

Uganda, 7–19 June 2025

In June 2025, Phyllis and Robert Crawford and Bruce Dyer from South Africa undertook an eleven-day trip to Uganda, arranged by Harrier Tours, to look for mammals and birds. Their excellent driver/guides were Joel and Brian. This brief report concentrates on the mammals but includes photos of several birds. As the Crawfords had seen Gorillas and Chimpanzees in 1996 and trekking permits are expensive, these mammals were not searched for in 2025. We arrived at Entebbe International Airport early on Sunday 8 June and left from the same airport early on Thursday 19 June.

List of mammals seen (based on *Illustrated Checklist of the Mammals of the World*, CMW, 2020) – the volume, page and number for each species are indicated, together with places of observations. Locations are: MS Mabamba Swamp; MF Murchison Falls National Park; SE Semiliki National Park; KI Kibale Forest National Park; QE Queen Elizabeth National Park; BW Bwindi National Park surrounds; LM Lake Mburo National Park; NF Nabugabo Forest. Mammals seen for the first time are highlighted in green.

Volume 1	p & no	MS	MF	SE	KI	QE	BW	LM	NF
African Savanna Elephant	118.1		x						
African Forest Elephant	118.2					x			
Demidoff's Dwarf Galago	160.3				x				
Thomas's Dwarf Galago	160.4				x				
Spectacled (Matschiel) Lesser Galago	162.11				x				
East African Potto	166.5				x				
Grey-cheeked Mangabey	228.33			x	x				
Olive Baboon	230.39		x	x	x	x		x	
Patas Monkey	232.46		x						
Tantalus Monkey	232.50		x	x		x			
Vervet	234.53							x	
l'Hoests's Monkey	234.56				x		x		
De Brazza's Monkey	236.61			x					
Dent's Monkey	238.67			x					
Red-tailed Monkey	240.75			x	x				
Blue Monkey	240.77			x	x		x		
Angola Colobus	242.78								x
Mantled Guereza (Colobus) Highland	242.79		x	x	x	x	x		
Ashy Red Colobus	246.92				x				
Semliki Red Colobus	246.93			x					
Lord Derby's Scaly-tailed Squirrel (Anomalure)	314.4			x					
Striped (Geoffrey's) Ground Squirrel	610.176		x						
(Isabelline) Red-legged Sun Squirrel	610.179			x	x				
Boehm's Bush Squirrel	612.199			x	x	x			
Alexander's Bush (Dwarf) Squirrel	612.200			x					
Volume 2	p & no	MS	MF	SE	KI	QE	BW	LM	NF
Hammer Fruit Bat <i>Hypsignathus monstrosus</i>	96.58				x				
Lesser Epauletted Fruit Bat <i>Epomophorus pusillus</i>	96.71				x				
Yellow-winged False Vampire <i>Lavia frons</i>	116.1		x						
Smith's Woolly Bat <i>Kerivoula smithii</i>	256.324					x			
Hippopotamus	304.1		x			x		x	
Northern Giraffe, Rothschild	306.1		x					x	
Cape Buffalo	326.10					x		x	
Lake Chad Buffalo	326.11		x						
Forest Buffalo	326.13				x	x			

Nile Bushbuck	328.20					x		x	
Eland	332.39							x	
Impala	332.47							x	
Sudan Oribo	344.107		x						
Bohor Reedbuck	346.117		x			x			
Uganda Kob	348.128		x			x			
Defassa Waterbuck	348.132		x			x		x	
Lelwel's (Jackson's) Hartebeest	352.145		x						
Uganda Topi	354.158					x		x	
Weyn's Duiker	374.256				x				
Common Warthog	378.5		x			x		x	
Giant Forest Hog	380.6					x			
Plains (Common) Zebra	386.4							x	
Common African (White-bellied) Pangolin	392.8						x		
African Palm Civet	394.1				x				
Lion	396.1					x			
African Golden Cat	398.11				x				
Giant (Forest) Genet	408.4		x						
(East) African Civet	410.18						x		
Banded Mongoose	418.25		x			x			
Common Dwarf Mongoose	420.33							x	
Side-striped Jackal	430.28		x						

Brief notes: We were collected early at Entebbe and taken by a small boat to see Shoebill and other birds at Mabamba Swamp. We then transferred to Elephant View Lodge, just outside Murchison Falls National Park (MFNP), for two nights. Our day in MFNP produced a wealth of mammals, including Patas Monkey, and birds. At night, we saw a Giant Genet in the lodge's garden. On day 3, we drove to Bumaga Camp in Semiliki National Park, where two Dent's and several De Brazza's Monkeys were observed early the next morning near the hot springs. We then walked a forest trail and briefly saw two Semiliki Red Colobus following a troop of Guereza Colobus. Lord Derby's Scaly-tailed Squirrel was shown to us in a hollowed-out tree nest known to the guides. Grey-cheeked Mangabey and Red-tailed Monkey were plentiful. As per the suggestion on Harrier Tours' web page we spent four nights at Kibale (first at Guereza Safari Lodge; next 3 at Kibale Forest Lodge). We spotted there on the last three of these nights, first at Bigodi Swamp, where we saw Demidoff's and Thomas's Dwarf Galagos and East African Potto. The local guide told us it was unusual to see these three species all on the same night. Our second night of spotting was from a vehicle along a dirt road through forest and moorland, the highlight being sighting a Weyn's Duiker. On our third night, Gloden Cat and African Palm Civet remained big targets. The local guide suggested spotting on foot around maize fields near Bigodi Swamp. However, we chose rather to drive along the tarred road that runs east from the main road between Kibale Forest Lodge and Fort Portal at Nkingo (see map below). Our rationale was that we would cover a much greater distance by vehicle and that an open view of the road and its verges, as well as spotlighting on both sides of the forest, would greatly increase the area covered. We were fortunate to see dwarf galagos, a Spectacled Lesser Galago, and an African Palm Civet (all in trees). Finally, while returning (ca. 23h00), we got a good view of a Golden Cat on the ground just inside the forest edge, 1–2 km from the main road. In ensuing excitement, one of the guides jumped out and banged a door. Otherwise, the cat may have ventured onto the road verge thus allowing photos to be taken. However, just seeing it was fabulous. Day 8 was spent driving to and in Queen Elizabeth (QE) National Park. We stayed at QE Bush Lodge, which Giant Forest Hog, but not Red River Hog, visited after dark. The next day we saw red Forest Buffalo on the bank of the Kazinga Channel opposite the hotel, presumed Forest Elephant while passing Maramagambo Forest (features matched CMW description), and Uganda Topi near Ishasha airfield. Trouble with our vehicle's front wheel meant we were unable to spot near Ruhija that night, so we were pleased to have seen Spectacled Lesser Galago at Kibale but missed Black-fronted Duiker. We enjoyed watching two Common African (White-bellied) Pangolins foraging in a natural, pre-release section of forest at Pangolin Rescue Camp while the wheel was being fixed, and saw an East African Civet while driving from there to Gorilla Mist Camp. The wheel gave more trouble next day so we arrived late at Arcadia Lodge, Lake Mburo and unfortunately missed the night drive. The next day we saw many mammals and birds in the park. A troop of Angola Colobus greeted us on our arrival at Nabugabo Forest at about 15h00. We had a short rest at a hotel near Entebbe Airport before leaving at 01h30 for the airport to get our return flight.

Acknowledgements: We are most grateful to all who provided information on where to look for mammals in Uganda via reports to mammalwatching.com, and to Harriet Kemigisha, Joel and Brian of Harrier Tours for their substantial expertise, help and flexibility. As a result, our mammal and bird sightings far exceeded prior expectations.

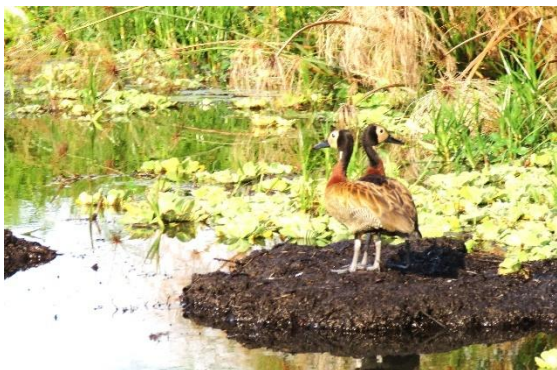
Mabamba Swamp



Shoebill



Blue-headed Coucal

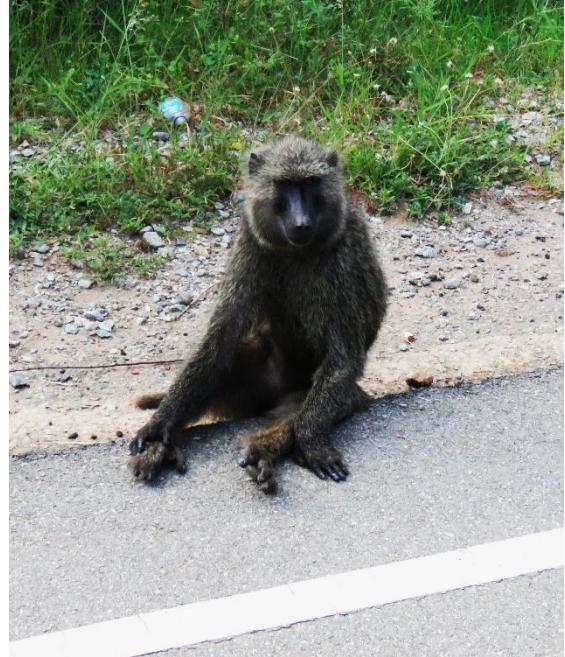


White-faced Duck

Murchison Falls National Park



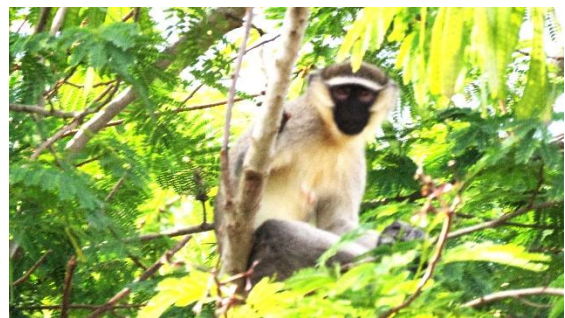
Guereza Colobus



Olive Baboon



Patas Monkey



Tantalus Monkey



Defassa Waterbuck



Uganda Kob



Lelwel Hartebeest



Sudan Oribi



Bohor Reedbuck



African Savanna Elephant



Lake Chad Buffalo



Lake Chad Buffalo



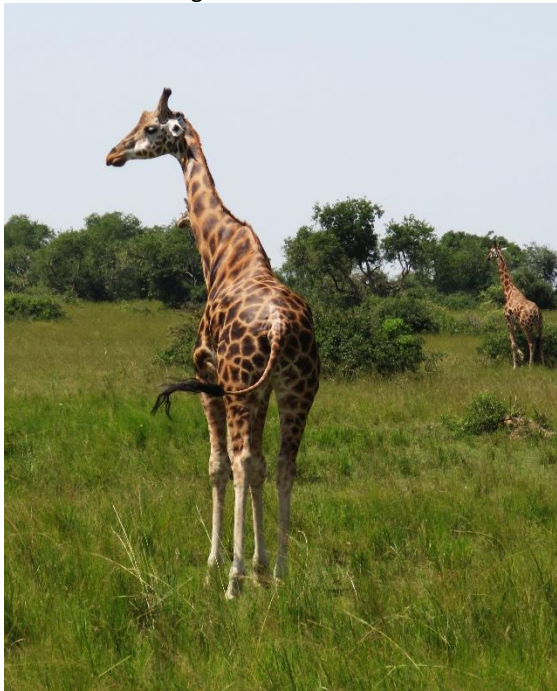
Hippopotamus



Common Warthog



Northern Ground Hornbill



Northern Giraffe (Rothschild's)



Black-bellied Bustard



Giant Genet



Grey Kestrel



Black-crowned Crane



Western Banded Snake-eagle



Ruppell's Vulture



Long-toed Lapwing



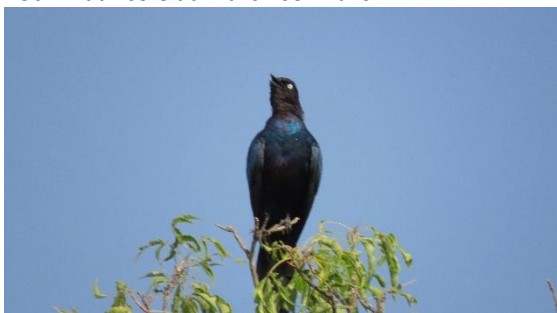
Palm-nut Vulture



African Wattled Lapwing



Rock Pratincole at Murchison Falls



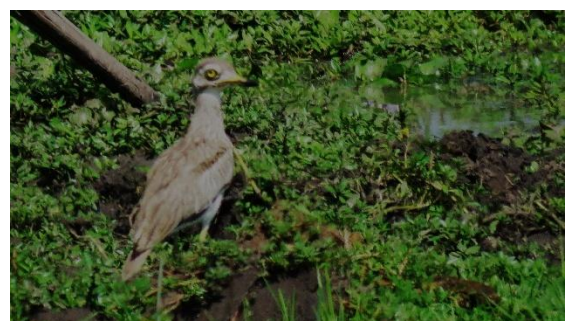
Ruppell's Starling



Black-crowned Lapwing



Spur-winged Lapwing



Senegal Thick-knee



Heuglin's Spurfowl (BM Dyer)



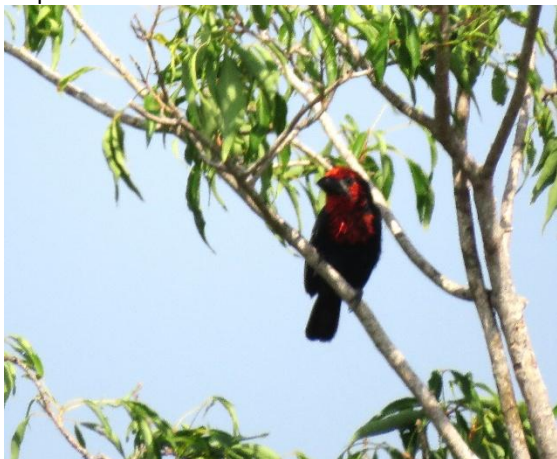
Northern Carmine Bee-eater



Silverbird



Piapiac on Lake Chad Buffalo



Black-billed Barbet



White-browed Coucal



Red-headed Agama

Semiliki National Park

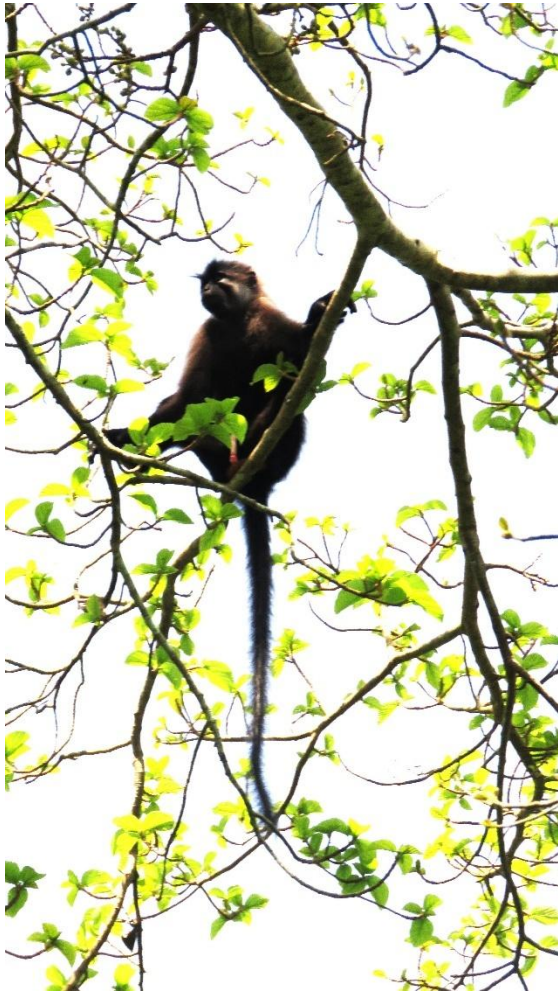


De Brazza's Monkey



Dent's Monkey (BM Dyer)

'O Lord, how many are your works ..., the earth is full of all your riches.' Psalm 104:24



Grey-cheeked Mangabey



Guereza Colobus



Alexander's Bush Squirrel (BM Dyer)



Black & White Casqued Hornbill



Blue-headed Agama

Kibale National Park and Bigodi Swamp



Red-tailed Monkey



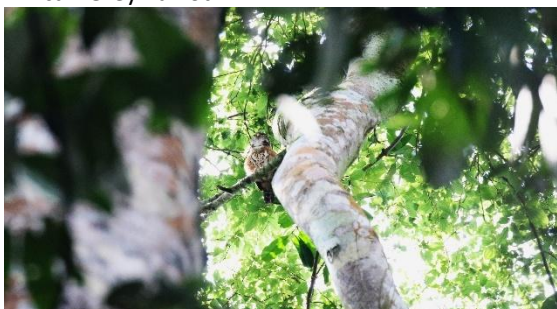
East African Potto (BM Dyer)



Ashy Red Colobus



African Grey Parrot



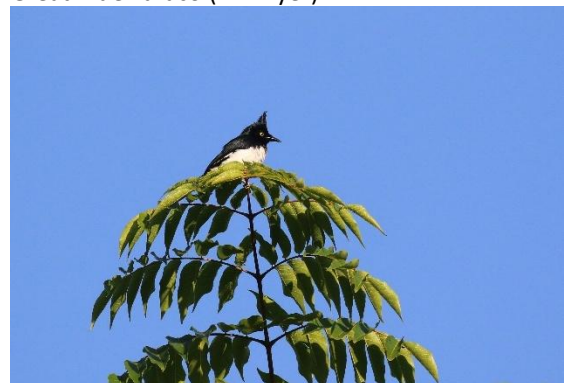
Red-thighed Owlet (near centre, BM Dyer)



Green-breasted Pitta (BM Dyer)



Great Blue Turaco (BM Dyer)



Vanga Flycatcher (BM Dyer)



Black-headed Gonolek

Queen Elizabeth National Park



Uganda Topi



Forest Buffalo at edge of Kazinga Channel



Giant Forest Hog, Queen Elizabeth Bush Lodge



Senegal Lapwing



Cape Buffalo, with Yellow-billed Oxpeckers



African Savanna Elephant



African Forest Elephant



Nile Bushbuck



Uganda Kob



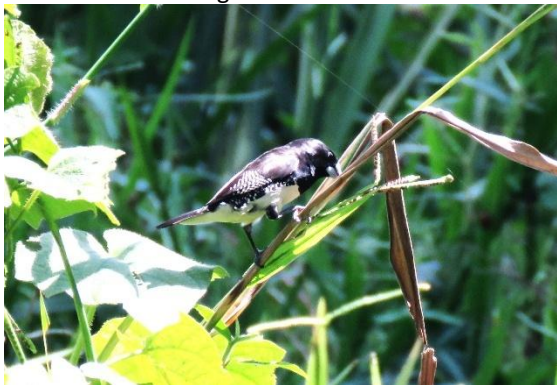
Tantalus Monkey



Senegal Lapwing



Black-crowned Tchagra



Black-and-white Mannikin

Ruhija, Bwindi



L'Hoest's Monkey



White-bellied Pangolin

Lake Mburo National Park



Vervet Monkey



Uganda Topi



Impala



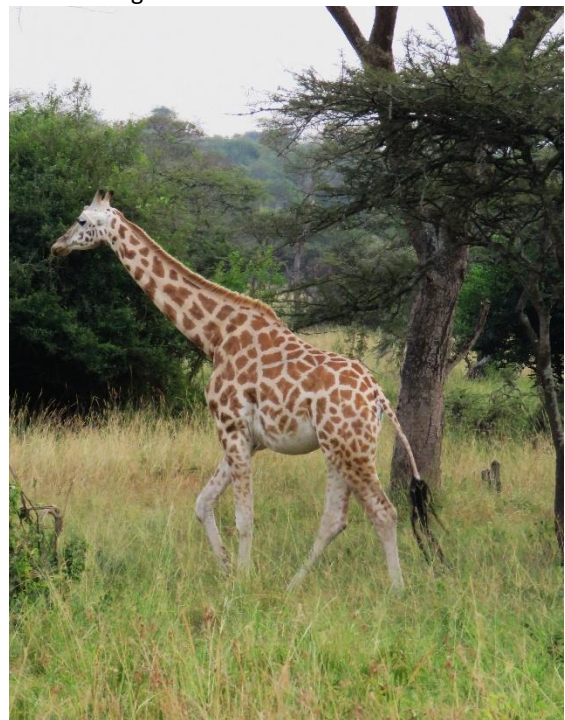
Nile Bushbuck



Dwarf Mongoose



Plains Zebra



Northern Giraffe



Eland



Common Warthog



Cape Buffalo



Hippopotamus



Defassa Waterbuck



Meyer's Parrot



Pied Kingfisher



Mosque Swallow



Shikra



Woolly-necked Stork

Nabugabo Forest



L'Hoest's Monkey, Ruhija



Guereza Colobus, Semiliki NP



Angola Colobus



Defassa Waterbuck, Lake Mburo NP

Babies



Olive Baboon, Murchison Falls NP



Uganda Kob, Murchison Falls NP



Ashy Red Colobus, Bigodi

Vantage mounds



Patas Monkey, Murchison Falls NP



Senegal Lapwing, Queen Elizabeth NP



Uganda Topi, Lake Mburo NP



Dwarf Mongoose, Lake Mburo NP

Other



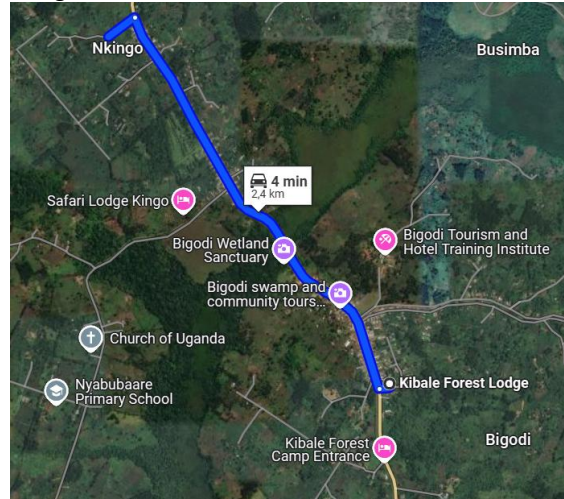
Ankole cattle near Murchison Falls NP



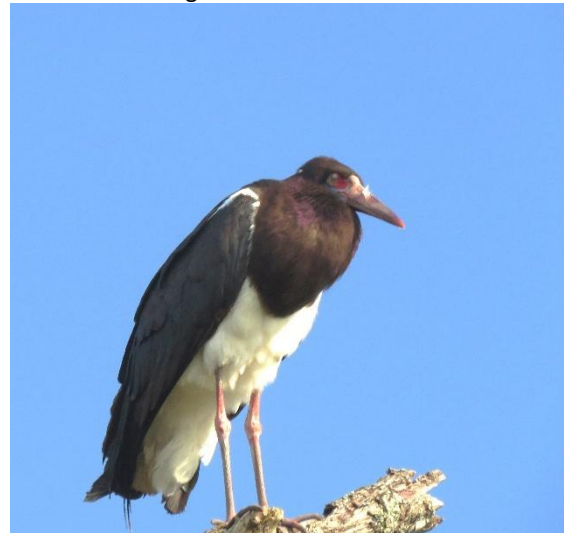
Pangolin Rescue Camp, Ruhija



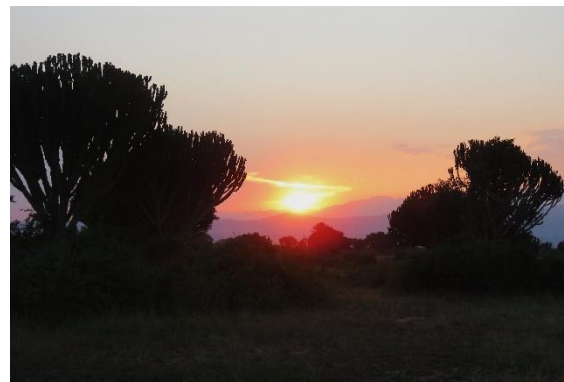
Bridge across Victoria Nile



Location of Nkingo Road



Abdim's Stork



Sunset behind Ruwenzori Mountains