

Trix (MaTrix) Olivier

Trix Olivier was to some extent an obvious choice to have a female tusker named after. An icon on the northern region, she is well known and respected by all staff that have worked or had contact with her, and her dedication and commitment to the Kruger National Park speaks volumes. When investigating a possible traditional name for Trix for the naming process, most of the staff indicated that there is no known name, but that Gingirikani would well represent Trix as it is Tsonga meaning 'Hardworker' (given she is always "running/striding" while doing her job). Trix has had a colorful career in the Kruger National Park, from unofficial assistant ranger in the early days, to receptionist and finally her current position of Admin Officer at Phalaborwa for the regional offices. Trix is married to the Regional Ranger, Nxanatseni South, Louis Olivier (see Mandleve) and has raised her family in the KNP, she is a dedicated mother to Derik and Bennali both currently residing in Pretoria while completing their tertiary studies.

Extract by Louis Olivier, Regional Ranger, Nxanatseni South

There are not many women who can be called a true Ranger's wife in the KNP. Such a woman was the non-official and non-recognised Assistant Ranger to many a Ranger in days gone by. She was the Ranger's only company with whom he could share his day-to-day communications including his sorrows and triumphs. She often made management decisions on his behalf when he was on duty elsewhere. She was his best veld-fire combatant, first aider, co-driver, administrative assistant and filled numerous other "official" roles with nobody else knowing. Trix married Louis Olivier, the current Regional Ranger: Nxanatseni Region South in 1977, she is the mother (Ma) of their children, Bennali and Derik. To Louis she has filled this role to the letter at Shangoni, Shingwedzi (twice), Punda Maria, Crocodile Bridge, Skukuza, Letaba and currently at Phalaborwa. She has also received Awards for outstanding performance at the workplace on several occasions since joining the Nxanatseni work force.

Extract from the motivation submitted from K Redman

Trix Olivier, is without a doubt one of the most dedicated, hardworking and loyal people that has served the KNP. She has worked by the side of her equally long serving husband Louis 'Mandleve' Olivier for 31 years, and has offered immeasurable support to him in his duties as ranger throughout KNP and currently regional ranger in the Nxanatseni Region. Trix has raised her family in the KNP and is a dedicated mother to Derik and Bennali.

addo elephant
agulhas
augrabies falls
bontebok
golden gate highlands
karoo
kgalagadi transfrontier
knysna lake area
kruger
mapungubwe
marakele
mountain zebra
namaqua
table mountain
tankwa-karoo
tsitsikamma
|ai-|ais/richtersveld
vaalbos
west coast
wilderness



Trix's dedication to the staff of the KNP and the KNP itself speaks volumes about the type of person she is. Her love of the bush and of the life she has lived is inspiring for any young person embarking on a career in the KNP. Her drive and commitment to her work is commendable and the faith in her shown by the staff of KNP specifically the Nxanatseni Region is testament to her quality of work and her character. I cannot think of any other woman who currently deserves to have the honor of sharing a name with one of our few notable matriarch tuskers.

addo elephant

agulhas

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kgalagadi transfrontier

knysna lake area

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