ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF BIRDS

KEY: H = Heard only **BVD** = Better view desired **Ph** = Photographed \$ = Only recorded on the tour-extension

NON-PASSERINES

OSTRICH Struthionidae

Ph Common Ostrich *Struthio camelus massaicus* Moderately common throughout the Serengeti, Ndutu area, Ngorongoro Crater and Tarangire NP. Many well grown young observed at the latter site.





DUCKS, GEESE & WATERFOWL Anatidae

Ph White-faced Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna guttata* 1-2 on two days along the shores of Lake Victoria at Speke Bay Lodge; four on backwaters, Lake Manyara NP and a total of circa 15 at the Mombo wetland.



\$ Fulvous Whistling- Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* One at the Mombo wetlands.

Comb Duck Sarkidiornis m. melanotos 40+ at Lake Manyara NP; ten in wetlands between Lake Manyara and Tarangire NP and 1-2 daily along the river, Tarangire NP

Ph Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* Widespread and moderately common: Arsuha NP; Lake Victoria; Serengeti; Ngorongoro where as many as 100+ counted including a group of ten chicks at the margins of Lake Makta and Tarangire NP.



Ph Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus g. gambensis* A total of seven on a freshwater swamp within the Ngorongoro Crater.

Ph African Black Duck *Anas sparsa leucostigma* Two pairs seen very nicely in the grounds of Negare Sero Lodge; two on a freshwater within the Ngorongoro Crater and one in the West Usambaras.



Red-billed Duck (Teal) *Anas erythrorhyncha* Small numbers in the Serengeti, Lake Manyara and ten at the Mombo wetland.



Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota* Six on a freshwater marsh in the Ngorongoro Crater.

Ph Cape Teal Anas capensis In the saline Momela Lakes of Arusha NP we counted circa 30 of these delicately marked birds and it was common in the Serengeti and Ndutu area.

Southern Pochard *Netta erythrophthalma brunnea* Common on Momela Lake, Arusha NP.

GUINEAFOWL Numididae

Ph Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris reichenowi* Widespread and common in lightly wooded habitat: Arusha NP; grounds of Speke Bay Lodge; Serengeti; Ndutu area; Ngorongoro; Tarangire NP and Mikumi NP.

Crested Guineafowl *Guttera p. pucherani* A nice surprise, a covey of eight of which we saw three at the roadside one rather wet morning in Montane Forest on the Ngorongoro Crater Rim. Also heard in the grounds of the Vuma Hills Lodge, Mikumi NP.

FRANCOLINS & ALLIES Phasianidae

Harlequin Quail *Coturnix d. delegorguei* Fine views of eight males and females that we flushed as we drove across the southern Serengeti.



Hildebrandt's Francolin *Pternisitis (Francolinus) h. hildebrandti* A bird of montane habitats we saw as many as ten on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater.



Ph Yellow-necked Francolin *Pternisitis (Francolinus) leucoscepus* Common throughout Tarangire NP.



Ph Gray-breasted Francolin *Pternisitis (Francolinus) rufopictus* This attractive species was common throughout the Serengeti and Ndutu area. Also observed in smaller numbers in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge. Endemic to Tanzania this species inhabits plains and savannas in areas with rainfall of 500–700 mm, including edge of grassland and Acacia (Fabaceae) woodland of, e.g. *A. tortilis, A. drepanolobium, A. xanthophloea* and *A. kirkii; also in thickets along watercourses.*

- Ph Red-necked Francolin (Spurfowl) *Pternisitis (Francolinus) afer* Common in Tarangire NP.
- Ph Crested Francolin *Francolinus sephaena grantii* Regularly seen in low numbers throughout Tarangire NP and in the dry thorn country of the South Pare Plains.



Ph Coqui Francolin Francolinus coqui maharao Superb views of a total of four in the grasslands of the Serengeti; small numbers seen and heard daily in Tarangire NP. Two in Mikumi NP.



GREBES Podicipedidae

Ph Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis* Two breeding pairs on the pool below Negare Sero Lodge; a total of 30 counted in Arusha NP and ten on Nyamba ya Munga Dam.



FLAMINGOS Phoenicopteridae

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* Circa 20 on Momela Lake, Arusha NP together with many thousands of Lessers; 20 on Lake Magadi and small numbers thereafter in the Ndutu area; Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara.

Ph Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* Teeming thousands of these exquisite birds afforded a stunning spectacle that were able to enjoy at very close quarters at the Momela Lakes, Arusha NP; circa 1500 on Lake Magadi; several in the Ndutu area and surely more than a million on Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater. Large numbers also on Lake Manyara.





STORKS Ciconiidae

Ph African Openbill *Anastomus I. lamelligerus* Scattered ones and twos between Mwanza airport and Speke Bay Lodge; circa 40 over the western corridor, Serengeti; nine at the Mombo wetlands; and a flock of circa 100 flying very high, at midday, over Mikumi NP.



Ph Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus microscelis* Just one, possibly an immature, along a swampy stream within a massive Sisal plantation on the South Pare Plains.

White Stork *Ciconia c. ciconia* A nice surprise as I expected this species to have entirely departed for its breeding grounds. A total of 14 counted and one the following day feeding on the short-grass plains amongst vast herds of Gnu near Ndutu.

\$ Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* Somewhat surprisingly we only saw one of these magnificent birds in flight over distant swamps within Mikumi NP.

Ph Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos* crumeniferus Huge numbers swirling in a kettle near Mwanza airport presented a very impressive sight. Thereafter groups of 5-20 plus occasional single birds were observed foraging, resting and soaring



over Mwanza and the periphery of Lake Victoria as we enjoyed a very entertaining lunch. Smaller numbers (2-40) seen thereafter in and around Speke Bay Lodge, the Serengeti and Ndutu area. Just single birds were seen on three occasions within Mikumi NP.

Ph Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* Small numbers (2-12) observed from Mwanza north to Speke Bay Lodge, the Serengeti and Ndutu area. A flock of circa 60 observed and photographed at the margins of Lake Manyara.



CORMORANTS & SHAGS Phalacrocoracidae

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo lucidus* 130 counted at Nyamba ya Manga Dam.

Long-tailed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax a. africanus* Small numbers (2-3) observed from Mwanza north to Speke Bay Lodge, Lake Victoria and the Serengeti.

PELICANS Pelecanidae

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* Three on Lake Victoria adjacent to Speke Bay Lodge and 25 at the margins of Lake Manyara.

Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens* Thirty in breeding plumage at Lake Magadi; six at Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater and circa 20 at Lake Manyara.

HAMERKOP Scopidae

Ph Hamerkop *Scopus u. umbretta* Widespread in small numbers (2-4): Mwanza area; Speke Bay area; Serengeti; Lake Manyara NP; Tarangire NP and Mikumi NP.



HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNS Ardeidae

Ph Dwarf Bittern *Ixobrychus sturmii* Undoubtedly one of the highlights of this remarkable safari. Thanks to some truly brilliant spotting by Chris we all



enjoyed unforgettable and prolonged views of this very rarely observed African endemic. A second bird was watched at length in flight within Tarangire NP and a third bird initially identified as a Little Bittern

but images subsequently reveal that bird to be an immature Dwarf Bittern was nicely picked out by Anthony at the Mombo wetlands.

Gray Heron *Ardea c. cine*rea Small numbers observed in the Ngorongoro Crater; Lake Manyara; Tarangire NP and at the Nyamba ya Manga Dam. On 7 June we found three nests being attended by incubating birds in tall leafless tree within scrub and scattered houses adjacent to Mediterraneo Resort, Dar e Salaam.

Ph Black-headed Heron Ardea melanocephala Widespread in small numbers; recorded almost daily including circa 60 at a mixed nesting colony in a large tree right next to Mwanza airport terminal. Largely absent from the Usambaras and Mikumi NP where very few seen on just one or two days.

Purple Heron *Ardea p. purpurea* Just a single bird recorded as it flew, with large numbers of other wading birds, to roost on tiny offshore islands adjacent to Speke Bay Lodge, Lake Victoria.

Great Egret Ardea alba melanorhynchus At least four attending a mixed nesting colony in a large tree right next to Mwanza airport terminal; two flew with large numbers of other wading birds to roost on tiny offshore islands adjacent to Speke Bay Lodge, Lake Victoria; ten at Lake Manyara and one at the Mombo wetlands.



Intermediate Egret *Mesophoyx intermedia brachyrhyncha* Several at Mwanza on the shores of Lake Victoria; three at Lake Manyara and 1-2 daily within Tarangire NP.

Ph Little Egret Egretta g. garzetta Abundant in and around Mwanza and north to Speke Bay; very common around Speke Bay especially at dawn and dusk when as many as circa 150 moved to and from their roost on tiny off shore islands in Lake Victoria; just one solitary bird in breeding plumage within Tarangire NP and circa ten at the Mombo wetlands.

\$ Western Reef Heron *Egretta gularis schistacea* Six, mostly dark morphs seen in flight and briefly perched along the beach at the Mediterraneo Hotel, Dar e Salaam.



Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca* One seen well at dusk with large numbers of other waterbirds as they moved to their roost on tiny off shore islands in Lake Victoria and a total of six seen very nicely at the margins of Lake Manyara. Cattle Egret Bulbulcus i. ibis Seen daily in modest numbers throughout the Arusha area; Mwanza to Serengeti; Ngorongoro; Lake Manyara; the Mombo wetlands and en route to Dar.

Ph Squacco Heron *Ardeola rallioides* Seen in small numbers throughout the Arusha area; Mwanza to Speke Bay; Lake Manyara and the Mombo wetlands.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata atricapilla* Singles at the margins of Lake Victoria, Speke Bay Lodge.



Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax n. nycticorax* Three at a freshwater seep adjacent to Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater.

IBISES & SPOONBILLS Threskiornithidae

Ph Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* Twenty-five at freshwater wetlands within Ngorongoro Crater; circa 20, Lake Manyara; one at Nyamba ya Munga Dam and ten at the Mombo wetlands.



Ph Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* Small numbers seen within Arusha NP and from Mwanza north to Speke Bay; common with flocks of 10-40 frequently seen during the day and going to roost at dusk on tiny small off shore islands with Lake Victoria, Speke Bay; 24 counte at freshwater wetlands within Ngorongoro Crater; 26 at Lake Manyara and two in the grounds of the Mediterraneo Hotel, Dar e Salaam.

Ph Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash brevirostris* So evocative to wake to the sounds of this very African vocalisation. Wonderfully common at the Negare Sero Lodge; Mwanza to Speke Bay; Speke Bay Lodge grounds (max 60); Lake Manyara (15); and within the South Pare Plains.



African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* Two in flight over the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge; circa 70 at the margins of Lake Manyara and one at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.



SECRETARY-BIRD Sagittariidae

Ph Secretary-bird Sagittarius serpentarius This distinctive and ever-so charismatic species and sole member of its endemic African family was notably common throughout the Serengeti and especially in the short-grass plains of the Ndutu area and Ngorongoro Crater.



HAWKS, EAGLES & KITES Accipitridae

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus c. caeruleus* Small to modest numbers seen daily in Arusha NP, Mwanza to Speke Bay Lodge, Serengeti including 5 on 21st May as we made our way from the Serengeti Sopa Lodge to Ndutu. One in Tarangire NP and one on the South Pare Plains

African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides t. typus* Our first sighting of these intriguing raptors was in the Ngorongoro Crater. We then observed one foraging in the crown of a large baobab within Tarangire NP.

- **\$** Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* One adult flew over the Mombo wetlands and then perched in some distant trees; fine views of one in Mikumi NP and again in Udzungwa NP.
- \$ African Cuckoo-Hawk *Aviceda c. cuculoides* Fine views of this infrequently encountered raptor on two days in Mikumi NP.
- Ph White-headed Vulture *Trigonoceps occipitalis* We observed a total of four of these rather striking but increasingly threatened vultures in the lightly wooded grasslands of the Serengeti and a similar number in Mikumi NP.





Ph Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos t. tracehliotus* The largest and arguably the most spectacular of the vultures we enjoyed numerous encounters with this gigantic beast: four in Serengeti's western corridor; six in the central Serengeti and as many as 20 as we drove from the Serengeti Sopa Lodge to Ndutu;

several in the Ndutu area; two in the Ngorongoro Crater; two in Tarangire NP; and 1-3 daily within Mikumi NP

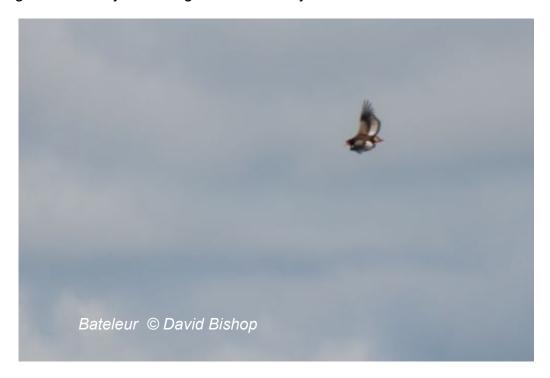
Ph White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* Pleasingly common throughout the Serengeti and Ndutu area with totals of 25, 50 and 50+ observed on three days. Smaller numbers (2-12) recorded in Tarangire NP. However, Mikumi NP supported impressive numbers with circa 40 recorded during most field outings.



Ph Rueppell's Griffon (Vulture) *Gyps r. rueppellii* Notably low numbers observed in the Serengeti and Ndutu areas (1- 2) and Tarangire NP.



Ph Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* This striking raptor was observed moderately commonly throughout the Serengeti and Ndutu areas with just singles seen daily in Tarangire NP. 2-3 daily in Mikumi NP



Ph Black-breasted Snake-Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis* Fabulous views of a pair right over our heads in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge; and singles thereafter in the Serengeti, Tarangire NP and two in Mikumi NP.

Brown Snake-Eagle *Circaetus cinereus* One in the Ndutu area; one in Lake Manyara NP; two on one day in Tarangire NP and one in Mikumi NP.

- **\$** Bat Hawk *Machaeiramphus alcinus anderssoni* Brief but diagnostic views of this distinctive raptor near the Long- billed Tailorbird site in the East Usambaras
- Ph Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* One in Arusha NP and a second wonderfully close in the western corridor of the Serengeti. Fine views of this massively powerful bird in Tarangire NP and a single immature observed on two days within Mikumi NP.

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* We observed this distinctive and rather charismatic raptor in Arusha NP (1); Serengeti's western corridor (2); the southern Serengeti (1); the Ndutu area (2); and Lake Manyara NP (3).

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraaetus wahlbergi* Singles observed in Serengeti's western corridor; the Ndutu area and over dry thorn scrub below Kairatu.



Ph Tawny Eagle Aquila rapax belisarius One of these impressive eagles seen well in the Serengeti followed by two 'fulvescens' types in the Ndutu area and four on our first afternoon in Tarangire NP followed by singles daily thereafter



BVD Verreaux's Eagle *Aquila verreauxii* Distant 'scope views shortly after dawn of a huge black raptor perched high on a cliff above Same.

African Hawk-Eagle *Aquila spilogaster* One seen nicely in Serengeti NP and two in Tarangire NP.

Ph Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus meriodionalis* Just one on our first day in Arusha NP and then singles daily in Mikumi NP.





Dark Chanting-Goshawk *Melierax m. metabates* Two seen very well in the Serengeti.

Ph Eastern Chanting-Goshawk *Melierax poliopterus* Two in the Ndutu area and fine, close views if single birds daily in Tarangire NP and on the South Pare Plains.

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar aequatorius* Singles in the Serengeti; Ndutu area; the South Pare Plains and Mikumi NP.

African Marsh-Harrier *Circus ranivorus* Fine views of an adult in the Ngorongoro Crater and even better views in Lake Manyara NP.

\$ Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk *Accipiter r. rufiventris* One immature in the Amani area of the East Usambaras.

Black (Yellow-billed) Kite *Milvus migrans parasiticus* Three in the Ngorongoro Crater where they have learnt to purloin the lunches of unsuspecting tourists. A total of 27 were counted within Lake Manyara NP>.

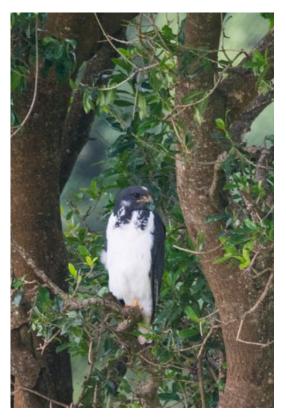
Ph African Fish-Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* We enjoyed several fine encounters with this most magnificent of African raptors: one in Arusha NP; a pair put on a great show as we ate lunch in Mwanza on the shores of Lake Victoria; at least one pair nesting on the shores of Lake Victoria in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge; one in the Ngorongoro Crater; one in Tarangire NP and a pair at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.



Ph Mountain Buzzard *Buteo oreophilus* One over Gibbs Farm; great views of one at the edge of very wet riverine forest on two days in the West Usambaras.



Ph Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* A total of six in Arusha NP and thereafter 1-3 daily throughout the Serengeti, Ndutu area, Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara and Gibbs Farm. Just one over the South Pare Plains.



BUSTARDS Otididae

Ph Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori struthiunculus* A total of eight of these magnificent birds in the short grass plains of the southern Serengeti; two in

the Ndutu area and 12, including some amazing close encounters, in the Ngorongoro Crater.





Ph White-bellied Bustard *Eupodotis senegalensis canicollis* A pair in the western corridor of the Serengeti; two pairs in the short grass plains of the southern Serengeti and one in Tarangire NP.



Buff-crested Bustard *Eupodotis gindiana* Heard singing in semi-arid thorn scrub above Nyamba ya Manga Dam and then seen when flushed in similar habitat on the South Pare Plains.



Ph Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis m. melanogaster* Thanks to some brilliant spotting by Stephanie we we enjoyed close views of a single bird in Tarangire NP.

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS Rallidae

BVD African Crake *Rallus caerulescens* One seen all too briefly in a tiny swampy patch within Tarangire NP.

Ph Black Crake Amaurornis flavirostra Seen superbly on the marshy lake below Negare Sero Lodge and throughout the Serengeti and Ndutu area.



Ph Eurasian (Common) Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus meridionalis* Nesting at the edge of the swampy lake below Negare Sero Lodge; two in the Serengeti and one in Lake Manyara NP.

Red-knobbed Coot Fulica cristata One 'scoped on Lake Momela, Arusha NP.

CRANES Gruidae

Ph Gray Crowned-Crane *Balearica regulorum gibbericeps* This spectacular bird was seen widely and found locally common: Negare Sero Lodge – displaying at dusk! Magnificent!!!!! Arusha NP (1); Mwanza to Speke Bay Lodge (1); Ndutu area (2); at least 30 including several dancing birds in the Ngorongoro Crater; a total of 26 within Lake Manyara NP; two on two days in Tarangire NP; three between the East Usambaras and Mikumi NP.









THICK-KNEES Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus v. vermiculatus* Our first encounter with this species was a resident pair in the grounds of the Speke Bay Lodge. Thereafter we saw four in Lake Manyara NP, two in Tarangire NP and six at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam and a total of 19 in the Mkata Plains area of Mikumi NP.

Ph Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus c. capensis* This striking species was impressively confiding within the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge where a group of three permitted a very close approach; one in the western corridor of the Serengeti and a total of nine in the Ndutu area.



STILTS & AVOCETS Recurvirostridae

Ph Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* At least ten in Arusha NP; ten at the margins of Lake Magadi and Lake Ndutu; 15 in the Ngorongoro Crater; circa 50 at the edge of Lake Manyara and circa 50 on the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* Three at the edge of Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater and circa 20 at the edge of Lake Manyara.



PLOVERS & LAPWINGS Charadriidae

Ph Long-toed Lapwing (Plover) Vanellus crassirostris leucopterus Eight of these striking birds in the swampy margins of Lake Manyara.



Ph Blacksmith Plover (Lapwing) *Vanellus armatus* Widespread and common (2-10), including a total of 17 in the Ngorongoro Crater. Not recorded south of the South Pare Plains.

Spur-winged Plover (Lapwing) *Vanellus spinosus* Two in the Ngorongoro Crater and circa 20 at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.



Ph Black-winged Lapwing (Plover) *Vanellus melanopterus minor* Common on the short-grass plains of the southern Serengeti where a total of 110 counted.



Crowned Lapwing (Plover) *Vanellus c. coronatus* Circa 40 recorded on the short-grass plains of the southern Serengeti and smaller numbers recorded

throughout the Ndutu area; one in Tarangire NP and three pairs seen within Mikumi NP.

Wattled Lapwing (Plover) *Vanellus senegallus laterallus* Two in the Serengeti's western corridor and two in the Ndutu area.

Ph Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* A total of 20 plus tiny, adorable chicks at the edge of Lake Magadi and 10 at the margins of Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater.



Ph Three-banded Plover *Charadrius t. tricollaris* Three of these very handsome shorebirds at a small swampy river within the central Serengeti; ten at Lakes Magadi and Ndutu and one at Lake Manyara.



Ph Chestnut-banded Plover *Charadrius pallidus venustus* We saw a total of 12 of this very lovely endemic shorebird on the shores of Lake Ndutu on two days.



PAINTED-SNIPES Rostratulidae

Greater Painted-Snipe Rostratula benghalensis Brilliantly spotted by Roger our driver but flushed before we could really enjoy her full beauty; Lake Manyara NP.

JACANAS Jacanidae

Ph African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* Surprisingly recorded just the once, a group of six at the edge of Lake Manyara.

SANDPIPERS & ALLIES Scolopacidae

Common Greenshank *Tringa* nebularia We really didn't expect to see many if any Palearctic shorebirds, however, a few species were still lingering and presumably may even over-summer? Two of this species were observed in non-breeding dress at Lake Ndutu.

Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis Twelve at the edge of Lake Manyara.

Ruff Philomachus (Calidris) pugnax Two at Lake Magadi.

Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea One at Lake Magadi.

Temminck's Stint Calidris temminckii One at Lake Ndutu.



Little Stint Calidris minuta Eight at Lake Magadi.

PRATINCOLES & COURSERS Glareolidae

Ph Double-banded Courser *Smutsornis africanus gracilis* Six in the Serengeti's western corridor; ten in the central Serengeti; 30 in the southern Serengeti; eight at Lake Ndutu including one on a nest and six in Lake Manyara NP.



Ph Three-banded (Heuglin's) Courser Rhinoptilus cinctus emini A pair of these wonderful grassland specialists thanks to George's skill and knowledge. We then saw another pair in Lake Manyara NP and enjoyed fabulous close views of yet another pair in Tarangire NP.



\$ Ph Bronze-winged (Violet-tipped) Courser *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus* Fabulous views of a pair in the Mkata Plains area of Mikumi NP.

Ph Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* subsp? 140 counted in Lake Manyara NP.

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS Laridae

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus poiocephalus* Five at the edge of Lake Makata, Ngorongoro Crater; five at the edge of Lake Manyara and several at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.

Gull-billed Tern *Geolochelidon n. nilotica* Amazing! Seeing large numbers of these terns foraging in concert with the vast herds of ungulates across the Serengeti short-grass plains. We estimated 80 on 21st May and 45 on 22nd May. A further two were seen at the edge of Lake Manyara NP.

Ph Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias h. hybrida* Circa 20 at the margins of Lkae Mkata, Ngorongoro Crater; ten in breeding plumage at the edge of Lake Manyara and several at the Nyamba ya Munga Dam.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* subsp? Small numbers along the beach in front of the Mediterraneo Resort, dar e Salaam.





SANDGROUSE Pteroclidae

Ph Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles exustus olivascens* Circa 60 on two days in and around Lake Magadi and the adjacent Acacia woodland.

Ph Yellow-throated Sandgrouse *Pterocles gutturalis* Eight on two days in and around Lake Magadi and the adjacent Acacia woodland.



Ph Black-faced Sandgrouse *Pterocles decoratus* Common in Tarangire where we saw circa 30 pairs per day. A very handsome dude.

PIGEONS & DOVES Columbidae

Feral Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* A common commensal of man. Recorded around towns and large such Arusha, Mwanza, Kairatu and Same.

Speckled Pigeon *Columba g. guinea* This handsome pigeon was recorded in Arusha NP (2); circa 50 in and around Mwanza; *en route* to and in the forest of the Ngorongoro Crater rim; Lake Manyara NP;

\$ Delegorgue's (Eastern Bronze-naped) Pigeon *Columba delegorguei sharpei* Good views of two along the Magamba Track, West Usambaras.

BVD Lemon Dove *Columba larvata* subsp? Single birds flushed on two mornings from the track within river forest in the West Usambaras.

Ph Dusky Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia lugens* Fabulous looks at six in the Ngorongoro Crater.



Mourning Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decipiens perspicillata* Widespread and common from Speke Bay east to Tarangire NP.

Ph Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* Widespread and common: Arusha NP thereafter from the Ngorongoro Crater east to Mikumi NP.

Ph Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola tropica* Widespread and common from the Serengeti east to Mikumi NP.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia s. senegalensis* Widespread and common, east to Same.

Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* Small numbers albeit more often heard than seen from our lodge near Kairatu east to same.

BVD Blue-spotted Wood-Dove *Turtur afer* One seen frustratingly briefly as we climbed into the West Usambaras.

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* Good views of one in the grounds of Negare Sero Lodge and again at Gibbs Farm.





Namaqua Dove *Turtur c. capensis* Widespread and common from Speke Bay east to Same.

African Green-Pigeon *Treron calvus* subsp? A total of 12 in Arusha NP, thereafter 25 the grounds of Gibbs Farm and seen daily in Tarangire NP and the Amani area of the East Usmabaras.

TURACOS Musophagidae

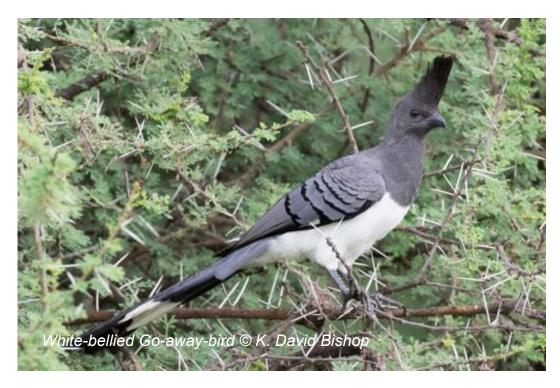
BVD Schalow's Turaco *Tauraco schalowi* One seen poorly in the grounds of Gibbs Farm.

- \$ Hartlaub's Turaco *Tauraco hartlaubi* Eventually good views along the Magamba Track, West Usambaras.
- **\$ Ph** Fischer's Turaco *Tauraco fischeri* Fabulous views of four of these handsome birds in the Amani area of the east Usambaras.
- **\$ H** Livingstone's Turaco *Tauraco livingstonii* Heard in the forest of the Udzungwa NP.
- \$ Purple-crested Turaco *Tauraco porphyreolophus* Fabulous views of this gorgeous bird as we were heading back along the main road that cuts through Mikumi NP.
- Ph Bare-faced Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus* Two seen well along the Grumeti River then further east in the Serengeti and Tarangire NP.



Ph White-bellied Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides leucogaster* A total of ten seen superbly one afternoon in Tarangire NP.

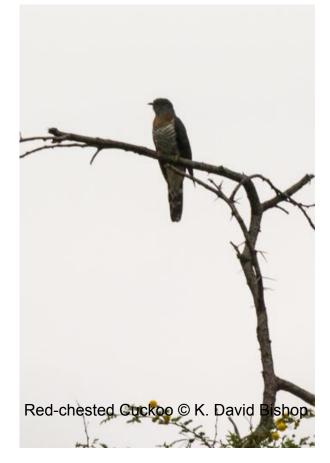
Eastern Plantain-eater *Crinifer zonurus* A total of four along the Grumeti River, western corridor, Serengeti.



CUCKOOS Cuculidae

Pied (Jacobin) Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* Fabulous views of two single birds in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge; also the Ngorongoro Crater and

Tarangire NP.



Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* We saw a surprising number of this fabulous bird: two in the central Serengeti; singles on two days in the Ndutu area and one in Tarangire NP.

Ph Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitaries* This Intra-African migrant was more often heard than seen. However, we did track one bird down for good views in degraded, dry thorn scrub below Kairatu.



\$ Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* One with a mixed flock in Udzungwa NP.

Dideric Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* One or two seen or heard most days from Arusha NP and from Speke Bay east to Tarangire NP.

\$ Yellowbill *Ceuthmochares aereus* Good looks at pair in tall secondary forest within Udzungwa NP.

Black Coucal *Centropus grillii* Just one seen in grassland within the central Serengeti.

Ph White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus* Widespread and moderately common; Arusha NP, thereafter Speke Bay east to Tarangire NP and south to Mikumi NP

OWLS Strigidae

Ph African Scops-Owl *Otus s. senegalensis* Heard at Ndutu then two seen superbly during the daytime in Tarangire NP.



Ph Verreaux's Eagle-Owl *Bubo lacteus* Fabulous daytime encounters with a pair in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge and KDB photographed a large fluffy young there at night; a second pair were observed attending a nest in Tarangire NP.



- Ph Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo a. africanus* Exceptional close-up and prolonged views during the daytime of a pair in thorny Acacaia woodland within the Serengeti; another was seen in the grounds of Vuma Hills Lodge, Mikumi NP.
- Ph Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum licua* WOW! One of these little Tigers was sitting there just waiting for us as we departed the Sopa Lodge for our safari in the central Serengeti. We then found single birds on the two following days plus others in Tarangire NP and heard one or two in the South Pare Plains.
- **\$ H** African Barred Owlet *Glaucidium capense ngamiense* Heard in the grounds of the VUma Hills Lodge, Mikumi NP.
- H African Wood-Owl *Strix woodfordii nigricantior* Heard (and seen by KDB only) in the grounds of the Negare Sero Lodge.





NIGHTJARS & ALLIES Caprimulgidae \$ H Fiery-necked Nightjar Caprimulgus pectoralis shelleyi Heard below the Vuma Hills Lodge, Mikumi NP.

BVD Abyssinian (Montane) Nightjar Caprimulgus poliocephalus One seen all too briefly at dusk in the grounds of hotel near Kairatu.

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus t. tristigma* A pair seen quite nicely in the grounds of Tarangire Sopa Lodge, however, we were quickly ushered indoors as the lodge personel were concerned about a Leopard that apparently hunts the grounds at dusk. Huh! The following evening we photographed a large male Leopard as he calmly sat in a large storm drain alongside the lodge and then, after our dinner wandered from room to room searching for prey – presumably hyraxes which regularly loaf on the lodge roof.

Ph Square-tailed (Gabon) Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossii* Two of these amazingly cryptic birds shown to us by George, the Speke Bay Lodge birder.



SWIFTS Apodidae

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri stictililema* Superlative views of this rather dapper and distinctive swift as it emerged from its roost in a large baobab with Tarangire NP. We saw six daily in this lovely park.

\$ Bat-like (Boehm's) Swift *Neafrapus boehmi sheppardi* Good but all too brief views of a group of four as they flew low over our heads along the highway that bisects Mikumi NP.

Mottled Swift *Apus a. aequatorialis* Excellent views of a flock of ten within Tarangire NP.

Ph Nyanza Swift Apus n. niansae At least ten feeding low over Gibbs Farm.

African (African Black) Swift *Apus barbatus roehli* Two seen nicely over the East Usambaras.

Little Swift *Apus affinis theresae* Widespread and locally common, recorded almost daily except in the south around Mikumi NP and Udzungwa NP.

Horus Swift Apus h. horus Two seen well in the Ndutu area.

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* Scattered records: six over Arusha NP; two over the central Serengeti and ten, possibly nesting in association with a cliff over the river within Tarangire NP.

African Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus parvus myochrous* Widespread and recorded on many days at most localities in small to modest numbers.

MOUSEBIRDS Coliidae



Ph Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus cinerascens* This species was seen commonly (2-40 per day) and almost daily throughout our safari. The Mousebirds are a distinctive family, endemic to Africa.

White-headed Mousebird *Colius I. leucocephalus* Just two of this rather uncommon species were seen in degraded, semi-arid dry thorn bush above Nyamba ya Manga Dam.

Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus pulcher* Widespread and locally common: three, Speke Bay Lodge grounds; four, central Serengeti; ten in dry scrub below Kairatu; small numbers daily in Tarangire NP and two in the South Pare Plains.

TROGONS Trogonidae

H Narina Trogon *Apaloderma n. narina* Sadly heard only in lower Montane forest within Arusha NP.

HOOPOES Upupidae

Eurasian (African) Hoopoe *Upupa epops africana* Small numbers of the resident population were noted in the southern Serengeti (4); Ndutu area (2) and Tarangire NP. (2-3 daily). NOTE: Many authors treat African resident populations as a separate species from that which breeds throughout Eurasia.

WOODHOOPOES & SCIMITAR-BILLS Phoeniculidae

Green Wood-Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus marwitzi* This attractive member of yet another endemic African family was encountered at a handful of localities including two in Arusha NP; a fabulous and wonderful confiding group of seven in the central Serengeti; two in the Ndutu area; just one in Tarangire NP and a group of four in Mikumi NP.

\$ Common Scimitarbill *Rhiopomastus cyanomelas schalowi* Thanks to some great work by Anthony we enjoyed fine views of a pair of these birds in Mikumi NP.

Abyssinian Scimitar-bill *Rhinopomastus minor cabanisi* What a great bird. We enjoyed close and prolonged views of a pair on two days in Tarangire NP.

HORNBILLS Bucerotidae

Ph Southern Ground-Hornbill *Bucorvus leadbeateri* A group of eight including two well grown young put on a great show in Lake Manyara NP. Our only other encounter with this fascinating and very charismatic species was in Mikumi NP where daily we observed a group of 8-10.

Ph Crowned Hornbill Lophoceros (Tockus) alboterminatus Two in Arusha NP (KDB only); a total of ten in Lake Manyara NP; great looks at six in the South Pare Plains; moderately common in Mikumi and Udzungwa NPs.



- Ph African Gray Hornbill *Lophoceros (Tockus) nasutus epirhinus* Widespread and common, seen most days at most localities in low numbers (1-6).
- \$ Pale-billed Hornbill *Lophoceros (Tockus) pallidirostris neumanni* A flock of eight of these Miombo specialists seen superbly at the margins of Mikumi NP.



Von der Decken's Hornbill *Tockus deckeni* Six in the central Serengeti and three in the Ndutu area and daily in low numbers within Tarangire NP.

Ph Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus ruahae* At least ten noted and photographed in the central Serengeti and six in the southern Serengeti and Ndutu area.



NOTE: This is a recent split from that which was formerly simply called "Red-billed Hornbill". This taxon is now divided, by most authorities into multiple species. This new species is separable by the large dark smudge surrounding the contrastingly pale eye; the whitish, un-streaked face; and the less checkered pattern to the wings. This compares to the Northern Red-billed Hornbill, which we saw and photographed commonly in Tarangire NP. The latter taxon has dark eyes, with only a narrow dark orbital ring (no extensive dusky patch), a grey-streaked face, and more extensive checkering on the wings. Apparently the range of *ruahae* (which is endemic to Tanzania) is still

being worked out, as is the nature of its contact zone with Northern Red-billed Hornbill. The photographs really helped!

- Ph Northern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus erythrorhynchus* Common in ones and twos and seen daily throughout Tarangire NP.
- Ph Silvery-cheeked Hornbill *Bycanistes brevis* Fine views of a pair of these in Arusha NP and as many as 20 in the ground-water forest of Lake Manyara NP where a pair was especially confiding;
- \$ Trumpeter Hornbill *Bycanistes bucinator* Impressively common in the lovely upland forest surrounding the Amani field station of the East Usmabaras. We estimated as many as 20 pairs during our morning wanderings and two enormous flocks that seemed to merge of 43 and 20 over the Long-billed Tailorbird site during the afternoon.



KINGFISHERS Alcedinidae

- \$ Half-collared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata tephria* Thanks to Anthony's intimate knowledge of the birds of Tanzania we enjoyed fine views of one along a partially forested stream shortly after dawn at the edge of Udzungwa NP.
- Ph Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus galeritus* What a truly, truly spectacular gem! We enjoyed a good number of sightings, invariably of individuals in: Arusha NP, Lake Victoria, Ngorongoro Crater, Tarangire NP and Nyamba ya Munga Dam.



Ph African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina p. picta* Fabulous views of one very confiding individual perched in open woodland some 100m away from the shore of Lake Victoria in the grounds of Speke Bay Lodge.



Ph Gray-headed Kingfisher Halcyon I. leucocephala This very handsome looking kingfisher was observed at a number of sites: Arusha NP (1); Mwanza

to Speke Bay Lodge (1); Speke Bay Lodge grounds (1-2 daily); western corridor Serengeti (1) and Lake Manyara NP (2).



Ph Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon s. senegalensis* Small numbers (1-2) in the grounds of the Speke Bay Lodge; three in the western corridor of the Serengeti; Lake Manyara NP (1) and 1-2 daily in Tarangire NP.



\$ Mangrove Kingfisher *Halcyon senegaloides ranivorous* Fine views of one in the gardens of the Mediterraneo Resort, Dar e Salaam. The last new kingfisher for KDB on the continent of African.

Ph Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventris prentissgrayi* Superb, close views of two in Arusha NP and three at the entrance to Mikumi NP.

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon c. chelicuti* Two seen well in the Serengeti's western corridor; 1-2 daily in Tarangire NP; two in the South Pare Plains and two in Mikumi NP.

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle m. maxima* A pair seen along the creek within the grounds of Negare Sero Lodge (KDB only).

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle r. rudis* Common at the margins of Lake Victoria – entertaining as we ate our lunch at hotel in Mwanza; very common with as many as 40 counted one morning in the grounds of Speke Bay lodge; 1-2 daily in Tarangire NP and in the South Pare Plains.

BEE-EATERS Meropidae

Ph White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops b. bullockoides* Excellent looks at four in thorn scrub adjacent to the Momela Lakes, Arusha NP.



Ph Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus meriodionalis* Widespread and common with modest numbers (2-10) seen almost daily.



Ph Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops oreobates* Four in Arusha NP; two at the edge of Montane Forest on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater; six at the edge of the Gibbs Farm gardens and two in Tarangire NP.



Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops p. persicus* Two seen rather poorly in the rain, Arusha NP (KDB only)

BVD Madagascar Be-eater *Merops s. superciliosus* A total of ten seen rather fleetingly in Acacia woodland near Ndutu.

ROLLERS Coraciidae

Ph Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracicus c. caudatus* This gorgeous and quintessential bird of the African savanna was widespread and common.



\$ BVD Racket-tailed Roller *Coracias spatulatus* One seen frustratingly clearly but distantly and too briefly.

AFRICAN BARBETS Lybiidae

Ph Red-and-yellow Barbet *Trachyphonus e. erythrocephalus* Fabulous views of a pair in Lake Manyara NP and then daily in small numbers in Tarangire NP and one in the South Pare Plains.

Ph D'Arnaud's Barbet *Trachyphonus d. darnaudii* Moderately common in the degraded, dry thorn scrub above Nyamba ya Munga Dam and on the South Pare Plains.



Ph "Usambiro" Barbet *Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro* This very distinctive taxon was common in the grounds of the Speke Bay Lodge and in suitable wooded habitat within the Serengeti and Ndutu area. NOTE: Although lumped by Clements with D'Arnaud's Barbet most authors treat these two taxa as separate species.

White-eared Barbet *Stactolaema leucotis kilimensis* Two seen well in Arusha NP and then commonly in the East Usambaras (circa 30 in one morning) and finally one or two with the large canopy mixed flock in Udzungwa NP.

\$ BVD Green Barbet *Stactolaema o. olivacea* A notably nondescript barbet, we saw six along the Magamba Forest track within the West Usambaras and again commonly in the Amani area of the East Usmabaras where we recorded circa 15 in one morning.

\$ BVD Moustached Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus leucomystax* Heard in the West Usambaras and finally seen albeit not that well in the Amani area of the East Usambaras.





Ph Red-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus pusillus affinis* We first heard this distinctive sounding species in the Serngeti's western corridor then enjoyed fine views of one in degraded, dry Acacia thorn scrub below Kairatu.

We also saw this species in the South Pare Plains and in the grounds of the Mediterraneo resort, Dar e Salaam.



Red-fronted Barbet *Tricholaema diademata massaica* One in the central Serengeti and two in Acacia woodland near Ndutu.

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus extoni* Two with a canopy mixed flock within Udzungwa NP.

Ph Spot-flanked Barbet *Tricholaema lachrymose* subsp? One seen well in Arusha NP.



Black-throated Barbet *Tricholaema melanocephala stigmatothroax* One seen and two heard in degraded, dry thorn scrub above Nyamba ya Munga Dam

White-headed Barbet *Lybius leucocephalus albicauda* Thanks to some great spotting by Kaaren we all enjoyed fine views of this striking barbet in the Gibbs Farm gardens

\$ Brown-breasted Barbet *Lybius melanopterus* A pair seen by KDB only in Arusha NP and then at the last gasp in the grounds of the Mediterraneo Resort, Dar e Salaam.

HONEYGUIDES Indicatoridae

Green-backed (Eastern) Honeyguide *Prodotiscus zambesiae* Exceptional views of a very confiding pair as they foraged on the ground and in low shrubs and trees in the Gibbs Farm gardens.

- \$ Wahlberg's Honeybird *Prodotiscus regulus* One with a mixed flock foraging in the canopy of tall lowland forest on the slopes of Udzungwa National Park.
- \$ Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* One seen moderately well in a lightly wooded tea-plantation in the Amani area of the East Usmabaras.

Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus* Fine views of two, probably a pair within a group of mature forest trees on the edge of the Gibbs Farm gardens.

Greater Honeyguide Indicator indicator One at the western entrance to Serengeti NP

WOODPECKERS Picidae

- **\$** Red-throated Wryneck *Jynx r. ruficollis* One foraging quietly in Miombo woodland on the pipe-line track adjacent to Mikumi NP. This is a very isolated population of this interesting species.
- Ph Nubian Woodpecker Campethera n. nubica One pair in thorn scrub, Speke Bay Lodge; single males on two days, central Serengeti NP; one Tarangire NP. This is a widespread and common species throughout much of Tanzania. Nubian Woodpecker © David Bishop
- **BVD** Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni kavirondensis* One in the large forest trees at the edge of the Gibbs' Farm garden.
- Ph Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens ?hartlaubi* One male, Arusha NP; one, central Serengeti NP; one with a mixed flock in the large forest trees at the edge of the Gibbs' Farm garden; one female, Lake Manyara NP; two with a mixed flock, Udzungwa NP.
- **BVD** \$ Stierling's Woodpecker *Dendropicos stierlingi* One seen poorly with a mixed flock in the canopy of Miombo woodland adjacent to Mikumi NP.

Bearded Woodpecker *Dendropicos n. namaquus* Fine views, eventually, of a male in a large dead tree in the northern sector of Tarangire NP and one in Mikumi NP.

Mountain Gray Woodpecker *Dendropicos spodocephalus rhodeogaster* Three in woodland on the slopes Ngorongoro; at least three in remnant forest trees adjacent to Gibbs' Farm garden. NOTE: Split from Grey Woodpecker D. goertae.

\$ Olive Woodpecker *Dendrocopos griseocephalus kilimensis* Fine views of a male with a mixed flock in the West Usambaras.



FALCONS & CARACARAS Falconidae

Ph Pygmy Falcon *Polihierax semitorquatus* Singles and pairs observed daily (4 days), Serengeti NP including maxima of eight counted on one day. What a bird!

BVD Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* Two individuals picked out by Anthony as we drove to the southern gate of the Serengeti. Unfortunately neither bird sat long enough to permit good looks.

Greater Kestrel *Falco rupicoloides arthuri* Notably common with seven counted on one day and for the next in the more sparsely wooded, more open habitat and short-grass plains of the southern Serengeti.





Ph Gray Kestrel Falco ardosiaceus One adult behaved more like a secretive Accipter, flying into the midst of a large thorny Acacia tree and then sitting as if it couldn't be seen, right next to Speke Bay Lodge; seen nearby the next day and another as we rode into the Serengeti.

\$ Dickinson's Kestrel *Falco dickinsoni* Single adults observed on two days in palm dotted grassy savannah within Mikumi NP.

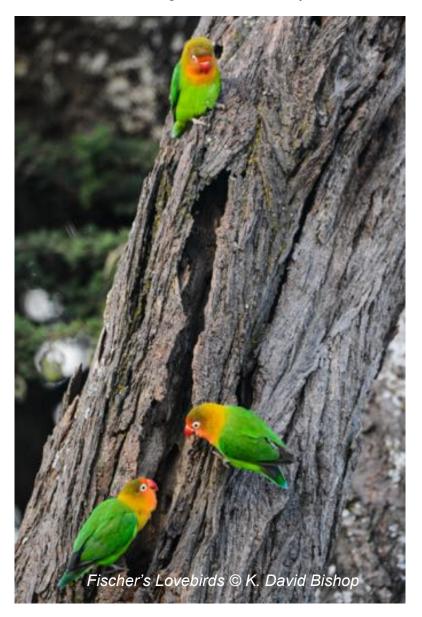
Ph African Hobby Falco cuvierii One seen well within Arusha NP.





PARROTS Psittacidae

Ph Fischer's Lovebird *Agapornis fischeri* Exhilaratingly common in the Serengeti where several pairs or groups or pair observed nesting on holes on the trunks of dead trees. Circa 200 estimated in the Ndutu area. A group of six escapees inhabited the grounds of the Country Lodge. Endemic to northern Tanzania east to the eastern edge of the Rift Valley.



Ph Yellow-collared Lovebird *Agapornis personatus* Wonderfully common throughout our time within Tarangire NP but not easy to photograph. Endemic to northern and central Tanzania east of the Rift Valley.

Meyer's (Brown) Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri matdchiei* Two to three daily at Speke Bay, central Serengeti and Tarangire NP.

Ph Red (Orange) -bellied Parrot *Poicephalus rufiventris* Widespread and seen daily in good number east to the Tsavo dry thorn scrub.

\$ Brown-headed Parrot *Poicephalus cryptoxanthus* Ten in Miombo woodland adjacent to Mikumi NP and three within the park itself.

