a vehicle, and the salary of a volunteer, Mike Hearn, who helped co-ordinate office-to-field logistics for a year, before he became a full time employee of Save The Rhino Trust.



🦏 Community conservation in action

# → Growth

Responsible distribution of support is the greatest challenge that confronts non-profit organisations that donate to delicate environments and cultures in Africa. The search for the ideal funding format took Save The Rhino from the desert rhino in Damaraland to another remarkable area in the centre of Namibia, the Waterberg Plateau, home to small populations of black and white rhino.

As in Damaraland, the inspiration behind the success was just one person, Trygve Cooper. A tough and resilient man, Trygve is one of the most experienced conservationists in the Namibian Ministry of Environment

and Tourism (MET), and is respected for his achievements around the world.

Trygve introduced Save the Rhino to the concept of wilderness; protected areas where man could enter only on foot, horse or canoe, without the material and technological distractions of the modern world.

Through a combination of his considerable knowledge, Save The Rhino's experience in the areas of fundraising and fund distribution around the world, and the general evolution of non-profit support for Africa, the Namibia Black Rhino Fund was formed.



🦏 White rhino at Waterberg

# → Structured Support...

## → A Perspective From The Field

There is no doubt that wildlife and wilderness in the world is in crisis, but drama and sentiment are not always the best solutions to crisis and can result in the proverbial throwing of petrol onto fire. Wildlife managers like Trygve Cooper need solid consistent support for their efforts, not the one-off knee-jerk reactions and quick-fix solutions so popular to the western world.

In short, they need responsible giving. The Namibian Black Rhino Fund is an endowment fund for Namibia and since its inception in 1993, it has contributed regular, steadily increasing funding into key areas with the minimum of fuss.

In the words of Trygve, "It is difficult and time consuming to find funds for smaller items of expenditure, such as rangers' equipment and performance bonuses, informer payouts and vehicle maintenance costs. The Namibian Black Rhino Fund helps to fund these critical areas and allows rangers to concentrate on vital protection and monitoring work."



 Trygve Cooper

## → A Perspective From The Donor

In the past, it has been easy for donors to make a conscience donation and then not bother about the effects of their money in the field.

Slowly the climate of giving is changing to a more responsible format, as donors become more accountable and more involved. The endowment style of the Namibian Black Rhino Fund offers complete peace of mind. The fund capital is managed in a safe, secure financial environment for income growth. Each year a target 10% of the capital fund is distributed to field projects such as Waterberg.

This way donors are making a responsible, consistent, well-planned contribution to the field, which lasts, quite

simply, forever. This pioneering form of cyclical support is the future for giving to fragile environments and cultures like Waterberg in Namibia; so much so that Save the Rhino has launched the Global Rhino Fund, to raise US\$21 million, and set up US \$1 million funds for every country that is clinging onto its rhino populations, such as Namibia.

In the words of Alastair Holberton, Chairman of NAMCO and Chairman of the NBRF, "The NBRF was the first country specific fund. It has started the process of responsible giving. Nothing is more satisfying than supporting the rangers who have dedicated themselves to such vital field work."



 Rhino monitoring taken to extremes

## → Save The Rhino Funding For Namibia: An Historical Perspective

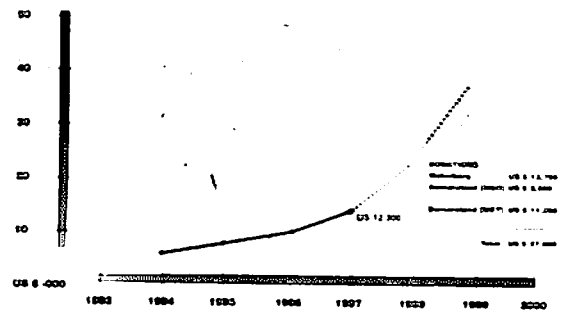
### Actual Total of Global Rhino Fund

→ US \$107,750

### Committed Total of Global Rhino Fund

→ US \$157,750

### N.B.R.F. DISTRIBUTION [ENDOWMENT ACCRUAL] TARGET : U.S. \$100,000 PER ANNUM



### Damaraland → The Desert-Adapted Black Rhinoceros Global Rhino Fund Support 1993/97

→ 1993/95 US \$3,000 per annum  
→ 1996/97 US \$4,000 per annum  
→ Total US \$17,000

### Goods in kind support

→ 1992/93 US \$20,000

### Direct project support

→ 1992/97 US \$50,000

### Waterberg → The Desert-Adapted Black Rhinoceros Global Rhino Fund Support 1993/97

→ 1993/95 US \$3,000 per annum  
→ 1996/97 US \$4,000 per annum  
→ Total US \$17,000

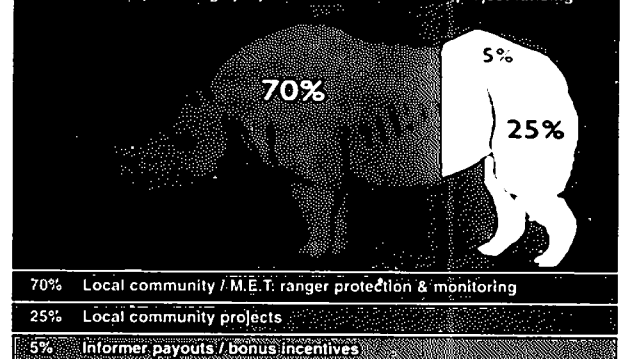
→ Grand Total US \$104,000

### NAMIBIAN BLACK RHINO FUND

THE N.B.R.F. CAPITAL BASE GUARANTEES \$100,000 PER ANNUM



### Estimated percentage projected breakdown of field project funding



### Conclusion

→ Investors know that by contributing to the Namibian Black Rhino Fund, they are making a cyclical commitment to work with the local community to promote the people and wildlife of Namibia. Protecting the environment is a leading issue of our times and this programme of responsible-giving shows that the investor has demonstrated that it is prepared to invest in the area to contribute to that region's long-term well-being.



## → Visiting Sand Rivers, Tanzania

Having planned to travel to Africa, we decided to bid for the holiday auctioned at David Wynne's "A Celebration on Life" exhibition last February. A couple of glasses of Champagne later, we came away with the trip of a lifetime to Zanzibar and the exclusive Sand Rivers Lodge in Selous.

Some months later, we learnt of the death of Lizzy Theobald, director of Sand Rivers Selous Game Lodge and founder of the Sand Rivers Rhino Project, on 27th August 1997, at the tragically young age of 34.

Naturally this gave the trip a poignant twinge of sadness and through conversations with other visitors at the lodge, we learnt that this feeling was experienced by others, thus demonstrating Lizzy's strength of character and spirit.

However, we were determined to enjoy ourselves and the highlight was the 2 days spent with the rangers at the Rhino Project. These rhinos are notoriously elusive, being such a small number within a huge area, so we didn't hold out much hope of a sighting. However, the experience of tracking rhino and seeing first hand how the rangers worked, was inspirational. As expected we didn't see the rhinos, but we discovered an area where they had been feeding only days before and found fresh rhino spoor. (and I never thought that I would live to see the day that I publicly announced how excited I was about seeing what is effectively manure!)



Motorola radios in use at Mkomazi

More than 6 rhinos have been sighted, along with newborns over the past 6 months. Infra-red cameras monitor their movements and with funding from the British High Commission, SRI helped Sand Rivers obtain night vision equipment from Moonlight Products, to assist this monitoring programme. In addition, the money raised from our trip will fund a census to determine the number of rhinos in the area.

Sleeping in a mosquito net under the stars, listening to lions who sounded rather too close for comfort is both mind-blowing and humbling, as I really began to appreciate that we are pretty insignificant cogs in a huge wheel. It is also tremendously

gratifying to know that the money used to buy this holiday will actually help the rhinos, rather than profit a tour operator.

Lizzy's death will be great loss to conservation in Selous and our deepest sympathy goes out to her husband, Bimb and their two children, George and Toby. However, the ray of light from Lizzy's death is that Bimb has taken up the cause and is determined to further the efforts of the Rhino Project in Lizzy's memory. As part of this, SRI will administer all Sand Rivers Rhino Project funding in the UK, so anyone who wants to help can contact SRI directly.

Julie Roach

## → Rhinos At The BBC Good Food Show

The rhinos appeared at the BBC Good Food Show in April, with newly appointed corporate sponsor, Clipper Teas. This ethical tea company has included SRI branding on two of its newly launched Organics Tea Range (the Assam and Blend products).

As well as this sponsorship, Clipper buys its tea from an estate in Assam which works with The Rhino Foundation locally. Co-incidentally, this is the same Foundation that SRI supports to help the rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park.

You can get hold of Clipper Organic Teas

in Waitrose, Somerfield, CWS, EH Booths & Co and all good health food stores - buy it to help the rhinos! More information about this in the Autumn newsletter.

## → Don't Miss...

...the opportunity to take part in a Wilderness Leadership Schools Trail. This is a unique chance to walk in pristine wilderness areas, with black and white rhino, buffalo, lion, leopard and many other species of animals and birds. You will lie at night under the stars and keep guard beside an open campfire. Somewhere out there in the bush you will find yourself and begin to understand Africa. This is the ultimate wilderness experience.

A selection of dates are available for the Umfolozi and St Lucia Greater Wetland Trails. 7 days (6 nights) cost £655 plus air travel.

Or a double whammy of a wilderness journey! Combine the Umfolozi with the St Lucia Greater Wetland Trail. 11 days (10 nights) cost £1,168 plus air travel. Dates on application.

The maximum number is eight per trail - so book now! For more details and other trail information, contact Norma or Susi at ECCO Tours directly at 4 Macclesfield Street, London, W1V 7LB, tel: 0171 494 1300, fax: 0171 494 1369.



On trail in Umfolozi

## → SRI DIRECT CLUB

Membership to the SRI Direct club is growing rapidly. If you haven't joined yet do it now and help to spread the rhino message. Tell your friends and family and get them involved. This is the simplest and most efficient way to help Save The Rhino. as once the standing order has been set up, no further costs are incurred, other than production and distribution of the newsletter. Contact the SRI office for membership forms or visit our stand at the events and festivals throughout the summer.

## → CONFIRMED 1998 EVENTS

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| → 26th April '98   | → LONDON MARATHON                           |
| → 9th May '98      | → CHARGE! PARTY                             |
| → August '98       | → CHARGE! PARTY                             |
| → 7th October '98  | → DR IAN PLAYER TALK & AUCTION AT THE SAVOY |
| → 1st November '98 | → NEW YORK MARATHON                         |
| → November '98     | → CHARGE! PARTY                             |
| → 8th December '98 | → CHRISTMAS RHINO RAVE                      |

For additional information, or to be put on our mailing list for supplementary events, call Jane Morris on 0171 357 7474.

## → THE 1998 SUMMER RHINO TOUR

The summer is nearly here again, and as usual, the rhinos will be popping up all around the country. We will have a stand selling SRI merchandise, recruiting members to the Rhino Direct Club and distributing information, whilst volunteers in rhinos costumes will be collecting donations at the following events:

- |                          |                                    |                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| → 23rd - 24th May '98    | → UNIVERSE'98                      | → Hertfordshire    |
| → 30th - 31st May '98    | → RHINO WEEKEND AT PORT LYMPNE ZOO | → Kent             |
| → 6th June '98           | → STRAWBERRY FAIR                  | → Cambridge        |
| → 26th - 28th June '98   | → GLASTONBURY                      | → Somerset         |
| → 4th - 5th July '98     | → GAME CONSERVANCY SCOTTISH FAIR   | → Perthshire       |
| → 12th - 13th July '98   | → T-IN-THE-PARK                    | → Scotland         |
| → 24th - 26th July '98   | → CLA GAME FAIR                    | → Northamptonshire |
| → 16th - 17th August '98 | → V'98                             | → Chelmsford       |
| → August '98             | → ESSENTIAL WEEKENDER              | → Kent             |

If you are at any of these events, come and say hello and maybe help out by shaking a tin for a while. You may even get the chance to try on one of the rhino costumes. Hope to see you there!

## → A BIG THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US OVER THE PAST YEAR:

