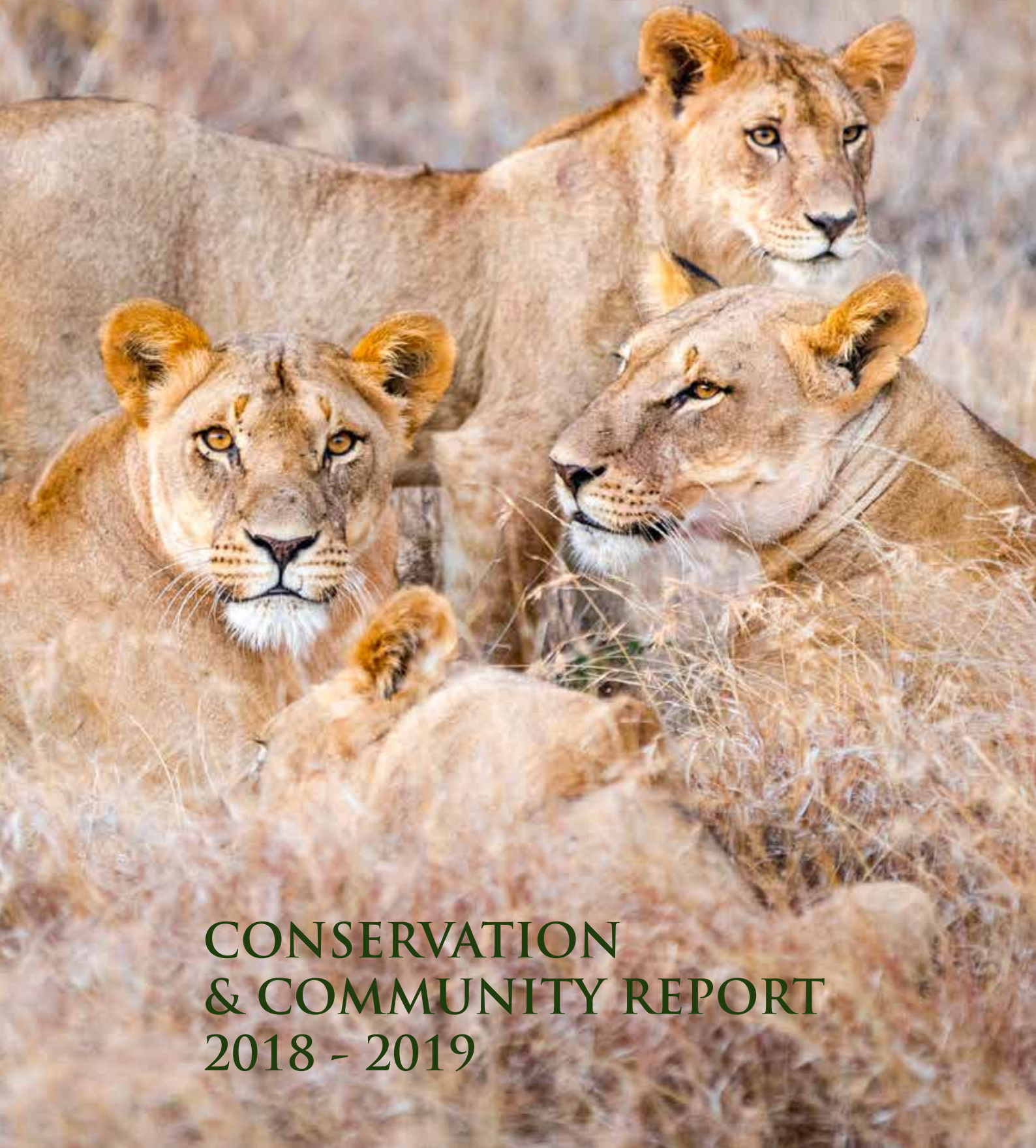




# OL JOGI

## WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY



CONSERVATION  
& COMMUNITY REPORT  
2018 - 2019



# EDITORIAL

***«A team is not a group of people who work together.  
A team is a group of people who trust each other»***

**Welcome** to the 2018-2019 Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservation and Community Report

2018 has been a year of renewed hope for our Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy. With elections behind us, it was the perfect year for building afresh, starting from the very top with our new management team: a new General Manager, a new Finance and HR Manager and a new Security Manager. In addition to this, we opened our office in Nanyuki for our new Reservations and Guest Liaison Manager and Assistant. Moreover, we ended the year by welcoming our new Workshop Manager, as well as our new Wildlife Rescue Center Manager...what a change!

The ability of a group of people to do remarkable things hinges on how well those people can pull together as a team and we are happy to say that every member of staff is already feeling the impact of this new team. New and clear policies have been put in place, the communication throughout our whole staff structure has improved, as well as every member of staff's livelihood. We feel that 2018 has marked a clear turn Ol Jogi from being a family run business to being a professionally run Wildlife Conservancy based on community values. We are keeping our unique feature as the only conservancy in the country that allows staff to reside onsite with their families, with its own school and medical dispensary. Indeed, we are committed more than ever to building today the Kenya we wish to leave our children tomorrow. This means bringing together every piece of the puzzle: nature, wildlife and people. It won't be easy and it's a long term vision, but we are committed to working together and do our part to help advance this shared vision.

More than ever, we are confident that Ol Jogi has the right team to do this. This gives us the courage to keep going, despite all of the overwhelming odds. Success always takes help however, and we are, as ever, most grateful for all of the support we have received from our generous guests and donors.

The picture on the front and back cover are of a pride of 18 lionesses and their cubs that were photographed on Ol Jogi early 2019 by one of our guests, Camillie Duque.



# DEAR DONORS

*“To go fast, go alone. To go far, go together”* – African proverb

Conservation and particularly that of endangered species like rhinos, is an expensive undertaking. Whilst circumstances differ throughout the conservation community, there is one thing we all have in common; we are all striving to achieve sustainable economic models whilst providing the very best environment for the species to prosper and grow. Given the acute escalation in demand for rhino horn in recent years, primarily driven by a shocking rise in its value, we have been subjected to an unparalleled surge in poaching. How much security one can provide is only restricted by budget.

*We have been extraordinarily fortunate with the support that we have received over the past few years for our conservation efforts; 2018 has been no exception.*

Whilst we are consistently striving to build a sustainable economic model, donor funding is a fundamental driver of our development. We focus on capital investments that would otherwise have to wait for available financial resources as well as areas of critical importance.

Donor funded training projects are National Police Reserve (NPR) training including tactical refreshers, commanders courses & 1<sup>st</sup> aid refreshers; first and second on the crime scene training; monitoring of rhinos accredited rhino monitor training; and, ZSL sighting base rhino monitoring software training. In addition to the training projects, we delivered a number of other donor projects in 2018: renovations to dog kennels; matching funds for a new rhino monitoring Landcruiser; treatment of injured & orphaned rhinos; fully functional cross-fit gym for our rangers; as well as complementary training. Capital investments in 2018 were: thermal imaging equipment; remote IP motion sensor camera's with infrared capability; renovation of rangers' field accommodation; security uniforms and associated equipment; Chrome Books for the Ol Jogi School; contributions towards improvements to our library and a new computer room at the Ol Jogi Primary School; and, finally, contributions towards scholarships for our students to further their education.

Our donations are received from both individual philanthropists and from conservation minded organisations across the globe. We thank all of our donors wholeheartedly but publish here only the details of our donor organisations.

1) Save the Rhino International

2) USFWS

3) Wild Aid

4) Yorkshire Wildlife Park

5) Zoo Berlin & Tierpark Berlin

6) For Rangers

7) Space For Giants

8) WWF

9) Tallinn Zoo

# DONORS (CONTINUED . . . )

In conclusion, the extensive support for Ol Jogi in 2018 has been incredible. Not only have we undertaken several initiatives of critical importance but we have also invested in both our conservation as well as our education programs. Our guests have also welcomed our new shop whose sole objective is to raise funding for our education objectives, be it our school or our conservation education programme at our Wildlife Rescue Center. Other guests have supported us in carrying out critical interventions to injured and sick rhinos. It is this support that allows us to evolve and implement improvements in line with best practices in the field of wildlife conservation enabling us to respond to the considerable threats with which we are faced. Our gratitude to all of our supporters cannot be put into words.

It is with joy that we wish to share with you our 2018 highlights and look forward to continuing this journey with you.

The Ol Jogi Team



## OL JOGI FACT FILE

<b>Location:</b>	225km north of Nairobi (4 hours), just north of Nanyuki in Laikipia.
<b>Size:</b>	Ol Jogi Ltd. 58,000 acres of which the main Conservancy comprises 46,000 acres and Pyramid Game Reserve 12,000 acres.
<b>Altitude:</b>	1,580-2,234 metres above sea level.
<b>Established:</b>	The Conservancy was established over 60 years ago and Pyramid Game Reserve was made a Rhino Sanctuary in 1980.
<b>Employees:</b>	Approximately 300.
<b>Number of rhinos:</b>	61 black rhinos and 29 white rhinos.
<b>Other wildlife:</b>	We host as many as 400 elephants, depending on season. We also host 22 species of ungulates, 5 species of large carnivores and diverse small carnivores, Three species of primates and 310 avian species.
<b>Pyramid Wildlife Census 2018 - 2019:</b>	1,522 down from 2,219 the previous year
<b>Main Conservancy Wildlife Census 2018 - 2019:</b>	3,958 up from 3,834 the previous year.
<b>Livestock:</b>	2,416 Ol Jogi head of cattle + 1,769 community head of cattle = 4,185.



# AFRICAN RANGER AWARD

In 2018 our Conservation Manager, Jamie Gaymer, received an invitation to nominate a Ranger for an award. Sampeke Meshami's name immediately came to mind. Sampeke is our head of Rhino Monitoring Unit and one of our 33 National Police Reservists. Sampeke was employed at Ol Jogi in 1995 as a General Rhino Monitor. Throughout the years he has demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and unsurpassed skills at rhino monitoring. Sampeke is also an exceptional team player and leads by example. Inevitably, he is well respected by the team under his command.



The African Ranger Award is given annually to Rangers in Africa who make every effort to combat poaching, habitat loss, and the illegal wildlife trade. It is a prestigious honour that serves to recognise the best of the best within its ranks.

Sampeke was honoured to receive this prestigious award at the Kenya Wildlife Service headquarters on World Ranger Day. We were thrilled that Sampeke had won amongst 49 other Rangers in the whole of Africa. The award and the US\$3,000 that he received are a small token of our mutual appreciation

for the work done by our Wildlife Rangers. To us, Wildlife Rangers are the true heroes of conservation and without them, we would undoubtedly lose much of our world's biodiversity in a breath. Despite the overwhelming odds against them, these men and women dedicate their lives to the protection of our wildlife, often in very harsh conditions. We are much indebted for the work that they do to protect this global heritage.





# WILDLIFE FOCUS

*According to Bird Life International  
(an IUCN red list partner), six of Africa's eleven vulture species  
are now at risk of extinction.*

*VULTURES have developed a reputation for being ugly, filthy scavengers.  
They are often villainised in film and literature due to their appearance  
and habit of feeding off rotten carcasses.*

In fact, vultures come into their own in flight and many of the twenty plus species are indeed very beautiful. Of more importance than their physical appearance and behavior, however, is that vultures play an incredibly important ecological role. Yes, they are scavengers and yes, they do eat the carcasses of dead and rotting animals. By doing so, however, they also clean up the environment and potentially eliminate disease that might otherwise spread to other animals and even humans.

A vulture is a scavenging bird of prey. The two types of vultures are the New World vultures, including the Californian and Andean condors, and the Old World vultures, including the birds that are seen scavenging on carcasses of dead animals on African plains. Some traditional Old World vultures (including the bearded vulture) are not closely related to the others, which is why the vultures are to be subdivided into three taxa rather than two. New World vultures are found in North and South America; Old World vultures are found in Europe, Africa, and Asia, meaning that between the two groups, vultures are found on every continent except Australia and Antarctica.

## MORE ABOUT VULTURES

Vultures are famed for having exceptional long distance vision. That said, whilst some birds have an extraordinary field of view approaching 3,600 meters, vultures are limited to approximately 600 meters and their insensitivity to anything above the horizontal might protect them from the glare of the sun and help them to focus on what is beneath them.

A particular characteristic of many vultures is a bald head, devoid of normal feathers. Although it has been historically believed to help keep the head clean when feeding, the bare skin may play an important role in thermoregulation. It is most probable that their bald head serves multiple functions as is often the case in nature.

A group of vultures is called a kettle, committee or wake. The term kettle refers to vultures in flight, while committee refers to vultures resting on the ground or in trees. Wake is reserved for a group of vultures that are feeding.

Vultures have a crop and are adapted to prolonged periods without food. Their wings are

# FOCUS : VULTURES

developed for soaring and they are often seen utilising thermals to gain height as an advantage. Using their exceptional eyesight they will see carcasses or other descending vultures from a considerable distance and start their descent.

## LONG DISTANCE MIGRATIONS

In order to develop sustainable conservation strategies, it is paramount to first become informed. Recent studies in Kenya, using small satellite bands, have shown that the migration of vultures is quite extraordinary; often covering many thousands of miles. Whilst this is undoubtedly fascinating, it also poses significant conservation challenges as vultures often cross several international boundaries during their migrations. The development of conservation and protective strategies must therefore take this into cognisance and be multinational rather than solely local.

## VULNERABILITY OF VULTURES

Vultures have long been subjected to both discriminate and indiscriminate killing, leading to the acute decline in many populations and species. They are the victims of poisoning; poachers will often target vultures as they are a tell-tale sign of a carcass and law-enforcement can often see them from a long way off descending upon a carcass thereby alerting authorities as to the presence of the poachers. Alternatively,

carcasses are sometimes poisoned as retaliation for livestock predation by predators; the targets in these instances are the lions, leopards and hyena's that preyed on the respective livestock and the vultures are unfortunate collateral damage. Nevertheless, global vulture numbers are generally in decline and the consequences are often not considered.



A further consideration that might be contributing to the decline of vultures is the elimination or encroachment of suitable nesting sites. We are forever

deforesting tall trees for fuel and imposing our human footprint into natural habitat, which is eliminating vital environmental conditions for many species – vultures included.

## WHAT IS THE LESSON?

*Despite vultures often being covered in blood, squabbling over a rotten carcass, we must protect them. They are the biological waste controllers that eliminate the spread of disease notwithstanding the economic implications of their work. Consider for example the economic cost of controlling an outbreak of rabies or anthrax that would otherwise not have been necessary if vultures had been prevalent and consumed the infected carcass.*



# RHINO NEWS

## RHINO CONSERVATION IS PROFOUNDLY REWARDING AND CONSTANTLY CHALLENGING

2018 has lived up to expectations in this respect but ultimately it's been another good year for us. After the extraordinary year that we experienced in 2017 with a net growth of 12 rhinos, it is hardly surprising that our growth slowed in 2018. Most of our cows of breeding age still have a dependent calf at foot. Nevertheless, we have experienced four births and one death that was due to hyena predation. Our populations now stand at 29 white rhinos and 61 black rhinos. Ol Jogi has reached 90 rhinos for the first time since 1980! Of great significance is that Ol Jogi last lost a rhino to poaching in March of 2015; we are thankful that 2018 marks the third successive year that no rhinos were lost to poaching activity. We endeavour to maintain this record for as long as possible despite the indiscriminate threat with which we are faced.

## INJURIES AND TREATMENT

We have had to immobilise and treat four rhinos due to injuries sustained through fighting in 2018. Ecological or Social Carrying Capacities for both our black and white rhinos have not been reached at Ol Jogi. We attributed this aggression to the prime conditions that arose following a higher than average rainfall we received during the long-rains in March, April and May.

The first of these interventions was for a white rhino bull named Moscow in the reserve. It was early in the morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> of April that monitoring Rangers called to state that Baraza (another white rhino bull) and Moscow had destroyed our fence to the south of the reserve in a fight that occurred during the night. Moscow had, in fact, remained outside of the reserve and upon later inspection we suspected that he'd lost an eye during the incident. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, we immobilised Moscow and applied treatment to numerous superficial wounds that he sustained during the fight. We were delighted to discover that his eye was still intact and that the injury was only to his eyelid. After a successful intervention, we encouraged Moscow back into the reserve and his recovery has ensued to date.



Moscow sustained an injury to his eyelid during a fight on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April but has retained his sight



Treating Alfie



No sooner had we overcome the Moscow incident that we were faced with another catastrophe. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, our orphan rhinos, Meimei, Bobby and Alfie, were attacked by a wild bull whilst on their daily foraging excursion. They are always accompanied by an armed escort and were suddenly surprised when a wild black rhino bull named Moyo charged out of a thicket nearby. Fortunately Bobby and Meimei were able to flee but Alfie, given his lack of eyesight condition due to bilateral, mature and inoperable cataracts, was unable to evade the attack. Our Rangers demonstrated incredible bravery and managed to chase Moyo away from Alfie but not before he had sustained significant injuries. Alfie was escorted back to the rhino bomas tenderly and we immobilised him the following morning. Clinical findings demonstrated no mortal injuries but given the extent of his injuries, it was several months before he made a full recovery. Alfie now only goes out into a 500 acre predator and rhino-proof enclosure as we cannot afford the risk of another attack.



Muya: immobilised on 24<sup>th</sup> of May

Also at the beginning of May, our rhino monitoring team reported that another bull on the other side of the conservancy had been observed limping on his front left leg. We decided to monitor his progress initially to see if he would recover on his own. Close observation indicated swelling and potential discharge from a wound immediately above his front left foot. We immobilised Muya on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May in a somewhat dramatic darting exercise where he ran over the KWS veterinarian in attendance and nearly hit one of our cars. Nevertheless, we were able to conclude the intervention with a live vet. We speculated that the injury was sustained from the horn of a cow rhino who was, perhaps, not inclined to his amorous intentions! Unfortunately,

Muya failed to recover after this intervention and we were forced to re-immobilise him again on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. He has since made a full recovery.



Meimei on Animal Planet

Yet another young rhino named Mandela also sustained injuries from fighting but close monitoring concluded that the injuries were superficial and he has made a full recovery without the need for an intervention.



# RHINO NEWS (CONTINUED...)

Lastly, but possibly of greatest concern, is that our 2.5 year old habituated calf Meimei became very sick in June 2018. We have identified that her liver has been compromised possibly by the ingestion of an aflatoxin during the wet spell that we encountered in April and May. She then developed secondary and possibly tertiary infections as a result of her suppressed immune system. We have consulted with veterinarians across the globe including but not limited to: the Kenya Wildlife Service, other vets in Kenya, Botswana, South Africa and the United States. Meimei has been prescribed many treatments since June including: antibiotics, vitamins, diuretics, liver supplements, metranidazole and more. Her diet has been elevated to include high protein supplements including: formula milk, Lucerne (alpha alpha), horse cubes, carrots and sugar cane in addition to her daily foraging and the browse that we cut for her. She has made a significant recovery but is not fully recovered yet. We continue to work around the clock to ensure that she overcomes her disorder. It has, however, been eluded that some habituated calves suffer from ailments that cannot be medically explained. This might be synonymous with the reason that Meimei developed blindness at the age of just 4 days back in 2016. Despite that, we treated her blindness and she now has normal vision. It might be that other previously undetected physiological ailments prevailed unnoticed until now.

## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY RHINO MANAGEMENT GROUP

In February 2018, Jamie Gaymer, our Conservation Manager, travelled to Akagera National Park in Rwanda to attend the East African Community Rhino Management Group (EACRMG) meeting. This forum was initially developed in 2009 to encourage better collaboration between the East African Rhino Range States.

### FOCUS OF THE 2018 WORKSHOP

First, the EACRMG would be handed back to the stakeholders after the AfrSG had taken control in 2016. At the end of the meeting, Rwanda was elected as the Chair. It was felt that considering Rwanda has only recently re-introduced rhinos to its country after it was previously extirpated, it would act as an engaged representative chair to the group.

Second, a recently released genetics paper by geneticist Yoshan Moodley had caused alarm bells to ring in the African Rhino conservation community. The paper demonstrated significant lack of genetic diversity in Africa's black rhinos. Interestingly, the Eastern Black Rhino (*D.b. michaeli*) are the most genetically diverse subspecies of the three. Nevertheless, we would be prudent to manage our meta-population with the view to improving genetic diversity after it was largely lost during the poaching endemic of the 1970's and 1980's.





## WWF RHINO SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

No sooner than Jamie had returned from Rwanda, he set off for South Africa in March to attend a Rhino Science and Management Workshop. This was a more general workshop so that Rhino Managers from across Africa could share experiences and develop best practice papers in the following fields:

- Overview of the genetics discussion from the EACRMG,
- Review of the past 15 years of rhino management,
- Rhino Monitoring,
- Demographics,
- Habitat and performance,
- Rhino reintroductions

## NATIONAL RHINO ISSUES

Nearly 2 years after development, the National Black Rhino Action Plan (2017 – 2021) has finally been officially released. Various changes in office at the Kenya Wildlife Service, including dissolution of the previous Board and election of a new Acting Director General, are the primary causes for the delay. That said, it is now our job to review the progress to date and ensure that our implementation of the respective strategy ensues without delay. As a member of the Rhino Steering Committee and Chair of the Association of Private Land Rhino Sanctuaries, Ol Jogi strives to be at the forefront of the Strategy implementation.

In July 2018, we were shocked to hear of the devastating mortalities of 11 rhinos during a translocation to populate a new sanctuary that had been developed in Tsavo East National Park (TENP). The sanctuary development had been primarily funded by the WWF after Kenya recognised that lack of space capacity to preserve rhinos was one of our primary threats for rhino conservation. The move had been previously declined a multitude of times after it was determined that the water within the new sanctuary had dangerously high levels of salinity. After the previous board of the KWS had been dissolved, the move was approved despite these ecological factors. What is equally disappointing was that the tragedy was later politicised and blame psychology ensued: everyone involved blaming someone else. Nevertheless, experts were engaged from other rhino range states and it is our understanding that a comprehensive report was produced for the attention of the Kenya Wildlife Service. We are currently involved in the development of new rhino intervention and translocation protocols that will, hopefully, avert a similar situation in the future.

Whilst Kenya has thus far managed to keep poaching at less than 1% of the national metapopulation for the third consecutive year, we are plagued by other mortalities. At Ol Jogi, we continue to contribute positively at a local, national and international level and we thank those supporters and partners who have made this possible.



# NATIONAL POLICE RESERVE (NPR)

In 2011, the Government of Kenya demonstrated incredible support by issuing Kenya Police Reserve Status to several private sector rhino conservancies including Ol Jogi. The government recognised the increasing threat to rhinos by poachers and the service that the private sector was providing to mitigate this threat. Kenya Police Reserve status was the only way that Ol Jogi could hold government-issued automatic weapons and we were provided with 24 G3s at that time. It should be recognised that the poachers had previously armed themselves with automatic weapons and the issuance of KPR status only leveled the playing field somewhat.

## KENYA POLICE RESERVE

In 2018 Kenya Police Reserve status was officially changed to National Police Reserve status (NPR). This required re-vetting of all KPRs but it also coincided with the issuance of NPR status in local communities. The Kenya Police decided to empower local communities to defend themselves from threats, especially in areas where police presence is limited.

Ol Jogi now has 33 NPRs. It's an unusual arrangement where our NPRs are employed by Ol Jogi and therefore answerable to us in as far as their job requirements. Their mandate and NPR status, however, still comes directly from the Kenyan Police Department. We have developed a mutually beneficial relationship where in Ol Jogi, NPRs lend support to the government security agencies, helping to reduce general crime in the area and all the while providing protection for our rhinos.

## TRAINING

In recognition of the dangerous nature of the work that our Rangers do, we are committed to providing them with the very best level of training. 2018 has been no exception and with an incredible level of support, we have managed to provide our NPRs with significant training opportunities.



All of the Ol Jogi NPRs have previously undertaken training with the Kenya Police as well as the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). In addition, we commissioned the services of an independent security training company called 51 Degrees (51D). With the endorsement of the Police, 51D have, thus far, undertaken tactical refresher, commander cadre, and 1<sup>st</sup> aid refresher training.

It would not be prudent for Ol Jogi to disclose the exact nature of the training in a public domain, but we are confident that the exposure our NPR received is the very best. Our team has also undertaken training with the police who provide oversight for all live-fire training exercises, update on legislative changes and supervision of all other training undertaken.

The Ol Jogi NPRs are the front line of our security; they are expected to engage with any dangerous adversaries who often carry deadly force. It is absolutely paramount that our NPRs are trained



# FOCUS: TRAINING

to the highest level and also to maintain consistency across other rhino conservancies in Kenya. We firmly believe that our NPRs have had significant training and we are confident with their ability to protect Ol Jogi's assets, provide security for the rhinos and also offer the Kenya Police a significant support service.

## INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence or Intel' as it is often referred, is the mechanisms that we use to intercept conspiracies to commit crime. Through 51D, Ol Jogi has trained Intel' Source Handlers who are mandated with the responsibility to anticipate any poaching in advance of it happening. It is arguably the most important proactive tool at our disposal to prevent poaching from happening. 51D manage a database on behalf of many rhino conservancies and it shares its information with the government security agencies. This collaboration has seen poaching statistics dwindle over the last few years and is proving to be very effective. Our source handlers have undertaken several training exercises in 2018.



## SCENE OF CRIME

In 2015, Jamie, our conservation manager, attended an "Advanced Rhino Scene of Crime Course" and passed with distinction. Subsequently, Jamie developed a "1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the crime scene" course. Rangers are often the first to encounter rhino crime scenes and the course is designed to prevent them from contaminating crucial evidence until the investigators can arrive. In addition to teaching about securing the respective crime scene, the course has been kept on a "need to know" basis, recognising that this information could jeopardise investigations if leaked into the wrong hands. Ol Jogi monitoring rangers and NPR commanders were provided with a refresher course in 2018.

## ZSL SIGHTING BASE

Individuals from our Central Operations Room (CoR) attended a 5 day course to familiarise themselves with a new rhino monitoring software that has been developed and disseminated at a national level. The idea is to consolidate rhino information in a universal format that captures all pertinent information required by the National Rhino Office. This ensures unilateral reporting and facilitates analysis of data as required.

# TRAINING (CONTINUED...)

## ACCREDITED RHINO MONITORS

Ol Jogi sent 2 rhino monitors to a training workshop that ensures minimum rhino monitoring standards are being maintained in all rhino sanctuaries in Kenya. It is also a requirement that all rhino conservancies have at least 2 “accredited rhino monitors” as a part of its team. Our rangers welcomed the opportunity and came back both refreshed and inspired. Since then, they have been actively disseminating their learning to other members of our rhino monitoring team. We should add that we maintain the highest Average Sighting Frequency (ASF) of any rhino conservancy in Kenya, despite having a limited resource from which to draw from. We firmly believe that there is no substitute for physically seeing our rhinos every day, 365 days per year. We can confirm their physical health and behaviour as well as detect any intrusions by poachers. Monitoring forms a core part of our security infrastructure and investing in training is money well spent.



At Ol Jogi, we are committed to providing the very best for our staff. We firmly believe that by investing in their capacity through training, they will reciprocate through hard work and diligence. We also feel that it is our prerogative to provide the very best training especially when human lives are at stake. Ol Jogi is committed to continuing to invest in the very best training for all of our staff and we are thankful to all of our supporters who make this possible.



Rangers undergoing early morning fitness training



# CONSERVATION RESEARCH



Ol Jogi is a unique 58,000-acre Wildlife Conservancy in Laikipia County of Kenya comprising a diverse spectrum of habitat types and a plethora of wildlife. We strive to evolve our conservation approach in a bid to develop and maintain a sustainable approach to the preservation of the natural ecology. As such, it is unsurprising that we are in high demand from a conservation research perspective.

Conservation is the act of conserving; prevention of injury, decay, waste, or loss; preserving.<sup>1</sup> With cognisance of the global human population projections, the demand for natural resources, an evolving climate and a diverse amalgamation of plants and animals in this landscape, the opportunities and need for learning are limitless. Indeed, by increasing our knowledge base, the opportunity to make informed decisions is greater. One key mechanism for learning is, therefore, through research. What must be remembered is that we are operating in a fast

evolving environment with a complex mosaic of moving parts. We must appreciate social, political, environmental and economic considerations and need to maintain relevance whilst striving to preserve the natural resources under our custodianship.

*By increasing our knowledge base, the opportunity to make informed decisions is greater. One key mechanism for learning is, therefore, through research.*

## RESEARCH IN 2018

Grevy's Zebras are considered as endangered by the IUCN red-list with a global estimate of 1956 mature individuals as of 2016.

Recent census estimates suggest however, that their population might be as much as 2,800 individuals in total.

Ol Jogi's game count census conducted in January 2018 identified 490 Grevy's Zebras within Ol Jogi. Subsequently the National Great Grevy's Zebras census ensued and with a combination of photographs in addition to sight-re-sight analysis, an estimate for the Ol Jogi population was corroborated at 473 +/- 41 individuals.

1 <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/conservation>

# RESEARCH (CONTINUED . . . )

Given their endangered status and the fact that Ol Jogi might host as much as 20% of the world's remaining population, there is much interest from the research community with regard to our Grevy's Zebras population. Ol Jogi continues to work with Princeton University as they update their photo database of Grevy's Zebras in Kenya that are uniquely identifiable using IBEIS software.

In addition to this, Princeton University has embarked on an ambitious campaign to develop a full picture of the genetic structure and population genetics of all Grevy's Zebras in Kenya.

Separately, Manchester University has had participants who are striving to identify stress hormones in our Grevy's Zebras population as compared to other populations in Kenya. This might facilitate later identification of what the respective causes of stress might be and whether they are having a significant impact on the recovery of the species.

We recognise the relative importance of Ol Jogi both in as far as the individual Grevy's Zebras that make up our population as well as the apparent suitability of our habitat. Ol Jogi is therefore interested to partner with research institutions and individuals so that we may make informed management decisions to preserve the local conditions that the Grevy's Zebras find so conducive to their needs.

## DNA METABARCODING

DNA-based species identification, known as barcoding, transformed the traditional approach to the study of biodiversity science. The field is transitioning from barcoding individuals to metabarcoding communities. This revolution involves new sequencing technologies, bioinformatics pipelines, computational infrastructure, and experimental designs. In this dynamic genomics landscape, metabarcoding studies remain insular and biodiversity estimates depend on the particular methods used. In short, they could identify every plant that an animal has eaten by analysing its dung with this technology.

Ol Jogi first engaged with individuals from Brown University in 2016 to undergo DNA metabarcoding research. In 2018, a report was submitted by this same individuals, illustrating the different plants consumed by giraffe inside and outside of elephant exclusion zones in this landscape. The results were profound if not alarming. It appears that the giraffe that coexist with elephants are consuming non-preferential plants, perhaps due to a lack of alternative.

Given the intriguing results demonstrated by the giraffe diet analysis, we have now further engaged with the same individuals to research a plethora of other browsing species in different seasons and across a spectrum of conservancies in Laikipia. We want to see if there is correlation between the different species and whether a perceived over-population of elephants in Laikipia might be influencing the diets of different species and to what degree.





## RHINO STRESS HORMONES

Population viability analysis (PVA) is a modeling technique used to estimate the vital rates of a population and whether it can be self-sustaining in the long term under current conditions. A PVA used to evaluate the demographic and genetic viability of the European captive population of the eastern black rhino found that it performs poorly compared to in situ counterparts in Kenya, growing at only 1-2% per annum and under-performing on all reproductive parameters (Edwards, Walker, et al., 2015). The benefit of PVA, and the method used to analyse the captive population, is that it can identify the particular vital rates that are holding back population growth. Edwards et al. (2015) hypothesise that this poor performance is down to three factors: the average age at first calving for females is higher in captivity than in situ; captive females have longer inter-calving intervals and a large proportion of individuals; and both male and female, don't breed (Edwards, Walker, et al., 2015).

In 2017, Ol Jogi engaged an individual studying at Manchester University in the UK to use a PVA on the Kenyan meta-population of black rhinos to identify variations in performance and which vital rates could be improved to optimise population performance. Currently, population performance varies between reserves, with some of them missing the targets set by the IUCN and KWS (Edwards, Walker, et al., 2015). There is also large variation between individuals within the populations. To date, research has struggled to identify the causes of this variation. Population modelling has suggested that it is not due to density dependence (Okita-Ouma et al., 2009), a result which is supported by modelling of black rhino populations in South Africa (Law, Fike, Lent, & Law, 2015) and Namibia where Allee effects and transient dynamics were found to be insignificant (Brodie et al., 2011). This modelling suggests that black rhino populations are relatively resilient to density dependence and that the variance in growth rates is caused by something else.

The variation in breeding success between and within populations of black rhino in Kenya remains unexplained. It may be that chronic stress, as indicated by elevated faecal glucocorticoid levels, is suppressing reproduction. Chronically reduced levels of the thyroid hormone  $T_3$  can indicate that at least part of this is due to nutritional stress. An alternative explanation is that it is due to individual quality, indicated in males by differences in testosterone levels.

The breeding success of captive Eastern Black Rhinos has been recently improved due to physiological research which was used to determine what the causes of underperformance were. Similar techniques would be applied to the non-captive population in Kenya to improve the performance of wild populations. Due to the constraints of sampling wild populations, a focus on testosterone, glucocorticoid, igAs and  $T_3$  would be applied.

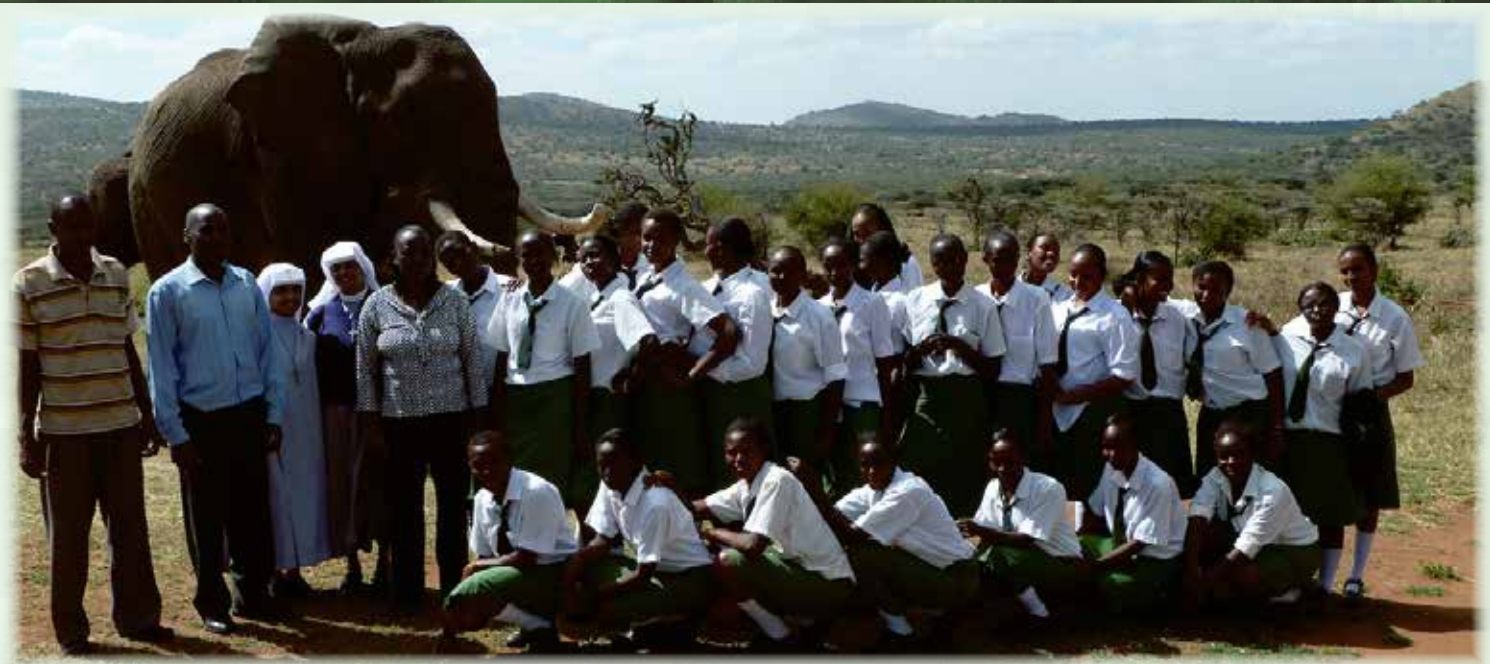
This research has the potential to influence how we manage our respective populations with the view to improving breeding performance.

## VECTOR BIOLOGY

We welcomed a visit by neighbouring Mpala Research Center together with international biology students to collect flies from our habituated rhinos in a bid to learn from samples flies associated with rhinos and their role in disease transmission; this included filarial worms.



# WILDLIFE RESCUE CENTRE



The Ol Jogi Wildlife Rescue Center (WRC) has just gone through another busy year marked with excitement, tragedy, education and new faces. The Ol Jogi WRC strives to impart conservation education through the in-situ wildlife residents of the facility and more importantly encourage an emotional connection to the importance of biodiversity preservation. It is with this objective in mind that we have hosted XXX Kenyan school children through the facility this year, bringing our total to XXX since inception, in the xxx..

In November 2018, Ol Jogi welcomed David Maina to the team as our new WRC Manager. David has worked in conservation since 1993. He is familiar with habituated wildlife systems and has also generated significant experience in conservation education. Whilst David's career has primarily focused on primates, his experience will undoubtedly lend new dimensions to our program. We look forward to working with David and we welcome him to the Ol Jogi team.



In July 2018, we were contacted by an organisation called Action for Cheetahs Kenya (ACK). They had received report

of 6 cheetah cubs that had been orphaned in the Machakos area of Kenya, some 150 miles from Ol Jogi. The reports indicated that the mother cheetah had been killed as a result of human/wildlife conflict (HWC) and that the cubs had also been injured somewhat by domestic dogs during the incident. Knowing that Ol Jogi strives to release indigenous wildlife orphans back to the wild in a responsible manner, ACK approached Ol Jogi about taking on this responsibility and then sought permission from the Kenya Wildlife Service to move them to our facility.

Disaster struck shortly afterwards however, as the cubs had apparently contracted a viral infection; in all likelihood due to their exposure to the aforementioned domestic dogs. Despite the best



efforts of various veterinarians including those from the Kenya Wildlife Service, 5 of the 6 cubs died almost immediately upon their arrival at Ol Jogi. One, however, demonstrated extraordinary resilience and despite obvious infection, managed to survive. Our relief was short-lived as she compromised her spine shortly after. The injury rendered her paralysed in her hind-quarters. Once again, the veterinarians were called upon and after an extensive treatment regime, she made a remarkable recovery and regained full mobility.



Cheetah cub taking x-ray

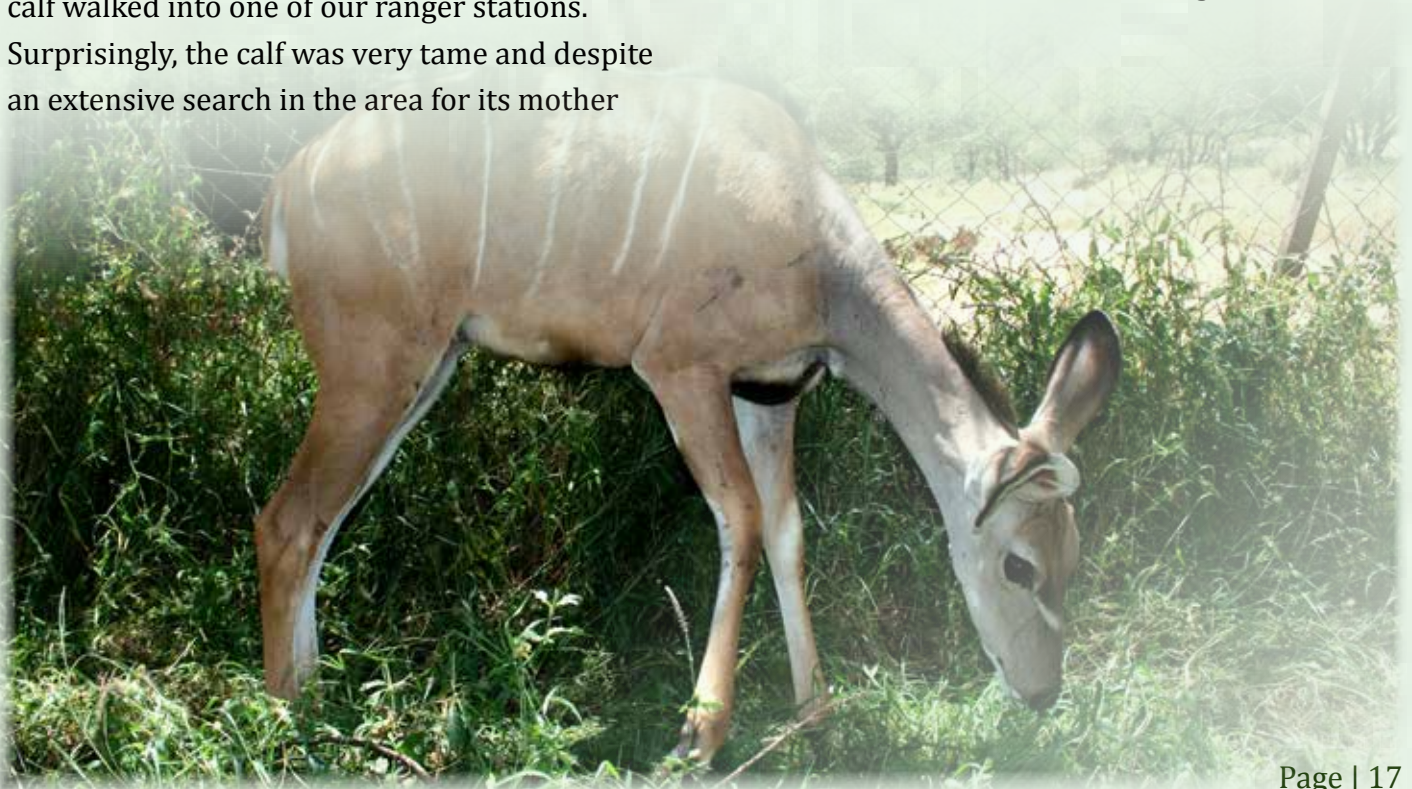
Whether the cub will ever be a candidate for release will be determined on the extent of her recovery but we will endeavour to

do everything that we can to make this possible.

In September 2018, a lone female kudu calf walked into one of our ranger stations. Surprisingly, the calf was very tame and despite an extensive search in the area for its mother

(as it was certainly still of a dependent age), we were unable to locate a single, adult female Greater Kudu. Its familiarity and /or apparent fearlessness of humans was also a potential cause for alarm as cases of rabies have previously resulted in similar behaviour. Nevertheless, handling the calf with caution we took it back to the WRC and monitored it closely whilst addressing its every husbandry requirement. The kudu illustrated no signs of disease and she is growing considerably under our care. We have every confidence that she will one day be able to be released back to the wild.

Concerning this strange circumstance, we can only speculate as to the underlying cause. It might be that she'd been previously adopted by Maasai pastoralists and incorporated into their livestock herd as a young calf. This could explain her apparent lack of fear of humans. We could then further imagine that this livestock herd went past our conservancy along the government road cuts in the east of the property, and that the kudu then left the herd to wander inside Ol Jogi.



# OL JOGI VETERINARY CLINIC

In 1989, Ol Jogi developed a state of the art veterinary clinic. At that time, the primary function of the clinic was to service our Wildlife Rescue Center and its wildlife orphan inhabitants. Throughout the following years, Ol Jogi employed resident veterinarians in order to utilise the facility and to provide a veterinary service. We always felt however, that our veterinary clinic was underutilized and that we could be providing a much greater service for wildlife conservation in Kenya from a veterinary perspective.

In 2017, we entered discussion with the Smithsonian and we've been developing a partnership since then. We firmly feel that this partnership might be mutually beneficial and there could be derivative opportunities to explore.

## THE SMITHSONIAN

The Smithsonian Institution (<https://www.si.edu/about>), established in 1846, is a group of museums and research centers administered by the Government of the United States whose objective is to increase and diffuse knowledge. The institution is named after its founding donor, British scientist James Smithson.

Termed "the nation's attic" for its eclectic holdings of 154 million items, the Institution's nineteen museums, nine research centers, and zoo include historical and architectural landmarks, mostly located in the District of Columbia. Additional facilities are located in Arizona, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York City, Pittsburgh, Texas, Virginia, and Panama. More than 200 institutions and museums in 45 states, Puerto Rico, and Panama are Smithsonian Affiliates.

The Smithsonian had initially raised funds to employ two veterinarians on a two-year fellowship agreement. The recruitment process was participatory and after receiving applications, a vetting process ensued. Finally, with a short-list of applicants, interviews were organised with interviewers comprising individuals from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Ol Jogi, Mpala and the Smithsonian itself. Of the selected candidates, one is a US citizen whilst the other is a Kenya citizen.

Ol Jogi has subsequently entered into a collaboration agreement with the Smithsonian. We have committed to grant use of our veterinary clinic and have provided a rental property on Ol Jogi for free for the duration of our agreement.

Additional responsibilities agreed by both parties include but are not limited to:

1. Endeavor to underwrite the cost of a stipend for a veterinary fellow to be based at Ol Jogi,
2. Integrate the Project Fellow into the Smithsonian's Office of Fellowships and Internships program,
3. Contribute scientific, veterinary, and wildlife expertise to identify research questions and analysis, as well as veterinary approaches to projects;
4. Make reasonably available its facilities for potential training opportunities,
5. Provide guidance in establishing a wildlife bio-bank at Ol Jogi;



6. Acknowledge and credit both parties on collaborative findings reported to scientific and lay audiences,
7. Provide consumables, reagents, drugs, and additional equipment for the functionality of the projects subject to available funding,
8. Contribute its scientific and wildlife expertise to identify research questions and analyses to projects.

We firmly feel that by combining our mutual resources, we can contribute significantly to improve and support both critical environmental research as well as providing much needed veterinary care for the wildlife in Kenya and particularly Laikipia. Opportunities for educational outreach programs may ensue in the future for both international and local students hoping to pursue a career in veterinary medicine and we look forward to exploring that idea further.

In 2018, Ol Jogi has also participated in a project entitled *“PREDICT - Surveillance for Emerging Zoonotic Disease Threats and Behavioral Risk Characterization in High-risk Communities in Kenya”*, which is also affiliated with the Smithsonian.

The purpose of this study is to see if people might be getting new diseases from animals. The study will help to learn more about diseases people can get from activities such as hunting, butchering, raising, and eating animals. This information will be used to help us learn about diseases in communities and how new diseases might arise.

The work may help us to discover ways to reduce the risk of catching these types of diseases and is therefore a preventative, proactive research project that helps to mitigate wildlife-human disease transmission.

We very much look forward to receiving the results of this project and we are thankful to both the Predict Team as well as those employees who voluntarily participated in the study.



Smithsonian vet, Dr. Maureen Kamau

**ONE HEALTH** was another project Ol Jogi participated in. One Health recognizes that the health of people is connected to the health of animals and the environment. It is a collaborative, multi-sectoral, and trans-disciplinary approach—working at the local, regional, national, and global levels—with the goal of achieving optimal health outcomes recognising the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment.

A One Health approach is important because 6 out of every 10 infectious diseases in humans are spread from animals.

We are very excited about our partnership with the Smithsonian. Ultimately, we strive to make a significant conservation impact whilst addressing some of the pertinent issues relevant to our neighbours as well as others with interaction or relative proximity to wildlife. It is in this light that our collaboration with the Smithsonian has a One Health approach. We are further motivated about the opportunities that might present themselves and we will endeavour to inform of any further developments.

# EDUCATION: SUPPORTING A YOUNG GIRL

I, Bebina Emmily Lesinden, was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2000, in Leikiji, a neighbouring community adjacent to the Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy. I lived in a family of five: my mother and three brothers. In 2017, my mother unfortunately passed away. She was killed by an elephant.

I attended Lekiji Primary School between 2006 and 2013 when I sat for my national examinations. I was able to score 304 out of the possible 500 marks in my Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE). This was the highest mark in my class.

However, I had no ability to join a secondary school due to my family's poverty. I was able to smile and gain hope in realising my dreams when I got a chance to join the St. Francis Girl's Secondary School thanks to a scholarship from Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy. I saw my dream come true and my future become even brighter through this kind support. I was the first one in family to benefit from secondary education.

After going through my four-year secondary school course, I again graduated as the top student with the highest mark in my class. This was an even greater achievement given that my mother had passed away the day before the final examination. I was able to score a B plain of SI point in My Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE). But the question 'how can I get to university?' remained unanswerable for a period of time.

Again, I had a reason to smile a second time. My question was answered. My application to join South Eastern Kenya University to pursue a degree in nursing was accepted. Now remained the issue of funding my studies. My life changed again when, through the generosity of guests staying at Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy, I was able to secure funding for my first year of studies.

This scholarship award which enabled me to attend university made me dream of an even brighter future. I could finally pursue my dream career and achieve all of my goals. End of August 2018, I started my degree of nursing at South Eastern Kenya University. I am doing my best to one day get my family off poverty. I will use the knowledge I am gaining at university to make the best of my career and assist my community at large.

My experience at university has taught me a lot. In addition to building myself academically and aspire to a career, I am also interacting with students from diverse communities. I am able to see their different ways of life and share ideas with new friends. I would like to express my gratitude to the whole Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy for their generous support throughout my academic path. I promise to make the best out of their financial support in my academic life.

*Bebina*





# IN-HOUSE ARTIST

Ol Jogi is very proud to present Francis Ekitela, our talented in house artist. Francis was barely seven years old when he first arrived in Ol Jogi with his parents. His father worked as a herder and his mother as a gardener in the Ol Jogi Marula staff camp, where they were living as family.

It was in Ol Jogi's school that Francis first came to discover the world of colours and creativity. Indeed, the arts and crafts classes fascinated him and awakened a love for art in him. It was in Class 7 that Francis proudly designed the logo for the school's moto 'Together we succeed'. Francis then went on to study at the DolDol Boys Secondary School from which he graduated in 2009. His dream was to go on to attend a fine arts school but given his financial constraints he had to start working.



In May 2010, he came back home and started working for Ol Jogi. He first came in as a general labourer. The Main House Manager, Mr. Frederic Chanelet, immediately noticed Francis' artistic qualities and started delegating him some painting tasks. This was Francis' first encounter with paint as until then he had mainly focused his skills on pencil drawing. *"At first, it was quite challenging as I had no experience of paint. But I was determined not to disappoint those who believed in me, as well as Mr. Chanelet, and to grow as an artist. I practised in my room every day, pushing myself to expand my set of skills."* It was at that stage in his life that he started drawing wildlife animals and landscapes. Inspired by his surroundings and by Main House art, he broadened his scope of interest and attended, whenever possible, art seminars in Nanyuki. *"The environment at Main House really changed my art life. I started developing a passion for animals and the environment, and realised what could be done through paint and colours."*

Francis officially joined the Main House staff in 2012. Fast forward to the end of 2017 and his unique talent caught the eye of one of our guests, who was so struck by his talent that they immediately decided to generously sponsor his further studies in art. Francis' dream then finally came true when, beginning of January this year, he started attending the BuruBuru Institute of Fine Arts. There, he will continue widening his scope of artistic skills by learning everything from sculpting, artistic graphic design to pottery. At first, we feared of losing him for good to the urban jungle that is Nairobi but happily for us, Francis continues coming back to Ol Jogi during his breaks, working together with us on several artistic projects whose ultimate aim are to help the surrounding communities and raise awareness with regard to the protection of wildlife. Indeed, as Francis explains: *"My dream today is to advance my talent as an artist so that I can one day give back to the community by teaching and raising young artists myself. Through my art and teachings, I wish to become a strong advocate for the wildlife and the protection of our endangered species, especially our rhino and elephants."*

The entire Ol Jogi family is extremely proud of Francis, and we are eagerly following his artistic development in the coming months. Watch this space as, together with Francis, we continue creating the beautiful story of art and wildlife coming together in the middle of Laikipia...

# PARTING WAYS: SIMON MAINA



It is an undeniable truth that each and every one of us will have our time to part ways. Here, we would like to mention one loyal and long serving staff member of the Ol Jogi family that has been with us through many decades and has accompanied us through all the changes we have undergone more recently. It is with sincere appreciation that we wish to thank Simon Maina, our Main House barman for his dedication and hard work for Ol Jogi.

Simon Maina had been working as the barman at the Mount Kenya Safari Club since 1972. It is in those early years that he met the Wildenstein family every time they came to enjoy the Mount Kenya Safari Club. In 1989, the family offered him to come join them at Ol Jogi, which he immediately accepted. Simon Maina took over a bar, which at the time was decorated with zebra patterns. Main House was still barely more than just a couple of simple cottages. The dining hall hadn't been built yet, nor the verandah and the pool was a simple square of water. Nanyuki was a good three to four hours drive away from Ol Jogi and trips to town were seldom, perhaps once a month at the most.

The new bar at Main House was finalised in 1992, and Simon Maina has been its main guardian ever since. Not one to drink himself, he knew every single cocktail composition and was the proud maker of the "Ol Jogi Special" drink: bacardi with lime and sugar. Simon Maina will leave a legacy of achievement, encouragement and work ethic that will never leave the new team of waiters that he has trained. He was an example of honesty and loyalty to the family company, as well as discretion. Always good-humoured, he will be missed for his kind smile and happy nature, which was always so pleasant to be greeted with. He has seen and helped the company move from what was solely a family home to becoming a world renowned nature conservancy supported by guests coming from all over the world, and we thank him for having contributed to making Ol Jogi what it is today.

As Simon Maina says himself, "Ol Jogi is my home" and he will keep coming and going between his own farm near Nanyuki and his home here with us.





## BOMA GATES FOR THE COMMUNITY

We, at Ol Jogi, have built a close working relationship with our neighbouring communities throughout decades and have done our best to support them as much as possible. It is not surprising therefore that we benefit from excellent relations with them. One kind of support that is much valued by our neighbours is our support given to their cattle, be it through material resources, veterinary care, or just sharing with them our experience and knowledge with regard to cattle rearing. Another form of support we regularly give them is access to their cattle for grazing on the conservancy grounds during times of drought.

One of our main neighbouring communities is the Il Polei community which borders our conservancy on the north eastern side. The 40 members of the Ilpolei Group Ranch had come together to practice holistic grazing by gathering 270 heads of cattle together. As a way to support them in those efforts, we gave them 20 “boma gates”, ie metal cattle gates, in March 2018. Indeed, concentrating cattle on specific

grazing grounds as a way to stop soil erosion, is an approach we believe in and support actively. From our own experience, we have seen how this approach allows for the fertilisation of otherwise eroded and impoverished soils. The boma gates are used to hold the stock in one site at night. The specific piece of land where the cattle is gathered overnight then receives lots of manure and the seeds contained in it. These are the essential elements that will enable soils to be enriched with new plants. This approach helps in reseeding and thus rehabilitating the overgrazed grounds, which, unfortunately, are common among our neighbouring communities.

We expect the boma gates to move after 2 weeks to increase the amount of acreage covered. The period can however be shortened in the wet season. So far the initial results are most promising and we will continue providing this support in the hope that this practice will assist the community in rehabilitating its grazing lands in the longer term.



# FOR RANGERS ULTRA

**Posterity:** This is the word most synonymous with worldwide conservation efforts these days. “We must save the wildlife for the generations to come; for our children”. These sentiments are as noble as they are necessary. It is obvious that the only way that we will stop the illicit trade in wildlife goods is through a strategic, multinational economic approach that addresses markets and demands. Whether it be through the destruction or control of those markets is open to debate, but fundamentally, it is the only way.

***‘For Rangers’ are a dedicated group of individuals who are raising money for the welfare of Rangers who risk their lives daily to protect Africa’s endangered species.***

Rather than just tell the story – the “For Rangers” team hope that by taking part in some of the hardest, most challenging ultra events on the planet, they can draw attention not only to the plight of Africa’s wildlife and the poaching crisis, but the hardships and dangers the Rangers are exposed to in trying to protect our wildlife - and in doing so, raise funds that go directly to Rangers’ welfare.

In April 2015 a five-person Running for Rangers team ran the infamous ‘Marathon des Sables’, a gruelling six- day, 250-kilometer multi-stage adventure race through a formidable landscape in one of the world’s most inhospitable climates, the Sahara Desert. In this, our first venture, our runners raised almost \$120,000 for Ranger’s welfare. With this, new uniforms, socks, thermal imagers, first aid equipment and hydration systems were bought for over 200 armed the Rangers in the field. Funds were provided towards an anti-poaching vehicle in the Mara and towards snake anti-venom development in Kenya. FR have also contributed to the families of Rangers killed in the line of duty.

The concept is growing. Aside from individuals running marathons and tough mudders for “For Rangers”, we have had 9 individuals running the infamous 250km jungle ultra in Peru, two ladies riding 1,000km across Mongolia and two men kayaking 1,000km down the Yukon River. Others have cycled from Capetown in South Africa to Nairobi in Kenya, visiting a multitude of wildlife conservancies on the way & meeting with many Rangers. In 2017, a group of 10 individuals ran a 260 km Ultra in the Namib Desert in Namibia – one of the most gruelling environment’s on the planet and in 2018 our Founders summited the 8<sup>th</sup> highest peak on the planet – Annapurna. This was in fact just training for their upcoming attempt to summit Mt. Everest in 2019. There have been a multitude of other incredible feats accomplished by FR members and every cent raised goes directly to the welfare of the men on the frontline of the battle that will buy us the time to win the war to save our wildlife - for posterity.

Source: [www.forrangers.com](http://www.forrangers.com)







# FOR RANGERS

## THE FOR RANGERS ULTRA

Whilst undertaking some of these extreme adventures, the thought to develop our own Ultra-marathon was conceived. It would be impossible to coordinate this by ourselves and we would need professional help; the task was daunting but not insurmountable!

For Rangers partnered with Save the Rhino International (<https://www.savetherhino.org/>) and Beyond the Ultimate (<https://beyondtheultimate.co.uk/>) and the plan started to take shape. What better environment to run an ultra marathon; Kenya is arguably the home of long-distance running, the runners would get to meet with the Rangers for whom money was being raised and they could witness first-hand, the wildlife that we are striving to protect.

After more than one year of organising, in August 2018, the runners were finally on the start line of the race at Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. They would be running 220 kilometres through Borana Conservancy, Ole Naishu Ranch, Lolldaiga Ranch, Ol Jogi Conservancy and finishing on the equator line within Ol Pejeta Conservancy some 5 days later. Our job, in addition to the logistical requirement of such an undertaking, would be to ensure that they managed to get through this environment safely, which is not as easy as said. The beautiful land that they would be traversing is inundated with elephants, rhinos, lions, buffalo and more. Our Rangers would be scattered across the course to prevent such eventualities whilst fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters liaised with vehicles on the ground to clear the respective route.

The race was a tremendous success. The reports from the runners have been nothing but complimentary and more importantly, significant funding for the cause was raised. The 2019 ultra has already been sold out within minutes of being published and we hope that this will be a sustainable source of funding that contributes to conservation and the “all too often forgotten” Rangers.

## FOR RANGERS

In 2018 Ol Jogi has received considerable donations from the FR team. FR has committed to take out a life insurance policy for over 1,000 Rangers across Africa and we are delighted that the Ol Jogi Rangers were included in the selection process. Whilst undertaking their incredibly dangerous work, our Rangers will at least have the comfort that if injured or worse, their families will be taken care of; this is undoubtedly a psychological burden that many Rangers in Africa must face.

“For Rangers” have donated various items of clothing to the Ol Jogi Rangers and we also eagerly anticipate a fully functional Cross-fit gym that includes training. Ranger work is often physically challenging and physical fitness is both essential but also a prerequisite of the job. We hope that by providing the necessary equipment to attain certain levels of fitness we can both inspire the Rangers and also give them the assets required to better achieve their respective goals.





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