

Society pages

Gifts and Grants to ffPS

ffPS is most grateful for the gifts of £25 and over listed below, and also for many smaller donations, between 1 September and 31 December 1983.

Oryx 100% Fund	£
Ofenheim Charitable Trust	1400.00
Anon.	50.00
Col F.M. Marsh	40.50
J.M. Hunter	40.05
Ms Bellis	40.00
M. Beaman	30.00
Edward Wright	30.00

Mountain Gorilla Project

Brian Jackman	75.00
Spirax Sarco Group Charitable Trust	58.62
J.N. Fry	50.00
Mrs Laycock	50.00
A. Daley	40.56
A. Age	40.00
T.T. Anderson	38.00
P.T. French	25.00
C. Gibson Thin	25.00
G. Woodroffe	25.00

Birdwatch

SAAB (Great Britain) Ltd	144.00
British Petroleum	144.00

East African Wildlife Society

St Katharine's Fund	800.00
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Bat Projects

R.E. Stebbings	65.00
Spirax Sarco Group Charitable Trust	58.62

Mustelid and Viverrids

Robert Burton	70.00
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Gifts and Legacies

The New Moorgate Trust Fund	1200.00
Estate of Dr E.T.O. Slater	500.00
St Katharine's Fund	500.00
Spirax Sarco Group Charitable Trust	100.00
Anon.	65.00

Ms A.E. Cole	50.00
John Betts Refineries Ltd	50.00
Anon.	25.00
G. Kearns	25.00
G.A. Shepherd	25.00

Oryx 100% Fund Grants

At its Council meeting on the 3 November 1983 the Society approved grants of:

£1000 to Mrs J.Z. Stirton (c/o Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond) to collect information on world-wide trade in orchid species and to compile a list of those species that are endangered. This is an essential first step in monitoring the trade in wild-collected orchids, which is increasing despite national and international regulations.

£800 to fund in full Elizabeth Bennett's (Sub-Dept of Veterinary Anatomy, Cambridge University) pilot study on the ecology and status of the proboscis monkey *N. larvatus* in Brunei, in order to formulate management plans for its conservation. Operating dates: 1 January 1984 to 28 February 1984.

£500 to Mariella Leo, a Peruvian national (Florida State Museum, University of Florida), for her study of the effect of selective logging and hunting on the yellow-tailed woolly monkey *Lagothrix flavicauda* and its use of feeding resources in the Mayo river region, San Martin, Peru. Operating dates: 11 May to November 1983.

£500 to Melanie J. Mason (Humanities Dept, Dorset Institute of Higher Education) to assess the current status of the dwarf hog *Sus scrofa ruikiunus* in the Nansei Shoto region, Japan. Recent estimates are put at only 1000 animals. Ms Mason will be working with Dr Yasuma, currently engaged by WWF-Japan to produce a conservation strategy for the region. Operating dates: 7 December 1983 to 8 January 1984.

Society pages

£500 to Dr Don Moll (Southwest Missouri State University) for a survey of the status, distribution and level of exploitation of the Central American river turtle *Dermatemys mawii*, and of other resident marketed turtles, to provide data for conservation measures. Operating dates: 15 December 1983 to 15 May 1984.

£250 to Dr Brian Groombridge (Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge) to provide data, with particular reference to the amphibians and reptiles, illustrating the biological importance of south-west Indian moist forests. Operating dates: 14 November to 4 December 1983.

London's newt survey

London's Greater London Council have granted the ffPS to organise a detailed survey of London's ponds. The survey, which is being carried out by Tom Langton, will pay particular attention to the status of the crested newt *Triturus cristatus*, which is protected by law in the UK. Tom Langton would be pleased to hear from any ffPS members in the London area with information which they think might be useful. If members know of particularly good sites elsewhere, that information would also be welcome. Please write to the London office of ffPS.

Mountain Gorilla Project—activity in the UK

Since the last progress report on the Mountain Gorilla Project in the January 1983 issue of *Oryx*, Roger Wilson has continued the tourist programme in Rwanda and substantially developed the conservation education programme in the region near the Parc National des Volcans; a full report of developments and results will appear in the July issue of *Oryx*.

Meanwhile in the UK, fund-raising and publicity activities were stepped up throughout the year. Donations totalling £12,789.93 were added to the MGP funds, of which £9100 was sent to Rwanda to pay for all ffPS project running costs. An appeal with David Attenborough on the BBC 'Nature' programme at the beginning of 1983 generated £8641.71 and renewed public interest in the gorillas. In July the Society organised two

MGP evenings in London to enable ffPS members and MGP supporters to hear of the latest project developments and to pool fund-raising ideas. Lectures were given by Ian Redmond and Dr Alan Dixson, and Roger Wilson was present to answer questions on the current situation in Rwanda.

In order to provide project fieldworkers with assurance of the continued financial support necessary for long-term management plans, it was decided to establish voluntary fund-raising groups, and we are appealing for volunteers: please contact the office, with an SAE for details. The type of fund-raising can be entirely at the discretion of the group, which can be any shape or size; fund-raising materials (stickers, posters, greeting cards, slide packs, one slide projector and occasionally one film!) are available from the office. In addition, Ian Redmond, who has spent two years working with mountain gorillas, has kindly offered to give introductory illustrated lectures to help set up groups. The Society would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian for his lectures on the Mountain Gorilla Project and for his productive fund-raising efforts on our behalf.

The Society would also like to thank the WWF/IUCN International Education Project in Gloucester and the Elsa Wild Animal Appeal, in particular Mark Boulton and Philip Steele, for providing a projector, generator and screen for Roger Wilson's education programme (these were sent out to Rwanda in December 1983) and for all the support they have given the project since its inception.

The Mountain Gorilla Project, initiated by ffPS, is a joint venture of the Rwandan Government, l'Office Rwandais du Tourisme et des Parcs Nationaux, ffPS, African Wildlife Foundation, World Wildlife Fund and the People's Trust for Endangered Species.

Conservation awareness in Tanzania: the results of an *Oryx* 100% Fund-supported project carried out in 1982 by Hilary Pennington

Tanzania has earned international acclaim for its achievements in wildlife conservation. Yet, little is known about the attitudes of Tanzanian citizens

Society pages

toward their wild animals and lands. As population pressure and illegal poaching activities intensify, it becomes increasingly clear that local people will determine the future of their country's wild areas. Through questionnaires, discussions and interviews, this project examined the views of 2600 Tanzanian students in order to determine what factors shape their attitudes toward and knowledge about wildlife. Four primary influences emerged; level of education, age, sex and degree of exposure to wildlife.

Many students in the study (70 per cent of those in secondary school) had visited national parks. Their scores on factual questions about animals were positively correlated with the number of times they had visited parks, although surprisingly few of them saw the parks as educational. As in most countries, the students' overall knowledge about wildlife was fairly poor. Older students were significantly more knowledgeable than younger ones.

Girls scored lower than did boys on the questionnaire knowledge test. Their lower scores may be due, in part, to the teachers' tendency to concentrate on those students—in this culture, primarily boys—most likely to continue with their education.

Female and younger students expressed the most pragmatic and negative attitudes toward wildlife. In writing about the purpose of the national parks, girls demonstrated more utilitarian views (the parks exist for foreign exchange) and the boys more nationalistic ones (the parks are a famous heritage). Students in lower grades and female students were less likely to support national parks when their presence conflicted with other interests, such as food production. Many believed that in the case of famine or the absence of tourists, the park land should be used for agriculture. Girls and students in lower grades also exhibited more punitive reactions to animal crop raiders than did males and older students. Many of them claimed that they would kill a crop raider, whereas most older students and males responded that they would call in the Game Division Officer.

When questioned about the purpose of a national park 61 per cent of them (40 per cent primary, 96 per cent secondary) believed that it was to attract

tourists and only 34 per cent responded that national parks exist to protect wild animals. These attitudes did not appear to be influenced by whether or not students had visited a national park.

Responses to questions about threats to wild animals indicated that students had a poor sense of the indirect ecological problems facing their environment. They chose visible, direct threats such as fire and poaching rather than more abstract, long-term problems such as the exponential growth rate of the human population and the lack of interest among Tanzanian citizens about conservation.

The language used by older and by high knowledge students in essay questions reflected a keen awareness of government statements regarding Tanzania's natural resources, implying that students may become socialised to support a policy of conservation as they pass through the heavily ideological school system. Although students seemed to be positively disposed toward wildlife, we cannot assume that these attitudes would continue if government policy took a more negative turn.

The overwhelmingly utilitarian and/or nationalistic nature of the attitudes indicated by this study cannot be overlooked. The dearth of references to the parks as a resource to be used for recreation and enjoyment by the Tanzanian people themselves was notable. Unlike international school students who, in discussion, described their love of wild places and the outdoors, no Tanzanian students mentioned such an affinity with nature. They did not demonstrate any experientially based affection for parks, nor any participatory, vested interest in the preservation of wild areas. The data clearly suggest that, for many students, exposure to animals had bad associations. Most of them had lost crops or livestock to animal raiders and those who had sustained such losses were more negative in their attitudes towards wildlife than those who had not. The majority (85 per cent) felt that Tanzania has too much land in parks and reserves.

Since the bush still epitomises for many Tanzanians the uncertainties and hardships which they strive to leave behind, this lack of positive identification with the wild is not surprising. The

Oryx Vol 18 No 2

Society pages

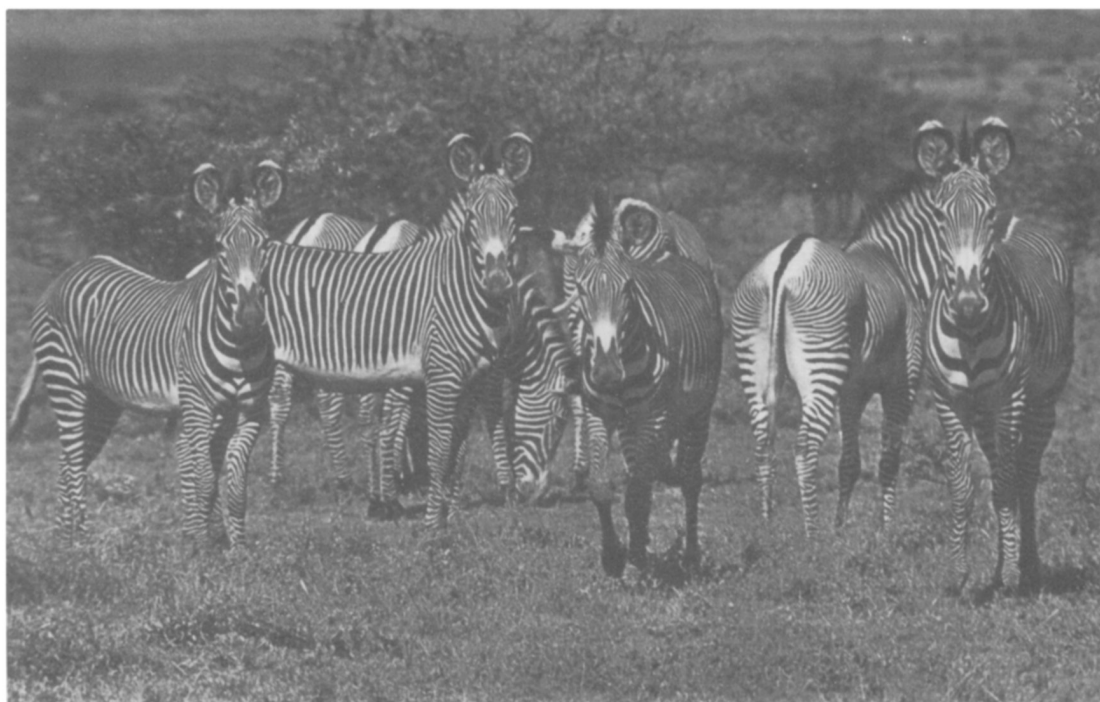
strong public commitment to wilderness conservation in the United States and Great Britain grows out of two historical traditions which are not evident in the history of Tanzania: an interest in natural history and a long-standing involvement in outdoor activities such as bird-watching and hunting for sport. It remains to be seen whether new organisations in Tanzania, such as the Mali Hai Clubs, will foster a more participatory view of national parks. The clubs will give students the opportunity to visit the parks in a more structured way and will encourage them to learn about conservation through school projects. This, however, will not be enough. If attitudes are to change significantly, it is critical that environmental education be incorporated into the schools' standard biology curriculum. Only then will it gain a status which teachers and students will truly respect.

Captive Grevy's zebra nearing 500

In 1979 the Fauna Preservation Society (as it then was) initiated a studbook for Grevy's zebra

Equus grevy. In response to a general alarm at the status of Grevy's zebra, John Burton, then the Society's Assistant Secretary, together with Jane Thornback, the Compiler of the *Red Data Book (Mammalia)*, who was at that time working through the ffPS, published a report in *New Scientist* which indicated a serious decrease in the wild populations of Grevy's zebra. At the next meeting of the SSC the ffPS proposed that a studbook of captive Grevy's be established and undertook to initiate it. A year later Marwell Preservation Trust offered to take it over—a timely offer as it was proving a task beyond the resources of ffPS. It is pleasing to note that not only have three of ffPS's Council members taken an active interest in Grevy's but there was a total of over 450 in captivity by the end of 1982. Marwell Preservation Trust has published the first definitive studbook, in an attractive and clear layout. It is not the sort of book for anyone but an enthusiast, but it is a job well done by Ruth Giles, the studbook keeper, and ffPS should be pleased to have set the ball rolling.

John A. Burton



Grevy's zebra (Hans Klingel).
Society pages