CARE for WILD

• RHINO SANCTUARY NPC •

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2022



SAVE RHINOS, TO SAVE PEOPLE, TO SAVE TOMORROW



MESSAGE FROM CFW FOUNDER & CEO, PETRONEL NIEUWOUDT

Good day from a very cold Care for Wild! Suddenly it is dark when we get out of bed to feed the precious babies. I want to personally thank the caregivers and the anti-poaching members for giving up their warm beds and going out of their way to make sure the animals are taken care of. True dedication.

What also warms my heart and brings much joy is the wonderful jerseys and blankets coming from people all over the world. They are beautiful and homely. They make children feel loved, they are the hug that they seldom receive. I wish you could all be here to experience this first-hand. Thank you so much from all the children, humans and animals.





DAISY UPDATE

Daisy will be 7 months old on the 9th July! Since leaving the Intensive Care Unit she has spent the last few weeks adjusting to her new surroundings and routine in the bigger bomas. Too many changes too quickly can cause overstimulation and stress for a calf who is as sensitive as Daisy. Each night pen is fitted with a camera that streams live and directly to the caregivers allowing them to continue to monitor Daisy and Modjadji at night.



Rhino conservation is a long-term commitment but for every rhino that arrives at Care for Wild, our vision for them remains the same. A thorough rehabilitation that ensures successful rewilding and release back into their natural ecosystems. This month Daisy was introduced to Aquazi and Shiloh for the first time as it is paramount that she begins to mix with other rhinos. Both Aquazi and Shiloh were unbelievably gentle. As expected, Daisy was very unsure of them at first but they remained still and calm as she slowly worked up the courage to approach. Daisy will start spending longer periods of time with Shiloh and Aquazi but for now, she is making small steps in the right direction.







Photo credit: Kyle Rohlfing

BLIZZY & PEBBLE UPDATE

At just under 5 months old, Blizzy and Pebble are well into their 'toddler' phase. Exploring the world with innocent curiosity, seeing how far they can push their boundaries with their parents, and learning the hard way not to chase the wildebeest! The rest of the crash are now used to having two babies galloping around and Rhino Monitors have reported that the other rhinos seem to entertain the youngsters by gently sparring with them and allowing them to 'win'. The calves are also learning hierarchy and to respect the space of their father and dominant bull, Storm. At night, when temperatures drop close to zero degrees celsius, Rhino Monitors report Blizzy and Pebble are sleeping in the middle of the crash, warm and cosy in the centre of the group. It's an absolute blessing and a privilege to watch these two rhinos grow up in their natural ecosystem with their mothers.





NEW RECRUITS FOR MOUNTED UNIT

THANK YOU INVESTEC

A new intake of rangers have embarked on a three-month intensive training course in preparation to join our elite Mounted Unit. Delivered by Australian expert horseman James Coleman and funded by Investec, this in-depth and highly specialised course covers:

Horse handling, riding, maintenance, stable duties, feeding in stables and on patrols, type of equipment, equipment maintenance, dismounted tactics, mounted tactics, day operations, night operations, Prisoner Of War (POW) handling, fitness, strength, balance, endurance, physical and mental resilience, operate in numbers from 2 man patrols to 2 section strength, long-range patrols, scouting patrols, mapping patrols, reconnaissance patrols, attacking patrols, ability to take orders from ranking troopers, self-discipline, section discipline, communication to ranking troopers, dismounted drill, mounted drill

The recruits have a tough 3 months ahead of them, but successful completion of the course will earn them a place in Care for Wild's Mounted Unit.





ABOUT JAMES COLEMAN



James was born in Australia and raised on a family-owned sheep and cattle property. Before he could walk properly he was riding a horse! From the age of 10, he started breaking in horses before leaving home at age 16 to work with horses on cattle camps in Queensland. By the age of 19, he was the manager of a sheep and cattle property on the New South Wales / Queensland border. James competed in all three rodeo rough riding events including bull riding, saddle bronc riding and bareback riding and was awarded the title of all-round cowboy.

At the age of 21, James joined the Australian Light Horse Unit, the infantry of the Australian army. He began operating overseas and as a contractor. He became unit Captain for recon-recovery and went on to do further operations in Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, the Middle East and Africa. James has many years of experience in rescue recon, resupply, remote area first aid, remote area wildlands fire fighting, antipoaching, contract mustering, horse breaking camps, coast watch, border patrol and horsemanship clinics.

We are very grateful to James for sharing his knowledge and experience with the Mounted Unit.







Photo credit: Charly Savely

OFFICIAL TRAINING BEGINS FOR COOPER & RUBEN

The Care for Wild K9 Unit is a formidable force multiplier. Trained in tracking, detection and apprehension, they are an incredible asset in the ongoing security and protection of the rhinos. Last year Care for Wild welcomed a new recruit to the K9 Unit in the form of a 4-month-old Belgian Malinois puppy. Cooper spent the first few months in basic training which involved exposing him to all of the sights, smells and sounds that are part of Care for Wild.

Towards the end of last year, Cooper was introduced to his new handler, Ruben. Earlier this year Cooper and Ruben started their formal training together and embarked on the first two levels of the Genesis K9 Training Group Course. The first unit covers a basic equipment overview, kennel cleaning and maintenance, basic obedience, basic health checks, prevention and control of internal and external parasites, transport and safety of service dogs, and an overview and application of working dog breeds.

The second unit includes how to handle a trained service dog to deter crime, assess areas of duty to inform decision making and plan duties accordingly. Basic bite training. Assessment of areas to be patrolled, assessment of environmental factors, basic attack and defence, legal protocols, development of patrol plans and patrolling techniques.

Reuben and Cooper have returned to Care for Wild to put their newest skill sets into practice and will continue to advance through the different units.

THANK YOU
INVESTEC FOR SPONSORING THIS TRAININGCOURSE







WINTER JUST GOT WARMER!

During the winter months, temperatures drop to well below freezing in the surrounding communities. Despite the warm days, nights are bitterly cold. Essential clothing items are hard to find. Thanks to the amazing volunteers and supporters of Warriors for Africa's Wildlife, Care for Wild was able to distribute hats, scarves and jerseys to the children of our local community.

Every item is always so greatly appreciated. Visits to the community are always filled with smiles and songs. The children's faces light up when they are handed these items that hold so much love.

THANK YOU

WARRIORS FOR AFRICA'S WILDLIFE















Save Rhinos

to save people, to save tomorrow

What a welcome; I was tired after my 18-hour journey, but Summer wanted to say hello and play. Summer was a 4-month-old rhino orphan. She came bounding towards me, all feet, like an overgrown pre-historic puppy, butting me with her tiny stump of a horn.

This was the start of my two months stay working as a volunteer, for the second time, at Care for Wild Rhino Sanctuary in South Africa. Summer had been rescued weeks before my arrival. Her story, not unique to the team, she was found next to her murdered mother who had been slaughtered for her horn.

How does a retired Police Sergeant become involved with rhino conservation? I have always had a fascination with wildlife conservation and knew that I wanted to work in this field when I retired from 'The Job.' I had seen a documentary about rhino poaching and I knew I had to get involved. Trying to analyse it now, it is the injustice, criminality and brutality of this evil trade that resonated with the police officer in me. Within weeks of retiring, my family, husband Mark, children Molly and Will packed our rucksacks and set off for South Africa to Care for Wild. This initial trip was life changing, and two months later I arranged to go back and so my journey within rhino conservation began. This journey has included rhino rehabilitation, anti-poaching patrols on horseback and monitoring rhinos on reserves. One afternoon, sat with Summer, I wondered how I could continue to help at home. 'The Job' taught me not to be afraid of public speaking. I spoke with the founder of Care for Wild, an inspirational woman called Petronel Nieuwoudt (who so happens to be ex-police officer) and suggested I could raise awareness by giving talks on the rhino poaching crisis. She agreed. I now deliver presentations in schools, colleges and Universities. The latter part of 2018, I even blagged an hour slot on local radio. I am now Care for Wild's UK Ambassador.

Care for Wild's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release into protected areas orphan and injured rhino, victims of the poaching crisis endemic in South Africa. I am not able to disclose how many rhinos or the location of Care for Wild, to protect both the rhinos and the team who dedicate their lives saving and protecting these animals. This is a huge responsibility; rhino poaching levels continue to escalate to unprecedented levels. Founded by Petronel in 2012, an ex- Captain in the Endangered Species Protection Unit of the South African Police, she had seen numbers of rhino poaching incidents. Enough was enough, Petronel had to do more.

By the time of my first visit working as a volunteer, Care for Wild had become the world lead in rapid rescue and rehabilitation of rhino. Each orphan had their own tragic story. Each calf arrives traumatised and compromised. There is Wynter who had been attacked by hyena as she would not leave her dead mother's carcass and was being eaten alive. She has no ears. There is Fern, the miracle baby who survived 5 weeks alone, attacked and injured by lions, she still bears the scars. Then there is little Arthur the Brave. He was about 4 weeks old when his mother was killed. He suffered severe injuries to his back and legs, hit by the poachers' machetes as he either tried to protect his mother or just simply got in the way. My girl Summer was to become integral in Arthur's rehabilitation, taking him under her wing, they remain inseparable to this day.

Rhino poaching is not a new problem, slaughtered for their horns for use in traditional Asian medicines. A fake belief that it will cure anything from a fever, a hangover, or a complimentary treatment for cancer. In 2008, during the financial crisis, criminal syndicates re-directed their illegal activities and rhinos became their target. Rhino poaching year on year increased at alarming levels. By 2016, the height of this crisis (pre-COVID pandemic) at least three rhino per day were killed to feed the ever-increasing demand. Rhino horn is the most expensive product on the black market, fetching around £60,000 per kilo, more than any controlled drug such as cocaine. More rhinos are being killed than are being born, the rarer they become, the increase in horn price. Affluent people from China and Vietnam wish to show off their wealth. Rhino horn is the go-to product to proves one's status.

Conservationists in 2021 estimate that Kruger National Park had lost 70% of its rhinos in 10 years. This is extinction in our lifetime unless the root causes of rhino poaching are not tackled by the international community. There is widespread corruption from those who are supposed to be working on the ground protecting rhino, in the criminal justice system and those in governmental departments. Bribing someone to look the other way is easy as the financial rewards from this evil trade are astronomical. What makes this even sadder, rhinos are dying for a myth.

Rhino horn is simply made from keratin, a protein that makes up our fingernails and hair. It has the same medicinal properties as eating your own toenails!

There are strategies to save rhinos and until the COVID pandemic these seemed to work, the tide was slowly turning. These include increased anti-poaching patrols, decreasing the value of the horn by injecting a dye into the horn and the most popular, de-horning. De-horning is what it says on the tin. The rhino is sedated, and the horn is removed by a chainsaw. All rhino at Care for Wild are de-horned for their own safety and during 2019 I was able to take part in one of these operations. The horns are taken off site and destroyed.

The COVID pandemic has resulted in another upsurge in poaching. Factors include the belief rhino horn is a cure, the lack of tourism on the reserves and national parks leads to less funds for conservation. People losing their jobs within the tourism industry leading to poverty. People take risks and get sucked into poaching. For one 36 hour period in December, 23 rhinos were killed for their horns. Care for Wild are inundated with rhino calves. The youngest Daisy found at only 12-hours old, still with her umbilical cord attached, her mum one of December's casualties.

So how can we help here in the UK?

Raise awareness of this tragedy. Ask your local MP what they are doing to tackle the international illegal wildlife trade. Follow Care for Wild, they really need your support right now. Saving rhino is both physically and mentally challenging but financially too. Donations will be gratefully received. You can support an individual's rhino rehabilitation or provide financial support to the anti-poaching units. Any amount helps. Care for Wild's anti-poaching team consists of rangers, all employed from local communities, supported by both dogs and a mounted unit. This team are the fine green line between the rhino and the poachers.

If we cannot save the iconic rhino, that has walked this planet for fifty million years, then what can we save? We must never give up.

I am available for those who wish to know more and will be heading back later this year.

Follow Care for Wild on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for regular updates on what is happening on the reserve and with the rhinos.

Care for Wild website
https://careforwild.co.za for details on how to donate.

Just giving page https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/CareForWildUK

Care for Wild's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release into protected areas orphan and injured rhino, victims of the poaching crisis endemic in South Africa.





CARE FOR WILD UK

Care for Wild's UK ambassador, Amanda Smith has been busy spreading awareness throughout England! Amanda first experienced Care for Wild as a volunteer and has taken her love for rhinos and her passion for conservation home.

First photo: an article from the national police magazine (readership of 93,000).

Second photo: a lesson given by Amanda to students at Mount Pleasant Junior school in Southampton. These children are also organising an event for World Rhino Day in September!

Third photo: Amanda gave a presentation to pupils from Park Community School.

Thank you Amanda for your continual passion and enthusiasm. We appreciate your dedication.

THE SHIRE LONDON GOLF CLUB

THE GROVE



ABOUT CARE FOR WILD

The Care *for* Wild Rhino Sanctuary is located in the greater Barberton Nature Reserve which incorporates Mountainlands Game Reserve, situated in the beautiful heartland of Mpumalanga, South Africa. The Sanctuary was founded by Petronel Nieuwoudt, with the goal of providing care and rehabilitation to a wide range of animals. Due to the drastic increase in the numbers of rhino poaching incidents within South Africa, and an ensuing large number of orphaned rhinos, the need for a specialised sanctuary which would rehabilitate and eventually release back into the wild became necessary. Care *for* Wild Rhino Sanctuary works directly with local communities in creating sustainable solutions that provide training, educational opportunities and ultimately jobs. This leads to members of the community developing livelihoods and securing promising futures for their communities through conservation. The long-term sustainability of the CFWRS is ultimately through the creation of jobs and enterprises within the Sanctuary and surrounding communities, ensuring that the communities see tangible benefit in conserving the Sanctuary and Rhinos.

To book please contact **events@theonlineassistants.com** or **call 07503 115491**

www.careforwild.co.za

THE SHIRE LONDON GOLF CLUB

THE GROVE

GOLF DAY

Seve Ballesteros' The Shire London Golf Club

Fourball — team of four £800 excluding VAT
Sponsor a hole for just £200 excluding VAT
Limited to just 22 teams!

You're invited to a relaxed and fun morning and afternoon of golf at the prestigious Shire London Golf Club, hosted by Darren Gough & friends. You'll enjoy a delicious breakfast before tee off. You're guaranteed a day of laughter, fun and competition. Drinks are provided on the course before coming back to the clubhouse to enjoy a delicious buffet, prizes, games and goody bag. Complimentary transport will be provided for those going to The Grove Watford for the Gala Dinner

GALA DINNER

The Grove Watford

Table of 10 : £1,800 excluding VAT
Individual tickets : £195 excluding VAT

Your guests will enjoy a sparkling drinks reception, followed by a delicious three course menu plus coffee and petit fours. Hosted by Darren & Anna Gough, you'll enjoy an evening of live entertainment to include traditional South African sounds, fundraising and a live auction. The founder of Care *for* Wild, Petronel Nieuwoudt will take to the stage to share her knowledge and experiences with guests.

PLATINUM PACKAGE: £3,000 EXCLUDING VAT

Attend the Golf Day and Gala Dinner with premium tables and a drinks package. You will have the best seats in the house and will have a VIP meet and greet with Petronel Nieuwoudt, the inspiration behind this great charity.

Sponsorship Packages:
Please reach out to see our sponsorship opportunities.

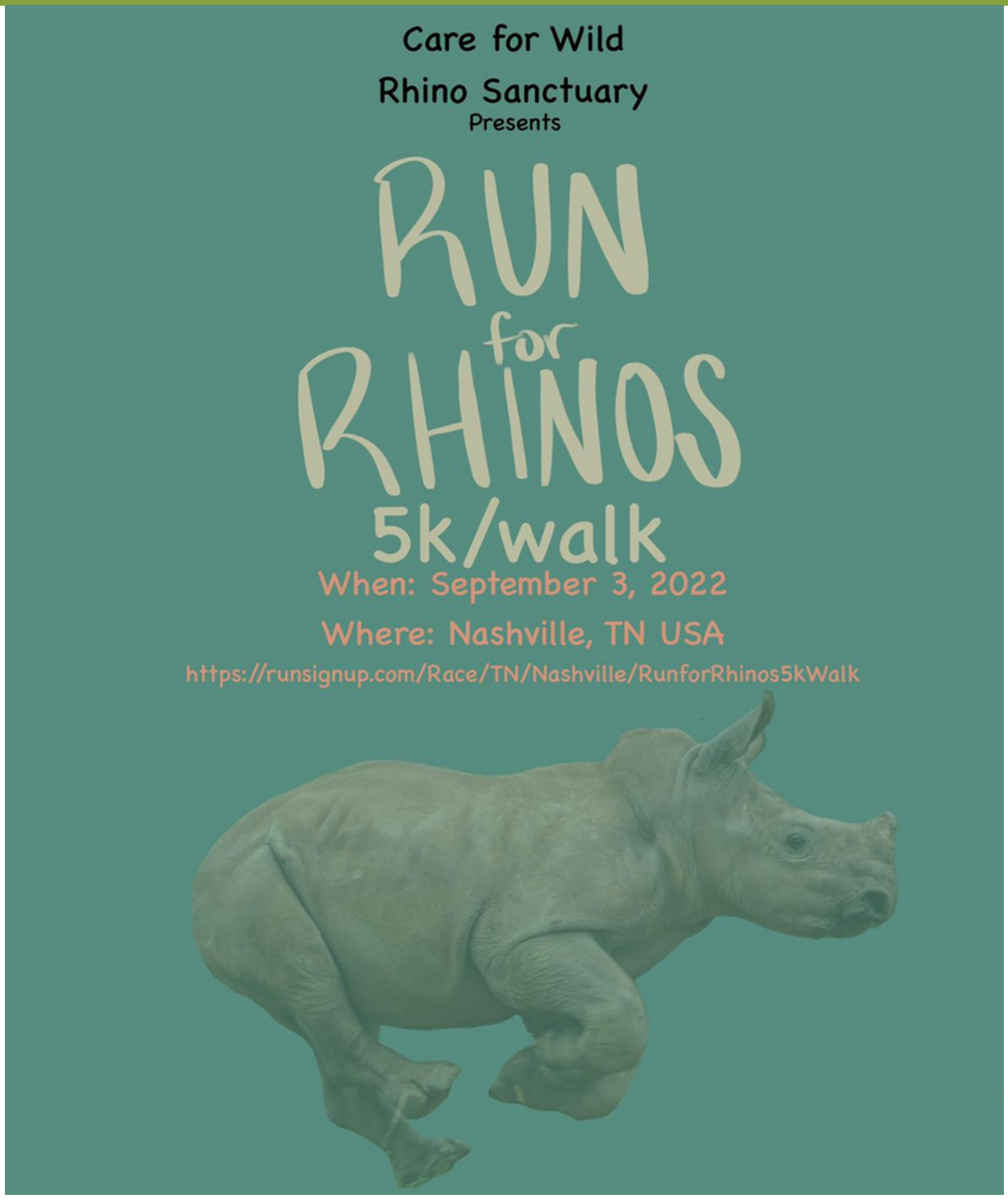






To book please contact **events@theonlineassistants.com** or **call 07503 115491**

www.careforwild.co.za



We are continuing to get signups for the Run for Rhinos 5K/Walk. Please consider registering for the event and joining the 5K/Walk, we appreciate any help for this event. For anyone who would like to contribute or learn more, please email eric@careforwild.co.za

The Run for Rhinos 5k/walk is officially set for September 3, 2022. Our website link is now live to register. Link: https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Nashville/RunforRhinos5kWalk?remMeAttempt=

CARE FOR WILD US
THANK YOU TO ALL SPONSORS AND DONORS!

Care for Wild US would like to thank all of its loving and loyal US sponsors and donors for all the support. We truly appreciate it so much.

THANK YOU JENNY BRUCE AND LILLY PULITZER

Care for Wild US would like to thank our friends Jenny Bruce for her fundraiser with Mimi Walantis and clothing brand Lilly Pulitzer

THANK YOU LEKKER COFFEE

Care for Wild US would also like to thank Lekker Coffee for their super Q1 donation and all their love and support they show for the rhinos.

LEKKER
COFFEE & WATERING HOLE

THANK YOU MOLLY MILLIS YOUNG

Care for Wild US would like to thank you for supporting community projects and Rubybelle!

THANK YOU JAMES MILLIS JR

Care for Wild would like to thank you for your support of Arthur!

THANK YOU CAROL GOODSOLE

Care for Wild US would like to give a special thank you for your longterm commitment and support!

THANK YOU ILIANA MILAN

Care for Wild US would like to give a special thank you for your longterm commitment and support!

THANK YOU SANDRA AND RUSTY

Care for Wild US would like to give a special thank to Sandra Lyu and Rusty Foreaker for their generosity and support!

THANK YOU SEAN MUIR

Care for Wild US would like to thank you for your continued support!



BILL CYCLES FOR RHINOS!

A very special thank you to our very own UK Board member, Bill Barber who put his leg muscles to excellent use this month by challenging himself with a sponsored bikeathon!

Bill cycled 600 miles / 1000km in 8 days raising awareness and funds for Care for Wild. He was accompanied on his trip by the sweetest cuddly rhino toy named Blizzy! Bill and Blizzy are heading for the Tour de France next, so keepa look out for this dynamic duo!

We are so proud of you!

THANK YOU BILL BARBER





PROTECTING THEIR HERITAGE

Students from Midstream College in Centurion, South Africa, have taken a stand to help save rhinos.

Annika and her family have been supporting orphaned rhino Yster since his arrival at Care for Wild 2 years ago. As head of her school's outreach committee, she decided to take the plight of rhinos to her peers in an effort to raise awareness and funds for Care for Wild.

The students of Midstream College came together to raise an incredible R57,000 as well as co-ordinating a collection of towels for our Intensive Care Unit.

We are so impressed by the dedication, perseverance and creativeness of these youngsters. Absolutely inspirational to see a community of young people standing together for the conservation of rhino and their heritage. Well done!

THANK YOU MIDSTREAM COLLEGE



TRECKING FOR RHINOS

A very big thank you to Ellen Lombard and Shadow who have spent 2 weeks trecking through the Karoo to raise awareness and funds for Care for Wild.

Ellen has been posting updates of her journey on her Instagram account Hoofprints4rhinos as they made this epic fundraising journey.

Thank you Ellen and Shadow.

THANK YOU
ELLEN & SHADOW







MILK, MILK, MILK!

A very big thank you to the Wags and Menace Make a Difference Foundation who has again contributed $1500 through Baby Rhino Rescue towards milk for Shiloh, Aquazi, Jock and Dani.

Rhino calves continue to drink milk from their mothers until they are around the age of 17-18 months old. They drink around 16L of milk a day!

Ensuring that these orphan calves receive the correct nutirion is vitally important to help support them through this growth and development stage.

Thank you so much for helping support these calves.

THANK YOU
WAGS & MENACE MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOUNDATION



THANK YOU FROM THE APU

Care for Wild's anti-poaching unit would like to extend their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Adam Oldfield who very kindly donated Smith and Wesson Extreme Ops knives. These knives will greatly aid the tactical units operating throughout the protected area. Thank you Adam.

THANK YOU ADAM OLDFIELD

WONKY TOM

SHOP NOW

Wonky Tom has partnered with Care for Wild to support rhino conservation! Wonky Tom's active socks are designed to protect your feet while you do what you love. Super comfortable design that is ultra-breathable, provides moderate compression, and arch support to help prevent fatigue. Wonky Tom has adopted Tom and Daisy and is donating a percentage of their monthly profits to Care for Wild.

Click the link above to shop their fantastic range.





PORQUPINES

Care for Wild is a registered wildlife rehabilitation centre for all African indigenous wildlife. This month, Care for Wild joined Dr Chris Smith and Dr Hayden Cuthill from Wildlifevets.com to rescue two porcupines caught in a human-wildlife conflict zone. After making sure the porcupines were healthy and not injured, they were released and have since been seen on the protected area trap cameras! We are so happy we could save them.



THANK YOU

WITH DEEPEST GRATITUDE, THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THE AMAZING SUPPORT OF THE INDIVIDUAL RHINOS, ANTI-POACHING, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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THANK YOU

WITH DEEPEST GRATITUDE, THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THE AMAZING SUPPORT OF THE INDIVIDUAL RHINOS, ANTI-POACHING, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – PAYPAL

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