

# HIGH FIVE CLUB

CHANGING LIVES, £5 AT A TIME

## Cattle Spraying, South Africa



Cattle are integral to many African cultures as a symbol of status and as a major currency – you literally don't leave home without one (!) as cattle are the way wives are acquired and new homesteads are established. The hope is that if cattle live longer and therefore produce more milk and calves in their lifetimes, these might be sold so that the community can pay school fees, cover healthcare costs and buy other things it needs. In this way cattle helps to reduce poverty in rural communities. A major issue, however, is ticks and mites that can shorten cattle's lives as many people do not have the means for effective treatment and prevention. It is also an issue that poor communities living in wildlife areas may use cheaper treatments that have a negative impact on wildlife.

**The High Five Club, 3 Willow Court, Millstrood Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1QL**

**[www.highfiveclub.co.uk](http://www.highfiveclub.co.uk)**

**Charity Reg. No. 1134901**

# HIGH FIVE CLUB

CHANGING LIVES, £5 AT A TIME

## High Five Club Support:



The High Five Club has joined hands with the local South African responsible tour operator **African Insight** in Kwazulu-Natal to enable them to purchase four battery operated sprayers and a large quantity of wildlife friendly spray (not harmful to the Ox Peckers and Cattle Egrets that will eat the dead ticks) to rid cattle of ticks and mites.

Each cow is worth about 9,000 SA Rand (approx. £500) so the death of one cow represents a huge loss of wealth in the Zulu community bordering the wildlife-rich Somkhanda Park (which is on land owned by the local community). The High Five Club has forwarded £646.87 to South Africa for this project.

African Insight is passionately committed to nature conservation, yet is challenged by a deeply-entrenched culture of poaching among the community and trophy hunting by the many wealthy visitors that visit Somkhanda to shoot big game. African Insight is striving to build a good relationship with the Zulu communities they neighbour. By supporting them through projects such as cattle spraying, they hope they can educate villagers to see that a game reserve that conserves nature and practices only non-consumptive wildlife tourism is around for longer than one that allows its wildlife to be poached and trophy hunted – providing long-term benefits for the community too. They hope that by benefitting from African Insight's project the villagers will become friends of Somkhanda Park, alerting them to poachers and will also stop poaching themselves and buy into the notion of sustainability.

The first cattle spraying day went really well with everyone in the community bringing their cattle in for spraying. The cattle will need to be sprayed regularly, but this new equipment will make light work of this task. Importantly as the community benefit from healthier cattle the wildlife will also benefit as a culture of conservation is instilled amongst this community.

For further information on this initiative contact Dr Cheryl Mvula at [Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk](mailto:Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk)

**The High Five Club, 3 Willow Court, Millstrood Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1QL**

**[www.highfiveclub.co.uk](http://www.highfiveclub.co.uk)**

**Charity Reg. No. 1134901**