

The Mkomazi

The George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust

Project 2004/5

Mkomazi game reserve management, Infrastructure and development

The working partnership between the George Adamson Wildlife Preservation Trust (GAWPT) and the Wildlife Division (WD) remains solid. Meetings are held almost weekly with our WD Project Manager, Mr. Lusasi. He is a great friend as well as a working colleague.

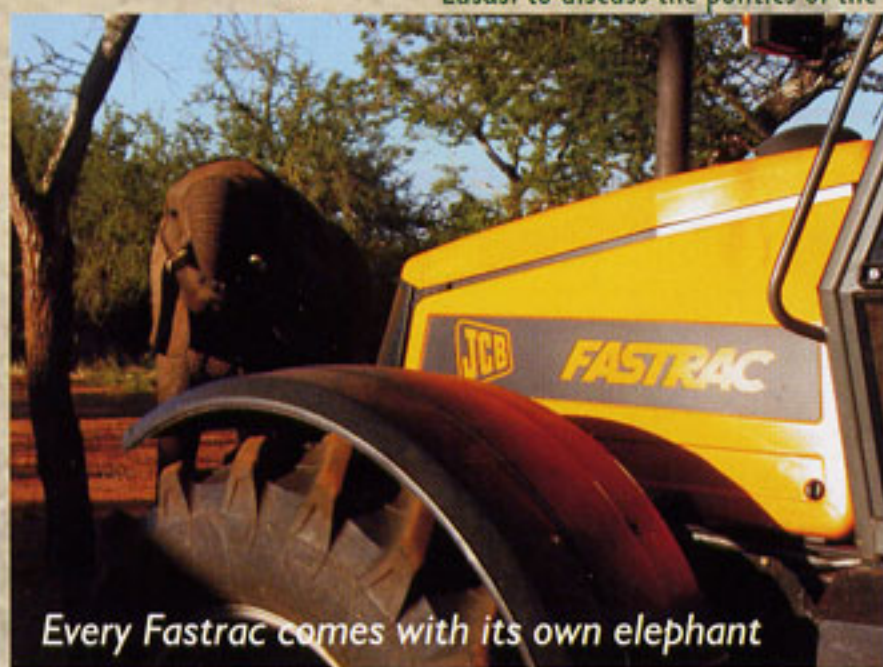
Significantly, Dr Ian Games was employed by the Director of Wildlife to produce a revised and rejuvenated General Management Plan for Mkomazi. After much to-ing and fro-ing, a seminar took place with local authorities, local people, MPs, WD technicians and GAWPT personnel. Follow-up meetings were held after the first draft had been produced. It has been a cooperative and civilized undertaking resulting in a comprehensive document.

Substantial anti-poaching patrols took place during the course of the year, enjoined by the Arusha Anti-Poaching force and the Kenya Wildlife Services.

Life in camp is punctuated daily with our machines and vehicles heading out to work in the reserve. Dam desilting, construction and maintenance of roads, firebreaks, airstrips and boundaries, aircraft patrols, anti-poaching patrols and rhino sanctuary upkeep dominate our lives. A security outpost, funded and staffed by GAWPT, has now been established at Kifakua, complementing the other outposts at Maore and Kilo Zulu. We hope next to move onto Kamakota, Kavateta and Ndea. We are grateful to the Born Free Foundation for supporting the costs of constructing one of these outposts following a visit by Will and Carrie Travers.

US Fish & Wildlife Elephant Conservation Fund donated a dam scoop and 10 ton tipping trailer. Sir Anthony Bamford of JCB donated an 80HP Fastrac tractor. These new pieces of equipment represent a massive step forwards in the work that can be undertaken and we are very grateful indeed for their support.

All the GAWPTs, TUSK Trust, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Barbara Delano Foundation, HRH Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands, Moritz and Hilla Borman, John and Lee Baxter and Marina Schreyer have continued their incredible support for the physical work that needs to be carried out daily in the reserve. Together with the patrols that are carried out, the results of success are clearly visible. Healthy populations of elephant, eland, oryx, lesser kudu, gerenuk and buffalo have been seen regularly, even black leopard on three occasions.



Every Fastrac comes with its own elephant

Wildlife and the Environment. It is a roller-coaster ride of what may be described as conflicting challenges as it is all about politics, the land, it's perceived resources and the greed of man. Combining them is a slow and frustrating experience; time rather than training counts.

That is why the grassroots push for Mkomazi Game Reserve (MGR) to become the next Tanzanian National Park is such an achievement for all those who have believed in, and worked towards, its recovery from a wasteland 15 years ago. National Park status could also be a stepping stone to transfrontier status, the first in East Africa if the political climate is agreeable.

We have had our share of tragedy this year. Jacobo Mbise, our grader driver and friend, who had operated the grader with great professionalism for 8 years, died after taking it up a steep mountain side, for some inexplicable reason, and losing control of it. Badger, the young male rhino, finally died of the condition with which he arrived from South Africa. This had taken 3 years to manifest itself and the fact that he lived so long was a great tribute to his keepers and his vet. Finally, Jipe, our rehabilitated lioness, was killed for her skin, teeth and claws by pastoralists illegally grazing cattle in the reserve. Body parts are big business. Her cubs survived but it was a gruesome day.

These awful events hurt because they are always so final but life is a fundamental matter of death and renewal. We will miss Jacobo, Jipe and Badger, but they will always be around us. We will miss them for themselves as well as for the massive contribution they made towards making Mkomazi a better place, our relationships with our neighbours more mutually respectful and friendly, and for the comradeship we all ultimately share in a project such as this.

Lion populations, however, remain depressingly low. The gruesome business of selling their skins, claws and teeth is a major factor in this. What a sad and unnecessary decline for that supremely courageous predator.

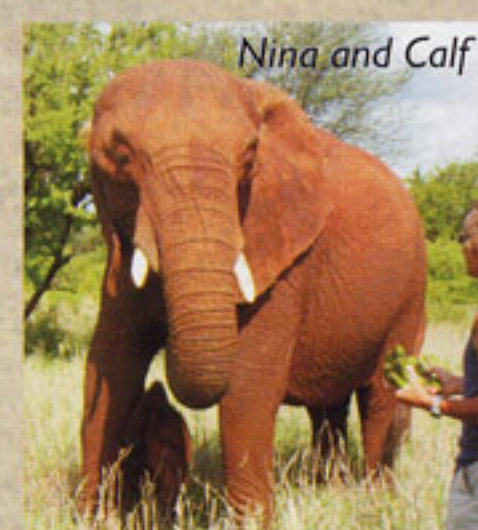
Politics and personalities often simmer in the background, but it is the nature of the job and we are all well used to it. It was good to welcome Mr. Mungure and also Benson Kibonde from the WD and Ministry officials, who visited with Lusasi to discuss the politics of the job.

National Park status has edged forward, passing through District and Regional level up to Ministerial level. The upgrading of MGR is a great tribute to the WD and the GAWPT personnel. Mkomazi is one of the richest savannahs in Africa in terms of the number of rare and endemic fauna and flora; it is unique in Tanzania in terms of wildlife and habitat; it is the only trans-boundary game reserve in Tanzania and the second largest trans-frontier protected area in East Africa. Being contiguous with Tsavo NP in Kenya, it offers an opportunity for modeling for the management of trans-frontier protected areas; it possesses a management challenge for solving conservation problems caused by man; it is the base of two high-profile endangered species programmes; and it has, for a long time now, been the most used outdoor laboratory for training institutes in Tanzania, second only to the Serengeti NP.

Visits were made by MWEKA College for African Wildlife Management, Sokoine University Morogoro, TAWIRI, TANAPA (sampling rinderpest from a helicopter), Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority, Kisiwani Secondary School students and tourist operators.

A tour company based in Arusha made an application to the WD to build a small tented camp in Mkomazi, which was very good news indeed. Other high-end tour operators confirmed their support for the push to put Mkomazi on the map as a destination. The rehabilitation of Ibaya as a field study centre / guide training center was posed to authorities in Dar es Salaam by Peter Silvester.

The news is certainly not all bad. The Tanzanian Government has given its support to upgrade MGR to National Park status; relations with the Wildlife Division Project Manager, Saluum Lusasi, have gone from strength to strength; much physical work has been carried out in the field enhancing security operations and infrastructure; tourism operations are now becoming a reality as confidence in the reserve grows; the community conservation programme has been enjoined by the local Members of Parliament and there are regular donations (increasingly high profile) to specifically targeted projects; seven rhino are in magnificent condition; two different females in the wild dog breeding programme have produced two different litters of pups; Nina, the rehabilitated 34 year old zoo elephant had a male calf; Jipe's cubs are now fully grown and in great shape; the reaction from village to VIP level on Jipe's death was astonishing, and

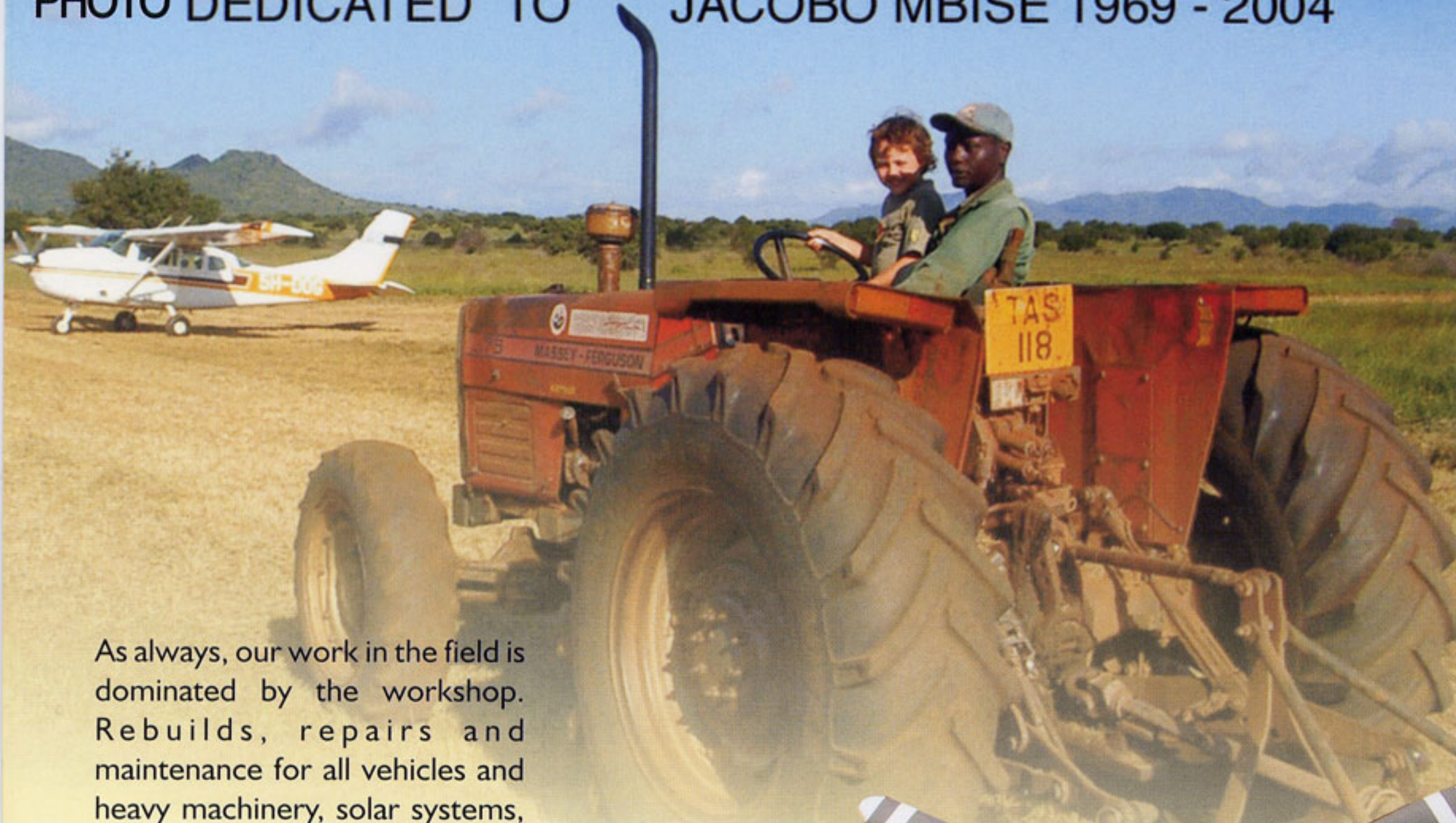


gave us hope that she had become a symbol for the animal kingdom to the people of Tanzania, who all described her as their friend. And support from you all has been incredible and has enabled us to take this project up to the next level.

SEE INSIDE... Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary



PHOTO DEDICATED TO JACOBO MBISE 1969 - 2004



As always, our work in the field is dominated by the workshop. Rebuilds, repairs and maintenance for all vehicles and heavy machinery, solar systems, water systems and generators; the list is endless. Wilfred and his team are now proficient in stripping down Landrovers to their chassis and rebuilding them. But the workload is heavy and relentless. The two JCB's will be under continual maintenance. Our Scania lorry was forced off the Dar to Same road and had to undergo major re-construction. Our grader was turned upside down on a mountain during the horrendous episode with Jacobo. It was a cataclysmic event in all our lives, as it was the first time in 15 years that anything of this nature had happened. None of us will ever know what induced him to take the grader up that mountain - not even a Landrover can make it to the top without slipping. He died within 20 minutes of the incident. Tony flew and drove and cut him out and his body was air evacuated to Arusha. Elisaria organized the formalities and the funeral, with all of our staff in attendance. It took many days to get the grader merely standing the right way up. Repairs will be considerable but the loss of Jacobo under such bizarre circumstances has had a grave impact on all of us.

Henri Petri and his mobile workshop provided us with his excellent services for a month, which was a morale boost for the guys and a huge relief for Tony! He had volunteered his services for which we are very grateful.

The aircraft had a Check III and we are grateful to HRH Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands for helping us with this critical job and also for funding a new propeller.

HRH Princess Michael of Kent has continued to offer her invaluable support to this project, which has enabled Tony to broaden his fundraising scope.

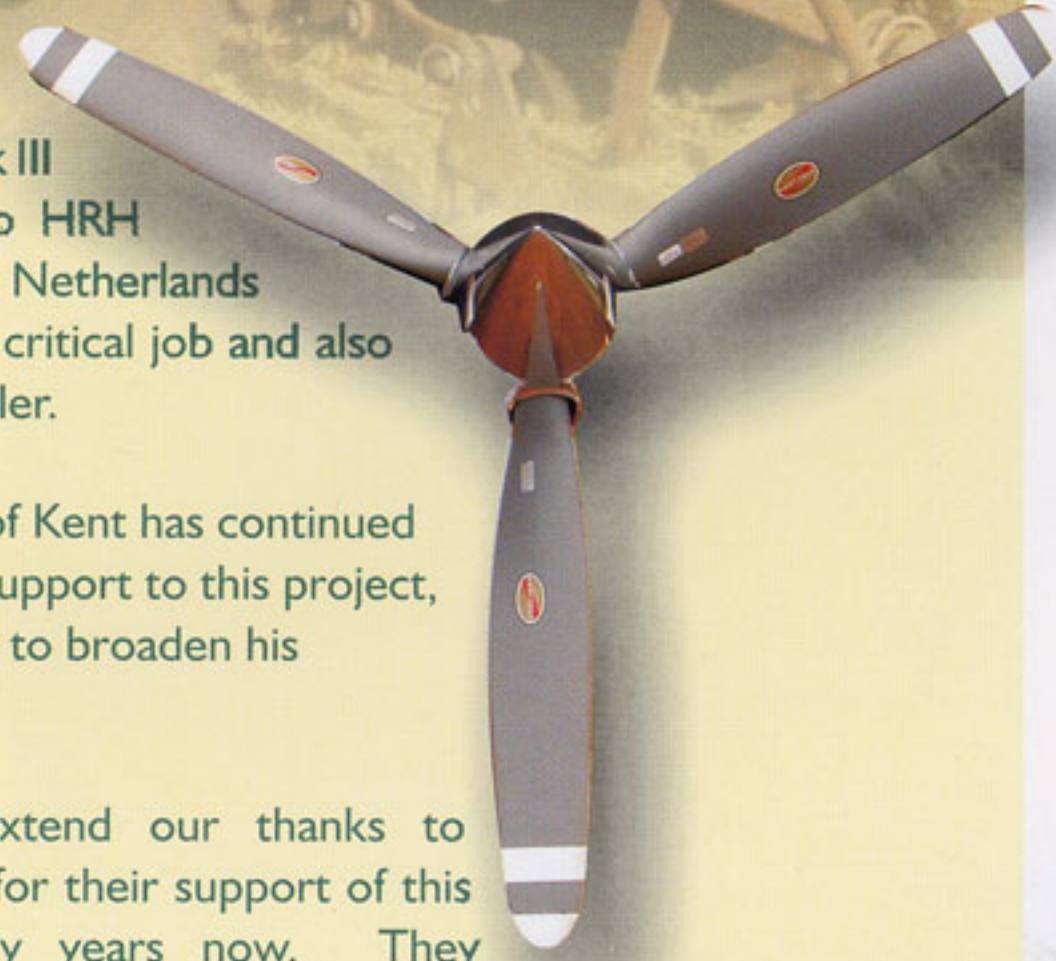
We would like to extend our thanks to Neumanns and Mazao for their support of this project over so many years now. They generously help us with communications and provide an infrastructure in Moshi which has proved to be invaluable. We are also very grateful to the Malims, Ballards, Freels, Schoolars, the Elkins Foundation and Beth O'Donnell for their generous responses to our cries for help.

Amongst all our other visitors this year, it was great to welcome our family and friends - the Farrens, James's, Masons, Houldsworths, Purcells, Edwards, Szaparys, Brandons, Stirlings, Dyers, Darcy, Gillian and Julian, Olly and Suzi. Even the Tanzanian Bird Society paid us a flying visit and took Xan on a birding expedition.

And our sincerest thanks to all the Tanzanians who, under Elisaria Nnko, help us run this operation, and who have seen it develop from those early stages to the formidable undertaking that it is today.

As we have always said, the success of this project has been due entirely to the dedication of people all over the world, who give so generously of their time, energy and money, underscoring so many different aspects of our work. This has enabled us to get on with the job in the field, a demanding physical task. Thank you all for helping us bear this huge responsibility.

We thank you all again for ploughing through our annual newsletter (some of it very technical) and for the support you have so generously given. We do hope you will stay with us as Mkomazi moves up into a new phase with new challenges, so that we can truly say we have made a difference and passed on to another generation some of the wonder and magic that we inherited from our predecessors. Wildlife and tourism are the biggest foreign exchange earners, the biggest employer and one of the major stabilizing factors in a continent that is moving forwards. Let's all do our bit to make sure it succeeds.



Mkom

All seven rhino are in excellent condition and the rhino sanctuary continues to be run at a high standard. More outposts have been constructed throughout the sanctuary, as well as further road networks and firebreaks. Rhino managers and vets often remark on the incredible dedication of our rhino sanctuary personnel, as they continue to carry out their duties with professionalism, courage and energy.

Large sections of the internal fence were opened up, allowing the newer rhino to mix freely with the resident rhino. To date there have been no fights, just the usual scuffles, bellowing between males and posturing around water.

The Tanzanian Government Rhino Coordinator, Matthew Maige, brought in 8 Selous Game Reserve rhino rangers to undertake operational training under Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary personnel headed by Semu Pallangyo and Philbert Shindano. Following that, 12 Serengeti National Park rhino rangers were also sent in for operational training.



Mkomazi Rhino Sanctuary

We held many discussions with Tanzanian Government authorities on the possibilities of translocating rhino from Kenya and other wildlife parks and zoos in Europe. This still remains an issue that needs pursuing, significantly as the resident rhino have not yet produced any calves and we need to boost our numbers to reach a viable founder population of 12 animals.

Tragically Matthew Maige, an erudite and kindly man, was murdered during a robbery at his house in Dar es Salaam. One of our personnel was attacked by a wounded buffalo and we air evacuated him to hospital within 20 minutes of the incident, where he was treated for a punctured lung and other superficial wounds. The buffalo was later found to have lost both his testicles (either to a hyena or a snare) and this undoubtedly destabilized him.

The death of Badger, the young male, was a heavy burden for us all to bear even though it was expected. All we could do was to care for him, as his condition was beyond anyone's powers to fix. The rhino sanctuary personnel were

dedicated to his well-being and it is a tribute to them that he survived for so long. He had been struggling since his arrival in Mkomazi. Although he developed a number of problems whilst he was here, he was closely monitored and continuously treated under the supervision of Dr Pieter Morkel. He was injected for trypanosomiasis, regularly sprayed for ticks, dewormed and his teeth were even rasped once by Drs Morkel and Van Lauren. Despite the abundance of preferred browse species in the rhino sanctuary, his nutrition had to be given careful attention and, at great expense, we imported lucerne, game cubes and dairy cubes for him. His condition did not improve. Towards the end of 2003, he became increasingly ataxic in his hindquarters, losing control over his back legs and walking with a swaying gait. Sometimes he would fall and could only get up with great difficulty, often with our guys pulling him with ropes (even a car on occasions). His forelegs remained strong and his general body condition was good, but he was in great distress and pain when he was struggling to regain his feet. Eventually he collapsed and died. Under Dr Morkel's post mortem,

the main problem seems to have been a central nervous system lesion with related complications. It is not clear what the cause was, but it is almost certain that the problem was with him before his arrival in Tanzania. The highly experienced rhino vets (Drs Morkel, Hofmeyr, Kock, Wiik, Fyumagwa, Mlengay) had no solution. X-raying the spine was impossible and surgery, even if they had known where the lesion was, would not have been an option.

US Fish & Wildlife Rhino and Tiger Fund funded a geophysical survey and subsequent drilling of a borehole within the sanctuary. This will be carried out when the dry season has fully set in. Suzuki Holland, through Ted van Dam of BV Nimag, organized for Tony to speak at the annual Suzuki event, and has been very active in seeking the corporate sponsorship of Suzuki for the George Adamson Trust. They also donated a Suzuki Vitara to the project for sanctuary use,

arriving just in the nick of time as the old Suzuki collapsed. Chester Zoo and Save the Rhino International visited the sanctuary and donated the funds for the construction of an observation bunker and rhino wallow. The observation bunker can be used by sanctuary personnel and for educational visits. Construction is nearly complete. Tanga Cement, through Leon Hooper, helped out again with a generous donation of cement. We were glad to welcome Alex Rechsteiner and the board of Friends of Serengeti Switzerland who helped donate the Scania lorry and who supported us in the original construction of the sanctuary and acquisition of rhino. TUSK, IFAW and the Barbara Delano Foundation have continued to dedicate funds towards the sanctuary and we thank you all for your loyalty and support



Semu gets his new Suzuki



African Wild Dog Breeding Programme

Fortunately, the past year has been a relatively quiet one in the history of the African Wild Dog Breeding Programme. Compared to the years before, everything went smoothly! For the people involved in the care of the dogs, it was good to have such a year as this for a change.

The biggest news was perhaps the birth of a second litter in the Kisima pack July 2003. As these pups are not needed for the breeding programme, they will become the first candidates for re-introduction.

The sister of the alpha female was moved to the Lendanai boma in December 2002 to establish a new breeding pack with two males from the first litter born after the distemper epidemic. It took a year before the female and two males started to show interest in each other. As a result, in May 2004 their first litter was born, consisting of 10 pups, which brings the population to a total of 30 dogs. Establishing the last two breeding packs has been postponed for a year, due to the uncertainty of the start of re-introduction in the short term.

Due to the canine distemper epidemic in late 2000 and early 2001, and the following discussions regarding the disease, it seemed like we were running a

vaccination research programme instead of a re-introduction programme vital as that may be in the long term. This research and study of the immune system of the African wild dog had to be emphasised as the canine distemper showed itself to be a big, unexpected, problem. A problem that should be solved, if possible, for the continuation of a safe breeding programme and a safe start for the dogs to be re-introduced.

A new vaccine was introduced and to achieve results more quickly we were very fortunate that the Amsterdam Zoo, Artis, agreed to have their pups join the vaccination programme. In total 18 pups in Artis and 11 pups in Mkomazi have participated at this point in the vaccination response research. This co-operation is a great example of a well-respected and famous old zoo assisting in the research for their brothers and sisters in the wild.

The first results of the new vaccine look promising, although that is what we thought of the old vaccine initially. Immunity is divided in a humeral and a cellular level. The humeral level is studied by way of antibodies and this is what we have been doing so far. Probably more important is the immunity on cellular level. To study this so-called cell

mediated immunity white blood cells have to grow and multiply in the laboratory. At the Erasmus University, Rotterdam, both areas of research are carried out. However, there is a problem with the growth of the white blood cells of the African wild dog. At this moment everything is being done to solve the problem. Once that is achieved the study of the cell mediated immunity response will be started. Hopefully some important information will come out of it.

In the meantime a decision had to be made what to do, vaccination wise, with the dogs that are prospects for re-introduction in the future. With the information available today it looks like invasive research has a negative influence on the health and longevity of the African wild dog in the wild. It was decided, therefore, to postpone vaccinations for these dogs until our own research gives information that proves either way.

As always we could not do without the invaluable help of Prof. Osterhaus and his co-workers of the Erasmus University of Rotterdam; we are very grateful for all the work they do.

Dr Aart Visee, supported by the African Wild Dog Foundation, visited us on a number of occasions. Work was carried out and lengthy discussions were had on all aspects of the programme.

Olly and Suzi introduced us to George and Natasha Duffield, who most generously sponsored the African Wild Dog programme and we are incredibly grateful for their help.

As always, we have Sangito Lema (head keeper) and Ayubu Mbise to thank for their commitment to the welfare and well being of the dogs on a daily basis. The work they undertake and the observations they make are key to the success of this core part of our activities.



Trusts, Trustees and Travel

The year started well with a Tanzanian trust (WPTF) board meeting held at Kisima Camp. Charles Dobie flew in with Brigadier General Hashim Mbita and Costa Mlay. Past achievements, problems and the direction for the future were discussed. Dr Piet Morkel was also present and talked to the Trustees about the lack of births in the rhino sanctuary.

Brigadier Mbita has been posted to Harare as Tanzania's Ambassador to Zimbabwe and it is wonderful to see him on his visits home. Bernard Mchomvu (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence) agreed to become a Trustee, which was an honour for all of us.

As always, we are delighted to welcome our Trustees from all over the world, and this year we have been visited by the Bormans, Baxters (with the Hassins), Dobies, Runes, Tom Garvin, Simone Motzko, John Rendall and Rupert Watson. Paul Chauveau came in to install a completely new telephone system, which

works perfectly. He also checked and repaired all the other radio systems, repeaters, antennas and base stations throughout the whole reserve. We are grateful to him for all his dedicated work. We are also enormously grateful to the Bormans, Baxters, Tim Peet, Pete Wakeham, the Marshall Andrews and Ali MacGraw for their support of the project this year.

Tony undertook extensive fundraising trips during which board meetings were held in the UK, USA, Germany, Kenya, Tanzania and Holland. Meetings were held with US Fish & Wildlife, IFAW and Barbara Delano Foundation, and there was a Friends dinner in London. Tony also traveled to Minnesota to work on the website with Chris Moon, Houston to see Sam and Elizabeth Jones, and finally the Czech Republic with the Chairman of our Dutch Trust, Alex van Heeren MBE, to Dvur Kralov Zoo which hold the right sub species of rhino for northern Tanzania.



TZ High Commissioner with TF & Bob MA at Friends Dinner

The Trust has received help from Conservation International and the Mihalows on the creation of an endowment fund, which we hope to establish over the next couple of years to ensure steady funding for the project as it grows ever larger.

Trust offices continue to be run with great professionalism by the Mortimers, Simone Motzko, Georgianna Regnier, Franz Hakkenberg, Aart Visee, Lindsay Bell and Laura Miller.

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Our focus on educational issues remained a priority during the year, although we have broadened the scope in some areas to assist with critical water projects. We were delighted when our community conservation programme was enjoined by the MPs in both Same and Lushoto Districts.

During the year, the Trust in Germany took over some of the incredible responsibility needed to raise funds for community work. With thanks to Simone Motzko, Matthias Deyle and the Bormans,

funds were raised which enabled us to meet the critical demands. We would also like to thank Marina Schreyer for her commitment to community work.



Elisaria spreads the word

John Singo, MP for Same West, has become a friend, and together with Mr

Lusasi, the District officials, Tony and Elisaria, meetings were held to identify projects that would be of key assistance to the communities.

GAWPT gave a large donation of cement to two secondary schools in Same, and Mr Singo, Lusasi and Elisaria gave



Meeting with elder



Outreach Programme

speeches to the official gathering of elders. The handover was recorded on TV, radio and newspapers. The work of GAWPT and the WD was spoken about at great length. Following this, we donated a water pump to the Kavumbugu water project in Same District. Again, this was an official handover with the MP, Government authorities, GAWPT personnel and WD personnel present with full press coverage.

TUSK raised funds to help us with roofing and construction or refurbishment of secondary school classrooms and we will work together with the MPs and district authorities on this next donation.

GAWPT gave a large donation of cement to the Shighatini Secondary School in Mwangi District. In another high-profile official handover, GAWPT provided cement to the Mnazi Secondary School in Lushoto District, which was officiated by the MP for Mlalo, Charles Kagonji.

GAWPT continued to support school fees for identified pupils at primary, secondary, teacher-training college and university level. GAWPT also gave donations to the Same Education Board, the Lutheran Church bell tower construction, refurbishment of the local mosque and Same Police Station construction. It

is always good to welcome the Police Officer in Command of Same District, Mr Sheka, to camp. The water pump at Majeju that the GAWPT provided along with the WD continues to

provide water on a twice-weekly basis for the villagers there.

Following a visit from Bishop Koda and the Kangwas, Tony attended a Same town meeting with the Roman Catholic church representatives and the Regional Commissioner, Mrs. Hilda Ngoye. We pledged 200 bags of cement,

GAWPT is currently working physically on another request from John Singo MP, to help the villagers desilt three dams (Nadururu, Kishaa and Lengasiti) outside the game reserve in Same District for community use. This request has come through the Ministry of Agriculture who sent an official delegation to visit us on this matter. Much was discussed including the illegal pastoralism in the reserve, despite the 20,000 square kilometers of range grazing available outside the reserve



Church group visit Mkomazi to pray for our work!



Meeting with elders at Asako village

Kora National Park and Asako Village, Kenya

With so much happening at Mkomazi, Kora has, sadly, had to be put on the back burner this year. There is only so much time and funding both of which have been in short supply. The prospects do, however, look much better in the coming year.

The basic rebuilding of George's camp is complete and Lulu Archer, who did many of the set designs for 'To Walk with Lions' has kindly offered to help with

doing the interiors as the plan is to rebuild it more or less as Tony found it in 1971, when he first arrived there.

Evans Muklowe, the new Director of Kenya Wildlife Services, has given his blessing to our activities in Kora and we are grateful for his support.



Kora camp being rebuilt

AMREF continue their dispensary support on a bimonthly basis and we are looking into the possibilities of a joint operation with them in both agricultural and educational projects.

Peace is the most notable development in the Asako village area. Increased security afforded by KWS and the start of Somali Trading posts in the

village have given a stability that has been absent in the past but it remains fragile and needs further support.

The spectacular recovery and restocking of Meru National Park, with the attendant increase in tourism, can only be beneficial to Kora.

Little of the trust's continuing work in Kora would have taken place without the help and support of the Senior Warden, Meru national Park, Mark Jenkins to whom we are indebted.



View from Kifakua outpost



Discovery on an evening walk - the Fitzjohn Children

Orphans

Heartache and happiness coloured our year with the orphans that we have rehabilitated to the wild.

Jipe, our magnificent lioness, produced two cubs (male and female), who are now fully grown. Zacharia and Ombeni cared for Jipe through motherhood, albeit at more of a distance than in the past. Daily walks still took place, although more regularly she and her cubs would go further afield. During the rainy season, pastoralists and cattle came into the reserve, illegally as always. Although the



Last picture of Jipe and Cubs

lions did not threaten their cattle, the cattle herders make a good business out of selling lion skins, teeth and claws. Tony flew on many occasions to check Jipe's location as the herds of cattle in the reserve increased

alarmingly. Although most illegal stock had been removed from the reserve, the grim day dawned when Zacharia and Ombeni, together with our main guys, tracked Jipe to an illegal manyatta. Therein they found her collar and her body, poisoned, skinned, beheaded, teeth pulled out, paws chopped off, ready for sale. We could only hope that her cubs had escaped as there was no sign of them. We were all devastated, Zacharia and Tony more so. The men who had done it were arrested, charged

and await trial. Extraordinarily, we received calls of sympathy and regret from all over Tanzania and the world. Jipe, with her Tanzanian keepers, was a symbol to many Tanzanians of the understanding that can exist between man and wild animals, even a predator such as a lion. It is so often the individual that is the symbol for the species and the natural world. Jipe was 7 years old. A good innings for any lion, but the horrific nature of her death had an impact on many people. She was a very strong presence in all our lives, and still is really. Three weeks after her death we received a radio call from Zacharia that the cubs had returned to their camp, in good condition but tense and shy. Zacharia's life started again. He

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calmed them down over a period of weeks and they now come back and forth to the camp.

Nina the elephant, (brought to us by the Born Free Foundation after 27 years in a zoo) after 7 years in the wild, had been seen with a male and had then disappeared for over a year. One day she suddenly pitched up again at the workshop and our guys gave her their usual calm welcome. Then early one morning, on the day that England won the Rugby World Cup, she put her trunk in through the window of Elisaria's house, waking him up. It was still dark, and he went outside with a torch.

She was standing there with something at her feet. It was a male calf! Against all the



Nina and Calf

predictions of the experts who had said it would be virtually

impossible for her to breed at her age, after so many years in captivity, she had proved them all wrong. It was a world first. We see them together often, as they stay close to the camp. Sam Dhillon shot some footage for posterity and use in the future.

In came Spike, a ferocious serval kitten, rescued off the carcass of his mother by the Masons, and cared for by them. Spike suffered us through gritted teeth until he reached maturity. He then dived out of the screen door late one night, leaving us feeling delighted that he was free at last, but also



Missie in TFJ's office

rather empty without his menacing presence around. He has, however, been seen twice since.

Next came Missy, a week old smoky-grey caracal kitten, found crawling around slug-like in the rhino sanctuary. She calmed down very quickly and we will care for her until she is mature and able to hunt. She is the sweetest thing, and the children spend most of their days with her.