

The George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust

newsletter 2009/2010



On one of the daily flying patrols in March 2010, we saw a loose and widespread herd of about 250 elephants on the plains where a swamp had formed. They were grazing with herds of oryx, eland, zebra and buffalo and many other animals. The elephants were behaving as they should, with cows and calves grouped together, young bulls and old bulls in other groups and all looking peaceful. Over the course of the next few weeks they moved onto the plains in the Kisima area which were covered with wild flowers and long grass, and they grazed there for weeks. If we ever had a picture of how Mkomazi could be, this was it. Mkomazi had gone through a long and debilitating dry season, swiftly followed by extended rains. The Park looked in great condition for the months before the next dry season started taking hold.

Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) have done a good job in the field, both on anti-stock and anti-poaching measures, and also on infrastructure and planning for the future. There are few cattle in the park and any incursions are swiftly sorted out. TANAPA rangers have been posted to the Trust-built and staffed security outpost at Kifakua to work alongside our personnel on foot patrols and security. This situation will soon be replicated at our security outpost at Maore. Mobile de-snaring teams were sent out, again working alongside TANAPA rangers, and hundreds of snares were recovered. Elephant and rhino poaching are dramatically on the rise again so vigilance is crucial.

We have worked in partnership with TANAPA on many infrastructural undertakings the most important of which was to help de-silt Dindira Dam and Kavateta Dam. Our plant and machinery was sent out to work on this huge task and the results are shown in the photos. We carried on with essential road maintenance with the JCB, tractor and slasher moving around the main road networks after the rains. We also assisted TANAPA with the task of putting up road signs on stone cairns at the road junctions in the northern part of the park. Flying patrols take place when possible with relay of information to Zange HQ.



Plant machinery at Dindira Dam, before desilting.



Jabu wallowing

If you did not already know, Tony's book was published by Penguin in September.

It is an excellent read so if you do not yet have a copy, it is time to get one.



▶▶ We undertook repair of the leaking Kisima Dam, another big civil engineering problem involving digging down fourteen feet of dam wall to identify and repair the leak. The pipeline from the dam to the camp was buried even deeper to stop elephants ripping it up. This took four months of labour and JCB back-up. The old colonial dam wall close by was also repaired and the pipeline relayed through it instead of over the top. Fred Ayo, Elisaria Nnko and Tony all advised on the civil engineering side of these projects.

The aircraft underwent a rigorous schedule of maintenance and a backlog of repairs and replacements. The JCB had several hydraulic problems which needed serious attention in the workshop. Maintenance of all the plant machinery, vehicles and equipment was, as always, an essential undertaking and probably the base of the success of the operation here. Fred Ayo continues to oversee the entire show and it is thanks to him that we can run such a professional operation. It is a pretty demanding task in lots of ways but he gets on with the job, turning his hand to anything, from major grader repairs to helping Pete Morkel put new transmitters into rhino horns.

The Chairman and Trustees of our Tanzanian Trust (WPTF) met with the Conservation Management Committee of TANAPA to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by both parties. It was a very positive and amicable meeting and the vision for the way forward was mapped out. We are fortunate enough to work closely with Justin Hando, the Protection Manager of TANAPA, who was also one of Tanzania's most respected field wardens for twenty years. He understands the realities of field work and the depth of the systems needed to keep the integrity of a high security project such as the Rhino Sanctuary in place. We are always pleased to welcome Mr Mnyagatwa (TANAPA Chief Park Warden) and his officers to our camp and discuss physical field work in the park and plans for the future. Over the course of the last twelve months we have also welcomed the Board of Trustees, the Directors, Managers and Veterinary Officers of TANAPA. There have been three workshops for the TANAPA General Management Plan and all aspects of park management, infrastructure and maintenance are covered along with tourist development. Elisaria Nnko, our operations manager, attends these meetings and clearly and confidently puts across the Trust's ideas.



Repairing the old Kisima Dam



Dindira Dam, desilted.



Fred Ayo at work.



Pete Morkel working with Fred Ayo and Semu Pallangyo replacing a rhino horn transmitter

The animals play their part too. Throughout the long dry season, a group of three bull elephant knocked down the wild dog compounds most nights for about six months. Sangito and Mshamba would repair them daily and wait for the next night's invasion. And in they came. The tractor or JCB would rush around with lights blazing and horns blaring to try to move them off. The eles would then rush off and hide for a few hours until it had all quietened down and would then come back for the next attempt. Finally, two of the bulls moved off to find water at Lake Jipe with all the other elephants and we were left with a one bull face-off! The guys had dug trenches around the water tanks, put up huge structures of mediaeval stakes and sharp stones around the guest tents and outside showers (which he had ripped down), buried all the water piping so deep that he couldn't get to it and replaced and re-laid the entire water piping system from the Kisima Dam to Kisima Camp – a job that took four months – but it was a battle of wills. In the end and in his own time, he moved off.

As always, the success of the projects comes down to the people we work with. Our Chairmen and Trustees advise and steer us, and our Tanzanian personnel in the field continue to work with integrity and discipline, with Elisaria at the forefront of it all.

Our sincerest thanks to Suzuki Rhino Club, TUSK, IFAW, Swordspoint Foundation, Peter Morton, JCB, WildiZe Foundation, Friends of Mkomazi, Marina Schreyer, Sarnia, Shepherds, Silvesters, Connors and Mavroudis's for supporting the work in the field.



Bull elephant close to the kitchen



With Brigadier General Hashim I Mbita, Chairman of the Tanzanian trust



Meeting of the Board of Trustees in Tanzania. From left. Brigadier Mbita, Rose Lugembe, Tony, Charles Dobie, Lucy and Bernard Mchomvu.



Aircraft 5H-DOG undergoing maintenance.

Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary (MRS)

We now have fourteen black rhino in the MRS. Births over the past year have been a female born to Lee in August 2009 and a male born to Marina in July 2010. Now that we have four breeding females and the new rhino from the Dvur Kralove Zoo in the Czech Republic, we will work out breeding management with Pete Morkel.

Suzuki Rhino Club, who are greatly involved in supporting the management and security of the sanctuary, went even further and raised funds to get the three black rhino from the Dvur Kralove Zoo and fly them to Tanzania on a Martinair 747 cargo plane. This exercise was a huge undertaking for all involved in terms of time, logistics, funding, negotiation and at times anxiety; the translocation would not have been possible without their solid support and enthusiasm. The holding compounds also had to be repaired, the tsetse fly attended to, new paddocks fenced, lucerne and horse cubes imported from Kenya and a host of other preparations put in place.

Dr Hamish Currie of Back to Africa and Dr Dana Holeckova (Director, Dvur Kralove Zoo) started the process to translocate these rhino a couple of years ago and we are all pleased that it has been such a success to date. Dr Pete Morkel was the vet in charge. The importation of these three rhino has increased genetic diversity, as well as sanctuary staff morale and raison d'être.

The new rhinos (one female and two males) then started to settle into the holding compounds under the care of Pete, their keepers (Berry and Honza) and our personnel. Transmitters were implanted into their horns by Pete – yet another undertaking requiring a high level of skill and experience. Their ears were also notched for ID purposes. They were then released into ever-increasing sized paddocks, until they were introduced into their own private fenced-off section of the MRS.

We had to construct a second separation fence with electrified cantilevers on both sides to discourage a resident subordinate bull rhino, James, from trying to break in to the Czech bull's section and fight with him. James had worked out how to weaken the fence posts with his horn without getting an electric shock. This fencing was an emergency operation and the guys managed to put up two kilometres of fencing within a few days. It took four hundred fence posts, high tensile wire and electrification. James now has to get through four lines of electrified fencing if he wants to get to the Czech bull but so far he hasn't got further than fence number three. When he can't get further, he attacks a tree instead. Pete Morkel has returned recently to Mkomazi to blunt his horn and put in a telemetry transmitter to curtail the problem.

Dr Holeckova has returned twice to see the rhino. Mark Pilgrim of Chester Zoo, who holds the black rhino stud book within the European zoos, visited with Maggie Esson and was very pleased with their condition.

Pete returned some months later to replace all three horn transmitters – a pretty intensive day's work and all our rhino personnel joined him with their usual commitment and understanding of this fairly stressful undertaking. Pete then had to return again to rescue a



Deborah and Jabu at the Dvur Kralove Zoo in the Czech Republic



Rhino crates off loaded from the Martinair 747 at Kilimanjaro International Airport



Rhinos on the road to Mkomazi



Deborah and Jamie in the wild in the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary

rhino calf that we feel must have been chased out through the fence by a bull rhino. Thankfully he and Estelle were in Tanzania and they came straight to Mkomazi, prepared everything and off we drove to pin down the calf. Semu and Evans had kept close to it for eighteen hours and it is a great credit to their skills and understanding of rhino that this little animal did not move far from them. Pete darted her and she came down on the rhino fence line itself. Eleven men then hand-carried her back into the sanctuary and she was reunited with her mother after about thirty six hours.

The extension of the MRS, a major civil engineering project, is now completed. It took two years to put in nine kilometers of fencing. There were many delays along the way with heavy rain and extended drought, problems with acquisition of timber, machine problems, rising prices, currency fluctuations – the usual stuff. Firstly the line had to be surveyed by air, and rough lines drawn on an ordinance survey map from the GPS co-ordinates taken from the air. Then the line had to be walked for ground-truth. When the exact line was decided upon (also taking into account the big gullies, large rocks and rocky sections), forty foot homemade surveyors poles are put in place, painted red and white at the top. That was followed

Building the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary Fence Extension



by the deployment of plant and machinery to clear the line for both the fence and an all-weather driveable road on either side of the fence wide enough to take a tractor and trailer. The line had to be graded, with the whole width cambered to drain off on either side. Drainage channels and drainage ditches were put in so that in the future the rains and hill-side river run-offs would not cross the fence line and quickly erode it. For many weeks, the JCB was in a morass of mud, slithering around all over the place trying to put in the channels and ditches. It had major hydraulic problems and we were able to get the parts from the JCB factory in the UK and get them to site (another big logistical feat) and fix the machine. Whilst the line was still waterlogged, we also completed the construction of the permanent security outpost that will house MRS security personnel who will guard that section of the sanctuary.

We hired a casual labour gang to work with our existing personnel under the professional direction of Julius Mwithika, the fence manager seconded to us from Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, to physically put the electrified and alarmed fence in place. The gang dug the holes by hand for the fence-posts on a bonus system. Drilling the fence-posts on site to take the wire and insulators was a gritty task, with six drills and many drill bits already broken as that width of wood is hard to work with. The guys then changed tactics and drilled a smaller pilot hole by hand and then put the bigger hole in with new electric drills. Each fence post needs thirteen holes

and there were over two thousand fence posts to work with, let alone the cantilever, electrics and rigging up the solar panels, batteries and energizers to feed the power into the line. The high tensile wire was then strung and tensioned. Of course, just before the fence was finished and closed off, an elephant managed to slip in. What else would you expect?!

The next major task facing us is the replacement of the original fence-posts on the MRS perimeter line. They are coming to the end of their thirteen year life span and we are now seeking support to replace all ten thousand posts over a four year period. Through practical necessity, pre-drilled steel posts are an option for every fourth post because wooden posts are not easily available in Tanzania.

Supply and storage of water is also a major logistical undertaking. Rain-water catchment is a priority in the wet season. In the dry season, the Scania bowser makes a daily ninety kilometre round-trip to the Zange HQ borehole to build up water storage at Kisima. The water is then stored in three large water tanks and from here the old Bedford lorry distributes it around the MRS personnel stations, the outlying security outposts and rhino water pans and wallows.



Rhino with warthogs!

The key issues now facing the MRS are protecting the rhinos and breeding them up. At a time when the street price of rhino horn has never been higher, poaching is on the increase and even the best run and secured sanctuary in Kenya has seen two of its rhinos killed by poachers, we are under no illusions about the task we have undertaken. We are first and foremost a wildlife conservation organization and have to maintain the tight security systems and integrity of the sanctuary and the personnel. These personnel risk their lives daily in the protection of the rhino and it is through their loyalty and hard work that we have achieved so much.

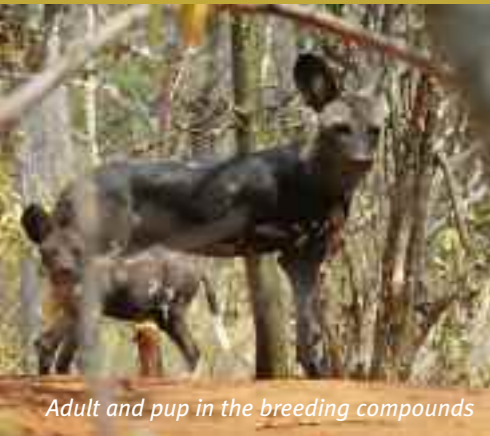
We are now advising TANAPA on how to establish, run and maintain projects such as the MRS which they are thinking of replicating in another area.

We would like to thank Ted van Dam and the Suzuki Rhino Club for all their great efforts and support. We would also like to thank the Morkels, TUSK Trust, Rufford Foundation, Save the Rhino (who also raised more funds for the MRS through Bower Trust, Safaripark Beekse Bergen and Mohamed bin Sayed Species Conservation Fund), US Fish & Wildlife Services, Chester Zoo, Friends of Serengeti Switzerland, the Swordpoint Foundation, Peter Morton, Back to Africa, WildZi Foundation, Newman's Own Foundation, FZS, JCB, Grumeti Reserves, the Millars and the Bissetts, all of whom have donated funding, time, advice, equipment and tremendous support for the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary.

African Wild Dogs

We and our supporting Trusts take a “Big Picture” look at conservation / preservation and attempt to prioritise where possible. The African Wild Dogs need all the help they can get and we need to get the communities informed and onside in our ongoing efforts. The wild dog has suffered from an undeservedly bad reputation for years. Man’s best friend became an outcast to be killed, poisoned and vilified and it was only when more enlightened views began to prevail that they were seen in their true light as an integral part of African ecosystems.

We have worked with the wild dogs for fifteen years, rescuing the first group from being poisoned on the Masai Steppe, breeding in captivity and after an intensive ten year veterinary programme run by Aart Visser and with the help of Erasmus University, managed to “cover” the animals against rabies and the dreaded canine distemper. Much of this work was an East African first and we have an enormous amount to thank Aart and the universities he worked with for their professional input.



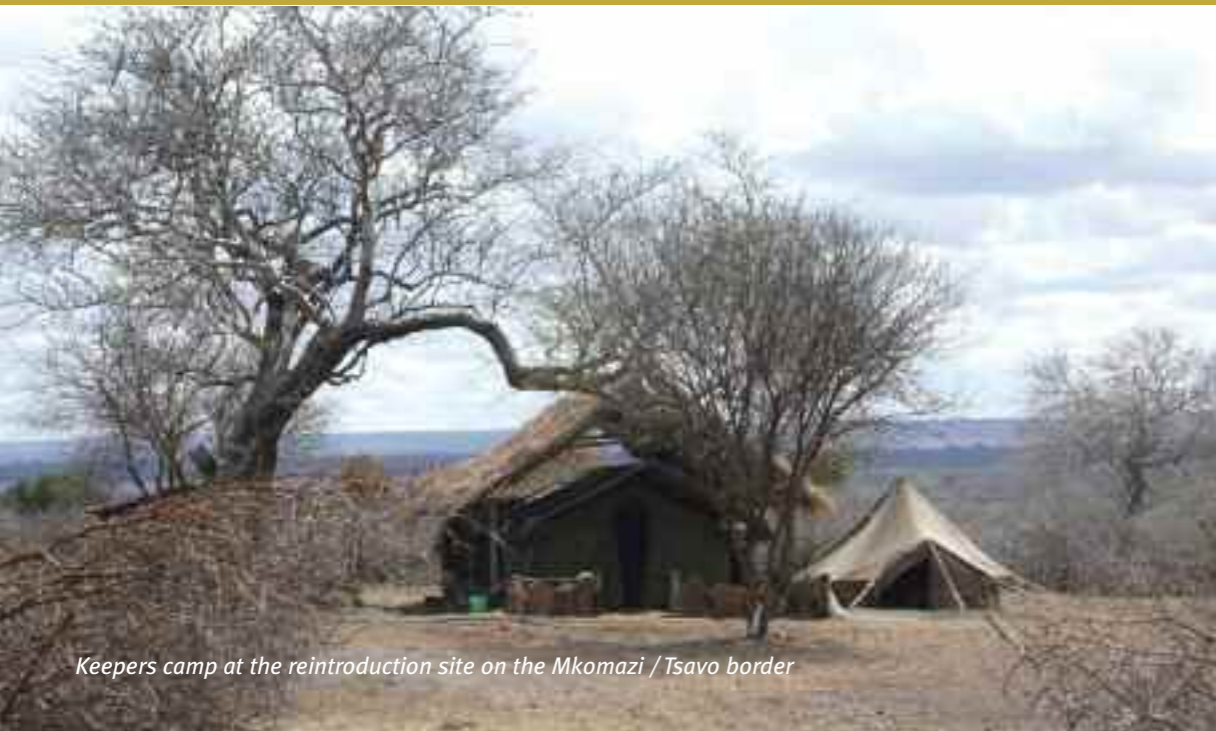
Adult and pup in the breeding compounds

We continue to breed, and now release and monitor for as long as we can, but we are convinced we have at least a 50%-60% success rate.



Adult male wild dog sedated for translocation to reintroduction site

In the early part of 2010, the four alpha females gave birth to four litters. Outside the compounds, the alpha female in the pack of ‘wild’ wild dogs also gave birth to her first litter and other small packs pass through. We now have forty nine wild dogs in the breeding compounds, with two other small groups at the reintroduction site on the Mkomazi / Tsavo border and a reintroduction plan set for seventeen more dogs over the next few months. Firstly though, the older litter and subordinate adults are helping the alpha females raise the new litter. Then all of those older dogs will be reintroduced back into the wild in organized packs or single sex groups. The reintroduction area and camp were recently renovated (having been burnt in the dry season) in preparation for this programme. The older adults will be the first group to be reintroduced followed by the younger sets of adults. The alpha pairs will be left at Kisima with their youngest litters.



Keepers camp at the reintroduction site on the Mkomazi / Tsavo border

We have continued vaccinations following all the established protocols. Sangito and Mshamba continue their work as keepers, running the daily systems and keeping an eye on everything going on in the compounds. We buy three cows a week to mix with dried food supplement, fish and maize meal, and often feel we need more. The dogs have to be inoculated with specialized vaccines and wormed every two months. They also have to be sedated for reintroduction (again with specialized anaesthetic) and moved to a separate camp twenty kilometres away. This has to be staffed. On release they must be monitored for as long as possible and that means many aircraft and ground hours. They will also cross into Kenya and we would like to have a small monitoring team that side of the border.

None of this is done on fresh air or simply a love for the animals, and we need to keep it all going. The TANAPA board chairman said at a meeting the other day in Dar es Salaam that he would like to see our wild dogs repopulate all the other National Parks in northern Tanzania which was encouraging and supportive. Wild dog sightings in the Tsavo ecosystem have increased and we recently saw a large pack of wild dogs at the MRS, together with young.

Having covered the basics, it is now a numbers game. We are back to concentrating on a long-term plan to try to reintroduce healthy wild



Sangito Lema (head keeper) and Fred Ayo fix the radio telemetry collar prior to reintroduction

dogs into an ecosystem where they will have a good chance of success, and thereby help the plight of this highly endangered species.

Olly and Suzi always do their utmost to promote the wild dogs and raise donations for them. We are tremendously grateful to Damon Albarn and Jamie Hewlett for so generously supporting this programme through the Roskilde Festival. Merial in the USA continue to donate the specialized vaccine for canine distemper, as well as the rabies vaccines. Dr Nick de Souza of WSPA helps to bring these vaccines into the country. WildiZe Foundation has supported feeding costs. Longleat Safari Park and Suzuki Rhino Club have also supported other veterinary medicines and equipment. We are also grateful to the Duffields for their support over many years.



Dickson Kaaya buying cows for wild dog feed at the Masai cattle market



New generation of wild dogs



With Hezekiah Mungure, the first Wildlife Division Project Manager of Mkomazi. 1994

Elisaria Nnko, Fred Ayo and Semu Pallangyo

Buffalo coming to drink at desilted Maore water pan

Elephant coming in to drink at Kisima Camp

Working on the Kisima well



New road sign for Mkomazi National Park

With the TANAPA Planning Unit

Bulldozer at Dindira Dam

A visit from HRH Prince Michael of Kent

The old Bedford water bowser. 40 years old.



Rhino from the Dvur Kralove Zoo, Czech Republic boarding the Martinair 747 at Schipol Airport, Amsterdam. Destination Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary

With Ted van Dam at Kilimanjaro Airport just after the three rhino had arrived from the Czech Republic

Suzuki Rhino Club fundraising event in Holland

Semu and Patrick with fibre glass rhino models for the Environmental Education programme.

Lee with her calf Maggie

Mkomazi Outreach Programme

When the Trusts first started working in Tanzania, secondary education was generally only available to either very bright or wealthy students. The majority of pupils left school after their primary education at about thirteen years old. Pupils who had made considerable efforts to pass their primary exams would then have no option of secondary education. This was disheartening to many generations of Tanzanians. The secondary schools in the Districts surrounding Mkomazi were very few in number and some of them were in dire condition. We responded to a cry for help from both Presidents Mkapa and Kikwete to help the nation build secondary schools so that secondary education could become available to more of its citizens, regardless of wealth or intelligence. Our Trustees made a decision to focus on education and although we have also contributed to rural water projects, women's groups and municipal works, we have contributed significantly to the construction and upgrading of secondary schools to help address these basic educational needs. We constructed an entire secondary school in Kisiwani village (which is now also a High School for tertiary education) and have donated classrooms to another nineteen secondary and thirteen primary schools. There are many difficulties associated with this as these communities are poor and rural and the need for classrooms and secondary education is so desperate. Raising money for infrastructural development of schools is very difficult for both the districts and local communities. There is also scant history of secondary education for many generations.

As the economy has improved, so has the number of secondary schools and the fees set by Government are more affordable. The parents are now beginning to realise that secondary education is a possibility for their children. They endeavour to find the fees and as a result, class sizes are increasing year by year and an average class size for Form One (thirteen year olds) is now over one hundred and fifty students.



Mgagao Secondary School



Elisaria Nnko handing over building materials



Kisiwani High School dormitories



Kibacha Secondary School



Gonja Secondary School

The upgrading of these community schools is a joint undertaking and partnership between the Trust, the District authorities, the village councils, the school councils and the parent body. We provide the cement, roofing sheets and re-bar and they provide building sand, labour and make the blocks.

In the past eighteen months, GAWPT, with dedicated funding, has supported secondary schools through the four districts that surround the park with a donation of one classroom per school at Kisiwani, Gonja, Kibacha, Mgagao, Mnazi, Buiki and Hedaru.

These are a range of community, Government and boarding schools. Some of the villages are extremely poor but the villagers have a robust attitude; others have a strong parent body and therefore more assistance in the provision of building materials; others are struggling to get going whilst some, such as the ones in Same town, are dynamic.

Kisiwani High School (for tertiary education) is an addition to the existing Secondary School that was funded and constructed with dedicated funding. There are currently three hundred and sixty pupils in the secondary school and seventy pupils in the high school with numbers on the rise. In the past, there was only one high school serving the whole District.

Other high schools were far away in Moshi or Arusha and in these larger towns, with huge catchment areas, the chances of a Kisiwani student gaining a place was very limited. The assistance to Kisiwani High School will have a significant long term impact on the local community. Now the pupils have a better chance to be selected for their own village high school. Once educated at tertiary level, the pupils can then go on to study at college or university.

We have been extremely fortunate to have received donations from a UK charitable foundation, TUSK Trust and the GAWPT Trust in Germany for community outreach work.



Rafiki wa Faru students at the beginning of their day out in Mkomazi

Overall, the Rafiki wa Faru programme is going very well. We have brought about eight hundred and thirty five students and teachers into Mkomazi over the past twelve months alone. The feed-back is terrific and the students love their day out in Mkomazi. The schools are queuing up for a place on the bus, and as class sizes in these Government schools increase, we are suggesting that the schools run a competition for the students to gain a place on the Rafiki wa Faru trip. This is a whole new world for so many of them and environmental education is often missed out in the school syllabus, so the enthusiasm of the students bodes well for the future, most significantly now that Mkomazi is their National Park. Their day out in Mkomazi is tightly structured and very carefully planned. TANAPA have been great and greet the students on arrival and give them a brief talk on the Park.

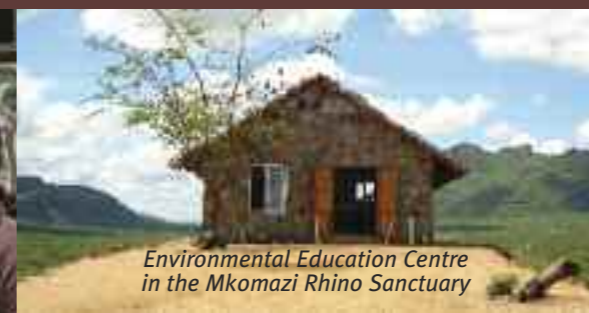
The majority of these students from poor, rural areas are the first of many generations to receive secondary education. Their parents and grandparents were around during the decline of Mkomazi in the 1970's and through the 1980's, when most of the elephant and all of the rhino were slaughtered. The rehabilitation of MGR started in 1989 and this new generation of students are able now to witness the results of twenty years of field work by the Government of Tanzania and our collective Trusts to bring it up to National Park status. We were the first to build a rhino sanctuary in Tanzania and translocate rhino from other countries and they learn about this as well. They are in a generation of change, being taught to understand sustained conservation, with one of Tanzania's newest National Parks and Tanzania's first rhino sanctuary neighbouring their villages.

We were very fortunate to receive guidance from Maggie Esson of Chester Zoo for structuring the programme. Our original intention was to not get involved in the Government's curriculum for environmental education, but we have also had to adapt our programme because some of these students know so little and there are big gaps in their knowledge.

With Maggie Esson and Cathy Dean of Save the Rhino, we decided that it would be important to be able to show a life-size model of a rhino to those students who were



Eliyudi Tofilo (bus driver), Evans Goodluck (rhino tracker) and TANAPA community officer with Rafiki wa Faru students.



Environmental Education Centre in the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary



Students start a classroom activity



Students categorizing

unlucky enough to miss seeing a live rhino on their visit. A life-size fibreglass rhino mother and calf were sourced and painted at Chester Zoo and will be placed on the walk up to the Education Centre. Chester Zoo also gave a donation of a proper photocopier, plus other educational materials such as clip boards, monoculars, A3 heavily laminated bird ID sheets and many more learning materials for the classroom activities.

The students learn about the practical nature of protecting black rhino and wild dogs, the reasons they are threatened and the measures taken to address the threat. They see wildlife conservation in action and have interactions with our personnel who are themselves ambassadors for the project and role models for the students. It is of great value that these students interact with men in the field who have been trained up from scratch, as they are aware that it could be possible to reach a working level such as this.

When Elisaria does the occasional special trip for the community leaders, they express their desire to be ambassadors for Mkomazi and although there is a certain degree of rhetoric in this, it seems to be a positive experience for them. Overall, it increased the community's understanding of their local environment.

Maggie Esson visited the project in November last year to collect material for evaluation and a report on how the pilot year of the Rafiki wa Faru project was going.

We also receive an annual visit from students at the MWEKA College for African Wildlife Management. They are brought into the Trust's base-camp to see endangered species programmes in action and to look at field management. On each of these visits Elisaria takes the students (sometimes numbering up to a hundred) up to the Education Centre in the Rhino Sanctuary and show them the educational day which the secondary school students are given, plus a wildlife documentary.

We all hope Rafiki wa Faru will continue for many years.

We are very grateful to Save the Rhino, Chester Zoo, TUSK Trust and US Fish & Wildlife Services for supporting this programme.



Rafiki wa Faru students on the bus on their way to see a rhino.

Environmental Education Programme, 'Rafiki wa Faru' (Friends of the Rhino)

Kora National Park, Kenya



George Adamson

On 20th August 2010, we gathered in Kora NP for a memorial organized by the Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) to commemorate George Adamson who was murdered twenty one years ago. The main event was at the graves of George and Terence. KWS was represented by their Assistant Directors, their Senior Wardens and many more of their staff. The local communities of Asako and Boka were fully represented, as were local businesses. The Trust in Kenya was represented by Tony and Lucy, Peter Silvester, Mike Harries and Lindsay Bell. Mark Cheruiyot, the KWS Warden for Kora National Park, had put together the whole event, a feat of logistics and planning. It was truly heartening to see the new generation of Kenyans who were celebrating George Adamson's vision and love of wildlife. And it was also a great honour to his memory to hear KWS talking of their



Pupils from Asako Primary School

21st Memorial to George Adamson organized by KWS. Asako community dancing with the Rev. Mike Harries.



Kora Rock in front of Kampi ya Simba

As with Mkomazi, the most crucial piece of equipment needed to carry out much of the field work is a tractor, trailer, grader blade and water bowser. We have recently been able to raise the necessary funds to buy this equipment.

We also are in discussion on the possibility of constructing an historical education centre about the life and work of George Adamson at the proposed tented camp; running an environmental education programme based on the Rafiki wa Faru programme in Mkomazi and the possibility of a Field Study Centre in Kora.

Recently, the KWS warden Mark Cheruiyot invited Tony to the KWS Mwingi signing at the Nairobi HQ. Mwingi is on the periphery of Kora NP and KWS will take over management of the Mwingi National Reserve from the County Council. The Vice President of Kenya, Hon Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, was the Guest of Honour and also invited the Chairman of the Mwingi County Council and Tony to give a speech and lay a wreath at the memorial to fallen KWS rangers

We will continue our support for Asako village and dialogue is now opening up with the villagers of Boka for assistance. Trusts for African Schools (TAS) has provided tremendous help to Asako Primary School. There are now over three hundred students and pupil numbers and morale are growing rapidly. TAS is also assisting Madogo Secondary School, near Garissa, the sister secondary school to Asako Primary School. The Boka Primary School has now been identified and confirmed as the next school scheduled for assistance by TAS. We also donated funds to KWS for the construction of an airstrip at Boka village to upgrade the security of the area.

GAWPT installed a sixteen foot steel windmill pump on a thirty foot tower, from Kijito Windmill Pumps. This pump has helped the village with their irrigation in the dry season, domestic use and school use, agriculture and clean water systems and for the creation of inland plantations close to the river. KWS

transported the pump from the manufacturers to site. The villagers dug the wells close to where they need water for irrigation. The site was positioned on one of the four hand dug wells, which was lined with concrete culverts. As with the hand-pump installed in the village, it was expected that the water would be brackish for the first 6 months or so of pumping, and then run in a more purified fashion. However, this was not a great success, as contrary to all conventional wisdom and experience, the water was still very salty and also the yield in the well could not sustain the output of even a medium range windmill pump. We have raised the majority of funds to survey and re-position the water windmill pump and well, re-drill and re-line the well closer to the Tana River where the water and soakage and osmotic effect from the river is greater. The contractors have now drilled new wells and have identified one well for use by the re-positioned water windmill pump.

With the Vice President of Kenya, Hon. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka and the Director of Kenya Wildlife Services, Julius Kipng'etich at the Mwingi Signing.



The strengthened working relationship between the Kenya Wildlife Services and GAWPT, the shared vision of the rehabilitation of the habitat and wildlife of Kora and the understanding of the physical work needed to achieve these aims is encouraging. This was emphasized at the 21st anniversary event and it was great to see all those Kenyans standing at George's grave and pledging to continue his work.

plans to rehabilitate Kora in his memory and to make it a safe place for wildlife and a safe place for the communities.

In early 2010, an official meeting was held in Mwingi town between the heads of department of KWS to outline the objectives for the rehabilitation of Kora NP in partnership with the George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trusts. These objectives are currently being finalized in a prepared Memorandum of Understanding between KWS and GAWPT Kenya, in which the undertakings of each party are detailed.

KWS are already doing a great job in the rehabilitation of Kora. The Trust will use its knowledge of both Kora and the rehabilitation of Mkomazi to work alongside KWS to put in place the field work necessary to restore the area.

The basics are pretty simple but need a huge amount of support and funding.

Ongoing refurbishment of George Adamson's camp.

Construction of a workshop and equipment yard.

Construction and maintenance of new road networks, and opening up of old networks and airstrips.

Protection of the riverine forest.

Use of the Trust's aircraft to back up the Kora KWS warden and his rangers in the field.

Support for the KWS management of Kora NP.

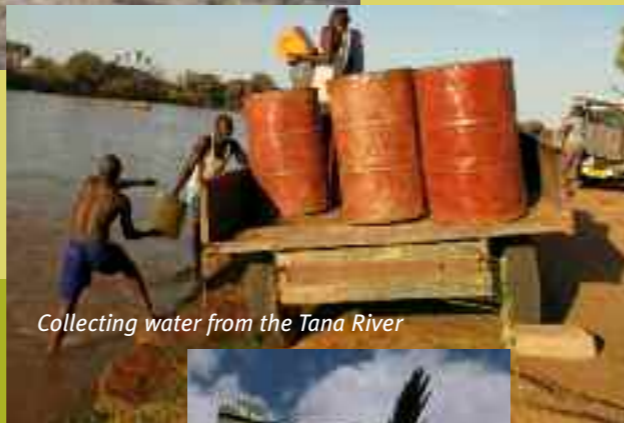
Construction of an aircraft hangar.

Endangered species programmes.

Installation of communications, solar power, water systems.



Kampi ya Simba



Collecting water from the Tana River



Water windmill pump in Asako village

Meeting of KWS Department heads to discuss the future development of Kora



The US Trust is looking at a 5 year plan for Kora NP to see how they can help support the initiatives. And we are very grateful to TUSK Trust, WildiZe Foundation, Martin and Sally Woodcock, AFEW, Born Free Foundation and a UK charitable foundation for supporting both the rehabilitation of Kora and the community work in Asako. We are indebted to Gill Marshall Andrews and her TAS team for their input and hard work on behalf of these schools in these remote areas.

New staff and ranger housing at Kampi ya Simba





New male rhino calf, Frans, born in 2010



Pete Morkel and Fred Ayo inserting rhino horn transmitter in the rain



Evans Goodluck, head rhino tracker



Semu Pallangyo, Rhino Sanctuary Manager, with the Suzuki Rhino Club and other friends.



Fence post holes dug by hand for the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary Extension



Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary Extension – new security outpost



Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary Fence Extension. Tensioning the wire.



Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary fence-line



Girls running alongside Jabu, sub-adult male rhino from the Dvur Kralove Zoo. Still young and friendly!



Jabu in the wild



Wild dog reintroduction camp on the Mkomazi / Tsavo border



Wild dog feed



Elisaria Nnko in front of Kisiwani High School during construction



Rafiki wa Faru students in the Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary



With Mark Cheruiyot, Senior KWS Warden, Kora National Park, at the 21st memorial to George Adamson.

General

We have welcomed some of our Chairmen and Trustees from the UK, USA, Tanzania and Kenya; TANAPA Trustees, managers, park wardens and ecologists; Wildlife Division Directors and officers; Supporters have come in to see the progress and wildlife vets have come in to work. The Regional Commissioner visited, and the District Commissioners of Same, Mwanga and Korogwe and one of the Chief Justices of Tanzania have all been in to look at the project.

We were very pleased to welcome Hezekiah Mungure back to Mkomazi. His interest in restoring this wilderness started in 1974 and it was his driving force and inspiration that propelled the project forwards from the early days. We were pleased to welcome Salum Lusasi, another retired Wildlife Division Project Manager; and Erasmus Tarimo, now the Director of Wildlife, arrived for the translocation of the black rhino. We were really pleased to welcome him and Mkomazi certainly has come a long way since Mr Mungure and Mr Tarimo had a spear chucked at them whilst on recce near Dindira Dam back in the late 1980's when the place was over-run with cattle, poachers, hunters and fire.

As always our Chairmen and Trustees continue to give support, valuable advice and direction on all aspects of the project. Andy and Georgina Mortimer, Jeff Stein, Lindsay Bell, Ruth Ng'anga and Simone Motzko keep everything in good shape. And our thanks to the Bormans, the Baxters, Tom Garvin, the Shankers, Stowe School and Pembroke House for their support. Our thanks also to Neumanns Gruppe / Mazao Ltd and Indigo Telecommunications for supporting the essential communication costs.

Without our Tanzanian staff we would not have a project. We are sincerely grateful to them all for their leadership, discipline and integrity over the past twenty one years. Elisaria Nnko-Operations Manager; Fred Ayo-Workshop Manager; Semu Pallangyo-Rhino Sanctuary Manager; Philbert Shindano-Rhino Sanctuary i/c Security; Sangito Lema-Wild Dog Head Keeper.

Our work in Mkomazi is far from over and although we have made huge progress since the beginning of the project, we look forward to your continued support.



Orphaned buffalo



Elephant at Kisima Camp



Gerenuk

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Bull elephant chasing Isaya at the kitchen



JCB Fastrac and 10 ton tipping trailer desilting Kavateta Dam