

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Bring The Elephant Home Foundation
For a world where elephants and people can thrive

The Netherlands, Thailand, South Africa
Approved by the board: June/2026





1. FROM OUR FOUNDER

As 2025 comes to a close, I look back with gratitude on a year of steady commitment, meaningful collaboration, and deepening connection. Across our work, Bring The Elephant Home continued to strengthen the relationships that make coexistence possible: between people and elephants, between research and practice, and between local knowledge, science, and care for the natural world. In a time when pressure on elephants, habitats, and communities continues to grow, our role remains clear: to stay grounded in the landscapes where we work, to listen carefully, and to support practical solutions that are fair, ethical, and rooted in long-term commitment.

Across Thailand and South Africa, we deepened our research on elephant behaviour, social bonds, well-being, habitat use, and human–elephant interactions. Key studies on elephant welfare, habitat expansion, tourism impacts, and nature-based deterrents strengthened our understanding of how elephants live, relate, and adapt within

shared landscapes. This knowledge helps inform more thoughtful management, policy, and conservation practice.

For the Tom Yum Project in Thailand, 2025 was not a year of growth, but of building a stronger foundation for the future. We invested in the infrastructure, community relationships, and certification needed to support the project responsibly over the long term. This included work on the Community Resilience Hub, product development, and the practical steps needed to create a reliable local value chain around elephant-friendly crops.

Our elephant research programme in Kuiburi generated unique insights into how elephants move, behave, and use the forest–farm interface. By combining individual elephant identification, expanded camera-trap monitoring, AI-assisted early-warning systems, and data integration into EarthRanger, we strengthened our ability to move from reactive responses towards more preventive,

coordinated approaches. We also completed our first elephant behaviour study in the community-led safari zones and prepared the findings for publication.

In South Africa, the Kariega elephant research programme reached an important stage, contributing valuable evidence on elephant well-being, movement, stress, behaviour, and landscape use following habitat expansion. More broadly, our African programme continued to take shape through research partnerships, community-based coexistence work, landscape connectivity, and organisational systems that support responsible growth.

Equally central to our work were the people who make coexistence possible: farmers testing locally developed mitigation strategies, volunteers contributing their time and skills, students and researchers joining our Elephant Research Programmes, partners sharing knowledge across borders, and supporters standing with us. Our conservation events also became more focused, creating deeper learning experiences while increasing benefits for local communities.

What emerges from 2025 is a clearer sense of direction. Across our research, field projects, and

reflection on conservation values and practice, we are learning where approaches succeed, where they need to evolve, and how conservation can become more connected, just, adaptive, and relational. This annual report reflects that journey: a story of careful work, shared responsibility, and growing resolve to contribute to a future in which people, elephants, and nature can thrive together.

Thank you for placing your trust in Bring The Elephant Home and for standing with us as we continue this work.

With gratitude,
Dr. Antoinette van de Water
Founder & Director





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2. MISSION AND STRATEGY

Mission Bring The Elephant Home:

To increase the chances of survival for elephants and work towards a world in which people and elephants can live in harmony, benefiting from each other's existence.

Strategy:

- Preservation of the wild elephant and the restoration, expansion, connection and protection of habitat in collaboration with local partners.

- Implementing, testing and sharing knowledge about sustainable solutions and new technologies to encourage human-elephant coexistence.
- Promoting human-elephant coexistence in collaboration with local stakeholders.
- Encouraging local participation in nature conservation and empowerment of local communities.
- Raising awareness about the importance of nature and elephant conservation.



3. PROJECTS 2025

3.1 The Tom Yum Project

Overview

In 2025, the Tom Yum Project focused on consolidating, professionalising, and legitimising its role as a community-led, conservation-linked enterprise in the human–elephant coexistence landscape of Kuiburi. Building on earlier experimental phases, the year centred on strengthening governance, regulatory readiness, and community ownership—while continuing conservation education, product sales, and ecological monitoring. A major milestone was the community-led approval and preparation of a Thai FDA-compliant Community Resilience Hub on community land, positioning the project for long-term sustainability and scale.

Key Achievements

- Continued production and sale of elephant-friendly Tom Yum products, including cooking packs, teas, soaps, and related items, fully produced by community members in Ruam Thai.
- Generated over 150,000 THB in Tom Yum Project sales in 2025, through retail

outlets, conservation events, and on-site programmes.

- Maintained partnerships with 13–16 retail outlets across Thailand, including organic shops, vegetarian restaurants, refill stations, and eco-conscious retailers.
- Facilitated extensive community engagement and public hearings, resulting in 98% community approval for the establishment of the Community Resilience Hub.
- Facilitated a series of public hearings and community consultations involving village committees, farmer groups, and local organisations:
 - 192 community members participated
 - 98% voted in favour of renovating the community building into the Hub
 - Feedback reflected strong trust in BTEH, with participants describing the organisation as supportive, helpful, and committed to both people and elephants
 - Community members highlighted benefits such as alternative livelihoods, training opportunities, conservation knowledge, and increased pride in the village

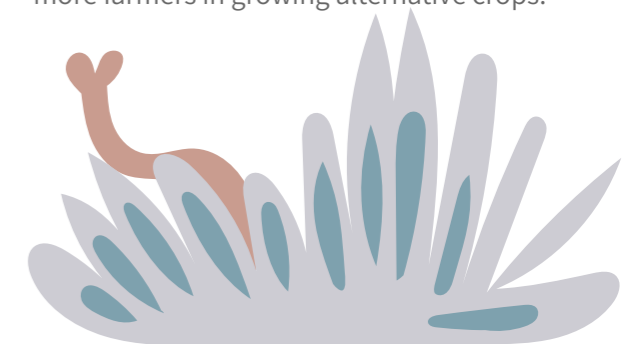


- Concerns raised were addressed through technical adjustments
- Demonstrated that through commitment, care, and connection, there might be ways to achieve FDA pathways on community land, overcoming legal, administrative, and technical barriers through persistence, partnership, and community consent.
- Conducted multiple consultations with Thai FDA officials to clarify requirements and inspection pathways, translating national regulations into a workable model for a community-owned facility.
- Designed full Thai FDA-compliant architectural plans for the Community Resilience Hub and a backup plan for the current Tom Yum facilities, including separate food and non-food processing zones, hygiene flows, storage, and traceability systems—meeting regulatory standards while preserving shared community space.
- Raised the funds required to realise the Community Resilience Hub, securing support from international conservation partners, private donors, and strategic advisors—turning plans into an actionable, fully financed project.

- Completed the Camera Trap Study led by PhD student Sateesh Venkatesh in December 2025, concluding a multi-year monitoring effort across agricultural landscapes.
- Hosted multiple conservation education visits, field programmes and market stalls at schools, universities, and international groups, integrating learning with direct income for the Tom Yum project.

Challenges

- Regulatory requirements for FDA certification required substantial time investment and careful sequencing before scaling production.
- Balancing community expectations, workload, and regulatory demands required ongoing communication and adaptive planning.
- Market expansion remained constrained until certification and facility upgrades are completed, reducing opportunities to support more farmers in growing alternative crops.



Knowledge Gained

- Professionalisation and regulatory readiness are essential preconditions for sustainable scaling of community-based enterprises.
- Conservation-linked livelihoods benefit most when communities are engaged not only as producers, but as decision-makers and co-designers.
- Camera-trap monitoring continues to demonstrate differences in elephant use of crop types, reinforcing the value of integrated ecological and livelihood approaches.
- Transparent governance processes and public consent significantly strengthen legitimacy, trust, and long-term sustainability.

Looking Ahead

In the year ahead, the Tom Yum Project will build on the strong foundations established in 2025 by finalising FDA certification, completing the Community Resilience Hub renovations, and expanding market access for elephant-friendly products. With community ownership firmly

embedded and systems for quality control and governance in place, the project is positioned to grow responsibly, linking conservation outcomes with dignified livelihoods, and reinforcing coexistence between people and elephants at both local and international scales.

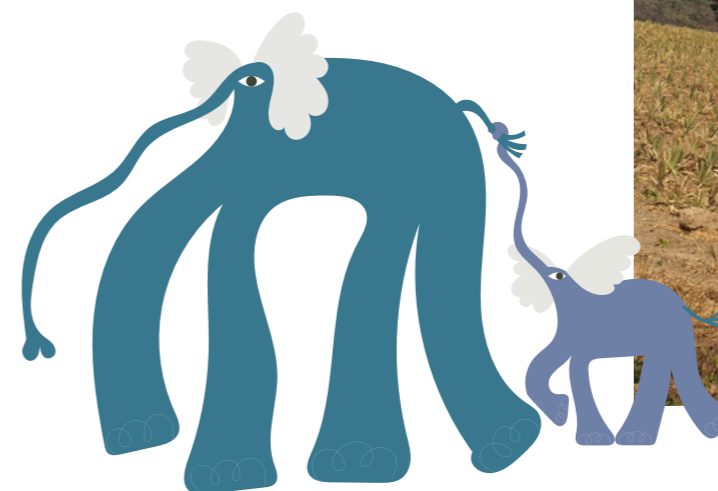
3.2 Elephant Research Thailand

In 2025, Bring The Elephant Home advanced its elephant research programme in Kuiburi National Park by strengthening individual elephant identification, expanding camera-trap monitoring at the forest–farm interface, and piloting AI-assisted early-warning systems. All ecological and behavioural data streams—including individual elephant identifications, camera trap detections, and social structure records—were integrated into the EarthRanger platform, enabling centralised data management, real-time visualisation, and improved coordination between researchers,

national park rangers, and community partners. This integrated approach supports evidence-based coexistence planning and safer, more proactive responses for both people and elephants.

Key Achievements

- Completed data collection on the impacts of tourism on elephant behaviour in protected areas, including the development of thresholds for sustainable wildlife viewing.
- Established and refined an individual elephant identification system, adapted from international best practice and iteratively improved through local community training.
- Identified 110 individual sub-adult and adult elephants in Kuiburi National Park using the ID coding system.
- Deployed 64 early-warning camera traps along the northern, central, and southern borders of Kuiburi National Park.
- Partnered with Wildlife Protection Solutions to pilot AI-assisted UO Vision Glory LTE camera traps for early warning alerts.
- Completed data collection on elephant occupancy in agricultural landscapes, which included 410.8 km of line transects and 328 data points.
- Integrated elephant identification, camera trap detections, and social structure records into the EarthRanger platform to support real-time monitoring and coordinated response.
- Participated in the Applied Conservation Technology Congress (ACT Con) in Vietnam, contributing to knowledge exchange on technology-enabled coexistence.





- Collaborated with Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden to secure funding for elephant research and early-warning system development.
- Started direct observation data collection in Kuiburi National Park to assess seasonal habitat use, behaviour, and social dynamics. Between September to December, we conducted 60 field surveys and recorded detections for 613 sub-adult and adult elephants and recorded group size, structure and membership for 198 groups. We collected 334 focal behaviour samples, totalling over 5000 observation minutes for 76 individual elephants.

- Engaged 39 donors in our Sponsor a Wildlife Camera crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for camera traps, equipment, and field costs.
- Hosted the second Thailand Elephant Research Experience, where 9 participants learned field skills and contributed to BTEH's conservation projects.
- Completed field trials assessing elephant behavioural responses to Asian honey bees in beehive fences and synthetic bee alarm pheromone. Camera trap video data, totalling 117 events and 151 elephant interactions, is currently being analysed in collaboration with King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Challenges

- Monitoring elephants at the forest-farm interface requires sustained coordination between communities, rangers, and technical partners.
- AI-assisted systems demand careful calibration, training, and governance to ensure reliability and local trust.
- Translating behavioural data into timely, actionable responses remains an ongoing operational challenge.



Knowledge Gained

- Individual-level monitoring provides critical insight into elephant movement, behaviour, and reproductive states, including periods of elevated risk such as musth.
- Camera traps are highly effective for studying elephants in agricultural landscapes where direct observation is not possible.
- Elephant detections outside protected areas are strongly influenced by crop type and land use.

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we will scale AI-assisted early-warning systems through participatory mapping and training workshops, integrate SMS alert systems with ranger response networks, and evaluate effectiveness by comparing crop damage and elephant detections before and after implementation. These efforts aim to strengthen community safety, reduce conflict, and share practical coexistence protocols with other human-elephant conflict landscapes.

3.3 Conservation Events

In 2025, Bring The Elephant Home delivered 12 targeted conservation events, engaging 466 participants across multiple regions in Thailand. While the total number of events and participants decreased compared to the previous year, 2025 marked a deliberate shift toward more focused,



strategic, and impact-driven programming, strengthening both educational outcomes and local economic benefits.

Our conservation events continued to centre around our core programmes — Elephant Research, the Tom Yum Project, and Alternative Crops for Human–Elephant Coexistence — with an increased emphasis on storytelling, experiential learning, and direct engagement with community-led solutions.

We hosted a diverse group of international and regional partners, including:

- ISB School (Bangkok)
- JUMP x Tanglin Trust (Singapore)
- Insight Adventures (Chiangmai)
- Oregon State University
- Walking Tree
- School for Field Studies (Cambodia)
- NIST International School (Bangkok)
- Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden Champions
- Elephant Research Experience Thailand programme participants

These programmes combined conservation education with meaningful field experiences with local community members, cementing our role in the Ruam Thai community as one of the long-term ambassadors for coexistence-based conservation while acting as an agent for our



partners to contribute to community-based conservation efforts through these programmes. Our programmes focused on understanding Human-Elephant Coexistence issues and solutions in the context of Ruam Thai village, where we hosted Human–Elephant Coexistence walks, and Alternative Crops visit and harvest led by local farmers to understand the core messages of understanding coexistence between humans and elephants. Other activities in the programmes included hands-on experience of supporting coexistence through Tom Yum product crafting and cooking classes. We also hosted guided wild elephant safaris in Kui Buri National Park and, through our research collaboration with the park, educated participants about elephant research efforts. Furthermore, we contributed to the local community ecotourism through hosting elephant dung and pineapple paper-making workshops and tie-dye activities.

One of our key objectives from last year was to enhance our programmes. By hosting more events in our own facilities and partnering closely with local community members and working with local facilitators, we deepened community engagement and improved both the quality and consistency of

programme delivery. We also adjusted programme pricing for clients to help cover the rising cost of raw food ingredients in Thailand, ensuring continued support for local community members who provide catering services.

Across all events, an average of 38 local community members benefited per event, with 13 local people directly employed through facilitation, logistics, catering, guiding, and production. Despite operating at a smaller scale, income generated per local person increased by approximately 9%, demonstrating improved efficiency and value creation for participating households.

In addition to education and livelihoods, our events contributed to broader conservation support and outreach, including:

- Ongoing support to local communities affected by human–elephant conflict
- Continued collaboration with Kui Buri National Park ranger teams and research initiatives
- Capacity building for local and international students, researchers, and emerging
- Strengthening of elephant monitoring and community-based coexistence infrastructure

PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

Charli Riopelle, student, 18, Denver, Colorado, USA “Lots of fun!”

“My favourite activity was doing tie-dye—it was creative, hands-on, and a great way to connect with the local culture in a playful way. The lemongrass tea was a real treat—refreshing and soothing. If I had to sum up my experience in three words: lots of fun! Everything was really well organized. I left with beautiful memories and colorful souvenirs.”

Kaitlyn, 21, university student, SFS Cambodia

“I came to BTEH with a love for wildlife, and I left with a deeper understanding of what it takes to protect it. From learning about sustainable agriculture, like planting pineapples to reduce conflict, to helping locals build solutions, everything was hands-on and meaningful. The pad thai, jade noodles were unforgettable! But even more unforgettable was working alongside Ave—their commitment is contagious. It’s encouraging to see a small NGO making such a big difference. I can’t wait to go on more conservation safaris in the future.”



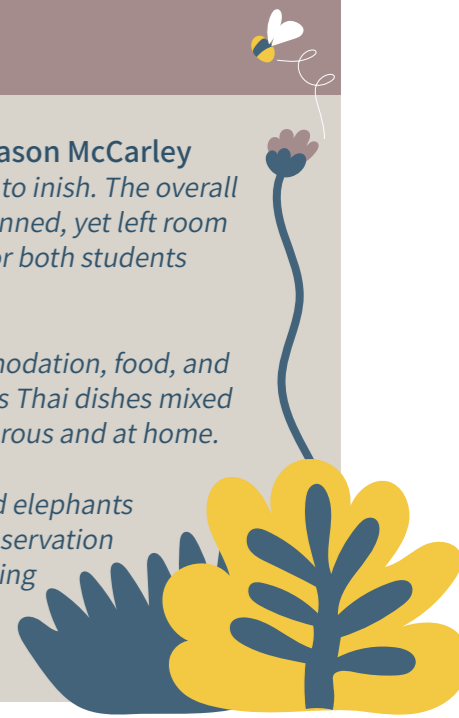
PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

Oregon State University – Study Abroad Program, Faculty Leader, Jason McCarley

“Our experience with Bring the Elephant Home was exceptional from start to inish. The overall organisation was perfectly balanced—Rick had everything thoughtfully planned, yet left room for flexibility and downtime, which made the trip smooth and stress-free for both students and faculty.”

Logistically, everything ran like clockwork—from transportation to accommodation, food, and emergency responsiveness. The meals were a highlight for many—delicious Thai dishes mixed with occasional Western options that made our students feel both adventurous and at home.

Activity-wise, the safaris were a standout. Students were thrilled to see wild elephants in their natural habitat and came away with a deeper understanding of conservation challenges and community efforts. We’re already looking forward to returning next year and hope to integrate the elephant identification class, which we heard great things about.”



Notable events in 2025 included large school and youth programmes, with the largest single event hosting 153 participants in Kanchanaburi in December. These gatherings provided powerful opportunities for learning, dialogue, and reflection on the shared challenges and responsibilities of living alongside wild elephants.

Overall, the 2025 conservation events programme reflects a maturing approach: fewer events, deeper engagement, stronger partnerships, and sustained positive impact for both people and elephants.

Looking Ahead

Looking Ahead In 2026, we will build on the success of this year’s conservation events by developing deeper partnerships with schools, universities, and local organisations. We aim to empower more local leadership in terms of the on-the-ground management of events, integrating more conservation storytelling and science will be central to our approach, alongside new formats that connect participants more directly with on-the-ground efforts. We will continue to ensure that events not only raise awareness but also deliver tangible benefits for local people and long-term conservation outcomes.

3.4 BTEH Africa

Strengthening Foundations, Research, and Partnerships

In 2025, Bring The Elephant Home significantly strengthened its presence and impact across African elephant landscapes. Alongside ongoing field research and conservation initiatives, the organisation expanded its institutional foundations, deepened international partnerships, and advanced innovative, science-driven approaches to elephant conservation and human–elephant coexistence.

A major milestone was the formal establishment of Bring The Elephant Home in South Africa as a registered non-profit organisation, strengthening local governance, research capacity, and long-term programme sustainability. In parallel, a US-based sister organisation, the Elephant Conservation and Research Fund (ECRF), was co-developed to support international fundraising, partnerships, and long-term conservation investment.

These developments have enhanced the organisation’s ability to operate across shared landscapes in Africa, ensuring that research,



conservation action, and community engagement are embedded within strong institutional structures.

Advancing Research and Innovation

Research remained at the core of the Africa programme in 2025. Key achievements included the completion of dung sampling, elephant identification protocols, behavioural assessments, and core analyses supporting long-term research on fence removal and landscape connectivity.

The South Africa fence-removal and connectivity study reached a major milestone, with preliminary results published and the full manuscript submitted for peer review. This work contributes critical evidence to inform landscape-scale conservation strategies that balance ecological connectivity, elephant well-being, and human safety.

In addition, new peer-reviewed research examined the impacts of wildlife tourism on elephant behaviour, providing evidence-based guidance for improving elephant welfare in tourism landscapes.

Innovation played an increasingly important role in conservation monitoring. Collaborative research using machine learning approaches advanced understanding of elephant movement and behaviour, while a new partnership with global technology and conservation organisations supported the development of the Elephant ID app—a non-invasive tool designed to strengthen long-term monitoring, research, and protection of individual elephants.

Expanding Regional Collaboration

In 2025, the Africa programme expanded geographically through new collaborations and field engagement:

- A new partnership was established with the Uganda Wildlife Authority, focusing on genetics, invasive species management, and coexistence research and interventions.



- Collaboration was initiated with the Presidential Elephant Research Trust in Zimbabwe, supporting local students, strengthening research capacity, and contributing to the development of a dedicated research field station.

These partnerships reflect Bring The Elephant Home’s commitment to locally embedded, capacity-building approaches that support both conservation outcomes and regional scientific leadership.

Knowledge Sharing and Public Engagement

Knowledge exchange remained a priority throughout the year. Bring The Elephant Home contributed to regional and international forums, sharing insights on elephant behaviour, habitat connectivity, tourism impacts, and human–elephant coexistence. These engagements helped bridge science, policy, and practice across conservation and development sectors. The organisation also began documentary and film development to bring elephant conservation stories to wider audiences, strengthening public understanding of coexistence challenges and solutions.

In a new and creative initiative, Bring The Elephant Home hosted its first charity concert, bringing together conservation, music, and community to expand awareness and support for elephant conservation beyond traditional audiences.

Monitoring Elephant Well-being

Long-term monitoring continued to generate new insights into elephant behaviour and movement. In one notable case, a senior matriarch—tracked as part of research on landscape connectivity and well-being—unexpectedly shed her GPS collar ahead of scheduled removal. This event highlighted both the unpredictability of field research and the resilience of long-lived, experienced elephants.

Recent analyses suggest that older matriarchs often exhibit more cautious and deliberate movement patterns, reflecting experience, leadership, and adaptive strategies developed over decades. These findings reinforce the importance of protecting older individuals within elephant populations.

Looking Ahead to 2026

Building on the momentum of 2025, Bring



The Elephant Home enters 2026 with a strong foundation and ambitious plans for the Africa programme. Key priorities include:

- Hosting the bi-annual Africa Elephant Research Programme in South Africa
- Completing the removal of GPS collars to conclude a major phase of connectivity research
- Continuing collaborative research and conservation initiatives in Uganda and Kenya
- Strengthening the Conservation Research Collaborative in Africa
- Expanding corporate and institutional partnerships to scale conservation impact
- Publishing new research on landscape connectivity, elephant behaviour and well-being, conservation ethics, and human–elephant coexistence
- Growing the reach and impact of the Elephant Conservation and Research Fund (ECRF)
- Advancing long-term planning toward Elephant Rewilding, in partnership with regional conservation organisations

Throughout this work, support from the elephant adoption programme and broader partner network remains central—helping ensure that conservation action is science-based, ethically grounded, and focused on lasting coexistence between people and elephants.

Published papers

Selier, J.A., Ferreira, S.M., Mafumu, H., Slotow, R., Muingi, A., Van de Water, A., Kruger, J., Coverdale, B., and Druce, D., 2025, “A National Elephant Heritage Strategy for South Africa”, African Journal of Wildlife Research, Vol. 55, No. SI2, pp. 316–321. <https://doi.org/10.3957/056.055.0316>

Friswold, B., Van De Water, A., Mitchell, B., House, S. and Gale, G., 2025, “Impacts of Range Expansion on African Elephant Well-being: Insights from Kariega Game Reserve, South Africa”, African Journal of Wildlife Research, Vol. 55, pp. 381–385. <https://doi.org/10.3957/056.055.0381>

4. 2025 IN NUMBERS



TOM YUM PRODUCT PRODUCTION

- 500** Soaps
- 300** Candles
- 200** Tom Yum Cooking packs
- 50** Teas



ELEPHANT RESEARCH THAILAND

- 411** km walked for line transects (Kuiburi)
- 64** early-warning camera traps installed
- 110** identified elephants
- 613** elephant detections
- 198** groups recorded
- 334** focal behavioural observations
- 5000+** observation minutes
- 26** donors to the wildlife camera campaign
- 9** Elephant Research Experience participants



OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION

- Presented our mission to the Thai parliament and at the SAWMA conference
- 2** Scientific publications
- 4** Presentations at conferences



CONSERVATION EDUCATION EVENTS

- 13** events
- 466** participants
- 38** local people benefiting from events per event
- 13** local people employed per event:



BTEH SOUTH AFRICA

- 16** Elephant Research Experience participants
- 49** African elephant adoptions
- 164** dung samples analysed
- 73** identified elephants
- 474** focal sampling behavioural observations of 14 minutes
- 8000+** observation minutes



EVENTS AND PARTICIPANTS

- VIP Trip (2)
- ISB Student Service – February 2025 (26)
- JUMP x Tanglin – February 2025 (109)
- Insight Adventures – February 2025 (28)
- Be Better Eco – March 2025 (8)
- Walking Tree – March 2025 (28)
- Save the Elephants – May 2025 (1)
- Elephant Research Programme South Africa - May 2025 (8)
- School of Field Studies – July 2025 (15)
- Oregon State University – July 2025 (16)
- Elephant Research Thailand – October 2025 (9)
- Cincinnati Zoo – November 2025 (6)
- JUMP x RIS – December 2025 (65)
- NIST Y7 Kanchanaburi – December 2025 (153)

5. SOCIAL MEDIA PERFORMANCE IN 2025

In 2025, Bring The Elephant Home significantly expanded its online reach, engaging a growing global audience across Facebook (@BringTheElephantHome) and Instagram (@btehasiaafrica). Our platforms continue to be a powerful tool for raising awareness, mobilizing support, and inspiring action for elephant conservation.

Across both platforms, our audience primarily consists of women (around 60-67%) and men (33-40%) aged 25-34, with strong engagement from Thailand, the Netherlands, the United States, India, and South Africa.

Key Performance Highlights:

- Total Facebook reach: 1.5 million (+4.2%)
- Total Instagram reach: 34K (+21.4%)
- Facebook views: 501.6K
- Instagram views: 84K
- Content interactions: Facebook: 21.6K (+333%) | Instagram: 2.9K** (+100%)

- Link clicks: Facebook: 2.6K (+492.9%) | Instagram: 177** (+100%)
- New followers: Facebook: 1.2K (+362.2%) | Instagram: 507**

Content Performance & Engagement Trends

- Facebook posts outperformed Stories, generating the highest reach and engagement.
- Instagram Stories performed better than posts, reinforcing the platform's preference for interactive, short-form content.
- Organic engagement remained strong, with 85% (Facebook) and 86% (Instagram) of reach coming from unpaid content.

Top-performing content included elephant conservation updates, success stories, event promotions, and visually compelling storytelling posts.



6. ORGANISATION

Bring The Elephant Home is a Dutch foundation established on November 12, 2004, based in Utrecht, and a Thai foundation (PH211) that was established in October 2007 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Country Director Thailand

- Khwankhao Sinhaseni

Regional Director Africa

- Brooke Friswold

Director and Founder of Bring The Elephant Home:

- Dr. Antoinette van de Water

Board BTEH Netherlands

The composition of the board during the reporting year 2025:

- Berrie Jurg, chairman
- Jeroen Bol, board member
- Liesbeth Sluiter, board member
- Dr. Suzan Doornwaard, board member

Board BTEH Thailand

The composition of the board during the reporting year 2025:

- Dr. Antoinette van de Water, chairperson
- Siriporn Sriaram, board member
- Oravee Jitlekha, board member





7. FINANCE

In 2025, we received support through nine grants to advance our work in Thailand, with funding provided by Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, WWF Netherlands, IdeaWild, Abri voor Dieren, the Lucie Burgers Foundation, the Centre for Species Survival, Asian Elephant Wellness Project, and the Rufford Foundation.

2025 also marked the founding year of our sister organisation, the Elephant Conservation Research Fund (ECRF), in the United States. We are deeply grateful to the ECRF team for their enthusiasm, commitment, and support, including their leadership in organising the Tinsel & Trunks fundraising event.

We extend our sincere thanks to our private high-value donors, in particular Willem Mijnders, Arie and Rianne van Rabenswaay, and Nalyne, whose generous contributions provided critical flexibility and continuity for our conservation and community programmes.

The BTEH Netherlands financial report is available in Dutch, and the BTEH Thailand financial report is published in Thai. Both financial statements are reviewed and audited by the relevant authoritative bodies in their respective countries. For this reason, detailed financial information is not included in this annual report.



8. CLOSING REFLECTION

As 2025 comes to a close, I feel both gratitude and a clear sense of purpose. In a world where pressures on elephants and the communities living alongside them continue to grow, our role has been to remain grounded, curious, and committed to solutions that work for all.

This year was defined not by a single milestone, but by steady progress. We deepened our understanding of elephant behaviour and well-being, strengthened research across Thailand and South Africa, and brought innovation closer to action through early-warning systems, monitoring tools, and collaborative partnerships. Each step moves us closer to preventive, thoughtful, and just conservation practice.

At the heart of this work are the people who make coexistence possible: farmers, rangers, students, researchers, partners, and supporters who believe that living alongside wildlife is both a challenge and a responsibility. Bring The Elephant Home has never been about one species, one solution, or one person. It is a shared vision, carried forward by many hands.

The challenges remain urgent: habitat loss, climate change, and increasing fragmentation. Yet 2025 reaffirmed what we already know: that science, compassion, and community together can create lasting change.

We continue to work toward a future where wild elephants move safely through connected landscapes, where coexistence becomes the norm, and where justice and inclusion guide conservation decisions.

Thank you for your trust and for standing with us as we move into the year ahead.

With gratitude,
Dr. Antoinette van de Water
Founder & Director
Bring The Elephant Home

