



KPSGA

NEWSLETTER

August 2012

MESSAGE FROM KPSGA

I am delighted to be part of this great association. My few months with the Association have been enjoyable because of the warm welcome by and support of the Board, the members and my fellow staff members and I thank you all for that.

I would like to commend the **KPSGA** guides for continuing to uphold professional and ethical conduct in their work. You spend the most time with the guests that visit this country. The impression they get of you is the picture they will take home of the country. It is imperative therefore that the depth, breath and precision of knowledge you impart in them about the country and the courtesy with which you handle them is beyond their expectations. It is only through this that we can be certain that they will go back to their mother countries with a burning desire to want to return and authoritatively speak of their wonderful experiences in Kenya and easily convince others to visit. Tourism in this country is predominantly nature based. We, therefore, as we have always done remain steadfast in our commitment to and practice of nature stewardship as we conduct our business.

We have continued to hold Bronze-Level accreditation exams monthly and the last Silver-Level exam was conducted in May. Overall we got 205 new members so far this year joining the association at Bronze-Level and 19 Bronze-Level members progressing to Silver-Level. I would like to warmly welcome the new members and congratulate the 19 who have moved to the Silver-Level and encourage the rest of the eligible Bronze-Level and Silver-Level members to take the bold step towards the Silver and Gold Levels respectively.

Last, but certainly not least, the recent announcement by the government through the Ministry of Tourism that the Narok-Sekenani road will be paved is great news. We would therefore like to thank the Hon. Dan Mwazo and his team for this noble achievement and assure them and other tourism stakeholders of our unwavering commitment to cooperating with them to raise standards in the industry and steer this country to be a prime destination of choice for all world travelers.

Tom Lesarge - CEO
Bronze-Level Member

B U S H A D V E N T U R E S

Virunga National Park, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo

I just wanted to share with you my report of a trip I made in March 2012 to the Virunga National Park (VNP) in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

This beautiful National Park is **Africa's oldest National Park**, founded in 1925, and it is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site (since 1979). It is one of the most bio-diverse protected areas on the African continent, and is reputed to have more endemic species than any other park in Africa. The VNP is managed under the very capable stewardship of Emmanuel de Merode and his team from Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN). The Park is undergoing something of a renaissance at the moment, with financial support from the European Union, and offers an exciting, out-of-the-way African experience for those of adventurous spirit seeking something a little different.

I spent a week there at the end of March, and our group were hosted impressively well by the ICCN team. We used the wonderful new **Mikeno Lodge** (in the forested VNP HQ compound at Rumangabo) as our base for exploring the attractions of the Southern Sector of VNP.

The first trek we made was to the **active volcano of Nyamulagira**.



Me with Larva lake behind

This is reached by a 30 minute drive and then a 3 hour hike over rough lava. This is one of the world's most active volcanoes - it has erupted 43 times between 1865 and 2011. The most recent eruption started on 6th November 2011, and occurred along a fissure to the north-east of the volcano. It was characterised by spectacular lava fountains up to 400 metres high, and resulted in the formation of two lava cones.



Mt. Mikeno from Bukima

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We scrambled up to the top of the newest cone (Kimanura) to look down into the still steaming crater. Some of the lava we walked on was still so hot that it melted the soles of our boots, and the ends of our hiking poles! The eruption at Kimanura sadly ended in early March, but I have recently heard that a new eruption is possibly imminent, from the main crater itself.

Unfortunately the main crater is deep within a zone where there are sporadic outbreaks of rebel activity. Even for the hike to Kimanura we required a platoon of armed rangers from ICCN to escort us! We fly-camped overnight near the new cones.

The second trek we made involved a one and a half hour drive on a very rough road to Bukima patrol post at the edge of the 250 square kilometre Mikeno Sector in the south-east corner of VNP. From here we hiked for 2 hours into the forest to reach the **Munyaga mountain gorilla family**. This family group, consisting of 3 silverbacks, 2 adult females, one infant and one adolescent, is one of 6 habituated families in the Mikeno Sector. There are approximately 200 gorillas in VNP, out of ca. 790 remaining in the world. The gorilla viewing experience here was superb.

The rangers are very considerate around the gorillas, and the visitor group size is limited to 4 pax. which makes for exceptional viewing and photographic opportunities.



Silverback

All visitors are obliged to wear face masks, to limit transfer of contagious diseases to the gorillas. As in Rwanda and Uganda, the time limit is one hour. The majestic Mount Mikeno (4,437 metres / 14,557 feet) stands as an impressive sentinel over the whole area.

The next day, despite my legs having almost given up on me the night before, we again set off early, with a substantial armed escort, to visit the habituated **chimpanzees at Tongo Forest**, to the north-west of Rumangabo. Another drive of an hour and a half took us across vegetated lava fields to this pristine patch of indigenous forest. On the way we saw some other interesting primate species including Red-tailed Monkeys and L'Hoest's Monkeys. Although the Tongo Forest is small (10 square kilometres), there are some 36 chimpanzees living here. The

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habituation process was started in 1987 and the project is managed by the Frankfurt Zoological Society. Observation of the chimpanzees stopped between 1996 and 2010, due to insecurity in the area, so we were one of the first groups to be allowed back in. Chimpanzee trekking here is not quite in the league of Mahale in Tanzania, as it is quite challenging, and the chimpanzees are not quite so habituated. Having said that, we were able to approach to within approx. 10 metres of chimpanzees in the trees, and 20 metres on the ground.



Nyiragongo Larva Lake

The final part of our adventure involved an hour long drive to Kabati patrol post at the base of the **active stratovolcano Nyiragongo**. This volcano is the one which has several times erupted to produce lava flows which have entered the nearby town of Goma, most recently in 2002. Nyiragongo is 3,468 metres high (11,380 feet) and contains the world's biggest lava lake. The glow from this molten lake at night is so impressive that it can be seen from neighbouring Rwanda! The hike to the crater at the summit is a strenuous one, not to be undertaken by those who are not reasonably fit.

The ascent is approximately 1,500 metres in 8 kilometres (5,000 feet in 5 miles), and takes approximately 5 hours. There is no rush though, as the lava lake is most impressive at night, when the whole boiling cauldron of orangey-red magma pulsates, explodes and metamorphoses constantly before your eyes. The drop into the crater from the rim is a sheer one of approximately 600 metres (2,000 feet),

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and is a challenge for vertigo sufferers like myself. But if you are able to drag yourself to the edge, the view is spellbinding.



ICCN have recently built 8 small 2 person cabins just below the crater rim, so they can accommodate up to 16 visitors. Be warned though, the "washroom facilities" are basic to say the least! It is also my recommendation that you should hike Nyiragongo during the week as the group size will be smaller, and you can move at your own speed, or at least at that of the armed rangers accompanying you! Experienced porters are available for approximately \$12 per day. The next morning we rose early and began the return hike to Kabati - this is easier going and can be done in under 4 hours.

All in all, our 6 days in Virunga were an incredible experience, even for such a seasoned group of safari guides as ourselves. It is a really incredible part of Africa, which

deserves as much support as it can get. It has survived against all the odds, and is managed by a capable and committed team of people, who are also wonderful hosts. Despite the numerous travel warnings and Foreign Office advice against travel to DRC, we did not at any point feel that our safety was threatened or compromised. The local people are delightful, friendly and very



welcoming to visitors. Where else in the world can you have exceptional opportunities to view our very rarest primates, AND see active volcanoes? Virunga truly is a magical part of Africa."

You can find lots more information about Virunga National Park on their website www.gorilla.cd

Mike McCartney
Silver-Level Member

B U S H N E W S

'In November, 2011, sadly we had 3 or 4 elephant washed down the Ewaso Nyiro River in the floods, and their bodies landed quite close to our Sabuk Lodge, caught by the rocks.

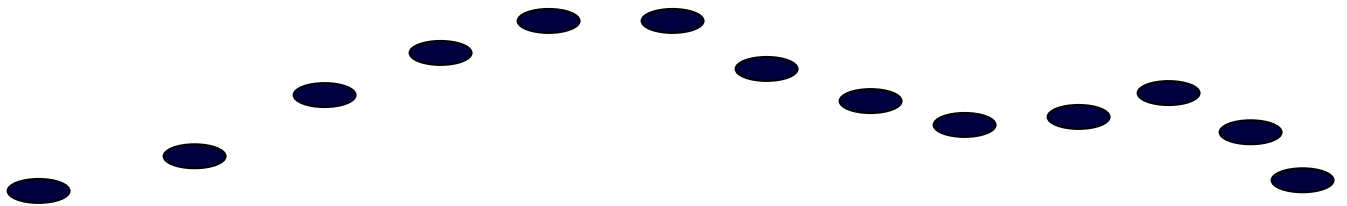
As a result, we had tremendous amount of hyena activity going on, etc.. BUT we did not see one vulture, which I found quite amazing, as well as frightening.



Also as another example, yesterday evening, we had a pride of 8 lion hunt Greater Kudu, one of which they caught. There was great commotion between the lion (as normal), and then they were joined by hyena. We could hear them growling and crunching bones in the night, but were not quite sure exactly where the carcass would be. IF there had been vultures around, we would have known by now, being 5 p.m. the following evening'

Verity Williams

Bronze-Level Member



B U S H M A T T E R S

GUIDES WHO MISTREAT OTHERS ON SAFARI

“I don’t know how this safari will be like, because it is going to have two tour-leaders.” He began by thinking aloud in front of me while lightly scratching his chin. It was at our office in Nairobi when he heard that I was to accompany him to Samburu and the Masai Mara on an attachment as a trainee tour-leader. I had asked him in Swahili, “shida iko wapi?” After a long pause he said anyway, “hakuna shida” we will go”.

He was much older than me and had been in the industry for many years before eventually bowing out to farm. I had respect for him which I lost after the safari. He had very sketchy knowledge on wildlife and nature and his main plus on safari was the ability to make clients laugh all the time by cracking jokes. That is why he was not comfortable with me on this safari. He was nicknamed

“*Kandabure*” which I doubt if he knew as the staff did not use it in his presence as he had a godfather.

I had never been to Samburu game reserve and the company felt that as a potential tour leader I had to take this trip with him as he was one of the senior safari-guides in the company. This was sometimes back in 2002. The safari plan was that we were to stay for two nights at Samburu Serena and three at Olonana in the Masai Mara with sixteen guests. At Samburu, we used three vehicles from our company as our drivers had

gone there a day earlier so as to pick the guests from the airstrip. Thereafter we were to fly with the guests to the Mara while the vehicles headed back to Nairobi with the drivers.



On the first game drive which was in the afternoon, I didn’t talk much because earlier on during the briefings he had disappointed me by only mentioning to the guests that I would be with them throughout the safari and nothing more. He never mentioned what I came to do. When we came back it was late and very soon we were having dinner, but since I was not the host, I didn’t talk much because I could read some uneasiness on my friend’s face.

The following day we had a morning and an afternoon game drive in which the three vehicles were not far from each other. On this day I decided to talk a bit more during the drive, I volunteered a lot of information and the guests were so happy with me. I knew that this would not be taken lightly by my friend but I carried on.

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Back at the lodge, the guests who were in my vehicle did a “mistake” by telling my “friend” that they had a wonderful time with me. This was like poison to his ears. The other “mistake” that the guests on his table did during dinner was to ask me to speak loudly so that they could also hear me (we sat at two tables). When this happened, I knew that trouble was brewing.

After dinner when the guests had left, my “boss” asked me for a little talk while offering me a beer. He then said “Gordon you are not flying with us to the Mara tomorrow, instead you and the drivers will head back to Nairobi after dropping us at the airstrip.” This did not surprise me. Nevertheless, I went on to ask him what was wrong. He replied, “you see, things aren’t going well because we are like two tour-leaders on this safari, hence the need for you to go back.” I was so demoralized by this statement but I consoled myself by the fact that I had now seen Samburu and that even if I did not go to the Mara it didn’t matter as I knew the Mara like the back of my hands. When I asked him what would be the guests’ reaction if they get to know at the last minute that I wasn’t going with them to the mara, he said “tell them you have been abruptly recalled to the office for another assignment”. Since he was the “bwana mkubwa” and he also had a godfather, there was nothing I could do but to comply.

Later that night when I shared the information with the drivers, they were also not surprised at all as they knew *kandabure* was not comfortable with the entire arrangement from the



beginning. I therefore returned to the Nairobi to the surprise of the staff who asked me, “we thought you were still on safari, why are you back so early?”

NB: Such incidences normally occur when one is not knowledgeable enough in his/her profession and therefore feels uncomfortable and threatened. Strive to be an expert in your field.

Gordon Omondi
Silver-Level Member

B U S H M A T T E R S

THE RHINO DEBATE

ECONOMICS OF RHINO HUNTING/POACHING DO WE LEGALISE
TRADE IN RHINO HORN - Chris Mercer

This is a vital matter Please read it then share it

RHINO HORN by Chris Mercer

In this eReport Mr. Mercer discusses six issues surrounding the debate of legalizing the trade in rhino horn.

1. Increase in Numbers
2. Enforcement capacity
3. Hunting and Poaching
4. Personal Gain
5. Money Lost
6. Resolving the Poaching Crisis

He then shares his conclusions and most importantly his recommendations.

DISCUSSION

1. Numbers: proponents of legalising the trade in rhino horn say that rhino numbers have increased due to rhino farming. That is so, but numbers alone are not a true measure of conservation. Rhino farming will certainly increase numbers, but breeding animals in relatively small camps for their horns has nothing to do with conservation, and everything to do with factory farming. Let us not lose sight of what real conservation is: the preservation of natural, functioning eco-systems. Artificially breeding up numbers of semi-tame rhino in fenced camps for commercial purposes is merely taking the wild out of our wildlife.

2. Enforcement: any scheme to legalise the trade in rhino horns rests upon the assumption that governments can be

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a) Un-corrupt;

b) efficient; and

c) effective. (Efficiency is doing things right; effectiveness is doing the right thing). The less said about this subject the better, other than to observe that a shakier foundation for a legal trade in rhino horn is hard to imagine.

3. Hunting and poaching: in natural eco-systems, it is the weak and sick who are killed by predators, and this strengthens the genes. The human predator (trophy hunter or poacher, same thing) puts the process of natural selection in reverse, killing the big and strong. Hunting and poaching are therefore equally destructive to wildlife populations. The hunting / poaching of farmed rhino is a closed circuit and should not be considered part of conservation.



4. Gain: delays in legalising the trade in rhino horn are being caused by "donor agencies," say the proponents, and go on to suggest that these "donor agencies" are lobbying against a legal trade in horn for selfish financial reasons i.e. They are bandwagons who profit from the current plight of rhinos and for that reason do not want to see an end to the ban. This is like arguing that Policemen and Judges must love criminals because without them there would be no need for Judges and Policemen. Such a silly claim should be treated with the contempt it deserves.

5. Money Lost: proponents claim that those who oppose legalising the trade in rhino horn are "costing the country about *R2 million a day", being the difference between the 448 rhino we are losing every year, and the value of the legal sale of horn. This is a dangerous over-statement: First, it assumes that on the day trade

B U S H M A T T E R S

is legalised, all poaching of rhino will stop at once. Second, it assumes that only ethically obtained horns will come to the Central Selling Organisation, and that no corruption will siphon off funds in to private or political pockets.

6. Resolving the Poaching Crisis: proponents claim that all rhino poaching will be resolved by legalising the trade, because:-

- i. **A Centralised Selling Organisation (CSO)** would sell only ethically obtained rhino horns to only Chinese parastatals.
- ii. The traditional medicine market in China would be fully supplied and prices of horn would drop.

These arguments sound so plausible, yet they are all fatally flawed. Once again, they rest on false assumptions.

1. **This assumes that both the CSO and the Chinese parastatals will not be corrupt**, and that poachers - especially those with deep pockets and powerful friends in government - will not be able to obtain the documentation needed to pass off poached horns as "ethical" or "legal" horn.

2. The assessment of the size and workings of the Chinese traditional medicine industry are naive, fanciful and speculative. No one knows whether releasing more horn on to the market via (possibly corrupt Chinese parastatals) will cause prices of horn to nose-dive so far that killing rhino becomes uneconomical. Will speculators buy up horn as an investment once the trade was legalised? Why not, they hoard gold etc? Could a speculative boom cause prices to rise? No one knows.

3. **The assumption that lower prices for horn will mean less poaching ignores the African reality: In Africa, if a bullet costs one dollar and the horn will only sell for ten dollars then rhino will still be poached.**

4. The assumption that all proceeds of sale of horn would "go in to conservation," and be "used to protect the game parks of Africa" is the most fanciful of all. This is Africa. To remain in power African governments use patronage. Being unable to innovate and create wealth themselves, African governments have to take whatever they can eg nationalising mines, confiscating farms, in order to fund their need to buy patronage.

Corruption is therefore endemic: it simply cannot be eradicated without eliminating African governments.

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As for South Africa's ability to conserve its natural resources, a recent international comparative study of conservation and environmental issues by Yale University and the UNEP placed South Africa 124th out of 132 countries. See <http://bit.ly/wd58j3>

5. In other words, it's official - **South Africa has one of the worst conservation regimes in the world** - and this is the body to be trusted with administering the trade in rhino horn if the proponents have their way. When all these realities are factored in to the arguments of those who claim that legalising the trade in rhino horn will save the rhino, then those arguments are patently flawed.

CONCLUSION

It is important to understand that rhino are not being poached because of the ban on the sale of rhino horn: ergo, lifting the ban cannot get to the root of the problem. Rhino are being poached because African governments have neither the political will nor the competence to manage their game parks effectively. Therefore, the savage persecution of rhino must inevitably continue, whether or not the sale of rhino horn is legalised. The only question is whether lifting the ban would mitigate a horrendous situation. The claims of the proponents of lifting the ban are hopelessly optimistic and unrealistic, but we should still remain open minded. The imponderables are such that no one knows.

Will legalising the trade allow poachers to filter into the system poached horn - and pass it off as legal horn? This has happened with the ivory trade: when the ban was lifted, poaching increased exponentially.

Should game farmers be allowed to farm with rhino? Well, if their grisly trade provides a funnel into a legal market, and this allows poachers to piggy- back their poached horn on that "legal" trade, then the game farmers farming activities will impact adversely upon conservation - even if they themselves are divorced from it.

B U S H M A T T E R S

What is wrong with the economic approach is that it tries to justify animal exploitation by numbers - both animal and dollars. But numbers alone are hopelessly inadequate to understand environmental degradation - or to fight it. In effect, the financial approach tries to shoe-horn all the complexities of social and environmental paradigms into a profit and loss account and it then wants us to buy the whole company without looking at the whole Balance Sheet.

This narrow economic approach could be used by drug and human traffickers as well as car hijackers, to justify their abominable activities. Like all important social and environmental issues, rhino protection needs a broad multi-disciplinary approach. So what are my suggestions?

RECOMMENDATIONS

First, the trade ban on rhino horn should not be lifted until we have tried more direct methods. The rigid protection of game parks has to be stepped up, and African governments have shown that they are not up to this task. Well then, let's think outside the box. NATO training exercises, using drones and all the latest technology, could well be held in African game parks, with a shoot to kill policy on poachers.

Second, a one-off sale of existing stocks of horns should be permitted, subject to international oversight - and auditing - on the use of the funds. Next, poisoning of horns should be mandatory. The possession or sale of un-poisoned horn should be criminalised. (Who'd want to buy poisoned horn?) After all we need to attack the root of the problem, which is human ignorance, vanity and greed.

The ignorance of those Orientals who believe devoutly, fanatically, that rhino horn has any medicinal properties; the fatuous vanity of the Occidental trophy hunter who thinks he is a hero for hanging the head of a dead rhino on his wall, and the greed of those ruthless soldiers of fortune who will plunder and exploit our wildlife heritage in order to profit from that ignorance and vanity.

You can contact Chris Mercer via his website <http://www.cannedlion.org/>

NB

*1 R = K.Shs 10/-

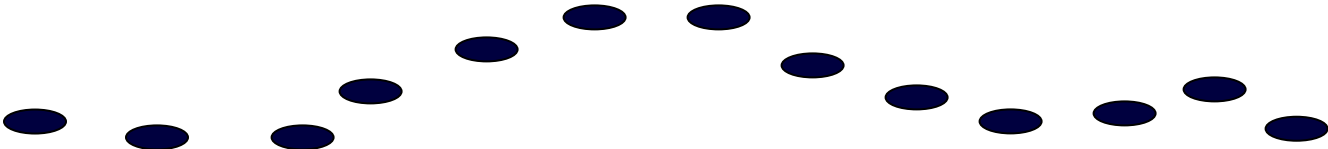
Submitted by: Tjitske Post
Bronze-Level Member

B U S H B E H A V I O U R

THINGS I HATE AS A GUIDE

- ❖ Head guides given the responsibility to allocate game drives but choose all the best safaris for themselves.
- ❖ Guides who take credit for the best game spotted.
- ❖ Guides who are like parrots over the radio and always pester others as to what has been seen. They don't work hard to find game but rely on others.
- ❖ Guides who mistreat new guides attached to them on safaris.
- ❖ Guides who are part of the "safari cartels" which are common in some tour companies. They are the "owners" of the safari chart and controls it tightly.
- ❖ Envelopes left by guests for guides with the managers or receptionists and they disappear (I am sure every guide hates this).
- ❖ Guides who drive fast near a picnic spot when you are using it with your guests.

Gordon Omondi
Silver-Level Member



I thought I should send you an e-mail regarding a guide I have trailed here at Sasaab, [Name withheld, but you can contact the **KPSGA** office for it]

He was unprofessional in his approach to clients and as I found out also with operators. I think it is only fair to warn all others regarding his conduct whilst on the job with clients and lack of understanding regarding his role as a guide. His knowledge of the bush and surroundings are dangerous to both guests and wildlife. On his departure I mentioned he should try and achieve his Bronze-Level badge, his response shocked me by saying it was unnecessary and that the **KPSGA** was not recognised here in Kenya. I did try to explain what **KPSGA** stands for and told him

that most if not all operators these days are requiring that guides at least have to have a Bronze-Level badge. His driving skills are very poor and again dangerous to passengers and wildlife alike.

I believe the Safari industry here in Kenya can and should be very wary of such individuals especially when we are trying to make a difference.

I want to send this out to all but I have not got there e-mail addresses and I hope you can warn all other unsuspecting safari companies/ operators.

Douglas Rundgren
Bronze-Level holder

B U S H B E H A V I O U R

Ms Holt was visiting on business this July and took a few days to visit the Mara. She was staying in one of the Conservancies and was shocked at the difference in the behaviour of the trucks there compared with what she saw the in Mara Reserve. In her own words & pictures below:-

“On a recent visit to the Mara I watched a number of trucks chase and then circle a cheetah with 2 cubs and 2 juveniles. The cheetah was cut off as you can see and was visibly stressed. Our truck stayed well back, waited less then 3 minutes and then left. When we left these trucks were still driving around to cut off the

cheetah who was trying to break out of this circle.”



Trucks cut off her escape path forcing her to walk through them



Cheetah by bush circled by trucks



We pulled up to side, left after 2 mins, these trucks ahead stayed and cut off her path

Regards,
D Holt

Ode to Tembo



*I have seen and loved the places where he makes his home,
In forest thick, and mountain moor, where shining rivers roam;
He lives here in the quietness, hidden in these hills
By swirling mists, and by his own deep solitude,
Moving, silently mighty, over fallen tree and marsh and stone.*

*Sometimes, by the waterhole low in the forest,
At the end of the long glade, he stands
To pour the muddy liquid down his cavernous throat,
And I hear it, gurgling hollowly inside him,
Until he sighs a belly rumbling sigh.
His slapping ears and trunk disturb some geese
Which fly off, honking, to another pool;
Yet he is only noisy when he drinks,
Or feeds on snapped-off boughs and leafy shoots,
Or when he pushes giant trees, for fun,
To hear the crashing sound they make
When falling through the canopy to rest,
Uprooted for less mighty giants to grow.*

*He makes the open spaces here, and the dark, leafy tunnels
Which wind, dripping, down the bamboo mantled hillsides;
Never steep, or harshly curved, they are
The highways and byways of the forest's secrecy.*

*At times he'll pause to scrape the ground for salt,
Pushing his tusks into the earthy banks,
Scarring them, and leaving tusk-tip holes and little caves,
Making moonscapes on the valley walls,
Unearthing their riches for others to share.*

*And so I move with him about the hills and valleys of his home,
To watch and listen; to feel his quiet dignity.
For he is old, and soon shall come to rest,*

*Alone, in some secret, silent glen,
Never more to stride beneath the sun;
With wheeling vultures in the skies
Above his gleaming ivories,
Drawing silent circles of watchfulness.*

Over he alone, or over all his kind?

Michael J. McCartney
Silver-Level Member

C A R F O R S A L E



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C O U R S E S & E X C U R S I O N S

DUDU COURSE

Phase 1 “Dudu” course with Dino Martins at Suyian Soul,

August 31 to September 2nd 2012

We are hosting a phase 1 dudu course here at Suyian, the course will be run by Dino Martins whom I’m sure you all know!



There are only a few places left on the course, we hope to have a maximum of 10 people. If you are able to attend you are welcome to arrive the night before on the 30th of August so that we can start early the next morning.

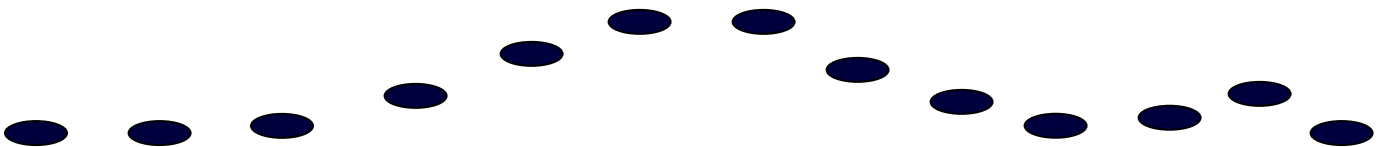
**Cost: 20,000/= per person for the 3 days, full board.
Excluding alcohol and transfers to and from Suyian.**

For more detail please email us at annepowys@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

With best wishes,

Anne Powys
Bronze-Level Member



C O U R S E S & E X C U R S I O N S

Bio-Ken's 8th International Snake-bite Seminar

SEMINAR DATE: Saturday 10th November 2012

Bio-Ken Snake Farm will be hosting the Eighth International Snake-bite Seminar on Saturday 10th November 2012 at Turtle Bay Beach Club in Watamu, Kenya.

The aims of this seminar are:

1. To update information on venomous snakes and snake-bite in Africa.
2. To review development of new anti-venoms for Africa.
3. To discuss captive care and husbandry of snakes and other reptiles.

Although these topics are particularly relevant to medical practitioners please note that you do not have to be in the medical profession to attend this seminar. We encourage anyone who is interested in, or regularly comes in to contact with, snakes to attend. First aid treatment of a snakebite case is usually undertaken before a doctor is on the scene so this knowledge is important to everyone.



Our speakers will include [Professor David Warrell](#) of the University of Oxford and a cast of other enthusiastic snake-bite doctors and herpetologists.

The lectures will begin at 9am (registration from 8am) and will go on all day with breaks for coffee, lunch and tea. There will be a casual get together in the bar at Hemingway's Resort on Friday 9th of November at 7pm to familiarize. The registration fee is Ksh 2,000/= per person payable at registration on Saturday morning.

The following hotels are offering discounted rates for those attending the seminar so please make sure you mention that when making your reservation.

Turtlebay Beach Club reservations@turtlebay.co.ke
Hemingways Resort reservations@hemingways.co.ke
Ocean Sports Hotel at reservations@oceansports.net

C O U R S E S & E X C U R S I O N S



Friends of Nairobi National Park (FoNNaP), Trust for African Rock Art (TARA) and Kenya Museum Society, invite you to a walkabout at the ancient yet active Rock Art Site in Kitengela

Saturday, 1 September 2012

Charges;

1,500/= for FoNNaP members

2,300/= for Non members

Children below 17 years - free.

Meet at 10am at Kenya Commercial Bank Plaza, Nairobi

David Coulsin and his team will give a talk about the site which is in Kitengela. David is an internationally recognized photographer and author of many books including African Rock Art and also the Executive Chairman and founder of TARA, which he has led since he founded it in 1996.

Trust for African Rock Art (**TARA**) is the world's only organization dedicated to this cultural imperative, and as such it has received support and recognition from the Ford Foundation, the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the National Geographic Society, among others. TARA's singular contributions have also been widely acclaimed in the scientific and popular media including National Geographic, Time, Natural History, People and the London Times.

Proceeds from this trip will go towards supporting TARA, FoNNaP, and the community whose property the site is on.

C O U R S E S & E X C U R S I O N S

Required:

- **4x4 vehicles is essential**
- **Picnic lunch, drinking water**
- **Mat to sit on or camp chairs, walking shoes, binocular & sun block**

Note: There is no age limit but members are expected to be aware that they have to scramble down a valley for about 300m. It might be wise to wear track shoes or hiking boots.

Payment will be required by 30 August 2012 and can be paid through MPESA on 0723 690 686 or at the FoNNaP office on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

FoNNaP is a non-profit, volunteer driven organization that aims to support the conservation and protection of the Nairobi National Park and wildlife dispersal area. Help us conserve and celebrate this environment.

JOIN FoNNaP TODAY & SUPPORT THE WORLD'S GREATEST CITY WILDLIFE PARK

MEMBERSHIP RATES: Individual Kshs. 1,000.00 | Family Kshs. 2,000.00 | Corporate Kshs. 10,000.00 | Student Kshs. 500.00 | Per Annum

Send by MPESA to 0723 690 686 or write cheque to Friends of Nairobi National Park and deposit at our offices at KWS Headquarters, Langata Road next to the Smart Card Office at the NNP Main Gate.

E X A M D A T E S F O R 2 0 1 2

The remaining exam dates are as follows:

BRONZE-LEVEL:

29th August 26th September 31st October 28th November

SILVER-LEVEL:

20th September 22nd November