

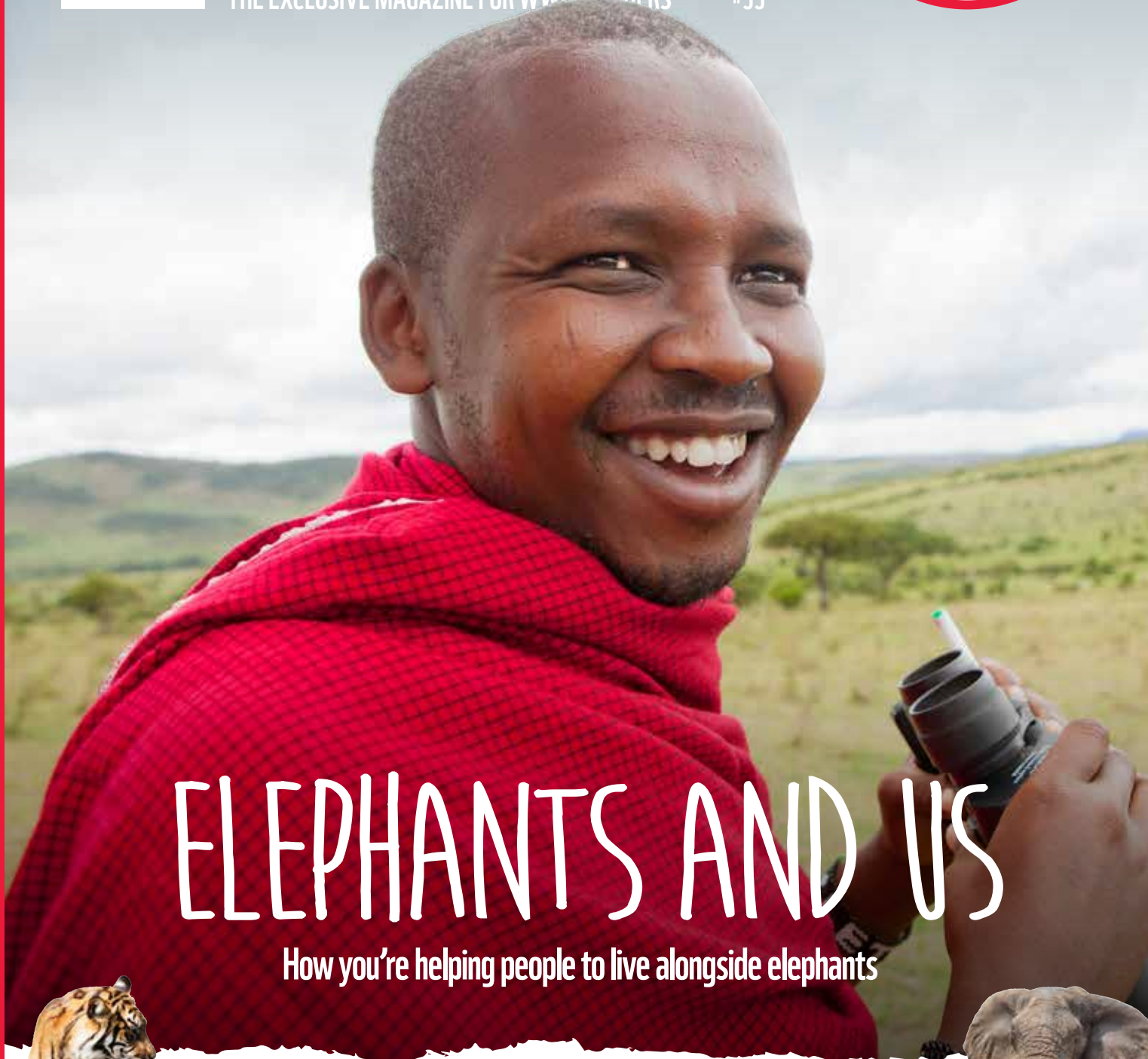


WWF
MAGAZINE
SUMMER
2016

Action

THE EXCLUSIVE MAGAZINE FOR WWF MEMBERS #33

WIN!
A PAIR OF LIMITED EDITION
**LILY COLE
TRAINERS**
See page 30



ELEPHANTS AND US

How you're helping people to live alongside elephants



GOOD NEWS FOR TIGERS

How you've helped tiger numbers to rise for the first time in conservation history

BE A HERO FOR OUR PLANET

10 simple things you can do to live more healthily and sustainably – and help protect our planet

CONSERVATION HEROES

Meet the incredible men and women working on the front line to keep precious wildlife safe





“WE MUST TAKE CARE OF THESE LAST GREAT SPECIES FOR HUMANITY. OTHERWISE, WE’LL JUST BE TELLING STORIES TO OUR GREAT-GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN ABOUT WHAT WE ONCE HAD AND LOST”

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

OUR CONSERVATION HEROES

They leave their families for months on end and live in the most basic conditions. They trek for days through humid rainforests and sub-zero temperatures to check camera traps and track elusive species. They face many challenges and lethal poachers almost every day. These are our conservation heroes – and this issue is all about them.

The incredibly committed rangers and other field staff we support devote their lives to protecting our most cherished wild spaces and species, such as tigers, rhinos, elephants and gorillas. These brave men and women working at the forefront of conservation are the first line of defence. But they couldn't do this vital work without your continued support. Read how you're helping these conservation heroes in our special feature on page 12, and see what else you can do: wwf.org.uk/heroes

Harrison loves his job as head rhino ranger in Kenya's Nairobi National Park. But even when he's relaxing back at base camp, he always has one ear open to the sounds of the bush – and potential trouble

© GREG ARMFIELD / WWF-UK

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MEET THIS ISSUE'S CONTRIBUTORS

Three small portraits with names and titles: Harrison Kamande (Head rhino ranger), David Leto (Maasai and elephant ambassador), and Aimée Leslie (global cetacean and marine turtle manager).

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COVER: DAVID LETO © GREG ARMFIELD / WWF-UK; TIGER © ISTOCK; ELEPHANT © ISTOCK



JOIN OUR READER PANEL

Thank you to everyone who's already signed up to become an 'Action adviser' – welcome to the team! We can't wait to hear your thoughts about Action. There's still time to join our advisers and give us feedback on this issue. It'll only take you five minutes. Find out more and register at wwf.org.uk/actionadvisers

Together, we did it!

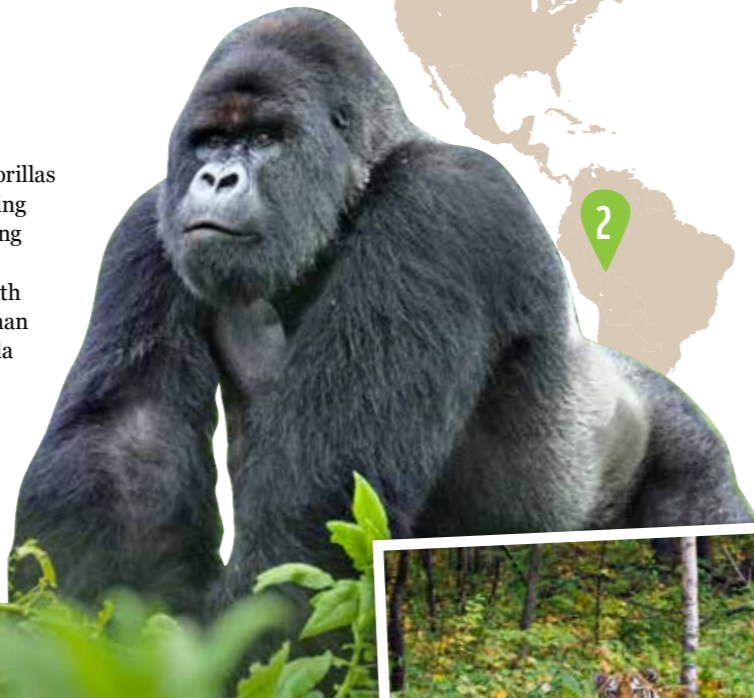
Thanks to your membership, we continue to protect wildlife and wild places. Here are some of the great things supporters like you have helped to achieve

1 DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

You helped give communities water

Thanks to you, we've reduced the threats to mountain gorillas living in Virunga National Park by providing neighbouring communities with fresh water. For these people, accessing water is difficult, so many of them travel into the park to collect it. Their presence in the forest poses a major health risk to gorillas, as the apes are highly susceptible to human diseases. And it increases the chance of damage to gorilla habitat. To address the issue, the International Gorilla Conservation Programme (IGCP), a joint initiative of WWF and Fauna and Flora International, has helped to build rainwater harvesting tanks in local villages. This reduces the need for people to venture into the forest and so benefits the gorillas and local communities.

WATCH THIS VIDEO to see how IGCP is helping communities: wwf.org.uk/gorillawater



GORILLA © ANDY ROUSE / WWF

2 BRAZIL

You helped increase vital fish numbers

Thanks to your support for Sky Rainforest Rescue, we've helped local communities in Acre, Brazil, to develop a sustainable management plan for the giant arapaima. The arapaima is the Amazon's largest – and most valuable – freshwater fish, but numbers have been dwindling in the wild due to poor management and illegal fishing. With funds raised by Sky Rainforest Rescue, we've helped local families who depend on fishing for their livelihoods to take responsibility for managing the fish's numbers. We've also supported radio tagging of arapaima to understand how they move between lakes, as well as anti-poaching efforts. As a result, the fish harvest in one county has increased by 49% since 2014, providing fishing families with a valuable and sustainable income.

FIND OUT MORE wwf.org.uk/arapaima



ARAPAIMA © ISTOCK

3 RUSSIA

You helped secure habitat for Amur tigers

Last November, more than 11,600 sq km of beautiful forest were protected in the Far East of Russia. Bikin National Park was created in Primorsky Province to preserve the stunning forests that line the Bikin river basin, an area often referred to as the 'Russian Amazon'. They represent the largest area of intact mixed forest in the northern hemisphere, and are home to around 10% of the Amur tiger population. The park's creation is partly the result of long-standing efforts by WWF. You've supported our work in Russia to secure key tiger habitats and help increase populations. Our colleagues in Russia have been working tirelessly with government, indigenous communities and other partners to establish a network of protected areas for Amur tigers, with Land of the Leopard National Park designated in 2012, and now Bikin.



MARK CARWARDINE / NATUREPL.COM

"The survival of our planet's most threatened species depends on the hard-working, passionate and dedicated frontline staff protecting wildlife around the world"

Becci May, WWF's specialist on tigers and Asian species



£180,000

The magnificent total amount raised by Size of Wales and supporters like you over the past three years

256,819

The hectares of Kenyan coastal forest we're helping to secure for wildlife and locals

4 KENYA

You helped protect Kenya's coastal forests

Thanks to you, we're helping to secure unique coastal forests in Kenya for local people and wildlife, including plants and animals found nowhere else. Over the past three years, your support has been doubled by match funding from Size of Wales to help protect these forests from threats such as illegal logging, agricultural expansion, poorly planned development and unsustainable use of forest products. With your help, local communities have been able to adopt more sustainable livelihoods, and strengthen their voice in decisions about the management of natural resources.

FIND OUT MORE wwf.org.uk/sizeofwales



BRENT STIRTON / WWF-UK



Our work helps rare bitterns, which need clean, clear water with an abundance of small fish, set within a sheltering fringe of reedbeds

6 UK

You helped us fight for clean water

Thanks to you, we've taken a major step forward for England's most protected rivers and wetlands. Some of our iconic species, including kingfishers, salmon and bitterns, are suffering because of pollution from farming. Soil carrying nutrients and pesticides is washed into rivers, harming protected wildlife and impacting on local people who rely on these waterways for recreation and tourism. The UK government is required by law to take all the necessary steps to ensure these sites are in good health, yet it is failing to do so. We joined forces with the Angling Trust and Fish Legal to challenge Defra and the Environment Agency to better protect our rivers and wetlands. Our legal victory last November means the government must now consider using regulatory measures alongside voluntary actions by farmers to ensure these precious places are properly protected and restored for people and wildlife.

DID YOU KNOW?
Only 17% of England's rivers are in good health

5 NEPAL

You helped keep rhinos safe

With your support, we helped collar four of the eight rare one-horned rhinos in Nepal's Khata corridor. Between November 2014 and January 2016, three females and one male were fitted with satellite-GPS collars in the community-managed corridor (an area of habitat that allows wildlife to migrate) that links Nepal's Bardia National Park with India's Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary. We'll use the data gathered via the collars to inform our anti-poaching efforts and reveal how the animals use the corridor so that the habitat can be managed and protected more effectively.

WATCH THE VIDEO wwf.org.uk/trackingrhinos



RHINO © ISTOCK

SAVING THE IBERIAN LYNX

An intensive conservation campaign we've supported has brought the Iberian lynx back from the brink of extinction. But we still need to do more to secure its future

The Iberian lynx is one of the world's most endangered felines. In 2002, there were just 52 mature individuals in two populations left in the world, both in south-west Spain.

Amid real fears of extinction, we've been working hard with our partners to increase the number of Iberian lynx by securing proper protection and by supporting captive breeding programmes. We're helping to conserve their habitat and pressing for further action to grow populations of their main prey – rabbits. As a result of our joint efforts, a 2015 survey counted 404 lynx in the species' strongholds in Andalucía.

This individual, photographed on a private estate in the region by Laurent Geslin, is known to biologists as Rapace. She was born in captivity and released into the wild about seven years ago. She successfully raised kittens in 2014, but didn't have a new litter last year. Laurent set up remote cameras on the borders of Rapace's territory and, when she came to mark her patch, their intriguing smell caught her attention. As she peered curiously into the lens, Laurent pressed the shutter from a hide nearby.

Though the Iberian lynx's prospects have improved, it isn't in the clear yet. Habitat loss, declining numbers of its rabbit prey and high mortality caused by road accidents still threaten its recovery. That's why we're working hard to restore and protect Doñana National Park – a World Heritage site and one of the species' strongholds.

Find out more about Doñana on page 8 and join our campaign: wwf.org.uk/sharedheritage



WWF IN ACTION

Our recent challenges and triumphs for wildlife and the environment

The Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System World Heritage site consists of seven individual areas spread over more than 380km of coastline, and covering more than 96,000 hectares

CAMPAIGN

Saving Belize's endangered reef, together

OVER HALF of all natural World Heritage sites are threatened by harmful activities. So we're working to protect these extraordinary places

Natural World Heritage sites are places of outstanding value, listed by UNESCO. And they belong to all of us. They are home to thousands of precious plants and animals, and provide jobs, food, fresh water and protection for millions of people.

But they are coming under increasing threat from harmful industrial activities such as

mining, oil and gas drilling, and the construction of large-scale infrastructure.

The Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System is one site facing multiple threats. Its waters are alive with wildlife, from manatees and marine turtles to 500 species of fish and 100 different corals. More than half of the country's population – about 190,000 people – rely on this fragile ecosystem for their livelihoods and wellbeing.

Yet the reef is threatened by offshore oil exploration and coastal development. So far,

50 sq km of mangroves have been lost. And 40% of the coral reef has been damaged since 1998. An oil spill in the country's offshore waters would be catastrophic.

World Heritage sites are supposed to be protected, yet too often governments and businesses try to exploit them for short-term gains. Today, no fewer than 114 out of 197 natural World Heritage sites are under threat.

We think these special places are too valuable to risk – and we can all help to protect them, for wildlife and for the people

who rely on them. Let's start by showing the prime minister of Belize that we care about saving the reef and its wildlife, and supporting local livelihoods.

Together, we can stand up for this shared heritage and help save the reef.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Help us protect the Belize barrier reef by sending the Belize prime minister a message: wwf.org.uk/belize
- Find out more and join our ongoing campaign: wwf.org.uk/sharedheritage

It's estimated that reef-related tourism accounts for 20% of employment in Belize



SAVING OUR SHARED HERITAGE

We're fighting to protect three key sites from imminent threats

Belize's reef at risk

This beautiful and rich marine ecosystem is home to at least 1,400 species, of which 17 are threatened with extinction. And it supports the livelihoods of 190,000 Belizeans. It was added to the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2009 due to threats from offshore oil drilling and damaging coastal construction.

Spain's premier wetland threatened

Millions of birds stop at Doñana National Park as they migrate between northern Europe and Africa. The area is also home to imperial eagles and Iberian lynx. But there are concerns because a nearby mine, which caused an environmental disaster in 1998, is being reopened. And harmful dredging could be allowed in the river that helps keep the ecosystem healthy.

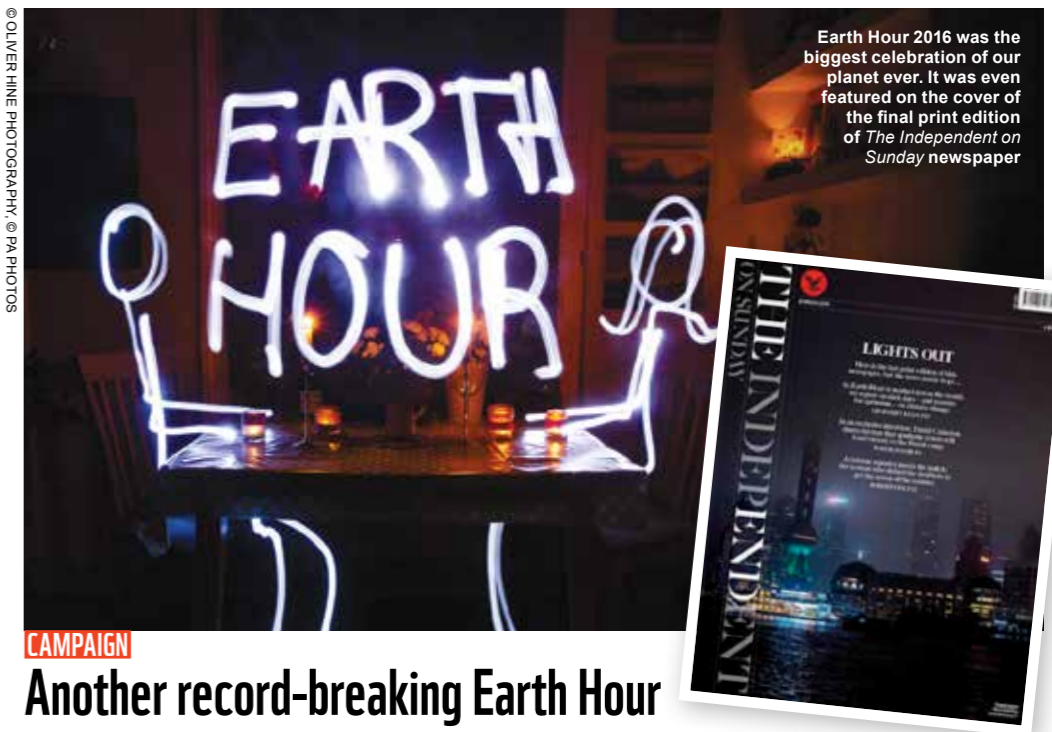
Tanzania's wilderness in danger

The elephants and rhinos of Selous are under siege. The Selous World Heritage site is facing severe threats from mining, oil and gas concessions, roads, dams and industrial-scale poaching. Damage to the reserve and its wildlife from mining activities has led to a decline in tourism, followed by job losses.

We think these precious places are too valuable to risk. Look out for updates in a future issue.

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CAMPAIGN

Another record-breaking Earth Hour

On Saturday 19 March we celebrated our biggest-ever Earth Hour, with a record-breaking 178 countries and territories switching off their lights to show they care about the future of our brilliant planet

From the Hong Kong skyline to Dubai's Burj Khalifa, and the Eiffel Tower to Sydney Opera House, more than 400 iconic buildings and landmarks around the world joined millions of people in turning off their lights for our planet.

Many of the UK's key landmarks also went dark for the hour, including Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace, Brighton Pier, Old Trafford, the Kelpies and Wales Millennium Centre.

We loved hearing your stories from the night: a street party in Somerset, a fancy-dress bike ride in London, and stargazing walks organised by the Forestry Commission; these

are just some of the fantastic ways you got involved and helped raise money for WWF.

Our celebrity supporters helped spread the word on social media, with messages from tennis pro Andy Murray, footballer Aaron Ramsey and other UEFA players. The world-famous composer Ludovico Einaudi also dedicated a song to Earth Hour during his concert at Nottingham's Royal Concert Hall.

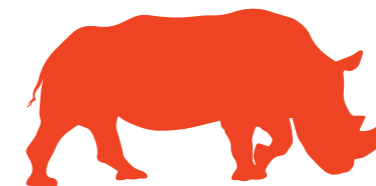
However you celebrated Earth Hour, we can't thank you enough for your incredible support and for helping to make this year's event such a huge success.

SEE OUR EARTH HOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Check out our Earth Hour highlights from around the world and find out how you can make a difference, not just for an hour, but every day: wwf.org.uk/earthhour

NEWS IN NUMBERS

4



In May, Nepal marked two years since its last rhino was poached – and its fourth year of zero poaching of rhinos since 2011. This is the first time the country has achieved two consecutive years of zero poaching. It's helped increase Nepal's population of greater one-horned rhinos to 645, the highest number so far.

8

There are now eight breeding finless porpoises in the He-wang-miao/Ji-cheng-yuan oxbow reserve in China, following our second successful translocation. Two males and two females were moved to boost the genetic viability of the population previously introduced to the reserve.



The global decline may have been halted but there is still much work to do to protect tigers. South-east Asia, in particular, is at imminent risk of losing its tigers if action is not taken immediately

CONSERVATION

Wild tiger numbers increase for the first time in history

Wild tiger numbers have increased globally for the first time in tiger conservation history. Thanks to your support for our Tx2 initiative, the estimated global population of wild tigers is now close to 3,900

This updated figure, compiled from IUCN data and the latest national tiger surveys, exceeds the estimate made in 2010 of 'as few as 3,200'. This progress can be attributed to factors including increases in tiger

numbers in India, Russia, Nepal and Bhutan, improved surveys and enhanced protection.

"For the first time in decades, tigers are on the increase," said Marco Lambertini, director general of WWF International. "This gives us great hope and shows that we can save species when governments, communities and conservationists work together."

The announcement preceded a major tiger conservation meeting in April, the latest step in the Global Tiger Initiative

process that began with the 2010 Tiger Summit in Russia. Governments at that meeting agreed to the Tx2 goal to double wild tiger numbers by 2022.

But there's still lots of work to do and a strong action plan for the next six years is vital. So we're working to prioritise efforts to restore tiger habitats, tackle wildlife trafficking and eradicate poaching.

i FIND OUT MORE

Explore the future for tigers in your next issue of *Action*.



© WWF-KENYA

ACTION INTERVIEW

BEN FOGLE

Ben has been filming our work in the Maasai Mara as part of his new series *The Great Migration* on Channel 5. We asked him a few questions...

What was the most memorable moment filming the series?

I was amazed by the great river crossings when well over a million animals swim the Mara river. It's breathtaking to watch them all leaping into the water. But sadly, we did find an elephant that had been poached, a brutal reminder of the wildlife war that rages across east Africa.

What most interested you about our work during filming?

WWF-Kenya has done a lot of work with local communities to protect wildlife and their habitats. I visited a project working to create wildlife corridors that bypass community lands, thus reducing the risk of conflict with elephants.

You're a WWF ambassador. What aspect of our work are you most passionate about?

Filming *The Great Migration* gave me a unique insight into the challenges facing conservation. Our growing population means that human-wildlife conflict is inevitable, so WWF's work to reduce conflict is vital.

Why is protecting the Mara so important?

The Maasai Mara is home to some of the most extraordinary animals on the planet. But the region is under ever-increasing pressure - from poachers, human encroachment, corruption and climate change. Without WWF, the wildlife wouldn't stand a chance.

Find out more about our work with elephants in the Mara on page 22.



On Valentine's Day, Jeremy Irons and Emily starred in a moving film about the importance of nature

CAMPAIGN

You showed your love for the planet

ON VALENTINE'S DAY people everywhere joined us to show their love for our incredible planet

The beautiful short film called *I Wish for You* tells the story of a grandfather sharing his love of nature with his granddaughter.

With a moving script by *War Horse* author Michael Morpurgo, the story was poignantly brought to life by British stars Jeremy Irons, Maxine Peake and eight-year-old Emily. To date, it has been viewed more than five million times, serving as a reminder for all of us to show the love for our world and take action to protect every precious thing we could

lose to climate change.

Meanwhile, thousands of people, places and businesses across the UK turned green over Valentine's weekend to show just how much they want action to prevent climate change. British astronaut Tim Peake tweeted his love for the planet all the way from the International Space Station. Back on Earth, famous names like Jessie J, Thandie Newton and Emma Thompson donned specially-designed green hearts in support, and even our iconic panda logo wore a little green heart.

In London, the BT Tower was lit up with a display of green hearts while businesses, sports

clubs and communities shared their pledges to move to clean energy. People everywhere sported hearts they'd crocheted, felted, knitted and sewed. In all, our #ShowTheLove message reached 50 million people.



The number of people reached by the Valentine's Day #ShowTheLove campaign

SHOW THE LOVE

Watch and share the film www.org.uk/showthelove

NEWS IN BRIEF

SHOP WITH PANDA STYLE

We always knew you had award-winning taste! The WWF credit card, which features a snow leopard image chosen by you, has been highly commended by the Card and Payments Awards. The card, which is issued by MBNA, raises significant funds for us each year, supporting our vital work around the world.

RARE LEOPARD ON CAMERA

Rare images have been caught on camera traps of a northern Chinese leopard using a wildlife corridor in the Qinling Mountains of China. We've been working with local partners for the past 10 years to conserve and restore this area of natural habitat for pandas and, in doing so, we're helping other animal populations to recover. Watch the video: www.org.uk/chineseleopard



DOLPHIN'S DECLINE SLOWS

The decline of the critically endangered Mekong River Irrawaddy dolphin has been slowed, according to a recent survey. The census by WWF and the Cambodian government found the dolphin population had fallen to 80 in 2015, indicating that its decline has slowed from about 7% a year in 2007 to less than 2% in 2015. This is due to years of work to protect its habitat and remove illegal gill nets, a cause of mortality.

RESEARCH

Watch an incredible Adélie penguin-cam video

FOOTAGE TAKEN by tiny cameras mounted on the backs of Adélie penguins has revealed a penguin's view of life under the Antarctic ice.

The footage was captured by scientists who mounted mini video cameras on Adélies before they went out to sea to feed. The cameras didn't interfere with the penguins' natural behaviour and were recovered when they returned to land.

Filmed as part of a wider scientific study supported by our penguin adopters, the footage provides vital information about the birds' foraging strategies and interaction with their prey. It helps us to build an accurate

picture of the penguins' movements and behaviour, and detect any changes over time such as alterations in feeding strategies.

With this vital knowledge, we can better protect the penguins' habitat and manage fisheries, as well as build a long-term picture of how climate change is affecting them.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Watch the footage at www.org.uk/penguincam and adopt a penguin www.org.uk/penguinadopt



© ISTOCK

PICTURE STORY

Seeing double: new gorilla twins

WE'RE CELEBRATING the addition of a rare set of twins to the critically endangered western lowland gorilla population in the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Areas complex in the Central African Republic. The infants were spotted clinging to their mother, Malui, in January. Their father Makumba, the resident silverback, was standing protectively nearby.

For 16 years, WWF's African great apes programme has been working to conserve and habituate these gorillas to humans for tourism and research. The birth of the first twins recorded here is a great sign of hope for the species and testimony to the commitment of those working in Dzanga Sangha. Multiple sets of twins have been recorded for eastern gorillas but appear to be a rare occurrence for western gorillas.



The exact number of western lowland gorillas is not known because they inhabit some of the most dense and remote rainforests in Africa

© WWF / GUANMISHAN NATURE RESERVE



MEET OUR CONSERVATION HEROES

Around the world, incredible people work tirelessly in tough conditions to protect some of our most threatened species. Rhinos, mountain gorillas and Amur tigers all depend on them. And they depend on you. Find out how you're helping our conservation heroes

Twenty-four hours can mean many things in the lives of our field teams. It might be tracking poachers through the snow or clearing illegal fishing nets from a lake. It might be teaching a local community how to count birds or visiting a rural school to explain why wildlife needs protection.

Whatever the task, it's these men and women – rangers, guards, wardens, scouts, field staff, whatever we call them – who stand on the front line of conservation. It's thanks to their efforts and your continued support that some of the world's most threatened animals are still with us.

These conservation heroes come from many

different backgrounds. Some are from the very communities in which they now work; others have brought their expertise from around the world to apply their skills and experience where they're most needed.

They must contend with long hours, tough conditions, basic equipment and sometimes potentially dangerous wildlife and people. Fortunately, what they all share is passion and a dedication to saving wildlife.

We know you share their commitment. You already do so much to support our conservation heroes, but there's more still to be done and they need our help...

"I know all the rhinos in Nairobi National Park park by sight," says Harrison. "Each one has identification marks for monitoring, but we also give them names. We account for each and every rhino every single day."



© MARK CARWARDINE / WWF

Kenya is home to 678 black rhinos, the largest population in east Africa

15 A KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE RHINO RANGER OF HARRISON'S RANK MUST TRAIN FOR UP TO 15 MONTHS BEFORE THEY'RE DEPLOYED IN THE FIELD



HARRISON KAMANDE
HEAD RHINO RANGER,
Nairobi National Park, Kenya

"Anything can happen at night," says Harrison Kamande, head rhino ranger for Kenya Wildlife Service in Nairobi National Park. He pauses at the nearby hiccupping whinny of a zebra. "You don't just sleep," he continues. "You sleep with one ear open."

Harrison and his team have a serious challenge on their hands. Rhinos are under siege across Africa. Armed poachers are

targeting their horns, which are sought in illegal markets in Asia as symbols of wealth or to supposedly improve health. In the park, security is tricky due to the sprawling city on its doorstep that offers refuge to poachers.

"It needs dedication, passion and professionalism," confirms Harrison, reflecting on his team's success. A coffee pot bubbles on an open fire as he runs through his day. "I start my monitoring duties at 6.30am," he explains. "I make sure that all rhino territories are covered and that all the other rangers submit their records." Nothing is left to chance. "We account for each and every rhino every single day."

Not that the rhinos offer any thanks. Harrison recalls an incident on Christmas Eve 2012, when an individual called Lankeu – WWF's adopted rhino whom he'd known

from birth – took exception to a new vet and charged at the group without warning. In the nick of time, Harrison scrambled up a thorny acacia tree to safety.

Fortunately, the experience didn't deter him from his crucial mission. "A rhino means life to me," Harrison explains. He's proud not only of his ranger team, but also of the number of park visitors – and he looks forward to the day when his two young children can see the rhinos for themselves. "We must take care of these last great species for humanity," he insists. "Otherwise, we'll just be telling stories to our great-great-grandchildren about what we once had and lost."

It's time for the evening shift. Harrison drains his coffee and starts lacing his boots. "Rhinos need help from each and every one of us," he says. "I always do my best for them."

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A RHINO RANGER



MORNING
Harrison is out on patrol by 06.30. He notes signs of activity from the night before, checks up on the rhinos in his sector and compiles reports from other rangers. Each rhino must be accounted for every day.



AFTERNOON
After a brief lunch – if time allows – Harrison returns to the field. Late afternoon is when most rhinos emerge to feed. The team spots them from security watchtowers, which give an elevated view over the park.



AFTER HOURS
Back in camp, Harrison and his team relax at the dartboard or improvised gym. After dinner, there are management reports to be written. Then it's an early night – but sleep is not guaranteed. "We go to bed on standby."

© GREG ARMFIELD / WWF-UK

GHANA S GURUNG
SENIOR CONSERVATION DIRECTOR, WWF-Nepal



© ANGPURJI SHERPA / WWF-NEPAL

"It made me angry," explains Ghana S Gurung, as he describes how snow leopards used to attack his grandfather's goats, sheep and yaks. "Sometimes they would kill seven, eight or even 10 in one go."

Having grown up in the mountains of Nepal, Ghana understands the realities of conservation for a poor, rural community. "When you're a herder, you don't know how endangered the snow leopard is," he explains. "It's a threat to your livelihood and you don't want it around. That's it."

Today, as senior conservation director of WWF-Nepal, this experience leaves Ghana

uniquely placed to work with the community. Conflict with people – and the retaliatory killings that follow – has contributed to a 20% decline in snow leopards across Asia's high mountains over the past 20 years. Today, no more than 4,000 survive.

It was at Lincoln University, New Zealand, that Ghana learned how conservation could only succeed with the local community on board. Back home, he launched an innovative insurance scheme for villagers, in which they receive compensation for livestock losses, and helped them to develop alternative livelihood options, including tourism.

Ghana's team has also been teaching local people more about snow leopards and training them to monitor the big cats and their prey. "When you understand the animal and know how endangered it is," he explains, "you feel an immediate empathy for it."

Now it seems this work is paying off. When Ghana joined WWF in 1998, there were no snow leopard sightings around the Kangchenjunga region. Fourteen years later,



© WWF-NEPAL

Ghana spots snow leopard tracks in the snow, identifiable thanks to the three distinct lobes to the heelpad

a survey identified 23 individuals. And there have been no retaliatory killings for eight years.

Ghana has not forgotten his childhood passion. "Having felt it myself, I know the root cause of it," he explains. But now he can channel it into conservation, and that's good news for cats and community alike.

The snow leopard has a long, thick tail that can be a metre long. It's used for balance when moving and extra warmth when resting, wrapped snugly around the cat's face and body



© REINHARD / ARCO / WWF



© BRENT STIRTON / WWF

ZHANG SHENGYUAN

RESERVE MANAGER, Lake Hong, China

"I remember it like yesterday," says Shengyuan Zhang, poling slowly through the lotus lilies as a flock of Baikal teal wings overhead. "Eight of us had loaded our shotguns. And just as we were about to fire, director Lu stepped forward with his policemen and arrested me."

Today Zhang is manager of Lake Hong Wetland Reserve in China's Hubei Province. He recalls that dark episode in 2003 with a wry smile. After all, had it not been for his arrest he would never have become a ranger. In prison he learned why Lake Hong was protected and, after his release, he returned here to find work. "It seems my misfortune turned into a blessing."

Zhang's family fished Lake Hong for generations. But as traditional fishing gave way to unsustainable exploitation, the fish began to disappear. Zhang turned to illegal bird hunting, but then the birds began to disappear too.

In 2002 we started restoration work here, with the support of HSBC, local governments and communities. Soon the water quality improved and the wildlife came back. Now, 14 years on, the fishermen are using sustainable practices and working around a closed season, when no one is allowed to fish, to enable stocks to increase.

"I monitor the birdlife, and watch the lake day and night for illegal fishing and hunting," Zhang explains. He describes the uncanny affinity he has with even the shyest birds. "I can get as close as 10m to cranes because I communicate with them daily," he says. "They are happy to see me."

Zhang's success has earned him invitations to act as an environmental protection ambassador. He's spoken on TV in Shanghai and, in 2008, was chosen as an Olympic torchbearer. "I became a hero in my own heart," he smiles. And while this watery wilderness may seem a lonely place to some, to Zhang it's home. "I have the lake and the lotus flowers," he enthuses, leaning on his pole. "And the more birds I see, the happier I feel."



PAVEL FOMENKO

WWF'S SPECIES PROGRAMME COORDINATOR,
Amur Heilong, Russia



"That's the track of a male tiger," says Pavel, bending to measure the massive pawprint with a piece of grass. Snow falls as he adjusts the rifle strap on his shoulder. "He passed

by here three or four days ago."

Pavel Fomenko, 'Pasha' to his friends, leads the species programmes for WWF-Russia's Amur branch. He's known nationwide for his efforts to protect Amur tigers and was recently awarded the Golden Medal of the Russian Geographical Society. Pavel was once a hunter himself, and knows the forest inside out. That's why, in 1994, WWF invited him to join the team.

The Amur tiger is the world's largest cat. Before Pavel started work, numbers had crashed due to poaching for its skin, meat and bones to feed the illegal wildlife trade.

Thanks to the efforts of heroes like Pavel, the Amur tiger has made a spectacular comeback, with up to 540 (including about 100 cubs) living in the wild in Russia. But the situation is still critical. "The life of each and every tiger is precious," he points out, holding up a tiger skin confiscated from poachers.

Today, he oversees a complex system of protection, in collaboration with state authorities: tracking poachers using stakeouts and road blocks, developing links with hunting lodges, and setting up camera traps to monitor the big cats' movements.

A TOUGH LIFE

Life is tough in these northern forests. Pavel recalls nights around the fire when winter temperatures fell as low as -40°C. "Sometimes we used to sleep with our dogs on our chests to keep out the cold," he explains. "They saved us from freezing to death."

It can be dangerous too: armed poachers have tried to run Pavel over. But his team's achievements have been impressive: thousands of poachers arrested, prey species returning and tiger numbers rising. The results of Russia's latest full-range survey already look promising.

"The tiger is one of the emblems of Russia," Pavel explains. "For it to survive, the other animals must survive too. That's why we work so hard to maintain the balance of nature." There's no doubt he's the right man for the job.

"THE TIGER IS ONE OF THE EMBLEMS OF RUSSIA. FOR IT TO SURVIVE, THE OTHER ANIMALS MUST SURVIVE TOO. THAT'S WHY WE WORK SO HARD TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF NATURE"

© EMMANUEL RONDEAU / YURY SMIT'YUK / WWF

ANNA BEHM MASOZERA
DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL GORILLA
CONSERVATION PROGRAMME, Rwanda



“It was good to see everyone again, and to put our arms around each other,” recalls Anna Behm Masozera, director of the International Gorilla Conservation Programme (IGCP). She’s reflecting on the end to the violence that, until recently, had threatened her field office team in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). “Looking into the eyes of colleagues and friends, and seeing how they managed to sustain themselves through the conflict has affected me deeply, both personally and professionally.”

With stability increasingly returning to the region, Anna and her team are now forging ahead in their mission to protect the world’s only two populations of mountain gorillas. These critically endangered apes inhabit Uganda’s Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and the Virunga mountains, which straddle the borders of Rwanda, Uganda and the DRC. “Conflict has long been part of the conservation story here,” Anna explains. “But Virunga will not be deterred. We will not be deterred.”

Anna, originally from the US, became director of IGCP in 2013. Today her team works closely with people in all three mountain gorilla range countries to conserve the animals, their habitats and the communities around them. And they’ve made outstanding progress: Anna explains how improved cross-border management and sustainable ecotourism have helped increase the gorilla population to an estimated 880 individuals, while also improving life for local people.

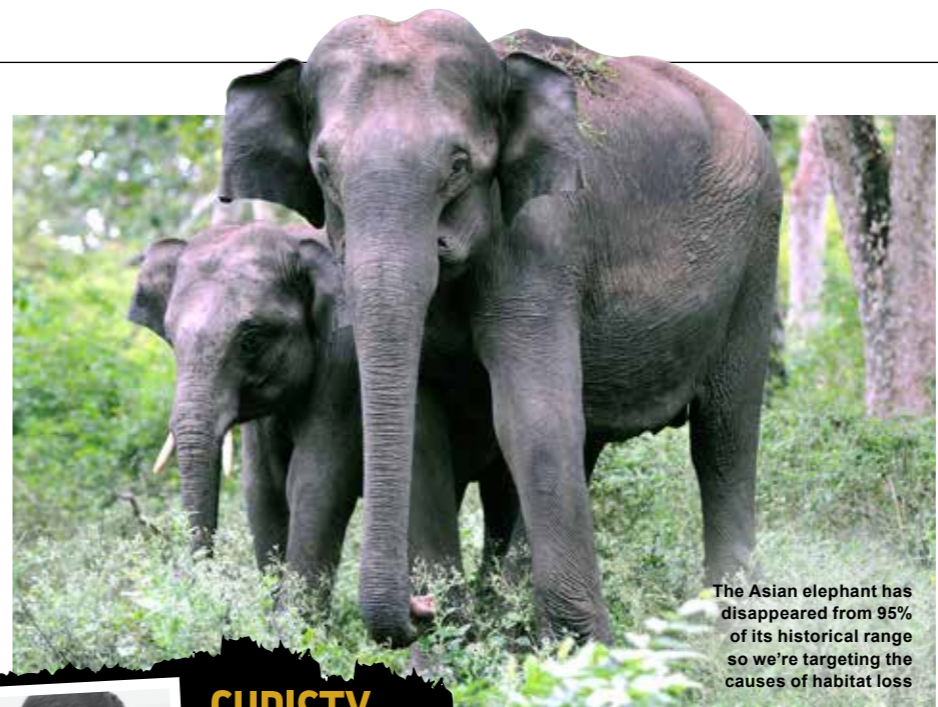
Autumn 2015 saw another significant step in securing the future of this remarkable

1991

THE YEAR WWF CO-FOUNDED IGCP WITH FAUNA AND FLORA INTERNATIONAL, THE AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF RWANDA, UGANDA AND DRC

region and its wildlife, when all three states signed the Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration treaty: a new joint commitment towards the conservation of the Greater Virunga Landscape.

Anna talks of the very special moments she has shared with gorillas. But she explains that her inspiration comes as much from her fellow human beings as the great apes. “The success of our programme is a testament to the people who get up and go to work for conservation,” she insists. “I am honoured and humbled to work with them.”



The Asian elephant has disappeared from 95% of its historical range so we’re targeting the causes of habitat loss



CHRISTY WILLIAMS
ASIAN ELEPHANT EXPERT
AND COUNTRY DIRECTOR,
WWF-Myanmar

“When I go into an elephant forest, the excitement takes over,” says Christy Williams. He’s describing one of his early encounters with wild elephants, when he found himself scrambling into the branches of a ficus tree and looking down on a mother and calf right below him. It was a moment that changed his life: “When I climbed down from that tree, I knew I had to work in elephant conservation.”

For many years, Christy led WWF’s Asian elephant programme and travelled across Asia, from India to Indonesia, fitting satellite collars to elephants in order to understand more about their movements. The data his team collected persuaded governments, such as Malaysia, to set aside more protected areas for elephants. Our elephant adopters can enjoy regular reports from Christy about Kiruba and her herd in India’s Corbett National Park.

The biggest challenge in conserving elephants in the ever-crowded landscapes of northern India is resolving conflict with local communities. As their forest habitat is lost or fragmented, elephants are more likely to look elsewhere for food, often raiding crops that border the forest. Sadly, many elephants are also struck by trains on the busy railway lines that increasingly pass through their territories.

Christy’s team have worked tirelessly to address these problems and raise awareness. They’re working with governments to find solutions such as building underpasses so that elephants can move beneath roads, and they’re experimenting with innovative warning systems that alert train drivers when elephants are on the tracks.

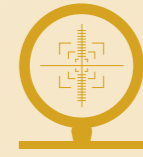
Christy firmly believes that conflict between people and elephants can be reduced, and that elephants are often misunderstood. “I think it’s possible to find a way for people and elephants to live together,” he insists. “Elephants are very smart, so if they realise that you mean no harm, they will learn to avoid you and not to be aggressive. I think we need to change the narrative.”

ALL IN A DAY’S WORK

WWF’s Tigers Alive Initiative set up the Ranger Federation of Asia to improve working conditions for field staff, and we recently conducted a survey with rangers in 11 tiger countries to find out how they feel about their work. Here’s a snapshot of their daily lives, trials and triumphs:



24/7
Asian rangers and frontline staff put their lives on the line every day protecting wildlife



63%
of them have faced a life-threatening situation



45%
spend less than five days a month with their families



74%
feel they need more equipment to carry out essential fieldwork

We’ve already made great strides in understanding how to make these rangers’ lives easier, but we need to do more. Similar surveys are underway across Africa and South America to improve life for frontline staff everywhere.



The mountain gorillas in Virunga National Park have been studied for more than 40 years, and monitored since the 1970s, making them one of the most studied great ape populations

£ SUPPORT OUR HEROES

Your membership helps our frontline teams to carry out their vital work every day. Thanks to your support, we can make sure they have the tools and training to do their jobs safely and successfully. To us and all our field staff, you’re already a hero. But if you’d like to give an extra gift to make their difficult jobs a bit easier, here’s how you could help:

£20 pays for food for one ranger on a five-day anti-poaching patrol

£50 pays for one pair of binoculars for a community ranger monitoring snow leopards

£180 pays for GPS equipment for rangers patrolling in the field

£350 pays for a bush tent for rangers to use for overnight stays in the field

Please donate to show you care and help our rangers: wwf.org.uk/heroes

Maasai Mara elephant officer **David Leto** is a conservation hero. He's overcome personal tragedy to devote his life to protecting elephants and helping people live in harmony with them

The African elephant is the world's biggest land animal. Mother elephants keep their calves close when on migration to find food and water. They teach the youngsters the best routes and how to survive on the move

GOOD NEIGHBOURS



Elephants have been part of my life for as long as I can remember. I saw my first elephant before I saw my first car. We used to hurry home from school before the elephants

came out of the forest, to make sure we didn't get in their way.

My people, the Maasai, have lived alongside elephants for generations and have a powerful relationship with them. The Maasai name for elephant means 'magnificent'. They are our neighbours and, while we respect them, we're not afraid of them. We treat them as our closest relatives.

But I've seen this relationship changing. In this region of Africa, the human population has grown rapidly. The economic development here has brought changes to our traditional lifestyles. Roads and villages, fences and fields have sprung up across the Mara – the wide savannah where elephants once roamed and my people grazed their cattle. And this has caused elephants and people to come into closer contact. There have been some devastating consequences.

TRAGEDY STRIKES

Since 2000, about 70 people have been killed or injured by elephants in Kenya's Maasai Mara. And each incident reminds me of what happened to my father.

One morning, my father had left early and I was looking after the livestock when I heard crying. Some men from the village came up to me and said: "We're sorry. Your father's been knocked down and killed by an elephant."

I was sad and angry. And I felt a huge sense of responsibility: I was my father's oldest son, so I was now the head of the family.



"MY PEOPLE, THE MAASAI, HAVE LIVED ALONGSIDE ELEPHANTS FOR GENERATIONS"

Elephants need a lot of space to find food and water – they can roam areas larger than 30,000 sq km

© ANUP SHAH / WWF

But after this terrible blow, my life took a more positive turn. I was offered a bursary to pay for my education. The money came from a community trust generated by funds from ecotourism and other conservation initiatives.

My mother had never attended a single class in her life, but she insisted I should go to university to study conservation. It was a turning point, and led me to become an elephant ambassador with WWF-Kenya.

Despite what happened, I see elephants as innocent creatures. And they really need someone to speak up for them. It's estimated that about 30,000 African elephants are killed for their ivory every year. The Maasai traditionally don't kill wild animals, but attitudes are changing as more newcomers arrive in this region. Poaching is an ever-present threat, but the main problem in this part of Kenya is conflict between elephants and communities.

My country has the fourth-largest population of elephants in Africa – around 25,000 of them. The Maasai Mara ecosystem – which joins up with the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania – provides a haven for wildlife and has a healthy and growing elephant population.

LONG-DISTANCE TRAVELLERS

But elephants travel long distances in their search for food and water, and they make no distinction between protected reserves, community-owned land and private property. As more land is converted to agriculture to feed the growing number of people, the elephants' traditional food sources become increasingly scarce and they are tempted by people's crops – particularly maize, pawpaw and watermelons.

It can be catastrophic for small-scale farmers. One elephant can destroy a family's

annual food supply overnight – and they're rarely able to claim compensation. Sometimes they can't afford to send their children to school afterwards. The community gets angry and considers killing the elephants in retaliation. They use traps, poisoned arrows and spears. Since 2000, at least 50 elephants are reported to have been killed or injured in retaliatory attacks.

It's my job to convince local people that revenge is not the right solution; to convince them that we can coexist. It's important for me to listen to the communities and relate to them. My personal experience and Maasai background help. They see I'm really on their side, dancing with them and sharing stories.

We want to minimise the impact of human-wildlife conflict, both to the community and to the elephants. One solution is raising bees, because most elephants are afraid of them. When an elephant is stung, it runs away fast.

And locals can sell the honey they make to supplement their incomes.

WWF is also encouraging farmers to grow crops that elephants won't eat, such as chillies, which will then yield more income for the community. Local people are gradually buying into the idea.

I'm working to help communities set up and run conservancies, where local landowners pool their land and manage it jointly, in a sustainable way. It helps to extend and connect areas of habitat for elephants and other wildlife, and the community benefits from ecotourism and other sustainable development.

My dream is to see a secure and increasing wild elephant population, along with economic benefits for people. The elephants benefit from the community land, but the community also benefits from the elephants being here.

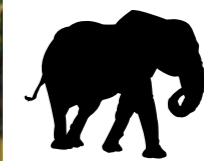


David and the rangers from Oloisukut conservancy collect data on elephant movements between this community-run conservation area and the Maasai Mara reserve

© GREG ARNHFIELD / WWF-UK



Elephants have a range of calls, including 'Let's go' signals to the herd and warnings that bees are around



470,000
There are around 470,000 African elephants in the wild



The African elephant is the world's largest land mammal – with males on average measuring up to 3m high and weighing up to 6 tonnes

HOW YOU'RE HELPING PROTECT THE MARA

The Maasai Mara is an area of outstanding beauty and incredible wildlife. Your membership already helps us tackle the increasing pressures on the region, but you can do even more:

- Watch David Leto talking about his work: wwf.org.uk/davidleto
- Read about Ben Fogle's visit to the Mara (p10).
- You're a hero to our frontline teams as your support helps them to carry out their vital work every day. But if you'd like to make an extra gift, please visit wwf.org.uk/heroos



ELEPHANT © ISTOCK

COLLARING ELEPHANTS

At WWF, we know elephants range across a wide area, and their journeys may bring them into conflict with local communities. But what pathways do they use and how can we help people cope? With your support, we're working with Kenya Wildlife Service, Save the Elephants and the Mara Elephant Project to fit GPS collars to 40 elephants. This will provide us with information about their movements so we can make smarter decisions to protect them – and warn local people of their approach.



1 FIND YOUR ELEPHANT
We look for matriarchs, the older female elephants. They're the leaders, so tracking them will tell us about the herd's behaviour.



2 USE A DART WITH A SEDATIVE
The elephants are darted with a strong sedative in order to fit the GPS collar. Safety gloves are essential!



3 ATTACH THE COLLAR
We also assess the elephant's health and take measurements while it's sedated to understand the herd better.



4 ADMINISTER THE ANTIDOTE
Once the collar is on, the antidote is given and we get out of the way. The elephant is soon back on its feet with no ill effects.



5 MONITOR YOUR ELEPHANT
We use a radio telemetry receiver to track newly-collared elephants inside and outside the Maasai Mara reserve.

© GREG ARNHFIELD / WWF-UK

WHALES AND WARSHIPS

Last autumn, WWF's **Aimée Leslie** took to the waves around the Scottish Hebrides on a whale-watching trip with a difference



In October, I was lucky enough to spend a week cruising around the Hebrides off the west coast of Scotland. During the day, we spotted dolphins, porpoises, seals and seabirds, and at night, the colours of the northern lights danced overhead.

It was a wonderful experience – but it wasn't a holiday. As WWF's whale and dolphin expert, I had joined a research expedition run by the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust (HWDT), and partly funded by WWF supporters, on board the beautiful research vessel *Silurian*.

I was part of a team of six volunteers who were there to monitor the impact on whales and dolphins of a massive military exercise known as Joint Warrior. This involves numerous warships and aircraft training in the air, on the ocean surface and underwater. One concern is the use of sonar – underwater sound pulses that can disturb cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) and have been linked to strandings.

During a Joint Warrior exercise in 2010, the HWDT team observed some alarming

whale behaviour, including two minke whales moving at high speed and regularly leaping clear of the water. This behaviour – known as porpoising – is rarely seen in undisturbed waters far from human activity. At the same time, sonar noise was recorded on their underwater microphone. It's unlikely this was a coincidence.

After that, HWDT worked with the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Navy to introduce measures to reduce interference to marine life caused by military exercises, such as avoiding areas where whales have been spotted. The goal of our expedition was to assess how successful these measures have been and provide insights that can be used to protect other whale and dolphin populations.

An impressive 24 species of cetaceans have



Minke whales are often seen in coastal waters around the Hebrides from April to October

been spotted around the Hebrides, including magnificent minke whales, which migrate to the area in the summer to feed in the rich and productive waters.

Spotting cetaceans is harder than it sounds. All day long, we worked in 30-minute shifts, with two people at the mast, each scouting 90 degrees of ocean for signs of life. Hours can pass without seeing anything, but suddenly there's a shout of "Sighting!" and a buzz of excitement. With each sighting, we noted the species, its location, where it was heading and what it was doing.

MARINE POLLUTION

All the while, we kept a sharp eye out for fishing gear – so we have a better idea of the interactions between marine mammals and fisheries – and litter. Plastic pollution is a real problem, even in these largely unspoilt waters. We even fished out some birthday balloons!

We spotted our first harbour porpoise within a few minutes of leaving Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. Porpoises are smaller than dolphins, the small triangles of their dorsal fins just poking above the surface. Less sociable than dolphins, you tend to see them on their own or in small groups. Over the course of the week we spotted 137 individuals – the most HWDT had seen that year.

We saw an incredible 125 common dolphins, too. They are regular summer visitors, but their numbers seem to be increasing. Although the reasons for this are unclear, one theory relates to climate change, where warming waters mean plankton and prey species are spreading further north.

The dolphins often congregated around the boat in groups of 15 or more, leaping over the waves rippling in our wake. Of course, the idea of a scientific expedition is to disturb the wildlife as little as possible, but you can't help enjoying such a joyous spectacle.

Only one of the team was lucky enough to spot a minke whale, which surfaced briefly behind the boat as if teasing us, then disappeared from view. Sadly, though, we all got to witness a dead minke that had stranded on a beach on the Isle of Skye. The whale looked to be a young, healthy female, but scars around her neck indicated entanglement in fishing gear. Half of all stranded minke whales have similar wounds. We took some samples for further investigation in the lab. It was sad to see, but at least by collecting evidence we can help to reduce the risk of future fatalities.

As for the warships, we spotted them in the distance from time to time, and their sonar signals boomed on our underwater

© KERRY FROUD / HWDT



We spotted 125 common dolphins during our cetacean survey

microphone. As much as we wanted to see whales, it was a relief that we didn't encounter any while the exercises were under way. It seems the sensible whales stayed well away.

The more we know about the numbers and movements of cetaceans in Scottish waters, the better decisions we can make about what goes on here – from managing fisheries and figuring out where to site developments, to identifying when and where military exercises like Joint Warrior would have the least impact. That's why this research trip is so much more than just a wonderful holiday.



DO YOUR BIT
You're already helping to support healthy marine ecosystems around the world, but if you'd like to do even more, why not adopt a Hebridean dolphin and keep up with news from *Silurian* at www.org.uk/dolphinadopt

Large and sturdy, *Silurian* is HWDT's fully equipped research and education vessel. She's a 16m ketch and was used in the filming of the BBC landmark series *The Blue Planet*

NEW PROTECTED AREAS

There's good news for minke whales and other marine wildlife around Scotland, as the Scottish government is planning four new marine protected areas to safeguard some of the most iconic species and habitats. However, simply designating these sites isn't enough, as whales and dolphins travel across large areas to feed and breed.

We've joined forces with many marine conservation organisations to call for the next Scottish government to introduce a fully resourced marine monitoring strategy, to ensure that all the waters around Scotland are in a healthy state. Ongoing monitoring is vital to make sure that the seas are well managed, now and in the future.

There's more good news south of the border, with the government announcing 23 new 'marine conservation zones' in England.

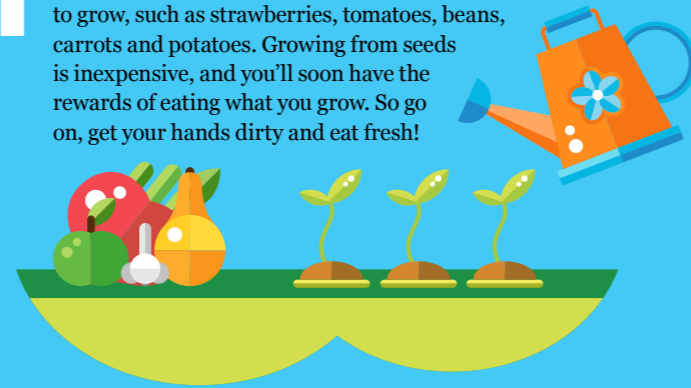
Read our blog to find out how harbour porpoises are benefiting from new protected areas around the UK: www.org.uk/porpoise

10 THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR PLANET

You're already a hero to us, but are you a green hero as well? Follow our top tips to enjoy an even more sustainable lifestyle.

1 GROW YOUR OWN FRUIT AND VEG

Growing fruit and veg is great fun, and something the family can do together. You don't need a lot of space. Start with fruit and veg that are family favourites and easy to grow, such as strawberries, tomatoes, beans, carrots and potatoes. Growing from seeds is inexpensive, and you'll soon have the rewards of eating what you grow. So go on, get your hands dirty and eat fresh!



2 RECYCLE EVEN MORE

The things we consume and the packaging they come in create a huge amount of waste. And even though we're recycling more than ever, we're also creating more rubbish. To improve your impact, buy products that have minimal packaging or are made from recycled materials. Ask your local council what you can recycle, and where. Simply by recycling as much as possible, you can make a real difference.



10 WAYS TO LIVE MORE SUSTAINABLY

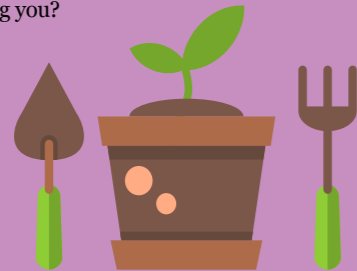
3 WASTE LESS FOOD

Changing the way you eat is something you can do every day to reduce your impact on the environment and improve your health. Start by only buying and cooking the food you need. By thinking ahead and planning your meals and portions carefully, you'll save money and minimise waste. Write a shopping list and check use-by dates, and take this into account when planning the week's meals. Don't throw away leftovers – try to use all the food in your fridge. If you can't use it, compost it.



4 GROW YOUR OWN HERBS

If you have a garden or even just a windowsill, why not try growing your own fresh herbs? Basil, oregano, mint, chives, parsley, sage, rosemary and dill are all great choices. Herbs add lots of flavour to your food, making them a good substitute for salt – and growing them at home can be easy. Start out with seedlings and give them food and a little water every day. Pinch off the tip of the stems to encourage bushy, green lushness. They look and smell great, so what's stopping you?



5 USE YOUR PEDAL POWER

If you want to get fit and help the planet, leave the car at home and cycle instead. There are no nasty exhaust emissions and no need for fuel, toxic batteries or motor oil with this mode of transport. What's more, it takes a lot less energy to manufacture a bicycle than a car, and fewer natural resources such as water.



6 EAT LESS MEAT

Some meat is high in saturated fat and meat production is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, so consuming less of it is good for you and the planet. Try replacing red and white meats with other sources of protein, such as peas, beans and nuts. Introduce 'meat-free Mondays' and make a smaller portion of meat a tasty complement to a meal, rather than the centrepiece. www.wwf.org.uk/eatlessmeat



7 EAT SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD

If you buy salmon, cod or any other fish or seafood, always look for Marine Stewardship Council or Aquaculture Stewardship Council labels. These guarantee your purchase has come from well-managed fisheries or responsible farms. By choosing to eat only sustainable seafood, you can contribute to the health of our oceans, support fisheries that operate sustainably and encourage others to follow suit. www.wwf.org.uk/seafood



8 SAVE ENERGY

Our homes are responsible for 26% of the UK's overall carbon emissions, so by being energy-efficient at home, you can make a big difference. Start by switching off lights, unplugging chargers for mobile phones, and turning electrical appliances off standby when not in use. Insulate your loft and cavity walls, draught-proof your windows and doors, and lower the temperature on your heating by one or two degrees to make big savings. Being energy efficient is good for the planet – and your pocket! www.wwf.org.uk/saveenergy



9 MAKE YOUR GARDEN WILDLIFE FRIENDLY

There are plenty of simple ways to make your garden more welcoming to wildlife. Plant flowers to attract bees and other insects. Fruiting bushes also provide food for birds and mammals in autumn. Leave piles of logs and sticks under bushes and in shady corners, and let your lawn grow longer around the edges to provide shelter for insects. Save rainwater in a butt and use this on your garden.



10 HELP YOUR CHILDREN TO EAT WELL

Show your children the importance of consuming food in a way that's not harmful to our planet. Try designing a healthy dinner plate together using our Livewell guide to create a sustainable diet that's good for you. Include plant-based proteins, carbs and lots of fruit and veg, add small portions of meat, and avoid foods that are high in fat, salt and sugar. Draw an ideal meal with your kids at www.wwf.org.uk/livewellplate



60%

of the world's land surface today is used in agriculture and food production

4 TONNES

The amount of carbon dioxide emitted by the average car every year

1 TONNE

The amount of rubbish a household makes each year

40%

of the food that's planted in the UK is wasted

OVER TO YOU!

We'd love to print your best tips for greener and more healthy living in our next issue, so email us: editor@wwf.org.uk

OVER TO YOU!

We know you've done some really great stuff for us since the last issue of *Action*, so why not tell us about it? These are *your* pages – let's celebrate you!



Something for nothing

When my car broke down and couldn't be fixed, we weren't sure what to do. Then a friend suggested we donate it to the Charity Car recycling scheme. How great that my much-loved car could continue to be of use, even after it stopped working!

WWF made a real impression on me as a child, when I collected stickers for its sticker books, so I've always supported its work to protect endangered species. As we also have young children who love animals, it was the natural choice.

The process was so simple. I filled in a form online and Charity Car arranged to pick up my car, free of charge. I then received an email saying my car had been sold and raised £120 for WWF. It felt great to know that my useless car provided essential funds for a great charity and I would encourage other people to consider doing the same. **Dr Hanne Hoff, Surrey**

INSPIRE US

WILD AT ART

Last winter, my class at Willington Primary School learned about biomes and our effect on the food chain. The children were horrified by the number of species on the endangered list and decided to adopt an animal with WWF. To raise the funds, we held a drawing competition and a sponsored 'wake and shake', where we danced to 14 songs back-to-back!

I thought you might enjoy seeing the winning drawings by Ever (age 10), Gracie (10), Bailey (9) and Maizey (10). Everyone helped to raise a fantastic £246 in just one week and we adopted an Amur leopard named Narva. The cuddly toy leopard we received from WWF now keeps watch over the class from the top of our board.

Mr M. Cooper, Derbyshire

STAR LETTER

We were so thrilled to see these lovely drawings that we're sending Mr Cooper's class two signed Michael Morpurgo books including *War Horse*.

ROYAL REWARD

The star letter of our next issue will win a copy of the official commemorative book for Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday, featuring WWF.

Three more ways you can get involved this summer...

1 GET CLOSER TO OUR WORK
In July, our new tiger experience comes to London. Join us on a forest adventure to learn more about why tigers need our help and protection: wwf.org.uk/tigerexperience



2 PLAY OUR RAFFLE
You could win the top prize of £5,000 in our summer raffle and support our work to protect rare species such as hawksbill turtles.* Closes 15 August. wwf.org.uk/summerraffle



3 JOURNEY TO THE YANGTZE
Experience the sights and sounds of the Yangtze river on the Skybridge at Gatwick Airport thanks to our interactive installation with HSBC. thewaterhub.org/alivingriver



*Players must be 16 or over. The WWF raffle is open to residents of England, Wales and Scotland. Unfortunately no entrants are allowed from Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man.

DO IT FOR THE PANDA!

EARTH HOUR 2016

BritishMonarchy: Lights will be out at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and Holyroodhouse at 8.30pm tomorrow #EarthHour

Tim Peake: Planet Earth is beautiful. Protect it and take part in #EarthHour

REMEMBER US

Enjoy nature, live life, support WWF

When I was young, my dad would take me for nature walks, and as I've grown older I've come to appreciate how precious the natural world is. I've been lucky to travel the globe and visit amazing places such as the Amazon. But I've also seen with my own eyes the heart-breaking damage people are causing, such as tons of plastic rubbish strewn all over a beach in Peru.

WWF is my favourite charity. I love that it works to create harmony between people and endangered species around the world, and supports communities as well as animals. Now I feel I want to give something back, I've decided to remember WWF in my will. We don't have children but I want to ensure that all the beautiful wild places and wonderful animals that have meant so much to me are still around for future generations.

Jill Nalder, London

LEAVE US A GIFT IN YOUR WILL
Around 20% of our voluntary income comes from gifts in wills. Do something amazing and visit wwf.org.uk/gifts



Running in remembrance of Guy

I wanted to run the Royal Parks half marathon as part of Team Panda because WWF was my brother Guy's favourite charity. In 2012, we tragically lost Guy aged just 22 in an accident, and ever since we have adopted three animals a year in his memory. But last year I wanted to do more, so I applied for a place on Team Panda.

The experience was amazing – I felt part of the team from the start. The fundraising pack was great and regular emails really helped. On the morning of the race I was very nervous! But the Team Panda supporters were so loud and encouraging, they gave me a huge boost. I was proud to be a Panda on the day – and afterwards I felt such a sense of achievement. I know my brother would've been proud of me.

Emma Litchfield, Shaftesbury, Dorset

WEAR IT WILD!

Carla Shannon: An endangered group: Arctic fox, giant panda, red panda, giant tortoise and a leopard! #wearitwild

Lucy Hodgson: I'm going to dust off my bird of paradise costume for #wearitwild on 27 May. I'm excited!

Palace & Opera House: #WearItWild for @wwf_uk #passthepanda

Charlotte Bagg: Can't wait for #wearitwild Bring on 27 May!

GOT ANY GRRREAT NEWS? SHARE IT WITH US...

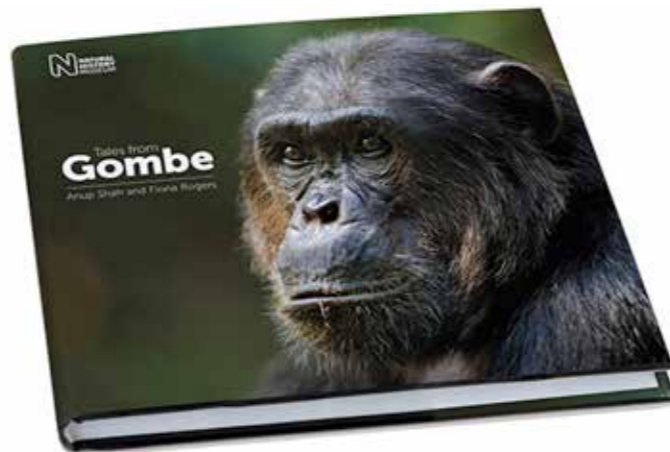
Have you ever seen a tiger in the wild? Email your tiger tales and photos to editor@wwf.org.uk and we might print them in the next issue. Because space is tight, please keep your letters to 150 words. Though we read every one, we cannot acknowledge them and must reserve the right to edit them for publication.



WIN A PAIR OF TRAINERS

We've got 10 pairs of limited edition Veja trainers, designed by Lily Cole, to give away

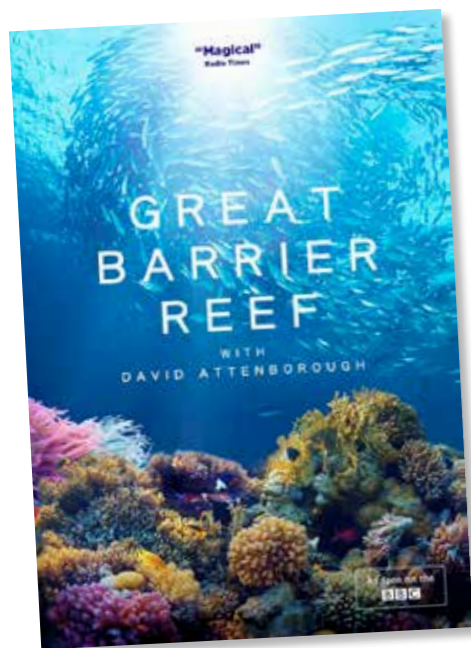
Actress and environmentalist Lily Cole has created a range of colourful canvas trainers with French ecological shoe brand Veja. The soles are made from Amazonian wild rubber, sourced by rubber tappers in Acre, north-west Brazil. Lily visited the area as part of her role as ambassador for Sky Rainforest Rescue, our six-year partnership with Sky. Thanks to you, the partnership raised over £9.5m, including £4m match funding from Sky, and has helped keep one billion trees standing in Brazil. To be in with a chance of winning a pair of these unique trainers, just follow the instructions (below), mark your entry 'Trainer Comp' and include your preferred UK shoe size (subject to availability).



WIN A COPY OF TALES FROM GOMBE

We've got three copies of this stunning book by Anup Shah and Fiona Rogers to give away

Experience life with the chimpanzees of Tanzania's Gombe National Park – one of the most studied wild animal communities in the world – through the camera lenses of Anup Shah and Fiona Rogers. The photographers have spent much of the past decade at Gombe, exploring the complexities of chimp life. *Tales from Gombe* is a sumptuous collection of their intimate images and incredible insights, and is sure to delight ape-lovers everywhere. We have three copies to give away. Just follow the instructions (below) and mark your entry 'Chimp Comp'.



WIN A GREAT BARRIER REEF DVD

We've got five DVDs of this award-winning series up for grabs

Take the plunge and dive into the crystal clear waters of the Great Barrier Reef with this incredible BBC DVD. Let David Attenborough be your guide to the rich reef life and explore the 2,300km expanse of living coral using pioneering camera technology. See one of the most important biodiversity hotspots on the planet in a whole new way, and learn about all the latest research in this UNESCO natural World Heritage site. We have five DVDs to give away. Simply follow the instructions (right) and mark your entry 'Reef Comp'.

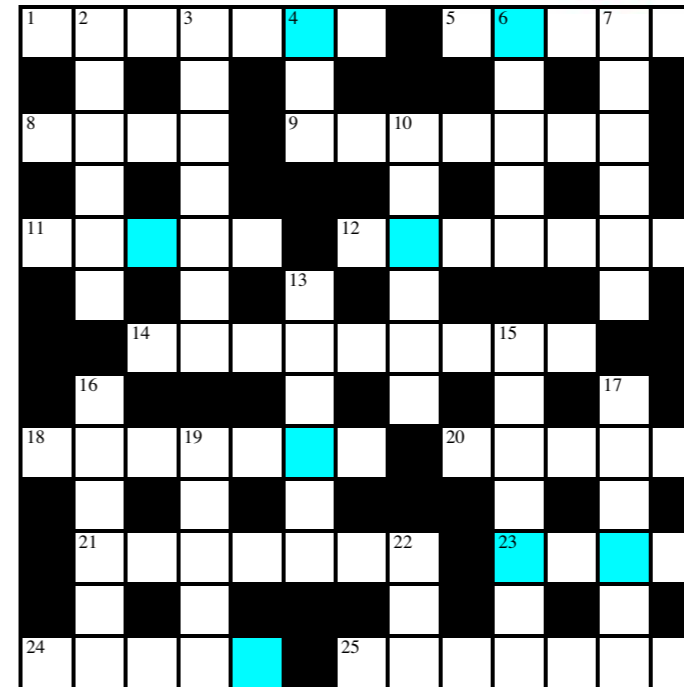
HOW TO ENTER ACTION MAGAZINE GIVEAWAYS

To enter, please send your name, address and phone number on a postcard clearly addressed to the competition you wish to enter – e.g. Trainer Comp, Chimp Comp, etc – to *Action Mag*, WWF-UK, Living Planet Centre, Rufford House, Brewery Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 4LL.

Only one competition per entry please. Or send an email with your chosen competition in the subject line to competition@wwf.org.uk. The closing date for the competitions is: 18 July 2016.

CROSSWORD

Test your wildlife knowledge and you could win one of two WWF gardening sets, worth £11.95, from our shop



WWF Action Crossword 33: summer 2016 issue. Compiled by Aleric Linden

After solving the crossword, take each letter from the shaded squares (from left to right and top to bottom) to spell out the prize word. To be in with a chance to win, just send a postcard with the prize word to the address on page 30 or email it to competition@wwf.org.uk. The closing date is 18 July 2016

Clues across

- 1 Travel industry sector bringing vital income to the locals, though sometimes at the expense of the environment (7)
- 5 The Maasai Mara is home to hundreds of species of them, such as hornbills (5)
- 8 _ and Ears, a WWF initiative against the illegal wildlife trade (4)
- 9 Pine leaves (7)
- 11 Striped participant in the famous migration into the Mara every year (5)
- 12 Endangered species of dolphin native to New Zealand (7)
- 14 The annual Great Migration into the Maasai Mara begins in this Tanzania park (9)
- 18 Oil transporters (7)
- 20 Woodland _ , UK conservation charity (5)
- 21 Golden _ tree-kangaroo, a rare species (7)
- 23 Middle East country – home to the critically endangered Asiatic cheetah (4)
- 24 A spotless description of green energy (5)
- 25 Petrol-electric vehicles such as the Toyota Prius (7)

Clues down

- 2 The Earth's atmosphere contains about 21% of this element (6)
- 3 Nature site – the Maasai Mara is a national one (7)
- 4 Closest star to Earth – basis of all things solar (3)
- 6 A fjord is an example of one (5)
- 7 The Atacama or Gobi (6)
- 10 Wind and geothermal power provide renewable forms of which precious resource? (6)
- 13 Common fuel for internal combustion engines (6)
- 15 Philippine _ , one of the world's smallest primates with distinctively large eyes (7)
- 16 The blue whale is the world's largest one (6)
- 17 Sumatra or Madagascar, for example (6)
- 19 The Maasai Mara is located in which country? (5)
- 22 _ season, annual period of little rainfall (3)

SPRING 2016 ANSWERS: Across 6. Indian 8. Corals 10. Sun bear 11. Lease 12. Nets 14. Andreas 17. Harbour 18. Fish 20. Solar 21. African 23. Ionian 24. Circle Down 1. Linsang 2. Panel 3. Boilers 4. Kalahari 5. Isle 7. Den 9. Orangutan 13. Trawling 15. Iberian 16. Channel 19. Fruit 20. Skip 22. CFC

An unexpected rescue mission



Seeing a giraffe in the wild is a truly beautiful thing. They move with such grace and poise – it's as if the world is turning at a slower pace for them. But that doesn't mean they never put a foot wrong...

I was with a film crew photographing our conservation work with elephants in Kenya's Maasai Mara when we came across a distressing sight. A young giraffe, only a few weeks old, was well and truly stuck in a hole in the ditch by the side of the road.

Soil erosion is a big problem in the Mara and heavy rains turn unpaved roads into mud baths. This inexperienced giraffe was probably out on a nocturnal excursion with its mother when it slipped into the mucky trap and was unable to climb out.

Now, the poor creature was covered in mud, all alone and looking very sorry for itself. If this wasn't bad enough, one of its ears had been chewed off. Looking around, we quickly spotted the culprit – a feral dog that was waiting expectantly nearby.

Though we considered all our options, including allowing nature to take its course, we knew, deep-down, that we couldn't just leave the giraffe to its unpleasant fate. We had to get it away from the hungry dog. It was just a question of how...

GIRAFFE WRESTLING

There's no easy way to lift a giraffe, even a baby one. We just had to grab whatever part of it we could reach, and push and pull until the poor animal was out of the hole. I was grateful I had the assistance of four strong men! Eventually we managed to lift the giraffe up and out of the ditch and onto firm ground.

It was only now that I realised how fragile and frightened the young giraffe was. Clearly exhausted, it trembled on long, gangly legs. We stood back, giving it space. Eventually, it tottered forward, slowly gaining confidence. Free at last, it high-stepped into the bush, presumably in search of its mother.

Would it survive? Who knows. But at least we'd given it a fighting chance – for me, that was the best we could hope for.

Greg Armfield

Greg Armfield, senior producer, WWF-UK

YOU'RE OUR HERO

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU ALREADY DO
TO SUPPORT OUR FRONTLINE STAFF IN THE FIELD

If you want to do a bit more to help, please visit
www.wwf.org.uk/heroes

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IN YOUR NEXT ISSUE
THE FUTURE FOR TIGERS + SNOW LEOPARDS + GREAT SUCCESSSES



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

www.wwf.org.uk



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