

# Lewa News

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEWA WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY



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## DEMAND FOR RHINO HORN RAISES THE SPECTRE OF A LONG CAMPAIGN

by Mike Watson | Lewa's New CEO and John Pameri | Chief Security Officer

**A**s readers will be aware the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy ("Lewa") experienced its first-ever rhino poaching incident late in 2009 when two black rhinos were shot within the forest fringes in the south of Lewa, bordering the Ngare Ndare Forest. Despite Lewa security teams' swift reaction, which prevented the poaching gang from having time to locate the animals and remove the horns; the possibility that this would act as a deterrent to dissuade future attempts was dispelled, when in October 2010 the poachers struck again, killing a long standing member of Lewa's black rhino population, Stumpy.

Stumpy was Lewa's oldest female rhino and had given birth to eight calves in her lifetime. She was accompanied by her 1 ½ year old calf who sustained injuries in the attack. This was a devastating loss for Lewa.

With all on Lewa still reeling from the shock and dismay of this loss and desperately attempting to put in place enhanced measures

to address this huge increase in the threat to Lewa's rhino, another black rhino, Melita, was killed close to Lewa's northern boundary on 2nd December 2010. Again, swift reaction by Lewa's security teams, both unarmed and armed, ensured that the horn was not taken by the poachers, however the message was being rammed home; the rhino security paradigm within Lewa and Kenya, as with the rest of Africa had changed!

The emerging trend with poachers has been to hunt for rhinos in the night for obvious reasons. Lewa has increased the number of night patrols by high profile armed security teams equipped with night vision technology and additional well equipped and trained armed security are deployed in vulnerable areas, following key threat assessments. Aerial support is also at hand consisting of regular reconnaissance patrols and aerial back up to all KPR (Kenya Police Reservists) and general unarmed rhino monitoring teams.



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# From the Chief Executive Officer

## GROWTH AND CHANGE

by Dr. Jonathan Moss | Lewa's Outgoing Chief Executive Officer



*Jonathan Moss, Lewa's outgoing CEO*

Lewa has reached an important phase in its development, a phase of both substantial growth and significant change. Growth in our community programmes – providing much enhanced support, particularly in terms of healthcare and water development. Growth in our education programmes with the development of a new Conservation Education Centre. And growth in our connectivity – given completion of the elephant corridor – re-establishing a route for the free movement of elephant from Mt. Kenya, through Lewa, to

the rangelands of the north. But also significant change – the on-going development of an effective response to the increasing threat faced by our rhino population, and, far more positively, the change we have been working long and hard to achieve given imminent completion of Project Milele. In partnership with The Nature Conservancy we are now close to securing, in perpetuity, the land on which we are based, and holding it in trust for the benefit of wildlife and communities.

Yet further change comes in the form of a transition in executive leadership, following my completion of a three year contract, and move to a wider conservation role across the region. I will always be grateful for the opportunity Lewa has given me to play a small part in furthering conservation in northern Kenya. I genuinely believe in Lewa's role at the heart of a wider conservation agenda, and hope that I have played my part in moving Lewa more fully from its roots as a private ranch to a fully fledged non-profit conservation organisation.

So it is with great pleasure that I welcome Mike Watson as the new Lewa CEO as of April 2011. Mike is well known to Lewa, having been LWC's Wildlife and Security Manager from 1996

to 2002. He has served as an officer in the British Army, and is an accomplished helicopter and fixed wing pilot. His international conservation career spans wildlife capture work in South Africa, work with FFI in Mozambique, and his most recent role as Executive Officer of the Kibodo Trust, a position he has held since 2005. He brings strong leadership to Lewa at a critical stage in its transition under Project Milele.

Much has been achieved by Lewa over recent years – and we are in an extremely strong position in terms of our administration, finances, and efficiency. We are justifiably proud of our achievements in serving a genuine conservation agenda, supporting the real needs of neighbouring communities, and applying donor funds responsibly. Nevertheless, much yet needs to be done, particularly in light of the escalating poaching threat faced by our rhino, the need to continue to enhance Lewa's income generating capacity, and the opportunity to further Lewa's connectivity with adjacent areas. I am very pleased that Mike will be leading our determined efforts to both address these challenges, and sustain Lewa's role in transforming the landscapes and communities of northern Kenya through conservation.



*Mike Watson, Lewa's incoming CEO*



## DEMAND FOR RHINO HORN *Continued from Page 1*

Currently Lewa holds the highest ratio of men per square kilometer of rhino habitat on patrol in Kenya with up to 80-90% of all 115 rhinos (black and white) being sighted daily. If any rhinos are not sighted in three days then focused patrols are mounted on the ground by more personnel and by plane. Two tracker dogs are also at hand during patrols. Lewa has a high number of outposts, 25 in total, having added two in the last two years. In addition to this, frequent training programmes for the rhino monitoring teams have been carried out by Lewa's Research department, which is an integral part of a ranger's course.

This year the armed security teams will undergo even more training on night operations, firearms, intelligence gathering, follow up procedures, collection of evidence and use of advanced technology to combat the growing poaching threat. With adequate funding, advanced technology can be installed to reinforce the security operations within and around the conservancy. Our informer network will be strengthened as will the collaboration with KWS (Kenya Wildlife Service), the CID (Criminal Investigations Department) and neighbouring communities at large.

There are a number of theories as to the key drivers of this significant increase in the demand for and therefore price of rhino horn; suffice it to say, it is here to stay for the foreseeable future, no matter what the cause

and rhino conservationists are currently wrestling with options to address the issue at operational, policy and intergovernmental levels.

Lewa will be engaging fully in the international debate on these options and will be endeavouring to ensure new thinking is stimulated to protect this animal which without a horn would most likely still number in the hundreds of thousands across the African continent.



## FAREWELL MICHAEL NTOSHO MUREYANI

It is with mixed feelings of sadness and pride that we announce the departure of a long standing member of Lewa's Security Team, Michael Ntosh Mureyani, who has left us to join the Mpala Research Center. He has worked with Lewa for 18 years in various roles from humble beginnings as a herd's man, a casual labourer, a night guard,

a fence worker and soon after he joined the Lewa Security Department in general security. In a few years he became a part of the armed security team and climbed steadily through the ranks to become the Assistant Security and Wildlife Manager, Sierra 1. He will be sorely missed by all of us in Lewa who wish him all the very best in his new role as Security and Wildlife Manager of the Mpala Research Center.

**Kwaheri ya kuonana Ntosh!**





# Wildlife Conservation

## THE MOUNT KENYA ELEPHANT CORRIDOR GOES LIVE

by Geoffrey Chege | Chief Conservation Officer

**T**he highly publicised eight kilometer long elephant corridor linking the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and Ngare Ndare Forest Reserve to Mt. Kenya through the 4.5-metre high boxed underpass was finally inaugurated late 2010. The corridor and underpass was the brainchild of the Bill Woodley Mt. Kenya Trust, the Kenya Wildlife Service, Kisima Farm, Marania Farm, the Ngare Ndare Forest Trust and Lewa.

To assist decision makers to better understand the movement of these charismatic pachyderms between the two ecosystems, STE has provided the technical expertise to collar eight individuals on either side of the mountain. Over and above the collared elephants, Lewa has undertaken to monitor the movement of other un-collared elephants through the tunnel. We estimate that since the opening of this route, about 80 elephants have gone through the underpass either to, or coming down from the mountain.

Three of these elephants were caught on by an Associated Press journalist in early January 2011 and made headlines all over the world. Lewa is also planning to install infra-red cameras on either side of the tunnel to gather more finely grained information on these movements and capture photos round the clock.

The establishment of the corridor through the tunnel is of great importance to conservationists as it has re-opened Mt. Kenya through probably the last remaining viable elephant migratory route. Other possible traditional routes are currently facing significant human pressure.

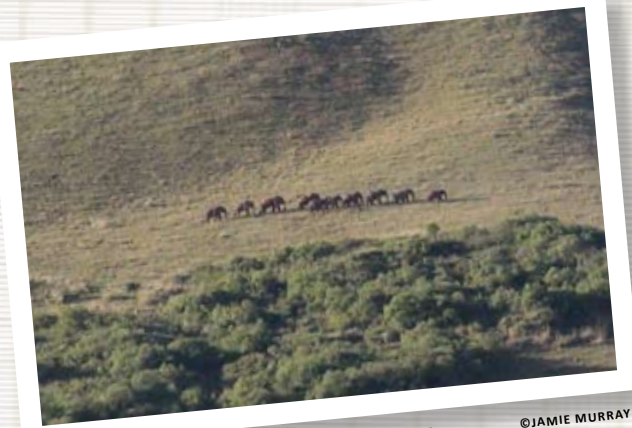


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*Elephants were caught on camera by Jason Straziuso of the Associated Press using the underpass early this year and made headlines all over the world.*

It took less than a week for the elephants to discover the underpass with the first bull called Tony going through it on the night of 1 January 2011. This was a groundbreaking feat as it served to restore the connectivity of Mt. Kenya's isolated elephant population of 2,000 to that of the Samburu ecosystem numbering approximately 7,500. Tony has now made two return trips to the high altitude mountain.

The connectivity is extremely important: it will enhance genetic mixing of the two populations as the elephants move up and down looking for mates. "It will also reduce habitat pressure on Lewa's increasingly fragile range," said Dr Iain Douglas-Hamilton who is the among the world's first authorities of research on the movement of African elephants, and founder of Save the Elephants (STE). This linkage is an equally important facet in Lewa's ambition to become a World Heritage Site alongside Mt. Kenya.



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*This photo was taken on Marania Farm. The elephants are on the hill that is at the very southern end of the Mt Kenya corridor.*



## EXPERIENCE OF A WILDLIFE VETERINARIAN

by Dr Matthew Mutinda | KWS vet based on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

**T**he Mountain Region Mobile Veterinary Unit was established as a proactive effort towards conservation and is now in its fifth year of operation. It consists of one veterinarian from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) veterinary pool and one driver from the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy where the unit is based. Lewa pays for the vet unit's services, medicine, equipment, accommodation and provides a motor vehicle and aircraft support in emergency cases. The vet unit provides veterinary care to five National Parks, nine National Reserves and several other private and community-managed sanctuaries and ranches in the northern and eastern parts of Kenya. These areas hold 46% of the Kenya's population of endangered black rhinos, 87% of the global population of the endangered Grevy's zebra, mountain bongos, thousands of elephants and wild dogs among other endangered species.

The rescue of abandoned and orphaned wildlife is one of the critical duties of the vet unit. Black rhino cases are treated with utmost importance due to their critically endangered species status on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Recently, a distress call was received from one of the neighbouring ranches in Laikipia. A female black rhino had been injured in a poaching attempt resulting into a severe gunshot wound in one of her legs and she had a very young calf with her. On arrival by plane, they immobilised the rhino and examined her to find that her leg was so badly fractured by the bullet that it could not be treated. They had to put her down so that she would not continue to suffer. Her calf, too young to survive in the wild alone, was orphaned.

A decision was made to move the little rhino calf to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Orphanage, a sanctuary



*The orphaned calf from Central Meru happily drinks nutritious milk just before taking her flight from Lewa to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Orphanage*

for elephants and rhinos.

Loading the calf into a caravan aircraft was a dramatic event, more amusing than scary for the crew, as she put up quite a spirited protest against flying and proved to be surprisingly strong for her age. The pilot and vet decided to transport the calf by road- a 180 km drive to Nairobi by night to arrive at the orphanage at 5 a.m. This was much preferred by the little calf and she is now being cared for at the orphanage. After successful rearing she will be released into the wild where hopefully, she will reproduce.

Recently, a nine month old elephant calf was orphaned in Central Meru area after her mother was shot and killed by poachers for her tusks, leaving the calf orphaned. The KWS team rescued her, brought her to Lewa for treatment and to be airlifted from Lewa's airstrip to David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Orphanage in Nairobi. She was quite happy after being fed from a milk bottle and getting her onto the plane was less of a struggle than the rhino calf had proved to be.

A case of human-wildlife conflict occurred at the Rumuruti community one night, when a herd of elephants strayed into their farms and raided their crops. Unfortunately, an adult female elephant fell into a pit latrine and got stuck. Some members of the community were able to persuade the irate community not to kill the elephant as punishment for damaging their crops. Eventually, they allowed the elephant to be sedated, pulled out of the pit using two tractors and the hapless animal was finally set free.

The Vet Unit continues to serve the entire northern Kenya region and parts of eastern Kenya tirelessly, with Lewa's unwavering support. They do face daily challenges in executing their duties, but love the work that they do and are happy to contribute towards wildlife conservation efforts in the region.



*An adult elephant female fell into a pit latrine and got stuck. Matthew and his team were able to sedate the animal and pull her out using ropes and tractors*



# Community Development

## SAFARICOM MARATHON DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES

by John Kinoti | Community Development Manager

Over the years communities neighbouring the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy have participated in the Safaricom Marathon, an international event, organised by Tusk Trust that is well attended by both local and international runners. The Lewa communities prepare their highly competitive teams who compete for the Community Team Prize with one mission - "running for development".

Most of the community members' livelihoods have been improved due to the intervention of the Lewa Community Development Programme that uses funds raised by the Safaricom Marathon for the implementation of water projects, supporting healthcare and education facilities and women's micro-enterprises.

Every community is given its share of funds through their respective development committees that take into consideration their respective community needs and then select projects that are of utmost priority. By virtue of this community driven process the implementation of the projects are owned and therefore acknowledged fully by the beneficiaries.

In most of the communities neighbouring Lewa, water and rural infrastructure projects are the main priorities. Before the Safaricom Marathon funds were distributed to these communities, access roads to most communities were practically impassible. This posed a challenge to social development as they experienced great difficulties getting access to essential services and markets. However, this situation is now changing for the better especially after several roads have been graded. A case in point is the Mutunyi community that uses irrigation farming methods for crop production making it a vital food basket for the region. However, farmers from Mutunyi could not easily transport their farm produce in a timely manner and in good condition to market places due to the state of the main access road in the area. This restricted their potential to earn sufficient income from their main economic activity. Using



*Several roads around the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy have been graded using Marathon's funds. In this photo, John Kinoti inspects the work being done on the main access road to the Mutunyi community.*

Marathon, one kilometer of the access road has been graded and now over 3,000 farmers have easier access to the market place to sell their surplus produce.

The funds have also supported other ongoing water projects such as the Kadesh Community Water Project which was started 10 years ago and had been halted due to lack of funds needed to purchase water pipes. It is now almost complete after receiving water pipes purchased using funds raised by the event.

Furthermore, healthcare has received a big boost. The District Hospitals of Isiolo, Meru, Nanyuki and Timau received medical equipment which in turn enabled them to provide medical services to most of Lewa's neighbouring communities when they are referred from clinics that Lewa also supports.

As the Safaricom Marathon grows every year, the local communities recognize that the event is a catalyst for their own development and deeply appreciate the support they have received.



*Thanks to the funds raised by the Safaricom Marathon, the Isiolo District Hospital received medical equipment which in turn enabled it to provide medical services to many of Lewa's neighbouring communities*



## UPLIFTING CHILDREN OF THE IL NGWESI COMMUNITY

by Faith Riunga | Education Manager

**T**he Lewa Education Programme (LEP) has worked with schools over the years not only on the rim of the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, but on Il Ngwesi Group Ranch where we help manage Ntalabany, Sang'a and Enaikishomi schools. Funding comes from various sources. LEP receives funds, facilitates the expected development and reports accordingly to the donors.

**Sang 'a School** is a public school that barely had any infrastructure, but over the last four years the LEP has facilitated the construction of two classrooms, a water system, solar powered fence to keep elephants at bay, the start of a feeding programme and the recruitment of two teachers. Parents who historically sent their children off to live with guardians won't have to do this anymore because their local school is growing, having reached Class 4 this year and is likely to progress to Class 8 in the future. The school has benefited tremendously from All Hallows School in the United Kingdom ([www.allhallows.somerset.sch.uk](http://www.allhallows.somerset.sch.uk)) which has been raising funds every year as well as providing the children with school uniforms. The feeding programme has been sustained and the teacher's salary continues to be funded by Lewa Switzerland. In addition, Jeremy Summers from the United Kingdom has also been a generous donor in meeting the school's various needs.

**Enaikishomi School** is a kindergarten owned by the community. Edward and Sandy Elgar, their family and friends, have been supporting these children for the last five years in memory of their beloved daughter Amy. They visit every year to check on the progress of the school and have been able to provide funding for a classroom, a kitchen, the children's feeding programme, a solar-powered fence and a borehole, which provides water for the entire community at minimal fee for its maintenance. They have also funded the salaries for the teachers, the cook and the care taker of the school. The school has provided a quality learning environment and has greatly reduced the walking distance for the children who used to walk four kilometers to Ethio School.

**Ntalabany Primary School** started off as a feeder school to Leparua School with classes beginning at the nursery level and ending at the Class 3 level. Children would be enrolled in Ntalabany School from nursery to Class 3 then join Leparua School from Class 4 to Class 8. This proved to be quite a challenge because of the long walking distance to Leparua as well as the risk of encountering wild animals on the

way, especially elephants. The parents decided to register the school as a full public school increasing classes from Class 3 to Class 8. We are happy to say that the first Class 8 students will sit for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education this year. Steve Walker, Sabrina Crafton and their friends have sup-

ported the school since inception to provide a feeding programme, build classrooms, administration office and a kitchen as well as pay for the teachers' salaries. The adult literacy class held every Friday has been attended faithfully. After registration as a fully fledged primary school, the government is gradually bringing in teachers as well as school supplies. However, some children still study under trees as the school lacks four classrooms, a problem we hope to address soon via the securing of funds for construction of additional facilities.

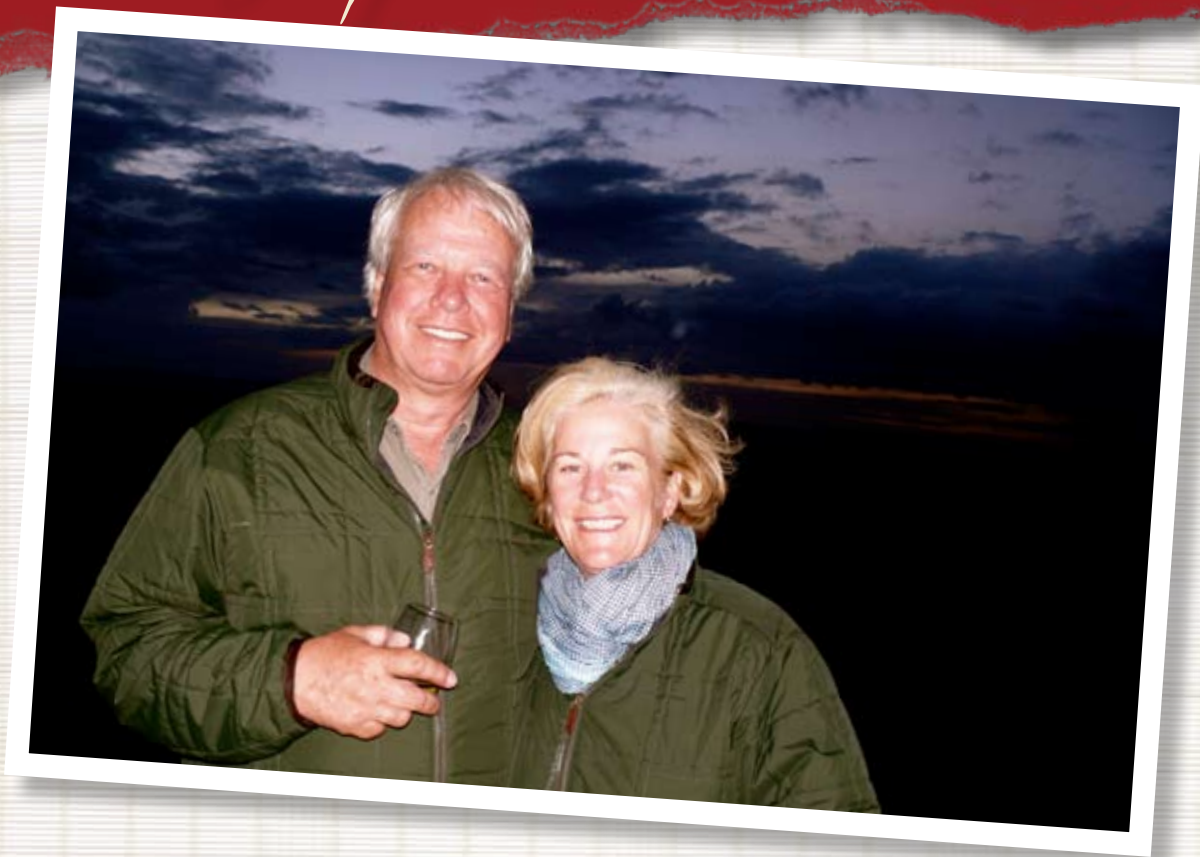
Although these schools are not fully supported by Lewa, the support they are receiving is enormous. We have ensured that the funds received are well used in the schools, accounted for and reports submitted to the donors. Sandy and Edward Elgar and Sabrina and Steve Walker in particular receive monthly accounts from the schools to ensure that they are aware of how the funds they are donating are spent.

These communities have hugely benefitted as Maasai children are now getting access to quality education with better structures being put in place to ensure that the curriculum is implemented in partnership with the government and better infrastructure laid down to provide conducive learning environments.





# Donor Profile



## BETSY SEARLE AND MIKE BRANHAM - A STRONG BELIEF IN BENEFITS FROM WILDLIFE

It all started in 1971, when Mike Branham, born and raised in Tanzania, was running his hunting and fishing lodges in Alaska during the off-season from safaris in Africa. That summer, at the suggestion of Tony Dyer, Ian Craig, jumped at the chance to explore a new frontier outside Lewa Downs, his family's cattle ranch on the foothills of Mt Kenya. During this time together in Alaska, Mike and Ian began their friendship that has continued for forty-one years. For the next seven years, Mike returned to Kenya every November to lead safaris with Ian, setting up camps in Lewa and around Northern Kenya. Also during that time, Ian returned for a season in Alaska to bring his new bride, Jane, on their honeymoon to spend time with his good friend, Mike. These special times together between Alaska and Kenya built their life long friendship and their love for the bush life and a passion for the wildlife.

Meanwhile, in a twist of fate, Betsy Searle and her family came on a fly fishing holiday to Mike's lodge in Alaska. During that trip Mike shared many stories about his experiences in Kenya and, in particular, his times with the Craigs' and the unique abundance of wildlife on Lewa Downs. Betsy developed an intrigue in Kenya, its wildlife and an interest going to Lewa some day. The opportunity to go to Kenya came in 1977, when Betsy attended a wilderness course and spent 4 months experiencing the vast diversity of Kenya from Mt. Kenya to the Rift Valley to the coast. This experience planted the seed for her passion for Kenya's wildlife and people but her time to meet Ian and Jane and

see this amazing Lewa was yet to be.

In the ensuing years, Mike would share updates of the Craig's with Betsy who continued her interest in Lewa. Of particular fascination, was when she learned of the conversion of the Craig's family cattle ranch to a wildlife conservancy and, in particular, into a rhino sanctuary. This occurred in 1995 and was the first attempt at an original and unique conservation concept. It would become the first catalyst for wildlife protection in Kenya. Five years later, in 2000, Betsy finally made it to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (LWC) to experience this special place for herself. This was the beginning of her passion for Lewa and Northern Kenya. Betsy and Mike absorbed the energy and commitment behind Ian Craig's budding vision for the protection of LWC's endangered populations of rhinos, Grevy's zebra and the threatened migrating elephants and how this work ultimately needed to benefit the surrounding communities. Thus the concept of community-based conservation was born for which the wildlife value would provide schools, health care, fresh water and lifestyle development.

Betsy and Mike returned to the States excited to help Ian share his passion with like minded individuals who could become engaged and offer to provide resources to make this vision a reality. Ian introduced Betsy and Mike to some of these individuals later that same year and with a charitable organizational status having been established in the US, Betsy was invited to attend the first meeting of the founding directors of the USA chapter of Lewa. This



original Board of Directors was an impressive group including Bill Rouse, from Philadelphia becoming it's first President, Craig Potter, from Washington D.C., Attorney and Council and Gordon Pattee, a senior executive financial manager in New York City. Lewa US was established and 11 years later Betsy is the current the Chair of the Lewa USA Board.

## BUT WHY CONSERVATION?

In Betsy and Mike's own words, "conservation is the protection of wildlife and the continuance of community traditions". Betsy believes that it's all about legacy. When she was growing up, her parents exposed her to the outdoors and her dad emphasized that she find a passion and be in the service of creating a better world. This was ingrained in her from a very young age. Through hunting and fishing, Betsy and her family developed a love for open spaces, nature and for wildlife.

Following that first trip to Lewa, Betsy found her passion. She believed she was exposed to the best model for conservation in Africa and this was where she wanted to invest her time and resources. Mike too felt strongly that this model of community conservation was the only way forward and that unless local people benefited from the wildlife conservation, it's future was in jeopardy. Betsy and Mike believe that a life in service is one of the most extraordinary privileges we can know.

## LEWA MILELE

Lewa Milele (Swahili for "**Lewa Forever**") is an innovative partnership between the Craig family, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy that strives to seize today's opportunity to secure the long-term future of Lewa. Drawing on The Nature Conservancy's 50-plus years of experience in land acquisition, together the organizations have negotiated a limited-time option to purchase 28,500 acres, and up to 8,000 additional acres, of Lewa's core reserve so that it can be protected permanently. Betsy serves as the lead fundraising chair in the US and and Mike serves on the board of the Colorado Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and as a member of the TNC African Advisory Board thus both contributing in instrumental roles to make Milele a success. They believe that if successful, Lewa's core wildlife conservancy will be secure forever, its capacity to sustain support for community-based conservation on over two million acres of adjoining pastoral land and wildlife habitat will be assured, and its potential to catalyze community-based conservation on an additional ten million acres can be realized, thereby creating a new model for extended conservation across the Northern Kenya region and beyond.

Once Lewa Milele is realized, Betsy and Mike prefer to take a broader role and support others in taking Lewa into its next phase. They have played a pivotal role in helping Lewa grow into what it has become today, a world-renowned catalyst for

conservation. The relationships they have formed from being involved with Lewa over 4 decades since Mike and Ian first met and the hopes and dreams that have become a reality for the wildlife and surrounding communities associated with Lewa will be cherished forever.

Betsy and Mike make the point that, this story is just 2 people's experience of their involvement with LWC, but there are many others who have had a significant role in its progress. For Betsy and Mike, it has been a privilege to help to bring Lewa from one man's vision and it's humble beginnings to a place for wildlife and people to live in perpetuity. They feel their experience from the years involved in Lewa is invaluable. They would love to take the lessons learned and apply them to other conservation projects in Africa. But Betsy is clear that Lewa is where her heart and legacy is and that for her, there will only be one Lewa. "I have always found a touchstone in giving back, a kind of nourishment I have never experienced anywhere else. We are blessed to be a part of an extended family of like-minded friends who we have served alongside to create something very special."



*Ian Craig and Mike Brahmam collaring elephants 41 years after they first met*



# Visit the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

## SIRIKOI, SO MUCH MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

by Cindy Anyiko | Conservation Marketing Officer

**S**irikoi is a spectacular game lodge situated on private land surrounded by the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy that combines ultimate luxury and breath-taking wildlife experiences. The Sirikoi Game Lodge was designed and built by Willie Roberts who has run tailor made safaris throughout East Africa for over 30 years. Sue and Willie Roberts run Sirikoi to provide a most welcoming and personalised experience for all visitors.

Previously, the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) owned the land on which Sirikoi is situated. It planned to grow eucalyptus trees that would mature quickly and be used to provide energy to heat furnaces for drying tea leaves. In addition to that, around 4,000 families would be settled on the land. This would have meant devastating depletion of water resources, wildlife and environment over time.

Ian Craig approached Willie and Sue who partnered with a few more individuals to buy land closer to Mt. Kenya where the 4,000 families would be settled and wouldn't need to install expensive irrigation systems. A land swap deal was brokered resulting in a huge win for the conservation cause.

It is clearly evident that Sue and Willie are very passionate about wildlife conservation. In the mid 1980s, Willie was instrumental in forming Ol Choro Land Owners Association in the Masai Mara, in efforts to stimulate accrual of benefit from wildlife to communities, something not previously experienced owing to wildlife policy of the day.

The association filed a court case seeking to change this. A High Court ruling was successful, finding in favour of the community; thereby paving the way for the formation of all privately owned conservancies in Kenya by setting such a precedent. Elders of communities neighbour-

ing Lewa witnessed how conservation had benefitted the communities at the Mara and this opened up their minds to the conservation idea and led to the development of several community run conservancies in northern Kenya now under the Northern Rangelands Trust.

Sirikoi continues to contribute towards wildlife conservation and community development here on Lewa

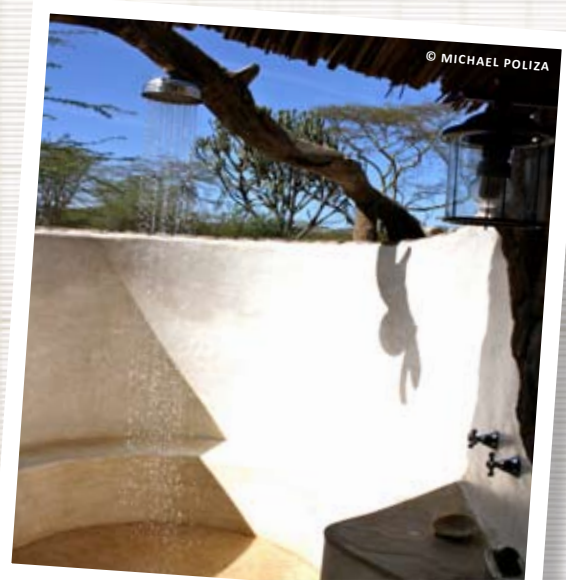
and often invites children from neighbouring communities to perform traditional dances during special occasions. In addition, guests are often taken on visits to the communities and end up supporting various initiatives through Lewa.

Recently, the exquisite Sirikoi House was completed. Separate from the main lodge with its tastefully designed lounge, kitchen,

dining area and garage, it provides a more private stay that accommodates up to six guests in three rooms.

**To find out more about Sirikoi and for bookings, please visit [www.sirikoi.com](http://www.sirikoi.com) or contact [bookings@sirikoi.com](mailto:bookings@sirikoi.com) and by phone:**

**+254 727 232 445 or +254 722 522 542**







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## How You Can Help Lewa

Lewa is privileged to have a dedicated group of supporters who play a vital role in helping us achieve our mission. Through their support Lewa has had a massive impact on wildlife conservation, community development and education initiatives. We want to thank all of these great individuals, families and foundations that have shared our passion for wildlife conservation and supporting local communities for unwavering commitment and support. We invite you too to be a part of the Lewa donor family by choosing any of the following ways to support our work:

\$200	Purchase warm clothing for one ranger for security night patrols
\$200	Pay a teacher's salary for a month
\$500	Purchase a fridge for storing immunization medicines at the Ngare Ndare Clinic
\$650	Support an orphan in school for a year
\$800	<b>URGENT:</b> Purchase a digital camera for the research and monitoring department for Grevy's Zebra patrols
\$2,000	<b>URGENT:</b> Purchase an incubator for the main Lewa Clinic
\$2,300	<b>URGENT:</b> Purchase uniforms for all the Lewa HealthCare Programme staff for one year
\$3,700	Pay for the annual salary of one tracker dog handler, vital for augmenting our security patrols
\$4,500	Pay the annual salary for a senior radio room operator – Lewa maintains a 24hour radio communication network
\$5,000	Help equip a school library
\$5,500	Support a community agricultural / crop production programme for a year
\$8,000	<b>URGENT:</b> Purchase a new set of bush tyres for LWC Super Cub 5Y-LWC to assist in anti-poaching aerial monitoring
\$10,000	Cost of conserving a rhino for approximately a year
\$10,000	Support for the Women's Micro-Credit Programme revolving fund
\$18,000	<b>URGENT:</b> Help construct 1km of predator proof fence to reduce human-wildlife conflict on Lewa's eastern boundary
\$26,000	Purchase a year's worth of drugs for the Wildlife Vet to continue his operations

These are just a few of the items that Lewa needs help with. For additional information on how to support Lewa, please contact Joanne Machira at [joanne.machira@lewa.org](mailto:joanne.machira@lewa.org).



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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.*



[www.lewa.org](http://www.lewa.org)

*A Catalyst for  
Conservation*

## About the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF LEWA

The Craig/Douglas family first came to Lewa Downs in 1922 and whilst the land was managed as a cattle ranch for more than half a century, the family also recognised the great importance of the wildlife living on Lewa, and engaged in wildlife tourism. In the 1980s, when the plight of the black rhino became desperate in Africa, part of the cattle ranch was converted into the Ngare Sergoi Rhino Sanctuary, with the enthusiastic support and funding of co-founder and rhino conservationist, Anna Merz.

### WHO WE ARE TODAY

In 1995 the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy was established as a not-for-profit organisation, and today it manages 62,000 acres that is home to over 10% of Kenya's black rhino population, over 14% of Kenya's white rhino population, and the world's largest resident population of Grevy's zebra. As well as endangered species, the Conservancy is also home to over 350 species of birds and 70 species of mammals, including the 'Big Five.'

### WHAT WE DO TODAY

- We monitor and protect endangered species and their habitat
- We ensure wildlife conservation generates direct benefits for neighbouring communities through our dedicated education, healthcare, enterprise and water development programmes
- We finance wildlife conservation by combining tourism with carefully focussed donor support
- We support the Kenyan Government with wildlife translocation, veterinary intervention and armed anti-poaching teams across northern Kenya

### LEWA AS A CATALYST BEYOND ITS BOUNDARIES

Lewa's mission is to act as a catalyst for conservation, and its successful model combines the protection of wildlife, community development, and sustainable tourism. Acting as that model, we have helped to stimulate community-owned conservation throughout northern Kenya, and beyond.

The Conservancy has been instrumental as the foundation to the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), headquartered on Lewa. NRT is an innovative partnership which works to facilitate community-led conservation initiatives in northern Kenya, promoting the collective management of ecosystems for improved human livelihoods, biodiversity conservation and enhanced rangeland management. This dynamic partnership has increased the amount of land under integrated conservation management to around 2 million acres, allowing wildlife to begin to migrate throughout their historical natural ranges once more.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

Lewa's mission of conserving of endangered wildlife, and supporting community development, has been made possible by generous supporters from all over the world.

For more information and to pledge your support, please visit us at [www.lewa.org](http://www.lewa.org) or email us at [info@lewa.org](mailto:info@lewa.org).

