

Golden-backed Weaver

Ploceus jacksoni

The differences between this species and the Yellow backed Weaver were pointed out.

F Yellow-mantled Weaver

Ploceus tricolor

Black Crake

Amaurornis flavirostris

Tambourine Dove

Turtur tympanistria

Woodland Kingfisher

Halcyon senegalensis

Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill

Ceratogymna subcylindricus

Crowned Hornbill

Tockus albeterminatus

Striated Heron

Butorides striatus

African Reed-Warbler

Acrocephalus baeticatus

Scarlet-chested Sunbird

Chalcomitra senegalensis

Mariqua Sunbird

Cinnyris mariquensis

Gray-capped Warbler

Eminia lepida

Winding Cisticola

Cisticola galactotes

Hadada Ibis

Bostrychia hagedash

Red-chested Sunbird

Cinnyris erythrocerca

Hamerkop

Scopus umbretta

Red-eyed Dove

Streptopelia semitorquata

Palm-nut Vulture

Gypohierax angolensis

F African Hobby

Falco cuvierii

A delicate bird.

Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava

Green-backed Camaroptera

Camaroptera brachyura

African Green-Pigeon

Treron calva

Splendid Glossy-Starling

Lamprotornis splendidus

African Palm-Swift

Cypsiurus parvus

Eastern Plantain-eater

Crinifer zonurus

Banded Snake-Eagle

Circaetus cinerascens

This bird seemed to disappear for a while into a Palm tree.

Speckled Mousebird

Colius striatus

African Pied Hornbill

Tockus fasciatus

Rueppell's Glossy-Starling

Lamprotornis purpuropterus

Tawny-flanked Prinia

Prinia subflava

Whinchat

Saxicola rubetra

Pin-tailed Whydah

Vidua macroura

Gray Heron

Ardea cinerea

Great Egret

Ardea alba

Intermediate Egret

Egretta intermedia

Marabou Stork

Leptoptilos crumeniferus

Yellow-billed Duck

Anas undulata

Black Kite

Milvus migrans

Rock Dove

Columba livia

Shikra

Accipiter badius

African Mourning Dove

Streptopelia decipiens

Gray Parrot

Psittacus erithacus

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater

Merops persicus

These birds were seen again along the edge of the lake.

Barn Swallow

Hirundo rustica

Entebbe; A small sewage pond near the airport.

Trip Date: 10-3-03

Species Seen: 13

Long-toed Lapwing

Vanellus crassirostris

Spur-winged Plover

Vanellus spinosus

African Snipe

Gallinago nigripennis

Black-winged Stilt

Himantopus himantopus

Wood Sandpiper

Tringa glareola

Little Stint

Calidris minuta

F Blue-spotted Wood-Dove

Turtur afer

Marsh Sandpiper

Tringa stagnatilis

African Thrush

Turdus pelios

Little Ringed Plover

Charadrius dubius

Little Swift

Apus affinis

Common Sandpiper

Actitis hypoleucos

Green-throated Sunbird

Chalcomitra rubescens

Port Bell; An evening walk with and Anthony.

Trip Date: 10-3-03

Species Seen: 36

Red-chested Sunbird

Cinnyris erythrocerca

Rueppell's Glossy-Starling

Lamprotornis purpuropterus

Splendid Glossy-Starling

Lamprotornis splendidus

Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling

Lamprotornis chalybaeus

White-winged Tern

Chlidonias leucopterus

Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava

Common Bulbul

Pycnonotus barbatus

African Palm-Swift

Cypsiurus parvus

Yellow-fronted Canary

Serinus mozambicus

Black-headed Gonolek

Laniarius erythrogaster

Laughing Dove

Streptopelia senegalensis

Black-headed Weaver

Ploceus melanocephalus

African Marsh-Harrier

Circus ranivorus

F Scarce Swift

Schoutedenapus myoptilus

Two flew over.

African Fish-Eagle

Haliaeetus vocifer

Willow Warbler

Phylloscopus trochilus

Speckled Mousebird

Colius striatus

Gray-capped Warbler

Eminia lepida

African Green-Pigeon

Treron calva

Slender-billed Weaver

Ploceus pelzelni

Speckled Tinkerbird

Pogoniulus scolopaceus

Northern Black-Flycatcher

Melaenornis edolioides

Yellow-throated Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i>
Bronze Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
Gray-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>
Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
African Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>

Tuesday, March 11th, 2003.

Johnnie picked us up at 8 a.m.

Actually we enjoyed the drive, through sugarcane fields, banana fields and other crops. Johnnie picked up pineapples and sugarcane at a roadside stand to take to Paraa Lodge, because this was his custom since those crops do not grow there. Johnnie was a very good driver. He was not too fast, quick to draw in or reverse if he saw an interesting bird and they did see lots of birds on the way. We stopped in Masindi for lunch at the Masindi hotel run by an English sounding lady. Lunch was tasty and the toilets were spotless! It looked like quite a nice town. On from there to the Murchison Falls National Park. This was much wilder than I thought. It was a dirt road with some washboard but not too bad. We hardly saw anyone else on the last stretch of the road leading to the park. I somehow thought tourists would be more evident. We saw quite a few of the deer like animals in the low lying bush. It was much drier looking here until one gets to the river itself of course. The top of the Fall was quite spectacular where the water from Lake Albert forces its way through a small gap falling to the start of the Nile in the valley below. We took pictures and birded around that area. Keith and Johnnie were thrilled to see some Grey Pigeons up there. From there we drove down to the lower level of the rift valley where he saw Warthog with babies, more antelopes and a crocodile before reaching the ferry crossing at Paraa. There was a spectacular storm brewing and it was interesting watching the small vehicle platform Ferry docking under difficult circumstances. It took only minutes to cross and we saw several huge hippos in the water. The Paraa Safari Lodge was a terrific place. The original was destroyed by rebels and rebuilt in 1998. It was a classy old colonial style with dark wood and tiled floors. The roof was thatched and all the furniture fitted the picture. Our room overlooked the Nile with a large veranda. The dinner was elegant and delicious. It was quite a step up from Kolping House. There was an impressive thunderstorm with torrential rain.

Murchison Falls; The way there.

Trip Date: 11-3-03

Species Seen: 37

Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>

Long-crested Eagle
African Yellow White-eye
Broad-billed Roller
African Palm-Swift
Woodland Kingfisher

F Piapiac

A black bird with a long tail.

Abyssinian Roller

I spotted this.

F Grasshopper Buzzard

Seen perched and soaring.

Gray-backed Fiscal

Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling

F Lesser Blue-eared Glossy-Starling

Fork-tailed Drongo

Gray-headed Kingfisher

Abdim's Stork

Vieillot's Weaver

Eurasian Buzzard

Scarlet-chested Sunbird

Helmeted Guineafowl

Ring-necked Dove

Black-headed Weaver

Wahlberg's Eagle

African Pygmy-Kingfisher

Blue-spotted Wood-Dove

Croaking Cisticola

Dideric Cuckoo

Eastern Plantain-eater

Common Bulbul

Crowned Hornbill

Speckled Mousebird

Tawny-flanked Prinia

Splendid Glossy-Starling

Rueppell's Glossy-Starling

Pied Crow

Gray-headed Sparrow

Village Weaver

Murchison Falls; The top. We walked to the edge.

Trip Date: 11-3-03

Species Seen: 7

Red-cheeked Cordonbleu

Variable Sunbird

Abdim's Stork

3000 or more were circling in the sky and then landing on a tarmac helicopter pad.

F Rock Pratincole

Lophaetus occipitalis

Zosterops senegalensis

Eurystomus glaucurus

Cypsiurus parvus

Halcyon senegalensis

Ptilostomus afer

Coracias abyssinica

Butastur rufipennis

Lanius excubitoroides

Lamprotornis chalybaeus

Lamprotornis chloropterus

Dicrurus adsimilis

Halcyon leucocephala

Ciconia abdimii

Ploceus nigerrimus

Buteo buteo

Chalcomitra senegalensis

Numida meleagris

Streptopelia capicola

Ploceus melanocephalus

Aquila wahlbergi

Ispidina picta

Turtur afer

Cisticola natalensis

Chrysococcyx caprius

Crinifer zonurus

Pycnonotus barbatus

Tockus albiterminatus

Colius striatus

Prinia subflava

Lamprotornis splendidus

Lamprotornis purpuropterus

Corvus albus

Passer griseus

Ploceus cucullatus

Uraeginthus bengalus

Cinnyris venustus

Ciconia abdimii

Glareola nuchalis

Two pairs were on the rocks on our side of the river.

African Pied Wagtail

Motacilla aguimp

Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava

F Bruce's Green-Pigeon

Treron waalia

We were very lucky to see a small flock of these Pigeons cross the river in front of us. Johnnie seemed almost disappointed that we had seen them! Ten birds crossed over.

Murchison Falls; Beyond the top of the Falls.

Trip Date: 11-3-03

Species Seen: 42

African Gray Hornbill

Tockus nasutus

White-headed Sawwing

Psalidoprocne albiceps

Barn Swallow

Hirundo rustica

Wattled Lapwing

Vanellus senegallus

Bateleur

Terathopius ecaudatus

Whinchat

Saxicola rubetra

Black-crowned Tchagra

Tchagra senegala

Zitting Cisticola

Cisticola juncidis

Red-chested Cuckoo

Cuculus solitarius

African Pipit

Anthus cinnamomeus

Otherwise known as Grassland Pipit.

F Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill

Bucorvus abyssinicus

One was seen.

Northern Wheatear

Oenanthe oenanthe

Nubian Woodpecker

Campethera nubica

Common Fiscal

Lanius collaris

Pied Cuckoo

Clamator jacobinus

F Black Cuckoo

Cuculus clamosus

Johnnie heard one and pointed it out to me.

African Cuckoo

Cuculus gularis

Saddle-billed Stork

Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis

What a wonderful bird!

Sacred Ibis

Threskiornis aethiopicus

Common Greenshank

Tringa nebularia

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta

Striated Heron

Butorides striatus

Brown Snake-Eagle

Circaetus cinereus

Black-headed Gonolek

Laniarius erythrogaster

Squacco Heron

Ardeola ralloides

Crested Francolin

Francolinus sephaena

Pied Kingfisher

Ceryle rudis

Gray Heron

Ardea cinerea

Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

Hamerkop

Scopus umbretta

African Openbill

Anastomus lamelligerus

Marabou Stork

Leptoptilos crumeniferus

Hadada Ibis
 Black Kite
 African Fish-Eagle
 Banded Snake-Eagle
 Shikra
 Tawny Eagle
 Common Bulbul
 Spur-winged Plover
 Silverbird
 Yellow-billed Oxpecker

Bostrychia hagedash
 Milvus migrans
 Haliaeetus vocifer
 Circaetus cinerascens
 Accipiter badius
 Aquila rapax
 Pycnonotus barbatus
 Vanellus spinosus
 Empidonis semipartitus
 Buphagus africanus

Wednesday, March 12, 2003.

I had the best night for several days. I felt so much better this morning and enjoyed breakfast. We had a great game drive with Johnnie. We drove for miles with the top off and saw loads of birds as well as Baboon, Bushbuck, Uganda Kob, Hartebeest, Warthog and lots elephants, Giraffe and some Hippopotami. We came back for lunch and headed straight back out for the 2 p.m. boat up the Nile to Murchison Falls. Along the way we saw more birds including Pygmy, Pied, Giant, Woodland and Gray headed kingfishers. They were so beautiful. There were hundreds of Hippos, partially submerged on the water's edge, a dozen or more Crocodiles on the banks at the edge. Johnnie said they were guarding the eggs from the Monitor Lizards who like to eat them. There were lots of Tsetse flies on the opposite shore. Then, when we were almost back to the boat dock, he saw three lionesses sitting on the sandy shore. Johnnie said they were probably trying to catch baby hippos coming from the water in the evening. We managed to take a few photos before they ambled off into the bush annoyed at having their hippo ambush rumbled! We arrived back about 5 p.m. went for a swim in the pool before dark and had dinner. I'm very pleased to feel well again. Dinner was great as usual.

Murchison Falls; A morning Game Drive.

Trip Date: 12-3-03

Species Seen: 83

Pied Kingfisher
 African Pygmy-Kingfisher
 Gray-headed Kingfisher
 Silverbird

Ceryle rudis
 Ispidina picta
 Halcyon leucocephala
 Empidonis semipartitus

F Red-throated Bee-eater

Merops bulocki

Another beautiful Bee-Eater.

Helmeted Guineafowl
 Dideric Cuckoo
 Ring-necked Dove
 Laughing Dove
 Speckled Mousebird
 Scarlet-chested Sunbird
 Black-winged Pratincole

Numida meleagris
 Chrysococcyx caprius
 Streptopelia capicola
 Streptopelia senegalensis
 Colius striatus
 Chalcomitra senegalensis
 Glareola nordmanni

A small flock flew by.

Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus
Caspian Plover	Charadrius asiaticus
A couple were in the grass.	
Common Fiscal	Lanius collaris
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor
Eurasian Buzzard	Buteo buteo
F Woodchat Shrike	Lanius senator
This is the Shrike I looked for in Greece, I think.	
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
African Gray Hornbill	Tockus nasutus
Isabelline Wheatear	Oenanthe isabellina
Black-bellied Bustard	Lissotis melanogaster
Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
F Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
This bird makes a noise with its wings as well as singing.	
Croaking Cisticola	Cisticola natalensis
F Black-billed Barbet	Lybius guifsobalito
This is so similar to the Red faced Barbet that we are looking for.	
F Rufous-tailed Shrike	Lanius isabellinus
Otherwise known as Isabelline Shrike, at least that's what Johnnie called it.	
Black-headed Gonolek	Laniarius erythrogaster
Blue-naped Mousebird	Urocolius macrourus
Spotted Morning-Thrush	Cichladusa guttata
One was seen.	
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Rufous Sparrow	Passer motitensis
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Gray Crowned-Crane	Balearica regulorum
Long-toed Lapwing	Vanellus crassirostris
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	Merops hirundineus
Beautiful Sunbird	Cinnyris pulchellus
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus
Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea
Senegal Coucal	Centropus senegalensis
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala
African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer
Pied Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea
Intermediate Egret	Egretta intermedia
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus

Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus
Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiacus
Goliath Heron	Ardea goliath
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	Merops persicus
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus
Gray Kestrel	Falco ardosiaceus
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus caeruleus
Palm-nut Vulture	Gypohierax angolensis
Hooded Vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus
Banded Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinerascens
Grasshopper Buzzard	Butastur rufipennis
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax
F Red-necked Falcon	Falco chicquera
F Crested Guineafowl	Guttera pucherani
Heard only.	
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Black-billed Wood-Dove	Turtur abyssinicus
Eastern Plantain-eater	Crinifer zonurus
African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
Double-toothed Barbet	Lybius bidentatus
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii
28 19 055	
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Pin-tailed Whydah	Vidua macroura
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus

Murchison Falls; Afternoon cruise to the waterfall.

Trip Date: 12-3-03

Species Seen: 37

Red-throated Bee-eater	Merops bulocki
Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Malachite Kingfisher	Alcedo cristata
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiacus
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
Horus Swift	Apus horus

Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Striated Heron	Butorides striatus
Great Egret	Ardea alba
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
White-faced Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna viduata
Darter	Anhinga melanogaster
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis
Black-headed Weaver	Ploceus melanocephalus
African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer
Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea
Giant Kingfisher	Megaceryle maxima
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
F Swamp Flycatcher	Muscicapa aquatica
Rock Pratincole	Glareola nuchalis
Intermediate Egret	Egretta intermedia
F Blue-headed Coucal	Centropus monachus
Spur-winged Plover	Vanellus spinosus
White-headed Sawwing	Psalidoprocne albiceps
Abyssinian Roller	Coracias abyssinica
Black-headed Gonolek	Laniarius erythrogaster
Pink-backed Pelican	Pelecanus rufescens
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Saddle-billed Stork	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis
Two wonderful birds were on the bank.	
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus

Thursday, March 13th, 2003.

Another game drive netted us more birds, a few Giraffe and Elephants. This evening a walk with Johnnie just around the immediate environs of the Lodge netted us some more good species.

We leave tomorrow. This has been a very comfortable and hospitable place to stay and the food was too fabulous. We haven't wanted to miss a meal and have eaten far too much.

Murchison Falls; Another morning Game Drive.

Trip Date: 13-3-03

Species Seen: 75

Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
F Bar-breasted Firefinch	Lagonosticta rufopicta
Silverbird	Empidonax semipartitus
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis

Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
Eastern Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer zonurus</i>
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
Red-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops bulocki</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>
Red-cheeked Cordonbleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
Grasshopper Buzzard	<i>Butastur rufipennis</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>
Speckle-fronted Weaver	<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
African Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Rufous-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>
Brown Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
Eurasian Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
African Marsh-Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
Gray-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>
Abyssinian Roller	<i>Coracias abyssinica</i>
Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafraga rufocinnamomea</i>
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
Black-billed Barbet	<i>Lybius guifsobalito</i>
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>
Dideric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
Black-billed Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>
Klaas' Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>

Black-winged Pratincole
Cattle Egret
Hadada Ibis
Palm-nut Vulture
African Jacana
Sacred Ibis
Glossy Ibis
Long-toed Lapwing
African Snipe

Glareola nordmanni
Bubulcus ibis
Bostrychia hagedash
Gypohierax angolensis
Actophilornis africanus
Threskiornis aethiopicus
Plegadis falcinellus
Vanellus crassirostris
Gallinago nigripennis

It was good to differentiate between this species and the next (Common Snipe).

Common Snipe
Common Swift
Squacco Heron
Black Heron

Gallinago gallinago
Apus apus
Ardeola ralloides
Egretta ardesiaca

One was shading the water with its wings in order to fish.

Purple Heron
Gray Heron
Red-billed Quelea
Yellow-throated Longclaw
Goliath Heron
Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill
Black-headed Gonolek
Great Spotted Cuckoo
Martial Eagle

Ardea purpurea
Ardea cinerea
Quelea quelea
Macronyx croceus
Ardea goliath
Bucorvus abyssinicus
Laniarius erythrogaster
Clamator glandarius
Polemaetus bellicosus

Two were perched.

Gray Kestrel

Falco ardosiaceus

F Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike

Campephaga phoenicea

Murchison Falls; 1600 hours walk around the lodge grounds.

Trip Date: 13-3-03

Species Seen: 29

Pied Kingfisher
Green-backed Camaroptera
Gray-headed Kingfisher
Red-cheeked Cordonbleu
Moustached Grass-Warbler
Pin-tailed Whydah
Variable Sunbird
Green-headed Sunbird
Blue-naped Mousebird

Ceryle rudis
Camaroptera brachyura
Halcyon leucocephala
Uraeginthus bengalus
Melocichla mentalis
Vidua macroura
Cinnyris venustus
Cyanomitra verticalis
Urocolius macrourus

F Brown-backed Scrub-Robin

Cercotrichas hartlaubi

Violet-backed Starling
Trilling Cisticola
Red-throated Bee-eater

Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Cisticola woosnami
Merops bulocki

F Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird

Pogoniulus chrysoconus

Wire-tailed Swallow

Hirundo smithii

Brown-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteira cyanea
Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike	Telophorus sulfureopectus
F Black Scimitar-bill	Rhinopomastus aterrimus
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Little Weaver	Ploceus luteolus
African Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis
Black-billed Barbet	Lybius guifsobalito
Northern Puffback	Dryoscopus gambensis
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
Spot-flanked Barbet	Tricholaema lachrymosa
F Gray Tit-Flycatcher	Myioparus plumbeus
Double-toothed Barbet	Lybius bidentatus
Yellow-fronted Canary	Serinus mozambicus
Pied Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus

Friday, March 14th, 2003.

We started off badly with an eight-hour drive ahead of us. We missed the 0800 hours ferry to Paraa on the south side of the Nile. We had to wait an hour for the next one. Johnnie was fuming. The first part of the journey down to Kabali was not very interesting. Keith tried to coax Johnnie out of his bad mood and ended up having an argument. I tried to read my book, but it was small print and slow going on the bumpy roads. We past through little hamlets and villages of thatched huts with people everywhere. The average number of children in a family is about 10 and when they grow up and marry the sons stay and build another hut next to their father's hut. The schools were every few miles and all the kids walked home for lunch, hundreds of them, in their brightly colored school uniforms. There were not many vehicles on the roads but lots of bikes and walkers. Where the roads were narrow and rough people had to jump out of the way, because the vehicles do not attempt to slow their crazy pace. We stopped in Hoima for gas. It was a busy market town. The car was overheating a bit and Johnnie seemed a bit worried. Another 40 miles down the road we had to stop and steam and smoke were pouring out. It took a long time for it to cool down. Meanwhile, Johnnie had to climb down to a Lake to get water for the radiator. In no time at all an audience assembled consisting mainly of kids with a few women. Keith and I were trying to talk to them. They were scruffy and dirty but seemed happy enough and well fed. We ended up giving them each a pen and taking photographs. The countryside got more and more lush and hilly as we took off on a "shortcut" to Nwali Lodge. This was a gorgeous spot on a hill overlooking two lakes. There were night bungalows each with a great view and a central airy Lodge. Aubrey, a young Brit with an upper crust accent ran the place. His grandfather bought acres of land there are two years ago and his father lived there until he was kicked out by Idi Amin in the seventies. When Museveni invited landowners to return, his father reclaimed the land and built this place. The bungalows were very simple with ochred walls and rush mats on the floor but there was a gorgeous bathtub and I had a wonderful path after the long, hot drive. We then had cold beer on our veranda watching the Sunbirds and BeeEaters around the bushes, before joining our host in his bar. He ran a bar in Edinburgh before coming here and must have brought the entire contents of his bar with him. The only other guests were an English couple called Louis

and Karen who are on a quick tour. Louis was a pilot for British Airways. They were very nice and we enjoyed their company over a long leisurely four course dinner with wine. Aubrey sounds to have been pretty wild, having dropped out of university and spent three years drinking his inheritance.

Trip to Kibale; We stopped at Ndali Pond before Ndali Lodge.

Trip Date: 14-3-03

Species Seen: 58

Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Brown Babbler	Turdoides plebejus
Brown-backed Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas hartlaubi
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus

[These birds were heard singing in the night.](#)

Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
Spur-winged Plover	Vanellus spinosus
Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Eastern Plantain-eater	Crinifer zonurus
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Red-throated Bee-eater	Merops bulocki
African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
Horus Swift	Apus horus
Yellowbill	Ceuthmochares aereus
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus
Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus
Common Fiscal	Lanius collaris
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Black Sawwing	Psalidoprocne holomelas
Red-rumped Swallow	Hirundo daurica
African Stonechat	Saxicola torquata
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
Black-crowned Waxbill	Estrilda nonnula
Yellow-billed Duck	Anas undulata
Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis

[Several were on the water.](#)

Joyful Greenbul	Chlorocichla laetissima
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	Merops oreobates

These wonderful birds were all around the lodge.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis
Scaly-breasted Illadopsis	Illadopsis albipectus
African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Vieillot's Weaver	Ploceus nigerrimus
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
F Black-necked Weaver	Ploceus nigricollis
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus

Saturday, March 15th, 2003.

We were up early and had breakfast at 0630 hours. We then went off to the Chimpanzee Forest. Our guide was a diminutive quiet little man called Godfrey and he found us some Chimpanzees to watch. Keith was not very impressed because there was some climbing involved and a lot of walking, and he hadn't seen a single bird! We had packed lunch by the Lodge at the Chimpanzee Headquarters and then we went off with Johnnie and another guide called José to the swamp, but by this time it was very hot and the birds were not very active. We did a lot of walking today. I expect it will help us get fit for our Rwenzori climb. We had curry with popadoms and all the trimmings. It was very good with the ambiance and the colonial feel to this place. Keith got pissed off with Aubrey because he was always bragging about drinking episodes and his frequent bouts with tropical diseases.

Kibale Forest; Saturday with a local guide.

Trip Date: 15-3-03

Species Seen: 27

Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill	Ceratogymna subcylindricus
Vieillot's Weaver	Ploceus nigerrimus
Gray Tit-Flycatcher	Myioparus plumbeus
Green Hylia	Hylia prasina
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
F Brown Illadopsis	Illadopsis fulvescens

Black-headed Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>
Olive-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i>
Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>
F Honeyguide Greenbul	<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>
Green Crombec	<i>Sylvietta virens</i>
Hairy-breasted Barbet	<i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i>
Little Greenbul	<i>Andropadus virens</i>
White-chinned Prinia	<i>Prinia leucopogon</i>
Gray-headed Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita canicapilla</i>
African Crested-Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>
African Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>
Great Blue Turaco	<i>Corythaecola cristata</i>
F Red-tailed Ant-Thrush	<i>Neocossyphus rufus</i>
F Elliot's Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos elliotii</i>
Eastern Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer zonurus</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>
African Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron calva</i>

Bogandi Swamp; Again with a local guide.

Trip Date: 15-3-03

Species Seen: 55

F Black-headed Waxbill	<i>Estrilda atricapilla</i>
Yellow-mantled Weaver	<i>Ploceus tricolor</i>
Banded Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>
Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>
Dusky-blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa comitata</i>
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>
F Yellow-spotted Nicator	<i>Nicator chloris</i>
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>
Gray-capped Warbler	<i>Eminia lepida</i>
Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher	<i>Bias musicus</i>
Splendid Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>
Black-and-white Mannikin	<i>Lonchura bicolor</i>
Yellow-billed Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i>
F Leaf-love	<i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Gray Apalis	<i>Apalis cinerea</i>
African Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron calva</i>
African Hobby	<i>Falco cuvierii</i>

Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Black-breasted Snake-Eagle	Circaetus pectoralis
F Luehder's Bushshrike	Laniarius luehderi
F Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo	Cercococcyx mechowi
F Blue-breasted Kingfisher	Halcyon malimbica
Broad-billed Roller	Eurystomus glaucurus
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
Yellow-billed Duck	Anas undulata
Meyer's Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri
F Black-billed Turaco	Tauraco schuettii

Two were heard but not visualized well.

African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	Ispidina picta
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	Merops oreobates
Gray-throated Barbet	Gymnobucco bonapartei
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Red-faced Cisticola	Cisticola erythrops

These birds were heard.

African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Green-backed Camaroptera	Camaroptera brachyura
Olive-green Camaroptera	Camaroptera chloronota

F White-winged Scrub-Warbler *Bradypterus carpalis*

These birds were heard and maybe glimpsed.

Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
Brown-backed Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas hartlaubi
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
African Blue-Flycatcher	Elminia longicauda
African Crested-Flycatcher	Trochocercus cyanomelas
African Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus

F Papyrus Gonolek *Laniarius mufumbiri*

Johnnie used his tape and the bird responded but wouldn't come out.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis
-------------------------	--------------------------

Sunday, March 16th, 2003.

I decided to have a day off from the compulsory birding. Keith and Johnnie left at 0700 hours. for yet another swamp walk and I had a lie in then had a leisurely breakfast with Aubrey about 0745 hours. Karen and Louis slept in until about 0900 hours so the planned walk around Aubrey's Lake, Lake Nybogo didn't take shape until about 1030 hours. I did quite a bit of washing last night and it was cool and breezy this morning so it didn't really dry properly. The walk around the lake was great. It must

have been about 5 km and took us about 2 hours with stops for the birds. It really was a gorgeous place and we saw a Blue Turaco, Double toothed Barbet, Fish Eagle and loads of BeeEaters. Keith and Johnnie had had altercations with locals on their way back from the swamp. Our lunch was enjoyed on Aubrey's deck overlooking the lake with fabulous views from everywhere. We said goodbye to Karen and Louis, having really enjoyed their company. They arrive back in Kampala then fly back to the UK tomorrow.

We headed off with Johnnie about 1400 hours for Kasese. He had not enjoyed his stay or the food so he was not in the greatest of moods. I am a bit pissed off at his manner and moodiness but I guess it is better than obsequiousness. We arrived in the Kasese at the Hotel Margherita (a shabby place under reconstruction) and a fabulous mountain setting about 1600 hours and Johnnie said he had to go and get food for our trek. We said we would make a list because he was not very forthcoming about what he planned to get. Keith and I sat in the garden for awhile. It was going to be very pretty when all the construction was finished. I hope we are up to the next day's adventures.

Kihingami Swamp; Sunday morning with a local guide.

Trip Date: 16-3-03

Species Seen: 57

African Thrush	Turdus pelios
African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta
Vieillot's Weaver	Ploceus nigerrimus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Green-throated Sunbird	Chalcomitra rubescens
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis
Black-billed Turaco	Tauraco schuettii

F Chubb's Cisticola

Cisticola chubbi

Seen and heard.

Gray-headed Negrofinch	Nigrita canicapilla
Gray-capped Warbler	Eminia lepida
Luehder's Bushshrike	Laniarius luehderi
Green-headed Sunbird	Cyanomitra verticalis
Little Greenbul	Andropadus virens

F Masked Apalis

Apalis binotata

Yellow-whiskered Bulbul	Andropadus latirostris
Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris
Western Olive-Sunbird	Cyanomitra obscura
Eastern Plantain-eater	Crinifer zonurus
Joyful Greenbul	Chlorocichla laetissima
Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill	Ceratogymna subcylindricus
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus

F Black Bee-eater

Merops gularis

What a spectacular bird. The light was dark and the sky stormy, so it was difficult at first to see all the colors in this bird.

F Sooty Flycatcher

Muscicapa infusata

Another little Flycatcher.

Black-crowned Waxbill
F Red-headed Bluebill
Another new and elusive bird.
African Citril
Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo
Ross' Turaco

F Blue-throated Roller
Wow, the last Roller!!!!

Brown-backed Scrub-Robin
Blue-throated Brown Sunbird
White-spotted Flufftail

These birds were heard.

F Black-faced Rufous-Warbler

This bird was heard and the guides tried to coax it out, to no avail.

Mosque Swallow
Lesser Striped-Swallow
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater
Scarlet-chested Sunbird
Gray Heron
Cattle Egret
Yellow-billed Duck
Hadada Ibis
Black Kite
African Goshawk
Red-eyed Dove
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove

F Brown-necked Parrot

Another new parrot.

Great Blue Turaco
Red-chested Cuckoo

F African Emerald Cuckoo

One was heard.

Red-tailed Ant-Thrush
White-chinned Prinia
Green-backed Camaroptera
White-winged Scrub-Warbler

Another few birds were heard.

Willow Warbler
Gray-green Bushshrike
Papyrus Gonolek

Another one was heard.

Margherita Hotel; and the trip to it.

Trip Date: 16-3-03

Species Seen: 24

Woodland Kingfisher

Estrilda nonnula
Spermophaga ruficapilla

Serinus citrinelloides
Cercococcyx mechowi
Musophaga rossae
Eurystomus gularis

Cercotrichas hartlaubi
Cyanomitra cyanolaema
Sarothrura pulchra

Bathmocercus rufus

Hirundo senegalensis
Hirundo abyssinica
Merops oreobates
Chalcomitra senegalensis
Ardea cinerea
Bubulcus ibis
Anas undulata
Bostrychia hagedash
Milvus migrans
Accipiter tachiro
Streptopelia semitorquata
Turtur afer

Poicephalus robustus

Corythaecola cristata
Cuculus solitarius

Chrysococcyx cupreus

Neocossyphus rufus
Prinia leucopogon
Camaroptera brachyura
Bradypterus carpalis

Phylloscopus trochilus
Telophorus bocagei
Laniarius mufumbiri

Halcyon senegalensis

Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus
Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba

[A few were flying with the other Swallows and Swifts.](#)

Little Swift	Apus affinis
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
White-rumped Swift	Apus caffer

[Two were seen.](#)

Pied Crow	Corvus albus
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
Pin-tailed Whydah	Vidua macroura
Yellow-fronted Canary	Serinus mozambicus

Monday, March 17th, 2003.

It is 0645 hours and I am preparing goat stew for supper with a guy called Mandy. He is 25 and says I am his mother! We are at 8700 ft. in the Nyabitaba base camp. It was a grueling climb up from the Rwenzori headquarters., most of it straight up, like the Grouse grind times two, I guess. The palaver at the bottom was quite something. We had to sign up four times. Once in Kasese with the boss man, then with the UWA, then the Rangers and then goodness knows who the last group were. Our passports were still in Hotel Margherita so Keith just made up the numbers for the sign-ins. It was a zoo at the base with so many porters hoping for work. Tourism in these mountains is very much down after a scare with the rebels a few years ago. In fact the Rwenzori headquarters in Kasese town has two bullet holes in the front windows.

We have ended up with about six porters. Keith and I came up with our guide, Charles, and our ranger, Jackson. The porters arrived about 1630 hours having set off at about 1400 hours. What amazing strength they had. I feel embarrassed that they have lugged watermelons and pineapples up the mountain. We shared one of the pineapples after the porters arrived. It seemed to go down well. Keith has seen four or five birds he has never seen before in this little spot. We were so exhausted when we arrived that Keith thought about just staying here tomorrow but I think we should at least give it a try to get to John Matte hut. We are sleeping on a bare wood platform and had to rent a sleeping bag and a mat. I hope we sleep. The goat stew is ready.

Rwenzori; Nyakalengia or base camp to Nyabitaba Hut.

Trip Date: 17-3-03

Species Seen: 20

Olive Thrush	Turdus olivaceus
F White-starred Robin	Pogonocichla stellata
This was a beautiful little bird that appeared outside our camp.	
Rameron Pigeon	Columba arquatrix
There were many.	
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
Eastern Mountain-Greenbul	Andropadus nigriceps
F Regal Sunbird	Cinnyris regius
A spectacular Sunbird.	
F Red-faced Woodland-Warbler	Phylloscopus laetus
This little Warbler was seen many times.	
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
F Blue Swallow	Hirundo atrocaerulea
Two were flying around the meadow at the start of the hike.	
African Gray Flycatcher	Bradornis microrhynchus
This little Flycatcher had a small nest at the end of a high branch just outside our hut.	
F Afep Pigeon	Columba uncinata
Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Little Greenbul	Andropadus virens
African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta

Tuesday, March 18th, 2003.

I had a horrible night with headache, nausea and diarrhea. I had to climb down from our high sleeping platform and make my way down a steep slope through the woods to the toilet no fewer than five times. Needless to say I didn't sleep much and by morning my headache was worse. Keith decided I had altitude sickness. I didn't think that gave you diarrhea so maybe it was a combination of that and the goat stew. Anyway, we decided not to proceed to the John Matte hut. It would be too grueling a day after the night I had and if it was altitude sickness it would get worse if I continued to ascend. I felt a bit of a group but everyone was very sympathetic. I stayed in bed until it warmed up a bit, then I got up and had some tea and read. Keith went off with Charles to find some birds. They were gone a long time and we finally started off down about midday. It took us until 3 p.m. with lots of birding spots. It really was a beautiful place and we were sorry to say goodbye. Keith tipped our guide and porters well and they were happy. Johnnie was there to greet us and drove us back to Kasese and the Hotel Margherita where we have now to pay for an extra night. After a nice shower and change I am feeling much better.

Rwenzori; Nyabitaba Hut and Surrounds plus the hike down.

Trip Date: 18-3-03

Species Seen: 42

African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
White-starred Robin	Pogonocichla stellata

This bird was around the camp again this morning.

Eastern Mountain-Greenbul	Andropadus nigriceps
Gray Tit-Flycatcher	Myioparus plumbeus
Olive Thrush	Turdus olivaceus
Regal Sunbird	Cinnyris regius
Red-faced Woodland-Warbler	Phylloscopus laetus

F White-tailed Crested-Flycatcher	Elminia albonotata
F Grant's Bluebill	Spermophaga poliogenys

These birds were quite shy but were seen at close quarters.

Purple-banded Sunbird	Cinnyris bifasciatus
Black-faced Rufous-Warbler	Bathmocercus rufus

F Dusky Crimson-wing	Cryptospiza jacksoni
----------------------	----------------------

There were at least three birds.

F Ruwenzori Batis	Batis diops
-------------------	-------------

Two birds, probably a pair, were seen at close quarters.

F Ruwenzori Turaco	Ruwenzorornis johnstoni
--------------------	-------------------------

After a long search we had good views of these birds. About three were seen.

Gray Apalis	Apalis cinerea
Green Woodhoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
African Cuckoo	Cuculus gularis
Banded Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinerascens
Magpie Mannikin	Lonchura fringilloides

F Blue-headed Sunbird	Cyanomitra alinae
Crowned Hornbill	Tockus alboterminatus

F Dusky Tit	Melaniparus funereus
-------------	----------------------

Black-lored Babbler	Turdoides melanops
Gray Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea
Yellow-whiskered Bulbul	Andropadus latirostris
Little Greenbul	Andropadus virens

F White-collared Oliveback	Nesocharis ansorgei
----------------------------	---------------------

Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus
Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata
African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Blue Swallow	Hirundo atrocaerulea

F Uganda Wood-Warbler	Phylloscopus budongoensis
-----------------------	---------------------------

Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius
Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Green-backed Camaroptera	Camaroptera brachyura
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
African Gray Flycatcher	Bradornis microrhynchus
African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta

Margherita Hotel; An evening walk around the grounds.

Trip Date: 18-3-03

Species Seen: 18

Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
Pied Crow	Corvus albus
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala
Nubian Woodpecker	Campethera nubica

One female was seen. Johnnie had heard the call earlier.

Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Pin-tailed Whydah	Vidua macroura
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Little Swift	Apus affinis
Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus

Wednesday, March 19th, 2003.

Margherita Hotel; A day of rest.

Trip Date: 19-3-03

Species Seen: 20

Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Little Swift	Apus affinis
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
Bare-faced Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides personatus

Two birds were spotted on top of a tree in the grounds.

Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaelagus occipitalis
Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius

White-necked Raven	Corvus albicollis
<i>Several large birds were soaring above the hill on a hot air draught.</i>	
White-headed Barbet	Lybius leucocephalus
Wahlberg's Honeyguide	Prodotiscus regulus
Eastern Plantain-eater	Crinifer zonurus
African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Blue-naped Mousebird	Urocolius macrourus
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax

Margherita Hotel; A rest day. Afternoon walk.

Trip Date: 19-3-03

Species Seen: 29

Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
<i>There was a tree with a huge colony in the grounds.</i>	
Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea
Bare-faced Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides personatus
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Pied Crow	Corvus albus
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
Red-collared Widowbird	Euplectes ardens
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
Brown-backed Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas hartlaubi
Tawny-flanked Prinia	Prinia subflava
Yellow Bishop	Euplectes capensis

A remarkable bird with yellow on the wings and the rump when it flew.

White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
-------------------------	-------------------

A good view.

Common Fiscal	Lanius collaris
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala
Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegala
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius aethiopicus
F Western Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus brachyrhynchus

Another new one!

Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Northern Crombec	Sylvietta brachyura
Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata

F White-tailed Ant-Thrush

Neocossyphus poensis	
Stout Cisticola	Cisticola robustus
Siffling Cisticola	Cisticola brachypterus
African Citril	Serinus citrinelloides
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus

Thursday, March 20th, 2003.

What happened to Wednesday? Well, I started feeling queasy then throwing up by supertime Tuesday. This continued throughout Wednesday and I felt rather miserable and couldn't keep even water down. Luckily it got a bit better by the evening and I had a good night's sleep. Johnnie picked us up at 1000 hours and we drove the one-hour drive to Queen Elizabeth Park. Mweya Lodge was lovely, set high on a peninsula between the Kasingi channel and Lake Edward. From the terrace you could see Hippos and Buffalo messing about in the water across the channel. After lunch we went on a two-hour boat ride up the channel to see you at close range all the wildlife there. There were Crocodiles, hundreds of Hippos and Buffalo as well as Storks, Terns, Gulls, King fishes, Bee-eaters, Fish Eagles etcetera. It was great. On our return at 5 p.m., Johnnie took us on another game drive, mainly for birds but we saw Elephants and the Giant Forest Hog (a hairy Warthog) and an African Eagle Owl which was huge and gray and had pink eyelids.

Dinner was fabulous but I am trying to be very sparing and careful with the food on this first day back in the land of the living. At lunch we met the German medical students who were doing an elective in Mulago, so we said hello. I think they are probably gay. They are going chimp tracking tomorrow. They have rented a vehicle but have no driver or guide. This was pretty courageous on some of the roads out of Kampala, I would think. It is my mother's birthday today. She is 86. The United States have invaded Iraq today. They have BBC, World and CNN on the TV.

Margherita Hotel to Queen Elizabeth Park;

Trip Date: 20-3-03

Species Seen: 60

Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
Gray-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>
Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
Gray-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
Gray Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>
African Gray Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>
Banded Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>

Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius
White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus
F Senegal Lapwing	Vanellus lugubris
Three birds were in the grassy area by the road.	
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius
Rueppell's Griffon	Gyps rueppellii
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
Banded Martin	Riparia cincta
Mosque Swallow	Hirundo senegalensis
Eurasian Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus
Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus
Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea
African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Black-headed Gonolek	Laniarius erythrogaster
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Northern Black-Flycatcher	Melaenornis edolioides
Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus
Angola Swallow	Hirundo angolensis
F Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer
F Hottentot Buttonquail	Turnix hottentotta
Eurasian Buzzard	Buteo buteo
Brown Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinereus
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra
African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
White-throated Bee-eater	Merops albicollis
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea
Double-toothed Barbet	Lybius bidentatus
Pink-backed Pelican	Pelecanus rufescens
African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris
Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus

Queen Elizabeth Park; Kazinga Channel and then Game Drive.

Trip Date: 20-3-03

Species Seen: 84

Red-chested Sunbird	Cinnyris erythrocerca
---------------------	-----------------------

White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
African Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>
These were on the Hippos.	
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Swamp Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa aquatica</i>
Golden-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus jacksoni</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
African Skimmer	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Gray-headed Gull	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>
Greater Sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Black-winged Pratincole	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>

Great White Pelican
Plain Martin
Bank Swallow
Black Crake
Helmeted Guineafowl

F Red-headed Quelea

One male was amongst a flock of Red billed Quelea.

Red-billed Quelea
Sooty Chat
Winding Cisticola
White-headed Sawwing
Northern Black-Flycatcher
Golden-breasted Bunting
Village Indigobird

A male was seen.

Red-necked Francolin
Black-headed Gonolek
White-throated Bee-eater
White-browed Coucal
Zitting Cisticola

F African Crake

This was seen by a pond by the big lake.

Moustached Grass-Warbler
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl

What a magnificent Owl!

African Thrush
Small Buttonquail
Black Heron
Black-headed Heron
Black-winged Stilt
Collared Pratincole
Wattled Lapwing
Red-eyed Dove
Laughing Dove
Ring-necked Dove
Bare-faced Go-away-bird
Dideric Cuckoo
Common Fiscal
Croaking Cisticola
Pied Crow
Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike

One was heard.

Bronze Mannikin

Pelecanus onocrotalus
Riparia paludicola
Riparia riparia
Amaurornis flavirostris
Numida meleagris

Quelea erythrogastra

Quelea quelea
Myrmecocichla nigra
Cisticola galactotes
Psalidoprocne albiceps
Melaenornis edolioides
Emberiza flaviventris
Vidua chalybeata

Francolinus afer
Laniarius erythrogaster
Merops albicollis
Centropus superciliosus
Cisticola juncidis
Crecopsis egregia

Melocichla mentalis
Bubo lacteus

Turdus pelios
Turnix sylvatica
Egretta ardesiaca
Ardea melanocephala
Himantopus himantopus
Glareola pratincola
Vanellus senegallus
Streptopelia semitorquata
Streptopelia senegalensis
Streptopelia capicola
Corythaixoides personatus
Chrysococcyx caprius
Lanius collaris
Cisticola natalensis
Corvus albus
Telophorus sulfureopectus

Lonchura cucullata

Friday, March 21, 2003.

We got up early, skipped breakfast and started out game drive at 6:30 a.m. in the dark. Within five minutes we saw two Nightjars and an Owl. It was lovely to be out there so early and headed out to the Kasingi track. At about 8 a.m. Johnnie saw a lion in the distance lying under a bush and he drove off the road towards it (not really allowed). It was a large male lion who got up and lumbered off with a painful limp as we got closer. We then saw five lionesses close by and managed to get quite close to them. What a thrill. Johnnie was pleased with himself for spotting them and we happily continued birding. There was a bit of an altercation with him over quite a small thing. He is a good birder but sometimes his manner can be aggressive and argumentative but we keep reminding ourselves that we would hate to be with a subservient type for three weeks.

After lunch and a nap we headed out again under a muggy atmosphere and heavy skies. It was a short drive because of the impending rain but even so we saw some good birds and got the best shots of elephants yet including a small baby a few months old. We even watched in the distance five elephants swim across to an island.

Queen Elizabeth Park; A Game Drive starting at 0630 hours.

Trip Date: 21-3-03

Species Seen: 60

Square-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	Bubo lacteus
Maybe this was the same bird that was seen yesterday.	
African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Western Marsh-Harrier	Circus aeruginosus
Black-bellied Bustard	Lissotis melanogaster
Small Buttonquail	Turnix sylvatica
Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra
African Harrier-Hawk	Polyboroides typus
Black-lored Babbler	Turdoides melanops
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
Blue-naped Mousebird	Urocolius macrourus
Senegal Lapwing	Vanellus lugubris
Black-headed Gonolek	Laniarius erythrogaster
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus
African Crake	Crecopsis egregia
Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Common Fiscal	Lanius collaris
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Brown Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinereus
African Openbill	Anastomus lamelligerus
White-headed Vulture	Trigonoceps occipitalis

Rueppell's Griffon
Pin-tailed Whydah
Zitting Cisticola
Yellow-throated Longclaw
Martial Eagle
Sooty Falcon
Mosque Swallow
Banded Martin
Gull-billed Tern
Pink-backed Pelican
Papyrus Gonolek

Gyps rueppellii
Vidua macroura
Cisticola juncidis
Macronyx croceus
Polemaetus bellicosus
Falco concolor
Hirundo senegalensis
Riparia cincta
Sterna nilotica
Pelecanus rufescens
Laniarius mufumbiri

Johnnie called one out unexpectedly.

African Fish-Eagle
Hamerkop
Gray-capped Warbler

Haliaeetus vocifer
Scopus umbretta
Eminia lepida

F Red Bishop

Euplectes orix

Two males were on the ground.

Black-shouldered Kite
Fork-tailed Drongo
Yellow-billed Oxpecker
White-throated Bee-eater
Common Scimitar-bill
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird
Black-crowned Tchagra
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat
Hadada Ibis
Red-chested Sunbird
White-browed Coucal
African Firefinch
Croaking Cisticola
Winding Cisticola
African Gray Hornbill
Crowned Hornbill
Violet-backed Starling
African Pygmy-Kingfisher
European Bee-eater

Elanus caeruleus
Dicrurus adsimilis
Buphagus africanus
Merops albicollis
Rhinopomastus cyanomelas
Pogoniulus bilineatus
Tchagra senegala
Cossypha niveicapilla
Bostrychia hagedash
Cinnyris erythrocerca
Centropus superciliosus
Lagonosticta rubricata
Cisticola natalensis
Cisticola galactotes
Tockus nasutus
Tockus alboterminatus
Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Ispidina picta
Merops apiaster

Queen Elizabeth Park; Lunch time through the telescope.

Trip Date: 21-3-03

Species Seen: 26

Red-chested Sunbird
Swamp Flycatcher
Yellow-mantled Weaver
Tawny-flanked Prinia
Green-backed Camaroptera
Banded Martin

Cinnyris erythrocerca
Muscicapa aquatica
Ploceus tricolor
Prinia subflava
Camaroptera brachyura
Riparia cincta

Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>
Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>
Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
African Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
Black-headed Gonolek	<i>Laniarius erythrogaster</i>
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>
Gray-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>

Queen Elizabeth Park; 1600 hours Game Drive.

Trip Date: 21-3-03

Species Seen: 54

Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>
White-headed Sawwing	<i>Psalidoprocne albiceps</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
African Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>
Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Angola Swallow	<i>Hirundo angolensis</i>
Mosque Swallow	<i>Hirundo senegalensis</i>
Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>

Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
Rueppell's Griffon	<i>Gyps rueppellii</i>
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
Heard only.	
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Dideric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Gray-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Northern Black-Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis edolioides</i>
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
Red-headed Quelea	<i>Quelea erythroptus</i>

Saturday, March 22nd, 2003.

We had the usual long game drive with very few new birds. Keith was a bit bored and possibly Johnnie was too. We came back and watched CNN for war news then headed out for a walk around the Lodge at 4 p.m.. Again this was not too exciting. The Lodge started to really fill up today. I guess because it was the weekend. They seem to be mainly Christian mission groups from the UK or US or UN people. We haven't met anyone for whom Uganda is primarily a holiday destination. This Lodge is really excellent and tonight we were entertained throughout the evening by native drummers and dancers who were extremely energetic. Dinner was a barbecue buffet and it was delicious. We leave tomorrow.

Queen Elizabeth Park; An early 0530 hours Game Drive.

Trip Date: 22-3-03

Species Seen: 64

Square-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii
Wahlberg's Eagle	Aquila wahlbergi
Ring-necked Dove	Streptopelia capicola
Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegala
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur afer
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris
Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
African Crake	Crecopsis egregia
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius aethiopicus
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Winding Cisticola	Cisticola galactotes
Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis
Red Bishop	Euplectes orix
Croaking Cisticola	Cisticola natalensis
Black-bellied Bustard	Lissotis melanogaster
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius
Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
African Firefinch	Lagonosticta rubricata
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Golden-backed Weaver	Ploceus jacksoni
African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Caspian Plover	Charadrius asiaticus
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus
Lappet-faced Vulture	Torgos tracheliotus
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
Pin-tailed Whydah	Vidua macroura
Pallid Harrier	Circus macrourus
Senegal Lapwing	Vanellus lugubris
White-winged Tern	Chlidonias leucopterus

Wattled Starling	<i>Creatorhina cinerea</i>
Black-winged Pratincole	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>
Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>
Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
Gray-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>

Queen Elizabeth Park; An afternoon walk.

Trip Date: 22-3-03

Species Seen: 62

Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Swamp Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa aquatica</i>
Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>
Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
Red-chested Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris erythrocerca</i>
African Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>
Brimstone Canary	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>
Black-headed Gonolek	<i>Laniarius erythrogaster</i>
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>
African Masked-Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>
Slender-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus pelzelni</i>
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
African Mourning Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>
Gray-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>

Chinspot Batis
African Skimmer
Kittlitz's Plover
Red-billed Firefinch
Yellow-fronted Canary
Black Sawwing
Scarlet-chested Sunbird
Great White Pelican
Pink-backed Pelican
Great Cormorant
Gray Heron
Black-headed Heron
Goliath Heron
Purple Heron
Great Egret
Black Heron
Yellow-billed Stork
African Openbill
Hadada Ibis
Egyptian Goose
Black Kite
Palm-nut Vulture
Rueppell's Griffon
Peregrine Falcon
Common Swift
Gray-headed Gull
Gull-billed Tern
Pied Kingfisher
Horus Swift
Blue-naped Mousebird
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird
Little Bee-eater
Spot-flanked Barbet
Nubian Woodpecker

Heard only.

Angola Swallow
Barn Swallow
Mosque Swallow
Willow Warbler
African Thrush
African Pied Wagtail

Batis molitor
Rynchops flavirostris
Charadrius pecuarius
Lagonosticta senegala
Serinus mozambicus
Psalidoprocne holomelas
Chalcomitra senegalensis
Pelecanus onocrotalus
Pelecanus rufescens
Phalacrocorax carbo
Ardea cinerea
Ardea melanocephala
Ardea goliath
Ardea purpurea
Ardea alba
Egretta ardesiaca
Mycteria ibis
Anastomus lamelligerus
Bostrychia hagedash
Alopochen aegyptiacus
Milvus migrans
Gypohierax angolensis
Gyps rueppellii
Falco peregrinus
Apus apus
Larus cirrocephalus
Sterna nilotica
Ceryle rudis
Apus horus
Urocolius macrourus
Pogoniulus bilineatus
Merops pusillus
Tricholaema lachrymosa
Campethera nubica

Hirundo angolensis
Hirundo rustica
Hirundo senegalensis
Phylloscopus trochilus
Turdus pelios
Motacilla aguimp

Sunday, March 23rd, 2003.

We knew it was a long drive to Bwindi but we thought we would be stopping to bird along the way. As it was, we battled along crazily until suddenly Johnnie could not change gear. The clutch was jammed. He didn't tell us until we had been hurtling along

in fourth gear through villages and round corners that he couldn't change down! Apparently, he was trying to reach a town that had a garage. It wasn't much of a town, but there was a makeshift garage and a mechanics of sorts hanging around, which was lucky, I thought, on a Sunday. We thought it sounded like a big problem but apparently it was a leaky valve ring on the clutch fluid container. Johnnie and the guy managed to fix it from a jar of assorted spare parts and a bit of string. This took about three quarters of an hour during which time we started talking to some children. I took a photograph of one of them and gave her a pen. Within minutes there were at least a dozen all wanting pens. I only had five so some had to share. I took an address to send photos to. We arrived at Bwindi having driven at speed through some fabulous countryside somewhat reminiscent of Wales. We are staying at Buhona African Pearl Safari's homestead in a bungalow which is simple, but with a flushing loo and hot water. The food was good and Keith was delighted by the number of species he could see from a front porch.

Queen Elizabeth Park to Bwindi; The drive.

Trip Date: 23-3-03

Species Seen: 44

F Spotted Eagle-Owl

Bubo africanus

A bird sat in the middle of the road and was probably injured. It did move away as we approached.

Holub's Golden-Weaver	Ploceus xanthops
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	Cossypha niveicapilla
Red Bishop	Euplectes orix
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Eurasian Buzzard	Buteo buteo
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Pied Crow	Corvus albus
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris
Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Woolly-necked Stork	Ciconia episcopus
One was seen from the car.	
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Palm-nut Vulture	Gypohierax angolensis
African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer

Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>
Great Blue Turaco	<i>Corythaeola cristata</i>
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>
African Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafraga rufocinnamomea</i>
Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>
Black-headed Gonolek	<i>Laniarius erythrogaster</i>
Gray-green Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus bocagei</i>
Heard.	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
Gray-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>

Bwindi Camp; Around the grounds.

Trip Date: 23-3-03

Species Seen: 43

Black Sawwing	<i>Psilidoprocne holomelas</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>

Heard.

Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>
Luehder's Bushshrike	<i>Laniarius luehderi</i>

This is a beautiful bird.

Brown-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>
---------------------------	---------------------------

This is called Banded Wattle Eye in Ber Van Perlo.

Gray-throated Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco bonapartei</i>
Grosbeak Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>
Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>
White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis fischeri</i>
Bronze Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>
Dideric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>
Northern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris preussi</i>
Western Olive-Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra obscura</i>
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>
Yellow-spotted Barbet	<i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i>
Gray-headed Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita canicapilla</i>

F Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk *Accipiter rufiventris*

A bird landed in the small tree that I was looking at (because there were so many small birds in it) with a crash. The small birds scattered and the Sparrowhawk turned around to show me its chest and then flew off, having been unsuccessful.

F Chapins' Flycatcher *Muscicapa lendu*

This little Flycatcher had a white line over its eye.

Black-headed Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone rufiventer
Yellow-eyed Black-Flycatcher	Melaenornis ardesiacus
Black-crowned Waxbill	Estrilda nonnula
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius

F Gabon Woodpecker *Dendropicos gabonensis*

Although this bird was not supposed to be here, it fitted the bill.

White-chinned Prinia	Prinia leucopogon
Gray Apalis	Apalis cinerea

F Black-billed Weaver *Ploceus melanogaster*

Another new Weaver.

Yellowbill	Ceuthmochares aereus
White-breasted Negrofinch	Nigrita fusconota

F Brown-capped Weaver *Ploceus insignis*

Yet another Weaver!!!

F White-browed Crombec *Sylvietta leucophrys*

Eurasian Wryneck	Jynx torquilla
Yellow-billed Barbet	Trachyphonus purpuratus

Heard.

F Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis*

Little Greenbul	Andropadus virens
Gray-capped Warbler	Eminia lepida

Heard.

Green-backed Camaroptera	Camaroptera brachyura
--------------------------	-----------------------

Heard.

Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
----------------	------------------------

F Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi*

Olive-bellied Sunbird	Cinnyris chloropygius
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis

Monday, March 24th, 2003.

An all day walk (dead slow, birders shuffle) started at 7 a.m. We had two local guides and two soldiers 20 yards behind us all day. The forest was beautiful but the birds were difficult to see and I got stiff shoulders from carrying a rucksack and also craning my neck backwards to see the tops of trees through my binoculars. It started to rain about 5 p.m. as we were heading back and was pouring down by suppertime. Tomorrow is a visit to the gorillas. We are cold for the first time.

Bwindi; A forest walk.

Trip Date: 24-3-03

Species Seen: 79

Black Sawwing	Psalidoprocne holomelas
---------------	-------------------------

Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Chubb's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chubbi</i>
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>
Olive-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i>
Yellow-billed Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i>
Heard.	
Black-billed Turaco	<i>Tauraco schuettii</i>
Red-tailed Greenbul	<i>Criniger calurus</i>
F Mountain Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis pyrrhoptera</i>
Speckled Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i>
Black Bee-eater	<i>Merops gularis</i>
Great Blue Turaco	<i>Corythaeola cristata</i>
Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>
Slender-billed Greenbul	<i>Andropadus gracilirostris</i>
Gray Apalis	<i>Apalis cinerea</i>
F Petit's Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Campephaga petiti</i>
Black-faced Rufous-Warbler	<i>Bathmocercus rufus</i>
F African Broadbill	<i>Smithornis capensis</i>
F Many-colored Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus multicolor</i>
F Bar-tailed Trogon	<i>Apaloderma vittatum</i>
This bird was seen well.	
F Bronze-naped Pigeon	<i>Columba iriditorques</i>
F Jameson's Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira jamesoni</i>
F Sooty Boubou	<i>Laniarius leucorhynchus</i>
Chestnut Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira castanea</i>
Northern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris preussi</i>
F Red-throated Alethe	<i>Alethe poliophrys</i>
Heard	
F Tullberg's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera tullbergi</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Dusky Tit	<i>Melaniparus funereus</i>
F Equatorial Akalat	<i>Sheppardia aequatorialis</i>
Seen and heard.	
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>
F Shelley's Greenbul	<i>Andropadus masukuensis</i>
F African Hill Babbler	<i>Illadopsis abyssinica</i>
F Pink-footed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus angolensis</i>
Blue-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra alinae</i>
Olive-green Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera chloronota</i>
F Cassin's Honeyguide	<i>Prodotiscus insignis</i>
Common Bristlebill	<i>Bleda syndactyla</i>
F Waller's Starling	<i>Onychognathus walleri</i>
Yellow-eyed Black-Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i>

African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta
Masked Apalis	Apalis binotata
F Fuelleborn's Boubou	Laniarius fuelleborni
This bird was also called Mountain Sooty Boubou.	
F Banded Prinia	Prinia bairdii
Brown-capped Weaver	Ploceus insignis
F Stuhlmann's Starling	Poeoptera stuhlmanni
F Grauer's Warbler	Graueria vittata
Black Cuckoo	Cuculus clamosus
Gray-throated Tit-Flycatcher	Myioparus griseigularis
Yellow-spotted Nicator	Nicator chloris
Red-faced Woodland-Warbler	Phylloscopus laetus
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
Buff-throated Apalis	Apalis rufogularis
Elliot's Woodpecker	Dendropicos elliotii
White-tailed Ant-Thrush	Neocossyphus poensis
Green Crombec	Sylvietta virens
F Neumann's Warbler	Hemitesia neumanni
Otherwise known as the Short tailed Warbler.	
Sooty Flycatcher	Muscicapa infuscata
F Dwarf Honeyguide	Indicator pumilio
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
Velvet mantled Drongo is the other name of the bird seen today.	
Tambourine Dove	Turtur tympanistria
African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Green Hylia	Hylia prasina
F Mountain Yellow Warbler	Chloropeta similis
Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo	Cercococcyx mechowi
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	Merops oreobates
Forest Woodhoopoe	Phoeniculus castaneiceps
Heard.	
Gray-throated Barbet	Gymnobucco bonapartei
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Little Greenbul	Andropadus virens
Yellow-whiskered Bulbul	Andropadus latirostris
Gray-capped Warbler	Eminia lepida
F Brown Warbler	Parisoma lugens
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteira cyanea
White-tailed Crested-Flycatcher	Elminia albonotata

Tuesday, March 25, 2003.

The sky was clear at dawn and we walked down the road to the tracking headquarters. Our permits were to track HA group but a mix up with some of the people who wanted to stick together and had been put into different groups asked us to change so they could be together, so we ended up tracking M group with three Irish nurses on a six-

month backpacking holiday. They were great girls and we had a lot of fun. We started off climbing for about 1 3/4 hours to the top of the mountain. After a short rest we set off down the other side through high shrubs and vines (gorilla food) and then we were told that the advance trackers had found M group not too far away. We left our rucksacks, sticks and all food with one of the guides and proceeded after the two guides who were hacking a path with machetes. In a few minutes we were right where the guerrillas were resting. There was a big silverback, a couple of juveniles and a mother and baby no more than six months old. What a thrill. We stayed with them for one hour following slowly behind when they moved and started feeding. Our hour was up all too soon and we had to head back. We had our packed lunches back at the top of the mountain before starting the trek down. By 3 p.m. we were back in our bungalow, showered, changed and enjoying a Bell beer out on our veranda. This was a day to remember indeed. This evening, too, was quite a highlight. I went next door to the next Lodge where 60 to 70 kids from an orphanage were singing and dancing. They were a very energetic and happy bunch of kids and performed very well. I bought a CD and a giraffe, but I should have got some change and bought some children's drawings.

Bwindi; Mountain Gorilla Trek and after around the lodge.

Trip Date: 25-3-03

Species Seen: 39

Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Gray Crowned-Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>

Ten flew over the lodge.

Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>

Heard.

Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>
Dwarf Honeyguide	<i>Indicator pumilio</i>
Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Black Sawwing	<i>Psalidoprocne holomelas</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>
Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis fischeri</i>
Yellow-eyed Black-Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i>
Chapins' Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa lendu</i>

African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteira cyanea
Black-headed Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone rufiventer
African Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis
Bronze Sunbird	Nectarinia kilimensis
Olive-bellied Sunbird	Cinnyris chloropygius
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis

F Mackinnon's Shrike

Lanius mackinnoni

I saw this bird whilst I was talking to the forest guide from yesterday.

Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Baglafaecht Weaver	Ploceus baglafaecht
Brown-capped Weaver	Ploceus insignis
Gray-headed Negrofinch	Nigrita canicapilla
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata
Red-chested Sunbird	Cinnyris erythrocerca
Vieillot's Weaver	Ploceus nigerrimus

Wednesday, March 26th, 2003.

We set off from the Bwindi at 8 a.m. after saying goodbye to "creeping darkness", our waiter. The place was filling up. We met an East Indian man from Australia who was off to see the gorillas and a party of four German or Danish, too. It was a long, hot, dusty, bumpy drive to Lake Mburo. We did, however, go through Johnnie's family's village and he called in at his mother's place and also drove by lots of his relatives in the town. He stopped to talk to his brother but they didn't seem overjoyed to see each other. The scenery on the way there was rolling hills, cultivated in terraces with banana and pineapple fields. Lake Mburo National Park is home to Zebras, Leopards, Impala, Monkeys, Hippos, Crocodiles and a few Lions. We arrived there about 2 p.m., starving for lunch. We were shown to a tent, which was very nice, complete with pit toilet and bucket shower. It was extremely hot and after a big spaghetti bolognese we tried to keep cool in a tent, then went out for a game drive with Johnnie about 5 p.m. He took us to Lakuna lookout, a vantage viewpoint looking over one of the lakes. He was a bit preoccupied or maybe he was tired (or tired of us). We had a fabulous dinner then we tried to look at the stars through the telescope by the campfire until it clouded over.

Bwindi to Lake Mburo; The drive.

Trip Date: 26-3-03

Species Seen: 12

Black Kite	Milvus migrans
Augur Buzzard	Buteo augur
Several were seen.	
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur afer
Mosque Swallow	Hirundo senegalensis

Black-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanogaster</i>
Splendid Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>
Gray Crowned-Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>

Lake Mbuo; Game Drive on the way to the tents.

Trip Date: 26-3-03

Species Seen: 55

Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>
Red-necked Francolin	<i>Francolinus afer</i>
Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>

F Mouse-colored Penduline-Tit

Anthoscopus musculus

Two were seen by our tent.

Yellow-breasted Apalis

Apalis flavida

Several were around our tent.

Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>
African Gray Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>
Brown Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
Mosque Swallow	<i>Hirundo senegalensis</i>
Sooty Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Crested Francolin	<i>Francolinus sephaena</i>
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>
Spot-flanked Barbet	<i>Tricholaema lachrymosa</i>

Several were seen all day.

Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafraga rufocinnamomea</i>
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
White-winged Black-Tit	<i>Melaniparus leucomelas</i>
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>
Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Helmeted Guinea fowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>

Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>
Angola Swallow	<i>Hirundo angolensis</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
Gray-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>
Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
Black-headed Gonolek	<i>Laniarius erythrogaster</i>
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>
Gray-headed Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita canicapilla</i>
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>
F Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>

Thursday, March 27th, 2003.

Our last day here was filled with good and bad. It rained on and off throughout the night and was pouring down we woke up. It continued throughout breakfast and looked like it would carry on all day. We went back to the tents and I repacked for our individual trips home. Keith birded amongst the tents until word came that Johnnie thought it fine enough to head off to find birds. He drove us down to the Lake and we parked the van at a rest camp, then got out to start birding around the area, but didn't tell us what he was doing or looking for. Keith got irritated with him and eventually let rip and told him to shape up, stop acting like he hated us or his job. Keith said it was his last day and he would be very disappointed if he didn't reach 400 species. Johnnie was a bit taken aback and said he didn't know that we felt like that. Keith pushed for him to get a boat for us to see some of the papyrus species. Johnnie waffled and said he would try but it would cost us money. However, he did shape up and accepted the challenge to see 400 species. We should have done this weeks ago. The boat ride this evening was lovely and we saw crocodiles and hippopotamus as well as a couple of new bird species. Dinner was great and the best and tenderest beefsteak we have had in Uganda.

The worst part of the day (apart from Keith's quarrel with Johnnie) was that I discovered this afternoon that two of our \$50 bills had gone from my back pack. I last counted in Bwindi after the orphan concert so the money disappeared here either from our tent while we were on the game drive last night or from the van this morning. I hate the feeling that it was probably the guy who turned down our beds last night. They all look so open and friendly and yet one of them is a thief. I cannot prove it and I'm trying to think positively and hope that he needed it for school fees, for his sisters or something.

Tomorrow we visit a couple of swamps on our way back to Entebbe. It has been an interesting and relaxing trip. The birding gets to me after while but I slip into contemplative mode and I'm not really bored.

Lake Mburo; Heavy rain. A walk around the tent site.

Trip Date: 27-3-03

Species Seen: 23

White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
<i>Several bedraggled wet birds emerged after the rain.</i>	
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer
Ring-necked Dove	Streptopelia capicola
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
Flappet Lark	Mirafraga rufocinnamomea
Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus
Olive-green Camaroptera	Camaroptera chloronota
Red-faced Crombec	Sylvietta whytii
Yellow-breasted Apalis	Apalis flavida
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Hirundo abyssinica
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor
African Blue-Flycatcher	Elminia longicauda
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Spot-flanked Barbet	Tricholaema lachrymosa
Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegala
Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius
White-chinned Prinia	Prinia leucopogon

Lake Mburo; A game drive.

Trip Date: 27-3-03

Species Seen: 48

Bare-faced Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides personatus
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Little Swift	Apus affinis
Banded Martin	Riparia cincta
Mariqua Sunbird	Cinnyris mariquensis
African Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus larvatus
Black-headed Weaver	Ploceus melanocephalus
Green-headed Sunbird	Cyanomitra verticalis
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis
Striated Heron	Butorides striatus
Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides

African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
F Northern Brown-throated Weaver	Ploceus castanops
Trilling Cisticola	Cisticola woosnami
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Golden-backed Weaver	Ploceus jacksoni
Malachite Kingfisher	Alcedo cristata
Baglafecht Weaver	Ploceus baglafecht
Crested Francolin	Francolinus sephaena
Yellow-billed Barbet	Trachyphonus purpuratus
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild
African Green-Pigeon	Treron calva
African Pied Hornbill	Tockus fasciatus
Broad-billed Roller	Eurystomus glaucurus
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio
Black-headed Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone rufiventer
Gray-headed Negrofinch	Nigrita canicapilla
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Blue-naped Mousebird	Urocolius macrourus
Meyer's Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster
Striped Kingfisher	Halcyon chelicuti
African Gray Hornbill	Tockus nasutus
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Heard.	
Angola Swallow	Hirundo angolensis
Mosque Swallow	Hirundo senegalensis
White-headed Sawwing	Psalidoprocne albiceps
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava
F Carruthers' Cisticola	Cisticola carruthersi
African Thrush	Turdus pelios
Gray Apalis	Apalis cinerea
Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Common Fiscal	Lanius collaris
White-winged Black-Tit	Melaniparus leucomelas
Black-headed Gonolek	Laniarius erythrogaster

Lake Mburo; A walk during the siesta after lunch.

Trip Date: 27-3-03

Species Seen: 6

Red-headed Weaver	Anaplectes rubriceps
Spot-flanked Barbet	Tricholaema lachrymosa
Northern Black-Flycatcher	Melaenornis edolioides
Klaas' Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx klaas

Rueppell's Glossy-Starling
Fork-tailed Drongo

Lamprotornis purpuropterus
Dicrurus adsimilis

Lake Mburo; A boat ride.

Trip Date: 27-3-03

Species Seen: 42

Purple Heron

Ardea purpurea

F Dwarf Bittern

Ixobrychus sturmii

A bird was seen in the papyrus.

Little Bittern

Ixobrychus minutus

One flew out of the papyrus over the water.

Swamp Flycatcher

Muscicapa aquatica

There were many.

Malachite Kingfisher

Alcedo cristata

Striated Heron

Butorides striatus

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax

Water Thick-knee

Burhinus vermiculatus

Common Greenshank

Tringa nebularia

Hamerkop

Scopus umbretta

White-winged Scrub-Warbler

Bradypterus carpalis

One answered the tape.

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta

Black Crake

Amaurornis flavirostris

F African Finfoot

Podica senegalensis

Three were seen along the edge of the lake.

Spectacled Weaver

Ploceus ocularis

Gray-capped Warbler

Eminia lepida

Brown-capped Weaver

Ploceus insignis

Golden-backed Weaver

Ploceus jacksoni

Yellow-billed Oxpecker

Buphagus africanus

Woodland Kingfisher

Halcyon senegalensis

Wattled Lapwing

Vanellus senegallus

Fork-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus adsimilis

Yellow-throated Longclaw

Macronyx croceus

Red-eyed Dove

Streptopelia semitorquata

Ring-necked Dove

Streptopelia capicola

Dideric Cuckoo

Chrysococcyx caprius

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

White-browed Coucal

Centropus superciliosus

Sooty Chat

Myrmecocichla nigra

Red-cheeked Cordonbleu

Uraeginthus bengalus

Red-necked Francolin

Francolinus afer

Plain-backed Pipit

Anthus leucophrys

Greater Painted-snipe

Rostratula benghalensis

Johnnie found one in the mud.

Bank Swallow

Riparia riparia

Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus caeruleus
African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer

There were birds every 100 yards around the lake margin.

African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur chalcospilos
Papyrus Gonolek	Laniarius mufumbiri

Several were heard.

Friday, March 28th, 2003.

Our last day in Africa dawned with torrential downpour as we lay in our tent. The rain was accompanied by thunder and lightning and continued unabated for over two hours, finally stopping just before 9 a.m. We left as arranged at 9 a.m., saying goodbye to the four guys at Camp Mantana. I couldn't help thinking that one of them stole \$100 from us. Johnnie was quiet but determined to help Keith to reach his 400 species goal. It was a longer drive than I thought. We probably went out of our way to get to Kukana swamp where they got about four new species. Just before Masaka Johnnie drove into a water treatment plant by another swamp and there he spotted a Shoebill Stork. Keith had been wanting to see this endangered species and here it was-success. He thanked Johnnie profusely and the find made his count 405.

The rest of the drive was hot, dusty, bumpy and boring. We had to go almost into Kampala before heading out to Entebbe. There was a dreadful looking accident on the road. A bus had overturned and two cars were completely squashed. The roads really are crazily dangerous with bicycles, people walking and cars and buses overtaking at breakneck speed.

Lake Mbuoro to Entebbe; On the road.

Trip Date: 28-3-03

Species Seen: 36

Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
Crested Francolin	Francolinus sephaena
Red-necked Francolin	Francolinus afer
Sooty Chat	Myrmecocichla nigra
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris
Lesser Blue-eared Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis chloropterus
Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Plain-backed Pipit	Anthus leucophrys
Pin-tailed Whydah	Vidua macroura

Striped Kingfisher
Yellow Wagtail
African Gray Hornbill
Black-bellied Bustard
European Bee-eater
Speckled Mousebird
Fan-tailed Widowbird
Cattle Egret
Black-headed Gonolek
Moustached Grass-Warbler
Black-crowned Tchagra
Broad-billed Roller
Meyer's Parrot
Gray Crowned-Crane
Little Swift
Gray-headed Sparrow
Black Kite
Sacred Ibis
African Openbill
Hamerkop
Black-headed Heron

Halcyon chelicuti
Motacilla flava
Tockus nasutus
Lissotis melanogaster
Merops apiaster
Colius striatus
Euplectes axillaris
Bubulcus ibis
Laniarius erythrogaster
Melocichla mentalis
Tchagra senegala
Eurystomus glaucurus
Poicephalus meyeri
Balearica regulorum
Apus affinis
Passer griseus
Milvus migrans
Threskiornis aethiopicus
Anastomus lamelligerus
Scopus umbretta
Ardea melanocephala

Swamp en Route to Entebbe;

Trip Date: 28-3-03

Species Seen: 30

Black-headed Heron
African Jacana
Hottentot Teal
European Bee-eater
Fan-tailed Widowbird
White-faced Whistling-Duck
Golden-backed Weaver
African Openbill
Yellow Wagtail
Purple Heron
Lesser Striped-Swallow
Comb Duck
Purple Swamphen
Common Moorhen
Spur-winged Goose

F Lesser Jacana

Several were seen.

Lesser Moorhen
African Thrush
African Fish-Eagle
Whinchat

Ardea melanocephala
Actophilornis africanus
Anas hottentota
Merops apiaster
Euplectes axillaris
Dendrocygna viduata
Ploceus jacksoni
Anastomus lamelligerus
Motacilla flava
Ardea purpurea
Hirundo abyssinica
Sarkidiornis melanotos
Porphyrio porphyrio
Gallinula chloropus
Plectropterus gambensis
Microparra capensis

Gallinula angulata
Turdus pelios
Haliaeetus vocifer
Saxicola rubetra

Black-headed Gonolek
Lilac-breasted Roller
Western Black-headed Oriole
Long-crested Eagle
Speckled Pigeon

Laniarius erythrogaster
Coracias caudata
Oriolus brachyrhynchus
Lophaetus occipitalis
Columba guinea

This was seen at the hydro station.

F Shoebill

Balaeniceps rex

Wow! Finally, on the last day, we saw it. It was standing in the papyrus at the Hydro station.

F Weyns' Weaver

Ploceus weynsi

Flocks of these birds flew over the papyrus.

Lizard Buzzard
Northern Brown-throated Weaver
Great Blue Turaco

Kaupifalco monogrammicus
Ploceus castanops
Corythaecola cristata

THE END.