

# TUSK TALK





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Northern Rangelands Trust  
Okapi Conservation project  
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Spectrecom  
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Susan Canney  
Tristan Sewings  
Virunga Foundation  
WildAid  
Wildlife Crime Prevention Project

FRONT COVER

**Wild Dog** by David Yarrow  
A long-term supporter of Tusk, David very generously donates a percentage of his art sales to the charity.  
For more information please visit  
[www.davidyarrow.photography/gallery/wildlife](http://www.davidyarrow.photography/gallery/wildlife)

INSIDE FRONT COVER

**Carmine Bee-eaters** by Edward Selfe  
For more information please visit  
[www.edwardselfephotography.com](http://www.edwardselfephotography.com)

EDITOR

Sarah Watson



I am immensely proud to be Royal Patron of Tusk, a remarkable organisation now 25 years old – an anniversary which generated even more support over the last twelve months from the UK, USA and around the world.

The Charity's response to the challenges of Africa's human wildlife conflict is one of conservation's biggest success stories and thanks to Tusk's vision and the dedicated work of its carefully selected project partners, large numbers of rural communities are now living peacefully alongside wildlife and benefiting from a more sustainable future.

Of course, we have yet to win the war against the criminal syndicates who are poaching elephant, rhino, and other species, whilst also tragically causing devastating losses to human life amongst the rangers who so bravely protect Africa's natural heritage. But as Tusk continues its work, often behind the scenes in collaboration with Government and other NGO's, we are winning new and powerful allies to help halt the savage illegal trade that should have *no* place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Whilst we continue to fight the illegal wildlife trade we must not - and cannot - ignore the relentless destruction of forests and loss of wilderness. Africa's population is set to exceed 2.4 billion by 2050, which means the pressure on land and wildlife will only grow. However there are shining examples of community-led initiatives supported by Tusk leading the way in protecting vast tracts of vital habitat such as that under the stewardship of the Northern Rangelands Trust in Kenya. Similar initiatives exist in southern Africa and it is these innovative community programmes which provide a blueprint for much of Africa's wild places and help to ensure their survival for generations to come.

We may live in increasingly uncertain times, but I have great hopes for the future as Tusk looks beyond 2050 to a world where our children and grandchildren will still be able to share with Africa's people its irreplaceable natural heritage. We owe it to them and I hope we can count on your continued support as Tusk strives to meet these challenges.



# Welcome

**Tusk Trust has just marked an important milestone. In 2015, we celebrated the charity's Silver Jubilee. For over 25 years, Tusk has worked to protect the wildlife and habitats of Africa. While we celebrated our achievements, it was also a time to reflect and acknowledge how much more there is to do.**

Africa today is at a crossroads. Across the continent many political, social and economic problems remain. And yet, many countries in Africa are enjoying double digit growth, with rapidly expanding populations together with a growing middle class.

There is much to be positive about in Africa's future. All this, however, represents new challenges for the wildlife and habitats we seek to protect. The erosion of these habitats is a serious threat for many endangered species. Coupled with the alarming growth in illegal wildlife crime and an epidemic in poaching, the future is far from certain.

Tusk is now looking forward. Building on the work we have done for a quarter of a century, we're determined to provide the source of support, intervention and new thinking that will help protect and preserve Africa's wildlife for generations to come.

As a small charity with a big ambition, it's incumbent that we continue to reach out to our many friends, supporters and donors, so that we can make the biggest possible impact.

We are hugely indebted to our Royal Patron, HRH The Duke of Cambridge, for his tireless support of Tusk and for his interventions on the global stage. Together with our Trustees, the many high profile patrons and the dedicated staff who support us, Tusk is now looking to the future with renewed rigour and determination.

Across Africa, Tusk is supporting our many project partners to deliver impactful and positive outcomes on the ground. Their selfless commitment to the cause of conservation enables us to do what we do. It is often a thousand small initiatives that achieve a big aim.

And in the United States, Tusk USA is now firmly established and taking the message about our work across America. We're greatly looking forward to working with our US colleagues in broadening the scope of what we can do.

Finally, on behalf of the Trustees, a huge thank you for picking up this copy of *Tusk Talk*. Whether you are a long-term supporter, project partner, existing donor or reading about our charity for the first time, your interest and commitment to the future of Africa's wildlife is vitally important.

Thank you.

*Stephen Watson*



# Thoughts from the field

**I am writing my annual message having finished a major tour of Tusk-supported projects in Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.**

I return buoyed up once again by the incredibly positive energy and commitment that I witnessed with our partners working across Africa. Wildlife conservation is staggeringly tough and the challenges are multiple (physical, financial, and political), but what sets apart the people that Tusk works with, regardless of the hurdles thrown in front of them, is their ability to get things done. I always find such trips truly inspiring and humbling.

Over the last few years, we have focused a great deal on the enormous threat coming from the burgeoning illegal trade in wildlife. But we must never lose sight of perhaps the biggest challenge that wildlife ultimately faces — the destruction and loss of habitat. Africa's population is projected to double to 2.4 billion by 2050. Kenya's population, which has already grown from 16 million in 1980 to 47 million today, is predicted to reach a staggering 95 million by 2050. These are frightening figures.

So it was particularly interesting that my journey should take in some of the most critical large tracts of intact wildlife habitat in each of the three countries I visited. My first port of call was three fledgling and adjoining community managed conservancies in Marsabit that fall under the wider umbrella of the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) in Kenya — an organisation Tusk has supported since its inception. This exciting initiative now protects an area of over three million acres or 31,000km<sup>2</sup> — making it as large as the total area protected by National Parks in Kenya. I was fortunate enough to spend three days with NRT's visionary founder, Ian Craig. NRT is the epitome of effective ecosystem conservation which works, most importantly, for the benefit of over 300,000 rural Kenyans.

In Tanzania, I had the chance to revisit Mkomazi — now fully protected under National Parks status thanks to the remarkable persistence of legendary conservationist Tony Fitzjohn OBE. When Tony arrived in Mkomazi, this important wildlife refuge — an extension of the great Tsavo ecosystem to the north — was under threat from hunters, miners and cattle herders. Today the 1,500km<sup>2</sup> is now a safe haven for wildlife on the Tanzanian/Kenyan border.

Meanwhile in Zimbabwe, where land reform and economic strife has created huge challenges, I was able to visit a collection of adjoining private and community conservancies that make up The Savé Valley Conservancy — the impressive Malilangwe Reserve, the new Jamanda Conservancy, and the Gonarezhou National Park. Together they form the Zimbabwean piece in the much larger Great Limpopo Trans Frontier Conservation Area (GLTFCA) initiative, which also takes in the huge Kruger National Park and reserves in Mozambique. The total land mass under protection is over 37,500km<sup>2</sup> (the size of the Netherlands). While the GLTFCA participant areas are experiencing varying success with

their anti-poaching activities, the point is that here is a vast piece of African bush which has real hope of being saved for future generations to enjoy.

So while Tusk continues to support a broad range of projects across the African continent, we are also electing initiatives that will preserve large, connected tracts of land, allowing for a conservation approach that focuses on the protection of ecosystems and that will importantly enable the continued existence of Africa's megafauna.

## Thank you

2015 represented a successful milestone for Tusk as we celebrated our 25th anniversary and we are enormously grateful to all our donors across the world for their generous support of our appeal — the impact of which has been felt far and wide by our project partners.

Last year also saw some real progress on the global political stage, as increasing numbers of African and world leaders expressed their support for the Elephant Protection Initiative, launched at the London Conference in 2014. Tusk's Royal Patron, HRH The Duke of Cambridge, has continued to be at the forefront of this international effort. Perhaps most significantly of all was the joint statement made by US President Barack Obama and China's President Xi Jinping in September, in which they announced their agreement to close domestic trade in elephant ivory, paving the way for significant change.

Despite the political pressure and the subsequent drop in the price of ivory in China, there is yet to be any significant respite for elephant across Africa. There are pockets of success and Kenya has made considerable progress in reducing outright poaching. Whereas Tanzania and Mozambique remain disastrous and South Africa is continuing to lose up to three rhino a day to highly organised and sophisticated criminal poaching syndicates.

We have to push on all fronts — working hard to reduce demand in consumer countries; to increase security where possible on the ground; to improve the law enforcement and judicial process; and to maintain high level penalties as a deterrent in the courts. We clearly still have our hands full!

As is the tradition in this publication, I would like to acknowledge the massive contribution made by our retiring Trustees, Philip Cayford QC and James Lindsay, who both stepped down at the AGM in 2015 according to the terms of the Trust's constitution. Both Philip and James have been long-serving and loyal members of our Board and I am delighted that they have agreed to remain within the 'Tusk family' by continuing to act as ambassadors of the charity.

*Charlie Mayhew*



# Highlights from our Anniversary Year

## Tanzania Project visit

Tusk's CEO and Director of Programmes, Charlie Mayhew and Sarah Watson, kicked off the anniversary year with a visit to Tanzania where they saw first-hand the work of **Ruaha Carnivore Programme**, **Serengeti Rabies Project** and **The Big Life Foundation's** Tanzania arm.



FEBRUARY

## Prince William in China

**Tusk's Royal Patron** made an historic visit to China which included an engagement at a Dai village in Yunnan province. Speaking about the illegal wildlife trade, Prince William stated, 'It is a vicious form of criminality: plundering the natural resources of poorer countries, taking lives, hindering development and spreading corruption'.



MARCH



## Setting new records

The 16th edition of the **Safaricom Marathon** set a new record when registration for the event closed after three hours having secured 1,400 runners for the event held in June.

## PACE reaches Francophone Africa

With **ICAP Charity Day** funding, **DHL**, and **mailworkshop.co.uk** support. Tusk was able to deliver french translated PACE packs to over 60 organisations in West Africa.

## Tusk's Wildlife Gala

Tusk's 25th Anniversary celebration at Guastavino's in New York was an evening of fun and philanthropy. **Jack Jones** was honoured and best-selling author **Jodi Picoult** recounted her experience researching elephants in Botswana. The evening was nothing short of inspiring.



## Mothercare Tusk range

In Shanghai on the 3rd March, Tusk's CEO, **Charlie Mayhew**, attended the launch of **Mothercare's** superb new Tusk product range, sold in support of our conservation work. To date, the collaboration with Mothercare has raised a fantastic total of £115,000 for Tusk.

## Deborah Meaden in Malawi

Tusk Patron and BBC 'dragon' **Deborah Meaden** and her husband **Paul Farmer** took time out to visit the Lilongwe Wildlife Centre in Malawi. They saw the impressive Lilongwe's education team in action and had a quick tour of the sanctuary.



APRIL

## Conservation

### Through Public Health

**Sarah Watson**, Tusk's Director of Programmes, visited **Gladys Kalema** the founder and driving force behind the unique and very successful CTPH project in Bwindi National Park, Uganda. Sarah inspected a Health and Gorilla Conservation Centre that had been constructed with Tusk funding. *See page 62 for details.*



MAY

## Evening at Windsor Castle

**The Duke of Cambridge** kindly hosted a gala dinner at Windsor Castle to mark the 25th Anniversary of the charity. *See pages 60-61 for details.*



## Rhino translocation

After intensive planning, 10 rhinos were translocated from Lewa, Nakuru and Nairobi National Parks to a sanctuary within the community owned and operated **Sera Community Conservancy**. *See pages 30-31 for details.*

## 16th Safaricom Marathon

**Pippa Middleton** 'ticked a life box' after completing the Safaricom Marathon — her first full marathon, raising £10,000 in the process.



JUNE



## Highlights from our Anniversary Year (Cont.)

### Wildlife Ranger Day

At a special ceremony **Edward Ndiritu** of the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy was presented with a letter from Prince William congratulating him on being the winner of the inaugural Tusk Wildlife Ranger Award. He was selected for his outstanding leadership and commitment in the face of the escalating threat from poachers in northern Kenya.  
*See pages 16-18 for details.*



JULY



### Kenya joins the EPI

In July Kenya signed up to the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI) and agreed to destroy their large ivory stockpiles in 2016: a vital step in the battle to stop the poaching of elephants.  
*See pages 46-47 for details*



### Cecil the Lion

As tragic as his death was the killing of Cecil the Lion helped draw attention to the plight of the African lion.  
*See pages 24-25 for details.*

AUGUST



### A celebration of Kenya's leading conservationists

The former British High Commissioner for Kenya, **Dr. Christian Turner CMG**, hosted 170 guests at his Residence in Nairobi to meet some of Kenya's most inspirational conservationists, and celebrate past and present Kenyan finalists and winners of the Tusk Conservation Awards.

SEPTEMBER

**Syon Ball**  
**The Duke of Cambridge** joined more than five hundred guests at Syon House for Tusk's 25th Anniversary Ball.  
*See pages 8-9 for details.*



### Warlords of Ivory

Tusk USA partnered with National Geographic for a screening of the acclaimed film *Explorer: Warloads of Ivory* in which viewers follow investigative journalist, **Bryan Christy**, on his daring journey to expose the inner workings of the ivory trade in Africa.

OCTOBER

**Prince William calls China to action**  
Prince William addressed an audience at King's College London which included broadcasters **Sir David Attenborough** and **Bear Grylls**. During his speech Prince William urged Chinese citizens to stop buying illegally traded wildlife products.



### Tusk — a Travel Award Winner

Tusk Trust was presented with a World Tourism Award at the 18th Annual World Tourism Awards Ceremony.

NOVEMBER

**David Yarrow exhibition**  
One of Tusk's most generous supporters, photographer David Yarrow, hosted a preview of his award-winning wildlife photography at the Rotella Gallery in New York.

**Tusk Conservation Awards 2015**  
Conservationists from Namibia, Zambia, Kenya, DRC and Liberia were honoured at the annual Awards ceremony.  
*See pages 54-55 for details.*



### Don McCullin at Christie's

Guests at the exclusive 2015 Christie's Lecture were treated to a fascinating interview of the legendary British photojournalist Don McCullin by the BBC broadcaster and Tusk Patron, **Kate Silverton**. Don generously offered a print, *Elephants of the Ganges*, for auction in aid of the charity, which raised £8,500 for Tusk.

DECEMBER



### Prince Harry meets Tusk project partners

During a visit to South Africa, Prince Harry took the opportunity to visit the Southern African Wildlife College where he met graduating students and visited the field ranger training centre.



# Tusk's 25th Anniversary Ball at Syon House

Tusk's Royal Patron Prince William joined more than five hundred guests at Syon House for Tusk's 25th Anniversary Ball. Chaired by Tusk patron, Deborah Meaden, the Anniversary Ball guests included her fellow Dragon's Den panellists, Peter Jones and Theo Paphitis as well as Grammy Award winning singer and songwriter, Joss Stone, whose memorable performance was the highlight of the evening.

In a typically passionate speech made at the event, Prince William said: "We must take action... We must help educate growing populations in Africa who live alongside [wildlife] and benefit from their economic value. I'm proud to say that Tusk specialises in this."

After his speech, Prince William introduced a short video message from Sir David Attenborough, whom he described as "a man who has devoted his life to the cause of wildlife, and who has inspired generations of conservationists."

Sir David added his own special thanks to Tusk for twenty-five ground-breaking years in the field.

Also at Syon House to celebrate the charity's remarkable achievements were Kate Silverton-Heron, Eammon Holmes and Ruth Langford, Simon King, Nitin Sawney and Don McCullin.

The evening included a live auction conducted by ex-international rugby player Martin Bayfield, with the star lot being a Land Rover Defender 90XS which went under the hammer for an incredible £55,000. The event raised a staggering £400,000 in total.

Charlie Mayhew, CEO and co-founder of Tusk, said, "Whilst we are thrilled to celebrate this significant milestone for the charity, the current poaching crisis is a stark reminder that our work is not complete."

"The next twenty-five years will be a defining period for the survival of an increasing number of Africa's iconic and much-loved species."

Tusk would like to thank long-standing partner Land Rover for their generous support of the event. The champagne and wines were kindly supplied by Justerini & Brooks and the Tusk 25th anniversary-inspired cocktails by Johnnie Walker and Tanqueray. Tusk would also like to thank the luxury tour operator, Scott Dunn for their invaluable support.

Many thanks to the event committee, Birley Events, and especially Deborah Meaden for all of her time.



TOP ROW, L-R A Range Rover, generously provided by Land Rover, arrives with guests in front of Syon House; Prince William talking to Tusk USA Director Wendy Breck, Robert Fairbairn of BlackRock and Tusk USA Director Sarah Fairbairn; Charlie Mayhew, Tusk CEO; Prince William delivering his speech; Mark Franklin, Tusk USA Director, and Marnie Franklin.

BOTTOM ROW, L-R Joss Stone and Prince William; Prince William with the evening's entertainers; Prince William and the 'The Dragons' – Peter Jones, Deborah Meaden and Theo Paphitis; Elizabeth Offord and David Yarrow.

## FOR LIFE'S JOURNEYS

landrover.com

ABOVE & BEYOND

Official fuel consumption figures for the Discovery 4 SDV6 in mpg (l/100km): Urban 32.5 (8.7), Extra urban 37.2 (7.6), Combined 35.3 (8.0). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions g/km: 213. Drive responsibly on and off-road.





# How Tusk makes a difference

Tusk's 25th anniversary year exceeded all expectations allowing our Trustees in the UK and USA to allocate a record-breaking amount of funds to a record-breaking number of projects. Here are some key facts and figures about how your generous support and partnerships made a difference last year.

- Over £4m supporting 68 projects across 19 African countries.
- In one year Tusk doubled the amount of funding to our local project partners.
- 43 key species are the focus of Tusk-supported projects.
- 91 National parks, reserves and community conservancies under conservation management.
- Over 1,000,000 people benefit from Tusk's investment.
- Just 11 people, based in the UK, USA and Kenya, make up the highly motivated Tusk team.

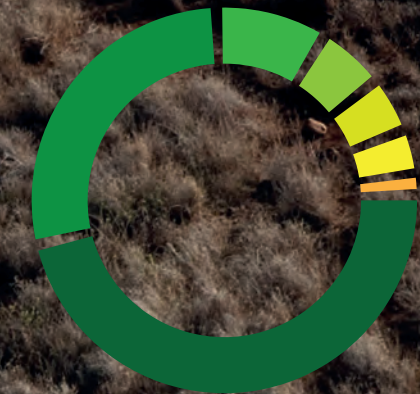
The investment in our programmes and the Tusk Foundation in 2015 represented 78% of net income. Crucially the Charity's expenditure on administration in the UK and USA was just 15% of net revenue. A further £320k was donated and earmarked for the benefit of the charity's endowment — the Tusk Foundation.

Thanks to the huge success of the 25th anniversary appeal, Trustees elected to carry forward £655k to be effectively deployed in support of the Charity's conservation work in 2016.



Tusk UK and Tusk USA  
GRANTS PAID IN 2015  
Over many years the work of Tusk has developed into the four focus areas of:

- Publication and Awareness (5%)
- Promoting Education (25%)
- Supporting Communities (30%)
- Protecting Wildlife (40%)

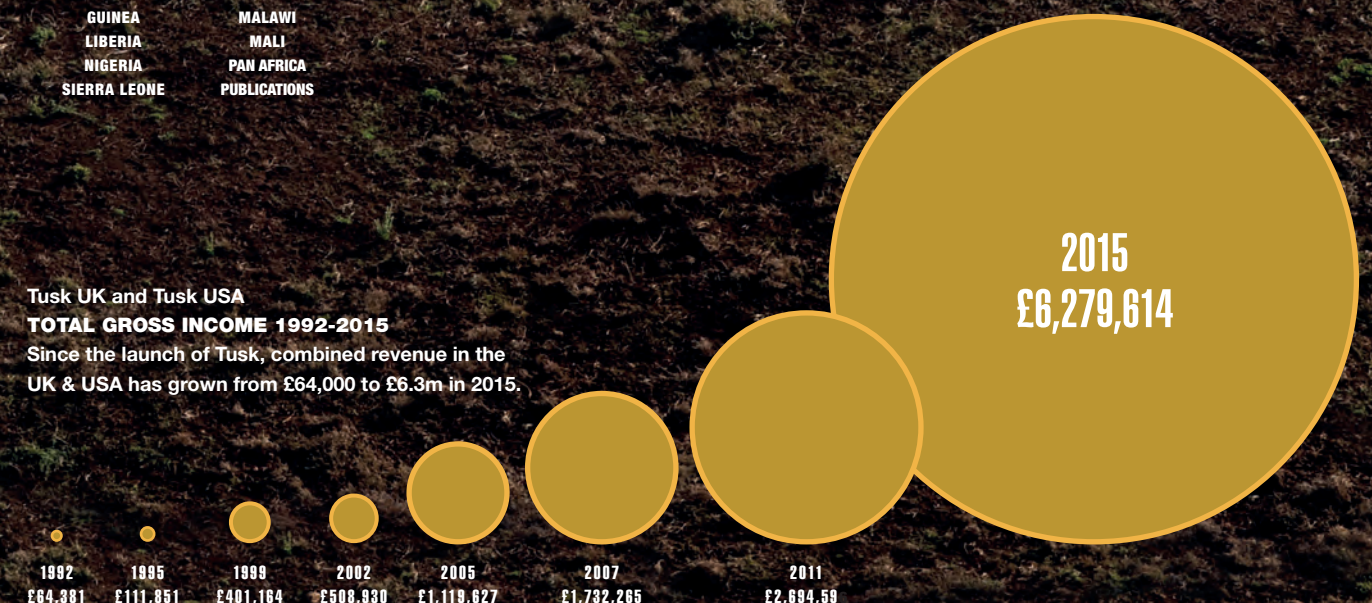


Tusk UK and Tusk USA  
SOURCE OF FUNDS IN 2015  
During the year Tusk was fortunate to have received some very generous donations and pledges. We are immensely grateful to every individual, trust and business, who kindly contributed to the appeal.

Tusk UK and Tusk USA  
GRANTS BY COUNTRY IN 2015



Tusk UK and Tusk USA  
TOTAL GROSS INCOME 1992-2015  
Since the launch of Tusk, combined revenue in the UK & USA has grown from £64,000 to £6.3m in 2015.





# Tusk’s approach to conservation

Over the last 40 years, the world’s wildlife population has decreased by more than half and some of the planet’s most iconic species are on the brink of extinction. Fuelled by the illegal wildlife trade, rapid population growth, and economic inequality, the destruction of Africa’s natural resources has reached an unprecedented level. This threatens not only the continent’s wildlife but also the entire, fragile fabric of African society.

Tusk was formed in 1990 after the poaching eras of the 70s and 80s, when African elephant and rhino were killed in vast numbers. This is reflected in the name of the charity — Tusk. At the beginning of this crisis endangered species were the focus for the Charity with funding

provided for the purchase of an aircraft for anti-poaching work in Tanzania and a rescue mission to move wildlife in Zimbabwe within the first few years of operation.

But as Tusk grew so did people’s understanding of conservation. A new century brought with it holistic, all-encompassing conservation models — ones that didn’t look at wildlife in isolation but, instead, realised that their existence is integral to the people with which they share the land.

Community-based conservation is now at the heart of Tusk’s philosophy. There is an inextricable link between the conservation of the wildlife, Africa’s resources, and the economic improvement of rural African

communities. We believe that providing sustainable development opportunities and improving education programmes aimed at alleviating poverty among rural communities will ultimately produce a more secure future for the continent’s wildlife.

To achieve this Tusk provides conservationists working in the field with the financial, logistical, and practical support that they need to succeed.

In the following pages we look at just a handful of the 67 projects that we support; all examples of the three pillars of Tusk’s philosophy: Protecting Wildlife – Supporting Communities – Promoting Education.



Protecting Wildlife,  
Supporting Communities,  
Promoting Education

Highlighted projects are featured in detail on the following pages.

AFRICA	PACE
	Pride Alliance
	Stop Ivory
	WildAid
BOTSWANA	Botswana Predator Conservation Trust Central Kalahari Research and Conservation Coaching for Conservation Mokolodi Nature Reserve
CAMEROON	Cross River Gorilla Conservation Project
DRC	Okapi Conservation Project Virunga Foundation Walkale Gorilla and Forest Conservation Project
GABON	Loango Ape Project
GHANA	Wulugu Project
GUINEA	Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project
KENYA	Big Life Foundation
	Borana Conservancy
	Ewaso Lion Project
	Kenya Water Projects
	Koiyaki Guiding School
	Lamu Marine Conservation Project
	Lewa Education Programme
	Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
	Local Ocean Trust
	Milgis Trust
	Mount Kenya Trust
	Mountain Bongo Surveillance Project
	Northern Rangelands Trust
	Oi Pejeta Conservancy
	Reteti Elephant Sanctuary (RESCUE)
	Save the Elephants
	Space for Giants
	The Maa Trust
	Tsavo Trust
LIBERIA	Fauna & Flora International
MADAGASCAR	Blue Ventures
	C3 Madagascar
	Durrell Madagascar
	IMPACT Madagascar
MALAWI	Lilongwe Wildlife Trust
MALI	Mali Elephant Project
NAMIBIA	AfriCat Foundation
	Integrated Rural Development & Nature Conservation
	Save the Rhino Trust
NIGERIA	Yankari Game Reserve
SIERRA LEONE	Tacugama
SOUTH AFRICA	Save the Waterberg Rhino
	Singita Community Trust
	Southern African Wildlife College
	The Bateleurs
	The Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit
	VulPro
TANZANIA	Wilderness Foundation
	Mkomazi National Park
	Ruaha Carnivore Project
	Serengeti Rabies Vaccination Project
UGANDA	Conservation Through Public Health
	Uganda Conservation Foundation
ZAMBIA	Conservation Lower Zambezi
	Conservation South Luangwa
	Kafue Corridor Project
	Wildlife Crime Prevention Project
	Zambian Carnivore Programme
	Zambia Primate Project
ZIMBABWE	Malilangwe Trust
	Painted Dog Conservation
	Savé Valley Conservancy

## Project update

PROJECT	Okapi Conservation Project (OCP)
COUNTRY	DRC

The project, which is managed by Wildlife Conservation Global, has been operating in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve since 1987.

The Reserve, a 13,700km² swathe of Ituri Forest located in the northeastern part of DRC, is one of the most biologically diverse areas in all of Africa and home to the largest populations of forest elephants, okapi, and chimpanzees in the country. OCP partners with

the Institute in Congo for the Conservation of Nature (ICCN), a government organisation, to develop an effective guard force that can protect the vulnerable area and the species within it.

Tusk’s recent grant has supported OCP’s plan to improve the capacity of the ICCN through provision of training, equipment, and salary funding for the wildlife rangers.



PROJECT	Milgis Trust
COUNTRY	Kenya

The Trust’s operational area is located in northern Kenya between the Matthews Range, Ndoto Mountains, and Kirisia Hills.

Working with local communities, the Milgis Trust aims to facilitate the return of key wildlife species (particularly elephant), into this area of northern Kenya and support community development initiatives.

Funding from the Safaricom Marathon, which is organised annually by Tusk, has supported a number of the project’s initiatives. The Milgis Trust run pivotal meetings for their scouts, Lkiramats (community collaborators), and the extended community that allow information and techniques to be shared and

provide a forum where challenges can be discussed.

The marathon funding has also helped vaccinate over 700 dogs in the area and helped provide training on the proper use of livestock drugs and identification of livestock diseases. Additionally, Tusk support has aided the project’s Family Planning initiative that seeks to educate local women about the use and benefit of contraception.

The success experienced by the Milgis Trust in this area hinges on their holistic approach to conservation and the mutual respect nurtured in their working relationship with the local communities.





PROJECT

Reteti Elephant Sanctuary (RESCUE)

COUNTRY

Kenya

RESCUE is a community-owned elephant orphanage and animal rehabilitation centre which will focus on the rescue, welfare, protection and reintroduction of orphaned elephant and other mammals in the wider Matthews Range ecosystem.

With generous support from Nick Southgate, Tusk funding has enabled the construction of the orphanage, procurement of all equipment, and the training of locally employed staff to operate the programme.

Even in its construction phase the project has had a positive

impact. The installation of a 14km pipeline has now been partially redirected to the local community.

Local support has also been strengthened as a result of the formation of the Community Board, which in time will have oversight of the project's community liaison and training.

The project has generated a significantly higher level of local employment, which has simultaneously raised awareness for the project's goals while having a positive socioeconomic impact in the area.



PROJECT

Tsavo Trust

COUNTRY

Kenya

The Trust supports wildlife conservation and community conservation in Kenya's greater Tsavo ecosystem.


This immense region, spanning 42,000km<sup>2</sup>, is called the Tsavo Conservation Area (TCA) and comprises three adjoining National Parks (Tsavo East, Tsavo West and Chyulu Hills) which constitutes the country's largest officially gazetted protected area.

The region harbours an immense biodiversity, both inside and outside the National Parks, including Kenya's largest but increasingly threatened elephant

population. The main initiative that Tusk has been able to support substantially, particularly with Safaricom Marathon funding, is the Big Tusker Project — a joint-endavour between Tsavo Trust and Kenya Wildlife Service.

The project provides specialised protection and monitoring for Tsavo's largest and most iconic elephant on the ground and from the air.

In 2015, Tusk supported the Trust's ground unit operations, covering vehicle running costs and rangers' salaries.



PROJECT

Yankari Game Reserve

COUNTRY

Nigeria

In Bauchi State is Nigeria's richest wildlife site and home to one of the largest remaining elephant populations in West Africa.

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has been working in Yankari since 2009 and in 2014 signed a four-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Bauchi State to manage all protection activities within the reserve.

By providing focused support to ranger patrols, levels of protection have improved and elephant poaching has declined

recently. However a lack of community outreach work has meant that levels of support for conservation remain relatively low due to unresolved human-elephant conflict issues.

Tusk's grant in 2015 supported WCS's initiative to recruit and train Elephant Guardians within the community to reduce levels of human-elephant conflict in and around the Yankari Game Reserve.



PROJECT

The Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit

COUNTRY

South Africa


Founded in 2013 by Transfrontier Africa, the Black Mamba APU was created to protect the Olifants West Region of Balule Nature Reserve. The female-only unit is the first of its kind that strives to deter poaching with a focus on community development and education. The unit currently consists of 26 women, who provide support to 23 armed guards operating within Balule and along its boundaries.

Prior to the Black Mamba unit, Balule had lost 19 rhino in less than a year. After the first year of

deployment, no rhino were lost and snaring was reduced by 86%.

In the time that the unit has been operating, Balule have lost only five rhino in three poaching incidents.

The Black Mambas are now embarking on an expansion programme funded by Tusk that will employ, train and equip 12 more young women in the wildlife areas surrounding the tribal villages of Mashishimale and Maseke.



PROJECT

Fauna & Flora International

COUNTRY

Liberia

As Liberia recovers from years of conflict, war-torn communities are slowly returning to their ancestral lands and Fauna & Flora International (FFI) is helping them to secure sustainable livelihoods.

FFI played a crucial role in the re-establishment of the country's only National Park, Sapo. This globally important lowland rainforest region is rich in endemic and rare species. Diana monkeys, chimpanzees and other endangered animals rely on this forest for their survival.

Sadly, it is at risk from extreme and immediate threats in the forms of slash-and-burn agricultural expansion, mining, and poaching.

FFI received Tusk funding following the nomination of Dr. Mary Molokwu, their Technical Advisor for Education and Research, for the 2015 Tusk Award for Conservation in Africa.

Despite not winning the award, as a finalist Mary attained recognition and funding for her work to support the development of more effective law enforcement within and around Sapo — a park where new species of fauna and flora continue to be discovered, demonstrating how vital it is to conserve this West African wildlife refuge.



PROJECT

Mali Elephant Project

COUNTRY

Mali

The Mali Elephant Project (MEP) aims to secure the future of an iconic elephant population that roams over a vast area of 32,000 km<sup>2</sup> in the arid Gourma region of central Mali, making the largest annual elephant migration in Africa.

MEP's objectives are, firstly, to protect the elephants, their habitat and the migration route; secondly, to resolve human-elephant conflict so that humans and elephants can coexist peaceably; and thirdly, to rehabilitate the habitats of the ecosystem.

MEP brings together diverse clans and ethnicities to establish natural resource management systems which protect the elephant migration route, increase

the quantity of resources by reversing destructive practices, and empower communities to sustainably manage the resources on which their livelihoods depends.

Tusk funds are currently supporting MEP to develop their long-term capacity to protect the elephants of Mali, which involves support and training of the community brigades, the deployment of 50 additional foresters across 10 newly created forester posts, and the engagement of the Malian military in anti-poaching patrols.



PROJECT

VulPro

COUNTRY

South Africa

Africa's eight vulture species have declined in number by an average of 62% during the last 30 years, and several species were uplisted by the IUCN in 2015 to reflect this growing pressure.

The main threats faced by vultures are rapid urbanisation, poaching for witchcraft beliefs, poisoned carcasses, and electrocution.

To counter these threats, VulPro rescue and rehabilitate injured vultures, manage 'vulture restaurants' where carrion-eaters can find poison-free carcasses, and run extensive public awareness and educational outreach campaigns to tackle the stigma attached to a species.

Early this year VulPro embarked on a media campaign initiative with Tusk support to tackle the lack of awareness people have for vultures and the critical role they play in our ecosystems.

Vultures are capable of metabolising horrific diseases (anthrax, botulism, and foot-and-mouth are a few examples) and in doing so prevent the spread of epidemics that are capable of wiping out entire populations of people and animals.

The campaign highlighted the plight of vultures and the work being done to save them across digital media, print, and static billboards.



PROJECT

Zambia Primate Project

COUNTRY

Zambia


Established by and with on-going support of the Born Free Foundation, the Zambia Primate Project (ZPP), now run by Game Rangers International, is one of Africa's most established and successful primate rescue and release programmes.

ZPP's mission is to rescue and rehabilitate injured, orphaned, and illegally held vervet monkeys and yellow baboons.

The great majority of primates that ZPP rescues are victims of the growing bushmeat trade in Zambia. The mothers are slaughtered for their meat, and their babies sold into the illegal pet trade.

ZPP received funding from Tusk in 2015 as a result of Cosmas Mumba, their project manager, being a finalist for a Tusk Conservation Award.

This funding will support the expansion of ZPP's confiscation and rescue programme and will improve the accommodation for ZPP's field team who work tirelessly in the often-harsh conditions of the Zambian bush.





# PROTECTING WILDLIFE

## Supporting Communities Promoting Education

Natasha Breed Author of *From Ox Cart To Email – The Story Of Lewa*

## Always room for wildlife...

In 1919, following the Great War, the British Government introduced a land lottery to encourage soldiers to stay on in the colonies. Lieutenant Alex Douglas — fresh from supplying Allied troops on the frontiers of British East Africa — was awarded a plot of land in recognition of his efforts.

It was a thorn-tangled, hard baked parcel of 5,000 acres lying on the northern foothills of snow-capped Mount Kenya, just north of the Equator. Harnessing his team of oxen to his wagon once more, he drove the few possessions he had to begin his new life, overlooking a series of hills and valleys that rose and fell away to the North. He named the place 'Lewa'.

With his wife, Elizabeth Cross, he combined ranching and farming while continuing to ride transport to Abyssinia. They had a daughter, Delia, but their marriage did not last. An unorthodox person, Douglas was a loner, and shunned society, spending all his time on horseback riding around his growing estate, as he bought up neighbouring land and

increased his livestock herds, always tolerating the presence of wildlife. Slowly he built up significant numbers of cattle and sheep, and enjoyed seeing the wildlife return to Lewa. Years of hunting by ardent sportsmen had taught the animals prudence but, unlike most settlers, Alex Douglas did not hunt, and in time the antelopes and lion, the zebra, giraffe and elephant became a regular feature of the scenery.

The wild animals always remained Douglas's passion, and when, in 1952, he passed his precious Lewa into the care of Delia and her husband, David Craig, he entreated them to "... make sure there's always room for wildlife..."

With a growing family of their own, David and Delia continued ranching and branched into tourism in the 1970s, running fly-camping safaris on Lewa that became the foundation of Wilderness Trails run by Will and Emma Craig today. As David and Delia's own children grew up, so did the very land they lived on. With the tourist venture going strong, wildlife became an even more important feature of Lewa.

### Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

When, in the 1980's, a wealthy English woman named Anna Merz approached the Craigs with the offer to fund a wildlife sanctuary, David, together with his older son Ian and the growing Lewa team, put all their efforts into forming

the new Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary, and soon Lewa was one of the few places in Kenya where black rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) could still be reliably viewed in the wild. Further successful breeding and the introduction of white rhino (*Ceratotherium simum*) brought the rhino population of Lewa to a point where a decision was made that the entire ranch — 45,000 acres — be electrically fenced. Soon the rhinos had staked their territories in every stand of trees, along stretches of river and on every rocky hilltop.

Lewa is also known for its sizeable Grevy's zebra population, being home to almost a fifth of the country's wild population of this distinctive northern species. And Lewa's plains, woodland, and wetlands provide dry season watering for resident buffalo and antelope herds, migrating elephants and big cats.

A century on, Lewa stands testament to Alex Douglas's wish — now a world-renowned conservancy. But in these troubled days of poaching to fuel the ivory and rhino horn markets in the East, this sanctuary to the wildlife comes at a great cost. The most vital aspect being the security that Lewa provides — in the form of men and women on the ground, electric fencing, eyes in the sky, patrol vehicles, communications, and tracker dogs. As well as the teams of scouts who patrol Lewa, there are armed rapid response teams, accorded police reserve status, who work closely with the



Protecting Wildlife TOP The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. ABOVE Lewa's anti-poaching team with Charlie Mayhew, Tusk's CEO.

Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Police and the Northern Rangelands Trust, safeguarding Lewa and the surrounding community wildlife areas.

### Tusk Conservation Awards

Edward Ndiritu is the Head of the Lewa Anti-Poaching unit, and the 2015 winner of Tusk's inaugural Wildlife Ranger Award.

He learned the news at a ceremony held at Lewa Headquarters to mark World Ranger Day, in July last year. As the security team stood, heads bowed — holding their caps to their hearts — there was no mistaking the respect and admiration felt by colleagues and friends on either side of the small arena. Unaware that he was about to be singled out, Edward was surprised when the CEO of Lewa,

Mike Watson, began reading out aloud from a letter, sent by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Cambridge.

It began...

"Dear Edward, may I take the opportunity to personally congratulate you on this richly deserved award and to thank you for the extraordinary contribution you and your team at the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy have made towards both the protection of wildlife and increased security for the rural communities of northern Kenya ..."

As Head of Lewa's Anti-Poaching Unit, Edward has capably led his team of wildlife rangers, working alongside the highly trained NRT rapid

response teams, reacting to any poaching threats or actual incidents where rhinos or elephants have been killed for their horns or ivory. His efficiency, diligence and leadership were qualities that stood out to the panel of judges of the Tusk Conservation Awards.

Addressing the crowd, Edward said: "I would like to accept this award on behalf of my whole team. I recognise that it is not just my efforts that have made a difference — we have achieved this success thanks to the entire team's dedication and hard work. I am thankful for everyone's support and greatly humbled by this recognition. Thank you."

Edward had no idea, when he was young, that one day he would find himself leading such a crucial taskforce. On leaving



school, he attended a polytechnic college where he trained and qualified as a motor vehicle mechanic. But when he heard about recruitment underway at Lewa for rhino monitors — whose job it would be to follow, observe and report on the rhino population within the sanctuary — he applied.

To his delight, he was selected, and at the age of 23 — all thoughts of mechanics forgotten — began the life of a wildlife scout, clad in camouflage and sturdy boots, and living rough.

Carrying his rations, clothes, and bedding in a rucksack on his back, and sleeping out under the stars he and his fellow patrollers took to the bush, tracking the movements of rhinos on the Conservancy.

In time, Edward progressed from patrolling as a rhino monitor, to joining Lewa's mobile Anti-Poaching Unit, soon to be promoted first as corporal, and then up to third-in-command within the Unit.



**Protecting Wildlife** Edward Ndiritu, Winner of the inaugural Tusk Wildlife Ranger Award 2015.

But there was a shock in store in 2009. For the first time in 25 years, Lewa experienced a poaching incident. A rhino was shot on Christmas Eve and its horn taken. Other

incidents followed and by 2012, Lewa had lost 10 rhinos. Tragically, evidence began to point to some of the men charged with protecting the rhinos being in league with the poachers.

The Head of Anti-Poaching and his second-in-command were both removed and Ndiritu was promoted to command the unit. Funding was channelled into intensive training with a tracker dog unit brought in to augment security.

The increased measures began to pay off, and the number of poaching incidents fell. By 2014, the Conservancy was able to report, for the first time in five years, a year free of poaching incident.

It is down to the dedication, diligence, and commitment of people like Edward Ndiritu, and the larger Lewa and NRT teams, that the continued survival of species such as rhino and elephant, and places like Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, will remain in place for future generations to enjoy.

## Conservation South Luangwa

**Sixteen years after first moving to South Luangwa, I find myself lucky to be asked by remarkable organisations like Tusk to write about our work. I never really knew how long I would stay in Luangwa but one thing I have learnt about wildlife conservation is to stick it out.**

Nothing changes overnight and few tangible and meaningful achievements are accomplished in a short time. One-off donor funding is beneficial and can get an organisation off its feet but ongoing support is essential if we are to make a difference. Tusk realises this and makes every effort to provide continuous financial support

where appropriate. Like any organisation Conservation South Luangwa (CSL), which was known as the South Luangwa Conservation Society until recently, has been through many stages of growth, but now finds itself in a privileged position as a valuable stakeholder in Zambian conservation, specifically in the Luangwa Valley.

CSL joined forces with Tusk in 2013 when we received our first grant to support much-needed additional anti-poaching patrols, our wildlife veterinary unit and our conservation and research aircraft.

### The South Luangwa region

Spanning over 20,000km<sup>2</sup> of unfenced managed land, the South Luangwa Valley is a key wildlife stronghold in Zambia. It holds the vast majority of the country's remaining elephant, the densest concentration of hippopotamus, the second largest wild dog population, is one of ten lion strong-holds remaining in Africa, and is home to the

beautiful endemic Thornicroft's giraffe and Cookson's wildebeest. It is revered as one of the true remaining wilderness areas left in Africa and rightly so.

However, like everything in life, there is no free lunch and preserving this area is a great challenge to say the least.

Whilst CSL's work includes an array of equally important programmes — including human wildlife conflict mitigation, wildlife rescue of snared animals through the veterinary unit, chilli farming and community outreach — our core function remains anti-poaching and law enforcement. There is no greater time and need than the present to upscale this support.

The rise in elephant and bushmeat poaching throughout Africa is being mirrored in Zambia. After experiencing this already in the 1970's and 1980's when the poaching of elephants reduced populations to half and black rhino were declared nationally extinct in 1998, we simply cannot allow this to happen again to our recovering population.



**Protecting Wildlife** ABOVE, L-R Sniffer dogs inspecting vehicles leaving the Park; CSL scouts and confiscated snares; the CSL plane at the Tusk-sponsored hangar.

OPPOSITE Elephant in the Luangwa River. PHOTO EDWARD SELFIE



In just 3 years support from Tusk has allowed CSL to

CONDUCT OVER  
**750 PATROLS**  
WHICH HAS LED TO

399  
SUSPECTS BEING  
APPREHENDED

165  
ILLEGAL FIREARMS  
CONFISCATED

3,626  
SNARES  
REMOVED



Community Scouts

While poaching, human encroachment and habitat loss continue to threaten existing wildlife populations, our team of 65 community-based scouts work in close relationship with the new Department of National Parks and Wildlife Services (DNPWS) and the local Community Resource Boards to protect the national park and its buffer zone.

Tusk has been a staunch supporter of our law enforcement work since 2013 and their grants have helped us to apprehend 399 suspects, confiscate 165 illegal firearms, remove 3,626 snares and conduct 304 ten day patrols and 469 day patrols over the past three years. With no permanent aerial presence in the park for the last twenty years, CSL and the Zambian Carnivore Program (ZCP) co-own and cost-share the park's only conservation and

research plane which provides much-needed aerial support.

With 9,050km<sup>2</sup> of national park and over 10,000km<sup>2</sup> of game management area to cover, foot patrols are simply not enough and aerial patrols have become a critical part of our anti-poaching strategy. With Tusk support we have been able to increase the number of hours flown daily, monitor patrols, locate carcasses and, at times, poachers. Our plane is due for a routine engine overhaul in the near future and Tusk is at the forefront in ensuring it remains in the air.

Adapting to the challenge

We realise that poachers and traffickers are increasingly professional in their operational scale and complexity and similarly we are increasing and diversifying our tactics. Just

over a year ago, CSL implemented Zambia's first wildlife detection dog unit. With three dogs skilfully trained and delivered by our partner in the USA, Working Dogs for Conservation (WD4C) now firmly in place with their equally well-trained Zambian scout/handlers, in just one year they have managed to achieve outstanding results and act as a huge deterrent.

At a time when there is much-needed, unparalleled media publicity and worldwide focus on reducing elephant and rhino poaching, and conserving Africa's great parks and other wildlife, we'd like to thank Tusk for making sure there are boots on the ground in South Luangwa to help us fight the poaching battle and conserve this extraordinary part of the world.

Nick Tims Trustee, Tusk Trust

A hidden gem

The only English guidebook I could find on Gabon described it as 'an oasis of stability and prosperity in a very troubled region'.

With Equatorial Guinea next door and seven of Central Africa's 11 countries having had recent civil wars, that seemed pretty valid.

But it's a remarkable country and was at the top of my African wish-list; 85% of the country is covered in dense forest, it has 13 national parks of unbelievable biodiversity, a bird-list of 774, a 900km coastline with national parks running down to the sea, and megafauna such as gorillas (35,000 of them), chimpanzees (64,000), mandrills and forest elephants.

Add an enlightened conservation policy under the wonderfully named President Bongo and his 'Green Gabon' programme, zero-tolerance of poaching (although that has been

a very serious problem in the north) and largely crime-free, and its 'last Eden' moniker seemed appropriate.

Economically it is lucky. With only 1.6 million people, enjoying the highest GDP per capita in Africa as a result of oil and politically stable, Gabon is the region's envy. Unusually, this gem of a country remains largely off the 'new destination' tourist lists. Despite a few stuttering attempts to ignite interest, it is known mainly to primatologists, oil executives and, well, to the French — as with French Guiana and Surinam, they have kept their ex-colony holiday secrets to themselves.

It felt different just coming out of Arrivals — with no hassling outside the airport, sensible driving, clean streets and ex-pats jogging along the capital's Boulevard du Bord de Mer in the dark. Having flown Paris-Libreville, I took a 30-minute flight to ramshackle Port Gentil early the next morning, the small economic capital of the country by dint of its proximity to the oil fields. From there I headed to one of the jewels in the crown of Gabon's parks, Loango, where

Tusk has supported the Loango Ape Project — an exceptional initiative led by world-renowned primatologist Martha Robbins and also funded by the German Max Planck Institute.

The journey from POG (as it's called), is a gem in its own right — three hours of extraordinary river journey, Costa Rica's jungle rivers on steroids, with flocks of African grey parrots and black-casqued hornbills amongst dense riverine forest. From the village of Ombue, the end of this remarkable leg, there was a 1.5 hour drive to Loango Lodge, one of the few places to stay in the park and a lovely French-owned operation overlooking the beautiful Iguala lagoon.

Loango National Park

Loango is an extraordinary place and would come as a surprise to even the most experienced safari-goer. With 175km of coastline and 230,000ha of forest, savannah and wetlands, it is a national park unlike any other. Aside from the topography, it has significant populations of western lowland



Protecting Wildlife ABOVE Members of the Loango Ape Project.  
BELOW Western lowland gorilla in the Loango National Park.

gorilla, chimpanzee, forest elephant, forest buffalo, hippos, manatees and, just offshore, the largest concentration of whale species in Africa after South Africa.

Days were spent driving and walking the savannahs, finding herds of forest elephant and forest buffalo in between the scattered forest areas.

Groups of handsome red river hogs, *les potamochoeres d'Afrique* as they are evocatively known there, trotted away from us, while huge rainy season flocks of rosy bee-eaters and African river martins flew in and out of their sandy burrows, hassled continuously by palm-nut vultures pecking at their eggs and young.

During the late afternoons we walked along the wild beach looking for elephant, buffalo and hippo at the water's edge. Alas there were no surfing hippo while I was there — but they have been famously filmed doing so by *National Geographic*.

But the real treat was almost accidental. I was offered a dawn forest walk and said yes, thinking it would be the usual experience of

unseen wildlife and at best a vague glimpse of a monkey species

After examining a couple of forest tortoises, watching some greater spot-nosed guenons with their blobby white noses and being shown the trees where you hide if you get charged by an elephant, the tracker suddenly stopped and whispered, urgently, "gorille".

Twenty metres ahead I glimpsed a silver-back running away, but only into cover ten metres on where he stopped and roared at us. I was lucky to see this — the gorillas here are not habituated and it's a very different experience to the mountain gorillas of Rwanda or Uganda.

But this may change with the efforts of Martha, to study and habituate them.



Loango Ape Project

I met Martha by accident and spent a lot of time finding out about what she was doing there. I'd seen her on BBC's *Mountain Gorilla* programme (on her work in Bwindi) and had read her book, *Among African Apes*. That she was focused on Loango said much about its importance.

The Loango Ape Project began in 2005 under Christophe Boesch and Martha Robbins to establish a long-term project of habituated gorillas and chimpanzees in Loango to both better understand their ecology — Western lowland gorillas are the least studied species of great ape — and to establish gorilla tourism as a conservation strategy in Gabon.

There are few other long-term study sites in Africa attempting to habituate both species in the same location and they now have nearly habituated one group of gorillas. Chimpanzees are easily seen there. Gorilla tourism could possibly begin this year and this will have a huge impact on the safari industry in Gabon and on the local communities. Not to mention on the apes themselves — the project's presence has led to a big reduction in illegal activities in the area (typically deforestation and bushmeat), while employment for trackers and field assistants is providing significant benefits to communities who would have little other economic opportunities.

The trackers from Waka, some 250km away, are pygmies — phenomenally knowledgeable about the forest, brought in for that reason, but largely illiterate and, as a group, marginalised across Africa with few if any employment opportunities for them elsewhere. The money they can bring back to their villages has significant impact.

As habituation continues, and facilities are built to revolve around this (the Aman group for example is advanced on this front there), the virtuous circle of protection and wider economic benefit will be very clear. And, very importantly, this is a viable and large population of megafauna in a pristine, protected habitat. It was an initiative in need of funding and which seemed to tick every Tusk project box. It didn't take the Board long to agree.

Gabon isn't perfect — poaching is very significant in parks like Minkébé in the north, and perhaps 15,000 out of the country's 22,000 forest elephant (Africa's largest population) have been slaughtered. The country's infrastructure needs are huge (you can't even drive from Libreville to Port Gentil), while most things are expensive by any standards.

A very tight lid needs to be kept on poaching, logging, onshore oil-drilling and palm oil plantations. But the government seems to get it — it needs to have a plan for the time when oil runs out and it seems to really care, while the country is blessed with stability and very few demographic or geopolitical pressures.

An ideal project in an ideal place? Perhaps.



Ellen O'Connell Executive Director, Tusk USA Inc.

# Magical Malilangwe

During a recent trip to Zimbabwe, accompanied by directors Wendy Breck and Sarah Fairbairn, and donors Alan Rogers and Lee Auchincloss, Ellen, Tusk USA's Executive Director visited Malilangwe, the newest project in Tusk's portfolio.

Ellen spent three days being immersed in the extensive operations that keep Malilangwe a leader in the conservation world.

In late January, after almost two days of travelling, we disembarked from a small plane at the Buffalo Range Airport into the heat of Africa. At the rate of 100 African elephant a day being killed for their ivory, an estimated 185 had been poached in the time it took for me to travel from New York to Zimbabwe.

The numbers are staggering — the African elephant population has fallen by 90% from 1900 when there were five million to circa 400,000 today.

The Tusk delegation was in Africa to visit some of our partner projects for which we provide financial and technical support. The Malilangwe Trust — our first stop, is a spectacular place — a 100,000 acre sanctuary with an abundance of wildlife. Great plains and deep escarpments flow majestically into lakes and rivers. The terrain, spotted with baobab trees, evokes a primordial peace. Driving through the reserve, it is almost unfathomable to think that Africa is in the midst of an unrelenting, gruesome slaughter of its most iconic species.

Having lost only two rhino to poaching since 1994, Malilangwe is a wonderful example of how community conservation is at once both a science and an art. It is a practice that requires not only the expert application of pure conservation science and extraordinary political skills, but to be successful it has to

provide economic and educational benefits for the local community.

## Education and nutrition

Accompanied by CEO Mark Saunders we visited Malilangwe's nutrition programme, which feeds over 19,000 children every school day, and a local school where a new e-learning centre is being created.

By providing nutrition and educational opportunities to children in the surrounding communities, Malilangwe is engaging one of the most effective tools to stop poaching. Since the wildlife reserve is a source of education, jobs, income and supplementary food, communities become stewards of their natural heritage and an extension of the Malilangwe team.

## Boots on the ground

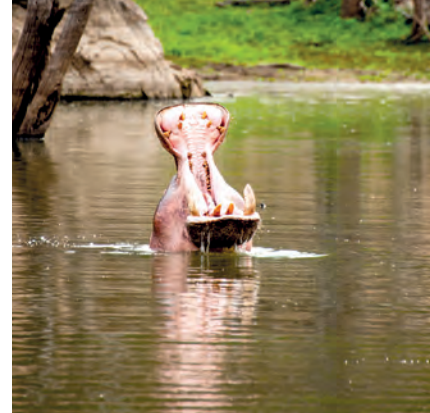
While visiting the reserve, the group also had the opportunity to watch a team of new recruits to Malilangwe's ranger team training. In addition to the sophisticated community programmes, conservation also requires simple, straightforward boots on the ground.

The men who make it through the selection get well paid jobs, with benefits and a chance to better their lives. They also risk their lives on a daily basis to protect wildlife.

With an average of two rangers killed every week in Africa, protecting Africa's wildlife has become an increasingly dangerous job. The men that the team had the privilege of meeting were world-class rangers, whose dedication and skill will protect Malilangwe for years to come.

## The challenges of success

The success of Malilangwe has bought its own set of challenges. The reserve is at 'carrying capacity' for certain species, including rhino. If the animal populations continue to grow, they threaten to disrupt the balance of the ecosystem. Yet, because of security concerns, legal issues between countries, disease,



and limitations of species adaptation, it is difficult to move animals to other parks and preservation areas. Sending rhino to insecure neighbouring areas would be a sure death sentence. The issues are complex and the stakes are high.

## A regional approach

It became very clear from conversations with the staff that a regional approach needs to be taken to relieve the pressure on the reserve. Malilangwe borders Gonarezhou, the second largest park in Zimbabwe. Gonarezhou, which means 'Place of the Elephants', still has an abundance of African savannah wildlife but the rhino in the park have suffered greatly from poachers in recent years.

Hugo van der Westhuizen, the project leader from the Frankfurt Zoological Society who is helping Gonarezhou with its conservation programme, talked to the group about the many issues facing Zimbabwe's parks.

A lack of resources, corruption, and poor training of rangers has resulted in the decimation of the black rhino population. Hugo, Mark, and other conservationists in the neighbouring parks have developed a business plan that, with an influx of donor money for the next five to ten years, could save Zimbabwe's wildlife by connecting these reserves and creating a sustainable, self-supporting system.

It is an ambitious plan. But as we sat listening to them discuss what needs to be done, it struck the Tusk team as eminently feasible.



**Protecting Wildlife** TOP ROW, L-R Malilangwe Executive Director Mark Saunders with a member of the Malilangwe ranger team; Tusk team L-R — Charlie Mayhew, Tusk's CEO; Griff Fairbairn, Tusk USA Director; Ellen O'Connell, Tusk USA Executive Director; Wendy Breck, Tusk USA Co-Chair; Lee Auchincloss and Alan Rogers, Tusk USA donors.

BOTTOM ROW, L-R One school supported by Malilangwe; Malilangwe's daily feeding programme for local school children. OPPOSITE Southern giraffe in Malilangwe.







Amy Dickman Member of Pride Alliance; Director, WildCRU's Ruaha Carnivore Project

## Conserving lions through collaboration

**Tusk is one of the first supporters of a new collaborative initiative to save lions across much of their remaining range. Despite their status as one of the world's most iconic species, lions are in serious trouble — they have disappeared from over 80% of their range, and their numbers have halved in just the last 20 years. There are now fewer than 20,000 remaining, and most people would be shocked to know that there are now fewer wild lions left in Africa than rhino; and more statues of lions in the world than the animals themselves.**

Across Africa, many passionately dedicated conservationists are trying to halt this severe decline, but they face huge challenges. Many of those challenges are the ones you might expect — working in areas with extreme human poverty where conservation is seen as a luxury, tracking elusive animals in difficult field conditions, and trying to address immediate threats such as the snaring, poisoning, and spearing of lions with limited resources. However, one of the most important challenges is a product of the traditional conservation funding model — similar projects end up competing against one another for the same, limited, funding. Being competitors rather than team mates actively dissuades people from sharing the best conservation approaches.

Competition might be good in business but it is actively harmful in conservation, as it reduces the impetus to help each other and put the collective good above individual projects and aspirations. There is also no obvious avenue for conservationists to learn directly

from one another and share ideas, successes and failures. The impact of this traditional model has been to isolate conservationists, who spend their time and resources developing individual strategies, sometimes repeating what others have already tried.

Any successes they have are usually limited to one site rather than being implemented across a broad scale and failures are barely discussed

### Collaboration over Competition

Last year, a group of six lion conservationists — all of whom manage grassroots carnivore conservation projects — decided, that given the huge scale of the lion crisis, a new model was urgently needed in order to develop the best conservation approaches at a meaningful scale.

There was a pressing need to create an alliance, where members could openly share their experiences, success, and failures, so that they could better inform conservation actions at each others' sites, as well as implement collective initiatives across multiple sites. Binding conservationists together under one umbrella, and seeking funding which would be both raised and shared as a team, crucially means that all members are strongly invested in one another. This creates a real incentive to help one another as much as possible, because the successes and failures of each individual team-member determines the success or otherwise of the entire group, in the same way a pride of lion work cooperatively on hunts. And so the Pride Alliance was formed!

### Pride Alliance

The idea of such an alliance was met with considerable doubt from many people. Would there be enough interest in that kind of funding model? Would conservationists really be willing to share funds among one another, and allow others to take collective credit for their successes? Despite the doubts, the six conservationists (Shivani Bhalla and Alayne Cotterill from 'Ewaso Lions', Leela Hazzah and Stephanie Dolrenry from 'Lion Guardians', Amy Dickman from 'Ruaha Carnivore Project' and Colleen Begg from 'Niassa Carnivore Project') decided that it was a risk that had to be taken. They partnered with the Houston Zoo, and launched the Pride Lion Conservation Alliance in October 2015 ([lions.houstonzoo.org](http://lions.houstonzoo.org)).

The alliance proved immediately that funders understood the need for collective, non-competitive action, and the importance of Pride's conservation work. Together, the Pride Alliance covers some of the world's most important landscapes for lions across 3 countries, and impacts around a quarter of all remaining wild lions, as well as tens of thousands of the poorest people on the planet. Funds from Houston and Tusk are helping Pride Alliance conservationists achieve far more as a unit than they would be able to individually.

### Sharing ideas

Funds from Tusk also supported a Pride Alliance meeting in March this year, where the specific conservation actions of the group were determined for 2017. There is huge opportunity for really exciting, collective work, and one of the first priorities will be to expand successful initiatives across sites. For example, lessons learned from establishing a community conservation fund in Mozambique's



**Protecting Wildlife** TOP Pride of lion in the Maasai Mara. PHOTO JAMES WARWICK / [www.jameswarwick.co.uk](http://www.jameswarwick.co.uk)

ABOVE LEFT Amy Dickman with RCP lion guardian inspecting a poisoned lion. ABOVE RIGHT Lion being treated by Alayne Cotterill of Ewaso Lion Project. PHOTO JAMES WARWICK

Niassa Reserve — where villagers are rewarded for adhering to local land-use rules and for conservation-friendly actions — will be shared across the alliance, with plans to develop a similar model for Tanzania's Ruaha landscape during 2016. Similarly, a community camera-trapping initiative — where local people conduct camera-trapping surveys of their villages; the resulting images generate valuable community benefits such as schoolbooks, and human and veterinary medicines — has proved very successful in Pride Alliance's Ruaha project, so staff from other projects will be

trained in that strategy with the aim of adapting it elsewhere. The first cross-site training visits are scheduled for Spring 2016 (as soon as the flooding in Tanzania and Mozambique allow travel).

All the Pride Alliance projects monitor lions and other wildlife, so the group is also collaborating on a citizen science camera-trapping initiative. This will allow people worldwide to help classify Pride Alliance's camera-trap images, thereby raising interest in wildlife and Pride Alliance, and also reducing the burden of field scientists having to go

through tens of thousands of images in tents with very limited power and time! The team will share everything of value, from educational materials and team management tools to data, and will work with partners to create new materials (such as wildlife films in local languages). In this way local engagement and conservation success is maximised across the whole Pride Alliance network.

Conservation of dangerous, wide-ranging species in an ever more human-dominated world will always be challenging. However, there is no reason for us to create additional challenges by perpetuating a competitive, site-specific funding model which hinders collaboration.

Saving wildlife and improving local livelihoods requires visionary thinking, large-scale cooperation, and support, and a willingness to put the greater good far ahead of individual projects or egos. The Pride Alliance is a bold new model for future conservation, and we are thrilled to have Tusk on board.

Pride Alliance



6  
WOMEN WORKING  
ACROSS

3

COUNTRIES:  
KENYA, TANZANIA  
AND MOZAMBIQUE  
IMPACTING

25%

WORLD'S WILD LIONS  
+ LIVELIHOODS OF  
1000s OF PEOPLE

# BRITISH AIRWAYS



Proud to be supporting the work of Tusk Trust



# SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

Protecting Wildlife Promoting Education

Graham Boynton Journalist

## An arid Eden

**Garth Owen-Smith is at his most contented when he is out in the bush, in Namibia's remote, rugged mountainous northwest, a region widely known as the Kaokoveld but renamed Kunene Province by the current government.**

Call it what you will, it is one of Africa's most powerful landscapes, a distant and uncompromising desert environment where the footprint of *homo sapiens* is only lightly felt and where the hardest wild animals survive — desert elephant, desert black rhino, gemsbok, desert-adapted oryx, to name a few. It may be Africa's last true wilderness.

A tall, lean man, bronzed by decades out in the African sun, Owen-Smith has a trimmed white beard, piercing eyes, and a kindly expression. Until recently he was a life-long smoker who was almost permanently puffing at a pipe; however a quadruple heart bypass, just after his 71st birthday, has persuaded him to give it up.

He is called the father of Namibian conservation, a title he would deflect with typical modesty. Although South African born he has spent most of his life in Namibia and clearly feels an intense affinity for this vast

desert country that is three times the size of Britain and for its tiny population of just over two million people.

His other location of choice out here is *Wereld's End* (Afrikaans for 'World's End'). Far from anywhere, this is the bustling nerve centre of his community conservation work, a busy environmental and training centre 70km inland from Torra Bay where upwards of 80 community representatives can be found camping around the compound of stone bungalows with thatched roofs at any one time. He has a small home here that he shares with his long-time partner Dr. Margaret Jacobsohn, an anthropologist who he insists has played "as significant a role as I have in all of this — most of it could not have been achieved without Margie."

"It is very serious at the moment, and there is no doubt that we are losing too many animals to poachers."

Last November Owen-Smith accepted the Prince William Award for Conservation from the Duke of Cambridge, the latest in a long list of accolades recognising his contribution to the cause of wildlife protection.

Like so many of Africa's veteran conservationists he is not at home in the starched formal surroundings of our conference rooms, lecture theatres, and

historic dining halls; however he most certainly took pleasure at receiving the award as, he tells me, "it means that people might start listening to me again".

The award recognises Owen-Smith and Jacobsohn's pioneering natural resource management programme that links wildlife conservation to sustainable rural development. It comes at a particularly significant time for African wildlife, for there is currently yet another wave of poaching across the continent, driven by international crime syndicates, that threatens key species with extinction, and there remains within the various conservation communities deep divides on how to deal with it. Many observers feel that unless conservationists come up with a global, mutually agreed, solution within the next decade, it may be too late and that key

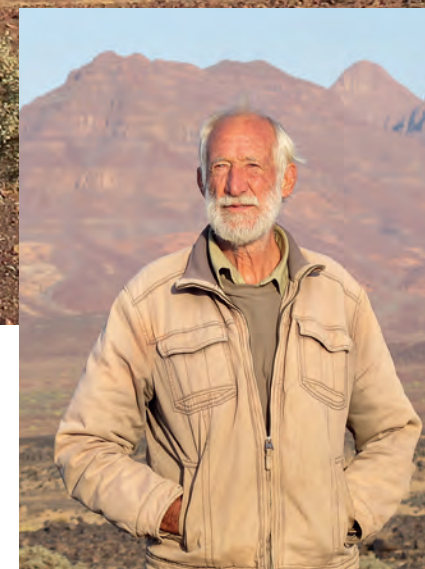


animal species will no longer exist in the wild. To that end Prince William, through Tusk Trust, the charity of which he is patron, has been at the forefront of the fight to save the planet's megafauna.

It was in 1983 that Owen-Smith set up IRDNC, the Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation programme that was to become a significant model for wildlife conservation across Africa. At the time, he says, "there were good conservation practices in the national parks — Etosha and so on — but in the communal areas, which make up 40% of the country, wildlife was being written off." In the 1970s there were around 350 black desert rhino in the area, but a poaching wave conducted mainly by local Himba and Herero tribespeople, meant that by the time Owen-Smith launched IRDNC there were no more than 60 left.

Through the 1980s Owen-Smith and Jacobsohn worked closely with local Himba, Herero and Damara tribal communities and traditional leaders, giving them responsibility for the first time to guard the animals.

"We shared the belief that the best people to conserve wildlife were those who had to live with it," he says. "Obviously there should and would be financial benefit from such stewardship but this wasn't just about money. The community often said to me: 'whose wildlife is this? If it belongs to the government



**Supporting Communities** TOP A typical Kunene landscape, Namibia. ABOVE Garth Owen-Smith. PREVIOUS PAGE Garth with a member of the Kunene community.

then it is their responsibility and we don't care what happens to it.' Which is why they were actually supporting the poachers."

By the time I came to travel around the Kaokoveld with Owen-Smith in the late 1980s, visiting the guardians of the wildlife in remote desert villages, observing community meetings



held in the shade of mopane trees, there had been a significant turnaround of the community and the few poachers who were still operating were caught, tried in court, and sentenced to severe punishments.

Even as a new wave of elephant and rhino poaching broke over the continent around that time, the Namibian model of community ownership and responsibility helped stem the tide and set the parameters for future conservationists.

Today, as another poaching spike engulfs Africa, Owen-Smith is convinced that the Namibian model remains conservation's best chance. "It is very serious at the moment," he says, "and there is no doubt that we are losing too many animals to poachers but we have a better chance because we have the local communities on our side. In many other rhino areas, such as Kruger National Park in South Africa, they have hostile local communities, and that makes protection much more difficult."

His work is not without controversy. One key element of his conservation model is the inclusion of trophy hunting, which remains a fiercely-debated and emotional dividing issue among conservationists. Owen-Smith fiercely defends it. "Trophy hunting is an essential part of conservation," he says. "Particularly in areas where photographic tourism isn't possible. It is integral to our programme."





**Supporting Communities** ABOVE, L-R Dr Margaret Jacobsohn and Garth Owen-Smith with Prince William at a private reception in Kensington Palace.

Sarah Freed Blue Ventures

## Islands in the balance

Ten years ago, I began working in marine conservation in the Comoros, one of the least visited countries in the world. Composed of three rugged volcanic islands, Grande Comore (Ngazidja), Moheli (Mwali) and Anjouan (Nzwani), in the heart of the Northern Mozambique channel, the Comoros is a little-known island republic in the western Indian Ocean.

With a history of political instability and volcanicity, the population is estimated to be nearing 800,000 but is surprisingly the largest producer of ylang ylang essential oil and, after Madagascar, the largest producer of vanilla. The archipelago has also recently been identified as a hotspot of coral reef biodiversity and as the coconut palms sway gently in the warm, thickly scented breeze, with a backdrop of deep blue sea and verdant green volcanic peaks, you would be forgiven for believing you were in a tropical paradise.

Initially here a decade ago as a volunteer, fresh out of university in the United States, I learned many valuable lessons that influence my work to this day. I also retain fond memories of my first experiences of life here, with daily access to fresh fish and stunning views both above and below the water.

### Islands in the balance

Over time, I've come to realise the delicate balance that is Comorian island life: sustaining direct access to rich marine resources also requires foresight and responsibility to maintain them. Worldwide, around 500 million people are supported by small-scale fisheries and over one billion rely on fish as a source of protein.

Here in the Comoros, fishing provides the primary dietary protein and is one of the most consistent sources of income though,

He offers as an example his conservation operation in the Caprivi Strip (now renamed The Zambezi Region) which borders Angola, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

The general consensus in conservation circles had been that community conservation only worked in a low human density environment such as the Kaokoveld, "so we deliberately took it to Caprivi which has the highest density of people in the region."

There is little photographic tourism in Caprivi and interaction between elephant and rural land-dwellers has been far more confrontational with elephants destroying crops, threatening the people and generally making a nuisance of themselves.

Owen-Smith finally persuaded the locals to buy into his programmes and emphasises that high-revenue, low-impact trophy hunting "is now playing a big role in Caprivi." The revenues

the communities receive from hunters has persuaded them to conserve the dangerous and disruptive animals that live among them and to take an active role in anti-poaching.

Owen-Smith says he has now formally retired from IRDNC and although he is still actively involved in activities at Wereld's End, he is doing more guiding these days.

He and Jacobsohn have set up a tourism company called Conservancy Safaris Namibia in partnership with five local conservancies to put into practice what he says is a "more ethical way of carrying out photographic tourism"

He says he is happy taking travellers out into the vast and beautiful Kaokoveld to share this rare and precious wilderness experience.

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worryingly, it is also one of the countries that is most vulnerable to coral reef degradation due to this high fishing pressure and dependence on reefs and their resources. This will only be exacerbated by climate change. Tipping the balance of coral reef health by overfishing is a common problem and can happen almost unnoticeably as generations pass.

Loss of reef biodiversity — and the productivity this supports — can in turn create a vicious cycle of repeatedly intensifying fishing techniques and effort to capture dwindling fish populations. Since my first days on the islands, I have witnessed how overfishing can unsettle island life with concerns about long-term food security, livelihoods, and fears for the future.

Encouragingly, I have also observed fishing communities taking on the responsibility of sustainable fishing to try and maintain fish stocks and habitats. I wanted to find out how the balance between fishing and conservation could be achieved. I believe that local management is key to maintaining the balance, and can be initiated through support by 'outside' parties such as NGOs and state agencies. When I learned that Blue Ventures (BV) would be doing just that in the Comoros,

supported by Tusk, I jumped at the chance to participate.

### Blue Ventures at the Comoros

I have been working for BV in partnership with local NGO Dahari since 2015, establishing the foundations for local management of marine resources on Anjouan, the most densely populated island of the Comoros. The pressures and dependence on marine resources are especially strong here, pushing fishers to extremes to seek new fishing grounds and techniques. Many fishers I meet emphasise their vulnerability, including threats to personal safety due to rough weather, lack of equipment and infrastructure, and threats to financial security due to expenses for modern fishing techniques and fluctuations in fish stocks and market demands. Despite taking pride in their livelihoods, many fishers wish their children will have the ability to pursue alternative opportunities.

After seeing the spirited local engagement in marine conservation in Comoros' neighbour, Madagascar, where Blue Ventures' work began in 2003, and the positive results of community involvement in Dahari's work on Anjouan,



**Supporting Communities** ABOVE, L-R The Bimbini peninsula seen from the air; fisherman weighing his catch of the day. OPPOSITE Fisherman in the Comoros. PHOTO STEVE ROCLIFFE







I am more convinced than ever that local management is essential to balancing resource use and conservation. I am drawing on Dahari's local experience of community-based approaches to rural development and forest conservation; and also invaluable support from colleagues in Madagascar, where coastal communities face challenges similar to those I see here in Comoros.

#### Empowering communities

In Madagascar, BV has developed multiple programmes to empower coastal communities to take steps to reduce resource pressure, including fisheries management, alternative livelihoods, access to health and family

planning resources, and environmental education. All programmes are developed based on community requests and form a holistic, integrated, community-based approach to marine conservation that supports local communities to rebuild their fisheries. Since BV led the first, experimental, periodic coral reef fishery closure in southern Madagascar in 2004, there have now been over 200 community-managed closures. These closures have resulted in over 80% increases in catch and 136% increases in income in the month following their reopening.

This has catalysed unprecedented bottom-up (or local) management in Madagascar and BV now partners and supports over

75 communities (managing over 5,857km<sup>2</sup>) to develop locally led marine conservation initiatives, including the Western Indian Ocean's largest community marine protected area in the Barren Isles, western Madagascar.

On Anjouan, we hope to replicate some of the successes in Madagascar and are working with local communities to identify suitable approaches to help support them in their efforts to balance resource use and conservation. Although in the early stages of our work here, we have already gained substantial fisher participation, and are building trust with the local communities, which will prove invaluable in future when discussing possibilities for fisheries, and marine management. In one community we have worked alongside over 70 fishers to collect vital fisheries data and gain a better understanding of the current state of Comoros' small-scale fisheries.

During our meetings the fishers discuss the benefits of improved management, including better catches and ensuring their children will inherit a healthy environment. With the help of funding from Tusk, we look forward to strengthening existing relationships with local communities and spreading this hope to a greater number of communities over the coming years. Personally, I am excited to be working with the Comorian community to help restore the joy of island life for future generations, in this place I have come to know as home.

Brian Jackman Journalist and Author

## Return of the rhino

**After an absence of 25 years the black rhino is back where it belongs in northern Kenya's Sera Community Conservancy. Brian Jackman reports on a unique community-led conservation initiative.**

Sera is the roughest, toughest, and most physically challenging of all the wildlife conservancies established in Kenya by the Northern Rangelands Trust, a not-for-profit organisation with an impressive record in promoting wise governance and wildlife conservation through mutual cooperation.

To get there you drive north from Nanyuki on the Equator along the new blacktop highway built by the Chinese. Beyond Archer's Post the flat-topped massif of Ololokwe looms into sight, its soaring cliffs spattered with vulture droppings; and on the opposite side of the road stand the twin rock steeples called the Cat and Mouse, marking the gateway to what old Kenya hands used to call the NFD — the Northern Frontier District — a fathomless sea of commiphora scrub with Sera in the thick of it.

I went walking there three years ago and discovered that Sera is a place where you can drop out of the 21st century and hide in 300,000 acres of nothing but thorn trees,

lizards, and echoing silence broken only by the insane clucking of hornbills. The landscape is mostly low-lying, rising in places to form long lava ridges known as merti, veined with seasonal watercourses and scattered with red rocky kopjes.

All around in every direction rise the tombstone shapes of faraway mountains: Longtopi, Ol Doinyo Lenkiyo and Warges, the highest peak in the Matthews Range. On foot in Sera, they are the signposts you steer by, following elephant trails across wild meadows of sun-bleached crows' foot grass.

In these harsh semi-deserts water is the key to life, and the most precious oasis for miles around is a place called *Kisima Hamsini* — a Swahili name meaning Fifty Wells. Here the local pastoralists — Samburu, Rendille and Boran tribesmen — have dug deep holes through the rock to reach the natural reservoir



beneath, and for as long as anyone can remember Kisima Hamsini has been home to one of the great, unsung spectacles of the avian world, when upwards of 40,000 black-faced sandgrouse fly in to drink during the dry season.

Sightings of animals are few, mostly dik-dik, and gerenuk, but tracks in the sand reveal where lion and leopard have passed by in the night, their pugmarks mingled with fresh elephant dung and the distinctive tracks of Grevy's zebra.

Back in the 1960s Sera was also renowned for its black rhino. Even in 1970 some 20,000 of these famously cantankerous beasts roamed freely across much of Kenya and these remote northern rangelands formed a crucial part of their stronghold.

Then, in the 1980s, came the shifta — wild men armed with AK-47's hell-bent on poaching, who decimated the elephant herds and killed Sera's last black rhino 25 years ago.

By 1990 poachers had reduced Kenya's black rhino population to fewer than 400 individuals — a catastrophic 98% loss in just 20 years, driven by the black market value of rhino horn which changes hands in the Far East at more than its weight in gold.

Since then a sustained effort has been made to haul Kenya's rhino back from the brink.

With greater protection their numbers are



**Supporting Communities** PREVIOUS PAGE A black rhino being translocated from Lewa Wildlife Conservancy to Sera. ABOVE One of the black rhino in the Sera Community Conservancy. INSET The first baby rhino born in Sera to Ntaimany in March 2016. BELOW A water hole in Sera for rhino and other wildlife.

slowly recovering and now stand at about 640, but not without fatalities among the rangers who have given their lives to save the rhinos in the never-ending war on poaching.

#### Sera Rhino Sanctuary

The animals in question are eastern black rhino (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) and endemic to Kenya where the only significant population of this critically endangered sub-species remains. The long-term aim is to have 2,000 eastern black rhino in protected sanctuaries throughout the country including Sera, where the re-introduction programme is already under way.

The Sera Community Conservancy confirmed their desire to participate in this ambitious scheme by establishing a 107km<sup>2</sup> sanctuary with support from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) and Tusk Trust, who have helped to fund the establishment of a new ranger post manned by 24 fully trained rhino rangers who will also provide data on other wildlife species within the sanctuary.

When I was there in 2012 I saw the first fence posts being erected. Now the security fencing is complete and the first black rhino to be seen at Sera for a quarter of a century have settled into their new home.

A total of 10 animals were translocated last year from the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and from Lake Nakuru National Park, making

this the first community-owned black rhino sanctuary in East Africa.

Community-based conservation has gained momentum in the last decade, particularly in northern and coastal Kenya where there are now 33 community conservancies under the umbrella of the NRT, and there is a growing recognition of the role these conservancies are playing, particularly in the conservation of endangered species.

The hope is that the diversification of rhino sanctuaries from existing government protected areas and private reserves to community-managed sanctuaries such as Sera will spread the risk, with success more likely to be achieved in areas where there is strong

local support for wildlife conservation.

As the first community-based black rhino sanctuary in East Africa, the Sera Community Conservancy is breaking new ground and will undoubtedly provide the best prospects for contributing to the future protection and growth of Kenya's black rhino over the next 25 years.

"Black rhino are among the most endangered of all Africa's large mammals," said Charlie Mayhew, CEO of Tusk. "The effort being put into protecting and conserving them through this exciting community-led relocation initiative is unprecedented and that is why we are proud to be supporting it."





**Martin Fletcher** Freelance writer and former Associate Editor of *The Times*

# Communities resolve conflict

Emmanuel de Merode was the winner of the 2015 Tusk Award for Conservation in Africa in recognition of his remarkable achievements protecting Virunga's exceptional biodiversity throughout 25 years of civil war and life-threatening situations.

Among many achievements, he has brokered agreements with rebel leaders, enabling his rangers to return to their homes and work. Emmanuel has also established long-term development programmes to secure the future economic viability of Virunga for its people.

Emmanuel de Merode is a soft-spoken, self-effacing man. A stranger would never know he was a Belgian prince; still less that he has twice faced down violent guerilla groups, survived an assassination attempt, and waged an international campaign against a rapacious British oil company. He has done so in an heroic effort to save Africa's oldest national park that is finally reaping dividends.

Emmanuel, 45, was raised in Kenya, and educated at Downside and Durham University in Britain before dedicating his life to conservation in Africa.

"Having overcome the difficulties of delivering on a project of this scale in just two years, we have proven that projects like Matebe can be built in the Congo to the same high standards as anywhere in the world."

In 2008 he was appointed director of Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a Unesco World Heritage site of 3,000 spectacular square miles that include snow-capped mountains, volcanoes, swamps, forests, savannahs, more animal species than almost anywhere else on earth and more than a quarter of the world's 900 mountain gorillas.

Virunga was in a desperate state. For 12 years it had been the epicentre of wars in eastern DRC that caused more than five million deaths. It was infested by armed militias, its wildlife and forests had been plundered, its rangers were demoralised, and it was riddled with corruption. The previous director had been sacked for his alleged role in the shooting of five gorillas.

Almost immediately a rebel group, the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP), advanced on Virunga and seized its headquarters. Emmanuel entered the war zone to negotiate directly with its leader, Laurent Nkunda, and secured permission for his rangers to re-enter the park and protect the gorillas. In 2012 another militia, M23, stormed the park's headquarters, but Emmanuel and his rangers refused to leave and the rebellion ended in late 2013.

## Over 140 rangers died protecting the park

By then the park faced another major threat. SOCO, an oil company based in London, had entered the park in 2011 to search for oil in Lake Edward.

It had secured a concession from the government, but Emmanuel argued that oil exploration in Virunga would be illegal and potentially calamitous for the environment, the rule of law, the region's fragile peace, and all Congolese national parks.

In April 2014 gunmen opened fire on Emmanuel's Land Rover. He was shot in the chest and abdomen, but managed to fire on his assailants until they fled. Though lucky



**Supporting Communities** ABOVE Mountain gorilla in Virunga National Park.  
OPPOSITE Dr. Emmanuel de Merode in front of Nyamulagira, an active volcano in the Park.

## The Virunga Alliance

The Virunga Alliance aims to leverage international financial investment to establish thousands of jobs, build infrastructure, enable energy production, and increase tourism revenue, thereby fostering peace and prosperity through the responsible economic development of natural resources for four million people who live within a day's walk of the park's borders.

The Alliance has identified three main areas for investment that together promise to deliver economic development and stability to local communities. These are Tourism, Energy, and Education. While ambitious the dividends are starting to pay.

## Tourism

In 2008, there were no tourists, yet in 2011, it was estimated that 3,200 visitors generated nearly US\$1 million – with future predictions in the region of US\$235 million.

This flourishing eco-tourism trade contributes solely to the exceptional wildlife conservation practices and the dedicated security provided by Emmanuel and his rangers.

## Energy

In December last year His Excellency President Joseph Kabila Kabange inaugurated Matebe Hydroelectric Plant in Rutshuru, turning on the electricity for the very first time.

Matebe Power Station is set to produce 13.6MW of clean electricity, kick starting the green economy and over 12,000 sustainable jobs for people in and around the region of Rutshuru.

The opening of Matebe followed that of Mutwanga, a pilot hydroelectric project that has already enriched the local economy in Beni and acted as a catalyst for the largest soap factory in eastern Congo, as well as a papaya enzyme production company. At over 30 times the size of Mutwanga, Matebe offers huge potential to scale up on this impact.

The inaugurations of Matebe and Mutwanga mark just the beginning of a further set of energy projects set to develop eastern Congo. Howard G. Buffett has committed a further \$39 million USD towards the cost of completing two more hydroelectric plants in the region of North Kivu under the umbrella of the Virunga Alliance.

## Education

No solution to Virunga's problems can be morally justifiable or successful if it does not address the living conditions of the people who live in and around the park.

It is unfair and unrealistic to expect people to care about biodiversity in general, and the park in particular, when their most basic requirements have not been met. Education is one of those requirements.

So, as part of their solution, the Alliance have supported the building of schools in five of the villages in the southern sector of the park.

Virunga Alliance —  
improving livelihoods of  
people around the park

SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY

190,000  
people access  
power

SUSTAINABLE  
FISHERIES

60%  
yield increase

AGRO-INDUSTRY

250  
jobs from palm oil  
processing plant

TOURISM

\$5.5m  
potential  
investment





to survive, he returned to work within weeks because, he said, more than 140 of his rangers had died protecting the park so he could not walk away.

Emmanuel — a pilot who once built his own plane with a Subaru car engine and flew it from Canada to Kenya via Europe — leads a lonely, dangerous existence. He lives in a tent. He seldom sees his wife, the Kenyan paleontologist Louise Leakey, and their two young daughters. But he is slowly reclaiming the park even though a dozen rebel groups remain. He has turned his rangers into a

disciplined, well-armed force. SOCO appears to have withdrawn, battered by multiple allegations of wrongdoing and Emmanuel's relentless international campaigning. Tourists are returning to see the gorillas and climb Niyragongo, an active volcano containing the world's largest lava lake.

With characteristic resolve and energy, the Belgian is now pursuing a hugely ambitious, \$200 million project — financed primarily by the Buffett Foundation, European Union and DRC government — to secure Virunga's future. The centrepiece is the six hydro-electric projects

that will generate electricity for millions of Congolese living near the park, create tens of thousands of jobs and, Emmanuel hopes, replace two decades of conflict with lasting peace and stability.

Given his track record, it would be rash to bet against this easily underestimated man.

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Casper van de Geer Project Manager, Local Ocean Trust

## Local Ocean Trust

**Kenya's coastal region has seen huge change in the last 30 years. With a significant population growth, a sharp rise in the cost of living, and the fluctuations in tourism, the coastal communities are under increasing pressure.**

Other forms of employment are yet to alleviate this dependency on an unpredictable tourism industry; and so people from throughout Kenya continue to be attracted to the area, only to find a state of flux and lack of steady income. Improvements in the areas of healthcare, sanitation, education, and infrastructure have not been able to match the population's pace of growth and this has had an alarming impact on Kenya's marine areas and coastline.

The change in traditional fishing habits, the popularity of beach tourism, the increase in pollution, and the explosion of property development — these are all factors that have had a seismic effect on Kenya's marine resources. Yet in the face of these mounting pressures, there is always opportunity for

change, and change is what we are all about. Local Ocean Trust grew out of a concern for the dwindling existence of ocean life and was formed, initially as Watamu Turtle Watch, in 1997 by a group of coastal residents looking to overhaul the relationship communities had with their local ocean.

Established at first to protect sea turtles in around the Watamu Marine National Park and safeguard Watamu's nesting beaches, the work load grew to such an extent that by 2001 it was deemed time to form a parent organisation. The resulting team, Local Ocean Trust (LOT), is committed to protecting Kenya's marine environment with a holistic approach. We recognise that our conservation efforts can only be effective with support from local communities and businesses, and this support can only be garnered if we operate in a way that continually informs, educates, and includes the very people our projects seek to support.

LOT's operations as a parent organisation have grown significantly since those early days in 2001 and we now run seven programmes that seek to empower the community and rejuvenate marine ecosystems on the Kenyan coastline. The most established of these is our Beach Monitoring Programme; since 1997 we

have patrolled the Watamu Marine National Park beach every day of the year, keeping an eye out for illegal activities and development along the coast. Extending out of this initial programme are three others — our Turtle Rehabilitation Centre, the Bycatch Release Programme, and our Anti-poaching Patrols.

### Large network of partnerships

The Centre is the only facility of its kind in East Africa, where injured and sick turtles are treated before being rehabilitated to the ocean. With nine rehabilitation pools, three of which are quarantine pools, turtles of various sizes and requirements can be housed at the Centre. Over nearly 20 years of continued community education, LOT has built and nurtured a large network of partnerships with local individuals and groups, encouraging fishermen with a fiscal reward to bring turtles caught accidentally to LOT instead of instantly killing and selling them in the local markets.

The Environmental Education Programme focuses on areas where we know there are a significant number of children who live close to the sea or are the children of fishermen. Every term children from 30 local schools are brought to the LOT headquarters to learn about a variety of marine topics — from mangroves to turtles to coral reefs — and, importantly, about the impact pollution and overfishing can have on these species and their ecosystems.

There are very few things more rewarding than the moment we hear from a fisherman in our Bycatch Release Programme that his children are discussing with him the future of their local ocean. It is our goal to create environments for these conversations, but the lead must be taken up by key members within the community for a shift in attitude and behaviour to truly hold. It is this belief that underpins our Community Capacity Building Programme, for which we have three Community Liaison Officers working closely with 22 influential community groups — all of whom have strong ties to the oceans.

The groups work collaboratively with LOT to develop strategies promoting sustainable activities and reducing communities' reliance on marine resources. In keeping with this notion, we also run a programme that actively seeks to re-establish mangrove biomes. We



collect propagules, rear them in nurseries, and plant them in areas where mangroves have previously been destroyed.

Our final and most recently developed initiative is a satellite programme that now covers stretches of ocean along the southern coast of Kenya. Eight men from Diani and surrounds have been trained by LOT staff to be Beach Monitors. Although still in its early stages, the Diani Turtle Watch Programme is already making a significant difference in

ensuring the safety of nesting females and increasing the survival rate of their eggs.

Our hope is that LOT's turtle monitoring work in Diani proves to be as successful as Watamu. To date, the Bycatch Release Programme has resulted in the rescue of over 13,500 turtles. When you consider that slaughter could have been the alternative for these turtles, the tangibility of our work becomes evident. The insight we currently have on sea turtle ecology, physiology, and behaviour is phenomenal and we are immensely proud that through LOT's Beach Monitoring Programme, we have been able to protect over 700 nests (while clearly seeing the number of nests grow each year!).

We are thrilled with the progress that LOT has managed to achieve through the years. With that said, much still remains to be done. With the drastic fall in coastal tourism, many people working in tourism-related businesses have lost their jobs. To make ends meet, a vast majority of these locals have turned to fishing, adding to the pressure on the already overexploited coastal fish stocks.

LOT has four members of staff working in the field every day with fishermen and their families, and sadly stories of bad fishing catches and ensuing desperation are becoming far too common. Although the current Wildlife Management Act of Kenya places a penalty of KSh20 million (approximately US\$200,000) and/or life imprisonment on killing sea turtles or being in possession of any sea turtle product,

**Supporting Communities** PREVIOUS PAGE Tusk sponsored Local Ocean Trust marine scouts. ABOVE The LOT marine scouts planting mangroves. BELOW Marine scouts releasing turtles accidentally caught in fishing nets.

people's need to survive and prosper drives them to commit these crimes despite the consequences. One large green turtle can fetch the equivalent of almost six months' income from fishing. It is therefore critical for our conservation programmes to not only educate locals about the long-term value of protecting sea turtles and other marine species, but also to help develop other, more sustainable and more reliable, forms of income.

It is our goal, with the support of Tusk and in collaboration with the local communities, to secure Kenya's marine life and ecosystems for future generations; and to devise strategies that will prevent poaching from being the commonplace resort for the local people.

Promoting sustainable fishing practices, educating local stakeholders about the marine environment and the impact we have on it, and restoring marine life to its former abundance is an approach that requires both a dedicated team on the ground and resolute commitment from our partners.

Ours is a holistic journey and we are exhilarated to have Tusk walking beside us in our endeavours.





# PROMOTING EDUCATION

Protecting Wildlife Supporting Communities



Harriet Ghau Tusk Trust

## Kilimani – linking conservation and education

**Schools by their nature come to be a haven for the community, a place where differences can be left at the door in the pursuit of a shared education. Yet in an area with a history of intense tribal animosity, can a school be the root of its current cohesion?**

Kilimani Primary School is located in Isiolo County in northern Kenya and is one of the 21 schools in the Lewa Education Programme (LEP) run by Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

Set up in 1968 and with a current enrolment of just over 1,400, the school is one of the oldest in the area and is attended by children from a range of Kenyan tribes including Boran, Turkana, Meru, Kikuyu and even children of Somali heritage.

The dynamic between these various groups in the community has always been a complex and turbulent one; one of their few commonalities being only the prevailing and outdated cultural views and practices relating to women.

Isiolo is also infamously renowned for being a haven for wildlife poachers by virtue of its location. Achieving the unachievable, Lewa recognised that a divided community and a critical poaching threat did not have to be tackled separately, but that a solution

for the former could be the key to eliminating the latter. The LEP is an innovative model that seeks to garner support for Lewa's conservation efforts in the surrounding communities by creating unprecedented opportunity through education.

It is Lewa's goal to establish a process for its neighbouring populaces that enhances their livelihoods and develops an entrenched understanding of the value of wildlife.

The Programme encompasses approximately 6,500 children and provides support to schools in the form of infrastructure and curriculum development, student empowerment programmes, teachers' training, and provision of school supplies.

Faith Riunga, the manager of the LEP, said of the programme, "Before we extended our support, many of these schools suffered from inadequate, poorly equipped infrastructure, under-staffing and lack of teaching and learning resources. We have worked, and still are working, to change that."

### Linking education and conservation

The significance of Kilimani's inclusion in the LEP can be measured both tangibly and symbolically. The Isiolo community has been able to see the benefits of having a well-run and well-equipped school serving their needs and in turn this has made them advocates of Lewa's anti-poaching stance.

This collective change in attitude is beginning to pay off and the effects can be seen in the fact that Lewa hasn't lost a rhino to poaching in the last two years, and elephant poaching numbers across a broader landscape have halved in the same period.

People who hailed from Isiolo used to be intent on getting out of the area; now there are a notable number moving back to build their lives within the frameworks of this reforming society.

The success of Kilimani is exciting on numerous levels, but perhaps one of the most thrilling outcomes is that community perceptions of women are gradually changing. In 2015, the school had its first female student qualify for admission into a Country Secondary School.

Though this may be very little by westernised standards of education, this feat marks an auspicious step in the right direction for the community. It only takes one student to break through stigma and archaic beliefs for others to then follow in their footsteps.

### Kilimani school development

Kilimani was once in a state of total disrepair; the school was over-subscribed and understaffed and it lacked the facilities to meet the needs of its students. With support from Tim and Victoria Russell, generous and longstanding Tusk donors, change is underway and the difference is already being felt. The renovation began with the construction of ten new classrooms — equipped with new desks and chairs, a dining room, kitchen with fuel efficient stoves, and additional toilet facilities. Kilimani, for the first time, was given access to a clean water supply and electricity, which has provided lighting in the classrooms and power to operate kitchen equipment.

Dormitories and their accompanying facilities were then completed and fully furnished in May 2015, allowing for the first admission of boarding students this year. Thirty girls have enrolled so far and, using Safaricom Marathon funding, Kilimani has been able to recruit a matron to look after the girls. Tusk has also been able to facilitate the fencing of the school's perimeter to offer the students and their teachers better security. Local contractors are employed and, as a result, each renovation has absolute relevance while remaining notably economical.

The Kenyan education system is not always straightforward and Kilimani has had its share of complications. The national teachers' strike,

for example, affected the admission and school academic calendar for a period of time in 2015. Unable to intervene in the Government's school processes, Lewa had to wait for a decision by the court to deal with the standard of remuneration for Kenyan teachers. Momentum also faltered last year when the head teacher was transferred to another school.

However, Doris Muriungi has picked up the work and ethos of her predecessor and continues to nurture the close working relationship Kilimani has always had with the LEP, proving her ability to lead particularly in the area of curriculum implementation.

Next on the agenda for Kilimani, with Tusk and Tim and Victoria Russell's backing, is the construction of two further classrooms to meet

the demand for places at the school, teachers' housing, and a library. Investment in the infrastructure of the school helps to raise the working and living conditions, giving Kilimani students and teachers the room they need to thrive.

Kilimani is the embodiment of Tusk's maxim to protect wildlife by supporting communities and promoting education; and it is immensely exciting to contemplate the capacity it has for raising generations of young Kenyans — geographically embedded in the illegal wildlife trade — who will be intent on preserving endangered species and their natural habitats.

If there was ever a space to watch, it's this one.



**Promoting Education** TOP Pupils and parents of Kilimani School in the new dining room.

ABOVE Tim and Victoria Russell unveiling a plaque at the opening ceremony for the new school buildings.



Lesley McNutt Director, Coaching for Conservation

## Inspiring kids who care

Coaching for Conservation (C4C) is a product of the Botswana Predator Conservation Trust's research project based in the Okavango, Botswana.

C4C focuses on children and stems from the realisation that, without the attention and interest of local young people, the future of Africa's spectacular natural resources will remain uncertain. C4C uses two mechanisms for teaching. One is to harness the power of sport and the inherent value that sport provides in terms of health, fitness, and teamwork. And the other is 'Learning from Wildlife', where C4C creates an empathetic link between the child and animal.

### Instilling empathy

Imparting 'knowledge' can be relatively easy, but is it possible to teach 'empathy'? At C4C the goal is to 'Inspire Kids to Care' about

themselves, about others, and about the natural world around them. Our quest has been to identify how to plant the seeds of empathy towards living things and then to nourish these to create a broader self-perspective — 'to put yourself in someone else's shoes'.

Education is not enough if it is not followed by changes in behaviour. But what is the trigger that changes behaviour? The fact is successful conservation is driven by people who care deeply about the natural world, not because they stand to benefit from it, but because they are richer for knowing they are part of a broader world. Empathy. To engender this at C4C we have developed a 'Learn from Wildlife' method.

### Learn from wildlife

All C4C programmes are rooted in having fun and all are taught through sport. They start with education — a knowledge component — because in order to care about something you first have to know something about it. But, instilling empathy requires more. It requires developing a relationship that can only be cultivated through cognitive, emotional and social engagement. At C4C we guide children through a process of first

learning — **Meet**, then action — **Be**, and finally, practice — **Help**.

In each C4C lesson, various species of Africa's iconic and charismatic megafauna are introduced as mentors. Like elite athletes, they possess skills and strategies that enable them to survive and be resilient in times of adversity, just as children need to be in their own lives. Children first learn about the animal mentor in the **Meet** lesson. Cheetah, for example, are vulnerable, but not endangered, and survive largely because of their incredible speed, balance, and agility. Children then learn from these animals by **Becoming** them. On the field children emulate the important cheetah survival skills translated into football skills: fast dribbling, acceleration, balance. Off the field they are reminded of the critical importance of balance in those physical cheetah skills, just as in all things leading to a healthy life. Finally, C4C learners participate in discussions about cheetah in the natural world and the conservation challenges they face as a predator that sometimes hunts livestock. They reenact these issues in a physical game that emphasises how, by protecting livestock, they can **Help** cheetah.



**Promoting Education** ABOVE, L-R School children from Maun on a bush-day experience; coming face-to-face with an elephant; having a hands on experience with a python.  
OPPOSITE C4C educational programmes are taught through sport.



## Emma Bridgewater

Emma Bridgewater is proud to support Tusk with a range of exclusive mugs available from [emmabridgewater.co.uk](http://emmabridgewater.co.uk)

**For every mug sold Emma Bridgewater will donate £5 to Tusk**



Inspiring kids who care

10 YEARS  
INSPIRING KIDS  
WHO CARE

13,000  
CHILDREN

6 WEEK  
AFTER-SCHOOL  
PROGRAMME

86%  
THINK WILDLIFE  
IS IMPORTANT TO  
THEIR LIVES



In 2014 C4C added an additional experiential layer to the unique curriculum — a bush-day. This has proven hugely effective in helping to kick-start the emotional connection we aim to instil. Having learnt about cheetah — how to run like one on the soccer field, and how they are shot by farmers for killing goats — when a child sees a cheetah in its environment for the first time, a powerful connection is created.

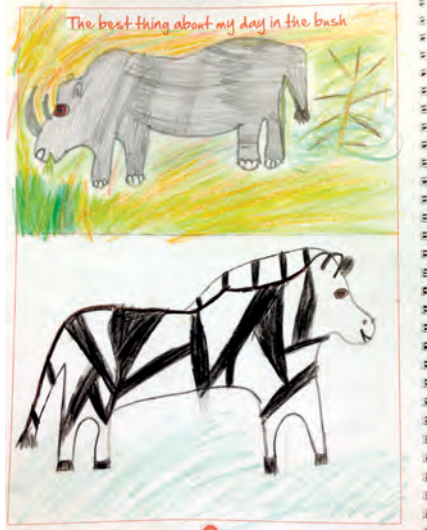
How beautiful that animal is! How awe-inspiring to be in eye contact with the fastest mammal on earth! That one minute with one animal can change everything about how people think and interact with wildlife.

#### Making a difference

Investec Asset Management and Tusk support has been invaluable to the development of C4C's Botswana programme. In 2011 we built and equipped a conservation education centre in Maun and acquired a bus to transport kids to their afternoon programmes.

Since then Tusk has continued to help with C4C's operating costs. Over thirteen years 6,340 children in Botswana and nearly 10,000 across Southern Africa have been inspired to care about a broader natural world.

Before C4C, less than 18% of participants had any personal connection with wildlife or visited a wildlife area. Two in five believed that wild animals or some aspect of the environment might be important to their lives.



**Promoting Education** One child's report on their bush-day experience.

Following participation in C4C, where for most children it was their first exposure to animals, those reporting that wildlife was important rose to 86%. By the end of the six week programme 100% identified at least one environment or conservation related item among the top five things they cared about.

Perhaps more compelling are the results of the qualitative evaluations that attempt to identify changes in how children perceive themselves and their relationship with wildlife — “I learned that animals have special skills and gifts. We should support and care for them and respect them like we do each other”.

#### Inspiring kids to care

There are no simple solutions; no quick fixes to the challenges we face as wildlife conservationists. Ours is a long-term approach that requires commitment and consistent effort. But conservation education that addresses the core values of self-respect and respect for other living beings will have a profound influence on the future of the natural world. By simply enabling a relationship with wild animals, C4C provides the space to forge personal connections with animals from which empathy can develop to ignite action and alter behaviour. By inspiring kids to care, perhaps it will not take as long as we think to affect change.

By learning from animals, C4C creates an empathetic link between the child and animal. When teaching jumping, for example, and the need for agility on the soccer field, the Impala ‘coach’ teaches about his own behaviour and the need for awareness, agility, and reliance on the ‘team’ (herd) for survival. The after-school programme delivers a fun, high energy intervention — proven to impact knowledge, self-worth, empathy and attitudes towards wildlife — all with the mission of inspiring kids to care about themselves, others, and the natural world around them.

Juliette Shears Bongo Surveillance Programme

## Grassroots education

**The mountain bongo is a large forest antelope found only in the high forests of Kenya. It is critically endangered, with an estimated 100 bongo remaining in the wild. The long-term support from local communities is the key to prevent the mountain bongo from extinction.**

The word bongo conjures up images of a big, bulky, loud animal. The reality is very different. The bongo is an elusive, incredibly secretive, and unique looking animal. They are characterised by a striking reddish-brown coat, with black and white markings, delicately painted white stripes across the back, and long slightly spiralled horns.

Endemic to the forest of Kenya, these magnificent animals are under huge pressure from illegal timber removal and charcoal burning that, combined with poaching, has brought the species to the brink of extinction.

#### Bongo Surveillance Project

The mountain bongo needed a champion. Mike Prettejohn, a naturalist, with a deep knowledge of the species and forests gained over 70 years established the Bongo Surveillance Project (BSP) in 2005. With his team of local, highly experienced trackers, limited scientific support

and some initial funding, they initiated an intense surveillance programme. The results produced good news and bad. Bongo were discovered surviving in some of the country's high forests including Mount Kenya, the Aberdares, Eburu and South West Mau, but the surveillance revealed only small groups.

Mike, after discovering the bongo was critically endangered in the wild and under threat from unsustainable levels of poaching, decided to take action before the situation became irretrievable. For a conservation plan to work, it would need support from the local communities close to where the bongo had been identified.

Mike set up the BSP with a team of trackers from the communities. With their support

he identified schools where potential bongo wildlife clubs could be initiated, with the objective of establishing a conservation and wildlife education programme.

BSP has grown into a team of 18 including specialist trackers and school and community coordinators, who work in partnership with 19 local schools across the Aberdares, Mt. Kenya, Eburu, SW Mau and most recently Maasai Mau Forests in Kenya. Although the BSP has expanded from a one-man-band it is still very much a grassroots community based initiative. Tusk, through the Safaricom Marathon, has been a vital partner in the growth and development of BSP's Bongo Wildlife Clubs and community activities, providing continuity to allow the project to develop.



#### Bongo Wildlife Clubs

The BSP partner schools are selected due to their proximity to the last remaining bongo groups. Each year around 40 pupils aged between 10 and 11 years from each of the schools have the opportunity to join the school's Bongo Wildlife Club. They are shown conservation education films and get to meet the BSP trackers who take camera traps to club meetings and give demonstrations on how they monitor the bongo.

It is important that the conservation programme is fun and considers all skills. Scheduled throughout the year are visits to the Mount Kenya William Holden Centre where the children can see habituated bongo; and

to the Aberdares where they learn about the forest. The production of poster style ‘Bongo Hot Spot’ paintings has been extremely popular with pupils, giving them the chance to use watercolours to paint bongo in their natural habitat. Over 420 pupils and teachers, participated in visits organised by the BSP in 2015.

The BSP school coordinator works in partnership with an elected Bongo Wildlife Club patron at each school. The patron's knowledge and training is fundamental to insure consistency of the conservation message. Last year BSP produced a Bongo Wildlife Club conservation education booklet that has evolved over the years. Created in partnership with the volunteer BSP patrons it is a culmination of their learning journey.

With recent Tusk funding, BSP have been able to hold a Patron's Training Weekend for the teachers to share best practice in conservation education. It has been imperative that the education programme is ‘owned and designed’ by the patrons and schools. With the schools situated hundreds of miles apart in some cases, this opportunity has been invaluable.

Since 2007, over 5,000 pupils have been members of the Bongo Wildlife Clubs. A passion for conservation has inspired a previous Bongo Wildlife Club member, now a trainee teacher, to take up the volunteer role as bongo patron for his old school.

**Promoting Education** PREVIOUS PAGE, L-R Children from Osanangururi Primary School with the newly installed water tank; pupils from the same school watching an educational film. THIS PAGE, TOP-BOTTOM The Aberdares National Park; the secretive bongo caught on a camera trap; Tusk sponsored solar powered lights.

#### Community Conservation Centres

As the conservation message is passed down through new generations, BSP has seen some of the participating schools becoming learning centres for conservation. BSP has sponsored start-up income generation projects, such as beekeeping, alpine dairy goat rearing, and fish farming. Last year Tusk sponsored a water conservation project at the Maasai Mau school — Osanangururi Primary School — one of three BSP water conservation projects, benefiting the schools and communities across the region.

BSP has supported solar lighting schemes, demonstrating to pupils and their families the economic and environmental benefits of finding alternative energy options. A solar scheme involving 13 homes has made a significant impact to school pupils and staff at Kariki Primary School in the Aberdares. Evening study time for the children has increased and each family is saving over 1,000KSh (£7) a month on kerosene. This year Kariki's performance results are the highest recorded and it is one of the most improved in the region.

The Clubs are participating in collecting seeds from the forest and developing tree nurseries. With space permitting some schools now have several hundred trees in the school grounds, giving pupils shade to sit in at lunchtimes. The pupils also give young tree plants they have nurtured at school to their parents for planting at home.

Since 2006 this small, but highly effective, grassroots organisation has reached an estimated 22,000 people. With the support of Tusk during 2016, BSP hope to implement a recognition scheme for Bongo Wildlife Club pupils and schools and are working with bongo patrons towards this next phase of development.



Kate Moore Programmes Director, Lilongwe Wildlife Trust

## Championing Youth Activism – Taking a stand against wildlife crime

For the world's poorest country which relies heavily on natural resources, sustainable living is critical for the future of both the people and wildlife.

Malawi has the highest rate of deforestation in the SADC region — 92% of people have no access to electricity and instead rely on wood for fuel. This resulting habitat loss, coupled with rampant poaching, has all but emptied the countryside outside protected areas of wildlife and there is mounting pressure on the wildlife that remains within the national parks. What's more, the human population is growing fast, there's increasing encroachment from new settlements and human-wildlife conflict is on the rise.

Lilongwe's education programme aims to inspire a generation of conservationists to understand and appreciate Malawi's natural resources and do what they can to protect them. Over 24,000 children took part in Lilongwe Wildlife Trust's education programmes last year and, thanks to a very welcome windfall from Tusk, 2016 will be an especially big year for us. We're now expanding our programme to three more protected areas with a view to reaching a total of 35,000 learners.

Our modules have been designed in line with the national curriculum and include topics like biodiversity and deforestation. That said, it is our module on wildlife crime that has featured most prominently over the past year. Whilst only a handful of children may grow up

to be tempted into the illicit ivory trade, the illegal bushmeat and pet trades are widespread and forest crime contributes significantly to deforestation. Standing as the second biggest threat to wildlife behind habitat loss, and the biggest threat to endangered species such as elephant and rhino, wildlife crime has also recently emerged as a major concern for Malawi as a nation.

### Malawi, a 'soft target' for traffickers

In early 2015 we co-authored the country's *Illegal Wildlife Trade Review* which quantified Malawi's role in illegal wildlife trade, in particular as a transit route and distribution hub for illicit ivory. This came as a surprise to many, as Malawi had remained largely under the radar due to its small size and relatively small wildlife numbers.

Malawi has indeed been implicated in some of the largest seizures in the world, and there are numerous smaller examples of ivory trafficking with a total of 50 cases recorded between 2010 and 2014. With an estimated 10% interception rate, the true number will be much higher. It is also surrounded by Africa's worst poaching hotspots, and coupled with the country's weak wildlife legislation, poor law enforcement, and high levels of corruption there is an attractive risk-to-reward ratio for wildlife criminals.

The report also highlighted the extent that commercial and subsistence poaching of other species had grown out of control. The findings

gave our *Stop Wildlife Crime* campaign, launched in February 2014, in partnership with the Malawi Government, more momentum to push wildlife crime onto the public agenda and drive action on some of the recommendations, and the campaign and our education efforts have naturally overlapped.

### Championing youth activism

Malawian children love a good rally. When we held *World Wildlife Day* commemorations last March the majority of the thousand-plus marchers were young learners. They also helped us to collect many of the 7,000 signatures supporting our petition, which was then presented to His Excellency, President Peter Mutharika, in front of a 2.1 tonne ivory pyre — the much anticipated ivory burn was postponed at the last minute. A selection of the 700 poster entries from our competition were also handed over and printed in one of the national newspapers. Then in August, at the launch of the new parliamentary conservation caucus, a group of our young activists treated the President to a short play called *The future of wildlife is in our hands* which was also broadcast on national television.

This is a movement that shows children that their voice is being heard, even at the very top, and that through action they can make a difference. When the amendments to the Wildlife Act are finally passed by Parliament we shall be thanking all those campaigners who marched, signed our petition, or sent us their posters for their part in it, however small.

Even highlighting lower profile actions can have an impact. Where children have reported cases of bushmeat or pet trade following our sessions or brought injured animals to our wildlife sanctuary, we might make a presentation in assembly in front of their peers or organise a short radio interview.

Championing activism through the media not only instils pride in those individuals but it is also a powerful means of inspiring others and pushes our conservation messages out to a wider audience.

### Taking wildlife crime education to the masses

Wildlife crime has for many years been a low priority for a vast number of Malawians; few view it as a serious crime, and some do not even view it as illegal.

With such low awareness our basic education messages are targeting the general public and education tools, such as our *Stop Wildlife Crime* short film and our new *chilengedwe ndi anthu* (people and wildlife) series sponsored by Tusk, are being repeated on national TV. We've also hosted debates with politicians, government officials and celebrities, and published a number of joint opinion articles and features in the national papers, which all gives the movement more credibility.

Just 10% of the population have access to a TV, presumably even less for the press, so we have adapted the content for radio and our



**Promoting Education** ABOVE World Wildlife Day march.

OPPOSITE Children making their feelings known on World Wildlife Day.



84%  
budget funded by  
Tusk, benefitting

90  
SCHOOL  
TEACHERS

35,000  
SCHOOL CHILDREN

From  
350  
SCHOOLS

+  
15,000  
TAUGHT IN WIDER  
COMMUNITY



new pedal power cinema roadshow has been incredibly popular, with up to 800 people at a time attending our rural screenings. It's been a great way to get people talking.

### Sensitising law enforcers

The average fine for ivory trafficking in Malawi was found to be just MK20,000 (US\$40) between 2011 and 2014, an extremely low amount that provided wildlife criminals no deterrent at all. That is, if they even get caught. Awareness and motivation within departments like the police and border forces was found seriously lacking by the IWT review, and yet, again, this is where education, even at the most simple of levels, can make a difference.

We've been reacting to the knowledge gap with activities in partnership with the authorities like training and the installation of posters on ivory identification at border posts and police road blocks. We're currently producing a more detailed ID handbook for wildlife products at the request of the airport agency. On one hand this is a world away from our youth education but it uses the same tactics — like showing the campaign film and championing individuals



**Promoting Education** ABOVE Members from the Lilongwe team at an unveiling of the Lilongwe Wildlife Trust billboard.

who have helped to catch wildlife criminals — that can also inspire and inform.

## No discipline, or organisation, is an island

In order to protect Malawi's wildlife and habitats, education is key. Conservation education is absolutely about reaching the children in the classrooms, but it also plays a role in our wildlife rescue work, our advocacy, and even our anti-trafficking initiatives.

When it comes to combatting wildlife crime, we're helping to draft the National Parks & Wildlife Amendment Bill which will mean stiffer sentences for wildlife criminals. We're also leading on new projects such as pro-active wildlife investigations, wildlife crime risk management, and the introduction of ivory sniffer dogs which will improve interception rates. Our court monitoring project will also help to combat corruption and our work with the various diplomatic missions will help to reduce demand for wildlife products. All of these will be coupled with some form of sensitisation which links closely with education messages.

What's more, so many of our achievements have come about as a result of collaboration — whether it's with the Government or international NGO's — and the majority of our current projects are coming to fruition through these partnerships. Tusk is our only long-term supporter of our education operations. We have been working together since 2011 and each year they have given us the backing we have needed to go further. Thank you, thank you... *zikomo, zikomo!*



**Promoting Education** PREVIOUS PAGE, BOTTOM A pupil learning weaving at a vocational school for girls. ABOVE, L-R Transporting windows on the Nawuni River for the new building project; pupils of Mburugu School with their new desks; former students, Adom and Malika, are now staff at the Tusk supported Murugu primary School. BOTTOM, L-R Pupils from Murugu School; Murugu School with new Tusk funded classrooms.

**Lynne Symonds** The Wulugu Project, Project Manager UK

# The Wulugu Project

Education is the gateway to an improved, more wholesome quality of life. Time after time, research has highlighted the very real importance of providing good schooling in less developed nations.

Education is perhaps the most potent weapon in the war to liberate people from poverty. It is the essential resource that equips communities across Africa with the knowledge they need to tackle issues such as the spread of new diseases and the changing climate.

**T**usk regards education as one of the three key pillars of its work. It shares that vision with The Wulugu Project, an effective and energetic charity that is passionate about boosting educational opportunities — particularly those of women and girls — in northern Ghana. Tusk has played an increasingly important role there in recent years, particularly in districts situated near Mole, Ghana's largest National Park.

## The Wulugu Project

The charity pursues its goals without the benefit of big budgets, paid fundraisers or celebrities to help spread its message. 98% of the project's income is spent directly on helping communities to help themselves; and the lives of hundreds of thousands of people have been transformed by its activities.

No mean feat, and one that attracted the Prime Minister David Cameron's attention last year when he presented me with a *Points of Light Award*, an accolade granted to

outstanding UK volunteers. David Cameron said, "Every child deserves an education, and, thanks to the dedication Wulugu has shown for over two decades, over a quarter of a million children in Ghana have had the chance to go to school and the opportunity to build a better life for themselves. Gaining the support of local communities in Ghana, and, in many schools, getting as many girls as boys into education, are incredible achievements."

Tusk's involvement in northern Ghana has centred on helping communities whose villages were relocated when Mole, a National Park of almost 5,000km<sup>2</sup>, was opened in 1957. The daily struggle of people to survive in the face of poverty is often at odds with efforts to conserve Ghana's savannah and wildlife. Years of basic human subsistence activities, such as hunting and tree-cutting for fuel and lumber, resulted in severe land degradation and biodiversity loss within Mole. Education holds the key to alternative sources of income.



Tusk funding has allowed for a greater number of children to progress from primary to secondary school by building secondary-specific classrooms at Larabanga and at Murugu. Last year, 45 children supported by Tusk made this transition — many more than ever before — while at Murugu, 31 students made the same progression.

### Volunteer-led

The Wulugu Project has no paid workers in the UK or in Ghana; rather, all projects are designed and implemented by volunteers from the communities that will benefit.

The project puts faith in the locals because it believes they are the ones who really understand what will work best for their children. It ensures the highest level of long-term, sustainable value at very low cost for the maximum number of those most in need of assistance as they struggle — and, increasingly, succeed — to move out of poverty.

## Community-based

More than 50 schools have been built or substantially renovated during its 20-year history. Wulugu can put up a school at a third of the cost that would be incurred by others because of local involvement and because it takes a firm stand against corruption.

Builders work to a high standard and quickly, safe in the knowledge they will be paid for the job. And, if something goes wrong, disruption to school life is kept to a minimum because speedy repairs can be made.

The project's provision of solutions does not stop there.

Junior high schools, or secondary schools, that serve the 14-17 year old age group have



## SPECIAL DELIVERY

DHL is proud to support the preservation of numerous wild animals around the world. From transporting tigers to London and rehoming rhinos in Tanzania, we've relocated more than 21 animals over the last two years.

## DHL Express: a dedicated supporter of Tusk Trust



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# BEYOND BORDERS



Counter-poaching efforts in the field become redundant if they are not matched with judicial and governmental action; and without a shift in current consumers' habits, the likelihood of rhino and elephant surviving in the wild seems unlikely, which is a chilling and catastrophic thought.

The illegal wildlife trade is a multi-faceted crisis which, to be tackled successfully, must be confronted at each and every level of its operation. **Stop Ivory**, **WildAid**, and **Wildlife Crime Prevention Project (WCPP)** each work painstakingly to make significant change in the areas of government policy, consumer demand, law enforcement, and route regulation.

Crucial to the success of these three organisations is their link with field operations such as **Save The Elephants** who, through the tracking of animals continent-wide, allow informed decisions to be made on the ivory trade.

2015 was a momentous year for Stop Ivory, an organisation solely dedicated to ensuring the successful implementation of the African-led Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI). Launched in 2014 by leaders from Botswana, Gabon, Ethiopia, Chad and Tanzania, the EPI calls for countries and NGOs to join them in de-commercialising ivory in order to secure a future for elephants. Uganda, Malawi, The Gambia, Kenya and Liberia joined the endeavour last year and as the initiative gathers momentum, Stop Ivory are

understandably excited about the strides being made, attributing these recent successes to strong political leadership, strong partnerships, and an increasing willingness of stakeholders to work together towards common goals.

WildAid, renowned for their hard-hitting campaigns, are committed to reducing global consumption of wildlife products by persuading consumers to change their attitudes and habits. "The good news is that reducing consumer demand for rhino horn works," states WildAid, pointing to how the demand for rhino horn collapsed in 1993 for 15 years, due to international pressure, strong regulation and education in key markets (sadly only to rebound in 2008 with the economic growth of China and Vietnam).

If this teaches us anything, it is that governments and organisations need to remain focused on eradicating the trade of wildlife products — legalising the trade of farmed rhino horns or pursuing the option of a bioengineered equivalent will only perpetuate the myth that rhino horn has medicinal qualities, undoing years of valuable conservation messaging.

WCPP, an initiative of Game Rangers International (GRI), supports the anti-trafficking operations of the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA). They are a team devoted to researching and gathering information about the illegal ivory trade in Zambia in order to

enhance the knowledge and regulation of the situation. "We need to understand it before we can tackle it," state WCPP, and although this is a comment made specifically in reference to the Zambian situation, it is a truth wholly applicable to the entire spectrum of issues faced by the conservation world.

Not only must we take responsibility for our own understanding, we must take responsibility for ensuring a mutual, global understanding of the crisis at hand. Yes, strides have been taken by African leaders — by global leaders too — and when you read the following three articles you will be moved by the sense that, at last, a collaborative culture is developing in this complex struggle against the illegal wildlife trade.

The conversation has not only shifted from a call for policy change to a discussion of action plans; there has also been an unprecedented shift in terms of who is now engaging in the conversation. With policy changers and countries' leaders stepping forward, there has never been a better time to push across our state lines and cultural divides to connect and close off — once and for all — the destructive network of decimation that is the illegal wildlife trade.

Alexander Rhodes CEO, Stop Ivory

## Stop Ivory

Bloody, violent and deadly. Not three words that were in the forefront of my mind when I first set my heart on a career in conservation.

For elephants, however, this is today's reality as they try to live out their lives in the forests and plains across much of Africa.

Tusk, through 25 years of field experience in the continent, knows better than most that for practitioners and local communities alike, the reality of conserving our most precious species is often both difficult and dangerous.

Organised international crime's addition of ivory to its stock-in-trade has proved disastrous. The numbers are incomprehensible: 100,000 elephants killed in three years; 1,000 rangers killed in 10 years.

It is perhaps because of the sheer scale of what is happening that it takes specific tragedies to bring reality into focus. On January 28th this year, poachers shot down and killed Roger Gower with high-power automatic weapons, whilst he was on a helicopter patrol investigating a fresh elephant carcass on the edge of Tanzania's wondrous Serengeti. That same day, I was in Angola's Kissama National



**Beyond Borders** TOP Delegates at the London conference on the illegal wildlife trade. ABOVE Republic of Congo ivory burning in April 2015 in the Capital Brazzaville.

Park on the Atlantic coast, where the ranger team was mourning the death of a poacher they had shot in a firefight the day before. A poacher, yes; also someone who had shot at them with deadly intent; but — in the end — a person, and one of theirs.

So, where in the face of this runaway horror is there hope? Why is it that I and my team are optimistic for the future of elephant and for the communities that live alongside and with them?

For the last two years, Stop Ivory has been working with African governments, expert private sector and NGO partners to build and implement the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI). This project is unique — it is a new way of doing conservation. It is African-led; partnership-based and results-oriented.

The EPI was launched by leaders from five African countries (Botswana, Gabon, Ethiopia, Chad and Tanzania) at the London Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in February 2014. They called on the world community to join them in a common venture to address both ends of the problem: to decommercialise ivory; and to secure a future for elephant and communities through a shared African Elephant Action Plan.

Today, they have been joined by Uganda, Malawi, The Gambia, Kenya, Liberia and most recently the Republic of Congo. Tusk and 21 other leading international conservation NGOs have publicly pledged their support to the EPI, as well as the World Bank and UNDP. The 22 member countries of the African Elephant Coalition committed their support in November 2015 and in January this year the CITES



Standing Committee welcomed the initiative.

But this means nothing without results. The success of the EPI must be measured by two metrics: the growing global consensus that all ivory markets must close; and tangible government-led, partnership-implemented results delivered at national level. Despite ongoing indescribable atrocities, and shocking population collapses, great strides are being made on both fronts.

This is a result of strong political leadership, strong partnerships and an increasing willingness of stakeholders to work together towards common goals. It also reflects — from across Africa and the rest of the world, in particular China — a change in values for living elephant, over ivory, and all it has come to represent. The growing membership of the EPI, mirrored by the commitment of the two largest ivory markets: China and the US, to clamp down on its import and export and to close domestic ivory trade, sets the political environment for tough, concerted action to implement change.



**Beyond Borders** L-R The Tanzanian signing of the EPI with Dr. Adelman J Meru, former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Lazaro Nyalandu, former Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, and Diana Melrose, the British High Commissioner.

Over the last 24 months, nine ivory stockpiles have been inventoried; nine have been put beyond economic use by burning or crushing; and five National Elephant Action Plans have been developed and are being implemented in the field.

As we start 2016, the question is no longer 'How do we stop poaching when ivory policy is unclear?'; but 'How do we secure an immediate and long-term future for elephants and communities in a world without ivory trade.'

On the supply side, implementing the African Elephant Action Plan at a national level — to address protection, communities, livelihoods, law-enforcement, conflict and habitat — is central. In consumer markets, the watchwords are demand reduction, legal reform, enforcement and alternative employment.

2016 is a critical year for elephants. In September, the world community will meet at the CITES Conference in Johannesburg to determine policy and international law on ivory and elephants.

With an eye on that policy window, and the strong commitment of both governments and partners like Tusk to work together under a common framework, our outlook for the elephant is positive.

Sarah Davies Wildlife Crime Prevention Project, Game Rangers International

## Breaking the chain in wildlife crime

Elephant poaching and the illegal ivory trade have increased dramatically across Africa since the mid-2000s. At the current rates of illegal killing, the existence of the African elephant population is threatened.



**Beyond Borders** TOP 1,500kg of assorted confiscated bushmeat. OPPOSITE A rescued pangolin.

In 2013, the southern African region held almost 55% of the known elephant population. Crimes of illegal ivory trafficking and trade are increasing in frequency and expanding into previously secure elephant populations in this region.

Transnational criminal organisations and armed groups using sophisticated tactics take advantage of lack of border security and law enforcement in southern Africa to move ivory across borders and to avoid detection and prosecution.

The threat is serious and growing in Zambia and its eight neighbouring countries — Angola, DRC, Botswana, Malawi Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

### Zambia — a link in the illegal trade routes

Zambia has a large elephant population, which is in decline and increasingly under threat, as well as a significant illegal domestic ivory market catering for traders and syndicates for export to destination countries.

Trade routes now directly link Zambia to China, the world's largest consumer of illegal ivory. In Lusaka, Kenneth Kaunda International Airport has daily flights departing to Guangzhou, China via Dubai as well as eight other African cities including Addis Ababa, Johannesburg and Nairobi.

Zambia is also at the heart of the road transit networks in the region, with illegal ivory from a number of countries using Zambia's transport infrastructure and weak border controls en route to other transit and market countries. Several large ivory seizures in Malawi and Tanzania have been traced back to Zambia.

One of the largest single ivory seizures since the 1989 ivory trade ban occurred in 2002 when 6.2 tonnes that were seized in

Singapore were discovered to have originated almost entirely from Zambia.

Lusaka, Zambia's capital city, with over two million inhabitants, is situated at the centre of the national transport infrastructure network. Lusaka is not only the largest market within Zambia for illegal wildlife products, but also the centre for poaching logistics (firearms, ammunition and transport), a processing centre, transit point and a hub for the criminal syndicates driving the demand.

### Wildlife Crime Prevention Project

Game Rangers International's (GRI) Wildlife Crime Prevention Project (WCPP) was formally established in 2015 to support the Zambia Department of National Parks and Wildlife (NPW) Intelligence and Investigations (IIU) operations in Lusaka to combat the illegal trafficking and trade of ivory from and through Zambia. In 2015, WCPP assisted the NPW IIU in seizing 668kg of illegal ivory being traded in Zambia.

NPW IIU is the department responsible for identifying wildlife crime threats and enforcing wildlife legislation in Zambia. Historically, NPW has had inadequate financial and human resources. There are only ten IIU officers based in Lusaka with limited operational capacity to mount mobile wildlife crime detection roadblocks around the city to disrupt trafficking routes. Currently there are only five IIU officers based at Kenneth Kaunda International who are responsible for monitoring the large volume of cargo, luggage and people transiting through Lusaka's international airport. Some private cargo companies, as well as some airlines, conduct their own monitoring without any NPW involvement.

In 2016, WCPP are working to improve monitoring and baseline data collection to

In 2015 Zambia's wildlife Investigations and Intelligence unit

ARRESTED  
129  
SUSPECTS

CONFISCATED  
596.3kg  
IVORY

SEIZED  
2,553kg  
BUSHMEAT

EMPOUNDED  
19  
RIFLES





assess the extent of the illegal ivory trade in Zambia. Currently there is very little information available about volumes of ivory being trafficked through Zambia. The extent of unrecorded ivory trade and therefore the threat to these elephant populations remains worryingly unknown. We need to understand it before we can tackle it.

However we also need to improve the situation on the ground. In view of this, WCPP's focus is now on providing improved and innovative tools to enhance capacity of law enforcement at a national and regional level to combat the illegal ivory trade operating, potentially undisturbed, through Lusaka's airport, public transport centres, road networks and Zambian border posts.

In 2016 WCPP will support the IIU in establishing a Rapid Response Unit and intend to secure funding for a Detection Dog Unit, a proven cost-effective tool to prevent wildlife trafficking.

#### WCPP Legal Affairs Programme

Further, through training and resources, WCPP will support improved forensic evidence gathering capacity within NPW. Often the prosecution of high profile wildlife crime-related



**Beyond Borders** Rifles and ammunition confiscated in Sesheke.

cases is hampered by the lack of available or properly collected evidence, resulting in lower or minimal sentencing for serious wildlife crime offenders.

With the support of Tusk, WCPP are also establishing a legal affairs programme, in collaboration with other organisations such as Wildlife Direct (Kenya) and the Tikki Hywood Trust (Zimbabwe) to support the wildlife crime

prosecutions department as well as to raise awareness in the judicial system. Anti-poaching and anti-trafficking efforts can become void if arrests do not result in convictions.

WCPP intends to both break the chain of the network of illegal wildlife trade but also link all of the collective efforts in the field and in the cities to ensure wildlife crime is not tolerated in Zambia.

To address this new dangerous trend, in 2013 WildAid and the African Wildlife Foundation launched a campaign to reduce rhino horn demand in China and Vietnam. Using a successful model pioneered on our shark fin campaign in China, the campaign set out to raise awareness of the poaching crisis, support lawmakers in banning rhino horn and increasing enforcement efforts, and measurably reduce consumer demand for rhino horn in Vietnam and China.

Our messages feature Jackie Chan, Chinese actor and director Jiang Wen, actress Maggie Q, Vietnamese pop stars Thu Minh and Thanh Bui, the Duke of Cambridge, sports superstars David Beckham and Yao Ming, educating viewers about the poaching

crisis, discouraging the use of rhino horn and dispelling myths about its curative properties.

Refuting the claims by rhino horn peddlers that it is a magical cure-all product has been of special focus in this campaign. Building on our 2014 survey findings showing 75% of Vietnamese believe rhino horn has health benefits and 37.5% believe it can help cure cancer, we produced new Public Service Announcements (PSAs) featuring three of Vietnam's top doctors speaking out against the use of rhino horn in medicine.

In December 2015, we launched our *Nail Biters* campaign to show that rhino horn is primarily made of keratin, the protein that constitutes human nails and hair, and thus no more effective than chewing on one's



Christina Vallianos Programme and Grants Manager, WildAid

## Nail biter

**At the start of the year, the South African government released some sad but not unexpected news: Rhinoceros poaching remains at unsustainable levels. They reported that 1,175 rhinos had been poached in South Africa (after 1,215 were killed in 2014), where the majority of the estimated 20,000 Southern White rhinos remain. Compare this to the 13 that were poached in 2007.**

Rhino horn is eagerly sought-after by some in Vietnam and China, where it is used to demonstrate affluence and social status, both as a party drug and as gifts or bribes to political officials. In Vietnam, about 75% believe horn has many curative properties, from a fever reducer to even a cure for cancer, though no scientific evidence supports these claims. Meanwhile, Vietnam struggles with law enforcement efforts to stop rhino horn smuggling and trading — all contributing to the current crisis.

The good news is that reducing consumer demand for rhino horn works. For example, in 1993, after international pressure, strong regulations and education in key markets (e.g. Taiwan), demand for rhino horn collapsed, and poaching dropped to negligible levels — a trend that continued for 15 years until economic growth in China and Vietnam, coupled with new rumours of rhino horn's anti-cancer effects, revived consumer demand and escalated poaching in 2008.



**Beyond Borders** PREVIOUS PAGE, BOTTOM Yao Ming, The Duke of Cambridge and David Beckham photographed for WildAid's Whole World campaign.

THIS PAGE, TOP-BOTTOM Richard Branson's and Li Bingbing's 'Nail Biter' adverts.

finger nails. The campaign features an all-star team of Chinese celebrities and global ambassadors led by Sir Richard Branson and Li Bingbing speaking out against the sale of rhino horn and putting to rest claims of rhino horn as a medicinal panacea.

Two years into the campaign, we're seeing results in China. Public awareness that horns come from poached rhinos and that poaching is a serious problem has increased significantly. Our 2014 survey also showed that 61% of Chinese residents interviewed had watched our PSAs, and 98% of those believe public service announcements play a role in persuading people to refuse to buy rhino horn products.

But there is still much work to be done as poaching rates continue to soar. We will continue to spread our conservation message with the goals of further increasing understanding of the poaching crisis, eradicating the misconception of rhino horn's magical properties, and building a groundswell of public support for rhino conservation.

This year in particular is a critical one for the world's rhinos. Efforts to legalise the domestic rhino horn trade in South Africa, coupled with the emergence of 'bioengineered' rhino horn by U.S. bio-tech companies, could exacerbate an already dire situation for these animals by driving consumer demand.

We've seen this happen in the ivory trade, where legal sales in China and Hong Kong have catered to increasingly affluent consumers in the region, while providing a cover for illegal laundering of ivory from

recently poached elephants. Thankfully, global leaders over the past year have made commitments to finally end the ivory trade. We celebrate this accomplishment while keeping our eye on the rhino horn trade — one that provides false hope to cancer patients and profits to criminals, while rhinos and Southern African communities suffer.

To end this crisis, we must step up our campaign to reduce demand and strengthen enforcement of the trade.

Dr Iain Douglas-Hamilton CBE CEO, Save The Elephants

## The challenge of saving Africa's elephants

**While facts and figures are some of the most powerful weapons with which we can secure a future for elephants, I have noticed that a greater sympathy for this animal's plight is engendered when people are engaged with a particular elephant, when the observer is made to feel connected with a specific creature's fate.**

Following a tracked elephant via GPS enables this connection, allowing us to follow these great giants as they venture across vast tracks of land — now inhabited by a dense and expanding human population — as they seek out safe havens. What, at first

glance, appears to be an objective data point on a map in fact is part of a larger network that tells a story of epic survival, and it is this that becomes the vehicle through which an understanding of the need to protect elephant — and a will to fight those who would cruelly kill them for ivory — is conveyed.

Mountain Bull was one such elephant who, by 2014, became one of Africa's renowned elephant characters. Save the Elephants were tracking his exact routes up and down Mt Kenya, sharing his details with conservation partners and stories with the public. Then one day, in May 2014, his collar suddenly stopped

reporting. Days later his speared, tusk-less body was discovered by a ranger patrol from the Mount Kenya Trust and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

Mountain Bull's death was mourned by elephant lovers around the world and Kenyan conservationists alike. This tragedy came at a time when the scale of the ivory trade crisis was at last becoming evident to the rest of the world. Our analysis of continental results for all of Africa, in collaboration with the MIKE programme of CITES, showed that 100,000 elephants had been killed for their ivory in just three years between 2010 and 2012 — from a population of almost 500,000 elephants.

The conclusion from the scientific community was unanimous — such losses were unsustainable — and a tide of concern for the state of the species' swept across the globe.





Speculation even arose that elephants would become extinct within ten to fifteen years — a view that, chilling though it is, is not backed by any scientific calculation.

The work of Save the Elephants is rooted in our study of the elephants of Samburu National Reserve, where we follow the courses of over 500 elephants. We record all births and deaths in known families, and monitor independent bulls. It was in 2009 that we realised that we were losing the battle for the elephants in northern Kenya.

Many elephant families lost their matriarchs, and 30% lost all their breeding females. Deaths were far outnumbering births as the population

plummeted and orphans proliferated. If there is anywhere on the African continent where elephants should thrive it is in northern Kenya, where an inspired level of cooperation exists between conservationists, local communities, and government. In the face of the mounting pressure from poachers, this coalition closed ranks against the threat and soon the tide began to turn.

The local people of northern Kenya rallied behind the community engagement programmes initiated by Northern Rangelands Trust, law enforcement was strengthened, and penalties were properly enforced. Save the Elephants shared real-time tracking data with

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy's Operations Room and with the Kenya Wildlife Service, enabling pre-emptive patrols by their rangers and those of the Mount Kenya Trust to protect the most vulnerable elephants. By 2014, numbers were on the rise with more elephants being born than were dying, and in 2015 the rate of illegal killing had fallen to lows not seen since 2006.

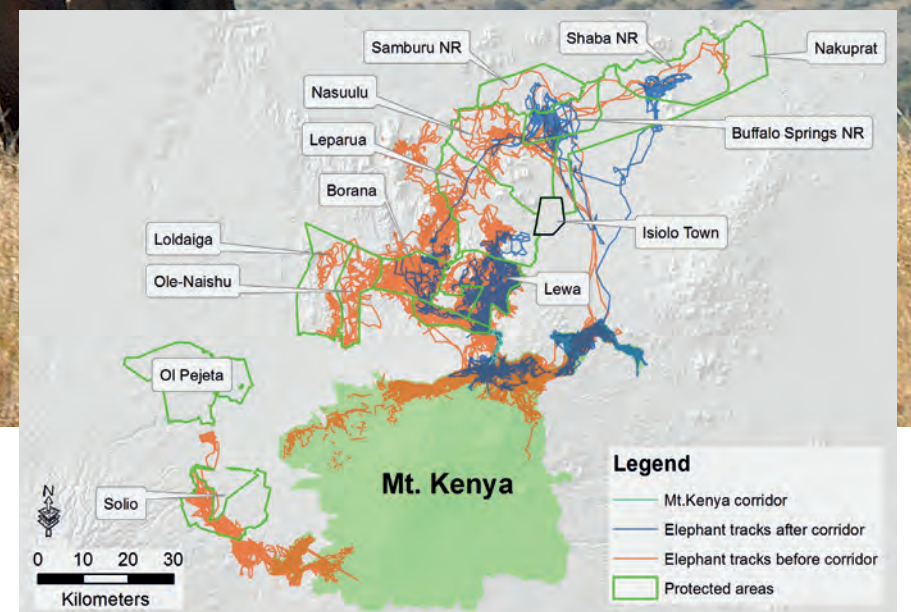
To see the tracking data, that used to once only be in the realm of science, now shared and adopted with enormous enthusiasm by those engaged in the grass roots of community conservation, law enforcement, and education is a source of immense pride for Save the Elephants.

Following Mountain Bull's death in 2014, we appealed through Tusk to put GPS collaring on specific animals that spend the majority of their time at the base or on the slopes of Mt Kenya, with the aim of following them by night and day to improve their security. From September 2014, four elephant collars funded by the charity were deployed in the region.

These elephants are monitored daily and the information is fed to the Operations Room on Lewa, and from there to the mobile security teams positioned to track the elephants. To pull off a successful deployment of collars in the thick Mt Kenya forest is no small challenge — one that was overcome with particular thanks to the invaluable helicopter support of Lewa, piloted by CEO Mike Watson; and David Daballen from Save the Elephants who was in charge of fitting the tracking collars without incident. Crucial behind the scenes work was carried out by the entire Save the Elephants team, including Jake Wall who designed much of the unique software for the trackers.

This collaring project dovetails with a larger initiative supported by The Nature Conservancy and the Elephant Crisis Fund that has deployed another 40 collars across northern Kenya.

With automated alarm systems built into the collars, and wildlife managers with hourly access to real-time elephant movement data guiding the deployment of rangers, we continue to track their movements to



**Beyond Borders** TOP Mountain Bull with Mount Kenya in the background. PHOTO SABA DOUGLAS HAMILTON  
ABOVE A map showing elephant tracks before and after the completion of the elephant corridor.

ensure the security of elephants in the area. On average, the collars will last two years, and we are currently trialling a new range of accelerometer-based collars that, once ready for use, can be rolled out to not only replace current collars but also track additional elephants.

The elephants of Mt Kenya have a better chance of survival now that their movements are closely monitored. Like the elephants of northern Kenya, they appear to have come through the eye of the poaching storm. All four of the elephants collared with Tusk funding in 2014 are still alive — such success was not as prevalent back in 2011 when a separate initiative saw four out of seven collared elephants poached on the mountain in the space of four months.

Sadly this success has yet to spread across the continent where elsewhere in many places elephants are still threatened with total eradication. It is critical that individuals, scientists, conservation organisations, and

government authorities work ever more closely to counter the still-present threat posed by ivory poaching and trafficking.

In the long-term another challenge looms for Africa's elephants in the shape of unplanned human development. Here the collars can help answer the essential questions of sustainability, including how to preserve vital elephant corridors and guide development plans so that the conservation of wildlife and natural habitats can be sustained alongside development and improvement of livelihoods.

Though we can say that the entire species is not going to be wiped out imminently, looking in to the future there is at the same time no cause for celebration. Unless we can plan intelligently and proactively, ivory poaching and urban development may still cause the extinction of many elephant populations. Evidence-based planning is one of the keys to the survival of elephants and other vulnerable species with which they share the landscape.

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# Prince William salutes Africa's wildlife champions

At a gala dinner hosted by Claridge's, Tusk's Royal Patron Prince William celebrated the ground-breaking work of three of Africa's unsung conservation heroes, honouring their achievements at the third annual Tusk Awards for Conservation in Africa.

Attended by many of the charity's high profile supporters and Tusk patrons including Rory Bremner, Deborah Meaden and Katherine Jenkins, the finalists and Tusk's key supporters enjoyed a champagne reception before taking their seats in the ballroom for the Awards ceremony.

Hosted by Kate Silverton-Heron, a Tusk patron and BBC presenter, the evening celebrated the extraordinary work and selfless dedication of some truly exceptional conservationists — people prepared to devote and even risk their lives for Africa's wildlife and people.

In his role as Royal Patron, Prince William presented The Prince William Award for Conservation in Africa, to Garth Owen-Smith. Sponsored by Investec Asset Management, the award recognised his lifelong dedication to pioneering community conservation in Namibia.

Charlie Mayhew, Tusk CEO, said, "Garth Owen-Smith is without doubt the founding father of community conservation. His vision, many years ago, has led to communities across Africa following his lead."

The Tusk Award for a rising star in the increasingly challenging field of wildlife conservation and sponsored by Land Rover, was presented to Dr. Emmanuel de Merode, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, a man whose work is now acknowledged as vital to the survival of Africa's oldest national park.

Prince William was especially proud to present the inaugural Tusk Wildlife Ranger Award to Edward Ndiritu from Kenya.

Leading a team fighting the war against poaching, the award, said the Prince, "Recognises the extraordinary bravery and commitment of the men and women at the frontline of the battle — and it is a battle — to save some of the world's most

iconic species." Closing the ceremony, the Prince said, "People often ask me why I am so passionate about this cause. It is because of the human impact. The planet and our natural resources are not something we can afford to squander. Africa continues to face unprecedented challenges in terms of poaching driven by the burgeoning illegal trade in wildlife, and all too often rangers are out-resourced and out-gunned."

Continuing a theme that he has voiced in the past, he stressed, "This is the sharp end of the human impact of one of the world's most pressing conservation crises."

Tusk is extremely grateful to all of the events sponsors for their incredibly generous support — Investec Asset Management, Land Rover, Tiffany & Co, British Airways, The Mantis Group, Moët & Chandon and Claridge's.



## The Prince William Award for Conservation in Africa

**Garth Owen-Smith**, the winner of the 2015 Prince William Award was recognised by the independent judging panel of experts for the legacy he has created through the concept of community conservation.

His policies are embedded at National level, giving communities a legal right, which is impressive enough in Namibia, but his model has been used in Kenya and Mozambique (*see pages 26-27 for details*).

In addition to the trophy commissioned by Tiffany & Co, Owen-Smith received a grant of £30,000 towards his conservation work.

## The Tusk Award for Conservation in Africa

**Dr. Emmanuel de Merode** was awarded the 2015 Tusk Award for Conservation in recognition of his remarkable achievements protecting Virunga's exceptional biodiversity throughout 25 years of civil war and life-threatening situations.

Amongst many achievements, he has brokered agreements with rebel leaders, enabling his rangers to return to their homes and work. Emmanuel has also established long-term development programmes to secure the future economic viability of Virunga for its people (*see pages 32-33 for details*).

In addition to the trophy commissioned by Tiffany & Co, Emmanuel received a grant of £15,000 towards his conservation work.

The two other finalists also receive grants for their respective projects:

**Dr. Mary Molokwu** from Liberia turned an interest in the environment into a productive career in conservation. With 15 years experience in research and environmental education, Mary prevailed in difficult circumstances in Liberia, bringing a successful conservation programme to Sapo National park despite a recent history of civil war and the ebola epidemic.

However, through education and empowerment community-based conservation is now helping to protect endemic species such as the pygmy hippo and forest elephant.

Her relentless enthusiasm and drive inspired both communities and native Liberian conservationists to take ownership of the sustainable management of their natural resources and they remain steadfast in the view

that Liberia's darkest days are now behind them. Through her energetic approach she has become a role model for many young women in Africa.

**Cosmas Mumba** from Zambia — a champion of Africa's lesser loved primates! In Zambia yellow baboons and vervet monkeys are the main species targeted by poachers for the commercial bush trade, with the orphans illegally sold as pets. Although not a threatened species, they are hugely persecuted in Africa.

Cosmas is a man of few words, but whose brevity in thought and action has made him a profoundly effective conservationist at the Zambia Primate Project, where he works tirelessly to rescue and rehabilitate various primate species back into the wild as newly formed troops.



TOP, L-R Tusk's Royal Patron Prince William with the 2015 Tusk Conservation Awards finalists: Cosmas Mumba, Dr. Mary Molokwu, Prince William, Garth Owen-Smith, Dr. Emmanuel de Merode and Edward Ndiritu. ABOVE, L-R Garth Owen-Smith accepting his lifetime achievement award; Prince William with Tusk patron Katherine Jenkins; Kate Silverton-Heron, Tusk patron, the evening's host; Tusk patron Rory Bremner talking with Hendrik du Toit, CEO Investec Asset Management, title sponsors for the event.



## Investing for the future

### Recognising Africa's conservation heroes

Investec Asset Management celebrates Tusk's holistic approach to conservation and is proud to support the Tusk Conservation Awards.

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### Tusk Conservation Awards

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# Last year's events

Our *annus mirabilis* was wonderfully busy with a host of great fundraising events during our 25th Anniversary. Here are just some of them...

## Audley Travel

### Lecture in aid of Tusk

At the first event of Tusk's 25th Anniversary year, the explorer Levison Wood attracted a sell-out audience of 900 guests to hear tales from his epic challenge, *Walking The Nile*. The event was kindly sponsored by Audley Travel and held at the Cadogan Hall, London on 19th March 2015.

Guests listened to fascinating anecdotes of Levison's tough 4,000 mile trek. His insights into Africa — past, present and future — were acutely observed, full of humour and empathy. Levison also highlighted the issue of illegal wildlife poaching following his visit to the Uganda Conservation Foundation, a project supported by Tusk.

A huge thank you to Levison Wood and Audley Travel for their tremendous support and for raising a fantastic £25,000 for Tusk.

### Stratstone Clay Shoot

Stratstone of Mayfair nominated Tusk as the beneficiary for the annual Stratstone Clay Shoot at The Royal Berkshire Shooting School on 10th July 2015.

Attended by Tusk's CEO, Charlie Mayhew, the event attracted a host of Stratstone's clients and raised a superb £13,000 for Tusk. Our sincere thanks go to Stratstone for their support.

## The Tiffany & Co.

### Royal Charity Polo Cup

In the idyllic setting of Watership Down, the Tiffany & Co. Royal Charity Polo Cup entertained over 400 VIP guests in support of Tusk Trust and The Henry van Straubenzee Memorial Fund, the chosen charities of HRH The Duke of Cambridge and HRH Prince Henry of Wales.

Tusk would like to thank Polofix, Tiffany & Co., Lord Lloyd Webber and the auction donors for their wonderfully generous support which raised an amazing £60,000 for Tusk.

### 'Visions of Africa' Exhibition

Another treat in 2015 was this unique show of bronze sculpture by Rosamond Lloyd, with photography by Levison Wood from his epic journey along the Nile. The exhibition was held at La Galleria, Pall Mall and attracted great interest at the preview nights.

Thanks as ever to Rosamond and Levison for their fantastic and continued support for Tusk.

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP RIGHT Levison Wood:

'Walking the Nile'; Charlie Mayhew, Tusk CEO, with Rosamond Lloyd and Levison Wood celebrating the opening of the 'Visions of Africa' Exhibition; Rosamond Lloyd, the acclaimed sculptor, at work in her studio; HRH The Duke of Cambridge supporting Tusk at the Tiffany & Co. Royal Charity Polo Cup at Sydmonton Estate; The Audley Travel team at Cadogan Hall, March 2015.





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## Last year's events (Cont.)

### Christie's

#### Conservation Lecture 2015

The legendary photojournalist Don McCullin CBE, Hon FRPS, gave this year's Christie's Lecture in aid of Tusk. Based on the theme of *War and Peace* in an informal conversation with Kate Silverton, the BBC broadcaster and Tusk Patron, Don revealed the stories behind a selection of his iconic images, ranging from his early days on the rough streets of Finsbury Park, to Checkpoint Charlie in 1961, from Vietnam to the back streets of Belfast in the early 1970's and as far as the Middle East today. He spoke vividly and frankly throughout the evening, describing his most frightening episode when arrested by Idi Amin's thugs in Uganda and taken to a notorious prison.

Don's stunning platinum prints were on display and he very generously donated *Elephants on the Ganges* for auction on the night. This event was a rare opportunity to witness the personal recollections of one of the greatest photographers of our time and our special thanks go to Don McCullin and to Christie's for so generously supporting this memorable evening.

### Tusk American Express

#### Conservation Lecture 2015

Dr. Amy Dickman's talk *Money, Myths and Man Eaters: Big Cat Conservation in Tanzania and beyond* was a roaring success attracting over 400 people who came to hear Amy discussing her development of the Ruaha Carnivore Project (RCP).

Attendees learned the techniques used by RCP, local communities and authorities to mitigate the extremely intense human-carnivore conflict in the Ruaha region. You can watch the lecture online on Tusk's YouTube channel.

Thank you to American Express for their continued support of this event and Tusk Patron, Kate Silverton-Heron for hosting the Q&A. We are also very grateful for the support of Painted Wolf Wines, Elephant Gin, Audley Travel, Inkerman, Painted Dog Conservation UK and artist Annabel Pope at the event.

### 2015 challenge fundraising

Thousands of pounds have been raised by our dedicated supporters doing incredible things! Take a look at some of their challenges here:

#### 210 miles. 4 Brothers. 1 Mountain

Tusk supporters Julian and James Harvie along with Fred and Ben Fuller completed both the 2015 Paris and Mont Blanc marathons, a total of 210 near-vertical miles. We are so impressed by their efforts and the team raised over £12,000 for Tusk, well done!

#### Bear Grylls 'Race for Rhino Survival'

Around 100 people took part in the 5k and 10k survival race at Trent Park in North London in October. This tough race with 35 obstacles was designed and started by Bear Grylls to test and develop adventure spirit, requiring both physicality and courage.

The race raised awareness and over £16,000 for rhino conservation which was shared among Tusk, Helping Rhinos, Rooting for Rhino and Wilderness Foundation. Thank you to all who took part in this fun but gruelling challenge!

### Nothing By Halves

#### — Jessie Busuttill

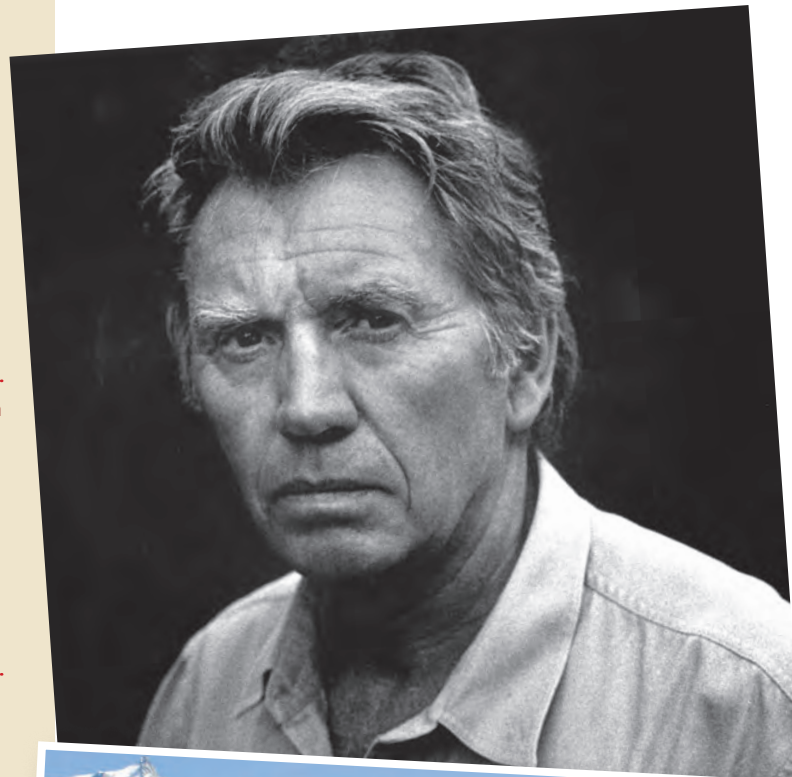
In 2015 Jessie Busuttill and Cynthia Valentine set themselves the goal of completing 12 endurance and extreme challenges over 12 months to test themselves to the limit and raise funds for charity.

Other fundraisers joined them in events ranging from climbing Mount Toukbal to the Cotswold Open Water Swim. Thank you to all who took part!

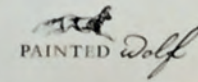
TOP Don McCullin. MIDDLE, L-R Julian and James Harvie with Fred and Ben Fuller.

BOTTOM Jessie Busuttill at the peak of Mount Toukbal.

OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP Amy Dickman with Kate Silverton-Heron; L-R Edward Taylor, Hamish Jenkinson and Harley Hughes at the Bear Grylls 'Race for Rhino Survival'; Daniel Herold (IN BLUE TOP) taking part in Bear Grylls 'Race for Rhino Survival'.



## THE TUSK AMERICAN EXPRESS CONSERVATION LECTURE 2015



@TuskTrust

#TogetherforTusk

#ProtectingPredators



## The Wolf is at the Door

Loss of habitat, poaching and conflict with human settlement, is pushing African Wild Dogs to crisis point.

A glass of wine is a delicious way to help them.

Painted Wolf Wines creates award-winning traditionally crafted wines, and supports the conservation of African Wild Dogs through donations to Tusk. Find out more at [www.paintedwolfwines.com](http://www.paintedwolfwines.com)

Order through The Wine Society and fine wine merchants throughout the UK. For more stockists details contact: [hello@northsouthwines.co.uk](mailto:hello@northsouthwines.co.uk)





# Anniversary gala dinner at Windsor Castle

In May 2015, HRH The Duke of Cambridge kindly hosted a spectacular gala dinner in the State Rooms at Windsor Castle to mark Tusk's 25th Anniversary. Over 280 major donors, patrons and celebrity guests from the UK and USA joined the Tusk team for what was a truly memorable evening generously underwritten by Artemis Investment Management. Among the well-known names present were Katherine Jenkins, Rory Bremner, Steve Tisch, Martin Clunes, John Challis, Ben Fogle, Deborah Meaden, Kate Silverton, John Illsley and explorer Levison Wood.

We were also particularly thrilled to welcome conservationists and project managers from twenty-three Tusk funded programmes across Africa, who had all travelled to London to join in the celebration.

Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world and has been the family home of British monarchs for almost 1,000 years. It remains one of Her Majesty The Queen's most favourite residences.

Following a reception in the stunning Waterloo Chamber, guests were invited into St George's Hall, which had been spectacularly

restored following the fire that virtually destroyed it in 1992. Guests were left in awe at the magnificence of this historic hall, its deeply pitched, hammer-beam ceiling studded by the heraldic crests of each member of the ancient Order of the Garter.

In his address to guests before dinner, The Duke congratulated Tusk on its remarkable achievements, saying how proud he was to have been its Royal Patron for the last ten years.

He added, "The plunder and destruction of Africa's natural endowment remains one of the

greatest challenges facing the world".

Following the dinner, comedian and impressionist, Rory Bremner, entertained the audience with a wonderfully witty introduction to a stunning live performance by the mezzo-soprano Katherine Jenkins.

We are enormously grateful to Justerini & Brooks for donating the Champagne and wines, Party Ingredients for the exceptional dinner, and Jaguar Land Rover for kindly providing courtesy vehicles for a number of guests.



TOP ROW, L-R Tom Lalampaa from the Northern Rangelands Trust; Katherine Heminway and Tusk USA Director John Heminway; Tusk's Royal Patron meets Dr. Iain Douglas Hamilton CBE from 'Save the Elephants'; Prince William making a toast; Lin Barrie and Clive Stockil from Savé Valley Conservancy in Zimbabwe; Prince William with Simson Uri Khob from 'Save the Rhino', Namibia, and Tony Fitzjohn from Mkomazi National Park, Tanzania; Katherine Jenkins performing at the event. BOTTOM ROW, L-R Rory Bremner providing the evening's entertainment; Tusk patron Ben Fogle with his wife Marina and Martin and Philippa Clunes; Katia Francesconi and Steve Tisch.



We are all too familiar with endangered species at Artemis, thanks to our work looking after and nurturing Profits. So we're delighted to continue supporting Tusk. To find out more about Artemis, contact your financial adviser or call 0800 092 2051.



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# Join us in 2016

Come and join us — whether it's in the UK, Kenya or the USA!

## APRIL Virgin Money London Marathon

In 2015 our team of runners raised £70,000 completing the iconic 26.2 mile route past the capital's famous landmarks. This year Tusk has 37 runners taking part including Chris Webster, who will be running his 18th London Marathon in support of the Charity!

Also running is Caleb Hall, a Senior Carnivores Keeper at Longleat Safari Park, and a team of eight from the Waitrose head office led by Safaricom Marathon 2015 runner, Clare Bitmead.

Applications for 2017 will open in the autumn.

WHEN	Sunday 24th April 2016
WHERE	London
CONTACT	poppy@tusk.org

## APRIL In conversation with Ronnie Wood

Join us for an exclusive evening with Tusk's longest-standing patron, Ronnie Wood.

The legendary guitarist with the Rolling Stones is inviting Tusk supporters to an intimate reception, talk and auction at Ham Yard Hotel when he will give a very personal insight of his love of Africa, wildlife and art.

To mark the occasion Ronnie has also very kindly created 15 limited edition double-sided relief bronze sculptures of a rhino standing on a slate base (59cm x 44cm x 15cm). This special piece depicts 'Spike' the rhino that Ronnie adopted and named during a visit to the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Kenya. One edition of the bronze will be auctioned on the night and there will also be a unique opportunity to acquire some rare rock memorabilia.

Tusk would like to thank its corporate partners Lyceum Capital and Justerini & Brooks for their support.

WHEN	Thursday 28th April 2016
WHERE	Ham Yard Hotel, London, W1D 7DT
CONTACT	adele@tusk.org

## JUNE Safaricom Marathon

Tusk's Safaricom Marathon invites participants from all over the globe to compete in an internationally acclaimed event while running through one of Africa's most spectacular wildlife conservancies.

Please get in touch if you would like to join us in Kenya in 2017!

WHEN	Saturday 25th June 2016
WHERE	Lewa Wildlife Conservancy
CONTACT	mary-jane@tusk.org
CORPORATE TEAMS	adele@tusk.org

## JULY Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100

Take part in the London Marathon on wheels this summer! Join Tusk and 25,000 fellow riders in a cycling challenge like no other on 100 miles of traffic-free roads.

In 2015 our team of cyclists raised £20,000 in support of our partner projects. The ride starts in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, following a route with leg-testing climbs through the capital and into Surrey's stunning countryside, finishing back in central London on The Mall.

Contact us to secure one of our Golden Bond places available for our supporters!

WHEN	Sunday 31st July 2016
WHERE	London
CONTACT	poppy@tusk.org

## SEPT The view from The Shard

Look out for details about an exciting event we are planning at The Shard in September.

WHEN	Thursday 22nd September 2016
WHERE	The Shard, London, SE1 9SG
CONTACT	adele@tusk.org

## SEPT Artemis Investment Management Charity Clay Shoot in aid of Tusk

Generously sponsored by Artemis Investment Management LLP, the third Tusk Clay Pigeon Shoot will take place at the Royal Berkshire Shooting School.

Bring a team and have a great day out of the office!

WHEN	Friday 23rd September 2016
TIME	9.30 am
WHERE	Royal Berkshire Shooting School
CONTACT	mary-jane@tusk.org

## OCT Private View with British wildlife sculptor Hamish Mackie

Renowned sculptor and long-term Tusk supporter Hamish Mackie will host a drinks reception and private view of his latest solo show *Life in Bronze* which will include sculptures from his recent research trips to Australia, India and Africa.

Tusk would like to thank its corporate partners Artemis Investment Management and Justerini & Brooks for their support.

WHEN	Wednesday 12th October 2016
WHERE	Mall Galleries, The Mall, London, SW1
CONTACT	adele@tusk.org

## NOV Tusk Conservation Lecture 2016

Gorilla Conservation and Improved Health Care — how are they linked?

Mountain gorillas are critically endangered with an estimated remaining population of 880 individuals found in the Bwindi and Virunga National Parks.

People living in the region are among the poorest in Africa, with limited access to basic social services, and high population growth has pushed people to settle closer to gorilla habitat, sometimes resulting in conflict and disease transmission.

Gladys Kalema Zikusoka, the dynamic and inspirational founder of *Conservation Through Public Health*, will give a fascinating talk into her unique approach to conservation.

As Uganda's first wildlife vet she will explain how she established CTPH after she traced fatal scabies skin disease outbreaks in the mountain gorillas, to people living around Bwindi,

who have less than adequate health care.

Tusk would like to thank its corporate partner Artemis Investment Management LLP for their sponsorship.

WHEN	Thursday 3rd November 2016
WHERE	Royal Geographical Society, London
CONTACT	poppy@tusk.org

## NOV Tusk Conservation Awards

Join us for a very special evening at the V&A Museum, when we will announce the 2016 winners of the Tusk Conservation Awards.

The awards ceremony, hosted by Kate Silverton and sponsored by Investec Asset Management, will follow a champagne reception where you will have a chance to meet this year's finalists before enjoying dinner. This high-profile event celebrates the extraordinary work of dedicated conservationists from across Africa, and is an occasion not to be missed.

Tusk would like to thank its co-sponsors Land Rover, British Airways, The Mantis Group and Moët & Chandon for their support.

WHEN	Wednesday 30th November 2016
WHERE	Victoria and Albert Museum, London
CONTACT	adele@tusk.org

## Action Challenge

*The Walk it, Jog it, Run it* series has some fantastic endurance events for those seeking a challenge! Take part in events such as the **Thames Path**, **South Coast** or **London 2 Brighton** challenges. Visit [actionchallenge.com](http://actionchallenge.com) and sign up in support of Tusk.

There are many more challenges you can join in order to raise funds for Tusk, such as obstacle courses, climbing events and other organised endurance races. Please visit the 'Support Tusk' page on our website to find out more.



## INVESTING FOR THE LONG TERM

BlackRock is proud to support Tusk.

We commend Tusk's work to forge a link between Africa's natural heritage and the future of its land, culture and people.

Build on  
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# Thank you

We are extremely grateful to the following individuals, companies, charitable trusts and foundations for their generous support of our work.

Without these donations, and gifts-in-kind, it would be difficult for Tusk to achieve as much as it does each year in Africa.

We are also grateful to all our supporters, too numerous to mention here, whose donations make an enormous difference to Tusk's projects.

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Legacies
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# Make your gift to Tusk today

Tusk's aim is to maximise the funds reaching the field. With your help we hope to increase our overall support for all our projects.

Each project is carefully monitored to ensure

**3 SIMPLE WAYS TO PAY**

**Online** You can make a secure online donation by card payment at **www.tusk.org/donate-online**.

There is also an option to set up a regular monthly donation — if we can rely on your regular support, we can plan for the future.

**Credit/debit cards** Tusk can accept donations via all major credit and debit cards.

**Cheques** Cheques can be made payable to Tusk Trust. Please ensure you fill out the Gift Aid Declaration if you are a UK taxpayer so we can enhance your donation.

**TAX EFFECTIVE WAYS TO PAY**

**Gift Aid** If you are a UK taxpayer please fill in the Gift Aid declaration on the **Tusk 2016 Appeal**, which can be found in the centre pages.

This allows the charity to reclaim the tax on your donation (currently 25p in every £1) and if you are a higher rate taxpayer you can claim tax relief on your gift too.

For example, if you donate £100, the total value of your donation to the charity is £125 and

**HOW TO LEAVE A LEGACY**

Leaving a gift to Tusk in your Will is one of the most powerful ways to ensure that your passion for Africa's people and wildlife will live on long after your lifetime.

Not only do legacy gifts allow us to plan ahead and do so much more, but we know that every one represents someone who cared enough about our work to make a real difference. You will also almost certainly pay less inheritance tax if you leave Tusk a gift in your Will.

We realise it is very easy to put off making or changing a Will. The reality is that making, or even updating, a Will is easy.

A gift to Tusk in your Will can be of any size or

your money is being effectively used.

Please consider how you would like to make a donation using any of the following tax effective methods.

you can claim back £25 if you pay tax at 40% (£125 x 20%).

**Share Giving** For UK donors with investments, giving shares can also be an effective way to make a substantial gift to Tusk, as the donation will be eligible for income tax relief. In addition, Capital Gains Tax (CGT) does not apply to donations of shares.

**Payroll Giving** This allows you to donate direct from your salary before any other deductions are calculated — so you do not pay tax on the amount donated (*see table below*).

This table shows examples of tax benefits				
Employee donation received by Tusk	Basic rate tax payer (20%)		Higher rate tax payer (40%)	
	TAX RELIEF	COST TO DONOR	TAX RELIEF	COST TO DONOR
£5.00	£1.00	£4.00	£2.00	£3.00
£10.00	£2.00	£8.00	£4.00	£6.00
£20.00	£4.00	£16.00	£8.00	£12.00
£100.00	£20.00	£80.00	£40.00	£60.00

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Alternatively, it could be a share of what's left of the value of your estate, after all other gifts have been made (known as residuary gift).Finally, you may choose to leave a specific item of property to Tusk. Please consult a solicitor and ensure that you legalise your will with them.

Contact us or visit our website for more information.

You need to check with your payroll department to see if your employer offers this facility.

Alternatively, you can ask your employer to simply sign up with a Payroll Giving Agency. It's quick and easy to use this facility and at no cost to the employer. For further information visit **www.payrollgivingcentre.co.uk**

**CAF** If you have a Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) account, you can simply donate via a CAF cheque. If you wish to apply for a CAF account, please visit **www.cafonline.org** for a step-by-step guide to creating one and how it works.

**Bank Transfer** You can also donate via a bank transfer direct to us.Please call or email **info@tusk.org** for our bank details and advise us of your name and address if you wish to be added to our database.

A Gift Aid declaration is available online or alternatively you can request one be sent to you.

**Standing Order Mandate** If you would like to make a monthly, quarterly or annual donation, please use the mandate on the tear-off **Tusk 2016 Appeal** which can be found in the centre pages.

This gives you full control of the mandate at all times and allows you to spread a larger donation over a period of time.

The mandate is automatically processed by your bank for your ease and peace of mind.

**Leave a legacy pledge online with Lexikin**

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This unique service allows you to set up a straightforward charitable pledge, for FREE, without any complicated obligations or up front payments.

In addition, 100% of your pledge will go straight to Tusk. All we ask is for you to consider making it part of your Will when you have time in the future.

Please read more about a legacy pledge through Lexikin at **www.lexikin.com/charities/tusk/**

For any further queries on how to make a donation, please contact us by email **info@tusk.org** or call 01747 831 005.

You should always consult your accountant or financial advisor on the most tax effective way for you to donate.

All tax rates quoted are correct at the time of printing.





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