

theHORN

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Roaming with rhinos



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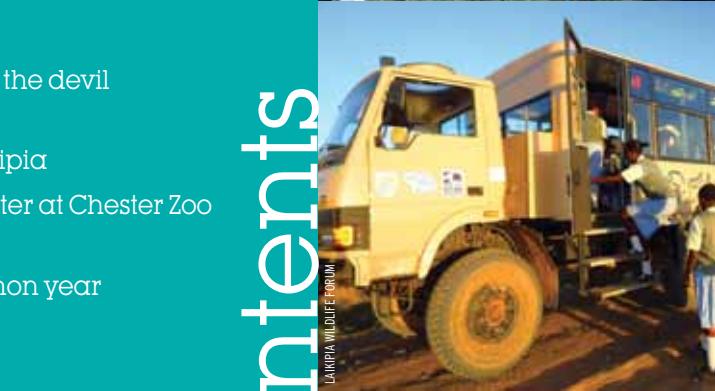
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Roaming with Rhinos

“
Oh, give me a home where the rhino roam
Where the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the sky is not cloudy all day
As the song almost said...

Cathy Dean | Director

“
We have a responsibility
to our donors to ensure
that money is being
spent well & wisely
”

It can sometimes feel a very long way away from our office in central London to the deserts of Namibia or the bushveld of Zimbabwe – but not this year! Our Save the Rhino team members have visited many of the field programmes we support, and have facilitated other visits. In this issue of *The Horn*, you will read about our trips to Kenya,

Zambia, Namibia and South Africa, and about visits by staff from the Zoological Society of London and Knowsley Safari Park to Zambia and Zimbabwe respectively.

You too can volunteer at the Dambari Wildlife Trust in Zimbabwe. And the traffic is not always from Europe to Africa, as you'll read in the article about the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary in Tanzania.

I need to emphasise that these field trips are not 'jollies': we inevitably set off burdened with kit donations, armed with long agendas of items that need discussion, and come back with a whole set of outputs: debrief reports for our Trustees and donors, articles for this magazine, photographs for our picture library,

and the bones of a fundraising proposal and budget to be worked up in more detail when back at our desks.

As well as information gathering, these visits also serve to build much deeper, more open relationships with the field programme managers and their teams. It is so much easier to discuss a problem that has arisen if you've spent 'beer time' around a campfire, or helped dig a vehicle out of a particularly deep and muddy rut. You can 'shorthand' a conversation, without the need for frills and polish, and get to the heart of the matter in hand, without upsetting the long-term relationship.

We also have a responsibility to our donors to ensure that their money is being spent well and wisely. While we don't carry out a full audit and inspect timesheets, we can get a good sense of what is working/not working/delayed/needs tweaking, and have a look and see if the binoculars or laptops we paid for are still there and being used properly. (We've never had a problem like this, but I do know of other cases...)

If you're twitching to get to a land where the bright diamond sand throws its light from the glittering streams, do look up the Africa programmes we support on our website. I've recently added in details of tourist accommodation in the areas where the rhino field programmes work, and although we can't offer you the behind-the-scenes access described in this issue, you can get pretty close!



Find out how to
make me on page 30

Events schedule 2012–13

Adventure! Save the Rhino Dinner 2012	Tuesday 16 October 2012
ING New York City Marathon	Sunday 4 November 2012
Animal Party – The Last Tuesday Society	Friday 23 November 2012
Gold Challenge	Ongoing until December 2012
Douglas Adams Memorial Lecture 2013	Tuesday 12 March 2013
Virgin London Marathon 2013	Sunday 21 April 2013
Rhino Climb Kilimanjaro	Dates to suit in 2013, 2014
UK challenges	Various dates
Rhino Mayday 2013	Date to be confirmed
Rhino Trek South Africa 2013	Dates to be confirmed

For more information about any of these events,
please visit www.savetherhino.org/events
email laura@savetherhino.org or call +44 (0)20 7357 7474

