



wildlife times

born free foundation

VANISHING TIGER
on the brink of
extinction

ZOO DISEASE
could YOU be
in danger?

ivory conflicts
elephants win
reprieve

PLUS:

- gorilla slaughter
- island opening
- wolves 2000

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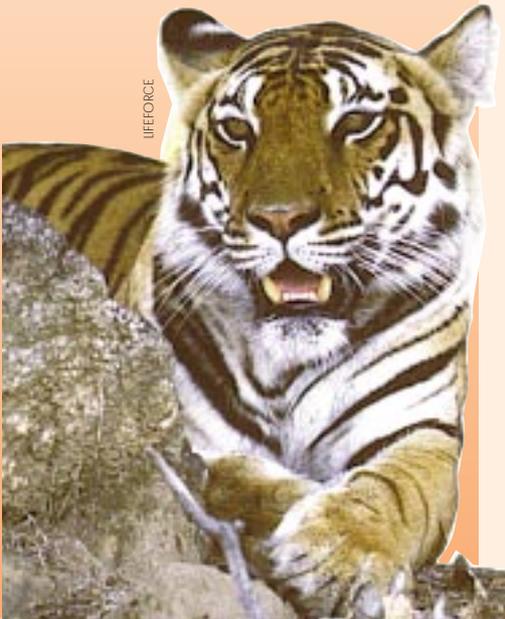


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Will Travers, Chief Executive Officer of the Born Free Foundation

WELCOME

It's all too easy to get carried away. You're attending one of the biggest conferences in the world ... CITES CoP* 2000. Decisions mean life or death to thousands of animals. The power-brokers are there ... the traders, the dealers, the world's most influential governments, the protectors of wildlife and those who consume it. Close your eyes and you could be forgiven for thinking that this is as important as it gets ... you are close to the seat of power...



PIERS CAVENISH

Wrong.

International trade in wildlife products is just one small part of the damage that humans inflict on thousands of species each and every day. Habitat loss, pollution, development, the rapacious growth in our own species and our relentless use of diminishing natural resources ... they all add to the burden our groaning planet and its non-human inhabitants have to bear.

And yet I am hopeful ... why? In Kenya, a small group of local subsistence farmers have got together, pooled their land and created a sanctuary for elephants. They charge tourists \$10 to visit their sanctuary, they staff it themselves, manage it themselves and share the revenue according to the amount of land each shareholder has contributed. They have found a way to meet their needs with the needs of the wildlife that lives alongside them without resorting to culling, harvesting, sport hunting or any other word that means killing.

That community is one of many and their number is growing. They will need help and support as their enterprise develops but this is the real face of conservation.

Of course, CITES is important ... vital. But the corridors of power are no substitute for the grassroots conservation of communities made up of individuals who care.

*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species Conference of Parties

world wildlife trade

advocating compassion at CITES



JUAN JAMES: TEL 0117 969988

In a world determined to exploit and abuse wildlife, Born Free has a fundamental role. Will Travers reports.

CITES* is one of the biggest wildlife treaties in the world. The 151 member countries try to ensure any international trade in plants and animals does not threaten the species. Every two and a half years delegates gather to decide which species need further protection and which need less.

Protection is afforded in a relatively straightforward way. If a species is not yet endangered by trade but might become so, it may be placed on Appendix II, requiring trade to be internationally monitored. If, however, a species is already threatened by trade then Appendix I listing may be agreed, banning all trade. It sounds simple ... but it's not, and in the hurly burly of a CITES conference with 2,500 people attending there is great scope for wheeling and dealing, not to mention some countries making various offers in return for sympathetic voting.

The 11th Conference of the Parties (CoP) to CITES took place at the United Nations compound in Nairobi, Kenya (10th-20th April 2000). To try and report on the meeting in

any logical way *defies logic* and so the following is a mixture of facts, impressions and personal feelings about CITES from the Born Free team.

CITES Diary

Wednesday 12th April 2000: Will Travers

Born Free representatives have arrived at CoP and the conference has started. Hot issues include whales, tigers, bushmeat, bears, hawksbill turtles, dolphins, sharks and elephants. Born Free has presented its new *Stop the Clock* report at three press conferences. The report reveals that official data being presented to CITES delegates concerning levels of elephant poaching and ivory seizures is woefully inadequate.

CITES Secretariat documents indicate that only 235 elephants were recorded illegally killed in 1998-1999 and 7,878kg of illegal ivory was confiscated by Customs authorities. Born Free challenges those figures with evidence that over 6,000 elephants were poached during the same time and over 17,000 kilos of ivory seized. And Born Free believes these figures

represent perhaps 10-20% of what is really happening. In many parts of their range, African elephants are under increasing and deadly pressure.

Born Free's *Stop the Clock* report has been circulated, with official CITES approval, to all delegates, press and other groups ... to a mixed reception.

Last night Ms Maneka Gandhi, Indian Minister for Social Justice, spoke at the SSN[†] Reception for CITES delegates. Her impassioned and challenging speech called for a re-evaluation of humankind's exploitative relationship with animals, and advocated compassion, respect and equality. The Minister's vision was rewarded by a standing ovation by the 700 guests.

CITES Diary

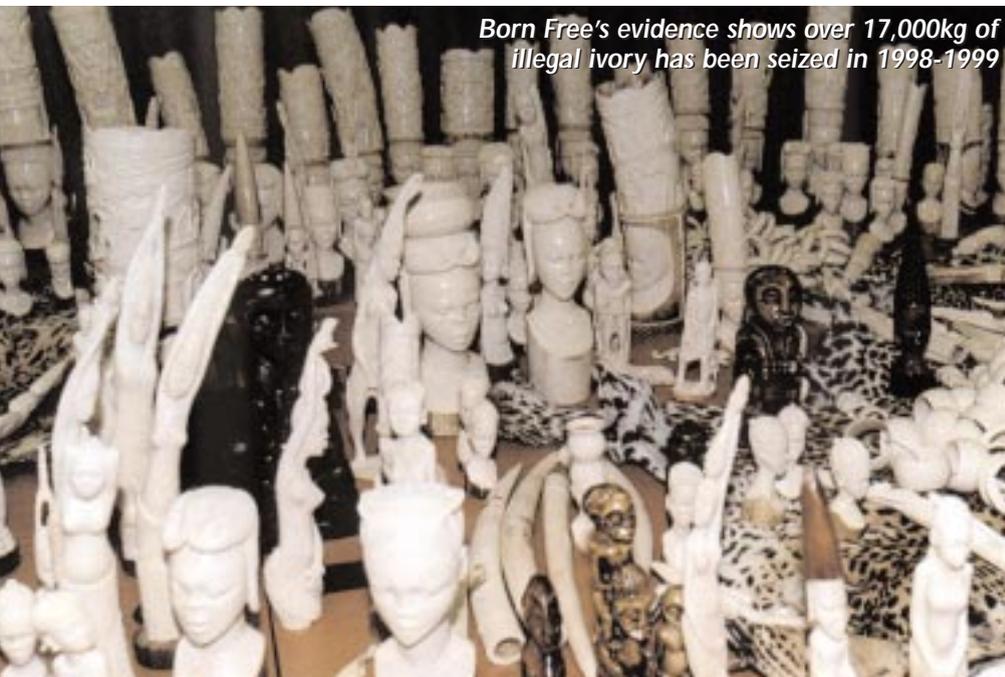
Thursday 13th April 2000: Ian Redmond

It is difficult to describe the buzz of nearly 2,500 high-flyers from 151 countries trying to reach agreement on complex issues. Perhaps a hive of activity would be an apt metaphor, although for lobbyists rushing about seeking certain delegates, the image of a blue-abdomened fly might be more accurate.

There are three levels of information in circulation. First, the CITES Secretariat's official documents, including all the proposals which different countries have made. These are taken very seriously by the delegates (who are government representatives) because if approved, they may become international law.

Second, the many 'observer' organisations (such as Born Free and our SSN colleagues, but also traders and hunters) produce fact sheets and reports which they hope will influence the delegates. Third, and perhaps most important, is the spoken word. Whether through impassioned speeches or quiet reasoning, personal contact can change minds or reinforce views.

Born Free's evidence shows over 17,000kg of illegal ivory has been seized in 1998-1999



Born Free has only two representatives, myself and Ben Dykes, because Will is here in his role as Chair of SSN. When we have to

For me, it seems a long way from being a field biologist, studying and protecting animals in their natural habitat, but this is just as important.



Rhino conservation strategies were revised

monitor events in Committee 1 and 2, and attend press conferences, briefings and strategy meetings, we often wish we could clone ourselves to be in several places at once. Last night for example, after the official sessions ended at 5pm, Will and Ben helped Kenya put on a presentation on the cruelty involved in the trade in live elephants, while I sat on the Working Group revising an earlier CITES decision on rhino conservation. After that I went off for a working dinner to determine how CITES can best deal with the illegal bushmeat (meat from wild animals) trade, which comes up for discussion on Saturday.

CITES has only just turned its attention to bushmeat (thanks to the Ape Alliance report, which Born Free helped fund), and we hope decisions taken here will result in firm action in many countries to save animals from the snares and bullets of poachers.

CITES Diary
Saturday 15th April 2000: Will Travers

Today the whales came! The four pro-whaling proposals presented to CITES were all defeated. Japan proposed to resume trade in the Eastern Pacific stock of gray whales, but the vast majority of countries stated their strong opposition. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) maintains a moratorium on commercial whaling (in place since 1986) and Parties decided it was not appropriate for CITES to usurp IWC's role in whale management.

Norway's proposal fared better than Japan's but, despite more Parties having joined CITES since CoP10 in 1997, it failed to secure even the simple majority that it had gained last time, let alone the 67% it needed to succeed!



MARK CARVANDINE

Japan's proposal to resume trade in gray whales received strong opposition

On Monday the scene is set for elephants. Despite strenuous efforts to bring countries together it seems the four Southern African nations that wish to trade ivory will not moderate their positions. Kenya and India are equally resolute in wishing to see ivory removed from trade. Now it is up to the delegates. Conservation organisations anticipate a lively and forceful debate. The world holds its breath...

CITES Diary
Sunday 16th April 2000: Will Travers

Born Free's *Stop the Clock* report is providing vital information, challenging the official view that current levels of poaching and illegal ivory trading do not threaten Africa's elephants. Worryingly, delegates were presented with official data from TRAFFIC* that its own author advised was not adequate as a basis for decision making.

'What Born Free has achieved in six weeks of actively calling up Customs and other agencies at a cost of a few hundred pounds, makes a mockery of the ETIS* approach which is largely passive. If this is what the Parties have to rely on then it's a desperate state of affairs,' Born Free commented in an official press release.

Born Free's CITES team (from left): Will Travers, Ben Dykes and Ian Redmond, with Kenya Wildlife Service staff and a vehicle generously loaned by Land Rover for the conference



BIF/PAULA KAHUMBU

CITES Diary
Monday 17th April 2000: Will Travers

Delegates prepared to debate the most contentious issue of the CITES Conference ... proposals to open up the ivory trade. Three countries, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe had put forward proposals asking for annual ivory trade quotas. They had been joined by South Africa in a move which many feared would spark a wave of elephant poaching right across Africa.

Two countries, Kenya and India stood firm in resisting these proposals despite intense pressure to cave in and let the sales go through. Talk of compromise reached fever pitch with articles in the local press suggesting that Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe might be willing to accept a single one-off sale of ivory between now and the next CITES Conference, due in over two years time.

However, in a dramatic series of statements, South Africa agreed to amend its Proposal to accept no ivory sales (known as a zero-quota) while the three other Southern African states withdrew their proposals entirely. In a spirit of solidarity Kenya and India's joint Proposal which sought to put all African elephants back on Appendix I was also withdrawn.

For the moment the message is clear. No legal ivory trade. This means anyone caught trafficking ivory cannot in any way claim it is 'legal'. It is good news for Africa since the splits that threatened to further polarise the continent have, for the time being, been patched up.



BIF

Ivory: CITES most contentious issue

However, it also seems clear the Southern African countries expect to submit more ivory proposals in two years time. They believe the monitoring programmes currently being piloted in Central Africa and South East Asia will provide proof that poaching levels are not a threat to elephant security and that trade can start again.

Born Free's acclaimed *Stop the Clock* campaign - which exposed tons of illegal ivory smuggling and thousands of cases of elephant poaching, and attracted support from hundreds of thousands of people world-wide, as well as leading celebrities, conservationists and politicians - played an important role in persuading the pro-trade countries that they could not win this time around.

Elephants need help in many ways and I want to thank everyone who cares about these amazing creatures and who supported our efforts here at CITES. With your continued help, Born Free will work towards a more compassionate - and ivory free - future.

CITES Diary
Thursday 20th April 2000: Will Travers

The Balance Shifts
The 10th Conference of the Parties to CITES held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in 1997 was seen by many conservationists as a low water mark in the evolution of the treaty. The pressure exerted on delegates to permit

trade, often with little regard to the consequences, was intense. The bully-boy tactics of some pro-trade lobbyists left many people feeling intimidated and frustrated.

By contrast, the 11th Meeting of the Parties in Nairobi, Kenya, saw a shift of emphasis back to a more inclusive, considered and precautionary position. The ivory trade was banned and any further proposals to trade will have to come to the next CoP in nearly three years time.

All the whale proposals, seeking permission to hunt and trade in whale products, were defeated, much to the obvious annoyance of the Japanese and Norwegians. The Hawksbill turtle proposals, put forward by Cuba were similarly defeated, keeping turtle shell ('tortoiseshell') out of trade, again to the chagrin of Japan.



AG BURNS/FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

It is still illegal to trade in hawksbill turtles

However, it was not all one-way traffic. Three shark proposals which sought protection for Great White, Whale and Basking sharks, did not achieve the required two-thirds majority and so were lost. The closest of these, the British bid for Appendix II status for the Basking Shark, lost by just a handful of votes.

CITES seems to have found its heart once again. While we recognise this is a trade treaty aimed at preventing over-exploitation, most species in trouble can now expect CITES to be more of a friend than an enemy.

*The Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species.
†Species Survival Network. The SSN is an international coalition of organisations committed to the strict enforcement of CITES.
*Trade and Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce.
†Elephant Trade Information System.

action for elephants

With your support Born Free showed the world that an international trade in ivory is unethical and unacceptable. Celia Nicholls reports.

Elephant poaching has escalated since the ivory trade was reopened in 1997. Born Free was determined to 'Stop the Clock' and launched a worldwide campaign to help persuade CITES to ban the ivory trade once more.

Across the globe hundreds of thousands of people signed on to Born Free's *Stop the Clock* action card and electronic petition and helped Born Free lobby British MPs and MEPs to support the ban.

The campaign was heavily featured throughout the media and celebrities such as Bryan Adams, Anthea Turner, Martin Clunes, Helen Worth, Sally Gunnell, Jenny Seagrove, Sandi Toksvig, Julie Sawalha, Rula Lenska and our own Virginia McKenna helped promote *Stop the Clock* with TV interviews and photo shoots.

Elephant-lovers the world over gathered signatures for the petition, put up posters, handed out leaflets, bought *Stop the Clock* t-shirts, joined Elefriends and raised funds. In an unprecedented display of unity and emotion, the campaign touched hearts, motivated action and told individuals they could make a difference.

The campaign received an incredible boost when students at Northbrook College, Sussex, created more than 3,000 plaster tusks to represent elephants slaughtered for their ivory in the first three months of 2000. Adrian Andrews and Iain Prendergast worked round the clock and the completed tusks made a breathtaking and sobering display, launched on BBC's Blue Peter and exhibited around the

country to highlight the campaign.

Born Free worked frantically to gather facts about elephant poaching and ivory seizures, determined to expose the truth and persuade CITES delegates not to permit further ivory trade. The campaign culminated in a rally outside the Houses of Parliament, held on Tuesday 4th April. MPs joined the hour-long vigil to show their support and collect their *Stop the Clock* report, which was also given to Tony Blair, John Prescott and Michael Meacher, Minister for the Environment. That night, the Born Free team flew to Nairobi, Kenya, to continue the campaign at CITES.

Elephant-lovers waited with bated breath, daily checking the Born Free CITES Website Diary for the latest news. At last, towards the end of the Conference, the decision was made, no more ivory trade until the next Conference in 2002, when the situation will be reassessed.

The battle has been won ... for now.

*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

Stop the Clock received cross-party support from British MPs. 154 members (listed below) signed onto an Early Day Motion to support the ivory trade ban:

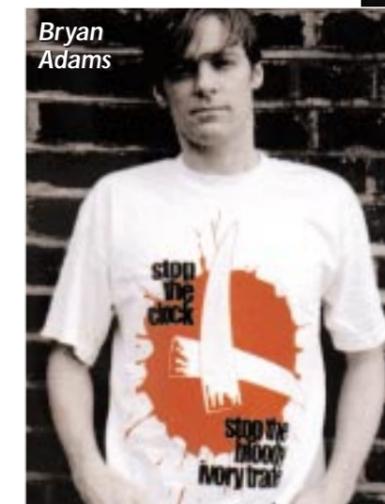
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|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Charlotte Atkins | Jeremy Corbyn | Mike Gapes | Andrew King | James Plaskitt |
| John Austin | Brian Cotter | Andrew George | Archy Kirkwood | Kerry Pollard |
| Norman Baker | Thomas Cox | Bruce George | Ashok Kumar | Raymond Powell |
| Tony Banks | David Crausby | Neil Gerrard | Jackie Lawrence | Gordon Prentice |
| Harry Barnes | Ann Cryer | Norman Godman | Bob Laxton | Lawrie Quinn |
| Hilary Benn | John Cryer | Eileen Gordon | David Lepper | Bill Rammell |
| Richard Body | John Cummings | Thomas Graham | Ken Livingstone | Sydney Rapson |
| Peter Bottomley | Lawrence Cunliffe | Jane Griffiths | Ellyn Lwyd | David Rendel |
| Graham Brady | James Cunningham | Win Griffiths | Timothy Loughton | Geoffrey Robinson |
| Tom Brake | Tam Dalyell | John Gunnell | Alice Mahon | Peter Robinson |
| Helen Brinton | Keith Darvill | Mike Hancock | Paul Marsden | Allan Rogers |
| Russell Brown | Edward Davey | Nicholas Harvey | Christine McCafferty | Chris Ruane |
| Karen Buck | Valerie Davey | Ivan Henderson | Robert McCartney | Joan Ruddock |
| Paul Burstow | Ron Davies | Kelvin Hopkins | John McDonnell | Bob Russell |
| Christine Butler | Terry Davis | Simon Hughes | Kevin McNamara | Philip Sawford |
| Menzies Campbell | Janet Dean | John Hume | Tony McWalter | Barry Sheerman |
| Dale Campbell-Savours | Andrew Dismore | Brian Iddon | Ray Michie | Alan Simpson |
| Dennis Canavan | Jim Dobbin | Eric Illsley | William Michie | Marsha Singh |
| Martin Caton | David Drew | Glenda Jackson | Andrew Miller | Dennis Skinner |
| Sydney Chapman | Julia Drown | Geoffrey Johnson-Smith | Austin Mitchell | Angela Smith |
| David Chaytor | Jeffrey Ennis | Barry Jones | Alasdair Morgan | Robert Smith |
| David Chidgey | William Etherington | Ieuan Wyn Jones | Doug Naysmith | Gerry Steinberg |
| Michael Clapham | Ronnie Fearn | Jon Owen-Jones | Edward O'Hara | David Stewart |
| David Clark | Barbara Follett | Lynne Jones | William Olnier | Ian Stewart |
| Eric Clarke | Michael Foster | Nigel Jones | Martin O'Neill | Paul Stinchcombe |
| Ann Clwyd | Maria Fyfe | Ann Keen | Diana Organ | Andrew Stunell |
| Iain Coleman | George Galloway | Piara S. Khabra | Nicholas Palmer | David Taylor |



Anthea Turner



The Born Free team at the Westminister rally



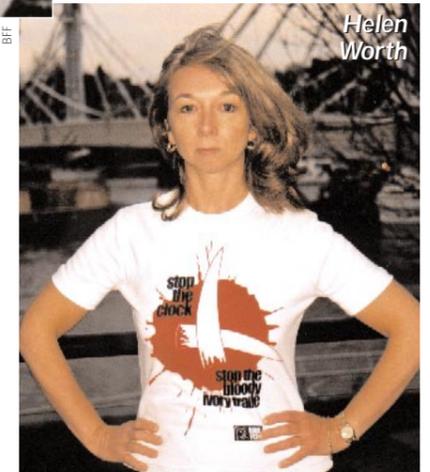
Bryan Adams



Martin Clunes



Supported by Virginia McKenna, Will Travers gives the facts about ivory



Helen Worth



John Austin (Lab)



The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith (Con)



Adrian Sanders (Lib Dem)



Jane Griffiths (Lab)

Warm thanks to all those who supported *Stop the Clock* including: Tammy Inkfish: www.elephant.co.uk who provided sponsorship; Land Rover; Northbrook College Sussex; Horsham Press; Pierpoint Print; NPL; Kilnwood Graphics; Tesco Horsham.

ACTION
www.bornfree.org.uk
 If you'd like to join Born Free's Electronic Team, ready to leap into action for elephants, check out our website.

tiger crisis

time is running out

Illegal poaching, habitat destruction, inadequate law enforcement and political apathy are forcing the tiger to extinction. Big Cat Campaign Manager Tricia Holford considers the issues and defines Born Free's role in saving the tiger.

Radical action is needed to save the tiger, for its plight has become desperate. Its extinction would be a tragedy, not just for the tiger, or even for ourselves. At the top of its food chain, a healthy tiger population means a healthy eco-system for all the fauna and flora that make up tiger habitat. Save the tiger and you save much, much more.

Two years ago, it was thought there were about 5,000 tigers in India. But in a report presented at April's CITES* conference, the estimated figure was less than 3,000. Many field workers though, believe the figure is nearer 2,000.

In 1996 and 1999 the Environmental Investigation Agency had released damning reports on the corruption and official apathy shown towards tiger conservation in India. The CITES report suggests nothing has changed and is severely critical of the Indian government's lack of action. It describes the decline of India's tiger population as 'accelerating ... close to free-fall'.

Indeed, many believe some of the country's traditional tiger reserves no longer hold tigers.

The report alleges that tiger poaching is deliberately concealed by government officials; that population figures are inflated; that poachers are not being jailed. A catalogue of mismanagement and corruption on the part of the Indian government. Sobering stuff. It's not too late though ... just.

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

The CITES report calls for donors to stop funding tiger conservation in India 'until central and state governments demonstrate that such monies will be spent effectively.' But Born Free does not send undedicated funds. Our donations have always gone directly to specified tiger protection projects in the field, small scale projects that help the tiger, or

support those who care for the tiger. They are not high profile and do not involve expensive conferences and glossy literature, but they have a real impact.

A small group with the same philosophy is LifeForce, working in Satpura National Park, in Madhya Pradesh, supported by Born Free.

LIFELINE FOR THE TIGER

LifeForce was set up by the Whittle family in 1997 after Nigel Whittle spent years studying tigers in the wild and in captivity. They gave up their comfortable lifestyle in the West to live very simply in India, working directly for tiger conservation. They try to support themselves by small scale eco-tourism from their rented home on the outskirts of Satpura NP. They take no wages. Every penny raised goes to helping the tigers.

In our experience this presence 'on the ground' is vital to ensure the money goes where it should. The financial support they give to the Forestry Department and local people is obviously much appreciated ... but so is the moral support and commitment.

Apart from providing the Forest guards with much needed equipment, the Whittles always stress that the benefits that they provide to the community: e.g schools, medical treatment, homes for the families of the Forest guards, are there *because of the tiger*. These benefits translate into direct help for the tiger: in attitudes, understanding, non-cooperation with poachers, information exchange and more.

Satpura NP is also fortunate in having a young, enlightened director, RP Singh. What he lacks in budgets from a cash-strapped State government and what LifeForce cannot afford he makes up for in dedication and energy.

The director has been giving horticultural

'... the decline of India's tiger population is accelerating.'

advice to the local farmers. Inefficient farming methods mean greater reliance on the forest in lean times ... which is bad for the tiger and its prey. An example of this fascinated me: large water melons were being sold cut up into sections. By the end of the day many pieces had dried up and were unsaleable. RP Singh provided seeds of a smaller variety of melon, any melons unsold one day could be taken back to market the next.

With such simple but very effective techniques the director is attracting the support of local people, traditionally in conflict with the Forestry Department (FD), who were seen as preventing them from gleaning a living from the forest. Local people are starting to work with the FD and LifeForce to protect the tiger and its habitat instead of collaborating with poachers and timber mafias.

DUDHWA TIGER RESERVE

Dudhwa Tiger Reserve is 200 square miles of forest in Uttar Pradesh and conservationist Billy Arjan Singh lives on the edge of the Reserve at Tiger Haven, directing Born Free funds for tiger protection. During last year's monsoon when wildlife was particularly at risk from poachers, Born Free supporters generously funded 18 additional 'daily wage workers' to provide back-up

A C T I O N

- Donations urgently required. Born Free will ensure any funds go directly to protecting the tiger in the field.
- Write to the Government of India to ask them to establish a National Wildlife Crime Unit to combat illegal wildlife trade.
- Urge the enforcement of laws in the chief consumer countries of tiger products: the US, China, Japan and UK.

Contact Tricia Holford 01403 240170 or tricia@bornfree.org.uk for relevant addresses or see our website at www.bornfree.org.uk

On the brink of extinction

Tigers are ruthlessly poached by organised gangs to supply an international market. This illegal trade in tiger products is pushing the tiger to extinction. Tiger skins are still popular, while tiger bones, teeth, claws and other body parts are used in traditional Chinese medicine. Trade was made illegal in 1975, but a market still flourishes throughout the world including China, Japan, UK and USA. If the tiger is to survive, these countries must clamp down on domestic trade, destroy any 'stockpiles' of tiger products and increase enforcement efforts.

protection. This proved effective. Workers helped capture a gang found sawing teak and sal trees; they arrested a poacher stealing swamp deer (he is now in jail) and, with a Forest guard, fought with two poachers who fled leaving behind their weapons.

Protecting the tiger's habitat and prey is just as important as protecting the tiger itself. And looking after those who care for the tiger is important too. Born Free is funding Accident Insurance for all of the 200 Forestry staff. Some of these men haven't been paid for three months or more, but for just £1 per person we can give them the security of knowing they can be treated if they are injured by poachers. This small outlay is more than repaid by the extra motivation which results, letting the guards know that people care about them as well as the tiger.

Take action: the tiger is critically endangered

The obstacles facing the tiger from poaching and from habitat destruction seem overwhelming at times. The battle to protect them has to be fought on many fronts, political and practical ... but there are glimmers of light. Born Free will not give up.

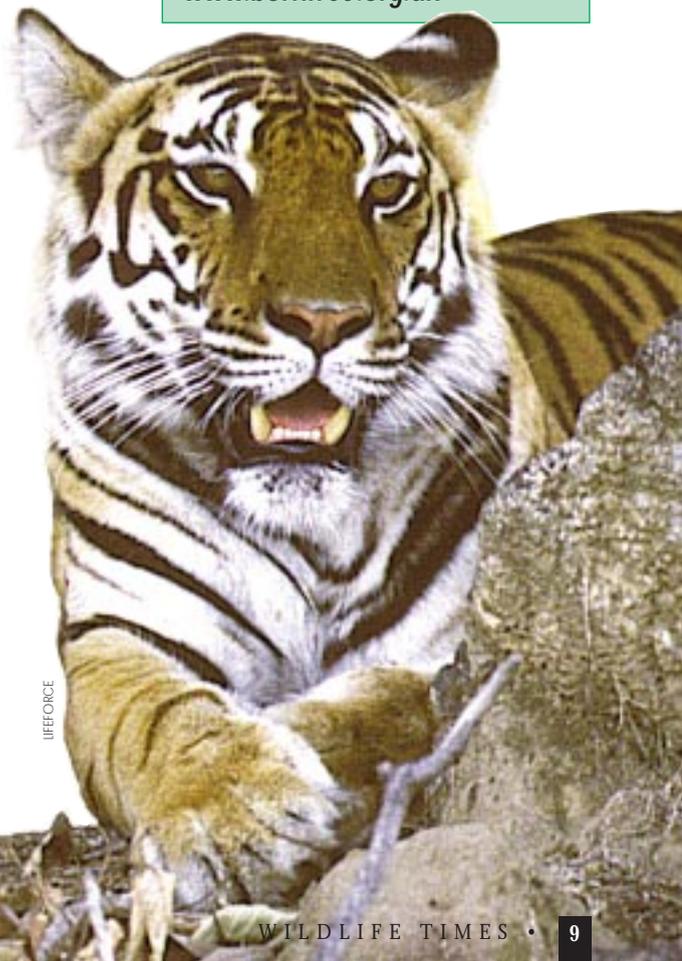
"The eyes of the tiger are the brightest of any animal on earth. They blaze back the ambient light with awe-inspiring intensity. It would be a tragedy and a terrible dereliction of duty if we allowed that magical fire to burn out."

Billy Arjan Singh

*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. CITES regulates trade in endangered plants and animals.

holiday to india

For holidays to India and other destinations that also benefit Born Free, check out 'Around the World with Born Free' on page 27, or see our website, www.bornfree.org.uk



LIFEFORCE

you *can* make a difference

Virginia McKenna encourages each of us to hold onto our convictions and speak out against suffering.

The monkey, wearing a thick collar trailing a piece of frayed string, jumped ceaselessly from the front of the cage, to its sides, to a suspended tyre. The floor was strewn with food and faeces. The family leaning on the stand-off barrier, laughed at its antics.

I asked their giggling child if she enjoyed seeing the caged monkeys. "Oh ye..no," she replied "not in the cage". We talked about the life these animals had to endure. She no longer found it funny.

I had joined my daughter, Louise, her family and friends for a peaceful demonstration outside Burton's Circus. Albany, in Western Australia, was one of many towns on its 11-month tour ... 11 months of trailers, travelling and performance for the monkeys, four lionesses, two camels and several horses. The large animals periodically used grassed enclosures, but the trailers were stark reminders that circus life for the animals isn't much fun.

I felt enormously privileged to join that quiet three-day vigil. Year after year the little band of individuals brave the circus ground with their banners and leaflets. The visitors give them a mixed response ... indifference, interest and, sometimes, abuse. Never mind. Their cause, their compassion for the animals is paramount.

I began to realise the impact these yearly 'demos' must have had. There were no throngs of people and excited children pouring through the gates. A modest number of cars arrived. I felt that the days of the circus in Albany were numbered.

All over the world, individuals



"Your compassion for the animals is paramount"

... eleven months of trailers, travelling and performance for the monkeys ...

... who else will speak out for the monkey in the cage, the pacing lion, the chained elephant ...

with pressured lives manage to fit just one more thing into the day, because they believe that they can make a difference. For them it is more difficult *not* to do something than to do it.

The hundreds of members' letters I have received over the years tell me that you too have no option. When you have seen suffering in a circus, a zoo, a dolphinarium, you've put pen to paper, taken photos. Who else will speak out for the monkey in the cage, the bear walking the tightrope, the pacing lion, the chained elephant, the waterless crocodiles?

Who else will help us to respond to the grim statistics of the growing numbers of endangered species? The 'trading' of animals

and their parts is global big business.

As I write, the ivory trade has been suspended ... a two-year moratorium. A victory for reason and compassion. But we mustn't hold our breath. We must hold up our banners, sign the petitions, write our letters.

Please never think that your voice will be blown away on the wind. I firmly believe that public support - which gave such invaluable encouragement to Will, Ian Redmond, Ben Dykes, Paula Kahumbu and the others - played a huge part in the decisions reached at CITES*. Every one of the hundreds of thousands of individuals who signed our *Stop the Clock* petition to ban the trade mattered.

I am now in Scotland, finalising my work on the Eilean Ban project. Very far from Nairobi, from the atmosphere of conference and critical decisions about life and death. The gorse explodes its brilliant yellow on the hillside, the far mountains are tipped with pristine snow and gulls cry as they circle and seek a nesting place. A different landscape with its own vulnerabilities, its own beauty. But where the balance between human and wildlife survival is really no different.

We continue to make many mistakes. But I believe that the wonderful people living all over the world who view life with a deep sense of compassion will make their voices increasingly heard. You only

have to look at a bird in a cage and ask the question, "Why do birds have wings?" Everything else follows.

*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

REDMOND REPORTS



Born Free consultant Ian Redmond reports on his international mission encouraging people to work together to make the world a safe place for elephants, apes and other endangered species.

the mermaids of mali

Think of Mali, and the mind's eye conjures up images of desert tribes, shifting Saharan sands and the ancient Islamic centre of learning at Timbuktu. Thus it came as a surprise in March to find myself sitting in a Malian canoe, searching for manatees ... the animal said to be the source of the mermaid legend.

I was with Bourama Niagate, the Director of Mali's Wildlife Department, and as well as mermaid-spotting, we were discussing ways in which Born Free could help him protect his country's little-known and dwindling wildlife. The elephants of Timbuktu were the subject of a documentary a few years ago, but very few people realise that Mali

also has a population of chimpanzees in the forested southwest corner of the country, let alone manatees.

The purpose of my trip to Bamako, Mali's capital city, was to investigate a report of market stalls selling bits of wild animals - including protected species such as chimpanzees and leopards - for making traditional fetishes, or good-luck charms, called gire-gire. I arrived unannounced and quietly spent a couple of days posing as a tourist, photographing the colourful bustle of Bamako's markets. Sure enough, amidst stalls laden with hand-made rugs, plastic buckets and digital watches, were traditional medicine stalls with grisly rows of baboon hands, neatly displayed alongside monkey and hyaena skulls, a leopard skin and piles of antelope horns.

There were no chimpanzee skulls on the stalls I visited, but I was assured they could get them if I was interested... I interviewed an old traditional doctor dispensing bags of powders, and learned something of the importance of the 'gire-gire' charms which most Malians wear. Even my well educated young guide lifted his very 21st-century

T-shirt to reveal two little triangular pouches, containing who knows what, on a cord across his chest. He would never venture out without them. Clearly, convincing people not to use endangered species in such charms was not going to be easy.

The next day, I sought out the wildlife department to report my findings and discuss what might be done about the trade in illegal wildlife products. It was only then I realised I knew Bourama Niagate ... he had won an award for law enforcement at the 1997 CITES* meeting in Zimbabwe. How could it be, then, that wildlife laws were being openly flaunted in Mali's markets? Bourama explained that he knew the problem well ... in fact he showed me a study he had published, with tables showing how many of which species he had recorded on sale.

... neatly displayed
baboon hands,
monkey and hyena
skulls and piles of
antelope horns ...

Unfortunately, Mali is such a poor country that he has no resources to apply to law enforcement ... he pointed out the elderly computers in

his office which were broken, so his staff had gone back to using an old manual typewriter. I suggested that if he put up posters of protected species beside every stall, the vendors and customers would have no excuse for breaking the law. He smiled and pulled out a series of line drawings of Mali's protected species (which he had drawn himself with considerable flair and arranged on a large poster) ... just the job, it seemed, but with no funds to print them, his initiative had gone no further. Here was a well trained, talented and motivated man being thwarted at every turn through lack of funds. We began to identify some of his most urgent needs.

Finally, when I asked if he could show me some of Mali's wildlife, he said he'd love to but was embarrassed to admit his department did not even have a vehicle, and his personal car was not capable of negotiating the rugged terrain. That night we sat for hours developing plans for conservation projects which, with relatively modest budgets, could transform the lives of communities living near some of Mali's surviving wildlife.



Grisly wares: row upon row of wild animal products on sale in Mali



Ian Redmond helps Jean-Marie Ntabazi put the finishing touches to the Born Free donated vehicle

Carefully developed ecotourism, I suggested, could be introduced in the west based on chimpanzee watching and in the east based on the desert elephants. Looking out over the River Niger, it was only then that I learned that manatees swim right past Bamako, and could be seen not far from the city. "What about manatee-watching tours in glass-bottomed boats?" I asked. "Surely swimming with mermaids in the desert would grab even the most jaded tourist."

The next day I hired a 4x4 and Bourama guided me to Kayo, a dusty village on the banks of the river. There, after half an hour in the canoe, I glimpsed my first mermaid, - and a swim but she wasn't interested - and met the community who might benefit from visitors with similar interests. It is early days yet, but watch this space for the first Born Free tour to Mali, and the beginnings of a new conservation movement in this fascinating country.

GORILLA KILLERS IN CONGO...

The civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC, formerly Zaire) has been a disaster for both the people and wildlife of this spectacular country. In late January, I visited Kahuzi-Biega National Park in eastern DRC and learned that hundreds, if not thousands of eastern

lowland gorillas had been slaughtered for their meat, along with countless chimpanzees, elephants, buffalo and antelope. The worst carnage was feared to have taken place in the low-lying areas of the park occupied by various armed factions in DRC's complicated war. Some of this bushmeat was being used to feed the rebel troops, the rest was reportedly being sold in commercial bushmeat markets in the surrounding towns.

As chairman of the Ape Alliance, I was there to ask the chief warden, Bishikwabo Kasereka, what his most urgent needs were. Since late last year, organisations in the Ape Alliance have collaborated in a DRC Emergency Relief Mission to offer practical help to the conservationists still trying to do their job in the midst of war and turmoil. His requests ranged from boots to biros, sleeping bags to first aid kits, but he particularly stressed the need for a 4x4 vehicle large enough to carry 15 men to do patrols in the further reaches of the forest.

Only two months later, thanks to Born Free, I was able to deliver a rugged, Landrover 101

truck, skillfully refitted by Mel Gormley of Mantana Safaris in Uganda to meet the needs of the warden. Driving it down from Entebbe, I stopped for the night in Ruhengeri, Rwanda. There, Jean-Marie Ntabazi, the head of an artist's cooperative backed by the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund Europe, worked until 3.00am to transform the 101 into a gorilla and elephant conservation-mobile. Resplendent in its new livery, it caused quite a stir as it trundled through the land of a thousand hills to the Congo border.

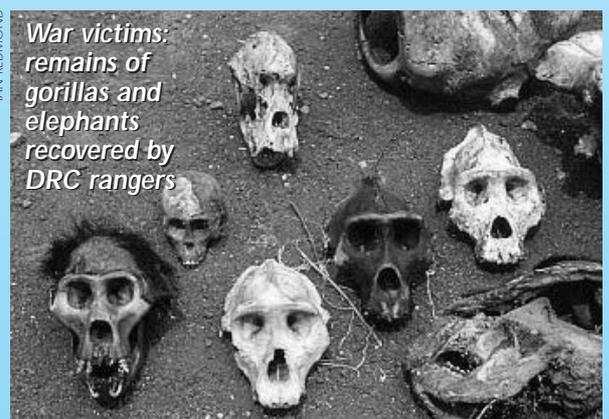
The staff of Kahuzi-Biega National Park could scarcely contain their excitement when I handed over the keys. Instead of walking for hours before beginning their patrols, they will now be dropped off in comfort, saving time and energy for their vital anti-poaching work. The courage and dedication of these men is extraordinary ... even though their weapons have been taken by the military authorities, they still use the element of surprise to raid poacher camps, and in one recent incident, captured 18 poachers!

Only five per cent of the 6000 km² park is currently controlled by the warden and rangers, but the 101 should allow them to expand their coverage. This is the area that was once home to some of the world's most celebrated gorillas, made famous by the Survival Anglia documentary 'Gorilla' and subsequently visited by thousands of tourists.

... thousands of eastern lowland gorillas had been slaughtered for their meat ...

IAN REDMOND

War victims: remains of gorillas and elephants recovered by DRC rangers



Of an estimated 258 gorillas in this part of the park in 1996, only 70 remain. The other 95 per cent of the park was thought to contain about 8,000 gorillas; if their decline is proportional, this is a catastrophe for the subspecies, particularly if it is reflected in other populations in eastern DRC. It is essential that our Congolese colleagues are given the support that they need.

IAN REDMOND



Ivory carvings on sale in Rwanda

Similarly, elephants in the controlled five per cent of the park numbered 350 in 1996; now, park staff have been able to find tracks of only FIVE. In the remainder of the park, as many as 3,600 elephants roamed the forest but no-one knows how many survive. What is known, however, is that ivory from slaughtered elephants is finding its way eastwards and southwards to illegal ivory markets.

On my way back through Kigali, Rwanda, for example, I counted hundreds of ivory pieces for sale in curio shops and stalls ... carvings, bangles and necklaces, amounting to at least 60 kilos in weight. Allowing

for stocks not on display and weight of ivory lost in carving, I estimated that this represented about 28 elephants. On a later visit, I counted how many tusk tips were present in one stall, and came to a similar number ... about 30 elephants, mainly females and young, all killed to make money from thoughtless buyers of tacky souvenirs. The Rwandan authorities have promised action to close down these illegal ivory stalls; Born Free will continue to tackle the ivory trade from both ends, supporting anti-poaching and urging potential ivory buyers to become Elefriends.

*Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

rattling the cage

BY STEVEN M WISE

Concern for animal welfare is growing in all parts of the world, but we still fail to grant legal rights to non-humans. Chimpanzees and bonobos (pygmy chimpanzees) may be our closest living relatives, communicating with language, feeling complex emotions, living in complex societies, and creating and using tools, yet we continue to exploit them.

Steven Wise demonstrates that the cognitive, emotional and social capacities of these apes should entitle them to freedom from imprisonment and abuse. In her foreword to *Rattling the Cage*, primatologist Jane Goodall states: 'We hope as we enter the 21st century, the more enlightened attitude concerning our moral relationship with the rest of the animal kingdom will be reflected in appropriate changes in the legal system. Certainly this book will give the process a mighty shove.'

Available from all good bookshops priced £12.99



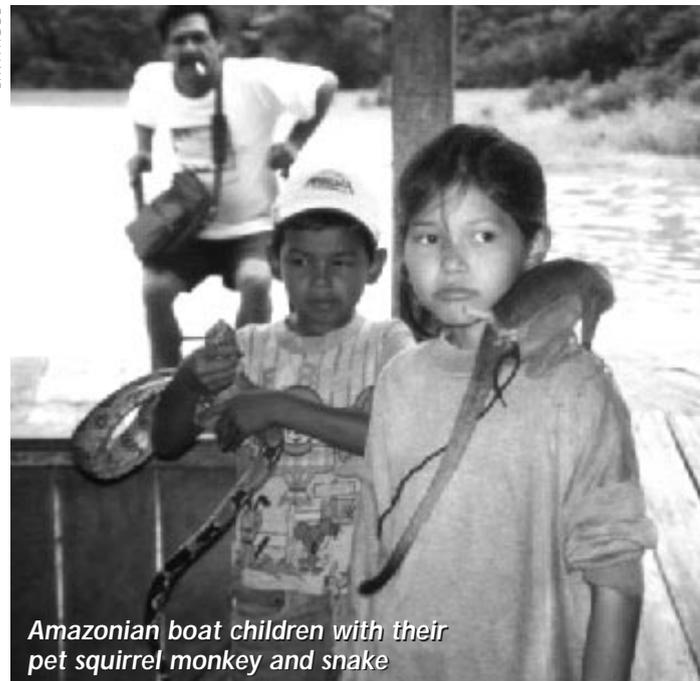
PRIMATE PET TRADE

Thousands of animals are torn from their natural environment to supply the ravenous illegal pet trade. In an exciting new initiative Born Free travelled to Brazil to investigate a possible solution.

Working with the Brazilian group 'Associação Floresta Amazônica' (AFA, Amazonian Forest Society), Born Free hopes to help develop a rehabilitation centre for rescued Amazonian primates, confiscated by authorities. Appropriate authorisation to secure a site for the project is being obtained together with financial resources to begin work.

The initial trip was very successful, and strong links developed between AFA and Born Free. The islands of Balbina Lake, 180km north of Manaus, have been selected as the site for the centre. If all goes well, in a year's time rescued monkeys from several Amazonian species including spider, howler, capuchin and squirrel monkeys, may begin their new life back in the forest sanctuary.

BFF/A HOOD



Amazonian boat children with their pet squirrel monkey and snake

expanding the vision into the new century

Dear Friends,

This has been our best year ever. More funds have allowed us to do even more to help more animals and to end suffering. Thank you so much for the part you have played in making this possible. Working together to keep wildlife in the wild we will fight suffering, exploitation and destruction; and promote protection and conservation with compassion.

Best wishes



Will Travers



FIELD PROGRAMMES: EXPANDING OUR EFFORTS

There are so many exciting things to report on over the past year - too many - but the highlights are worth remembering.

BIG CATS

Our two rescued lions, Raffi and Anthea were joined in Shamwari Game Reserve, South Africa by Kuma the leopard from Abijan Zoo on the Ivory Coast; as well as Aslan and Gilda, the lions rescued with Challenge Anneka from Greece, and Rikki the clawless leopard. The centre at Shamwari has been significantly improved and Tim Parratt, our representative at Shamwari, has been busy caring for the animals and explaining their stories to the many visitors to the



Special moment: despite having no claws, Rikki caught and killed this hare, just like a wild leopard

new Education Centre. The Centre was funded by the friends and family of Julie Ward and is a lasting tribute to the free spirit of a remarkable woman. Meanwhile in India, we continued to fund tiger conservation in Dudhwa National Park.

ELEPHANTS

In October 1999, Kenya completed the biggest elephant move in the country's history. Born Free (with the incredible support of



Saving elephants' lives with relocation

Britannia Airways) lent a hand in the form of finance and 'on the ground' assistance. 28 elephants were successfully relocated from Shimba Hills and the Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary to the vast expanses of Tsavo East National Park. One of Born Free's biggest projects ever, we proved elephant translocation can provide one humane alternative to culling 'excess' or 'problem' elephants.

ZOOS

The future of zoos and animals in captivity remains a high profile issue and the Foundation has been actively campaigning on numerous fronts. The potential destruction of lions at Woburn; the mass execution of macaque monkeys at West Midlands Safari Park; the development and publication of new *Standards of Modern Zoo Practice*; the ratification of the new European Zoo Directive; the publication of *A Report into the Welfare of Circus Animals in England and Wales*; the capture for zoos of 30 baby elephants in Botswana and the subsequent rescue and release of all but seven by a coalition of wildlife groups, led by the National Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (South Africa); helping end the feeding of live cows to lions in the Wild Animal World (China) ... the list goes on!



Continuing to campaign against captivity

WOLVES

The Ethiopian Wolves go from strength to strength under the watchful eye of Claudio Sillero Zubiri and his team. New populations have been discovered and through everyone's efforts, including the vaccination of local dogs, protection of the park, careful monitoring of the wolves and a strong educational agenda, these wonderful animals are no longer staring extinction in the face.



The elegant, long-legged Ethiopian wolf

PRIMATES

Born Free has had a busy time. With support, Ngamba Island, Uganda has flourished. More orphaned chimpanzees have been

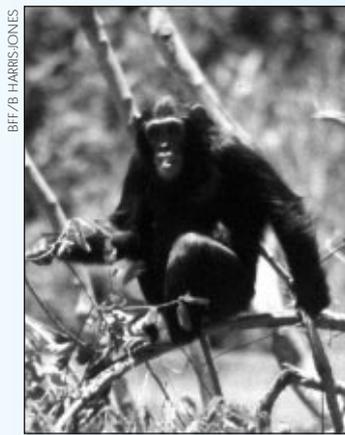
DAVID O'NEIL/MAIL ON SUNDAY

BFF/WV TRAVERS

BFF

CLAUDIO SILLERO ZUBIRI

rescued and with the situation deteriorating in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the need for such a sanctuary looks set to increase. The Colobus Trust in Diani, Kenya, now benefits from core funding thanks to Born Free. The staff are developing education, research, habitat protection and animal welfare work and the Trust has featured on several international TV shows.



At home, on Ngamba Island

UK WILDLIFE



Protecting otters on Skye

The Born Free Wildlife Casualty Rescue Unit is now a familiar sight on the roads of Skye. Many animals owe their lives to the Unit, the only one of its kind operating in the west of Scotland. Members will know of the work to complete the new community project based around the island of Eilean Ban. The project, which combines wildlife, culture, history and the environment, officially opened in May 2000 and has been supported by many organisations and groups, including the Camelot Foundation.

ORCA

It takes a long, long time to change the world but the world of captive orca is changing. Keiko, the orca star of 'Free Willy', is a little closer to freedom now that he has been flown to Iceland and begun to break his ties with the humans who have been part of his life for so long. What will this mean for the orca still trapped in the artificial 'tanks' around the world? Well, their 'owners' are remaining

strangely silent. But if Keiko can make it there is little reason why others should not follow the same path to freedom. For Paul and Helena Spong and the crew up at Orcalab, Canada, it must seem like forever, but it is in no small measure due to their painstaking work of nearly three decades that we now understand that no orca should be locked up for life. Born Free's support for Orcalab is one contribution to that objective. We also continue to campaign against the creation of new marine parks and the recruitment of more captive dolphins and whales worldwide.



No orca should be locked up and exploited for life

SUPPORTING BORN FREE

Born Free spreads the word in so many ways: through its members, so many of whom are active advocates for the work we do; through numerous TV, radio and press features; and through the support of dedicated celebrities. Whether it's Martin Clunes onboard with Britannia, Helen Worth in the wilds of Shamwari; Kiki Dee moving lions; Virginia christening the Britannia 767-300 in memory of Bill Travers; Gary Rhodes cooking for wildlife with Tate and Lyle; Joanna Lumley launching the Elf promotion ... it was all proof that as individuals or together we make things happen.

FUNDRAISING

Without funds we can do little. With more funds we can do even better. This year has been particularly successful. Our projects have benefited from funding support from a range of sources including members, merchandise, the raffle, adoptions, MemberPlus, legacies, grants, the corporate sector, media appeals, and more. Born Free realises that if there is one thing helping a charity should do, it should make the donor feel part of a team, feel involved and feel they have achieved something. That's why we make sure that, whether you are a private individual or a huge multi-national, you can see for yourselves just where the money goes and how much you have helped Born Free to achieve.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1999

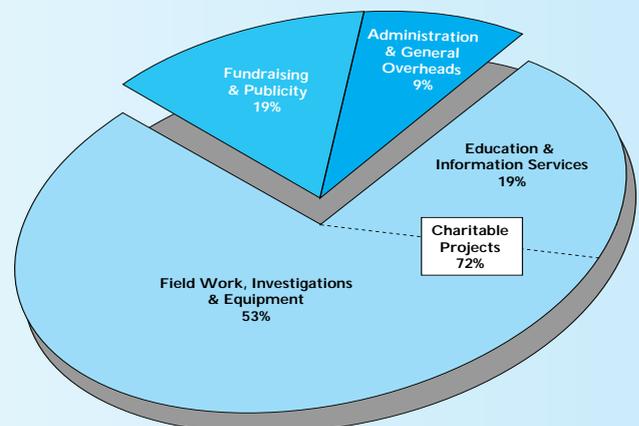
INCOMING RESOURCES

Donations, Subscriptions, Adoptions	£1,587,126.00
Raffle	£30,074.00
Royalties and Commissions	£8,352.00
Card and Renewal fees from Bank of Scotland	£9,497.00
Bank and Building Society Interest	£28,749.00
Sponsorship	£37,802.00
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	£1,701,600.00

EXPENDITURE

Fundraising and Publicity	£226,405.00
Administration and General overheads	£109,921.00
Charitable Objectives Expenditure	
Charitable Projects	£631,019.00
Education and Information Services	£231,706.00
Total Charitable Objective Expenditure	£862,725.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£1,199,051.00
Credit to Financial Activities	£502,549.00

Born Free Foundation Expenditure shows that 72% of expenditure is targeted at the charity's objectives.



Auditors Report to the Trustees of the Born Free Foundation. In our opinion, the Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the charity's state of affairs as at 31st March 1999 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. Blackburn Ltd - Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

LETHAL CONTACT

Zoos keep many wild animals confined in captivity ... but are any diseases they may harbour also restrained behind the bars? Alison Hood, Born Free's campaign director, investigates the shocking evidence.

In March this year, two entire colonies of Rhesus macaques were shot dead at Woburn and West Midlands Safari Parks. The 315 monkeys were found to be carrying Simian Herpes B virus and although not necessarily lethal to monkeys, the disease can be transmitted to humans and 70% of these cases are fatal. The virus is 'airborne' and does not require a bite or scratch to be transmitted, posing a recognised threat to humans, whether in a safari park, zoo or research lab.

DANGER TO THE PUBLIC

Rhesus macaques are infamous for clambering over cars and attacking aerials or windscreen wipers when visitors drive through safari parks. Imagine what could be left on your car bonnet, which just a few hours later could be used as a picnic table...

Are we making too much of this? Or do zoos and safari parks

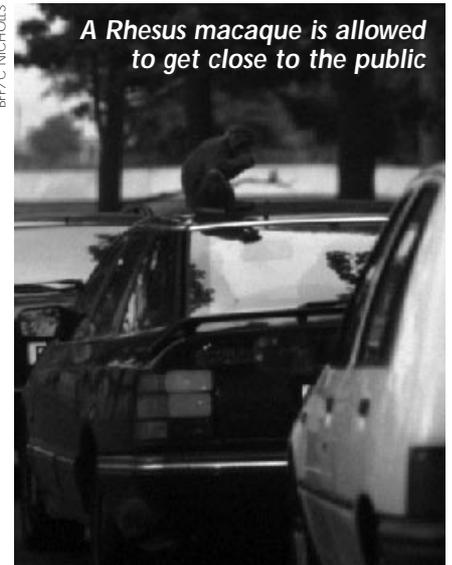
really offer an opportunity for visitors to contract an exotic illness ... without the need to travel abroad? Could an unsuspecting visitor have eaten a 'cheese and Herpes B virus' sandwich at Woburn or West Midlands? The safari parks obviously took the possible threat seriously enough to destroy 315 otherwise healthy animals.

Disease transmission between animals and humans, and vice versa, is a subject that clearly needs more research. In particular the threat owing to the close relationship between human and non-human primates needs to be thoroughly investigated. Hepatitis A, leprosy and monkey pox are just a few of the known diseases transmittable from non-human primates and known to be lethal to humans.

Ian Redmond, our wildlife consultant (who studied gorillas under the late Dian Fossey and now leads tours to see the Mountain Gorillas), came to Born Free recently before setting off to Rwanda. A cold was doing the rounds in the office and so Ian kept his distance. He could not risk contracting anything that could be passed onto the Gorillas. In 1988 six Mountain Gorillas died of a respiratory illness and tests indicated the primary infection could have been measles, possibly a result of human contact. In Gombe, chimpanzees have died of a polio-like virus and respiratory illness ... again believed to have been contracted from humans.

... the virus does not need a bite or scratch to be transmitted ...

BFF/C NICHOLLS



A Rhesus macaque is allowed to get close to the public

But while responsible tour guides always maintain safe distances between tourists and animals, what precautions are taken in zoos or safari parks to advise the public of potential risks, or to protect the visitors and the animals in their care?

Some dangerous viruses may have evolved to protect their 'host' species.

Take the example of the spider monkey. In the early 1970s researchers discovered a herpes virus infecting virtually 100% of animals in the wild but harmless to its spider monkey host. In other monkey species, however, it was a potent cancer-causing virus. According to the Journal of Virology, a captive colony of spider monkeys could simply breathe on a howler monkey and five weeks later the victim would die of leukemia.

UNNATURAL CONDITIONS

The danger of disease transmission is a major argument against keeping animals in captivity. Keeping animals in unnatural circumstances with prolonged proximity to alien species - and their viruses - creates a potential minefield. Disease can be transmitted from zoo visitors (and keepers) to animals, from animals to people, from species to species. Not



IAN REDMOND

Mountain gorillas are vulnerable to human diseases

forgetting the potential of a virus to mutate due to the host animal's stressful unnatural conditions. The situation needs to be investigated thoroughly without delay.

It is clear a problem exists but it is important we work on the basis of facts. Born Free is calling for a programme of in-depth research to assess the potential for disease transfer between species, and between members of the public and captive animals held in public facilities.

But if a disease lethal to humans is discovered, what action should a zoo take? Culling is all too convenient an option for

... a nationwide screening programme must be introduced.

zoos. Zoos must investigate ways to provide a lifetime of compassionate care for infected animals that eliminates the risk of the spread of diseases. Around the world, zoos must recognise the responsibility they have to the individual animals in their care and also to their visiting public.

ACTION

- 1 Please send donations to fund Zoo Check's work.
- 2 Please monitor press reports on public safety issues at your local zoo.

BFF/C NICHOLS



Woburn Safari Park encourages public contact with its animals

Zoos: Shape Up or Ship Out

Standards have now tightened for UK zoos. Will Travers, Born Free's CEO, reports.

"A modern zoo must meet the highest standards in animal welfare and protect the public. I expect zoos to play their full part in the conservation of endangered species by introducing conservation programmes as soon as possible." Chris Mullin, Environment Minister

There are hundreds of zoos in the UK, regulated by the Zoo Licensing Act 1981. However, standards remain depressingly low.

The Labour Government, at least partly on the advice of the Born Free Foundation, decided that one of its animal welfare objectives on coming to power would be to over-haul the Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice, the quality control mechanism for UK zoos.

To do this the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) established the Zoos Forum, a group of expert individuals from the zoo world, local government, the DETR and other experts.

I was in two minds when invited to become a member of

the Zoos Forum. Some would say that it was tantamount to heresy to sit in the same room as zoo directors. Others suggested that without an independent, critical voice, the Forum would lack credibility and would be in danger of becoming a toothless tiger.

At the outset, I made it plain that my working on the Forum in no way

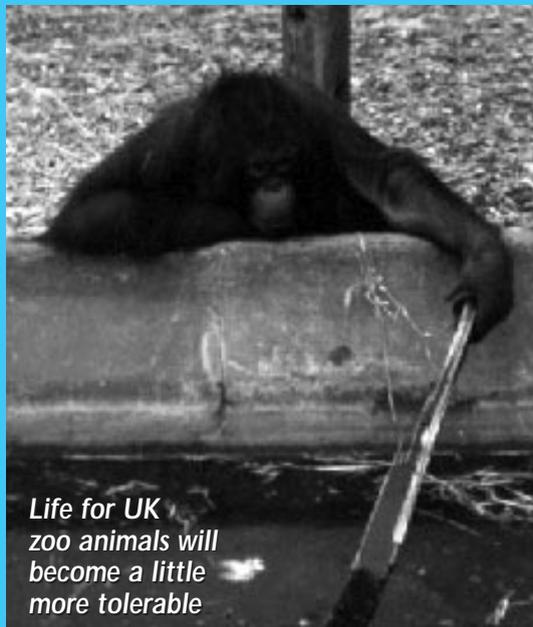
diminished my personal opposition to the zoo concept. However, if I could encourage better animal welfare and greater compassion in the short time then it would be worth doing.

The 'Revised Standards of Modern Zoo Practice' came into force 3rd April 2000. They introduce five welfare principles: provision of food and water; a suitable environment; healthcare; the opportunity to express most normal behaviour; and protection from fear and distress.

In my view these and the many other provisions significantly tighten up the regulations for keeping animals in zoos. Zoos are also compelled to make a greater contribution to conservation and education.

So, while zoos exist, life for their operators is going to get increasingly tougher and life for their animals more tolerable. But as to the long-term future of zoos? I remain convinced that wildlife should be in the wild where it belongs!

BFF/C NICHOLS



Life for UK zoo animals will become a little more tolerable

millennium marathon

The gun sounds, the gates open, first a gentle walk, then a jog through the gates and finally the entire grueling 26.2 mile course of the Flora London Marathon. This year over 32,000 people tried to beat their previous time, beat the clock, or simply try and complete the course.

£20 million was raised for charities by runners and Born Free applauds all those involved. But we particularly congratulate the Born Free team including those from Britannia. Nigel Daniel, Billy Wheaton, Nix Shepherd, John Tupham, Mike McCabe and Chris Neville together raised over £10,000 for Born Free ... fantastic!

If you feel inspired to run next year's Marathon, look out for the sponsor forms in your local sport's shop from August and please consider running for Born Free. Contact Becky Harris-Jones on 01403 240170

NEW CLASSROOMS OPEN

Two new classrooms funded by villagers and children at Shamley Green and Wonersh, UK have been built at Ngonzini Primary School, near to Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary in Kenya. The project was arranged by Born Free's Will Travers and a long-term relationship has been established. Head Teacher, Mr Ramoyo thanked the UK villages and reiterated his school's commitment to academic excellence and to wildlife conservation. After speeches and dances, Mr Travers declared the classrooms officially open.

VEHICLE REQUIRED

Born Free's UK Education Project urgently needs a low mileage Estate vehicle, ideally less than three years old. Call Becky 01403 240170 if you can help.

rhino mayday 2000

The UK Rhino Group's (UKRG) fifth annual symposium raised vital funds for the Michael Werikhe Conservation Fund at the Royal Geographic Society. Experts spoke about their work and the audience enjoyed rhino films, displays and reports, as well as a raffle and art auction. Speakers included author Mark Carwardine, black rhino conservationist Sky Alibhai, and Born Free's Will Travers. UKRG chair and Born Free consultant Ian Redmond commented: 'It was a wonderful day full of opportunities to support rhino protection.' For UKRG details call 01403 240170.

NICK GREAVES



Raising funds to protect the rhino

elephant training

"I counted over 18 holes in Katie's face. Even Crumple had blood on her today." The Captive Animals Protection Society has exposed training methods employed by Scott Riddle at Blackpool Zoo. Katie and Crumple the elephants were forced to do circus-style tricks by being stretched onto their bellies with winches and shocked by cattle prods. This appalling treatment, initially denied by zoo manager, Iain Valentine, has been confirmed by Blackpool Borough Council who own and run the zoo with tax payers' money.

BFF



Shocking treatment for Blackpool's elephants

ELEPHANTS, CROPS AND PEOPLE

In the 1970's and 80's over 90% of Uganda's elephants were poached. Populations are recovering in some areas, but no research has been undertaken in Ishasha. Elephant, Crops and People (ECP) is a new long-term project, part-funded by Born Free, to investigate how many elephants remain. It's been found that 'Negative Elephant - Human Interaction' (E-HI) is escalating as the population recovers; elephants are crop raiding and killing farmers. ECP will identify 'offending' elephants and with the Ugandan Wildlife Authority (UWA), Makerere University and the local community, design a humane strategy to mitigate E-HI.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

The Spirit ^{OF} THE Maasai Man

**'Why do the zoo beasts cry?'
'Because they cannot hear the
songs of the wild.'**

Locked inside their cages, the zoo animals are far away from their homelands. One night, the spirit of the Maasai Man sings a haunting song and a miracle takes place. Laura Berkeley's poignant

story and evocative illustrations gives a voice to the voiceless and restores hope. This beautiful book will provoke

deep thought and a sense of optimism in all who read it. Foreword by Virginia McKenna, available from Born Free for only £9.99. Call 01403 240170 to order your copy.



resolving CONFLICT

Robin Rigg of the Carpathian Wildlife Society reports on Born Free's major new joint initiative working to prevent human/animal conflict in Slovakia.

The year 2000 will see the first steps of an ambitious project to conserve large carnivores in the Slovak Republic by reducing conflicts with people. The Carpathian Wildlife Society (CWS) in Slovakia extends a big thank you to Born Free for making this possible.

The project tackles a long-standing reason for the persecution of predators such as wolves and brown bears: their natural, but unwanted tendency to occasionally prey on domesticated animals. Although intensive hunting has recently reduced

numbers, the Slovak Carpathians have between 200 and 400 wolves, plus a similar number of lynx and up to 800 bears.

PROTECTING LIVELIHOODS

Slovakia has a long tradition of herding sheep, goats and cattle in forested uplands. Nationally, the predating of domestic animals is low, but for individual owners the losses can be dramatic especially as wolf damage attracts no compensation from the State. Last year a local flock lost over twenty goats in a single, daytime attack by wolves. Such losses cause ill-will towards carnivores which, in turn, encourages their persecution. The new Born Free /CWS project aims to reverse this situation by helping livestock husbanders protect their flocks with specially trained

The all-terrain vehicle donated by Born Free



livestock-guarding dogs and by installing electric fences. We will also be trying taste aversion therapy ... teaching carnivores that domestic animals make you sick!

With the money raised by Born Free we have bought a second-hand Suzuki Vitara. This four-wheel drive vehicle is essential, allowing us to tour the pastures where the dogs will be trained. We already have six pups, crossbreeds between Slovak and Polish guarding dogs, which are now seven weeks old; their careers will soon begin. In the summer they will be joined by four more pups.

I would encourage all of you to visit our project by joining a trip organised by our partner, the Slovak Wildlife Society. The Nizke Tatry National Park is a beautiful forested area rising up to peaks of over 2000 metres. We would love to show you the wildlife and our work. All profits from these trips will support the new project.

For details of the trips please send an SAE to Alison Hood at Born Free.



ROBIN RIGG

Just seven weeks old: two of the new sheep-guarding dogs



BEYOND 2000

As the wolf slowly extends a tentative paw back into areas from which it was virtually exterminated, what are the repercussions of these first brave steps?

At a recent symposium in Minnesota, USA, experts gathered to discuss the realities of global wolf restoration. Once the most widespread mammal in the northern hemisphere, after centuries of persecution the wolf survived only in remote areas. Now, as the species begins to reclaim former territories, one of

the main threats to its survival still exists ... the real and perceived threat that wolves present to livestock.

A PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

If wolves are to survive and co-exist with people this issue must be taken seriously and rigorous efforts taken to

resolve conflict. Born Free is addressing this issue in Europe, encouraging and funding a return to traditional methods of guarding livestock.

Today the wolf has a dedicated army of supporters who, while committed to wolf restoration, also consider the bigger picture. Wolves and the livelihood of livestock owners must be protected and further developments to create a peaceful coexistence between historical arch-enemies must also be undertaken.



letter from ethiopia

In June, having worked in Ethiopia for 13 years, Dr Claudio Sillero steps down as co-ordinator of the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme. As he prepares to take up a new and exciting conservation challenge, Claudio reflects on his experiences and admits that part of him will always belong in wilds of the Bale Mountains with the graceful red wolf...

Back in October 1987, my partner Dada Gottelli and I were young scientists, staying in Naivasha, Kenya. One evening we went to dinner with our friends the Nightingales, in order to meet Chris and Sheila Hillman who were visiting from their wildlife project in Ethiopia. I was eager to hear of their experiences studying the elusive bongo antelope in southern Sudan ... my own research in Kenya at the time included the decline of bongo numbers in Aberdare National Park. But I had no idea that meeting the Hillmans was to change the course of my life forever...

We had a pleasant evening and over coffee I casually asked Chris whether there were any wildlife jobs going in Ethiopia. He turned his intense gaze on me and replied: "Are you serious?"

That night we drove away weighing up Chris' unexpected offer to study the endangered Simien Fox, as it was then known, in the Bale Mountains of Ethiopia. As soon as we got home I reached for my well-thumbed copy of Dorst & Dandelot *Guide of African Mammals* and checked out the entry for *Canis simensis*. But just a single paragraph summed up the existing knowledge

of these wonderful mountain dwellers, one of the rarest carnivores in the world.

A week later Dada and I flew out to Ethiopia and the Hillmans took us to Dinsho, a tiny mountain village and base for the Bale Mountains National Park's HQ, which was to become our future home. Nearly 13 years have gone by since that visit. I could never have foreseen that my life would become so inextricably linked to these mountains and the fate of the Ethiopian wolves.

For four years Dada and I lived in Bale, immersed in an academic study of the wolves' ecology and behaviour. We spent nearly 700 nights camping out in the rainy cold mountains and over 5,000 hours of detailed wolf observations. The highlight must surely have been the joy of watching each of 20 wolf litters playing at the den, waiting for the adults to deliver food and following their development during day-long watches. The all-time low was hopelessly witnessing a rabies epidemic wipe out over half of the 130 wolves we knew

individually (named as they were after Roman and Greek gods); a disaster from which, nearly a decade later, the Bale wolves are only now just recovering.

In mid 1992 Dada and I left for Oxford University accompanied by Max, a 13 year-old boy with dreadlocks we'd met in Dinsho on our first day in town. We had got so close to him during those years that we ended up adopting him. During the next two years I kept busy, writing up my PhD thesis, but I often ached with memories of Bale and 'my' wolves. The post-Mengistu (ex-leader of Ethiopia) years were hard for them; the battered survivors of the 1991 rabies epidemic remained in Bale, forgotten to the world and amid social turmoil and rebel activity, some being shot by disgruntled shepherds.

As is often the way with field studies, the scientists identify conservation threats and recommend action, but then pack their bags and return to pursue theoretical work in their ivory towers. More often than not, nothing is done to alleviate the problems identified and the species in question soon gets forgotten. I battled with the ethical implications of these

... I had no idea that the meeting was to change the course of my life forever ...

... 700 nights camping out in the rainy cold mountains and over 5,000 hours of detailed wolf observations.

thoughts and decided I had to return to Bale and set the record straight.

After approaching Born Free with a desperate plea for help and gaining their vital support, I finally went back to Bale and sowed the seed of what was to become the successful Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme (EWCP). During the last few years, I was joined in Bale by my new partner and work colleague Jorgelina Marino. She brought about a general improvement to my lifestyle and much needed placid company in the long and often uneventful evenings in our little house in Dinsho. Her ecological work has also helped us gain a better understanding of the biogeography of the wolves and their habitat requirements. Together we achieved a complete survey of all wolf populations in Ethiopia ... something I had been unable to do before due to the war in the north. Another valuable addition to the EWCP was Karen Laurenson of Edinburgh University who has been helping us understand the dynamics of diseases affecting the wolves and protecting them through the vaccination of nearby domestic dogs.

I've left Ethiopia many times before, always returning to Dinsho and the wolves. But now it is time to move on and we are leaving for good, albeit with mixed feelings. Sometimes I lay awake in the night, next to

Claudio in action in his Born Free funded vehicle

Jorgelina and my little daughter Pampita, and images of handsome wolves with sleek red and white coats and rainy mountains fill my mind and lure me to stay, but I also think of

Born Free and the Ethiopian Wolf

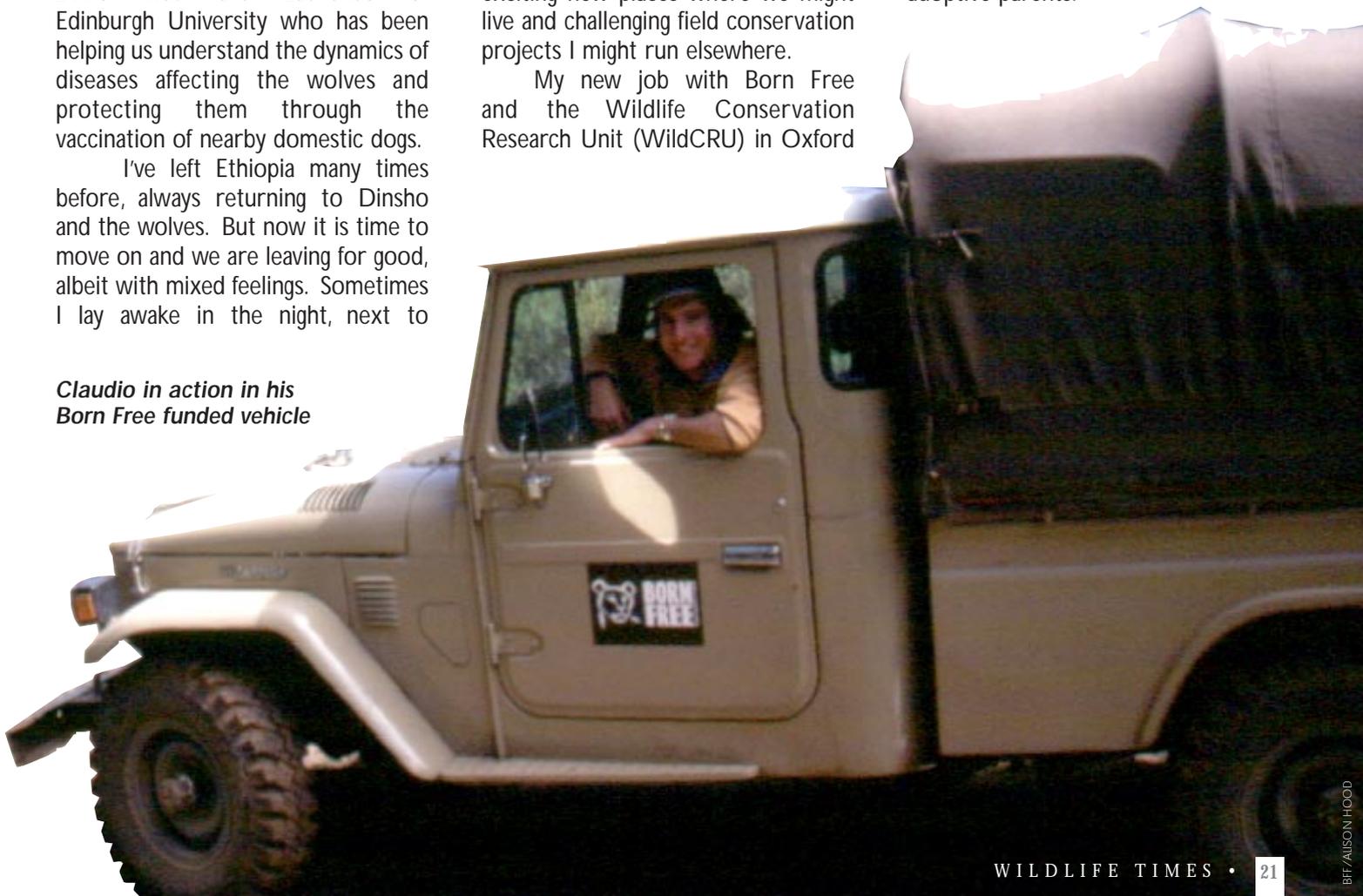
Born Free and the EWCP implement community-based activities to protect the high-profile wolf, its habitat and many other species that share this unique environment. Last year's breeding season was very successful ... new packs have formed and seven pups born to the 'Megity' Pack, equaling the largest litter ever recorded. While drought and crop failure are causing great hardship in the south of the country, up in the Bale Mountains the rains have finally arrived. Thankfully the drought has not affected the wolves, and the local people have enough food for the time being. But substantial number of livestock have been lost, hitting their economy hard.

exciting new places where we might live and challenging field conservation projects I might run elsewhere.

My new job with Born Free and the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU) in Oxford

awaits. I will be using my hard earned experience from Ethiopia elsewhere in Africa and South America, to look at ways to resolve increasingly common conflicts between human and wildlife interests. Jorgelina will concentrate on writing up her doctoral thesis and Pampita will benefit from a civilized upbringing in cosy Oxford.

But I won't be turning my back on the wolves. Born Free has secured funding for the EWCP for at least another four years, ensuring the continuity of nearly 15 people working in Bale and implementing the various conservation projects that we have devised. Under the supervision of the new EWCP coordinator, Dr Stuart Williams, they will continue to tackle the challenges faced by the wolves, thanks to the support and encouragement of The Born Free Foundation, its members and particularly our dedicated wolf pack adoptive parents.



working together for wildlife

Born Free's Caroline Robson brings exciting news from the new project on Eilean Ban

The Eilean Ban Project has evolved over two years and to the joy of everyone involved has now been completed and officially launched. What began with a dramatic request by Born Free to save the island from public auction, has grown into a unique project.

Eilean Ban lies off the northwest coast of Scotland and its heathland, grassland and coastal habitats are host to a large number of birds, mammals, insects and plants. Below the waves another world of natural wonders exists, so pure and untouched the region has been designated a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

THE EILEAN BAN TRUST

Eilean Ban's habitats might not be unique but what is special is its community ownership and the creation of a united partnership with Born Free called the 'Eilean Ban Trust'.

Arriving by boat, visitors of all

abilities can enjoy the island's nature trail and wildlife hide, and learn about the natural heritage from the resident Warden. Author and naturalist Gavin Maxwell once lived on the island and a small museum in his former home illustrates his life and work. Maxwell was fundamental in raising awareness of the endearing otter through his book *Ring of Bright Water*, made into a film classic starring Born Free founders Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers.

The 'Bright Water Visitor Centre' in Kyleakin, on Skye is an interactive experience telling visitors about the project, as well as the local environment and historical happenings. The Trust has also created an Education Pack for local primary schools in the Highland Region and a visit to Eilean Ban will give pupils a day packed with wildlife activities.

The Project has been made possible by the dedicated efforts and support of many organisations and individuals, all pulling together for one goal: to unite community interests with wildlife conservation. If Eilean Ban can serve as an example of living and working in harmony with nature, then it has truly served its purpose.

For more information call Caroline Robson on 01599 530040 or caroline1.robson@care4free.net.



TRISHA MATTHEWS

blue peter visits born free in action

ANNE TUDOR/BF



Katy Hill admires Born Free's wildlife ambulance

In March a film crew from Blue Peter visited two Born Free projects on the northwest coast of Scotland.

The crew first called on the International Otter Survival Fund (IOSF) on the Isle of Skye, for an update on the Wildlife Warning Reflectors, installed to combat the many otter deaths on Skye's roads. Presenter Katy Hill was delighted to learn that since their installation 18 months ago, no deaths have been reported. IOSF and Born Free are continuing this project for other danger areas around the island.

The new Born Free Wildlife Ambulance also attracted the Blue Peter team who were keen to see this facility in action at IOSF.

Britannia Airways funded this unique, fully-equipped vehicle in June 1999 by collecting spare foreign coins, and thanks to the success of this in-flight promotion, countless wildlife casualties have been rescued.

The Blue Peter crew then took a boat trip over to Eilean Ban to see work taking place to create the nature trail and wildlife hide on the island. Katy had a look around the lighthouse keeper's cottages, which once belonged to the author Gavin Maxwell and are now inhabited by the Eilean Ban Trust's Warden Simon Franks.

on the road to RECOVERY

Born Free's New Year appeal raised funds to purchase an x-ray unit for Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Trust near Glasgow. Thanks to the generosity of Born Free supporters the target of £5,000 was raised. Gay Christie from Hessilhead gives us an up-date.

them; others are sedated for travelling. Being able to x-ray these deer as soon as they arrive at Hessilhead, without further sedation, will obviously be advantageous. In some cases additional moving and travelling may exacerbate the injury.

Swans are amongst our most frequent patients. Many show signs of lead poisoning, and an immediate x-ray would show the extent of the problem. Treatment could be started straight away, rather than waiting for the next day's opening time at the vets. Many of the swans have been involved in collisions and back, pelvic and leg injuries are frequently encountered. Again, an immediate diagnosis could start the swan on the right course of treatment, and help us make it as comfortable as possible.

Once the x-ray unit and surgery is installed, hedgehogs, badgers, foxes, owls and raptors will be among the species to benefit from the new facilities. Our sincere thanks to all the Born Free members who contributed towards this appeal ... your help will make such a difference.

Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Trust cared for 3,500 casualties last year alone. Most came from within 30 miles of the Centre; a few from further afield. The majority of the patients are brought in by the public, most casualties have not been seen by a vet and many are seriously injured.

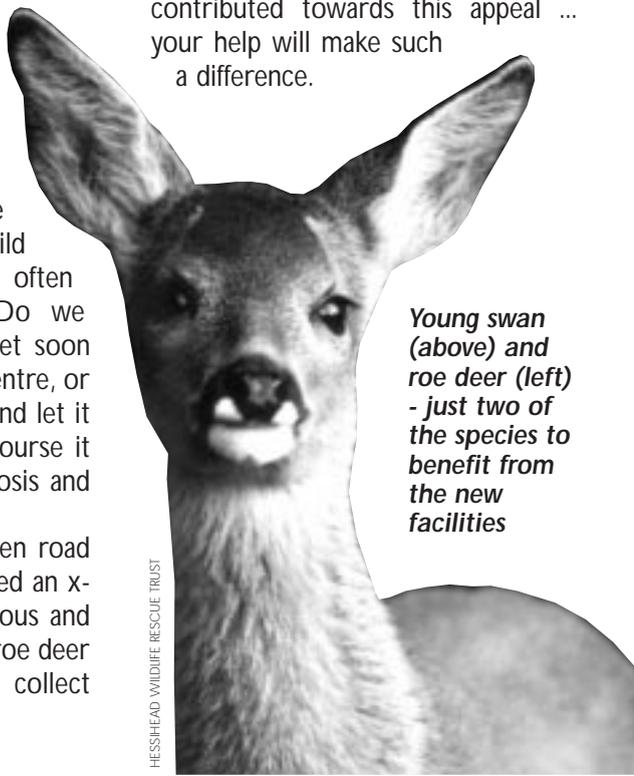
Over the last few years we have been upgrading facilities at our Wildlife Hospital. This year, with thanks to Born Free, we can now plan to install an x-ray unit and surgery.

At present, all our casualties have to be transported 15 miles to the vet for an x-ray, increasing the stress and discomfort to wild birds and animals. We are often faced with a dilemma. Do we transport a patient to the vet soon after it has arrived at the Centre, or do we make it comfortable and let it settle-down first? Then of course it must be disturbed and diagnosis and treatment has been delayed.

Roe deer casualties, often road traffic accidents, invariably need an x-ray. They are also very nervous and easily stressed. Some of the roe deer are unconscious when we collect



HESSILHEAD WILDLIFE RESCUE TRUST



HESSILHEAD WILDLIFE RESCUE TRUST

Young swan (above) and roe deer (left) - just two of the species to benefit from the new facilities

SEAL PUP SLAUGHTER

Earlier this year supporters were horrified by a Born Free report of alarming incidences occurring at Orkney Seal Rescue (OSR). On two occasions the Centre's sign was shot with a rifle and, even more shocking, a bludgeoned seal pup was callously dumped on the Centre doorstep.

Controversial creature: a grey seal



ORKNEY SEAL RESCUE

The rescue of seals on an island traditionally reliant on fishing will always be controversial. Orkney is a close-knit island community and many of its 20,000 inhabitants are fishermen. The fishing lobby would like the return of a licensed annual grey seal cull, last permitted by the Government in 1983. Fishermen claim seal populations are escalating and that seals are responsible for a decline in fish stocks, damaging nets, raiding lobster pots and threatening their livelihood.

Meanwhile OSR and its dedicated team of volunteers continue to rescue sick and injured seals, including battered and dehydrated pups torn from their mothers during storms. Born Free was determined to ensure their safety and launched an emergency appeal, raising £2,000 to improve security and install a CCTV unit at OSR.

Warm thanks to everyone whose donation has helped secure a safer future for the seals and staff at OSR.

Securing a future for Orkney's seals



ORKNEY SEAL RESCUE

Great and Small

Becky Harris-Jones reflects on the importance of conservation in Britain and reports on exciting new progress in Born Free's education campaign.



As we bound into the first spring of the 21st century, I cannot fail to be amazed by the wildlife awaking in my small Surrey garden. The humble bumblebee, the first insect to dare to venture out of hibernation, bumbling from one spring blossom to the next, the birds twittering excitedly in the newly sprung twigs and the wriggling tadpoles in our wildlife pond. Although small, my garden reminds me how easy it is to provide for a variety of wildlife.

For as the new era begins and we look to the future, it's not just in Africa or Asia that animals are under threat. Here in Britain, many species have been decimated through habitat destruction, intensive farming and construction of roads and towns. The once common dormouse has become scarce as its hazel habitat has been degraded and its hedgerow 'corridors' removed. Numbers of stag beetles, with their distinctive antler-like jaws, are declining as woodlands are cleared. We might need to look a little closer, but many of our national species are as much in need of protection as the rhino or tiger.

Born Free's education project promotes respect for all wildlife, large or small. With our new primary school 'Wildlife Clubs' we are encouraging young people in Britain to explore wildlife on their own

doorstep, to look under rocks, between blades of grass and in the murky depths of pools for things that wriggle, buzz and hum. Beginning as a local Sussex and

and a wildlife focus. Information exchanged between the children will serve as an extremely important educational tool. Not only will they learn about each other's daily lives and local wildlife, the children will be set comparative and seasonal studies to investigate how plants and animals survive in different climates.

Our first Wildlife Club starts in Chesworth Primary School in West Sussex. Working with a group of enthusiastic children we'll be discovering the wildlife in their local woodland copse and finding out about Born Free projects around the world. Meanwhile at Oaktree Primary School in Swindon we're creating a 'case study' nature trail, involving the children at every different stage and encouraging local community involvement.

So next time you step into your garden or local park, or even enjoy your window box, spare a moment to look deeper for the bounty of wildlife with which you share your patch of land, however small. Born Free is helping our new generation to be fascinated by the ant, staggered by the beetle and in awe at the complexity of a spider's web. If we can encourage young people to think with interest, compassion and respect, we can help to ensure a secure future for wildlife.

For further details please call Becky on 01403 240170 or email becky@bornfree.org.uk

BORN FREE / B. HARRIS-JONES

Look a little closer at wildlife on your doorstep



... numbers of stag beetles with their distinctive antler-like jaws are declining ...

Surrey based-programme, we're visiting a small number of schools on a regular basis to run after-school clubs. Children will learn about their local wildlife, explore their own school grounds and create new wildlife homes and habitats.

But the new Wildlife Clubs won't just benefit British children. We are creating a 'twinning system', linking with schools based near established Born Free projects worldwide, which will provide a common bond

think globally: act locally

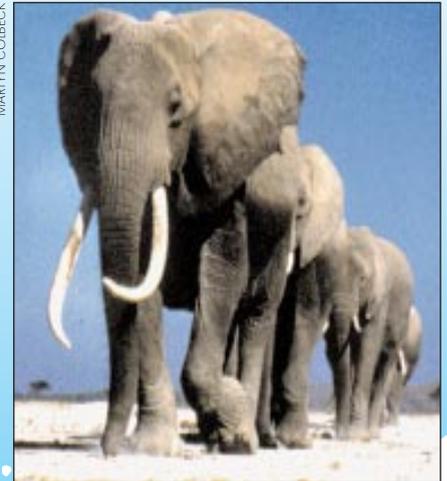
Born Free teamwork worldwide

Throughout the world, the Born Free Foundation is working with compassion to protect wildlife and alleviate suffering.

Born Free is all about teamwork and YOU have a vital role. Working in partnership with local communities and organisations, Born Free creates, funds and supports wildlife projects across the globe. But this pioneering work is only

possible thanks to the incredible support of Born Free members and Born Free business friends. Thanks to YOUR donations, fundraising, campaigning and sponsorship, Born Free today is helping hundreds of thousands of animals worldwide.

MARTYN COLBECK



HERE ARE JUST A FEW BORN FREE PROJECTS MADE POSSIBLE BY BORN FREE MEMBERS AND BUSINESS FRIENDS:



- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Polar Bear Programme, Canada 2 Orca Lab, Canada 3 Elephant Sanctuary, USA 4 Pet-trade Sanctuary, Brazil 5 Island Sanctuary, Scotland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Wildlife Ambulance, Scotland 7 Seal Rescue, Scotland 8 Big Cat Sanctuary, England 9 Zoo Review, UK 10 Leopard Rescue, Tenerife 11 Lion Rescue, Greece 12 Tiger Rescue, Italy 13 Wolf Programme, Slovakia 14 Bear Conservation, Georgia 15 Leopard Rescue, Ivory Coast | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Wolf Project, Ethiopia 17 Colobus Trust, Kenya 18 Elephant Protection, Kenya 19 Ele-truck, Tanzania 20 Mkomazi Wildlife Project, Tanzania 21 Chimp Sanctuary, Uganda 22 Elephant Survey, Uganda 23 Big Cat Sanctuary, South Africa 24 Baby Elephant Rescue, South Africa 25 Tiger Programme, India |
|--|--|--|

meet animal friends

A new Born Free business friend is Animal Friends Insurance Services. Devoting 100% of net profits to Born Free and other animal welfare groups, Animal Friends promises



insurance with a difference. Protect your home, pets and yourself when travelling and help protect all animals from cruelty. Animal Friends' new House and Contents Policy is

being introduced in June. Underwritten by Lloyds of London, Animal Friends aims to match if not beat any renewal premium. The money for animals soon adds up, with a £375 premium, £75 goes directly to Animal Friends. So with just 7,000 policies sold, over £½ million will be raised for animals! Call Animal Friends on 0870 444 3438 for a free quote now.

CREATIVE CAUSE

Artists & Illustrators, the UK's best-selling artists' magazine, is supporting Born Free at their annual exhibition this year. At London's Olympia 2 from 27-30th July, 20,000 visitors will enjoy over 100 art and craft exhibits, brush-up on techniques, learn new skills, meet well-known artists and visit the Born Free stand. On Thursday the ever supportive Gary

Hodges is a judge and top wildlife photographer Heather Angel gives a talk in aid of us. Virginia McKenna is attending on Sunday.

We have **40 pairs of tickets to give away**. Send your name, address and phone number, stating which day you'd like to attend and quoting 'Born Free' to: A&I, Quarto Mags, The Fitzpatrick Building, 188/194 York Way,



London N7 9QR by Monday July 10th. Or see the enclosed leaflet for details of an early booking offer ... see you there!!

fill-up at elf

Following last autumn's successful 'Endangered Species Cuddly Toys', Elf service stations are running another winning promotion from May to August. Their 'Bean Bag Toys' include six adorable designs, with Born Free receiving 30p for every toy sold. Toys cost only £1.99 with £10 worth of petrol.

Elf has already raised a massive £75,000, funding a variety of Born Free projects. New funds will provide road bridges for monkeys in Kenya, running costs for a UK education vehicle (see page 24), support for the Slovakian wolf project, and initial funds for an exciting new tiger initiative.

Thanks to Elf and all their customers ... make sure **you** fill up and stock up at an Elf service station.



www.elephant.co.uk

Looking for new car insurance? Check out some great deals with www.elephant.co.uk, a new company set up by the Admiral group. They have pledged longterm support, so remember them when you need to renew insurance. www.elephant.co.uk generously sponsored our 'Stop the Clock' campaign and mailed thousands of petitions (see page 6). Our thanks to the team in Cardiff.



TV's Sandi Toksvig with the wonderful www.elephant.co.uk team



FANJUS



Young girls' fashion retailers Tammy are giving us amazing support, raising large sums and collecting signatures for our ivory petition (see page 6).

Tammy has sponsored our Wildlife Hide and children's packs on Eilean Ban, and Tony Fitzjohn's lion project in Tanzania. Recent promotions proved popular, particularly the dolphin

knicker range and the 'Fashion Jeanius' competition. The fantastic winning jeans design features sequined elephants and will go on sale soon in aid of Born Free. Ten year-old Sophie Wiesner has won an all-expenses trip to South Africa where she'll be visiting our big cats at Shamwari.



SEW GOOD

Needlecraft company DMC's popular new range of needlecraft kits feature big cats, polar bears, cheetahs and elephants designed by Meiklejohn Graphics. Available in all good needlework and craft shops or via Born Free (call 01403 240170). Meiklejohn's animal illustrations are also featured on a great new range of posters by GB, UK's leading poster publisher. Available from mid June in stores including HMV, Toys R Us and Woolworths.

DMC's new range of tiger and elephant needlecraft kits



EVENTS NOTICE BOARD

Thanks to all our supporters who have organised events including: Dave Loew Filmer whose *Safari Classics CD* and performances in aid of Born Free have won great acclaim and raised considerable funds • Clive Meredith for his successful art exhibition at Gallery 238, Dorking which raised £535 • Val Hetherington again raised money ... you're a star Val! • Val Hackett organised the fabulous 'Pride in the Park' ball. • All at Guildford Odeon whose special showing of 'Born Free' raised £500.

EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR ...

Lisa Partridge & family will hold Born Free stands all over the country including **South of England Show** at Ardingly on 8th, 9th & 10th June; **Hayes Carnival** on 8th July; **Charleton Living Heritage Show** on 27th & 28th Aug; and **Biggin Hill Open Day** on 17th Sept.

Tim Hanney and the Bath Supporter Group are running Born Free stands at **Leighton Mendip County Fair** on 15th July, and the **Nunney Street Market, Froom** on 5th August (call 01373 834490 to find out more).

If you'd like to hold a Born Free event or would like our magnificent new fundraising pack, call Lorna on 01403 240170.

Born Free Ball

20th October, London
Tickets £100 each

Don't miss out on this fabulous night, there will be good food, great entertainment including a fantastic auction, plus lots of Born Free's celebrity friends and more. Tickets will sell out fast! **Call 01403 240170**

for more information.



TAKING OFF

The new in-flight coin collection and scratch card promotion with brilliant Britannia continues to be hugely successful. This season's appeal, directed towards our polar bear project, is really taking off!

Britannia have extended the promotion to their Nordic operator in Sweden and Norway and their sub-charter operator Transair out of Belfast. If you're off on holiday on a Britannia flight look out for our fabulous video starring Martin Clunes and Neil Morrissey.



BORN FREE COTTAGE

Enjoy a holiday on the magical Isle of Skye, home to golden eagles, otters, seals, whales and dolphins. Call 01403 240170 for more details.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH BORN FREE

All these companies donate to support the work of Born Free:

- See **Discover the World's** insert to find out about amazing wildlife and wilderness holidays.

- **Dudhwa Travel** offers wildlife tours to Dudhwa and other popular Indian destinations. Check out <http://come.to/india-dudhwa>

- Visit Satpura, India, and support tiger conservation. Call **LifeForce** 01608 676375.

- **Silk Road Travellers Club** (SRTC) has created a Conservation Scholarship with Born Free. The Scholarship will fund local wildlife student lamze Khuttsishvili at Oxford University's WildCRU department. Georgia is home to jackals, bears, hyenas, jungle cats and wolves.



Join an exclusive SRTC trip to Georgia, to areas of wildlife and cultural interest, including the snowy Caucasus mountains and the lunar-like deserts of Kakheti province. 11th-19th August 2000, £750 per person. Call 01491 410510.

- **Southern Africa Travel** offers great prices for trips to South Africa to visit our big cats in Shamwari and meet Born Free's rep Tim Parratt. In September our own Tricia Holford will lead a special Born Free trip. For details call Tricia on 01403 240170.

- Like to canoe around OrcaLab in Canada? Or cycle around Sri Lanka? We'll keep you informed about adventure opportunities with **Kuoni Travel** next year.

- **World Direct Travel** can arrange any travel details. Contact them via www.bornfree.org.uk.

WILDLIFE MAGAZINES

We are delighted to link with a prestigious wildlife magazine... *Africa: Environment & Wildlife*. A best seller in South Africa, this high quality periodical is gaining a loyal readership worldwide and provides a unique insight to Africa's wildlife. See the enclosed leaflet for subscription details and look out for Born Free features.

team work

Born Free is so appreciative of our wonderful team of volunteers, what a gorgeous bunch, we couldn't do it without you! Thanks to: Sue, Peter, Jean, Tony, Brenda, Dawn, Jackie, Charlotte, Margaret, Frances, Hugh, Mary, Maureen, Angela, Neal, Mandy, Tracy, Selina, Marian, Lydia, Annie, Christine, Christine, Pam, Mike, Vicky, Jane, Joanna, Becky, Alan, Mark and Prue. Warm thanks as well to our fabulous suppliers including NPL Printers, Kilnwood Graphics, Restock, Taurus Photolab, Replica, Pierpoint Print, Horsham Press, Focus Do-It-All Horsham, Maria Collins & ANC, Travel Options.

CALL OUR
HOTLINE
01403 240170

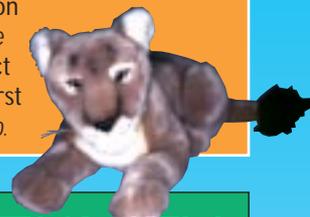
Help Born Free help wildlife today

At the core of Born Free lies the individual; the individual animals we help and the individual people making a difference. Working together we can change things for the better. Join our team, or if you're already a member, why don't you adopt an animal?

It's so easy to help. You can:

- 1 Join Born Free as a member (£20)
- 2 Adopt a Born Free animal (£20)
- 3 Recruit a friend to join or adopt (£20) and 'Win an Elsa'!

WIN!! Everyone who recruits a friend can enter our 'Win an Elsa' competition. We have 10 Elsa the lioness cuddly toys to give away. Just answer the following question correctly: 'True or False? Elsa was returned to the wild by George and Joy Adamson'. All correct answers will be entered into a draw and the first 10 drawn will win an Elsa. *Deadline Aug 15th 2000.*



1 Join Born Free £20

Support all our work to protect wildlife.

Membership Pack:

- Three issues of award-winning magazine, *Wildlife Times*
- Born Free window sticker
- Metal Elsa badge
- Personal membership card
- Member's welcome-pack

2 Adopt an Animal £20

Get extra close to your favourite animal

- ROQUE THE TIGER CUB

The orphan cub was rescued by Born Free from a Spanish pet shop. Help fund Roque's daily food and care at the Big Cat Sanctuary in Kent.

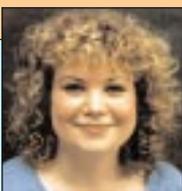
- THE EBs ELEPHANT FAMILY

The EBs were first made famous by BBC's 'Echo & the Elephants' series. Help fund the family's protection against ivory poachers in Kenya.



Adoption pack:

- Full colour framed photograph of YOUR adopted animal
- Personalised certificate
- Regular update news about YOUR adopted animal
- Adopter's welcome-pack
- Born Free window sticker



Hi! I'm Jo King, Born Free's new membership co-ordinator. Give me a call on 01403 240170 if you'd like more info.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Two new limited edition prints signed by wildlife artist Clive Meredith.



Matriarch - Elephant
£52 + £5 P&P
Size: 43.8 x 34.6cm

Following the promotion of Clive Meredith's work at Gallery 238, Dorking (see page 27), we are offering these two superb prints. From a limited print run of 595 we have 30 signed and numbered prints of each design for sale to Born Free members. All proceeds go directly to Born Free.



Please call our credit card HOTLINE 01403 240170 (allow 28 days for delivery)

Cool Contentment - Tiger
£47 + £5 P&P
Size: 30.6 x 43cm

Yes! I would like to help Born Free help wildlife

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

MY DETAILS Name Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Daytime Tel _____

RECRUIT'S DETAILS Name Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Daytime Tel _____

- I want to join Born Free as a member (£20)
 - I want to adopt a Born Free animal (£20)
 - I want to recruit someone
 - to join Born Free as a member' (£20)
 - to adopt a Born Free animal' (£20) _____ (please insert name of animal)
- I now qualify to enter the 'Win an Elsa' competition.**
The answer is TRUE / FALSE (delete as appropriate)

Here is my donation to support Born Free

- I enclose a total payment of £ _____
 - I enclose a cheque/PO made out to 'Born Free Foundation.'
 - I want to pay by Credit Card/Switch Card
- Card No: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____
Exp. Date: ____ / ____ Issue No: _____ (Switch only)

(Packs available without donation for £3.50 inc p&p)

Please return completed form to: Born Free, FREEPOST RCC 1862, Horsham RH13 5BR (no stamp required)