

ZSL 200 YEARS
OF WILDLIFE



2026

PATRON EVENTS PROGRAMME

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF ZSL

200 YEARS OF ZSL

For two centuries, ZSL has led the way in science-driven conservation, inspiring people to protect wildlife across the globe.

As we mark our 200th anniversary, we celebrate this extraordinary legacy and look ahead to the vital work still to come. It is a celebration of our shared impact - your support has advanced scientific discoveries, empowered people to act for nature, and made a lasting difference for wildlife.

YOUR YEAR AHEAD

We are delighted to offer a programme of special events, talks and experiences that highlight our achievements and our ongoing work to help people and wildlife thrive together.

You will have the opportunity to go behind the scenes, enjoy early access to our zoos, and hear directly from the experts driving our conservation work. This calendar focuses on events taking place in the first half of the year. We look forward to updating you on additional events throughout 2026.

Invitations with full details will follow as each event approaches. For now, please save the dates - we look forward to welcoming you. Please note, dates and times are subject to change. For the latest updates, please refer to your Patron e-news or the invitations sent ahead of each event.



SAVE THE DATE

Please see dates below for Patron exclusive events, as well as wider activity taking place across the zoos. This includes our 200th Anniversary Lecture series, *Wild Talks*, where we're inviting world-leading scientists and conservationists to explore the biggest questions in wildlife science and conservation - past, present and future.

ZSL in Action: Highlights from 2025

Thursday 22 January, 2pm-3pm

In this online event, you'll hear from experts on the ground about the exciting work taking place across ZSL. We'll shine the spotlight on some of our highlights from 2025, which are only possible thanks to your support.

WEBINAR

RSVP NOW

Please email
SpecialEvents@zsl.org
to secure your place at
any of the events
marked 'RSVP now'

ZSL Wild Talks - Trailblazers & Pioneers: 200 Years of Wildlife Science

Tuesday 3 February, 6pm-7.30pm, Huxley Lecture Theatre, London Zoo

The first of our ZSL 200 Anniversary Lecture series looks back at the pioneers who changed how we understand animals, and the projects shaping the future of conservation.



Patron Morning with the Primates

Saturday 28 February, 8.15am-10.30am,
London Zoo

Enjoy seeing some of our primates start their day at our next Patron morning at London Zoo. You will be taken on a guided tour before the zoo opens to visitors, with refreshments and the opportunity to meet fellow supporters.

RSVP NOW

ZSL Wild Talks - Breaking Barriers: Women in Wildlife

Tuesday 10 March, 6pm-8pm, Huxley Lecture Theatre, London Zoo

From Sophia Raffles to Joan Procter to Dame Georgina Mace, women have always been a driving force in ZSL's story. This lecture celebrates their impact and showcases today's women leading vital projects across the globe. There will also be the opportunity to meet some of our female Trustees, and hear how you could get involved further in the Governance of ZSL.

Early opening for Patrons, Fellows and Gold members

Sunday 22 March, 9am-10am, London and Whipsnade Zoo

Enjoy early access to our zoos before gates open to the public. There is no need to pre-book, simply pop in between 9am-9.30am on the day.



An Evening with our EDGE Fellows

Tuesday 24 March, London Zoo

Join us for an exclusive drinks reception to meet our Latin America cohort of EDGE (Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered) Fellows as they complete their two-year Fellowship. Hear about the remarkable projects these young conservationists are leading to preserve some of the world's most unique species.

RSVP NOW

The Big ZSL Birthday Bash

2-4 May - London and Whipsnade Zoo

Spend your May Bank Holiday surrounded by wildlife and wonder as both zoos host a weekend of anniversary festivities. Enjoy special talks, hands-on activities, games, treats, and plenty of surprises as we celebrate 200 extraordinary years of connecting people with wildlife. Whether you're joining us in London or Whipsnade, come make memories with family and friends as we mark this incredible milestone together.

ZSL Wild Talks - Wild Health: People, Nature & One Health

Tuesday 5 May, 6pm-7.30pm, Huxley Lecture Theatre, London Zoo

The health of humans, animals, and ecosystems are deeply connected. Hear how ZSL's science is helping to prevent pandemics, protect communities, and show why caring for nature is essential to our own wellbeing.

Early opening for Patrons, Fellows and Gold members

Sunday 17 May, 9am-10am, London and Whipsnade Zoo

200 Years of ZSL

Thursday 21 May, 2pm-3pm

Join us online as we journey through two centuries of science, innovation and conservation. This special 200th anniversary webinar shines a light on the extraordinary moments - and extraordinary people - that have shaped ZSL's journey toward a future where wildlife thrives.

WEBINAR

RSVP NOW

Zoo Plaques Trail Launch

Friday 5 June, London Zoo

A self-guided plaque trail launches at London Zoo celebrating ZSL's people and animals.

VIP Zoo Nights Reception

Friday 12 June

Enjoy a drinks reception at London Zoo before the unique after-hours experience of Zoo Nights. Meet fellow supporters and ZSL scientists and conservationists, and hear about our global conservation projects firsthand. After the reception, explore the zoo and take in the rare opportunity to see our animals as the sun sets.

RSVP NOW



ZSL Wild Talks - From Zoo Time to Springwatch: Wildlife on Screen
Tuesday 23 June 6pm-7.30pm, Huxley Lecture Theatre, London Zoo

How has TV shaped the way we see nature? From ZSL's early role in natural history broadcasting to today's citizen science, this lecture explores how storytelling brings people closer to wildlife - and why it matters for conservation.

Early opening for Patrons, Fellows and Gold members
Sunday 12 July, 9am-10am, London and Whipsnade Zoo

We look forward to sharing details about events later in the year closer to the time. If you have any questions, please get in touch at SpecialEvents@zsl.org.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your continued support of ZSL. Your belief in our mission and your passion for wildlife play a vital role in driving our work forward.

We are incredibly grateful to have you in our community as we celebrate this milestone year and work together towards a future where wildlife thrives.

