

A LIFE YOU SAVED Now he's in safe hands



Here is a picture of hope.
This is Mike....the Rhino you have saved.
The rhino your generosity has provided - a companion to lonely Nana.
Mike was 2 years and six months old just a few days after he arrived in his new home - and he couldn't be any happier.
The operation to bring Mike home, and to be a companion for orphaned Nana, was organised with a specialist vet and game management team - with military precision.
Despite some last minute administrative and paperwork delays all was in place and ready for his journey.
The vet made sure Mike was comfortable and finally Mike arrived at Legend Golf & Safari Resort.
His new temporary home was ready and the expert staff at Legends on hand to make him welcome.
An intricate operation saw Mike quickly off-loaded and he walked unaided into his boma.
The initial plan was to introduce the two rhinos after a couple of days of keeping them close but separated to give them a chance to acclimatise.

But that plan was soon amended when it became clear that Nana was very keen to meet her new friend.
Now the two are living together like they have known each other for years.
Arrie van Deventer, who will be in overall charge of looking after the two, said the reunion is the result of months of hard work - and that Mike's arrival is totally down to the amazing generosity of Netcare and their suppliers.
He said: "The battle to save the rhino in our country is reaching epic proportions. More than 300 of these magnificent beasts have now been butchered this year alone.
"It is time to act and Netcare and your suppliers cannot be thanked highly enough for what you have done.
"You have made two rhinos very happy and given them a real chance of survival.
"You have helped to safeguard the species in a very real way and for that we are eternally grateful.
"So thank you so much - and we look forward to your visits so you can see for yourselves how happy our two rhinos are now."

Nana Meets Mike Her New Found Friend

At 3am the darkness is blinding in the Bushveld.

The calls of the wild are all around – but there was a new noise in one small corner of the Waterberg this week.

It was the sound of one rhino calling to another.

Orphaned Nana has been pining for a companion since little Yster tragically died.

Mike is her saviour.

He arrived slightly confused at his new boma – next door to Nana's enclosure.

She wasn't expected to be introduced to him for a few days – but on the first night she camped right next to his temporary boma.

Mike was skittish.

He was in a strange new home.

His first night he was obviously a little fazed, wandering round and exploring his new surroundings.

The rich darkness did nothing to soothe him but the dedicated staff at Legends were on hand to help.

In the midst of the night one of them soothed Mike in one of the only way she knew how – by singing lullabies.



It may sound strange but as they say “Music soothes the savage beast”.

Mike is hardly savage, in fact he is quite tame, so the attention and the soothing attention of a non-threatening friend helped keep him at peace.

The decision was then made to introduce the two rhino earlier than expected. And what a moment.

Rhino's are not renowned for their romantic gestures – and it may not have been that – but Nana and Mike kissed.

It is a moment those present will never forget.

It epitomizes the hope for the future the meeting of two giant beasts brings.

Hope made possible by Netcare and their most generous suppliers.

