

RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

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NEWSLETTER #15

MAY 2009

Dear colleagues and friends,

This is the 15th issue of the quarterly e-newsletter of the RRC – the Rhino Resource Centre. Edited by Dr Kees Rookmaaker.

The contents of our website continue to increase. During the past three months, we have added 118 references to bring the total of items to 12,720 – primarily relating to the five living species of rhinoceros. Of these, over 4200 articles or chapters are available to all users as PDF, free or charge anywhere in the world. We also have a section with about two thousand rhino pictures and registered members are free to use our message board for questions or remarks on rhinos.

It is especially gratifying to mention that many authors are actively participating to make the RRC as useful to people working with rhinos as possible. Many reports and dissertations are almost uniquely available on the RRC site, while others have helped to have all their publications inserted as full-text digital versions. I would especially like to name Andrew Laurie, Peter Hitchins, Joris Croomsigt and Benson Okita in this regard, but the list of correspondents is much longer (see the *acknowledgements*).

Andrew Laurie wrote his thesis on the ecology and behaviour of the greater one-horned rhinoceros in Nepal in 1978. It has been often cited, but it is only found in a handful of libraries. It is now available in full globally *from this link* for the first time.

The work of the Rhino Resource Center

is supported by

International Rhino Foundation
and **SOS Rhino**

The RRC is uniquely about rhinos, but we have some common ground with research into other animals. There are certain traits in the rhinoceros which have helped to shape the history of the unicorn, for which reason the unicorn appears in several titles listed on the RRC. The latest addition to the theme is *The natural history of unicorns*, published by Chris Lavers (Granta, London, 2009). The author is a lecturer in the School of Geography at the University of Nottingham, who here explores the history and current theories surrounding unicorns. A fascinating but complicated subject is made easily understandable, and the book is highly recommended for the general reader. You will find out all the possible origins of the unicorn and get to know about its behaviour, ecology and appearance.

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During this quarter, the RRC was approached to include a full version of the new ***Guidelines for the in situ reintroduction and translocation of African and Asian rhinoceros*** published by the IUCN Species Survival Commission. This important document will help to establish the best practice.

Visit: www.rhinoresourcecenter.com

Visit the website of the Rhino Resource Center for everything about the five species of rhinoceros in Africa, Asia and around the world.

- There are details of 12,720 references to publications on all rhinos
- Text of 4215 items as PDF, and many others in full text
- Browse publications by subject, or search for words in the text
- A large photo gallery showing illustrations in old books, individual rhinos in zoos around the world, and a new section of **rhinos in modern art**.
- Links to other website with rhino information.
- General information of all species of rhino, including a *comprehensive list* of both scientific and vernacular names.
- A message board for queries and comments.

Remember that all books and articles are physically present in the collection of the RRC and have been carefully verified and catalogued. Contributions of pictures and further literature are always welcome and will be shared with all users .

Rhinos are among the most endangered mammal species of the world. Conservation and management must always be based on an in-depth knowledge of the biology of the animals. The RRC facilitates further studies and the best practices in management.

MEETINGS

The annual Rhino May Day took place on Wednesday 29 April 2009 in London. About 60 people enjoyed talks on current conservation strategies in Africa and Asia, which were delivered by Cathy Dean, John Gripper, Robert Risch, Martin Mulama, Maggie Esson, Andrew Gell, Gitanjalee Banerjee, Felix Patton, Dave Robertson, Berry White, Brad Cain and Hollie Manuel. Thank you Lucy and helpers from Save the Rhino International for a great day. The abstracts are found *here*.

The International Rhino Keeper Association has scheduled its new workshop for May 17th - 21st, 2009 at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida. There will be many interesting presentations and workshops geared to active participation of all delegates. More information is found [on their website](#). I hope to be present and meet people who work with rhinos on a daily basis.

RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

FACILITATING COMMUNICATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES AND CONTINENTS

NEW LITERATURE
(finalised 30 April 2009)

In the past quarter (February to April 2009), we have added 119 new references. This brings the total number of items in the database to 12.720.

Below I have listed new entries published in the 21st century in four categories: General, African rhinos, Asian rhinos and Fossil species. If you are interested in one of these titles, always check the RRC website first if it may be available there.

I am grateful to all publishers and authors who have alerted me to new publications or send me their articles or dissertations. *All contributors are acknowledged.*

GENERAL AND HISTORICAL

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The Rhino Resource Center is a charity.

We do not actively raise funds due to the nature of our work, but need your assistance to provide our service to all rhino lovers worldwide. I appeal to individuals and institutions to support our work providing access to knowledge about rhinos.

**Join us. Your support will be acknowledged
in our publications and on our website**

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NOW AVAILABLE

Rookmaaker's book on *Encounters with the African Rhinoceros*
All sightings of rhinos in southern Africa 1790-1875 analysed and illustrated.
More information is found on our website.

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