

We, the African Wildlife Conservation Fund (AWCF), are seeking support for our annual fundraiser 'Running to Save Africa's Endangered Wild Dogs'. On the 26th March 2016, both the Projects Manager (Dr Rosemary Groom) and Assistant Project Manager (Jess Watermeyer) of AWCF, joined by a team of dedicated athletes from all corners of the globe, will run the Old Mutual Two Oceans Half Marathon ([www.twooceansmarathon.org.za](http://www.twooceansmarathon.org.za)) to raise awareness and funds for the conservation of African wild dogs, and the work of the AWCF.



**AWCF team hard at work in the field**

The African Wildlife Conservation Fund is a Zimbabwean-based organisation passionate about, and dedicated to, wildlife conservation in Africa. We run multi-faceted programs focussed on rural education and capacity building, community engagement, habitat preservation and the conservation of Africa's large carnivores - in particular the endangered African wild dog. Wild dogs are unique to Africa, but today fewer than 600 remain on the African continent, and the species is declining. We proactively tackle the threats to African wild dogs, and all predators, in our study area, and currently monitor and safeguard one of the strongest populations of African wild dogs in the world.

We have been fortunate to be accepted as an official charity of the Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon (OMTOM) for the past three years. It is an opportunity for us, given that the OMTOM is a world renowned event with a huge international following, to promote African wild dog conservation, draw attention to a largely misunderstood and unknown species and to promote our organisation and the importance of conservation areas in Zimbabwe. There is also a big fundraising drive attached to the event.

We are a small organisation with no yearly guaranteed funds other than what we actively raise. Untied funds, such as the money raised during the OMTOM event, are a fundamental support base for us, allowing us to keep our scouts in the field, our vehicles on the roads and our education officers active in the rural schools we support when funds are scarce.

On 26 March, our team will be running 21.1km, donned in kit to mimic African wild dogs (!), and we are asking for your help in promoting and supporting our cause. Anybody who would like to support us can do so by visiting our JustGiving campaign page at the link below. Donate here: <http://campaign.justgiving.com/charity/african-wildlifeconservation/save-african-wild-dogs>

Please help us reach our fundraising target! Your support will make an overwhelming difference to our conservation efforts.

Finally, please visit our website [www.africanwildlifeconservationfund.org](http://www.africanwildlifeconservationfund.org) and Facebook page [www.facebook.com/AfricanWildlifeConservationFund](https://www.facebook.com/AfricanWildlifeConservationFund) for more information on our current projects and what your funds will be helping us to achieve.



**Rosemary Groom and Jess Watermeyer training for the big day**



**Mom and her puppies from Pungwe Pack in Save Valley Conservancy**



**Rosemary Groom and Jess Watermeyer fitting a tracking collar to an African wild dog**



**AWCF education initiatives are always a big hit amongst the rural schools they support**

**Animal Welfare and Wildlife Conservation**



**March 18 Quiz Night at Wingate Golf Club 7pm, Fundraiser for VAWZ (Veterinarians for Animal Welfare).** Teams of up to 6 - \$10 per person. \$5 for fish and chips or chicken salad. Have fun and support this very worthy cause! [chryswynn@gmail.com](mailto:chryswynn@gmail.com).

**VAWZ** is a Private Trust Organisation spearheading many animal welfare activities, including inspections, investigations, training and liaison. **VAWZ needs support in cash or kind** or apply to adopt a rescued animal. [kamvet@zol.co.zw](mailto:kamvet@zol.co.zw); 0772 308 234.

**BirdLife Zimbabwe:** Learn about birds, help conserve them, make new friends! Bird walks in scenic areas, participate in research projects, attend regular talks and events: [info@birdlifezimbabwe.org](mailto:info@birdlifezimbabwe.org); [www.birdlifezimbabwe.org](http://www.birdlifezimbabwe.org); 481496; 490208.

**BirdLife Zim Mashonaland Branch** Organises free bird walks for members and non-members; sometimes entry fee/tip needed, depends on location; [alegria@zol.co.zw](mailto:alegria@zol.co.zw); 490375.

**AWARE (Animal and Wildlife Area Research & Rehabilitation) Trust** is run by vets and focuses on animal welfare, wildlife conservation and research. Campaigns in rural areas adjacent to wildlife areas vaccinate, sterilise, de-tick, de-worm and improve quality of life for domestic animals. This assists in broader goals by contributing to improved farming, better quality of life for rural people, resultant decreased poaching, and preventing spread of diseases from domestic to wild animals. AWARE educates children and adults on animal care and conservation, does research on health of wild & domestic animals living adjacently, rehabilitates & releases injured wild animals, dehorn rhino. [tracey@awaretrust.org](mailto:tracey@awaretrust.org).

**Friends of Hwange** needs help! It is very hot and we are currently using 2000 litres of diesel a week pumping to fill pans! If the animals don't drink they will die. If you have an extra \$5, \$10 or \$20, **Please Donate!** [dave@friendsofhwange.com](mailto:dave@friendsofhwange.com); [www.friendsofhwange.com/donate](http://www.friendsofhwange.com/donate); <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfHwange>

**Friend Animal Foundation is running out of funds!** This Foundation, set up by Jean Friend and funded by her bequest, cares for and re-homes abandoned, unwanted and rescued animals. Despite careful management by professional Trustees, the money is running out. **Please Donate Generously** to keep this wonderful organisation going! And please consider giving a home to a new pet from Friend! Open 7 days a week 8am to noon, 1pm to 5pm; 7 Kirkman Road, Tynwald. Economical boarding for cats & dogs, grooming, dipping service; 0772225845; [animalfriendfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:animalfriendfoundation@gmail.com)

**Harare SPCA** works to eliminate cruelty to animals and never turns away any animal in need. Mobile veterinary unit goes out five days a week to high density areas to treat, vaccinate, dip. Facilities were well upgraded in 2015 to ensure safe haven for unwanted, lost and sick animals. **Last year Harare SPCA re-homed over 900 animals &** treated several 100 others, including many who were humanely euthanised after being too badly injured by cars to be treatable. Costs have risen drastically due to rapidly and alarmingly increasing need! **Harare SPCA urgently requires funds to keep its doors open!** It is a Private Voluntary Organisation.

Cost of running the hospital and kennels in 2015 was approximately \$30000 a month. Without the assistance of benefactors it would not have stayed open! HSPCA must continue to offer help to those who can't afford to treat or keep their animals. Urgent fundraising efforts are in pipeline but meantime HSPCA urgently needs help! **To donate** Contact General Manager on 576356/7, 581347, [operations.harare@spca.org.zw](mailto:operations.harare@spca.org.zw). Bank details: Barclays Bank Cripps Rd, Account No 2199 101 2419, or use ECOCASH biller 06326. **Without assistance HSPCA faces possible closure! Contact us if you can help in ANY way!** [www.spca.org.zw](http://www.spca.org.zw)  
**ZNSPCA Charity Shop:** 156 Enterprise Road. Open Mon, Wed, Fri 8am to 2pm, all proceeds to animal welfare, drop donated goods. [tatum@zol.co.zw](mailto:tatum@zol.co.zw). 0772 308 647

**Bulawayo SPCA:** If you see an injured or lost dog on the road contact our kennels on 66578, 66593, 66593. **SPCA Shop Hours** Mon 2-3.45pm, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am - noon, 1.30-3.15pm, Wed 9am-12 noon 2-3.45pm; first Sat of month 9-10.45am.

**Twala Trust Animal Sanctuary:** Open to visitors by prior booking only. Tours of orphanage and rescue centre 10am and 2:30pm, morning/afternoon tea included, bring a picnic if you like, picnic sites in beautiful gardens overlooking the dam, you will likely be joined by our sociable duikers, the occasional tortoise or bird and inquisitive cats! Day ends with 4pm lion feeding. 0733 436 239, [sarah@twalatrust.co.zw](mailto:sarah@twalatrust.co.zw)

**Lost and Found Animals: Join Zim Pets Lost and Found Facebook Group!** Post photos and details of animals lost and found here. Very active page, pets and owners often reunited using this supportive community tool, stray animals reported here, also those rescued by VAWZ, SPCA; unclaimed can be re-homed. [www.facebook.com/groups/135440236649668](https://www.facebook.com/groups/135440236649668)

**Wildlife & Environment Zimbabwe (WEZ):** Mukuvusi Woodlands Cnr Glenara Ave South/Hillside Rd, Shop 747859, 747648; 0772320234; [mashwild@utande.co.zw](mailto:mashwild@utande.co.zw); <https://wez Mashonaland.wordpress.com>