

# NEWSLETTER <sup>192</sup>

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## SAVE AFRICAN ENDANGERED WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (AUSTRALIA)

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is nearly five years since the inception of SAVE (Australia) in early June 1987, as a result of a travel consultant, and also Vice President of SAVE (U.S.A.), Babette Alfieri, giving a talk on safari travel within southern Africa, plus the plight of the black rhino. SAVE started within a couple of days of the public talk and has gradually built up its momentum around Australia, as well as its presence in Zimbabwe.

The main reason that Zimbabwe has been chosen as the major beneficiary of SAVE's efforts is because that country supports the largest remaining number of black rhinos in Africa. In 1972, 65,000 black rhinos roamed the plains of Africa, but this number has now declined to just less than 3,000 — a drastic drop of 96 per cent. This wholesale slaughter is due to a well organised crime syndicate that originally supplied rhino horn to the North Yemen to be used as dagger handles, but is now marketing the horn in Taiwan, China, South Korea and Thailand.

It is a current policy of SAVE to support whatever country most needs its help in the fight to save the black rhino, and Zimbabwe has been the chosen recipient for most of our donations. Namibia will also receive our aid in the future, and we hope to establish stronger links with that country, when we visit there with our official safari later in the year. (See details page four.)

To date, we have donated in excess of \$315,000 of very vital anti-poaching equipment, the vast majority to the National Parks of Zimbabwe, with a small amount to the similar authorities in Namibia, Uganda and Kenya. Amongst our donations are:

- Five brand new Toyota Landcruisers (purchased in Japan)

- One Bedford Truck (in conjunction with BP Oil)
- One secondhand Landrover
- Fifteen motorbikes
- Twelve outboard motors
- Nine reconditioned engines and gearboxes
- Tons of spare parts for all of the above
- Six hand-held radios
- 100 back-packs, sleeping bags and webbings.
- 350 pairs of walking boots
- Eighteen pairs of binoculars
- Eight tents
- Assorted spare tyres
- A variety of camping equipment for patrol work
- Numerous smaller items such as compasses, batteries, torches and clear contact paper for mapping.

None of these items would be readily available in Zimbabwe and hence their value is a far greater amount than their cost.

Due to the generosity of two airlines, Affretair (the cargo airline for Zimbabwe) and Qantas, we have been able to extend the effectiveness of all our fund-raised dollars. Naturally, we greatly acknowledge their assistance.

Our fifth A.G.M. will shortly take place on Monday, June 8th, and its official notice is found on page three of this newsletter. I realise that A.G.M.s. are not the highlight of most people's social calendar, but it is gratifying for the Executive to know that they have the support of the SAVE members and this is best expressed by their attendance at this meeting. Please attend if you can and we will make the evening

as interesting and as informative as possible for you.

We will be showing extracts from last year's safari video, which will include speeches/appeals made by Glenn Tatham, Chief Warden of Zimbabwe; Andy Searle, Warden at Matusadona, the Park currently heavily under attack by poachers. Also, we will show extracts from David Gower's speech at the fund-raising dinner in Harare, as well as lots of interesting scenes with elephants, lions, rhinos and hyenas. If you are a keen SAVE member and have a desire to see more about Africa, then this video should certainly entice you to the meeting.

I should like to thank the members of the Executive for their efforts and support during the past 12 months. Marion Bowers, has now been Vice-President for three years and has given SAVE tremendous assistance in that time. Our Treasurer, Steve Deacon, and Secretary, Cheryl Davenport, have also helped greatly in the past year. Kerry Parsons resigned from the Executive during the year and has been replaced by Margaret Prior, whose enthusiasm for Africa increased due to last year's safari. To all the Executive, SAVE could not function without you and we all truly appreciate the voluntary contributions that you give.

Let's hope that the next five years can be even bigger and better for SAVE as our help, and that of other non-government organisations, is critical for the survival of various African species.

To all our members and their friends, we do encourage you to support SAVE in the most generous way that you can. Tax deductible donation forms are available from the Perth office.

Nicholas S. Duncan  
PRESIDENT



## IDEAL HOMES EXHIBITION

At the very last minute, SAVE was offered a complimentary stand at this year's Perth Ideal Homes Exhibition, at the wonderful Burswood Superdome. We managed to arrange quite a nice display of our stone carvings, black and white prints, David Shepherd pictures, T-shirts and wind-cheaters, but most of all, we were able to launch our Mammoth Raffle.

During the course of the six days, we sold in excess of 2,000 raffle tickets and also a further \$2,000 of products. To all our helpers, Krys Jury, Cheryl Davenport, Wyn Wyman, Maree Wrack, Julie and Michael Stout, Iain MacGregor, Freddie Edmonds, Margaret Prior and Marion Bowers, we offer our grateful thanks, as without these kind people this project would not have been at all possible.

In particular, SAVE acknowledges the generous support of the Show organisers, Vision Exhibitions, and their directors, Peter Hesketh and Richard Campbell, who kindly donated this opportunity and enabled us to enhance our funds by approximately \$4,000.

## ATTRACTIVE WIND-CHEATERS FOR SALE

The SAVE office has a range of top quality polyester/cotton wind-cheaters for sale at the very reasonable price of \$30 each. They come in five colours, white, black, red, royal blue and navy, and the SAVE logo can be in either white or gold. Sizes are M, L, XL and XXL.

They do look stunning, are very smart (see photo of Tim Scarrott, page 4) and yet another way that we are able to raise vital funds to help with the plight of the black rhino.

The SAVE office is open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm, and Glen will help you choose one that really looks nice. By the way, while you are there, please look at our carvings, prints, pictures, jewellery and other items.

## GENERAL MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH

The Executive has decided to hold regular general meetings for members, beginning on Tuesday, 11 August, and continuing every two months on the second Tuesday of the month.

Please contact Glen on 444 6560 for the venue and time.

## R.I.P. JEFF STUTCHBURY

It is with deep regret that we heard of the sad passing away of Jeff Stutchbury. To his wife Veronica, sons, Ralph, Glenn and Wayne, we send our condolences on your bereavement.

Jeff was well known to Executives within SAVE, in particular Ingrid Schroeder (U.S.A.), Babette Alfieri (U.S.A.), Marion Bowers (Australia) and Nicholas Duncan (Australia), as well as many other members of SAVE who visited Jeff and Veronica's marvellous home at Chikwenya Camp on the banks of the Zambezi in the Mana Pools National Park. It was a sheer delight to be with Jeff, especially on safari, as he was so knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the entire environment in which he lived. Without doubt, he was one of the true identities, characters and personalities of the southern African bush. Anyone who visited Chikwenya would always remember his tremendous after-dinner slide shows that he presented to all his guests, which really brought life to the African night.

Jeff's presence will be sadly missed by all true lovers of the African wilderness.

## "SPIRIT OF THE ZAMBEZI"

by Jeff and Veronica Stutchbury

Jeff's family are trying to fulfil one of Jeff's last wishes before he passed away and that was to publish the long talked of book on the Zambezi and Chikwenya.

This unique book is the work of two fortunate people whose love for the Zambezi Valley is passionate and has grown stronger by their intimate contact, over the past 30 years, with the marvels of what has been described as the "Last of the Wild Places".

The photographs are from Jeff's extensive library and the text has been compiled from Veronica's diary of events through the years.

This publication is due to be released by Mail Order in November 1992. If you are interested in receiving a brochure, please send your details to the SAVE Office, 229 Oxford Street, Leederville, W.A. 6007.

## MELBOURNE NEWS

The SAVE Branch in Victoria took the opportunity during the World Cup cricket, to enlist the support of the cricket teams. During the match between England and Sri Lanka at Ballarat on March 9th, both teams signed T-shirts to be raffled on the day. There was little room to move with 8,000 crammed into the Ballarat ground, but we sold \$390 worth of tickets until drinks in the Sri-Lankan innings, when the raffle was drawn.

We greatly appreciate the tremendous support given to us by the Ballarat Cricket Association, especially the Secretary,

Mr Graham Hood. Thanks also to Aravinda DaSilva and Allan Lamb for arranging for the T-shirts to be signed.

Richie Richardson was also keen to lend his support, and during their stay in Melbourne, arranged for the West Indies to sign T-shirts (for the Australia-wide raffle).

SAVE members in Victoria have been working hard selling tickets for the Mammoth Raffle and on various local fund-raising activities.

The Victorian A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday, June 9th at 15 Dendy Street, Brighton at 7.30pm. For details, phone Susan on (03) 528 5462.



Ramsay Ziegelaar (President, Australia/Sri-Lanka Association) draws the winning ticket for the England T-Shirt.



# RHINO CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management in Zimbabwe now have an excellent plan for the future survival of the black rhino. Briefly, it is as follows.

## Objective 1:

*To conserve viable populations of black rhinos in the Parks and Wildlife Estate.*

In the areas of higher rhino concentration within the Parks and Wildlife Estate, in excess of 100 rhinos, efforts will be intensified to protect these populations. Manpower for patrol and protection will be increased so that there is a minimum of one man per 25 kilometres. There are eight such areas in Zimbabwe and these will be known as "Intensive Protection Zones" (see map).

## Objective 2:

*To develop translocated breeding nuclei elsewhere in Zimbabwe.*

In areas where there is a suitable carrying capacity for over 100 rhinos, an initial nucleus of 40 animals will be established. These selected areas for breeding nuclei will be within the National Parks and in certain commercial farming areas. These areas will be at least 50 kilometres and preferably 100 kilometres, from the border of any neighbouring country.

## Objective 3:

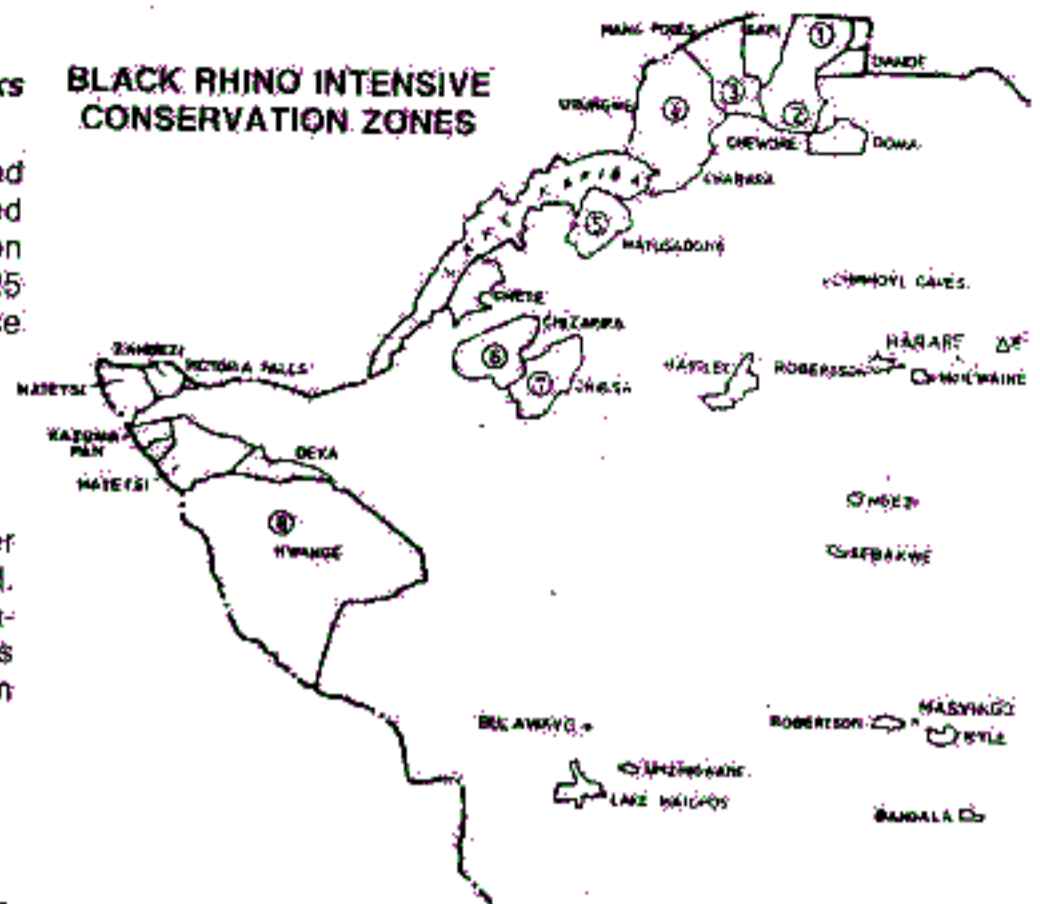
*To develop one or more captive breeding centres in Zimbabwe.*

Zimbabwe has established a major in-situ captive breeding centre at Boulton Atlantica on the outskirts of Harare, and there is also a small private facility at Chipangali Wildlife Orphanage, near Bulawayo. These locations are relatively small in area and depend entirely on outside sources for the food requirements.

The Harare Centre will cater for 16 rhino at present, increasing to 24 at full development.

It is estimated that the cost of holding each rhino under captive breeding conditions is approximately \$10,000 per year! These rhinos will be dehorned as protection against damage in the holding pens.

## BLACK RHINO INTENSIVE CONSERVATION ZONES



## Objective 4:

*To continue to support the international ex-situ captive breeding programme.*

It is recognised the ex-situ captive breeding programme is a backup to in-situ conservation, and is not a substitute for conservation of wild populations. Rather it is seen as the final form of insurance against the ultimate loss of a species.

Recently, a further 10 black rhinos were freighted to the U.S.A. as part of this programme and 10 will be coming to Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo, later in the year. (See last newsletter).

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SAVE AFRICAN ENDANGERED WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (AUSTRALIAN BRANCH) TO BE HELD AT THE ROYAL KING'S PARK TENNIS CLUB (LOWER PAVILION) AT 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1992.

### Business:

1. Acceptance of the Minutes from the Fourth Annual General Meeting held on June 11, 1991.
2. President's Report.
3. Treasurer's Report.
4. Election of Committee.
5. Any Other Business.

**Please Note:** Nomination forms for positions on the Executive, together with proxy forms, are available from the SAVE office in Perth. Under the Constitution, nominations will close at 7.30pm on Wednesday, June 3, 1992.

## RAFFLE EXTENDED TO JUNE 29TH

The Executive of SAVE would like to thank all members and friends who have helped in the sale of raffle tickets in the past two months. A number of you have purchased the book in your own right and for this we are tremendously appreciative. However, there are still some books that remain unsold and we hope to rectify this during the next month.

An extension for the draw was sought from the Gaming Commission and has been granted and the new date is June 29th, the results to be published in The Australian and The West Australian on July 3rd.

We recognise that the prizes are of no great value, but we believe that the cause is more than worthy of everyone's support. So, if you or your friends can help with the purchase/sale of another book or books, please contact Glen in the SAVE office on (09) 444 6550. Thank you.

## THANKS FOR THE CLOTHES

Your response to our appeal in the last newsletter has been overwhelming, and many people have delivered bags and boxes of their discarded clothing and footwear to the SAVE office. To you all, the Executive of SAVE and the National Parks of Zimbabwe, offer their sincere thanks for these gifts.

The first consignment of clothing was despatched to Zimbabwe in April, courtesy of Qantas Airways. These clothes will now be making life more bearable for the scouts, rangers and their families in the different National Parks within Zimbabwe. Two further large cartons of clothes were sent over in mid-May and will soon be reaching their appropriate destinations.

Once again, thank you to all our members for their support and we can make this an ongoing gift as and when you have spare clothes to donate.

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# ZIMBABWE UPDATE

The situation in Zimbabwe has reached crisis proportions! During the past eight months, 80 to 100 rhinos have been killed by Zimbabwe poachers, and there have been more poaching incursions in these months than at any other previous time. In recent weeks a number of poachers have been killed and captured and it is hoped that potential insurgents from Zambia are taking note!

However, on a more positive side, a most important meeting took place in Harare about a month ago. Gathered together were all personnel involved in this rhino war, and the outcome concluded that a concerted effort was needed by everyone to overcome the problems encountered in the field. As a result, a document has been produced with immediate short term and medium term actions necessary to be taken to save Zimbabwe's rhinos.

In view of this meeting, it is even more important that SAVE supports Zimbabwe in whatever way requested, as the next year is going to be absolutely vital in the rhino's fight to prevent extinction.

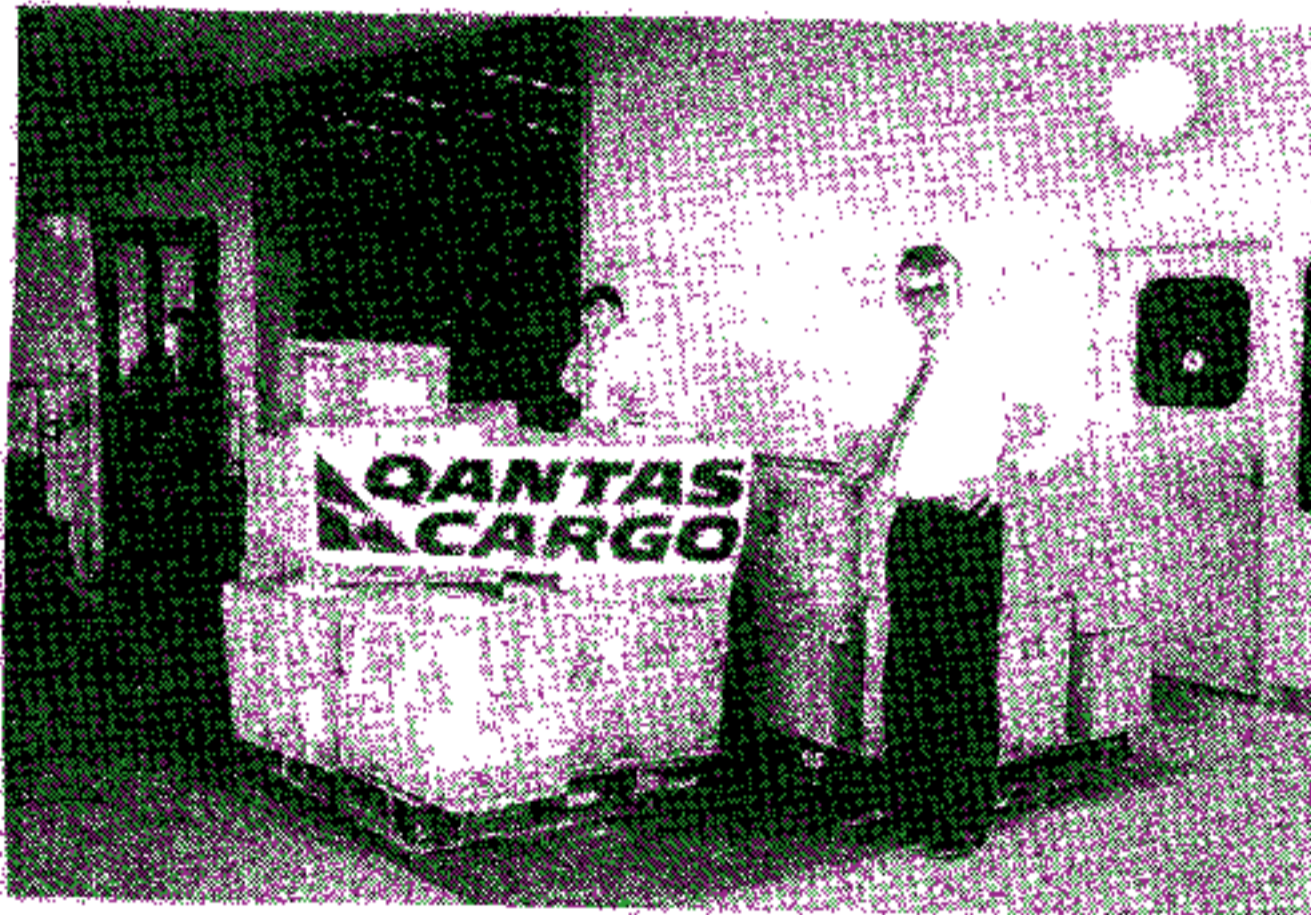
At a recent auction of fire-damaged stock, SAVE purchased 350 pairs of walking boots, 25 sleeping bags, an assortment of water bottles and cooking utensils, a number of compasses, some torches, boxes and boxes of chest and belt webbing and some pocket knives. This has all been despatched to Zimbabwe and Namibia, and, as ever, Qantas Airways was totally supportive with this project and kindly donated the air freight. This consignment weighed approximately 500 kilograms and hence this was a very major donation by Qantas. We thank Wayne Litton in Sydney and Terry Duke in Perth for their great co-operation.

In late April, 10 rhinos were freighted to the U.S.A. to add to the black rhino population in that country, as part of the ex-situ captive breeding programme. Later in the year, another 10 will be going to the Cocos Islands for quarantine, finally arriving at the newly created rhino centre in Dubbo.

For two weeks in June, the Australian media will be in Zimbabwe gathering information for various stories on the



*Sorting through 350 pairs of boots.*



*Twenty-five cartons of supplies for Zimbabwe and Namibia, courtesy of Terry Duke and Qantas.*

translocation of rhinos to Australia. A film documentary crew will be preparing a number of news releases, including a one hour documentary, and it is expected that SAVE will be the vehicle through which all funds will be raised once these stories are released in Australia.

Dr Mike Kock just informed SAVE that an enormous amount of dehorning and radio-collaring of rhinos will take place this winter and he again seeks SAVE's support with this project. No doubt we will be happy to help as this is now considered one of the major anti-poaching preventative measures that can be taken.

The severe droughts in southern Africa, especially Zimbabwe, have been highlighted in the press, and we can only hope that the need by Zimbabweans to survive does not add to the already heavy burden placed on the personnel within National Parks.

## SAFARI '92 — FIVE COUNTRIES

Preparations and plans for this year's super safari are now well under way. We envisage that a group of 16 will be spending four days with the gorillas in Rwanda, sight-seeing for two days in and around Nairobi, and safarising for three days in the Luangwa Valley at Babette Alfieri's camp. Also included is three days at Chikwenya Camp on the Zambezi, two days on the shores of Lake Kariba, three days at Victoria Falls, five days

at interesting locations in Namibia, and four days in and around Harare.

The essence of this trip will be to become fully acquainted with various major environmental/conservation projects currently active in different parts of Africa, and to be able to meet all the key personnel in these fields. There will be tremendous opportunities for game viewing from close quarters and a whole variety of animals will be seen at the different locations. Going

behind the scenes, because of our contacts, is something that will make this a very special month in your life.

The trip will be between mid-October to mid-November, based on share-twin accommodation and further details can be obtained from Nicholas Duncan on (09) 444 1545.

The built-in profit margin will be offered as a donation to SAVE and various needy items will be donated to the different game parks as we visit them.