

## Uganda 16 Febr to 10 March 2003

We had been working as Rotary doctors in southern Kenya for 6 weeks and wanted to see more birds while still being in Africa, so we contacted Hassan Mutebi in Kampala, owner of Access Uganda Tours for a 3 week birding trip. He suggested a route and we got another Swedish birder, Lasse Ceder, as company to share the costs. The route was fixed in time due to our commitments in Kenya. Our cost for Hassan, his services and his car was \$3700 (shared by us three), to which sum added food, accommodation, park entrances and local guide fees.

**Sun 16/02** We started from Hotel Hilton in Nairobi 06.15, and went with the Akamba bus from Nairobi to Kampala, via Nakuru, Kisumu and Busia. Along the road we had among other birds seen **Broad-billed roller**. We were picked up at the bus station by Hassan's coworker Josef and brought to the hotel Red Chili Hideaway.

**Mon 17/02** We were picked up at the hotel the next day, after ticking off **Eastern Plantain eater and African Green-pigeon** in the garden,

We went to Hassan's office to wait for Lasse and changed money while waiting. We changed \$700, which we thought would be enough for the two of us, and became millionaires!

1.309.000 Uganda shillings in notes filled our purses!

Hassan's coworker Moses took us to the Source of the Nile, where we birded around for a couple of hours in the warm sunshine, after which we had a couple of samosas at the local hotel. We then went to Mabira forest, where the local guide Ibrahim during two hours called down lots of forest birds for us to tick off, and many of them we saw very well too.

Altogether I got 37 ticks that day. A good start!

Ticks: **African open-billed stork, Malachite kingfisher, Crowned hornbill, Black-crowned waxbill, Black-and-white casqued hornbill, Vieillot's black weaver, Yellow white-eye, Piapiac, African great cormorant, Rüppell's long tailed starling, Red-chested sunbird, Levillant's cuckoo, Black-headed gonolek, Grey-backed fiscal, Double-toothed barbet, Red-headed bluebill, Yellow-rumped tinkerbird, Red-headed malimbe, Olive-bellied sunbird, African dusky flycatcher, Grey-throated barbet, Little greenbul, Black-throated wattle-eye, Northern, black flycatcher, Grey-headed negrofinch, African blue flycatcher (monarch), White-chinned prinia, Tambourine dove, Grey-throated flycatcher, Yellow-whiskered greenbul, Ashy flycatcher, African shrike-flycatcher, Forest robin, Black-throated apalis and Rufous ant-thrush.** We also saw: *White-headed saw-wing, Greybacked camaroptera, White-browed coucal, Redbilled firefinch, Crimson-winged waxbill, Bronze mannikin, African fish-eagle, Speckled mousebird, Yellow wagtails, Pied kingfisher and Long-tailed cormorant.*

**Tue 18/02** Josef picked us up at the hotel at 07.30 and we drove to Mabamba wetlands south of Kampala, by the Victoria lake. We had some breakfast there and then entered a small, flat-bottomed boat, paddling slowly into the papyrus swamp, looking for Shoebill. After one



hour of exciting and close birds of different species our local guide said: There it is, the shoebill! We didn't see anything until 10 minutes later, when suddenly an ashy-grey, grotesque head raised from the papyrus, **the Shoebill!** We came close, within 30 meters and saw it extremely well, even when it flew off. Hassan sent an SMS to our birder friend in Sweden, Stefan Lagerblad, who responded and congratulated us to the shoebill!

Birds seen in Mabamba: Ticks: **Hooded vulture, Woodland kingfisher, Cinnamon-chested bee-eater, African marsh harrier, Swamp flycatcher, Common waxbill, Blue-headed coucal, Black crake, Slenderbilled weaver, SHOEBILL, Cape wagtail, Banded martin, Blue-cheeked bee-eater.** We also saw *Fan-tailed widowbird, Purple heron, Winding cisticola, White-winged black tern, Jacana, African fish-eagle (close-ups!), Purple swamp hen, European bee-eater, Moorhen, Goliath heron, Squacco heron.*

We went southwards, birding along the road and in a couple of smaller swamps, before reaching Mburo at dawn. A hippo crossed the road just in front of us before passing the gate. Birds along the road and in the swamps:

Ticks: **Pygmy goose, Knob-billed duck, Weyn's weaver, Blue-spotted wood dove, Little weaver, Sooty chat, Yellow-throated longclaw, Jackson's weaver (golden-backed), Wattled lapwing, Red-necked spurfowl, Water thick-knee.** Other birds seen: *Yellow-billed duck, Wood sandpiper, Gull-billed tern, White-browed scrub robin, Lesser striped swallow, Whinchat, Black-headed weaver, Pink-backed pelican, Lilac-breasted roller, Black-winged stilt, Crowned crane, Longtoed lapwing, Hottentot teal, Red-eyed dove, European marsh harrier, Sacred ibis.*

**Wed 19/02.** After a bad nights sleep in a banda, when a unidentified nightjar reeled all night, we eventually got some breakfast at the extremely slow restaurang. Meanwhile we ticked **Blue-throated sunbird, Spectacled weaver** and saw *Lesser masked weaver, Green sandpiper, Red-rumped swallow, African cuckoo and Drongo.* After breakfast we went gamedriving a couple of hours before returning to the restaurang. After lunch we birded out of the Mburo park and drove along to Mbarara, where we took in at hotell Riheka Guest house. Very nice to get a shower!

Ticks: **Striped kingfisher, Blackbellied bustard, Barefaced go-away-bird, Mosque swallow, Violet-backed starling, Flappet lark, Wahlberg's eagle, Ross's turaco, Palm-nut vulture, White-winged tit, White-browed robin-chat and African thrush.**

We also had *Emerald-spotted wood dove, Tawny eagle, Spot-flanked barbet, Steppe eagle, Short-toed snake eagle, Common sandpiper, Zitting cisticola, Black-headed oriole, Green wood-hoopoe, Grey hornbill, Bateleur, Three-banded plover, Tawny-flanked prinia, Variable sunbird* (extremely different from the Kenya variable sunbirds, here with orange belly and no yellow wing tufts).

**Thu 20/02** Birding around the hotel in the morning yielded **Brown parrot** (tick) and *Dusky flycatcher.* We drove towards Kabale, but in the mountains the fan belt jumped off and it took



a couple of hours to get a new one. Meanwhile we ticked **Red bishop, Dusky turtle dove, African golden-breasted bunting and Grey-headed flycatcher** and saw *Long-tailed fiscal, Fan-tailed widowbird, African harrier-hawk, Bronze sunbird, Augur buzzard, Scarlet-chested sunbird, Baglafaecht weaver and Chin-spot batis.*

After lunch in Kabale we drove to Lake Bunyonyi Overland camp, where we took a swim in the lake (23 degrees!) and ticked **Grey-capped warbler (nesting),**

**Blue-headed sunbird and Yellow-backed weaver** and saw *Stonechat and Streaky seed-eater.*

**Fri 21/02** I woke up at 2 am with fever, chills, nausea and muscle ache. In the morning we couldn't exclude malaria or any other tropical infection, so I started Lariam and Lexinor. After birding around the camp and shopping in Kabale, we climbed the hills up to Ruhizha in the outskirts of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, where we stayed overnight in the house of the Forest Protection wardens. I was too dizzy and feverish, so I couldn't walk around very much, but managed to see a couple of birds anyhow: Ticks: **White-eyed slate flycatcher, Grey cuckoo-shrike, Red-faced woodland warbler, White-necked raven**, and we also had *Paradise flycatcher, Red-chested cuckoo* and Lasse had three more sunbirds.

**Sat 22/02** On Saturday morning I had full side-effects of Lariam, a terrible unsteadiness, like being on a boat on a stormy sea. I had great difficulties in walking straight, less climbing hills, so I had to let Lasse go alone with Hassan and Josef to Ruhizha swamp. Ingrid and I went for a careful and slow walk and we did find some good birds. We ticked **Regal sunbird, Barred longtailed cuckoo, Rwenzori double-banded sunbird, Black saw-wing, Olive pigeon, Montane oriole, Purple-breasted sunbird and Rwenzori batis** and saw *Collared sunbird and Grey cuckoo-shrike* very well. At the house we ticked off the noisy **Chubb's cisticola**, bursting out in long sequences of "wi-tchi-tchow, wi-tchi-tchow...". Lasse came back and had seen some of the endemic birds which are to be seen nowhere else.

**Sun 23/02.** After a bad night's sleep with hallucinations I was not very well in the morning, so we decided that I was not fit for the gorilla-trekking next day. We left Ruhizha on equally bad roads for some hills where we looked for **Dusky twinspace**. We found it (tick), and also ticked **Short-tailed pipit, Yellow bishop, Brown-backed scrub-robin, Blue-eared starling, Red-throated wryneck, Yellow-bellied waxbill, Black-headed waxbill, African hobby, African citril and McKinnon's fiscal**. Other birds seen: *Grey-headed negrofinch, Pin-tailed wydah and Chubb's cisticola. Augur buzzards* were very common.

After that we stopped at The Neck, a wonderful, lush green part of forest along the road. We found several good birds there, ticked **Klaas's cuckoo, Banded prinia, Lühder's bush-shrike, Black bee-eater, Stühlmann's starling, Cassin's grey flycatcher, Honeyguide greenbul, Dwarf honeyguide, Black-billed dove, Tiny sunbird, Green hylia, Brown-throated wattle-eye, White-tailed blue flycatcher, Pygmy kingfisher, Black-lored babbler, Holub's golden weaver** and saw *Black-throated apalis, Tropical boubou, Double-toothed barbet and Ross's turaco*. In the afternoon we arrived to Bwindi View Bandas, a small camp at the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. In the camp there was a large colony of *Vieillot's black weaver*, we could tick and photograph **Leaflove** and saw *Didrik's cuckoo, Black-necked weaver and White-chinned prinia*. The total sum of ticks for today was 29!

**Mon 24/02.** I was still not fit for gorilla-trekking, so Lasse had to go alone and we stayed at the camp. We made a small trip with Hassan with the car, ticking **Black-and-white shrike-flycatcher, Red-headed lovebird, Black-throated seed-eater, Stout cisticola** and also had *Hammerkop, Yellow-fronted canary, Palm-nut vulture, Long-crested eagle, Cardinal woodpecker, Lühder's bush-shrike, Red-collared widowbird* and good views of *Black bee-eater*. Back at the camp site I could take photos of *Cinnamon-chested bee-eater, Bronze sunbird, White-tailed blue flycatcher* and two *Leaflove*. The weather was pleasantly warm and humid. Lasse came back at 13.30, very content with his views of the gorillas. We went for a walk along the river track with Hassan and Josef between 4 and 5 pm and could tick **Brown-capped weaver, Bocage's (grey-green) bush-shrike, Narrow-tailed starling, Green-throated and Green-headed sunbirds**. A nice, warm evening again.

**Tue 25/02** We had an early breakfast and at 8 the famous Alfred came to meet us and to show us the birds in Bwindi. Along with four armed soldiers we walked all day along the main track, where Alfred whistled and called for all birds to come to him, which they did! He had some aid of recorded mini-discs, but most birds he called for with his mouth. The birds were difficult to see, but Hassan, Josef and Alfred spotted them high up in the trees. We got the following 36 ticks during this wonderful day: **Scaly-breasted illadopsis, Green sunbird, African broadbill, Yellow-spotted barbet, Speckled tinkerbird, Pink-footed puffback, Western bronze-naped pigeon, Willcock's honeyguide, Buff-throated apalis, White-headed wood-hoopoe, Yellow-throated tinkerbird, Mountain masked apalis, White-browed crombec, Yellow-crested woodpecker, Dusky tit, Grey apalis, White-bellied robin-chat, Handsome francolin, Least honeyguide (not by me, LR), Black-billed weaver, Bar-tailed trogon, White-breasted negrofinch, Velvet-mantled drongo, Manycoloured bush-shrike, Tullberg's woodpecker, Red-chested owlet, Chapin's flycatcher, Grauer's warbler, White-bellied crested flycatcher, Elliot's woodpecker, Sooty flycatcher, Hairy-breasted barbet, Ansorge's greenbul, Dusky-blue flycatcher, Olive-green camaroptera, Blue-throated roller, Petit's cuckoo-shrike, Black-faced rufous warbler, Northern double-collared sunbird and Red-tailed greenbul.** We also saw *Redfronted tinkerbird and Chimpanzees*. A great day! We then didn't grieve too much over dipping the White-eyed black flycatcher...

**Wed 26/02** This day was a transport day, over the mountains to Ishaka, and from there on good asphalt roads to Queen Elisabeth National Park, where we crossed the plains and got to the Research Institute's lodge. In the night we experienced the first real rain on the trip so far. We tried to see birds along the road, and around the camp.

Ticks: Ingrid ticked **Magpie mannikin** in Bwindi, but none of us other could see that. We all ticked **Great blue turako, Blue-spotted wood dove, African skimmer**. We also saw *Red-winged lark, Pallid harrier, Grey-headed kingfisher, Grey-headed gull, Yellow-billed stork, White-winged black terns and White-rumped swifts*.

**Thu 27/02** After a delayed breakfast we went to the luxurious Mweya lodge to buy some stamps and postcards and then drove off for a game drive within the park and after lunch headed north. Lunch in Kasese and in the evening we reached Fort Portal, where it rained so heavily that we couldn't do the planned swamp trail, but went to the hotel directly instead, Rwenzori Traveller's Inn. Very nice rooms, comfortable beds and an Internet cafe in the same house. During the game drive and along the road we ticked: **White-throated bee-eater, Wing-snapping cisticola, Senegal lapwing**, and had *Spur-winged lapwing, Crowned lapwing, Red-billed quelea (flocks), Yellow-billed oxpecker, Greenshank, Wood and Common sandpipers, Egyptian goose, Bateleur, Kittlitz's plover, Isabelline shrike, Hooded, African white-backed, Palm nut, Lappet-faced and Rüppell's vultures, Caspian plover (a flock of 50), Northern wheatear, Black-chested snake eagle and Abdim's stork*. We had now passed 300 species on the trip.

**Fri 28/02** We tried to get breakfast early for an early start, but it didn't succeed this time either, so we left for Kibale NP 7.45. In Kibale the writing of receipts and discussions with the guides took 45 minutes, after which Ingrid and I followed a guide and Lasse went off for Chimpanzees. Our guide seemed uncertain about the tricky greenbuls and other birds, so we urged for Hassan to come with us, which he did. A long walk in the forest gave the following ticks: **Black-crowned waxbill, Green crombec, Western nicator, Red-tailed bristlebill, Blue-breasted kingfisher, Toro Olive greenbul, Narina trogon, Masked apalis, White-**

**tailed ant-thrush, Red-throated alethe, White-throated greenbul, Grosbeak weaver** and we also had *Olive thrush* and *Olive-green chamaroptera* and we heard chimpanzees. We met Lasse, who had seen the chimps flock and after lunch in Fort Portal we went to the swamp Kihingami, where a young and enthusiastic guide very skilfully showed us around. The papyrus swamp was extremely wet after yesterdays rainfall, so we all got soaked up to our knees in spite of boots, which Hassan and Ingrid had. We did see the good birds, so we didn't mind wet feet.

Ticks: **Black-and-white mannikin, Grey-winged robin-chat, White-winged warbler (close views!), White-spotted flufftail (heard very close), Dusky long-tailed cuckoo, Splendid starling, Green-backed twinspot** and we also had close views of the *Western nicator*. After emptying shoes and boots we went to the hotel in heavy rain, and the electricity went off for an hour.

**Sat 1/03** An early breakfast did work out today, and it was important for us to be as early as possible in Semliki Forest. After a winding trip over the mountains we came to the office in Semliki, where Godfrey was our guide. He was almost as skilful as the great Alfred in Bwindi, showed us many good birds, which he whistled down. It was very hard to see many of the birds and I missed six species which Ingrid saw. The forest was fantastic to walk in, the paths were clear-cut and mostly easy-going. Godfrey told us however, that in the rainy season you had to have boots up to the thighs to walk there. First we went to the hot springs and then for a 2 1/2 km walk. After a packed lunch we made another 2 km walk in another part of the forest, further to the south. Ingrid saw and ticked the following birds: ***Slender-billed greenbul, Brown-eared woodpecker, Red-bellied paradise flycatcher, Swamp palm bulbul, Green-tailed bristlebill, Xavier's greenbul.***

Ticks for me: **Grant's bluebill, Chestnut wattle-eye, Red-tailed ant-thrush, Fire-crested alethe, Yellowbill, Brown illadopsis, Ayre's hawk eagle, Red-billed dwarf hornbill, Woolly-necked stork, White-thighed hornbill, Piping hornbill, Red-tailed greenbul, Yellow-billed barbet, African pied hornbill, Black-casqued wattled hornbill**, and we also had *Black-and-white crested flycatcher, Sanderling, Common and Wood sandpipers, Black-winged stilt, Palm-nut vulture, Open-billed stork, Palm swift, Three-banded plover, Blue-breasted kingfisher, Blue-throated roller, Pygmy kingfisher, Spotted flycatcher, Yellow-billed stork, Bearded woodpecker, Common buzzard and Ross's turako*. After this wonderful day in Semliki we went back to Fort Portal, to the hotel. We would like to have stayed another day or two in Semliki, if it had been possible.

**Sun 2/03** We didn't hurry the breakfast, but it took us >45 minutes to get some boiled eggs from two extremely slow waitresses! We left Fort Portal towards Kampala, turned north towards Hoima, where we had lunch at 13.30, the best beef stew hitherto. We had a long drive to do today and we reached Nyabenyanya, where Hassan had booked rooms for us in the Guest House of the Forest and Agricultural School. We had time for a short walk around the school before dark. During the day and at the school we ticked: **White-crested turako, Western banded snake eagle, Angola swallow, Northern puffback** and we also had *Mosque swallow, Booted eagle, Alpine swifts, Black-and-white casqued hornbill and Pied hornbills and a Bat hawk* at dusk.

**Mon 3/03** Due to lack of running water we couldn't wash and in the morning the electricity went off, but we had a nice, prepared breakfast at dawn and then went off to Budongo main trail (Royal mile). A road,



trafficked by school children along a great forest with high trees, and 10 meters from the road the forest seemed impenetrable. We were guided by Vincent, who was very keen on the birds in the forest, and like Alfred and Godfrey could whistle the birds and show us. We made a four hour walk here, whereafter the birds disappeared in the mid-day heat.

During the night I had heard **Swamp nightjar** (tick) and along the Royal mile we ticked **African dwarf kingfisher, Red-bellied paradise flycatcher, Western black-headed oriole, Forest flycatcher, Chestnut-capped flycatcher, Crested malimbe, Slender-billed greenbul, Little green sunbird, African emerald cuckoo, Pale-breasted illadopsis, Chocolate-backed kingfisher, Cassin's hawk eagle, Olive sunbird** and we also had *Wood warbler* and *Yellow-crested woodpecker*.

After lunch, which we invited Vincent to, we left Budongo and drove to Escarpment and down to Lake Albert. We stopped on the escarpment for a walk, which yielded seven ticks! The road to Paraa was extremely straight, it was very hot and I saw a more than one meter long Varan in the ditch. At dusk we arrived to Paraa Lodge, now called Red Chilli Lodge, where we had booked small bandas (too small, with too short beds, actually).

At the Escarpment we ticked **Red-throated bee-eater, Abyssinian ground hornbill, Lesser blue-eared starling, Red-winged pytilia** (Hassan's fifth Uganda-tick during the trip!) **Black-headed weaver, Yellow-fronted tinkerbird, Shikra, Chestnut-crowned sparrow-weaver, Black-billed barbet**, and we also found a *Dwarf kingfisher here*. Along the road we had *Montagu's harrier, African grey hornbill, Eastern chanting goshawk, Black-and-white cuckoo and Brown-headed tchagra*, and ticked **Croaking cisticola, Vinaceous dove and the sought-after Swallow-tailed bee-eater**. A day with 24 ticks, now 240 ticks and 378 trip-species.

**Tue 4/03** After a bad nights sleep in the short bed and hot banda we had a slow breakfast and went for a game drive in the park. It became quite hot at mid-day and we had a siesta, because the departure of the river boat was postponed due to the heat. We then went with the boat to Murchison falls and back, a great trip for both birds, views of the falls and mammals.

Ticks of the day: gamedrive: **Grasshopper buzzard (10-12 totally), Silverbird, Denham's bustard (in flight, only by me and Hassan), White-rumped seed-eater**. Along



the Nile:  
**African darter, Giant kingfisher**

**(two!), Rock pratincole, Carmine bee-eater** (which we suspected could be southern, because we hadn't noticed any dark chin, but the photos I took, showed later on that they were in fact northern). We also had *Beautiful sunbird, Spotted*

*morning thrush, Bateleur, European thick-knee and from the boat Black-crowned night heron, Ruff, Egyptian goose, Fulvous and White faced whistling ducks, Spur-winged goose, Intermediate egret, Striated heron and Water thick-knee.*

*Nile crocodile, Elephant, lots of Hippos, Giraffes* and other animals were also seen.



**Wed 5/03** Another missed breakfast, because we had to catch the ferry to the North side of the Nile at 7 o'clock, but we managed to bring the food with us. We had an armed guard with us and did a long game drive through burned areas of the park with virtually no birds, through the savannah and along the delta swamps at Lake Albert. We ticked **Grey kestrel, Senegal**

**coucal, Blue-breasted bee-eater, Lion (a female with a killed antelope) and Spotted hyena.** Hassan found the trips second *Shoebill* and we also had *Woodchat shrike, Black-billed barbet, Martial eagle, Lesser kestrel, Little bee-eater, Caspian plover, Osprey with a large fish, Abyssinian ground hornbills, White-headed vulture and a definitive Northern carmine bee-eater.*

It was very hot, we took the ferry back at noon and had siesta to 15.30, when I had a *Speckle-fronted weaver* at the bird feeding table by the restaurant. We went to another lodge to buy more water, where a thermometer now, when it had chilled off a bit, showed 37 degrees C in the shadow! We went to the top of Murchison falls, to see the bats flying out at dusk, but they didn't come before 19.40, when we left the place, probably due to the heat. On the way back we, i.e. Hassan, looked for and found five species of nightjars.

Ticks: **Black cuckoo, White-shouldered tit, Long-tailed, Plain and Standard-winged nightjars,** and we also had *Abdim stork >1000, more Northern carmine bee-eaters, Bat hawk, a large falcon (Peregrine?) Swamp and European nightjars.* I had now seen 413 species, and our group 426.

**Thu 6/03** We were in a hurry to get an early start to get to Kanyo Pabidi in time for the **Puvel's illadopsis**, which stops singing at about 8.15 and then is impossible to find. We packed breakfast in the car and drove as fast as possible, ignoring many raptors on the way, but stopped to tick **Crested guineafowl**, a very charming bird! Immediately when arriving to Kanyo Pabidi Hassan heard the illadopsis and we could after a while see it at close range, singing for 5 minutes. Then it went silent and disappeared, not seen any more!

We then had a well-deserved breakfast after which we went for a walk in the forest. The guide did what he could to get the birds down, but he hadn't the same skill as Alfred, Godfrey and Vincent, and we heard much fewer birds here than in the other forests, maybe due to the heat. We ticked **Yellow-mantled weaver and Yellow longbill** but saw no more birds.



We then changed our plans due to the heat and drove back to Kampala, birding along the road. We saw *Lesser spotted and Spotted eagles, Open-billed storks, Grey kestrel* and I'm quite convinced I had a short view of a Fox kestrel, but we couldn't stop there so I didn't shout, and the bird remains undetermined.

**Fri 7/03** We had stayed the night at Red Chilli Hideaway in Kampala and after an early breakfast Josef drove us to Mabira forest, where Ibrahim met us and we made two long walks in different parts of the wood. After 11 o'clock all birds disappear in the heat, in spite of Ibrahim's efforts. We bought some delicious chicken

liver and chicken kebabs for lunch and continued birding until 2 pm. On our way back to Kampala the fuel tank was empty, but eventually we reached Kampala, where we bought bus tickets for Ingrid's and my trip back to Nairobi, did some shopping, went to the Internet cafe and then back to Red Chilli hotel.

Ticks of the day: **Grey longbill, Buff-spotted woodpecker, Forest wood-hoopoe, Sooty boubou, Yellow-browed camaroptera and Copper sunbird.** We also had *Little green sunbird, Hairy-breasted barbet, Olive-green camaroptera, Yellow longbill, Yellowbill and Green hylia.*

**Sat 8/3** A hot night, early breakfast and we were picked up by Hassan. Josef and another birder Jonnie took us to Entebbe Botanical Gardens, where we walked around for a couple of

hours and got some good birds, after which we went to the famous Sophies restaurang. After two hours there due to our wishes to have mashed potatoes (!) with the fish, we drove around the airport watching some ponds where we saw probably >100.000 *White-winged black terns* in huge flocks - impressive!

Today's ticks: **Orange weaver, Grey parrot (2)**, and we saw *Blue-cheeked bee-eater, Marico sunbird, Green pigeon, Broadbilled roller, Wood, Common and Green sandpipers, Ruff and Snipe*.

We thanked Hassan for this magnificent journey and assured him we would like to come back to get the rest of the birds, maybe concentrating on the woods like Semliki, Budongo and Bwindi.

After checking the bird lists and photos after we have come home my total sums up to 435 species, and for the group 449. I got 270 ticks.

We can strongly recommend Hassan Mutebi's birding trips and his company Access Uganda Tours Ltd. He is a very considerate tour leader, a keen birder and bird-finder of exceptional sort, discovering birds where it's virtually devoid of birds.

His e-mail is <mailto:mutebihassan@yahoo.com>

His home page: <http://www.accessugandatours.com/>

Lars Rydgren

Lyckåsv 47

S-233 91 Svedala

Sweden

e-mail: <mailto:lars.rydgren@telia.com>