

Zambia's South Luangwa NP

Naturetrek Tour Report

20 - 29 December 2017



Barred Owlets by C. M. Jackson-Houlston



Hunting Dogs by David Knaggs



Leopard by Andy Gosler



Three-banded Courser by Claire Edey,

Report kindly compiled by tour client Caroline Jackson-Houlston
Images courtesy of David Knaggs, Andy Gosler, Claire Edey and Caroline Jackson-Houlston



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Tour participants: Seven Naturetrek clients led by local naturalist guides

Introduction

These notes and the species list have been compiled by tour member Caroline Jackson-Houlston, with help from the other participants, especially Andy Gosler and Claire Edey. We had the luxury of two trucks between us. Because three of the group of seven were members of the same family who welcomed the chance to be together on holiday, we elected to stay in the same vehicles and just switch positions each day. Thus, those in Andrew's truck saw things that those in Martin's truck did not, and vice versa. The species list covers both, but these notes are more personalized.

For most of us, the trip began with lengthy flights to Lusaka via Dubai (to avoid long airport waits). The tight transfer time at Lusaka was reduced by late arrival, but we were rapidly shepherded through the system by wonderful airport staff for our short flight to Mfuwe. Landing in bright sunshine, we were led to a car park resplendent with Flamboyant trees and quickly loaded onto one of the Kafunta River Lodge vehicles and presented with a metal drinking flask as a permanent memento, and for use throughout the trip. This avoided wasting plastic bottles, for which there were no recycling facilities. We hastened through an agricultural landscape with traditionally thatched huts and tiny market stalls to our base. The lodge site consists of substantial and spacious chalets raised off the ground, with verandas overlooking the Luangwa River, which is the border of the South Luangwa National Park. There were en suite facilities and palatial mosquito nets over the bed area. In spite of our strict regime of malaria prophylactics, we did not see a single mosquito during the trip, though there were some biting midges.

The encampment is in the thick of the wildlife. Antelope and Lion wander through nightly. Andy and Caroline had a Hippopotamus grazing under their window one night, and Jenny turned round from her shower to find an Elephant at the window trying to join her. This is a service-rich trip, and for good reasons. Staff are ready at all times, and especially in the hours of darkness, to escort guests the short distance from chalets to meals or the lodge office. The latter is the base not only for Lisa's very efficient administration but also an outlet for local arts and crafts, on a non-profit basis. Venturing beyond the confines of the (unfenced) camp is not advisable, but the wildlife comes to you. There are a hide and a tree deck with uninterrupted views over the river plain, and the semi-open bar and dining area, swimming pool and hot tub have similar vistas. Elephants occasionally have to be removed from the bar, perhaps seduced by the elephant logo on the bottles of Amarula.

Meals are taken either under the roofed bar and lounge area or fully al fresco. Days start with breakfast at 5.30am, then a morning game drive at 6am, followed by brunch at 11.30am, a siesta, tea at 3.30pm, and then off for the afternoon/night drive at 4pm, returning for a four-course dinner at 8pm. Not to mention mid-morning snacks with coffee and a sundowner with nibbles at sunset (gin and tonic or Amarula on the rocks, anyone?) The food was excellent; dishes were fresh and varied, with the occasional piquant puzzle when it comes to names (squashed eggs and lice for lunch?)

This trip is well into the wet season. Indeed, the camp becomes inaccessible for the worst of it, from January onwards. The graded track to the lodge was already challenging even for our first few bright and sunny days, and became more so once unsettled weather set in for Christmas. Our two drivers, Martin and Andrew, negotiated the mud and potholes with great skill and good humour, even when getting wetter than we were under the full

cover of the truck roof and the ample ponchos provided. At this time of year, the trucks cannot drive directly into the park across the river as they can in the dry season, so each trip necessitated a half-hour drive to the main road to the park gate, taking in the Crocodiles and Hippos and mixed-species swarms of swifts from the bridge. Broadly speaking, we covered much the same ground for every drive, but no two were the same, and there was a mass to see before even arriving at the park. The participants' favourite choices of mammal and bird for the trip reflect this variety. The African Hunting Dogs were top mammal and the Barred Owlets top bird (two votes each). Other candidates were Ginger the Lion, Leopard, Baboon, Four-toed Elephant Shrew, Saddle-billed Stork, Ibis, Malachite Kingfisher and Dwarf Bittern.

Day 1

Wednesday 20th December

The tour started with flights from the UK

Day 2

Thursday 21st December

We entered the lodge in the evening through the heady scent of jasmine. A candlelit dinner on the open terrace awaited us, looking out over Hippos and Puku antelope grazing the river plain.

Day 3

Friday 22nd December

On our first morning we were greeted (as almost every day) by the sight of a Fish Eagle perched on one dead tree opposite the dining room, and a Pied Kingfisher on the next tree, with Jacana stalking in the shallows. The early drive was an introduction to Mopane scrub. Mopane takes two forms: it grows as a tree where the soil provides sufficient nutrients to allow rapid growth, and as scrub kept low and bushy by elephant browsing. We met the commonest bird, the energetic White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, and a number of charismatic and colourful species also seen most days: Lilac-breasted Roller, White-fronted Bee-eater, three iridescent starlings, and Woodland and Malachite Kingfishers.

Elephants were already in evidence, as were Impala, often in male-only herds. Two species of the trip total of four mongooses crossed the road. There were numerous waterbirds, such as Spur-winged Goose and Saddle-billed Stork, spread out across the terrain because of the abundance of water. Lunchtime in camp produced a large Nile Monitor, one of at least three using it as home.

Our afternoon/evening game drive featured beautifully-marked Bushbuck, and the omnipresent and entertaining Yellow Baboons at the park gate. We had our first sighting of Lions, in a pride led by two males, blonde Ginger and brunette Garlic. At this point they (especially Ginger) looked very thin. Ground Hornbills and two species of Francolin paced or ran over the ground. Our sundowner drinks were on the bank of a river full of Hippos, grunting and eyeing us suspiciously. The hyper-exciting night drive encountered a troop of Spotted Hyenas at a kill, a nervous Scrub Hare, and a Leopard. On the way back, a thankfully small and string-like Black Mamba crossed a puddle in the headlights.

Day 4

Saturday 23rd December

So many boxes ticked already; how could we top our first full day? We added good views of both adult (golden) and juvenile (brown) Mopane Squirrels, Hamerkop, and skinks, which turned out to be plentiful residents at our base. Vervet Monkeys looked us over as we paused at the park entrance; some of the males seemed inordinately proud of their bright blue testicles. There were much better views of Crocodiles on a sandy river bank, and a Leopard in classic pose draped over the branch of a Sausage Tree (*Kigelia Africana*). The big cat's apparent nonchalance was belied by the pack of African Wild Dogs just underneath. Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finches) and tiny turquoise and brown Blue Waxbills scuttled in the road (these were also nesting behind a floodlight near the hot tub in camp). Hadedda Ibis stalked majestically in wet grass.

Lunch offered more skinks in the hide and on various sets of steps, and a beautiful (and harmless) green Spotted Bush Snake, also in the hide.

In the afternoon, we began to realize our favourite site was a muddy, anonymous ditch very near camp, which hosted breeding Malachite Kingfishers engaging in courtship feeding oblivious of us, and also a Dwarf Bittern (about nine inches high, slaty blue with black stripes on a peachy belly). A particularly fine male Waterbuck posed for portrait photographs. There were close views of African Buffalo and another encounter with several Lionesses with cubs, one of which was very young and sickly looking. One Lioness decided to show the humans who really owned the road and lay down in the middle of it, stopping the traffic, and sheltering the small cub, although it was not hers.

During the day the lodge was a-flutter with Banded Groundlings and other dragonflies, and fine moths gathered round the lights after dark.

Day 5

Sunday 24th December

Pretty Emerald-spotted Wood Doves lined the morning road, with a Red-backed Shrike in the scrub. We spent a good length of time by a grassy pool watching Open-billed Stork in one direction, and Warthog and large herd of Impala of all ages and both sexes in the other. There were excellent views of a Woodland kingfisher perched in the Mopane. Fishermen in precarious canoes barely afloat in the Crocodile- and Hippopotamus-rich river made this ex Health and Safety officer twitch. Back at base, the Bush Snake was sunning itself on the dining room entrance. Later, we videoed 59 Elephants crossing the road out of camp in single file, and another group was, for the first time, surrounded by Cattle Egrets, rather to the Elephants' annoyance.

Night-spotting produced Caroline's target species for the trip—a Four-toed Elephant Shrew or Sengi. Well, any Elephant Shrew would have done, but this was golden, with big black eyes and the trademark wiffly nose. And not a shrew, of course; its ancestors have a lineage of about 100 million years and form part of the thread of primate evolution, though modern Sengis are distantly related to Elephants and Aardvarks. Seeing it was the result of brilliant spotting by Martin and Justin (the lad with the lamp). Genets and a civet were also part of the nocturnal cast list. Christmas lights were provided by an all-night show of orange and white sheet and forked lightning that heralded a shift to much cooler, rainier weather.

Day 6**Monday 25th December**

Treats for Christmas morning included Thorneycroft's Giraffe, the local race of the animal; we had so far only seen the species distantly on our drive in on the day of arrival. Other game (Zebra, antelopes and bucks) were present in large numbers, and we had more excellent views of 21 Wild Dogs. Bird highlights were a pair of Firefinches, Bennett's Woodpecker, Purple-crested Turaco, Woolly-necked Stork and Grey Crowned Crane.

The evening provided Martin's vehicle with Fiery-necked Nightjar, Pel's Fishing Owl, another Sengi, and the mini-antelope Sharpe's Grysbok. We returned to find the staff in even more festive tunics than usual, a huge Christmas tree, crackers and a roast turkey dinner. Views of the camp's Barred Owlets provided the cabaret.

Day 7**Tuesday 26th December**

So far the raptor list had been building up nicely. On Boxing Day morning we saw Western Banded Snake Eagle and Gymnogone - the African Harrier-Hawk with double-jointed legs for winking prey out of holes. We waited and watched hundreds of Baboons stream down the road away from the park gate, the mothers touchingly solicitous over their babies, who were clasped to their chests or riding on their mothers' backs. Ginger and Garlic's pride were still obviously in need of a square meal. There were more good views of Saddle-billed Storks and Lilac-breasted Rollers. The rain was starting to bring out flowers such as a vivid mauve orchid-like wild ginger, and a gorgeous red and yellow Flame Lily. With them came increasing numbers and varieties of butterfly, both on the drives and back at base, whenever the sun broke through.

On the evening drive, a small sounder of Bush Pigs crossed the road; a rare sight. After dark, about 10 Three-banded Coursers were flushed individually from the road. A Hippopotamus emerged from the water wearing a fetching hat and cloak of pond vegetation, and was quickly christened Water-Hyacinth Bucket. Right at the end of the drive, there were fleeting views of Bushbabies in the light.

Day 8**Wednesday 27th December**

A damp day, but the birding and game viewing was good nonetheless. Water Thick-knees (Dikkops) occupied the crocodile bank. Hornbills were visible at close range, particularly Red-billed and Ground Hornbills, and we got rather distant views of Lilian's Lovebird, in citrus colours of lime, lemon and orange. More accessible for photography were Coucal and, incongruously, a Crowned Crane in a low tree. On our return journey, a Wood Sandpiper had set up feeding territory in one of the road's biggest puddles. Lunchtime gave way to a photo-frenzy as the Barred Owlet pair glowered at us from a low branch. The night drive gave better views of Bushbaby.

Day 9**Thursday 29th December**

Departure day, but there was time for a full morning game run further into the park than we had previously been. Yellow-billed Storks gathered en masse in the grass before breakfast. Our going-away present was a large troop of Giraffe at close quarters. For those for whom eighteen-foot ungulates were not enough, there was Chestnut-backed Finchlark, Crowned Plover, Ovambo Sparrowhawk, Black-headed Heron and Meyer's Parrot. We re-visited the Lion pride, which had now had a square, or, at least, zebra-shaped, meal. Ginger was now nearly spherical, too gorged to do anything more than lie under a bush and pant. The kill attracted two species of

vulture and a Yellow-billed Kite. As we made our way back, we found a Bosc's Monitor basking on a tree, chunkier and more thickset than Nile Monitor. A Three-banded Plover was obligingly photogenic on the muddy road. Even the journey to the airport produced new birds - a flock of very smart Red Bishops.

The sunshine came out again, but the puddle on the road to Kafunta Lodge is now a hippo wallow. Time to go, alas.

Day 10

Friday 30th December

Arrival back in the UK, where another Naturetrek adventure came to an end

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Christmas Dinner

Species Lists

Birds

	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
2	African Open-billed Stork	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>
3	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
4	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
5	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>
6	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>
7	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>
8	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
9	Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
10	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
11	Dwarf Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>
12	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
13	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
14	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>
15	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
16	Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia brachyrhyncha</i>
17	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
18	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
19	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
20	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
21	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
22	Gymnogene (African Harrier-Hawk)	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
23	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrocyrtes monarchus</i>
24	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
25	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>
26	Western Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>
27	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
28	Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>
29	Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kalpifalco monogrammicus</i>
30	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
31	Ovambo Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>
32	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
33	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
34	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
35	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
36	Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>
37	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
38	Helmeted Guinea fowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
39	Natal Spur fowl	<i>Pternistis natalensis</i>
40	Red-necked Spur fowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>
41	Swainson's Spur fowl	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>
42	Grey Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
43	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
44	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
45	White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>
46	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
47	African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>
48	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
49	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
50 Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
51 Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
52 Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
53 Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
54 Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
55 Three-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus cinctus</i>
56 Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>
57 Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
58 Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
59 Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>
60 Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>
61 Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus sengalensis</i>
62 White-browed Coucal	<i>superciliosus</i>
63 Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>
64 Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>
65 Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>
66 Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
67 Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>
68 Pel's Fishing Owl	<i>Scotopelia peli</i>
69 African Barred Owllet	<i>Glaucidium capense</i>
70 Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>
71 Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
72 Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
73 Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>
74 White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>
75 Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
76 Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>
77 Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>
78 Grey-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>
79 Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
80 Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
81 Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
82 Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>
83 Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>
84 Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
85 Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
86 White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>
87 Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>
88 African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
89 Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
90 Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
91 Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>
92 Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>
93 Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>
94 African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>
95 Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>
96 Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
97 Bennett's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera bennettii</i>
98 Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Chloropicus namaquus</i>
99 Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>
100 Lilian's Lovebird	<i>Agapomis lilianae</i>
101 White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>
102 Red-billed Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
103 Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>
104 Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubia</i>
105 Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>
106 Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>
107 Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>
108 Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
109 African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
110 Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
111 Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>
112 African Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>
113 Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>
114 Chestnut-backed Finchlark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>
115 European Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
116 Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
117 Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>
118 Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>
119 Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
120 Green-capped Eremomela	<i>Eremomela scotops</i>
121 Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
122 Plum-coloured Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
123 Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
124 Meves's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis mevesii</i>
125 Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>
126 Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>
127 White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglinii</i>
128 Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
129 Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>
130 Collared Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa arquata</i>
131 Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>
132 Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
133 White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>
134 White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>
135 House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
136 Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>
137 Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>
138 Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
139 Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
140 Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
141 Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
142 Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
143 Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>
144 Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
145 Jameson's Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rhodopareia</i>
146 Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
147 African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>

Mammals

1 Bush Pig	<i>Potamochoerus porcus</i>
2 Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>
3 Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
4 Giraffe (Thornycroft's)	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis (thornicrofti)</i>
5 Sharpe's Grysbok	<i>Raphicerus sharpei</i>
6 Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
7 Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>
8 Puku	<i>Kobus vardoni</i>
9 Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>
10 African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>
11 Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>
12 African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>
13 Smith's Bush (Mopane) Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>
14 Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>
15 African Wild Dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>
16 Large Spotted Genet	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>
17 African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>
18 Bushy-tailed Mongoose	<i>Bdeogale crassicauda</i>
19 Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>
20 Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>
21 White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>
22 Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>
23 Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>
24 Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
25 Greater Bushbaby	<i>Galago crassicaudatus</i>
26 Yellow Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>
27 Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>
28 Four-toed Elephant Shrew	<i>Petrodromus tetradactylus</i>

Reptiles and Amphibians

1 Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>
2 Bosc's Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus exanthematicus</i>
3 Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>
4 Spotted Bush Snake	<i>Philothamnus semivariatus</i>
5 Black Mamba	<i>Dendroaspis polylepis</i>
6 Afro-American House Gecko?	? <i>Hemidactylus mabouia</i>
7 Striped Skink	<i>Trachylepis ?striata</i>
8 Chamaeleon sp.	<i>Chamaeleo ?diplepis</i>
9 Foam Nest Frog (nests only)	? <i>Chiromantis xerampelina</i>



Malachite Kingfisher with nuptial gift fish by David Knaggs



Saddle-billed Stork by Andy Gosler