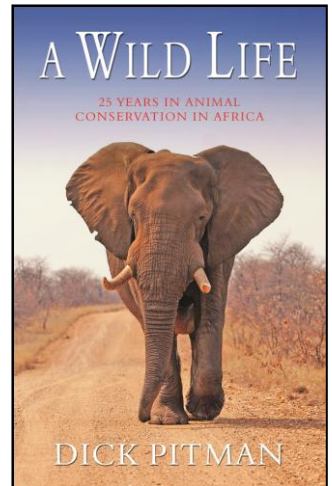


A WILD LIFE

Adventures of an Accidental Conservationist in Africa

By Dick Pitman

"A Wild Life is no simple string of anecdotes from the notebook of a wildlife enthusiast, but the unfolding of a grander story, told with wit and affection. There are elephants addicted to oranges, a friendly hippo who frequents a swimming pool, a schoolboy know-it-all who pops in and out of the story at the most unlikely moments. But some episodes are unnerving, as when slogan-chanting political heavies detail his elephant survey teams, or tragic, as when he witnesses the aftermath of war in Mozambique. Dick treats each situation with the sensitivity it merits." **from the Foreword by Lee Durrell, Honorary Director, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust**

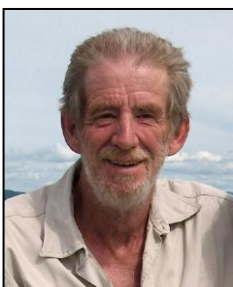


When Dick Pitman left suburban Britain and flew to Rhodesia on a whim in 1977, he knew nothing about conservation. He had come to Africa for a new experience – however he soon developed a passion for wilderness and wildlife

Dick Pitman's early adventures in wildlife protection landed him in some hilarious situations, from confronting an enormous millipede in his hotel room and being knocked down by a buffalo calf, to terrifying encounters with bull elephants and captaining a runaway raft as it floated down the Zambezi with Gerald and Lee Durrell on board!

Gradually he realised he had found his vocation in protecting the animals of southern Africa that were endangered by poaching and development. For 25 years he would work with Zimbabwe's elephants, fly over vast swathes of bush to track black rhinos and move threatened cheetahs into safer areas.

Inspired by the splendours and drama of Africa, written with wit and charisma, *A Wild Life*, gives insight into a perennially important subject – saving the animals of Africa.



About the author

Dick Pitman was born in Kent and, after emigrating to Rhodesia (later Zimbabwe), worked variously as a magazine editor, national parks officer and wildlife guide before becoming founder-chairman and then director of the Zambezi Society – and NGO working on conservation issues. He has written three books on Zimbabwe and has published feature articles in magazines in the UK and USA such as *BBC Wildlife*, *Washington Post Magazine*, *International Wildlife*, *Yachting Monthly* and *Pilot Magazine*.

Notes to Editors

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