



# Tusk tales

"Move Jabu..." The handler's words are spoken softly but the elephant immediately responds and he discards his newfound tree snack. And on this three ton pachyderm ambles with silent footfall, through the dusk-filled bush, on towards home.

BY JO KROMBERG PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILLIE SMIT

**W**e are at Camp Jabulani sitting astride elephants, riding in the file form. Throughout the forty minutes or so of the journey I'm amazed at how the eight elephants keep chatting to each other in their own language. They understand and respond to at least 60 commands and they are bi-lingual! They

understand both Shona and English," says Andrew, the assistant manager and chief elephant whisperer at Camp Jabulani. Their handlers are all from Zimbabwe hence their linguistic proclivities.

It is now almost completely dark and after the elephants deposit us, we slowly follow them into their elephant sanctuary



