

Lewa News

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY



www.lewa.org

*A Catalyst for
Conservation*

From the Chief Executive Officer

BUILDING AN EFFICIENT FOUNDATION

Dr. Jonathan Moss | Chief Executive Officer



close to US\$3 million per year – the core cost of running the 62,000 acre Conservancy and providing the platform for all that Lewa supports by way of development and education for communities surrounding the Conservancy, as well as serving as the foundation to community conservation across northern Kenya, through the Northern Rangelands Trust.

As we work to secure Lewa's commitment to conservation and communities in perpetuity, by ensuring the land on which the Conservancy is based is held in trust, we are determined to guarantee that we are building an efficient foundation for the needs of both wildlife and communities. This means keeping overall costs per acre to an absolute minimum, and running our operations with business-like efficiency, without compromising the quality of our conservation programmes, or constraining the potential of our community support.

In enhancing efficiency we have, ironically, been

assisted by the adverse conditions we have faced in fundraising and tourism terms over the past two years – following Kenya's post election turmoil in 2008 and the subsequent global economic downturn. Clearly the core costs of conservation do not go away, no matter how tumultuous the financial climate, or what challenges face the tourism sector, and our commitments to endangered species and communities cannot simply be suspended or withheld, particularly in the face of persistent drought. But a reduction in income from our tourism and philanthropic partners has forced us to tighten cost control, and focus our efforts and resources on core priorities. And to optimise operational efficiency, and maximise the impact of available finance, we increasingly endeavour to run our operations by drawing on the management principles and associated efficiencies of the private sector. These efforts have seen Lewa's core costs per acre fall from US\$57 to US\$39 over the past two years.

Together with our efforts to enhance the contribution of self-generated revenue streams through tourism, and improve the quality of our donor management, thereby securing a steady stream of philanthropic investment, we hope our efforts to enhance efficiency both secures our financial foundations and enhances our financial sustainability.

In doing so we believe that we can demonstrate that we are increasingly good stewards of the invaluable support we receive from our committed philanthropic partners overseas, on whom we continue to depend as we strive to secure Lewa's catalytic role in wildlife conservation and community development.



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Wildlife Conservation

LEWA RHINO UPDATE

by John Pameri | Head of Wildlife & Security.

Since our last newsletter, we have had lots of ups and downs with our rhino population on Lewa. While our rhinos continue to perform exceptionally well in terms of birth, with so far, five black and two white rhinos born in 2009, bringing our total population to 113 (67 black and 46 white rhinos), we also sadly lost three black rhinos. Our lovely and much adored Charlie, who had been abandoned by his mother on his second day after birth died recently of stomach complications and an irregular large sized liver (he was 10 months old); Jamili who was partially blind passed on following a fall down a 30-metre deep ravine; while BB lost her 5 days old calf after he was gored by a dominant male while he was attempting to mate her.

Despite these setbacks, Lewa's current rhino numbers are significantly important at the National level as they represent over 10% and 14% of Kenya's black and white rhino populations respec-

been positive when compared against standard benchmarks for evaluating the performance of black rhinos. These results would not have been achieved without the very generous support that we have continued to receive from the many conservation partners and supporters both from Kenya and overseas.

Such an extraordinary



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One of the devastating losses for Lewa this year was the death of our beloved orphaned black rhino, Charlie.

tively. Similarly, all the population performance indicators including growth rates, inter-calving interval, percentage of adult females calving in the year, age at first calving, sex ratio and proportion of calves in the population have all

commitment from our partners and supporters has made us raise our resolve to not only continue offering maximum security and protection to the rhinos, and indeed all other wildlife on Lewa, but also to implement appropriate management techniques to ensure rhinos continue to thrive and pre-empt any imminent fatalities in the Conservancy. In particular, 2008 and 2009 has been very challenging as the rainy seasons have failed making browse and grazing fodder scarcer for all the wildlife. We have been forced to implement a wildlife feeding programme for the rhinos, especially, and have been supplementing the feed of mothers wherever possible who have calves that are less than one year, and those whose body condition has deteriorated, with Lucerne and Euphorbia cuttings from trees being cleared from a neighbouring farm. It has been quite interesting observing groups of over 10 rhinos feeding on the Lucerne.



The stakeholders celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony of the elephant underpass for the Mount Kenya elephant corridor. Once the underpass is completed, the corridor will be open.



CONNECTING THE DOTS – THE MOUNT KENYA ELEPHANT CORRIDOR

by Susie Weeks | Executive Director, Bill Woodley Mount Kenya Trust

The ambitious idea of the Mount Kenya Elephant Corridor was seeded several years ago and has finally grown into a fully-fledged reality. By opening up an historical migration route for the elephant, the corridor will link the Mount Kenya National Reserve with the Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve, and in turn Borana Conservancy, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, and beyond. The viability of such a project has been made possible by Kisima and Marania Farms who have allowed the Trust to fence off a large strip of land to allow movement of elephants from one habitat to the next. Historically these habitats were within easy access of each other but today the story is very different. As population pressures have increased other, perhaps more obvious, migration links have become increasingly politically implausible and this may well be our last chance to ease the situation for the elephant population on Mount Kenya.

Mountain Bull is a somewhat famous character who has been using a line occasionally parallel to, and at times smack in the middle of the corridor to move between these habitats. Being an intelligent sort of elephant he politely opens some gates that he has come to know well, but like most of males of his ilk he is more prone to breaking things that get in his way. We know about Mountain Bull because he is a collared individual whose movement has been tracked by Save the Elephants for some time. Others like him move in a similar line to get to the Ngare Ndare forest in search of females or mineral salts or seasonally to improve their diet. Come January 2010, he will find himself funnelled into the corridor through to the other end without meeting a single barrier. We hope that others will find their way once they realise it has been used before but there are many ways in which we can encourage movement through the corridor once it is safe to use. One example will be to place elephant dung in the underpass and in other more narrow areas so that other elephants assume it an 'elephant safe zone'.

The corridor is approximately 14 km long and therefore involves 28 km of game-proof fencing. Over 18 km has

now been completed thanks to the Dutch Government who funded the fences as part of a larger wildlife habitat initiative through the Laikipia Wildlife Forum. The next stage is the construction of an elephant underpass beneath the main Nanyuki – Meru Highway, a vital part of the corridor, which would otherwise be compromised by the rising volume of traffic along this route. Virgin Atlantic has funded the underpass and we are pleased to report that this phase is already underway. On September 14th, I finally stood on the site where the elephants will literally walk under the paved road and officially handed over the underpass site to the contractors who will build a large box culvert to accommodate movement beneath this busy highway. Once the underpass is complete the corridor will already be effective through Lewa and the Mount Kenya Trust who are still fundraising for the final 10 km of fencing to complete the project.

This is a win-win project benefiting the communities in the area who are used to having their crops trampled by elephants moving back and forth in the night and for conservation in the area as a whole this is a remarkable project which we sincerely hope encourages more like it in the region. The farms who are accommodating the project are lending a hand to conservation, something which we need to see more examples of in the future.

Safaricom is another donor partner in the project and will help Lewa and the Mount Kenya Trust to maintain the corridor ensuring its viability and effectiveness for future years. Without continual maintenance of this significant fence line the entire project could fail. This is an extremely important aspect of this conservation initiative.

The underpass is due to be finished on Christmas Eve and we hope our pioneering friend will take a new year's stroll through the culvert thereafter. Watch this space! We certainly hope to do just that with webcams so I hope to be able to upload pictures to the Trust's website in the near future.

The Mount Kenya Trust is a Kenyan NGO helping to preserve and protect Mount Kenya for more information visit www.mountkenyatrust.com.

Wildlife Conservation

RESEARCH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION GO HAND IN HAND by Geoffrey Chege | Head of Research

In line with the mission and core functions of the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, the Research and Monitoring Department has continued to play a critical role in providing baseline data that has been used to make pragmatic and adaptive management decisions in the management of wildlife resources and associated habitats on the Conservancy.

The Research Department has enjoyed immense support from both local and foreign conservation partners located in Kenya and abroad over the years. In this article, we would like to recognize **Marwell Wildlife**, a United Kingdom charity dedicated to the conservation of biological diversity through the presentation and breeding of threatened species, the conservation and management of wild species in their natural habitat, and by inspiring improved understanding, awareness and care of wildlife and the environment. Marwell Wildlife's programmes balance the need to manage small populations of endangered species, with the need to address factors causing extinction such as habitat loss, competition and over-exploitation. Marwell has been supporting conservation research on Lewa since 1999, by providing logistical, technical and financial support to the department.

In particular, Marwell has embarked on a long-term project of building capacity to members of the department, and other students undertaking their second degree in the country by providing a yearly bursary to at least one postgraduate student to a Kenyan University student to cover the field component of a management oriented project based out either at Lewa or in northern Kenya. While moving around in a vehicle donated by Marwell, students visiting the Conservancy under this programme are hosted at the fully-equipped Research Camp that was established in 2006, mainly to support conservation research in Lewa and northern Kenya on a cost recovery basis. The Research Camp also aims to provide research opportunities to selected postgraduate students and other conservation biologists from Kenyan and overseas universities who conduct their projects through the Research Department.



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Under this arrangement, one of the Lewa research assistants has already completed a Master of Science degree course while the second assistant is scheduled to undertake a higher diploma course in 2010.

The department has also drawn on the wide range of technical expertise from Marwell before and during implementation of research projects. Such works have ranged from GIS projects, data analysis, proposal writing and field supervi-

sion of the postgraduate students based out at Lewa. Early this year, an automated, digital stripe identification database for Grevy's zebra to be used by researchers working on Grevy's zebra was launched. The database will go a long way in enhancing the conservation strategies of Grevy's zebra by among others, demonstrating the movement patterns and connectivity of large subsets of subpopulations of this endangered equid in northern Kenya.

In 2010, the department aspires to re-strategise its approach to field activities by ensuring a logical frame of its activities. All objectives that are currently being run will be re-looked afresh to ensure that that implemented activities are the most appropriate and cost effective, and that they have enough rigour to produce the desired results.

THE STORY OF JAMILI

by Kate O'Connor | York University Student and Lewa Intern

Getting updated information on adopted or named rhino actually takes quite the effort. This season, I had the privilege of being sent out into the field at Lewa with one of the researchers to take photos from a safe distance, and interview Silas Kimathu Nabea, one of the two rangers that look out for Jamili. Jamili's update is the perfect example of this process, because just days after we captured his photo, and received the information saying "Jamili is now 3.4 years of age and is in good health; He is very close to his mother and follows her everywhere..." Jamili's mother Nashami, gave birth to her second calf. Following the rhino tradition, Nashami chased Jamili away on his own so that she could nurse her new arrival. Almost instantly, however, Silas noticed that Jamili's behaviour was out of the ordinary, and communicated to the radio room that he suspected Jamili might be visually impaired.

The very same day Jamili fell down into a steep, 25-metre deep ravine. Miraculously alive but trapped, Lewa personnel spent the next 24 hours devising a plan, cutting a path in the edge of the narrow gorge, and then assembling as many hands as they could muster. Together we were able to rescue Jamili from the depths of the crevasse. He was sent right away to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy for further monitoring, where they have excellent rhino holding facilities.

Getting Jamili out of the ravine was an ordeal. After discussing and planning, the vet ran everyone through their instructions and a practice session of how they would be working to help



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Jamili to the top of the cliff. Then Dr. Chege went down to where Jamili was and darted him with an immobilizer. Once asleep the team worked to strap Jamili up from behind, putting ropes on his legs to

help him inch forward. Once ready, the vet then administered a small dose of the reversal drug to help Jamili partially wake up. Jamili was drowsy but with pushing support from behind and pulling support from above, he took a few steps before he slumped back

down, needing a rest. After a few minutes another small dose was given, and a few more steps were taken. Another dose. Another few steps. It was a slow process. On and on it went like

this until Jamili

was finally on a landing that was flat enough for his moving crate to descend.

The hill was so steep that the tractor couldn't haul Jamili's crate down, so more ropes and more manpower was needed. Still, Lewa's working party didn't give up. We had come this far. Finally Jamili was positioned in front of the crate and the ropes were removed from around his tired, battered body. Dr. Chege gave him the final dose and as the rhino fully awakened he was guided into the box, and the door shut quick before he could let us all know how he was feeling. When he arrived at Ol Pejeta, Jamili was inspected by Dr. Chege, including x-rays. It was quickly concluded that he was blind in the right eye with vision impairment in the left eye. After a few days, Jamili started showing signs of weaknesses. And he died a few days after. The necropsy revealed that, as a result of his fall, Jamili had suffered internal injuries that were simply fatal. This was devastating news for all of us who put so much effort into rescuing Jamili.

As you can tell, great efforts are always put towards taking care of these majestic animals. Lewa is proud to be a stable home to one of the most critically endangered populations in the world. Although mishaps such as Jamili's episode do happen in nature, we are committed to doing everything we can to provide the black rhino with a safe, healthy, and species-appropriate environment.



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Community Development

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

by Faith Riunga | Education Officer

For the last few years, the Lewa Education Programme has ensured that all 13 surrounding schools have been part of the Lewa Feeding Programme. Each child that attends school gets hot porridge at 10 in the morning and a nutritious meal at lunch time. It is a simple formula: as well as providing vital nourishment, school meals act as a safety net for poor families and also help keep children in school.

Among our surrounding communities, there is often not enough food at home, and the majority of the schools in Kenya lack canteens or cafeterias. School meals are a good way to channel vital nourishment to poor children. Having a full stomach also helps them to concentrate better



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Some of the recipients of the Lewa School Feeding Programme. This programme, as well as providing vital nourishment for the children, also acts as a safety net for poor families and helps keep the children in school.



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on their lessons.

In countries where school attendance is low, the promise of at least one nutritious meal each day boosts enrolment and promotes regular attendance. Parents are motivated to send their children to school instead of keeping them at home to work or care for siblings. In the poorest parts of the world, a school meal programme can double primary school enrolment in one year. Among the key beneficiaries are girls, who otherwise may never be given the opportunity to learn.

In this time of drought, the Feeding Programme has proven particularly important. Populations who are dependent on agriculture have had no source of income for the last few months, and have been unable to buy food for their families. The Feeding Programme is providing these children with the nutrition they need to learn, play and grow.

The Lewa Feeding Programme supports about 4,200 children in total. The parents are asked to contribute by providing firewood and helping to pay the cook's salary. **The cost of feeding one child for the whole year is about \$US35.** This small amount will ensure that each child is fed.

If you would like to support our School Feeding Programme, please contact Faith Riunga at faith@lewa.org.

KIDS AGAINST POVERTY (KAP) WORKING WITH LEWA

by Linda Millard | Executive Director, Lewa USA

After seeing firsthand the challenges many children around the world face on a day to day basis, four young California boys were inspired to take action and make a difference. In 2006, Brock, Carter and Riley Burgess, along with their friend Peter Osborne, founded the non-profit organization **Kids Against Poverty (KAP)** which is run by and for kids.

The goal of KAP is to help break the cycle of poverty for impoverished children by creating opportunities and hope through educational support. To date Kids Against Poverty has raised over \$75,000 to fund educational programs for children in Kenya, Cambodia and Peru.

KAP's project for 2009-2010 is their most ambitious to date. They've launched a campaign to raise \$50,000 to help the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy build a Conservation Education Centre where Kenyan school children can learn about endangered species and the role conservation plays in

education, health care and sustainable development.

Richard Moller, Lewa's Chief Conservation Officer, was in California recently and met with KAP members to give them detailed plans for the Conservation Education Centre. He told KAP members that many Kenyan children have



On his recent visit to the United States, Richard Moller, Lewa's Chief Conservation Officer, met with KAP members to learn about the work they are doing and to give them detailed plans for Lewa's Conservation Education Centre.

never seen a wild animal nor do they understand the role conservation plays in their lives. He applauded the KAP kids for their enthusiasm and ability to raise money and invited one and all to Lewa to set the cornerstone for the building next year.

Anyone interested in giving to the Conservation Education Centre or matching the monies raised by the KAP kids, please email Linda Millard, Lewa USA's Executive Director at linda.millard@gmail.com or call +1-650 851-7738. You can also write directly to the "Kids" directly at Kidsagainstopoverty@gmail.com.

Community Development

WATER SHORTAGES - COUNTING EVERY DROP

by John Kinoti | Community Development Manager

One of the greatest potential challenges for wildlife conservation is gaining the support of local people, who will not only share their land but will be motivated to offer their support. In this area, the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is known as a groundbreaking model. By directing the benefits of our success to helping our neighbours, Lewa has helped

and putting controls in place for water usage. Water associations are addressing such issues as chemical waste disposal, crop irrigation, and proper equitable distribution. Over the last 5 years, several community water development ventures have been undertaken, ranging from conservation of protection of springs to domestic water supply and irrigation. Lewa's efforts have improved the lives of over 28,000 people.

Two of our flagship projects have been the Mkuu and Rugusu springs located on Lewa's eastern boundary. The protection of these springs has ensured that clean water continues to flow to the north for over 65km. Prior to implementation of these projects, people and livestock had direct access to the spring sources. The result was that the springs began to dry up, there was an increase in water-born diseases and what little water remained was unable to flow downstream.

The challenge has escalated during the recent two-year drought. To ensure that the only rivers that are flowing are able to meet the escalating demand, we have established two additional water user associations with the mandate to ensure water flows from the upstream to the downstream users. October is showing the first signs of rains and will bring much needed relief to Lewa, to the surrounding communities and to northern Kenya. In the meantime, Lewa continues to work diligently to improve the livelihoods of local people and to ensure that our resources in the region are conserved.



alleviate poverty, and created enthusiasm among communities for wildlife conservation.

Water is a scarce resource in northern Kenya. The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy has always been a critical source of water for the region. In this time of drought, the Lewa springs are the only ones that feed into rivers such as the Ewaso Nyiro. Without Lewa, many of our surrounding communities, and most of northern Kenya would be in a much worse situation. Lewa has taken very seriously the responsibility of managing and conserving water sources across the region.

Through our Community Development Programme, we have taken up the challenge of helping to ensure that clean water is made available to everyone in the region, monitoring

Lewa has taken very seriously the responsibility of managing and conserving water resources across the region and helping our surrounding communities get access to clean water.





© OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY (X2)

Wildlife and cattle co-exist on the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, using a model that aims to maximize the productivity of the land while allowing it to be financially "self sustaining" in the first instance and make "profit" in the second.

OL PEJETA AND LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCIES

– A PARTNERSHIP THAT MAKES SENSE by Ian Craig | Lewa's Strategic Advisor

In 2003, the Founder of the ARCUS Foundation, browsing the internet, came across an advertisement for the sale of a 89,000-acre ranch in the Laikipia District of Central Kenya. The land had been on the market for 5 years and with a lack of any interested buyers was about to be offered up for subdivision. This was marginal agricultural land with over 5,000 head of wildlife and home to Kenya's only Sanctuary for orphaned chimpanzees regularly confiscated in transit in Nairobi from Central Africa. It was an imminent disaster for Laikipia, Kenya and all the wildlife within this land.

The Arcus Foundation approached the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy with a request to become partners in the rescue and subsequent development of this large tract of land. The Board of Lewa, compliant with their conservation philosophy and Mission Statement agreed to the challenge. Together with the dedicated management team of Ol Pejeta and over 530 Ol Pejeta staff, Fauna

and Flora International and the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy management team have reformed this ranch into one of Kenya's leading conservation organisations.

Today, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy hosts over 30,000 visitors annually; provides 126 tourists beds into Laikipia; and employs over 500 people in an environment where the Kenyan Government is encouraging investors and every possible source of new employment for Kenya's increasing population. Ol Pejeta is **the largest black rhino sanctuary in East Africa** and has established itself as a not-for-profit model that is recognized throughout the region and is now being duplicated by many others.

The unique structure of the organization is that it runs an integrated wildlife/livestock operation that aims to maximize the productivity of the land while allowing it to be financially "self sustaining" in the first instance and make "profit" in the second. By virtue of Ol Pejeta's constitution, all "profit" must be reinvested into further wildlife conservation

and community outreach. Ol Pejeta's integrated model has demonstrated that proper management permits a commercial cattle herd to be ranched in conjunction with the largest population of black rhino in East Africa, as well as some of the densest populations of predators recorded in Kenya

So what is Lewa's role and where is the partnership?

With 25 years of experience and conservation growth, the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy had developed systems that could be duplicated. So not only is Lewa a one-third owner of Ol Pejeta, together with ARCUS and Fauna and Flora International, but it was also able to fast-track the whole growth process of Ol Pejeta. All systems, including the protection and monitoring of wildlife, tourism partnerships, human resource protocols, and every other details that comes into play in the establishment of a well-managed Wildlife Conservancy were shared and adapted for Ol Pejeta. In a short three years, the



new Conservancy was almost self-funded and established as a model within the district. This achievement would not have happened without the constant support and guidance of Lewa.

Five years on, the next phase of Lewa and Ol Pejeta's relationship continues to strengthen and develop. Much focus will be placed on two specific aspects; the unique chain of opportunity that exists through the Northern Rangelands Trust, Lewa and Ol Pejeta to improve livestock markets for communities throughout Northern Kenya, as a stimulus for conservation; and secondly the possible move of 4 of the last-known viable northern white rhinos in the world from a zoo in Europe to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy. Both of these tasks are in recognition of the important place that Ol Pejeta has established for itself in Kenya and within the International Conservation Community. And we are confident that, using our partnership as the foundation, we will be successful in achieving both these tasks.

Sustainability

LEWA PARTNERS WITH WILDLIFE ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER

by Elodie Sampéré | Head of Conservation Marketing



© JAMES GARY HINES II

In February of this year, wildlife artist Jan Martin McGuire and her photographer husband James Gary Hines II spent 10 days on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy filling sketchbooks and journals and taking over 20,000 digital photographs! The end result of this venture will be several exhibitions of Jan and James' work as fund raising efforts for Lewa.

"I have been looking for that special keystone conservation project

that James and I could work on and partner with on a long term basis and we have found that in Lewa" Jan says. "I love the whole story of Lewa; the Craig family and their commitment to conservation, Anna Merz and her wonderful story of dedication to the black rhino and the current ecotourism, conservation, and community involvement efforts that Lewa is doing now."

Jan and James stayed in one of the researchers cottages near the main offices. They spent every possible minute out exploring all of the areas of Lewa – photographing black rhinos, Grevy's zebras, elephants, birds, lions, cheetahs and wild dogs! Jan has been travelling to Africa

for over 14 years and in all that time she had never seen African wild dogs. They had been spotted on the property on and off for several weeks prior to Jan and James coming, and everyone hoped that they would get lucky and see them. The last morning of their stay, they were out looking for kudu when they received a radio call. Anna had spotted dogs on the far side of the property! Holding onto their cameras for dear life as their driver rushed to the other side of the Conservancy Jan says "I kept thinking, that if we were lucky, we would get to see the tops of ears and tails as they ran off through the tall grass" Jan muses, "but instead we found them calmly lying in the road. We spent 3 glorious hours photographing and sketching them!"

Jan and James are currently prominently promoting Lewa on their respective webpages, and they are both building up a body of work that will culminate in a major museum exhibition of over 30 of Jan's paintings and 30 of James' photographs opening in July of 2010.



Jan is known for her extremely detailed acrylic paintings and James for his photographs that are printed on canvas and presented as fine art. His sepia coloured images are especially popular. Jan has been painting professionally for over 25 years and her work has been in many international magazines. Her work has been exhibited in many museums including the SMITHSONIAN and LONDON NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM. James has already had several pieces published in international magazines and his work is being highly well received as fine art canvas prints.

www.janmartinmcguire.com

www.jamesgaryhines.com



10 SUCCESSFUL YEARS OF THE SAFARICOM MARATHON

by Sarah Watson | Tusk Trust

The Safaricom Marathon reached a milestone this year when the tenth event took place on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy on the 26th of June.

What began as a simple idea mentioned in passing around a campfire has now grown into a world-renowned event. The first marathon staged at Lewa in August 2000 attracted just 180 runners and was won by a British athlete, Dave Buzza! The number of competitors has grown steadily ever since and this year saw the Honorable Moody Awori flag off 1,000 people from over 20 different countries as they crossed the starting line.

There was no mobile telephone coverage on the Conservancy for that first marathon. It is thanks to Safaricom's unstinting support that Tusk and the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy have been able to develop and grow the marathon over the years. It was Michael Joseph, the CEO of Safaricom, who suggested that we make the half-marathon into a team competition. In doing so, we have captured the imagination of Kenya's, and increasingly so the UK's, leading companies who not only view the event as a good team building exercise, but also give huge amounts of support as co-sponsors and fundraisers.

The impact of the event has been more than significant and the benefits are very tangible. Since its inception the

event has raised \$2 million benefiting people and wildlife alike across the country. Tusk Trust and the

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy have always shared a common goal to use wildlife conservation as a catalyst to alleviate poverty, reduce conflict, and improve education and livelihoods in rural areas rich in biodiversity.

As such the US\$430,000 (figure at time of printing and subject to fluctuations in exchange rates) raised from this year's event will continue to be invested in a wide range of projects benefiting sustainable development, education, healthcare, and wildlife. Our clear aim is to balance the needs of rural communities with the objective of preserving Kenya's unique natural heritage for future generations.

For full race results and information on the 2009 beneficiaries please visit the Tusk Trust website www.tusk.org.



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Year-End Gift to Lewa

Did you consider the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy for your Year-End Gift? As we approach the end of the year, we would like to remind you, our partners, to keep the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in mind. Each gift that we receive from you moves us one step closer to protecting our wildlife. With a new year, there is a new hope. Your year-end contribution will give us the resources we need to keep our wildlife safe. Below are some of the things that you can help us with by making a donation.

\$600	Purchase of one handheld radio plus spare battery (normally require 10 replacements per year)
\$1,200	Purchase 2 infra-red cameras to be situated at the elephant gap to monitor the movement of wildlife
\$2,000	Provides GIS training which is key to accurate wildlife monitoring procedures
\$3,700	Pays for the annual salary of one tracker dog handler, vital for augmenting our security patrols
\$5,000	Yearly Grevy's zebra foals monitoring, including survival and recruitment rates
\$7,000	A year's salary for an elephant monitoring officer, to assist in alleviation of human-elephant conflict
\$7,500	Annual operating costs of a 3 man rhino surveillance field team
\$10,000	Name a rhino in honour of someone you love and get regular updates as well as photos. All the funds will be directed toward rhino monitoring and protection
\$11,300	URGENT. Partial funding for a diploma course in natural resource management for a research officer
\$15,000	Set up further 'elephant exclusion zone' fencing to conserve woody vegetation for black rhino. Currently Lewa's elephant population is too large to enable us to remain a sustainable black rhino sanctuary
\$20,000	URGENT. Raise funds to support the Lewa / KWS veterinarian (Dr. Stephen Chege) for his Masters degree
\$46,000	One pick-up Landcruiser for the Research Department or Logistics Department

These are just a few of the items that Lewa needs help with. For additional information on how to support Lewa, please contact info@lewa.org.

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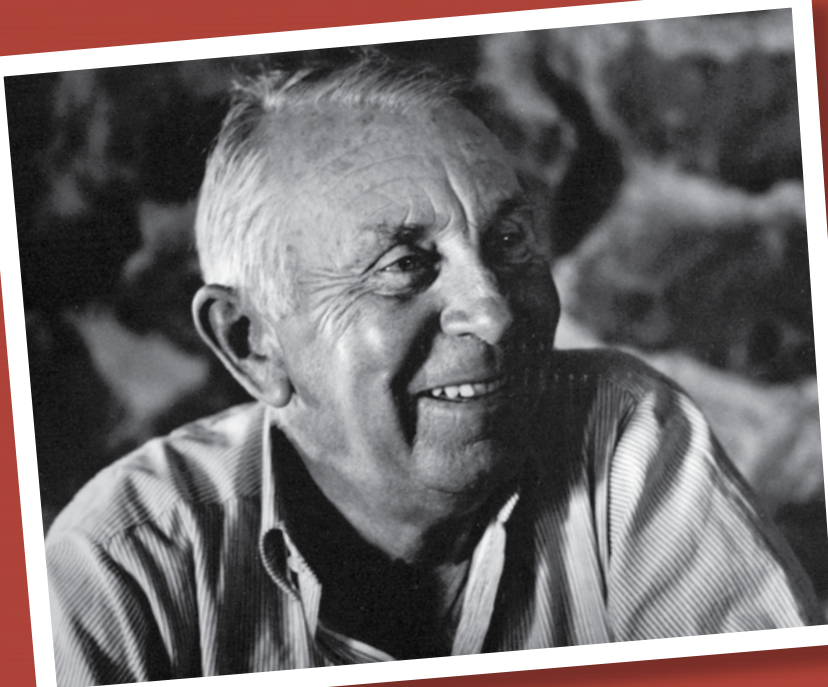
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Our Mission

The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy works as a catalyst for the conservation of wildlife and its habitat. It does this through the protection and management of species, the initiation and support of community conservation and development programmes, and the education of neighbouring areas in the value of wildlife.

Mzee David Craig, 1924-2009



On August 6th, at the age of 84, Mzee David Craig died peacefully in Nanyuki Cottage Hospital with his family by his side.

There are few people on this earth who will leave such a lasting legacy. Here on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, all of us are acutely aware of the critical role he played in transforming Lewa into what it has become, the leading

model for wildlife conservation on private land in eastern Africa.

Mzee's role in that transformation is all too often underplayed. Of all those with responsibility for land in this part of Africa, he recognised, far more than most, that the future of our wildlife and wild lands depends on commitment to both conservation, and the direct benefits conservation can and does generate for communities.

When remembering David, Anna Merz, who co-founded the Conservancy with David and his family, said "I miss David terribly. I had tremendous respect and liking for him. He was a very special person, very strong morally and hugely compassionate, and with a great breadth of intellect. David always understood, from the beginning that we would need to create a periphery of wealth around Lewa if it was going to work. He spoke of community conservation way before others did and he spoke of bringing rhinos back to the north of Kenya one day. Everything that is happening now was already in his head in 1982. He was a true pioneer."

The Conservancy has been fortunate to have had Mzee as a founding Patron, and is privileged to be responsible for taking forwards all that he began here on Lewa so many years ago. Rest in peace, Mzee.