Email: [save@savefoundation.org.au](mailto:save@savefoundation.org.au)

## NEWSLETTER – June 2012

Volume 26 Number 1

**Patrons: The Lord McAlpine of West Green, David Gower OBE, Bryce Courtenay AM, Nick Price****25th ANNIVERSARY PICTORIAL EDITION****PRESIDENT'S REPORT****25 YEAR OVERVIEW**

It all started on the evening of **Tuesday 9 June 1987**. About 180 guests had booked to hear a talk by **Babette Alfieri**, attracted by The Sunday Times caption—“**Poachers' mass slaughter fires charge to save rhino**”. Twelve decided to take action and arranged to meet the following evening at **Warwick Rowell's** townhouse and thus, **Save African Endangered Wildlife Foundation** was formed. And now, **25 years later**, we are one of the leading supporters of rhino conservation in Zimbabwe, and provided **\$485,000** of equipment and project expenses in our last financial year, April 2011/March 2012. In 1995 we changed our name to **SAVE FOUNDATION of Australia** and this year we are changing to **Save African Rhino Foundation**, to more aptly describe our mission.

We were originally called to action by the fact that between **1972 and 1987, 96% of Africa's black rhinos were slaughtered** for their horn, from **65,000 down to 3,500**. In **1987, Zimbabwe had around 2,000**, South Africa, Kenya and Namibia each had **450** and Tanzania was home to the remaining **150**. Now, **25 years on**, it's Namibia and South Africa up near **1,900** each, Kenya at **550**, Zimbabwe with **400** and Tanzania down to less than **100**.

In the same timeframe, the **southern white rhino**, native to South Africa, has grown from **4,000 to around 18,000**, showing that dramatic resurgences can occur with the right management strategies. These rhinos are under heavy siege, **448 killed last year and over 225 so far this year!**

As a matter of interest, the other three rhino species, **Indian, Sumatran and Javan**, have approximately **2,500, 180 and 40** respectively.

Our first patron was **Lord Alistair McAlpine**, and his Perth home, **Bishop's House**, was the lovely venue for our first fundraiser. Since then we have raised more than **\$4,200,000**, the vast majority being used **to preserve Zimbabwe's rhinos**, many of whom would by now have been poached had it not been for our intervention with vital anti-poaching resources.

Celebrated former England captain and dashing batsman, **David Gower**, became our second patron in **1992**, followed by world class golfer, **Nick Price**, formerly from Zimbabwe, in **1993**, and Australia's best selling author, **Bryce Courtenay**, in **1994**. We are thrilled and honoured to have such a distinguished quartet of patrons, and thank you, gentlemen, for adding your names and reputations to our foundation to enhance our credibility.

Throughout the years our main forms of fundraising have been our nearly **annual dinner/auctions**, our **safaris** and our **memberships/donations**. More than **5,200 guests** have attended our 15 dinners, mainly at the **Perth Hyatt Regency**, resulting in more than **\$1,100,000** being raised, mostly through the sale of unique cricket memorabilia.

We have hosted over **320 passengers** on our safaris to **Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa**, and our main destinations have been **Imire, Hwange, Victoria Falls, Chobe and the Okavango Delta**, with less frequent visits to **Lake Kariba, Cape Town and Etosha**. Without doubt, these are amazing trips and tremendous value—**two seats still remain for our 1 September departure**.

Our **membership** numbers remain steady in the **low 200s** and we invite you all to **please enrol another member**—thanks. Our thanks also go to so many of you who regularly make a **donation** with your membership renewal or appeals, with particular mention of **Karin Keighley, Bev Poor, Peter Hall and Mike Palmer**. Amongst our most supportive **corporate sponsors** have been **Hunter Hall, REM Systems, Abaxis, Siomar Batteries, Mrs Mac's Pty Ltd and Picasso Print**. Very generous **accountancy and auditing** services have been kindly provided by **Judge Constable and Moore Stephens**.

**ZIMBABWE UPDATE 2012**

For **25 years** we have been **faithful and dedicated rhino supporters in the National Parks of Zimbabwe**. Since the early nineties there has been a build up of rhinos on private lands too, mainly wildlife conservancies. Massive poaching occurred in the Zambezi valley between 1986 and 2003, resulting in the formation of **four Intensive Protection Zones** in the parks and **seven rhino conservancies** on ranch land. Numbers steadily increased for eight years and then land invasions on some of the private land led to increased wildlife poaching. Various management strategies by the **WWF / Southern Africa Regional Programme Office** in Harare, headed by **Raoul du Toit**, resulted in translocations and consolidations for these rhinos, conducted by Chief Government Wildlife Vet, **Chris Foggin**. The overall result is that a founder population of **136 black rhinos** around the country on private land has now risen to over **350**. Sadly, the numbers in the parks have shown the opposite trend, falling from **110** to a mere **45** today.

For our first 20 years, we have dedicated **75%** of our assistance to National Parks and **25%** to the conservancies, and

for the past five years it has been **65/35**. As we mark our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are being forced to face the reality of the situation and to **tweak our ratios** by giving greater amounts to the private landowners. Of course, we will still be supporting National Parks and look forward to the opportunity of becoming more involved in their two strongholds, an existing one in the south of the country and a new one that will open up next year in the south-east.

**A** project that your committee decided to support to a fuller extent, after their visit there in February, is one of the conservancies in the south-east with a healthy rhino population, but with 17 mortalities last year and 13 so far this year. We will be part funders (**\$50,000**) of a new anti-poaching team under the training and coordination of **Bryce Clemence**, one of our trainers in the parks for the past year. His father, **Pete**, will continue to help National Parks, where viable. We see this as a very positive move for rhino protection in Zimbabwe.

**A**t the recent **Rhino Management** meeting in Harare, attended by **Steve Harrison** and myself, we agreed to donate **\$50,000** to rhino operations in three key areas, mainly where white rhinos are found. These funds will be coordinated by two local organisations, **Dambari Wildlife Trust** and **AWARE Trust**, both of whom we've worked with on many occasions.

**W**e would like to thank the **many dedicated people of Zimbabwe who are constantly involved in rhino management and protection**, particularly those who have spent a good number of years in this field, and those with whom we have had a close association. There are **many National Parks' rangers who try very hard in difficult circumstances** with limited resources at their disposal, especially those at the rhino coalface—often with little encouragement to succeed. Thanks to you all.

**A**mongst the **management and veterinary projects** that we've worked closely with for a number of years, we offer special thanks to **Natasha Anderson, Verity Bowman, Chris Foggin, Lovemore Mungwashu, Dave Strydom, Raoul du Toit, Norman English, Sylvester Ncube, Jackson Kamwi, Mike Ball, Clive Stockil, Israel Ngarira, Stephen Long and Lisa Hywood**.

**A**nd now to thank all the other people who played vital roles in making this such a successful evening. To all our item donors—boat owner **Dave Bovell**, artists, **Craig Hilton Barber, Chris Wiles** and **Callum Fairnie**, jeweller **Doris Brinkhaus**, and autograph



collectors **Anne Chester and Reggie Fernandes**, thank you all so much. To our most generous purchasers—including **Syd, Domenic, Doris, Jason, Danny, Ken, Reggie, Clive, Dennis, Simon, Gary, Mal** and **Nina**—thanks for your wonderful support. And to all our helpers—**Jennifer, Nia, Evelyn, Maree, Kim, Zia, Lorraine, Millie, Jennifer, Julie, Fadzai, Candice, Kate, Lisa, Geoff, John, Elliot, Adam, Tony** and **Wayne**—we couldn't have managed without you, the heart and soul of any organisation.

**T**he two biggest money makers on the night were the lovely 'safari-for-two' packages to the very best places in Zimbabwe and Botswana. Our enormous thanks goes to **The Hide, The Victoria Falls Hotel, Xakanaxa Camp, Save Valley Conservancy, Malilangwe Trust (Singita Pamushana Lodge), Amalinda Camp, Ivory Lodge and Victoria Falls Safari Lodge**. These two trips raised **\$18,600** so thank you very much to the lodges and hotels who donated their properties for these safaris.



### KIM HUGHES DINNER/AUCTION – \$120,000

**M**arch 13, Grand Ballroom, Perth Hyatt Regency, was the setting for another sell out dinner for the rhinos, drawn together by the opportunity to meet and listen to former Australian test captain, **Kim Hughes**. And what a fantastic night it was! Kim gave a great presentation with a strong message of being the best you can be. We invited **Tim Gossage** from Channel Ten and 6PR to be our MC and celebrity auctioneer, and what a good move that was! Tim was absolutely outstanding and helped us net a profit of **\$120,000** for the evening.



*Kim with Travel Directors' management—sponsors of the event.*

1987

# TRAVEL

with John Young



□ Babette Alfieri... animal poachers are her public enemy No 1.

## Poachers' mass slaughter fires charge to save rhino

FOUR years ago an estimated 60,000 rhino roamed Africa — now there are 4000.

The slaughter of these magnificent beasts by poachers for their horn and the males' penis has been a major problem in

central and southern Africa.

Since 1980, Babette Alfieri has raised \$US350,000 to combat the increasing threat of poachers in this region.

She and a friend have bought anti-poaching equipment, including two light aircraft for aerial reconnaissance,

and a Mercedes truck for transporting animals to protected areas.

Babette is concerned with saving the rhino from extinction. She is working with the Zimbabwe authorities to conserve 750 black rhino.

Find out about "Vanishing Africa" at a talk Babette is giving in

Perth on Tuesday night.

Gordon Tours Australia, which specialises in safari holidays to Africa, is organising the evening. It's at 6pm, at the Wesley Auditorium in William St.

Admission is free, but phone 322 5674 to book seats.

*This was the meeting that resulted in the formation of Save African Endangered Wildlife Foundation (SAVE) - June 1987.*

1988



Our first Committee—Tim, John, Warwick, Nicholas, Pat, Jo, Julie and Marion.



Our first donations—tyres (above), keys to a red Landrover (top right) and the Landrover itself (bottom left).



Our first safari.  
Warwick, James and Bev on Lake Kariba.

## 1989



Fundraiser with Glenn Shorrock at the Regal.



Bishop's House Gardens, venue for a cocktail party and fundraising auction.



Volunteers from Operation Raleigh, Chief Warden Glenn Tatham, and Lynne Taylor, with donated toolkits and engines. This was the beginning of a Landrover refurbishment programme, ultimately to come under the control of Paul Olesczuk (4th from right)

## 1990



Clockwise:  
More support  
from Qantas and  
Yamaha.

Glenn and Paul.

A newly formed BP  
Mobile Workshop.

Andy Searle and  
Glenn appealing  
for an outboard  
motor for their  
boat on Lake  
Kariba, at  
Matusadona.

1990



Imire Game Ranch—our first introduction to the seven hand-reared, orphan rhinos from the Zambezi Valley, with the Travers family.

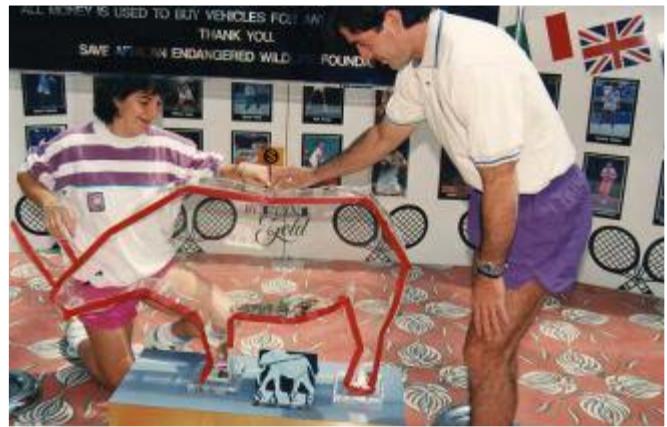


*“Out of Africa”* fundraiser at the Abbey Restaurant, Glebe, NSW.



We had displays at the Perth Royal Show from 1987—1995.

1991



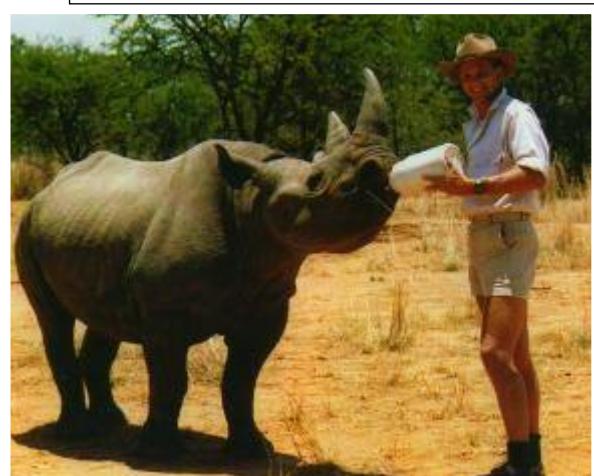
Arantxa and Emilio Sanchez, Spain, donating \$100 each into our acrylic rhino, at the Hopman Cup. This rhino subsequently appeared in many shopping centres over the years.



On safari with David in the Okavango Delta and at Imire.



Ten rhinos being captured at Chete safari area to begin a breeding programme at Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo.



## 1992



*Our main role is to supply vital kit and spare parts.*



*Warden Norman English and his men at Sinamatella, with new Motorola radios we donated.*



*Beginning of the de-horning programme:  
L—Mark Atkinson, above—Barney O'Hara,  
R—Mike Kock.*

## 1993



*The last of our five donated Land Cruisers on display at National Rhino Day, Harare Showgrounds.*

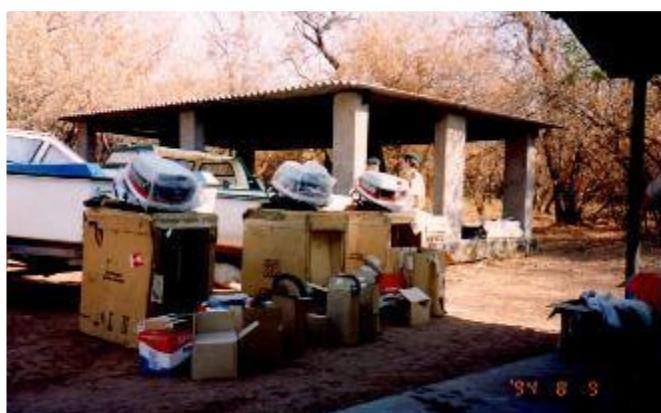
## 1994



*Another safari group, and below, donating outboard motors to Tashinga Camp, Matusadona.*



*Tim and Ray helping at the Perth Royal Show.*



## 1994



Another fundraiser with some cricketing greats, Mike Proctor (left) and Sir Richard Hadlee (below).

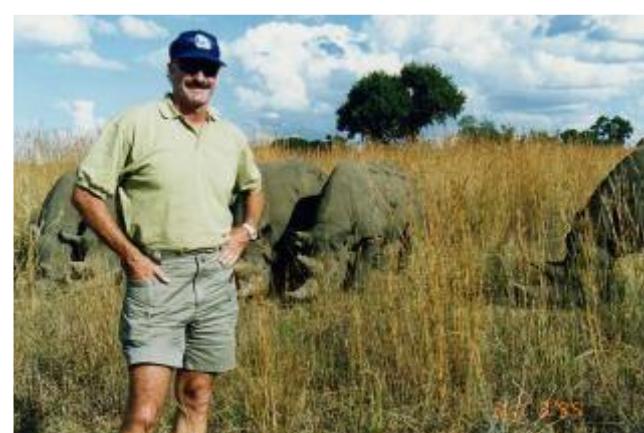


Kevin Judge, left, after his winning bid for a safari, thus beginning his 11-year contribution to the SAVE FOUNDATION.



Margaret, Cheryl, Nicholas, John and Guy, with a carved wooden "tombstone", RIP Black Rhino.

## 1995



Dennis Lillee at Imire

The first of our four Black Rhino International cricket matches, World XI –v– Zimbabwe XI. World team taking the field, featuring the "big five", David Gower, Dennis Lillee, Greg Chappell, Mike Proctor and Clive Rice.

## 1995

Another fund-raising dinner/auction with our new Patron, David Gower.



Also there, Sir Tim Rice, meeting Santina Stransky.

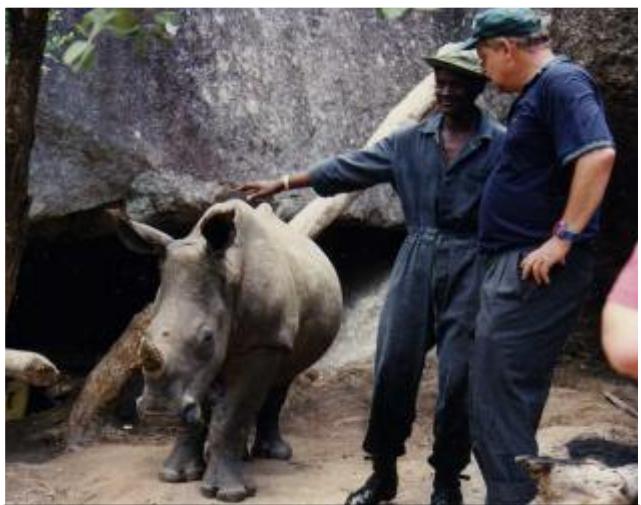


Painted Dog Project anti-poaching patrol with their multi-tool units.

Tracking equipment being donated to Sinamatella IPZ.



Guy and Nicholas visiting the local community on the outskirts of the Bubiana Conservancy.



Kevin with a hand-reared baby white rhino and his handler, Matobo National Park.

## 1996

Our second international cricket match, Super Eights—Zimbabwe (left), World (centre) and South Africa (right). The stars included David Gower, Allan Border, Collis King, Mike Proctor and Graeme Pollock.



Allan Border featured in a documentary with Chewore, a hand-reared rhino in Matusadona, televised on "Today Tonight".

## 1997



*For years we have been supplying ex-British Army field kit, particularly boots, backpacks, bivvies, socks, shirts, trousers, ponchos, jerseys and sleeping bags, all kindly airfreighted by Affretair, DHL Aviation, MK Airlines and British Airways.*

## 1998-1999



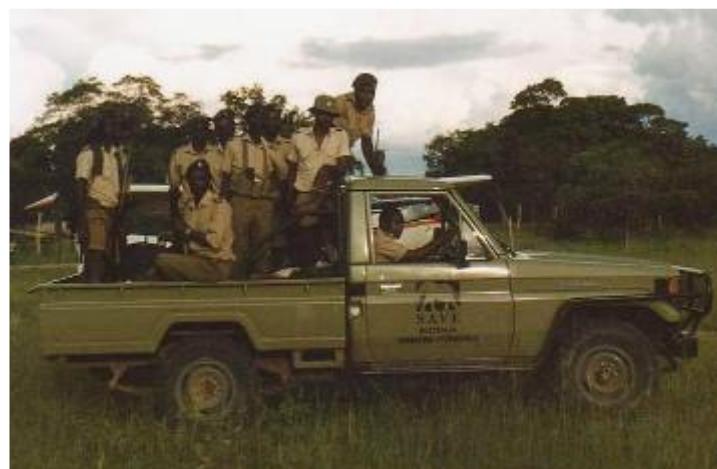
*Norman English and his men at Sinamatella with new kit.*



*Rock band "Oasis" lend their support.*



*Andy Searle examines kit for his game capture unit.*



*One of our Land Cruisers going off to patrol.*

## 2000

### TRAGIC DEATH OF ANDY SEARLE

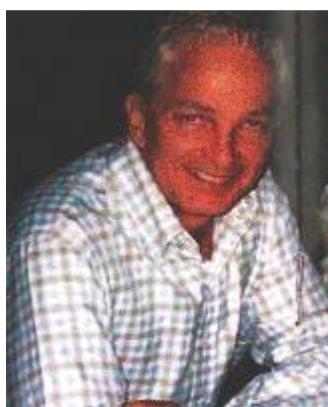
It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of Andy Searle in a helicopter crash on 6 March. He was returning from rhino tracking and mysteriously nose-dived into the ground. Andy was a great all-rounder with National Parks and had served them with distinction for more than 20 years. His last position was as Warden of the game capture unit at Umtsibhi, Hwange National Park. He leaves a widow, Lol, and a four-year old son, Drew.

## 2001



*With the downturn in the Zimbabwe economy, and unreliable fuel supplies, it was necessary to turn to "bike power" for patrolling. Above, Paul de Montille, DART, examines a pile of snares, the result of increased meat poaching right around the country. 90% of Zimbabwe's wildlife on the game farms was about to be lost in the next 5 years.*

## 2002



*Our biggest event so far, another evening with David Gower at the Hyatt, followed by an International cricket festival the next day at Melville Cricket Ground, a Super Eights Challenge between the World (left), Australia (centre) and Western Australia (right).*

*The stars included*

*Clive Rice, Adam Hollioake, Collis King, Merv Hughes, Graham Yallop, Greg Matthews, Kim Hughes, Bruce Reid and Mike Veletta.*

## 2003



*Rhino numbers in Zimbabwe doubled between 1993 and 2002, and then, BANG, poaching started in January 2003 in Sinamatella. The rhino skull (right) evaded her captors before dying with 4 kgs of horn, perhaps \$80,000 worth in the Far East! Since then, Sinamatella has lost more than 40 rhinos and around Zimbabwe, there have been at least 100 poached in the last 4 years.*

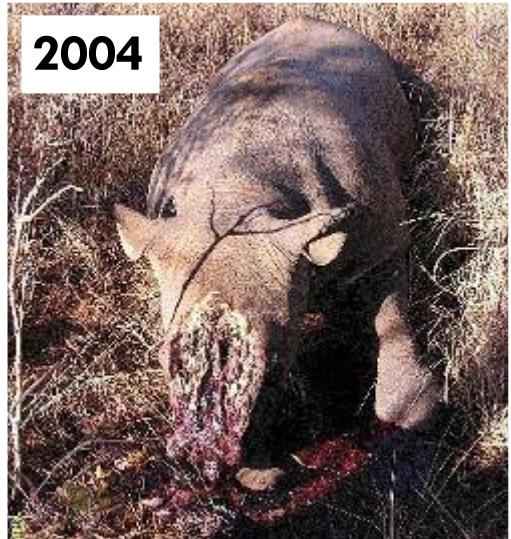


**2003**



*Matthew Hayden, here with some admirers, was our special guest at a dinner/auction the night before he scored a world record 380 against Zimbabwe.*

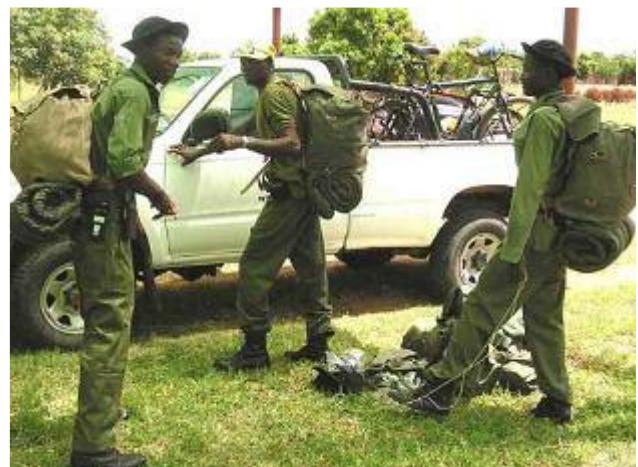
**2004**



*Fumbai, a 4-year old female, was the first of 30 rhinos out of a total population of 50 to be killed in the Midlands Conservancy!*



*The main rhino breeding successes have been in the Lowveld Conservancies, and here, Nicholas presents Head Tracker, Jackson, with a camera for rhino identification, watched by Raoul du Toit (WWF) and Clive Stockil (Chairman, Save Valley Conservancy).*



*Save Valley scouts with new kit that we donated.*



*Director General, Morris Mtsumbirwa, presents Certificates of Achievement to Sinamatella scouts for their outstanding anti-poaching efforts.*

*Nicholas vehemently opposes the introduction of black rhino hunting in Namibia and South Africa at CITES, Bangkok. Hunting was approved by an overwhelming majority.*



*Left, one of our Land Cruisers from 1992, needing repairs, and right, after a successful re-build. It is now functional in Matusadona Intensive Protection Zone.*



# 2005



*With increased rhino poaching, de-horning again became necessary and Chris Foggin (subsequently to be the first non-South African to be awarded the prestigious 'Wildlife Vet of the Year'), moved around Zimbabwe from project to project. He also fitted radio transmitters to some of the front horns (right).*



*Our safaris have become very popular and are always fully booked (right). Amongst our favourite destinations are the Hide (left) and Okavango Delta with the fantastic leopard (centre).*



*A bad drought resulted in an increased demand for water from the big elephant herds in Hwange. Pumps needed repairing (left) and we supplied thousands of litres of diesel (right), supervised by Johnny Rodrigues, Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force.*



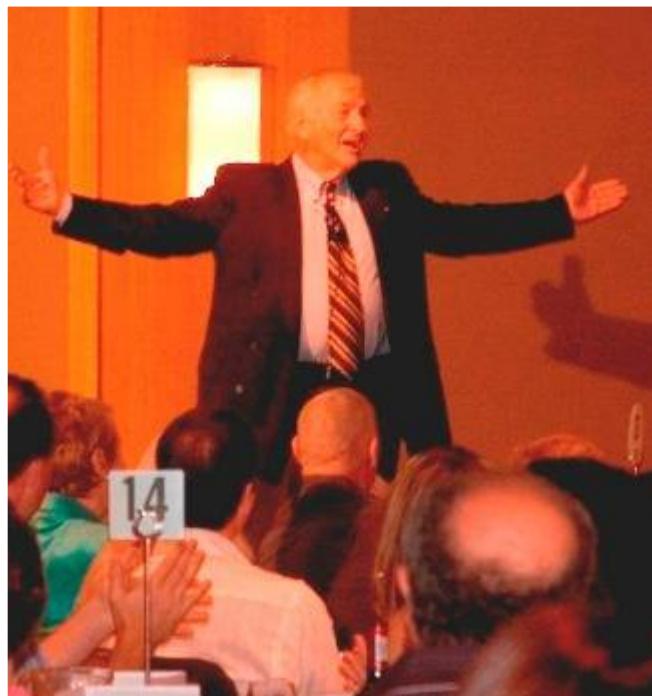
*Far left, Norman English takes our group out rhino tracking in Sinamatella. Left, the de-horning programme came to an abrupt end when the helicopter crashed, badly injuring Chris Foggin. Fortunately, he has made a good recovery and continues his magnificent work.*

## 2005



*The Zimbabwe rhino hierarchy with our Committee—from the left—Kim & Geoff Hoddy, Nicholas, Morris Mtsimbirwa (Director General of National Parks), Mike Palmer, Evelyn Wong, Raoul du Toit (WWF rhino programme), Chris Foggin (Wildlife Veterinary Unit) and Lovemore Mungwashu (WWF).*

*Other projects supported included Sharon Pincott's elephant studies, Painted Dog Project and the Hwange Lion Project.*



*Another of our Patrons, Bryce Courtenay, inspired and entertained a sell-out audience at the Hyatt, and a fine time was had by all.*

## 2006



*Our safaris continue to be extremely popular and great value, and a good source of funds for the Foundation.*

*Some of our members privately sponsor the salary for Jean Sigauke, a teacher at the Sinamatella School.*

## 2006



*In December, 620 guests were entertained by David Gower at our Annual Dinner/Auction. David was hosted by Peter Gangemi of Westwide Financial Services (left), whilst our array of sporting memorabilia was widely admired. A record amount of \$150,000 was raised in the evening. Thanks, David, for being a true friend and champion of the SAVE FOUNDATION cause since 1991.*

## 2007



14 rhino monitors are employed by us in Sinamatella.



Behind-the-scenes trips are becoming increasingly popular.



*Left  
The hub of our Foundation—back row—Mike, Steve, Nicky, Martin, Miriam, Geoff and Nicholas.  
Front row—Evelyn, Susie (Executive Director, International Rhino Foundation), Kim and Nia.  
Right  
Celebrating our 20th Anniversary on 6 June at Victoria Falls Hotel.  
We have now raised and supplied more than \$2 million worth of equipment, mainly to the Zimbabwe rhinos.*



## 2008



Greg Opie filming at Imire



Victoria Falls Anti-poaching Unit



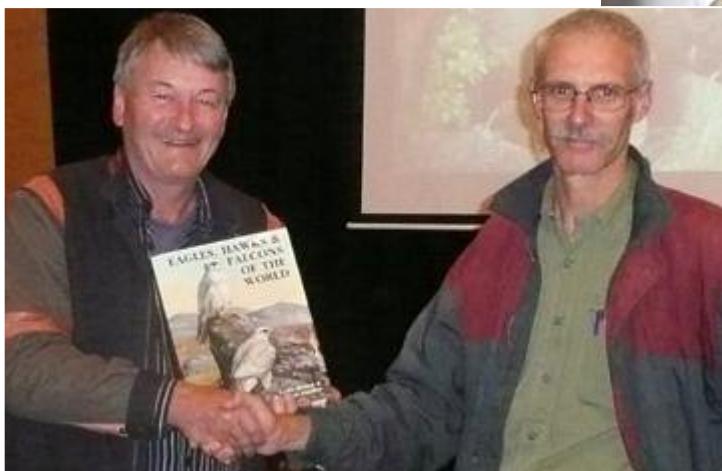
Left: Hwange Lion Project Micro-light and Right: Super Cub



RIP 'Sprinter', 'DJ' and 'Amber' sadly killed in November and (right) orphan 'Tatenda' being hand reared by Judy Travers.



Chris Foggin at the Ian Chappell fundraising event at the Hyatt Regency in Perth.



Norman English, a 20-year rhino warrior and avid bird watcher, was absolutely delighted to receive this 'missing' book for his collection from Nicholas.



'Mr Fixit' Rick Hurlbatt servicing one of the trucks.

# 2008



Above: 'Teressa' and 'Joe', and  
Left: Orphan 'Millie' (l) with 'Tenashe'.

New vehicle partially donated by SAVE FOUNDATION for  
painted dog conservation.



Anti-poaching teams from—clockwise: Dete, Sinamatella and Victoria Falls.



Stephen Long—Dete Animal Rescue Trust (DART)

## 2009



Katrina Leathem with orphan calves—‘Sassi’, ‘Millie’ and ‘Blondie’.



Celebrity Guest Merv Hughes amusing guests at the Hyatt Regency fundraiser.



Receiving the 2009 Zimbabwe Council for Tourism Green Globe 21 Award from Chairman Emmanuel Fundira.



Camel teams being used for rhino monitoring in the Namibian desert.

## 2010



Cameron Murray (Grantham Street Veterinary Clinic) at the Animal Art Awards run by him with overall winner, Yvonne Zago next to her piece—‘Yours is a funeral I would fly to anywhere’.



Magnificent lions spotted not far from the Hwange Safari Lodge.

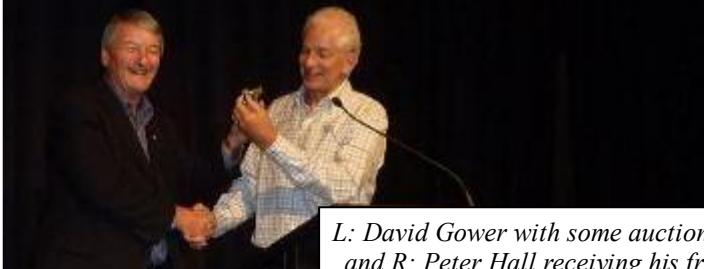
## 2010



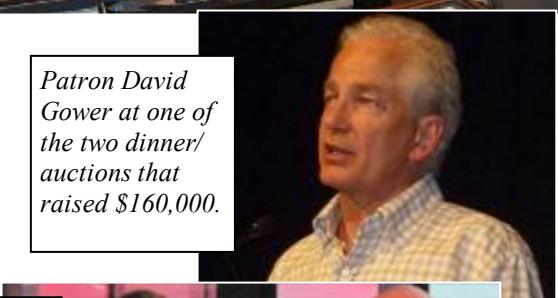
Items for auction at the Mark Nicholas fundraiser.



## 2011



Patron David Gower at one of the two dinner/ auctions that raised \$160,000.



L: David Gower with some auction items and R: Peter Hall receiving his framed rhino for sponsorship recognition.



Sydney fundraising dinner/auction.



Greg Rasmussen who runs the Painted Dog Project in Hwange.



Delivery of tents, sleeping bags, off-road trail bike tyres, batteries and engine oil delivered by Nico Nel.



## 2011



*Working with Chris Foggin in the Chivero National Park.*



*National Parks Board Chairman, George Paneti, receiving Landrovers from SAVE FOUNDATION*

*Training potential trackers and rangers.*

## 2012



*Cow and calf in camera traps.*



*Happy bunch of rhino monitors—L-R: Bryce Clemence, Paul de Montille, Chris Palmer and Pete Clemence.*

# 25

**YEARS OF GREAT EFFORT AND DETERMINATION,  
WITH MORE THAN \$4,200,000 WORTH OF VITAL  
SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT DIRECTED INTO FIELD  
OPERATIONS, WITH LESS THAN HALF OF ONE  
PERCENT SPENT ON OVERHEADS—A SIMPLY  
MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENT!**



*Thank you ALL FOR BEING A PART OF IT,  
ESPECIALLY OUR COMMITTEE, MEMBERS,  
SPONSORS AND MANY SUPPORTERS.*

**WE THANK THE FOLLOWING SUPPLIERS AND SPONSORS FOR THEIR  
ON-GOING ASSISTANCE—MUCH APPRECIATED.**

*Judge Constable*  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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