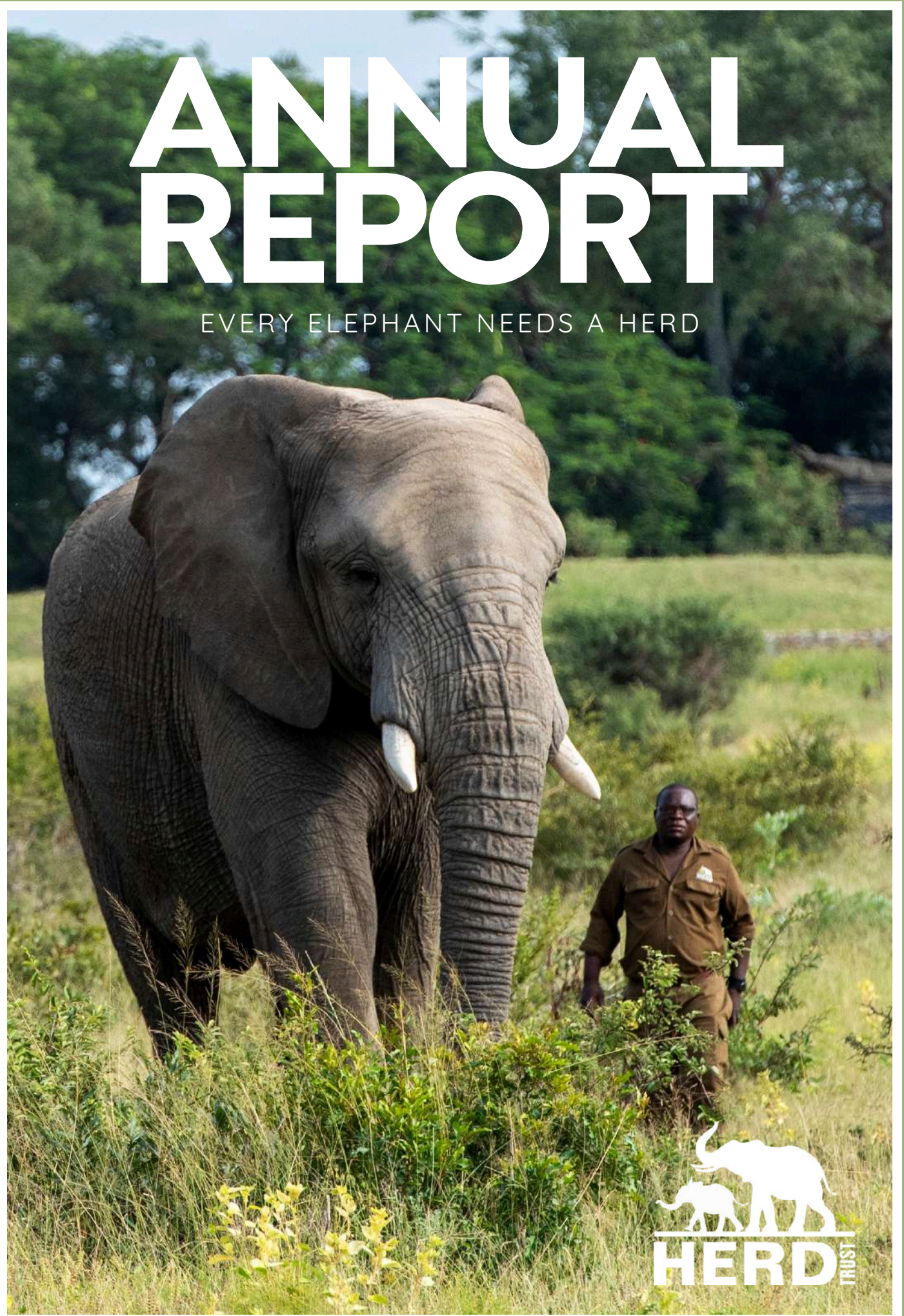


MARCH 2023 - FEBRUARY 2024

ANNUAL REPORT

EVERY ELEPHANT NEEDS A HERD



HOEDSPRUIT ELEPHANT REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT



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A YEAR IN REVIEW

MARCH



Elephant Bull, Mambo, goes missing

Khanyisa has her final weigh in at one tonne

HERD's Second Annual Trails For Trunks, dedicated to uniting the HERD community and getting active for World Elephant Day



AUGUST

SEPTEMBER



Khanyisa turns 4 years old

HERD helps two orphan rhinos at HESC

Companion sheep Nungu passes away

Tokwe sends her carers on a nighttime search mission



OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



Phabeni is rescued and arrives at HERD after being found alone on a private property near the Kruger National Park.

Spotty the lamb joins the orphanage as a companion sheep

Treating a Poaching Survivor, Ike the Rhino



DECEMBER

JANUARY



Phabeni meets Jabulani trunk-to-trunk

Phabeni meets Lundi and Phabeni successfully suckles

Phabeni is introduced to the herd and forms a surprising bond with new adoptive mother, Setombe



FEBRUARY



ADINE ROODE

A message from our founder

HERD is four years old. Four years is not long in the greater scheme of things, but our journey with the elephants started in 1997 when orphan bull Jabulani was rescued. It was reinvigorated in 2002 when the herd from Zimbabwe was rescued and relocated to our reserve. Many of our carers have been with us for as long as the older elephants, travelling to South Africa with Sebakwe, Tokwe, Lundi, Setombe, Somopane, Fishan and Bubi.

It is endearing to think of the bonds between man and elephant formed over more than 22 years. The wisdom and experience our carers share with each new team member is invaluable, like a great Tusker passing on his knowledge of life to an askari, a young bull in the company of older bulls.

Over these years, we have seen an incredible community grow. People worldwide have discovered the Jabulani herd through our videos, photographs, and stories. They have found inspiration from the herd and created bonds with individual elephants. These supporters give so much time, energy, and kindness to help animals miles away. This is true compassion.

“*The wisdom and experience our carers share with each new team member is invaluable, like a great Tusker passing on his knowledge of life to an askari, a young bull in the company of older bulls.*”

When a new calf is rescued and brought to HERD, it spurs a whole wave of love, with people rooting for the orphan and his survival. 2023 saw a new orphan arrive in our care, little bull Phabeni, who has kept us on our toes since his arrival. He is one feisty little elephant with a distinct personality, demanding all of our attention, day and night.

We are motivated to protect and provide for every elephant in our care, the orphans and their families, and to see little ones growing, changing, and flourishing in their wilderness. We are spurred on to grow in our knowledge, understanding and experience, to better help displaced orphans and the species as a whole.

I'd like to thank you for caring about our journey with the elephants, and for doing your bit to give orphans a second chance at life with a herd.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

South African Trustees



Adine Roode



Anke Reynders



Gert van den Berg



Louis Barend Marais

Elephant Advisors



Prof. Rob Slotow



Prof. Andre Ganswindt



Dr. Peter Rogers



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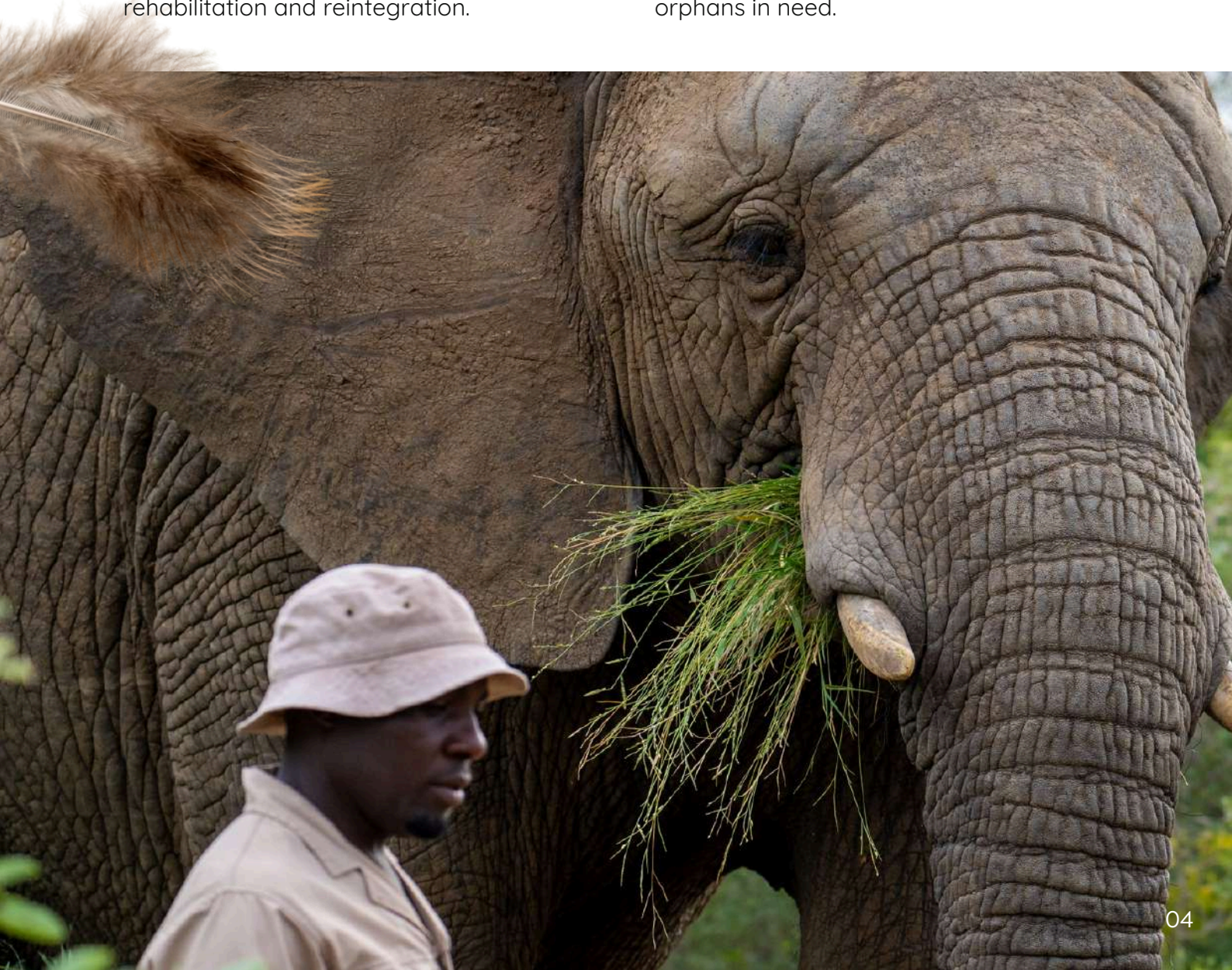


ABOUT HERD

Our journey spans over many years, starting with a single orphaned elephant calf named Jabulani who was rescued in 1997...

In these early years, HERD founder Adine Roode's mother, Lente was faced with the challenge of finding a way to reintegrate elephant orphan Jabulani into an accepting elephant herd to meet his needs for a loving social structure. This was no easy task since the wild herds would not accept Jabulani. The experience gained by the whole team while raising Jabulani gave us a unique understanding of the intricacies of elephant orphan rehabilitation and reintegration.

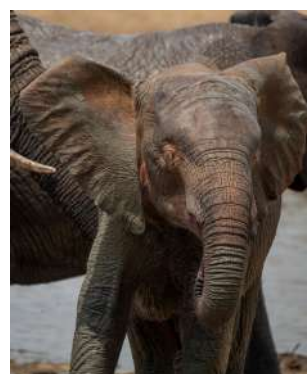
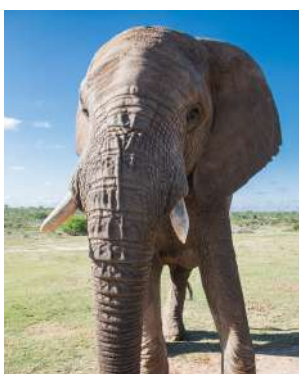
In 2002, a herd of orphan elephants was rescued from Zimbabwe during violent land reforms and brought into the care of the Roode family. The herd surprised us all and opened their hearts to orphan Jabulani. The young bull was successfully adopted into the new herd, marking the start of our unique elephant reintegration process. Over the years, we have seen amazing growth. In 2019, Adine's dream of a dedicated orphanage was realised and established to house orphaned elephant calves. Later, HERD Trust was registered as a PBO. Today, the integrated elephant herd known as the Jabulani herd is a proud family of 17 elephants, of which 12 were previously orphaned, including the newest member, Phabeni. As South Africa's first dedicated elephant orphanage, we are committed to providing a haven for elephant orphans in need.



MEET THE HERD



Sebakwe, Tokwe, Lundi, Bubi, Setombe, Somopane, Fishan, Mambo, Zindoga, Klaserie, Pisa, Limpopo, Jabulani, Kumbura, Timisa, Khanyisa, Phabeni.





A SPECIAL HERD

Collectively, the herd is known as the Jabulani elephant herd. In addition, HERD also looks after two dedicated companion sheep (Spotty and Lammie) who serve as foster parents to orphaned elephants at the orphanage. The elephants in the care of HERD are unique in their social structure and behaviour. In the wild, elephants seldom intervene to adopt abandoned or displaced elephant calves, but the Jabulani herd of elephants is different.

The love and acceptance that this herd has displayed have transcended expectations. Many of the elephants that form part of this unit have had a traumatic and chaotic past, but despite this, or perhaps because of this, they have opened their hearts to adopting new orphan calves time and time again.





CARING FOR A UNIQUE HERD OF ELEPHANTS

A unique herd requires unique care. Our elephants roam freely in the wilderness during the day and return to the comfort of the homestead at night, where they receive additional feed and protection from predators at night, and daily health checks each morning. Adjacent to the homestead is the elephant orphanage, where orphaned calves start their journey to recovery and begin the process of being integrated into their adoptive herd.

It is pivotal for the well-being of all elephants to have a social structure. Elephants are incredibly emotional creatures who cannot thrive without the support of other elephants. It is this knowledge that drives the sentiment behind our motto, “Every elephant needs a herd.”



THE JABULANI HERD'S YEAR





AN UPDATE ON KHANYISA

In 2020, Khanyisa was discovered by two employees of the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency, on a nature reserve near the south-west of the Kruger National Park. Khanyisa's survival is nothing short of a miracle. When she was found, her eyes had swollen shut from the pressure of being trapped in a snare. She was dehydrated and had sustained deep cuts from being caught in the wire for so long. Upon her arrival at HERD, she was a fragile calf who needed to heal from severe physical and emotional wounds. After treating her physical injuries, we chose an adult cow, Lundi to be Khanyisa's adoptive mother. Following their introduction, the two took to one another instantly. Lundi proved to be an exceptional mother.

Today, Khanyisa is thriving and is well-established in her adopted herd, which watches over her lovingly and attentively each day. As Khanyisa has grown, we have seen her character develop beautifully. She is very confident, curious, determined and friendly. She is often seen beside her older sister Timisa, another orphaned calf who arrived at herd in 2016. Khanyisa and Timisa enjoy grazing together and keeping the older elephants busy with their antics.

Khanyisa has been a source of hope and inspiration and has survived against the odds. We are proud to report that in August of 2023, she met a huge milestone when her final weigh-in broke the scale at one tonne.





FIVE YEARS OF HEALING FOR FISHAN THE SURVIVOR

For years now, brave elephant bull Fishan has been working towards recovery after sustaining a serious leg injury. In 2018, after falling into a man-made pit concealed by grass, Fishan broke his leg. His injury proved difficult to heal but thankfully he had a great support system to help him through this difficult time. Fishan's long journey to healing has required plaster casts, treatment for pain management and a lot of downtime. During some of the most crucial stages of his healing, he was kept behind at the HERD homestead while the rest of the elephants spent time in the bushveld. While Fishan was most certainly a bit lonely, his carers tended to him, often talking to him, playing him music and even reading aloud to him to keep him entertained.

Five years on, Fishan is healing well. He is now able to spend time out in the bush again with his herd members who keep an eye on him to ensure that he is well and keeping up with the other elephants. While Fishan still struggles with a pressure wound that requires frequent treatment, he continues to prove his strength every day as he challenges the boundaries set forth by his injuries. We are so grateful for the support our followers have shown Fishan over these years of healing. From Fishan, his carers and the rest of the HERD team, we thank you for being a constant source of positivity and generosity for our elephants in need.

PHABENI

Phabeni means “shelter”

Little Phabeni was rescued in November of 2023. He was found on a private property near the Kruger National Park. With the help of veterinarians, Phabeni was tranquilised and transported to HERD where the nursery was ready for his arrival. Named by the HERD rescue team (Tigere, Joshua and Stavros), Phabeni means “shelter” in Sotho. This name was chosen to honour Phabeni gate where Phabeni first met the HERD team and to honour how the calf had sought shelter in the yard of a woman who helped to save his life.

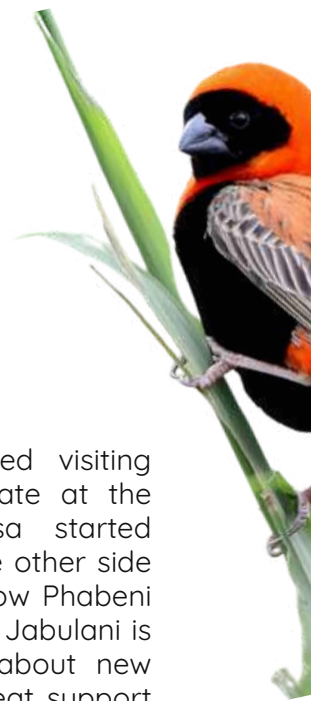
At the time of his arrival, Phabeni was underweight and only four months old. He has certainly challenged us during milk bottle feedings, and developed a habit of head-butting the team while they try to feed him. He seems to be a typically overly energetic young bull, and would much rather run around than bother with meal times.



Jabulani and Khanyisa started visiting Phabeni at the orphanage gate at the beginning of 2024. Khanyisa started drinking her milk bottles on the other side of the fence as we tried to show Phabeni what a good drinker looks like. Jabulani is typically caring and curious about new orphans and gave Phabeni great support through his daily visits.

Jabulani was the first elephant in the herd to meet Phabeni trunk-to-trunk. It was a great success, as he let Phabeni walk under him during the first introduction as the little bull explored the environment. An amazing moment came as Lundi and Phabeni met next, without any barriers. Lundi allowed the bull to suckle from her, and gracefully welcomed him into her space. Sebakwe and Somopane were added to the introductions next, and also welcomed the bull calmly and curiously. The most surprising occasion happened when Setombe was introduced to Phabeni, along with her daughter Klaserie.

Setombe has never shown much interest in the new orphans accepted into the herd, but something in Phabeni caught her eye, and heart, and from the very first introduction, she decided he was hers. She fearlessly and confidently took him in and decided for herself that she would be his adoptive mother. It was love at first sight.





Phabeni was then introduced to the whole elephant herd, including Bubi, Zindoga, Mambo, Khanyisa, Timisa, Kumbura, Pisa and Limpopo. During each new meeting, Setombe continued to step in and protect him. She wants to be the closest to him, and will follow him around the homestead to keep him within reach.

Like some of the other females, Setombe lets the tiny bull suckle from her, and although there is no milk being produced, this provides great comfort and bonding for both elephants.

Setombe, the oldest female elephant in the herd, is showering Phabeni with the same affection she has always given to her first calf, Klaserie. Klaserie has been very accepting of her new little brother too, helping to keep him safe and sound.



Over the months, Phabeni has enjoyed walks in the wilderness with his carers and sheep companions, to get him used to the bush, the wild scents and give him stimulation and exercise in nature. He thoroughly enjoys these outings and we often see his blanket flapping in the wind as he races down the dirt roads.

Over this financial period at HERD, we were able to raise funds for the support of Phabeni, as we see to his essentials, such as medical treatments and check-ups, milk, supplementary food, carers, housing at the orphanage, and more.

Khanyisa is warming up to Phabeni. It is the first time she has interacted with such a small elephant, and she must be used to being the baby of the herd. Amazingly though, after a rough start, with a few kicks delivered to Phabeni, Khanyisa has started to shadow the calf and is quickly becoming a protective sister to him. Kumbura is also showing great interest in this new baby, and we are excited to see how this relationship changes and develops over time. This is a great chance for all the elephants to grow and deepen in their socialising and their mother and allomother skills.







TOKWE SENDS HER CARERS ON A NIGHTTIME SEARCH MISSION

One evening as the herd returned to the homestead, the elephant carers noticed that devoted matriarch Tokwe was missing - likely chasing after wild elephants. This was unusual and concerning as Tokwe's priority lies with her herd. The homestead carers jumped into action to look for Tokwe, but as the setting sun made their search efforts difficult, they resorted to using old spotlights borrowed from Jabulani Safari lodge and car headlights to light their way but with little effect. In addition to the difficulties faced with providing light to search for Tokwe, the carers found it hard to communicate with each other in the darkness of the remote bush. Thankfully, as we had hoped, Tokwe returned later that evening to the homestead to resume her matriarchal duties, much to the relief of her herd and carers. This experience inspired a campaign to gather donations for spotlights and radios as a contingency measure that will ensure the safety and efficiency of the carers should they find themselves in a similar situation in the future.

ELEPHANT BULL, MAMBO GOES MISSING

Elephant bull Mambo, who is well known for his mischievous nature, has always kept the team on their toes. Whether in search of marulas or adventure, Mambo disappeared while out in the bush, leaving the team to search for him over several days. After much stress, the drastic decision was made to hire a helicopter to find Mambo, and a vet to dart him so we could bring the herd to him. This was especially necessary since Mambo is acclimated towards humans and therefore may find himself in a situation that could cause harm to himself or people in the reserve. Mambo has tried to join other wild herds before, but has not been successful in winning their acceptance. Outside of the care of HERD we cannot ensure that Mambo will be safe from harm. Fortunately, thanks to financial help from our supporters, we were able to get Mambo back to his herd, who were thoroughly excited to see him again.





SAYING GOODBYE TO BELOVED SHEEP COMPANION, NUNGU

In March of 2021, Nungu joined HERD to enjoy her retirement after many years working as a devoted companion sheep and surrogate mother to many orphaned wildlife. During this time, Nungu forged a beautiful friendship with HERD's own elephant-orphan companion sheep, Lammie; together, they would spend their days side by side grazing and at night, they would sleep beside each other. Nungu, being an old sheep, began to decline in health as her old age had made her body tired. One day, she was unable to walk and was carried into her stable for the night by Xander (Adine's son). It was for this reason that a heartbreaking call was made to let Nungu rest in peace. Nungu's legacy lives on in the many orphaned animals she so gently cared for in their most vulnerable years, from zebras and rhinos to elephants. Nungu was outstanding in her gentleness and is greatly missed.

INTRODUCING SPOTTY, A NEW COMPANION SHEEP TO HERD

After the sad passing of companion sheep Nungu, we knew we needed a friend for Lammie, and a sheep that could learn the ropes from this wise elder to assist future elephant orphans. Enter: new companion lamb, Spotty in December of 2023. Spotty has adapted well to life at the orphanage and has proven his skills as a companion sheep, forging strong connections with Lammie, Phabeni and even Nandi, Adine's German Shepherd dog. Spotty has brought new life to HERD and can often be found bouncing around and challenging Lammie or his human carers to a game of headbutting, when he isn't too busy receiving head scratches or grazing around the gardens. We trust that Spotty will continue to be a precious asset to the HERD family and to future elephant orphans who need a nurturing and accepting presence during their most vulnerable years.



HERD STEPS IN TO HELP TWO RHINO ORPHANS

HERD's Founder, Adine stepped in to help two rhino orphans, named Bula and Peter, who were rescued and taken to HESC (Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre) in early 2024. After a particularly bad poaching season, many rhino sanctuaries started filling up again with new rhino orphans who were victims of poaching or displaced for other reasons related to human-animal conflict.



The two rhino orphans arrived at HESC in distress. Bula was taken in as his elderly mother could not produce enough milk to sustain him. Peter lost his mother, we believe, while she was protecting Peter from an elephant. Adine has extensive experience working in rhino rehabilitation and successfully earned the trust of the two feisty rhinos, helping to give them milk bottles and the comfort they needed at the most fragile stage of their rescue.



TREATING A POACHING SURVIVOR

Ike and Philippa are two rhino poaching survivors who have found safety and comfort in the reserve surrounding HERD. In 2015, after being tranquilised by poachers and having his horns brutally hacked off, Ike was left for dead before rescuers came to his aid. Thankfully Ike recovered. However, the wounds of his past still caused him trouble. Ike's injuries sustained from poachers left an open wound where his top horn once was. In December 2023 it was decided that Adine and wildlife vet, Dr. Peter Rogers would intervene to help treat his wound once again so that he could properly recover.

With the kind assistance of Animal Survival International, an organisation that helps threatened and injured animals around the world, funds were made available to allow for a pricey but vital operation to take place. After being tracked down and tranquilised, Ike's wound was examined and treated to prevent any further damage. Ike was then safely released and rejoined Philippa in the wild. Ike's journey to rehabilitation has been possible thanks to a number of dedicated groups, such as Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre and Saving the Survivors. We are forever grateful to these conservation heroes as well as the incredible individuals who have been a part of Ike's rescue through their anti-poaching efforts.





PROJECTS

HERD proudly subscribes to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which were adopted as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and work towards achieving peace and prosperity for all. Aligned with these goals HERD acknowledges that we are responsible for maintaining a delicate balance between social, economic and environmental sustainability. With this understanding, we extend ourselves to not only rehabilitate and reintegrate elephant orphans, but also to develop the land and communities surrounding us.

As a proudly South African organisation, we immensely value our HERD community projects. Without our local community, it would be impossible for us to operate successfully. HERD is committed to being active within our local communities through education and awareness, and through our global online communities. Elephants might be our key focus at HERD, but we cannot protect them without ensuring our communities are cared for too, and that they understand the value of protecting elephants, and keeping them alive.



SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

WORMERY, AQUAPONICS & BANA GRASS



The HERD wormery and aquaponics garden was established as a means of recycling food waste and providing nutrient-rich fertiliser to the homestead food garden and bana grass fields that serve as additional elephant feed. Each of these agriculturally themed projects supports our goals of being sustainable while also serving a practical purpose. The bana grass fields allow us to supplement the elephants' diets, thus relieving some of the pressure off the wilderness areas around the HERD homestead. The aquaponics garden serves as a food source and an educational space with the dual purpose of inspiring visitors to adopt sustainable practices into their daily lives.

JABULADIES

Empowering local women in the community, the JabuLadies project was launched in 2021 in response to the lack of employment opportunities in and around Hoedspruit. Since its inception, it has served as a lifeline for women facing limited job options due to family responsibilities. JabuLadies is a supportive space where women are offered the flexibility to work from home, earn additional income and develop valuable skills through training. These ladies craft beautiful products (such as elephant dung paper and soap, embroidered bookmarks and beaded bracelets) sold on the HERD website and at the Jabulani Safari lodge curio shop.



THE BOKASHI AND COMPOST PROJECT

The Bokashi Project was started as a means of recycling waste produced in the homestead by the elephants. The project uses food scraps mixed with Bokashi (a mixture of grains and micro-organisms) to jump-start the fermentation process that creates nutrient-rich compost. The compost that is made from food scraps is mixed with elephant dung and used as a fertiliser for the bana grass fields, food gardens and for growing seeds for our land restoration efforts. The project plays a crucial role in reducing waste that may otherwise be left in a landfill while increasing the nutrients within the soil to promote new growth.



LAND RESTORATION

In continuance of the land restoration project (a key element of HERD's ongoing environmental management plan), 2023/2024 has been a period of growth and regeneration. The project began to mitigate the environmental impact of the Jabulani herd's overgrazing in concentrated areas and to restore previously damaged parts of the land surrounding the homestead back to its original wild state. The project's goal has been to reduce soil erosion, replant endemic species to foster biodiversity and preserve water sources.



Part one of the restoration project saw 50 hectares of land restored, but this project is ongoing, and a lot has been done to maintain and build upon the restoration process. With the help of the JabuLadies, HERD has made significant progress in the following areas:

- Removal of alien/invasive plant species and rehabilitation of cultivated land.
- Restoring balance to overgrazed areas by creating a nurturing, fertile environment for natural plant species to thrive, thanks to brushpacking and covering exposed areas with elephant dung, recycled thatching grass and leftover elephant feed.
- Promotion of biodiversity through the cultivation of natural grasses and trees.
- Curbing debarking and destruction of saplings and key tree species by planting concrete pyramids to prevent wild elephants disturbing their growth.
- Managing soil erosion by filling gullies and unwanted run-off areas and preserving water sources used by wildlife in the surrounding areas.

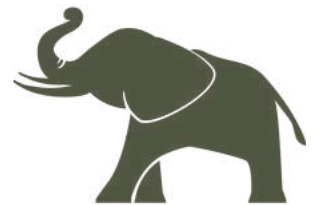
JABUGIN

Expertly crafted by Indlovu Gin, JabuGin is a delicious full-bodied, aromatic gin with a unique flavour.

Reminiscent of the essence of the African wilderness, JabuGin achieves its earthy, grassy flavour using elephant dung as a botanical infusion. The elephant dung used in JabuGin is collected from the elephants at HERD Trust. It is then cleaned and dried to incorporate the very best elements of the beautifully fragrant bushveld.

Over the years, the sale of JabuGin has been limited to being sold locally at Jabulani Lodge and through the online store, but excitingly this year we have been able to start shipping across the world.

Each bottle of JabuGin raises vital funds for HERD Trust and serves as an interesting conversation starter that, in turn, raises awareness for elephant conservation. We call it a message in a bottle, as it spreads the stories of our herd and the elephant species far and wide, while sparking topics of sustainability and caring for our earth.





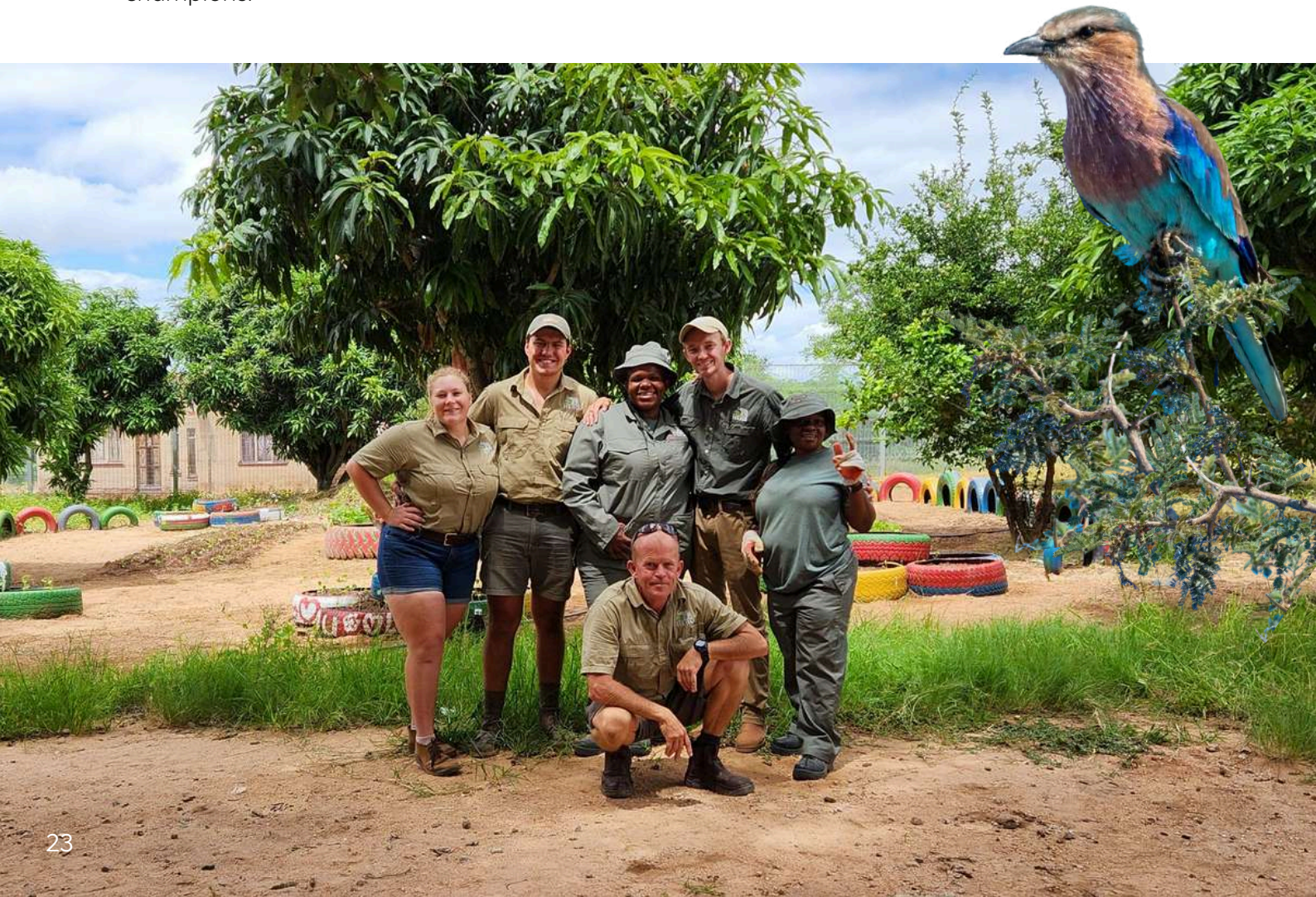
PARTNERSHIPS

PARTNERING WITH NEWBRIDGE GRADUATE INSTITUTES' CONSERVATION STUDENTS

At HERD, we are committed to inspiring and nurturing leaders in the conservation field. Our ongoing commitment to do so has led to various collaborations with educational institutions and student-led groups. One of these collaborations is with the NewBridge Graduate Institute. Each year, we enjoy hosting two conservation students and offering them practical experience over several months. The experience that these students gain from HERD helps equip them with the expertise and knowledge they need to make an impact in their field. We are grateful to have the honour of working with these passionate students, and we hope to see each of them become conservation champions.

CUSTODIAN PROGRAMME WITH RECLAIMED EARTH

In 2023, HERD enjoyed an amazing week with the upbeat Reclaimed Earth volunteers who joined us as we piloted our vision of having a fully-fledged custodian programme. The eager group got stuck into a week packed with elephant-themed activities, including tidying up the elephant homestead, collecting feed for the elephants, meeting three of the herd's bull elephants, touring the HERD homestead and enjoying an informative talk on conservation from wildlife vet, Dr. Peter Rogers. The group also assisted in our community outreach by helping to install gum poles for shade netting for the children of Xilaveko Day Care. Their final day was spent enjoying the reserve and visiting the waterhole for game viewing.



LESSONS IN CONSERVATION

Many children in the rural communities around HERD have never seen wildlife despite living so close to nature. To change this, HERD partnered with Lessons in Conservation (LIC), a youth-led non-profit teaching learners about wildlife and the environment. Together with veterinary students from the University of Pretoria, we engaged 20 Grade 7 learners through interactive lessons. Thanks to the assistance of Badger Tacks and Jabulani Safari, the learners visited HERD to meet the elephants and experience the wildlife they had learned about first-hand.



NDLOPFU GOGOS, BLACK MAMBAS AND THE BUSH BABIES

We were honoured to welcome the Ndlopfu Gogos (Elephant Grandmothers) from Elephants Alive and the Black Mambas, an all-female anti-poaching unit of 22 women, for a special morning. As part of our community awareness programme, local matriarchs—much like those in elephant herds—visited to learn about our elephants. Many of these Gogos had never seen an elephant before, and it was a privilege to witness Jabulani, Sebakwe and Somopane share a trunk greeting with them.

Over the year, we welcomed the Bush Babies Environmental Education Programme to HERD four times.

Created by Transfrontier Africa and managed by Lewyn Maefala, the programme educates children from communities around the Greater Kruger National Park about conservation with regular assistance by the Black Mambas. The Bush Babies programme gives children who have never seen wild animals the chance to experience them firsthand.

At HERD, we provide these children with an opportunity to learn about elephants and observe them up close, fostering understanding and care for wildlife. By reducing fear and encouraging curiosity, we hope to inspire future generations to make informed decisions that support conservation.



THE NKOSI BAR PROJECT

Education plays a pivotal role in ensuring the future of conservation. At HERD, we pay special attention to educating young learners through school visits over the year. We introduce them to our elephant mascot and engage them in games and fun activities to create an engaging space for them to ask questions and learn about conservation and elephants.

In partnership with Jemeyana (formerly Mpisi) School, HERD and our faithful corporate sponsors at NTT Toyota Hoedspruit have continued to support the learners in their nutritional development by delivering Nkosi Bars to them, transported to the school with the generous help of Freight Care Logistics.

Nkosi bars are nutritionally balanced and full of vitamins and minerals. Each of the students we accommodate in this programme receives three Nkosi bars each week.

This nutritional supplementation initiative requires consistent support as we are helping to play a critical role in supporting the children's early development. The Nkosi bar initiative was started to improve nutrition amongst the young learners at Jemeyana School, located in the underdeveloped community surrounding HERD.

Malnutrition is a leading cause of irreversible physical and cognitive impairment among our children and is a leading cause of death among children in South Africa. These children are the future custodians of conservation in our country, and they form a part of our own 'greater herd'.

HERD and NTT Toyota Hoedspruit supported 170 children in Grade 1 with 15500 Nkosi Bar meals. Jabulani Lodge also contributed towards the Grade R group of children, providing another 15500 Nkosi Bar meals to approximately 170 children.

In total, Jemeyana School received 30100 Nutritional Nkosi Bars for the children in this financial year.





PLANTING FOOD GARDENS

In conjunction with the Nkosi bar programme, HERD has been working on maintaining the fruit and vegetable garden at Jemayana School. Initiatives like these remind us of how important it is to be a part of a larger community (an extended herd) because together we have a greater impact.

Thanks to the kind donation of seedlings from Benica Fruits and Veggies in Acornhoek and WD Seedlings in Tzaneen, a variety of fruits and vegetables have been planted at the school. By maintaining and planting these gardens, we hope to improve the nutritional well-being of the learners.

We would like to thank Bennedictor, the manager of Benico Farms for offering us a tour of his farm and showing us his conservation efforts in the form of beekeeping. As thanks, we gave them a few bags of compost from our Bokashi project. We look forward to building a fruitful partnership with Benico Farms and WD Seedlings in the future through our shared love of the community and conservation.

PLANTING TREES FOR A BEAUTIFUL FUTURE

Thanks to Tree Factor, a nursery located in Letsitele we were able to plant a variety of fruit trees at Jemeyana School in July of 2023. Their generous donation of seven trees included Pomelo, Lemon, Lime, Kumquat, Orange, Mango and Pomegranate. It is our ongoing mission to plant more trees to complement the many endemic tree species already planted on the school grounds of Jemayana in 2022 as well as this year's variety of fruit trees.

PACK FOR A PURPOSE

In partnership with Jabulani Safari, HERD has been working to support Xilaveko Day Care Centre with much-needed donations of goods in kind. The day care, founded by Obert Chauke and Ivy Sibuyi, was created with the goal of assisting the local community who face the challenge of poverty, unemployment and hunger. This year, guests and donors packaged 37.73kg of goodies for the schoolchildren, including school, medical and kitchen supplies, which were distributed at the day care.

RESEARCH & AWARENESS



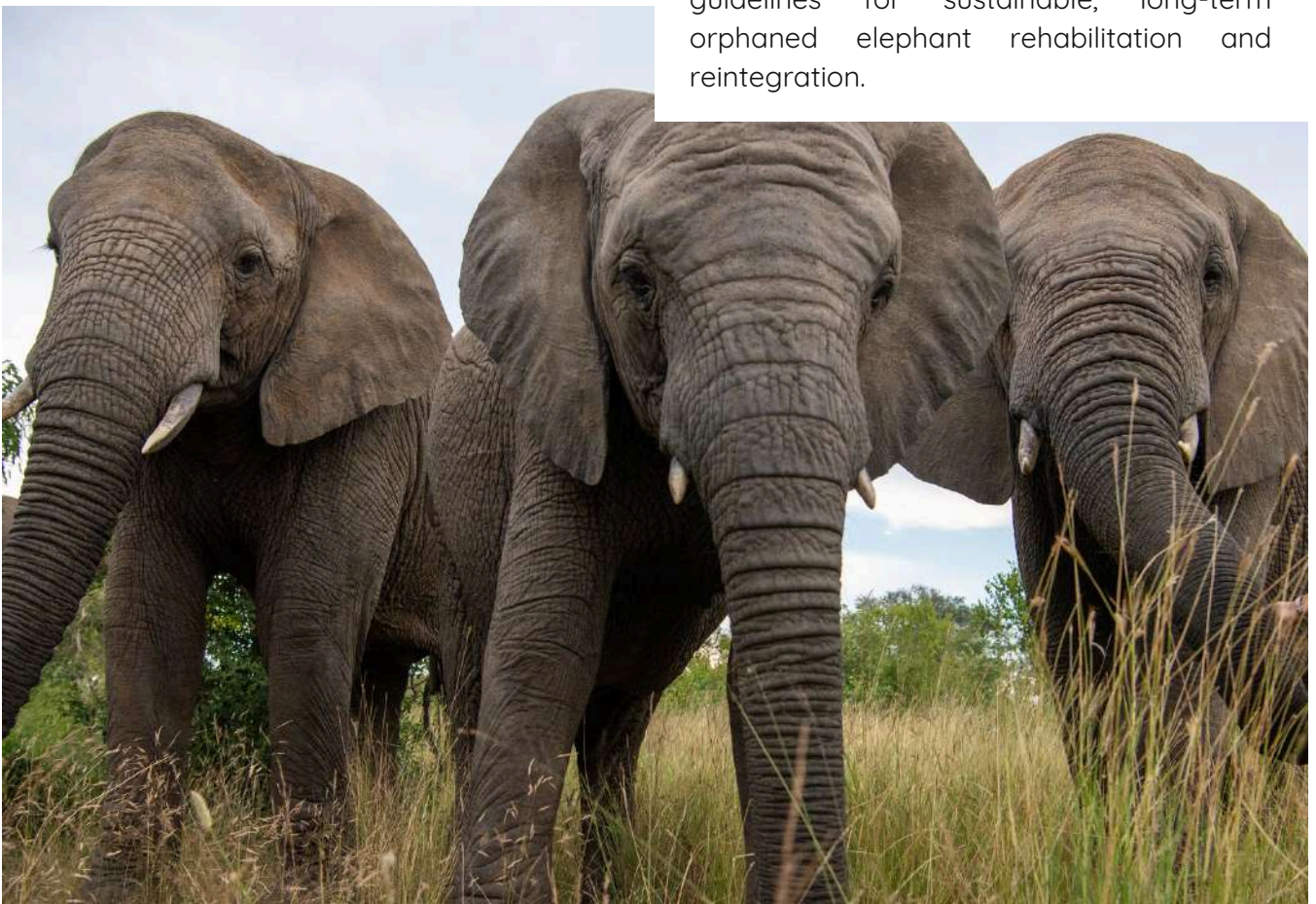
ELEPHANT BEHAVIOUR SERIES ON YOUTUBE

In keeping up with the latest elephant research, this year saw the start of our informative series on social media delving into the intricacies of elephant behaviour. Thanks to Elephant Voices who have openly shared their Elephant Ethogram, we have been highlighting their lessons in videos featuring our footage of the Jabulani herd. In this way, we are helping to spread awareness of this fascinating research into elephant behaviour and educate people around the world in entertaining ways.

RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

Elephant Dung: We have continued to capture data in the form of dung for our studies into our elephant herd's well-being. By analysing dung and urine glucocorticoid levels with Dr André Ganswindt, Director of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences Mammal Research Institute (University of Pretoria), we can measure the stress levels experienced by our elephants.

Daily Operational Research and Data Capturing: Our daily operational research and data capturing allow us to develop ethical and responsible industry standards as we explore new ground. We are continually developing the best practice guidelines for sustainable, long-term orphaned elephant rehabilitation and reintegration.





EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

TRAILS FOR TRUNKS

In honor of World Elephant Day, August of 2023 marked HERD's second annual Trails For Trunks event. We hosted both a physical event in Pretoria, and a virtual event welcoming elephant lovers from all over the world to show their support for elephants by getting active for elephants. For the virtual event, people posted photos of themselves dancing, swimming, running, walking, hiking and engaging in other activities on social media with the hashtags #worlddelephantday and #trailsfortrunks.

HIGHLIGHTS

GlobalGiving Little by Little campaign, "Help an Elephant, Help a HERD," dedicated to caring for the Jabulani herd

World Milk Day, dedicated to raising funds for Khanyisa's milk formula.

GlobalGiving Bonus Day, raising funds for Fishan and his medical expenses.

Jacket & Beanie Campaign, raising funds for jackets and beanies for the elephant carers.

GlobalGiving Little by Little campaign, dedicated to the HERD Land Restoration Project.

Blanket competition, for Khanyisa's fourth birthday, gifting a lucky foster parent with one of Khanyisa's blankets.



World Food Day, raising funds for Nkosi Bars and our School Nutrition Project.

Radio and spotlight campaign, dedicated to raising funds for emergency radios and spotlights for the HERD team.

GlobalGiving GivingTuesday campaign, raising funds for the care of Phabeni.

94.7 Ride Joburg, where cyclists represented HERD to raise awareness for our cause.



GOODS IN KIND

We were grateful to receive extra support through donations of goods in kind. Thank you to the below companies who donated goods in kind valued at more than \$3000 or R10,000 to HERD Trust.

Freight Care Logistics

for sponsoring courier delivery of Nkosi Bars boxes monthly from Johannesburg to Hoedspruit to the learners in our school nutrition project.

Pezulu Tree House Lodge

sponsored an accommodation prize for our Trails for Trunks World Elephant Day event.

FStop Foundation

for the donation of camera traps for the homestead so that we can monitor the herd behaviour and activities day and night.

Soleil Citrus

donated citrus fruit for our elephants during the year.

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

A special thank you to all our donors who donated more than \$3000 or R10,000 to HERD Trust.

Animal Survival international
Amarula Trust
Bernadette Ghenne
Bonnie and Stuart Samuel
Cacy Williams Aspero
Caroline Dollon
Carolyn Sanger
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)
Cheryl Moore
Christelle Wates
Christine Hafner
Darylan Stratten
David De Tour
Drew Thornton for Jenna Meyerowitz
Izindlovu Fund
Jennifer Mok

JoAnn Ginkel
John Spesak
Julian Wilczek
Krista Freece
Laura Curtin
Marc Wyss
Mark and Joan Loebel
Monika R. Biller Unold
Niarra Travel
NTT Toyota Hoedspruit
Our Africa. Travel
Patricia Horn
Rita Van Vliet
Sally Larson
The Henley House Veterinary Clinic
The Perfect World Foundation
Reclaimed Earth Volunteers





HOW TO GIVE

There are many ways to support HERD, to help protect and support our elephants. To learn more and find out how you can make a difference, visit www.herd.org.za.

Donations

herd.org.za/donate

Wishlist

herd.org.za/product-category/our-wishlist

Online Shop/Merchandise

herd.org.za/merchandise

Corporate Collaboration

herd.org.za/our-network

Fundraisers

herd.org.za/fundraising

Ambassadors

media@herd.org.za

Gifts/Bequests

herd.org.za/help-the-herd/leave-a-legacy

Elephant Adoptions

herd.org.za/adopt-an-elephant

Projects

herd.org.za/projects

GlobalGiving

www.globalgiving.org

GivenGain

www.givengain.com/c/herdtrust

MySchool

www.myschool.co.za

Benevity

benevity.com

Crypto Currency

herd.org.za/cryptocurrency-donations



Through Elephant Moments, we have been able to bring in revenue for HERD Trust and provide opportunities to the local community, schools, volunteers, and the public to learn more about elephants. This respectful educational experience allows visitors to meet three gentle giants – Sebakwe, Somopane, and Jabulani. The experience helped 5832 visitors to understand elephants and their immense importance as a keystone species in our ecosystem. Visitors contribute financially to the survival and well-being of the rescued herd, as all proceeds go to HERD Trust.

www.elephant-moments.com



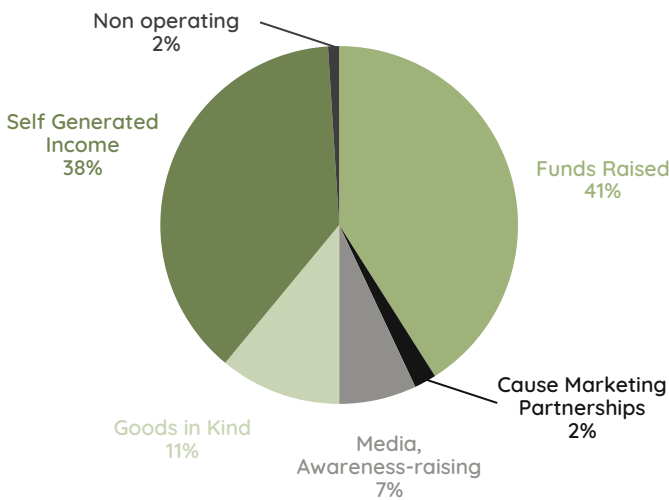




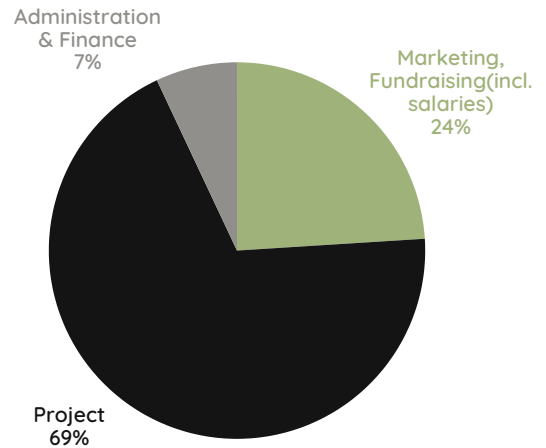
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ending 28 February 2024, with comparative figures for the year ending 28 February 2023. We pursue our mission with passion and purpose – and we do this with your support yesterday, today and tomorrow.

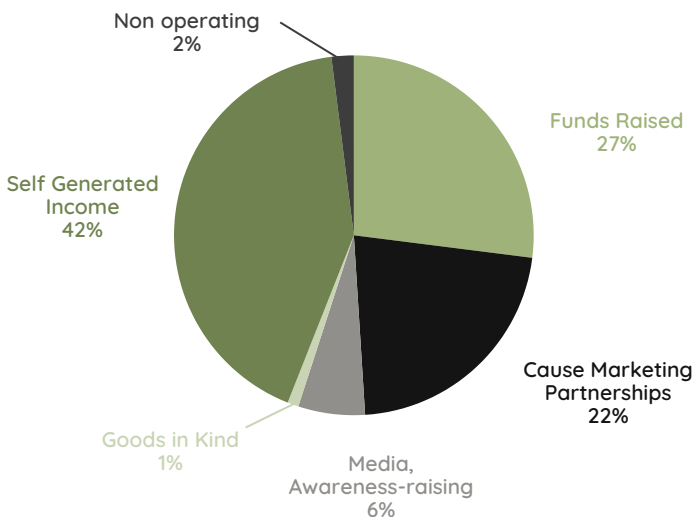
FY23 REVENUE



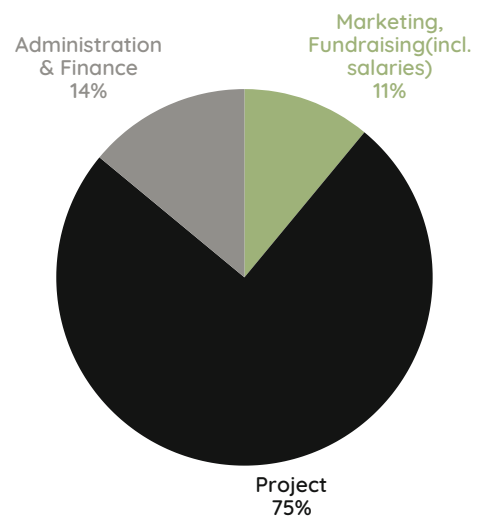
FY23 EXPENSES



FY24 REVENUE



FY24 EXPENSES



REVENUE AND EXPENSES



Revenue		FY24	FY23
Funds Raised		R5,015,839.64	R5,744,676.61
	Individual	R4,752,783.29	R5,098,972.61
	Corporate	R68,607.50	R283,530.00
	Trusts & Foundations	R194,448.85	R362,174.00
Cause Marketing Partnerships		R4,065,486.77	R317,767.14
Media & Awareness-raising		R1,234,263.04	R1,024,527.70
	Broadcasting / Publications	R1,125,567.40	R879,667.33
	Filming / Photography	R108,695.64	R144,860.37
Goods in Kind		R12,225.00	R1,601,825.00
Self Generated Income		R8,057,616.05	R5,382,143.53
	Merchandise Sold	R815,137.01	R637,295.77
	Elephant Moments Activities	R7,242,479.04	R4,744,847.76
Non Operating	Investment Revenue	R307,854.19	R126,895.02
TOTAL		R18,693,284.69	R14,197,835.00

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Expenses

FY24

FY23

Project Expenses		R11,322,382.48	R9,214,875.23
	Conservation	R3,599,677.35	R3,076,769.65
	Development	R265,792.24	R155,594.96
	Employee Cost	R7,456,912.89	R5,982,510.62
Marketing & Fundraising Expenses		R1,744,555.65	R3,067,693.94
	Marketing	R888,931.65	R2,212,069.94
	Employee Cost	R855,624.00	R855,624.00
Administration & Finance Expenses		R2,100,591.56	R926,041.83
	Trustee Fees	R437,250.00	R12,350.00
	Commission & Bank Charges	R137,326.01	R130,541.02
	Administration Fees	R1,526,015.55	R783,150.81
TOTAL		R15,167,529.69	R13,208,611.00



RATIOS

HERD Trust delivered against our conservation goals. The organisation generated 55% from private and public donations and 45% from self-generated income. Our aim for the next year would be to grow our self-generated income to contribute to the financial sustainability goals of HERD Trust.

Programme Expense	75%	Percentage of typical expenses in "core" programmes
Fundraising Efficiency	10.72	What does it cost the organisation to produce contributions. For every Rand spent on marketing and fundraising we received R13,76 in income
Contribution	49%	HERD Trust's reliance on donors
Days of Cash on Hand	0.25	Cash to cover a quarter of a year's operating expenses



THE HERD TEAM

At the heart of the HERD Trust vision is our team, which helps us to carry out the organisation's programmes and goals with passion and commitment. During the 2023-2024 financial year, HERD Trust created 46 permanent employment positions. The empowerment and development of our team are crucial to our success. This year, HERD Trust supported four students in gaining practical experience so that they could graduate. 35 team members received training in first aid and fire safety. HERD also welcomed third-year reserve management students from NGI (NewBridge Graduate Institute) for their practical year to gain exposure and experience.



Departments	Number of Employed Staff
Elephant Carers	23
Marketing and Fundraising	5
Operations	5
Stable Hands	7
JabuLadies	2
Student Training Programme	4
TOTAL	46

Gender	Number of Employed Staff
Male	31
Female	15

Race	Number of Employed Staff
African	35
White	11



FINANCIAL & STATUTORY INFORMATION

HERD Trust was formally established in December 2020. HERD Trust Registration Number: IT002079/2020(T). South African Income Tax Exemption was approved in May 2021. HERD Trust Public Benefit Organisation Reference Number: 930072153

Registration	Period Registered
Workman's Compensation Fund	August 2021
Pay As You Earn Employee Tax	March 2021
Income Tax	March 2021
Value Added Tax	March 2021
Unemployment Fund	March 2021

HERD USA was established in March 2021 and started operating in June 2022.
HERD USA Employer Identification Number: 87-3396123



THANK YOU



It is clear the power elephants have, not just in their strength and stature, but in how they captivate us humans, how they unite us. For those following our journey at HERD and helping to support the elephants, the intelligence, sensitivity, emotional capacity, social structures and beauty of these animals can stop us in our tracks.

We love sharing the magnificence of the herd through our videos and stories, and knowing that people an ocean away feel as drawn to these great grey mountains of wisdom and grace as we do motivates us daily. Once you have connected with an elephant and seen into the complexity of their lives, you are likely to never look back. Our carers who walk with the herd each day are just as moved and often amused by the antics of the elephants. With Phabeni among them now, we are seeing changes we could never have expected. We are grateful for this opportunity to learn and grow, and to be able to give the herd a chance to deepen as a unique, big blended family.

It is only through the support of many hearts and hands that we can do the work we do. We are grateful for each part played in giving orphans a second chance at life with a herd close to nature. Phabeni, Khanyisa and orphans like them are able to be among their own species once again, thanks to you.

There are many tasks ahead of us as we look into further securing our wilderness and making it a sustainable home for the elephants and other wildlife. As we grow, the opportunities we are able to give to people in our community, and our team, grow too. Looking after your family, your home, and yourself may sound like a simple task, but it's the most essential one there is.

Thank you for helping us support this elephant family and their home in the South African wilderness.





HERD  **TRUST**
HOEDSPRUIT ELEPHANT REHABILITATION
and DEVELOPMENT