

Ghana

West Africa's Forgotten Eden

A Greentours Trip Report

8th – 23rd January 2008

Led by Paul Cardy

Trip report written by Paul Cardy

Day 1 Tuesday 8th January Arrival

As usual my Alitalia flight was late due to problems at the stopover in Lagos. I arrived in Accra finally at about 12.30 a.m. on the Tuesday night, the group having all of course arrived before me and sensibly gone to bed. I organised putting explanatory notes under doors and got some sleep myself.

Day 2 Wednesday 9th January to Elmina via Panbros Saltpans

After only three hours sleep I was pleased to awake to rather clear skies. I met the group in the hotel grounds, and a pre-breakfast walk behind the hotel yielded a selection of common birds, such as Hooded Vultures, Black Kites, Laughing Doves, African Thrush, Copper Sunbird and Village Weaver. The polo ground had been developed remarkably with a line of impressive stable blocks housing some fine looking horses. We still managed to reach the coastal thicket area very close to the airport and I was pleased to see Black-backed Cisticola here, very well this year. A species of *Leptotes* was on the wing, as was *Elegant Acraea*. Two Striated Herons flew past and a few Ethiopian Swallows perched on an aerial. A species of *Passiflora* was in good flower, Shikra was seen well and some saw Malachite Kingfisher.

We returned for breakfast and after finishing packing and loading the vehicles etc. we were soon on the road west, parts of which have now been much improved. As always the varied activities of Ghanaian life kept us amused during the journey. The competition began to spot the silliest shop title, but one of my favourites is still 'I can do all things through God strengthens me fashions'. 'Uncle Fathers Nippy Spot' (a bar!) comes a close second however.

Anyway, back to the wildlife! About an hour west of Accra we reached Panbros, an extensive series of working saltpans. Ben, the manager, was not here today and I had to battle quite hard for

permission to enter. Fortunately this was granted. Initially the site is bleak and unproductive, but the salt-pans down by the coast usually support a wealth of waders, herons, and terns. The latter comprised several Black Terns, and a lone Little Tern, but remarkably no other tern species were seen here today. As usual Pied Kingfishers were numerous.

The commonest heron was Western Reef, these being mostly dark phase birds. Highlight heron wise was several Black Herons, with two birds seen 'fishing' umbrella fashion. Great Egret, Little Egret, Intermediate Egret and Purple Heron were also here and we saw three Squacco Herons. There were several butterflies on the wing today, including White Lady, Common Dotted Border, Brown Playboy (!), Eucedon Acraea, and Elegant Acraea.

A trip to the coast where a large concrete village has been built in the last few years proved very rewarding, and we were able to climb an observation tower which afforded good views of the salt-pans, and from here we saw a good selection of waders. Grey Plovers, Little Stints, Greenshank, Black-winged Stilt, and Turnstone were all here, and a impressive number of Collared Pratincoles sat on the bunds.

Taking another direction we found a fine wetland area where we watched two Black Crakes, several African Jacanas, more Black Herons, two Spur-winged Lapwings (very unusual here on the coast), Winding Cisticolas, and Little Bee-eater. There were some fine dragonflies at this spot.

It was time to press on. We found our usual lunch stop near Winneba despite the new road. As we ate our sandwiches we were distracted by the butterflies, with Colotis eupippe and Common Scarlet among them. Both Pied Flycatcher and Spotted Flycatcher were recorded. A fruiting tree attracted Splendid Glossy Starling and interestingly Violet Turacos, again unusual this far west along the coast.

In Elmina town we drove past the fascinating and hectic fishing harbour next to the old Dutch Fort. This really is an incredibly colourful place, with the water full of ramshackle boats, and people everywhere. Unfortunately it is one of the few hassly places in Ghana, and we no longer stop here as in the past we have been bothered relentlessly by crowds of young men. It's a great shame that these people make stopping here such an unpleasant experience.

Arriving at the Coconut Grove Beach Hotel mid-afternoon we organised ourselves into our rooms and a little later in the afternoon we met for a stroll around the hotel grounds and the disused golf-course. Many Yellow Wagtails were active on the turf, and a large flock of non-breeding Pin-tailed Whydahs took to the air. White-throated Bee-eaters sat on the wires. Black-crowned Tchagra, Broad-billed Roller, Bar-breasted Firefinch and Western Grey Plantain Eater were all seen and a Grey Kestrel gave good views. The highlight however was an African Crake that we watched very well, even bathing! This is a species we discovered here last year and I was very pleased to see it here again. A patch of Tridax flowers had many African Grass Blues.

Two Plain-backed Pipits were seen on a disturbed area of ground and a male Splendid Sunbird glittering in the sun was perhaps the bird highlight of the day. Yellow-crowned Gonolek was calling from inside the vegetation. The impressive African Giant Skipper was on the wing. At dusk Water Thick-knees started to call on the golf course.

Among the common flowers here were the wonderfully named *Clitoria ternatea*; the shrubby yellow composite *Aspilia africana*; the North American weed *Tridax procumbens*; and *Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*. Back at the hotel were several Brook's Geckos on the walls. Dinner was a varied and tasty buffet, served in the restaurant beside the ocean.

Day 3 Thursday 10th January Kakum National Park

A very early start this morning, with tea, coffee and a snack breakfast down by the ocean at 4.30 am. The Coconut Grove was beautiful at this time of day with a light breeze blowing through the palms. We set off at 5 o'clock, and from Cape Coast we headed north (seeing a Long-tailed Nightjar fly up from the road on the way), and duly met Rockson, the warden who was to be with us for the next two days, in his village of Abrafo. Just a short drive from there took us to the headquarters of Kakum National Park, a superb patch of Upper Guinean Forest. Still rather bleary eyed we walked the path up to the canopy walkway, the reason for our early start. Fire-footed Rope Squirrel was seen in the dim pre-dawn light. The walkway is unique in Africa, indeed there are only a handful in the world, and it allows superb access to the wildlife of the treetops. Dawn and early morning are especially rewarding up here, and today was very productive. We soon learnt which trees and perches were the most productive to keep an eye on and we stayed up here for more than three hours, which passed all too quickly.

Green Pigeons were much in evidence, and often gave their distinctive calls. The lovely Blue Cuckoo-Shrike was seen very well, and a *Gymnogene*, or Harrier Hawk, circled overhead. Pied Hornbills were noisy and conspicuous, and Barbets were represented by Hairy-breasted, Naked-faced, and Bristle-nosed. As well as the tree we were standing on, the several other fruiting trees attracted such species as Sabine's Puff-back, Slender-billed Greenbul, Golden Greenbul, Forest Chestnut-winged Starling, Red-headed Malimbe and Yellow-mantled Weaver. The latter were building nests in a nearby tree. Four Grey Parrots flew past and I was delighted to see a Black Bee-eater up here, a new site for this species. Both White-headed and Forest Wood-Hoopoes were seen today. A white phase male African Paradise Flycatcher was a surprise from the canopy.

Sunbirds are usually numerous up here and today among others we saw Little Green, Fraser's and Collared. Yellow-billed Turaco called raucously but stayed hidden today. Levaillant's Cuckoo was spotted sitting in the foliage of a nearby tree (two more were seen later), and an immature Red-chested Cuckoo was an interesting record. Klaas's, Emerald, and Black Cuckoos were all calling. Velvet-mantled Drongo was much in evidence around the walkway. Grey-crowned Negrofinches gave their distinctive mournful call regularly. Cassin's Honeybird, Brown-eared Woodpecker,

Spotted Greenbul, Little Grey Flycatcher, Chestnut-capped Flycatcher, Copper-tailed Glossy Starling and Maxwell's Black Weaver all made this a very good morning on the walkway.

Monkeys were active for much of our visit today. Both Monas and Lesser Spot-nosed Monkeys were seen superbly in the telescope, in their usual mixed troop. A Forest Dwarf Gecko was spotted on one of the tree trunks.

Breakfast at the Rainforest Café was rather slow and inefficient, as always, but we were glad to sit down for a while and reflect on what we'd already seen. An immature Didric Cuckoo kept us occupied, but there were few butterflies around the clearing today, and almost none on the unusually dry forest paths.

Later in the morning we walked down to the main road where the bamboo beside the road harbours an extensive and usually very active colony of Chestnut and Black Weavers. But amazingly today despite the fresh nests not a single bird was seen. There was a good selection of dragonflies here, and a lone Caper White. Jones drove us to a small clearing where there are some old administrative buildings, then he returned to the coast with Margaret and Val. The Cecropia like tree *Musanga cecropioides* grows commonly in the clearing, and the ginger *Costus afer* was in flower. The damp area here was especially good for butterflies today, and we recorded some fine species, and several more dragonflies.

This was our first encounter with a large number of butterfly species, and we recorded many in this one spot. Mocker Swallowtail, Common White-banded Swallowtail, Cambridge Vagrant, a female Spica Dotted Border, Tropical Dotted Border, Common Indigo Ciliate Blue, Friar, Vulgar and Light Bush Browns, Ornate Green Charaxes, Laodice Untailed Charaxes, Andromorph Palla, African Leaf Butterfly, Lilac Beauty, Auberger's Yellow Glider, Blood Red Glider, and White *Acraea* were among the great variety here. A highlight was a Streaked Paradise Skipper, a scarce butterfly that we seem to turn up one of on most tours, usually at Bobiri. There was also a fine selection of Orthopterans and other insects.

A species of *Stemfferia*, a beautiful rich deep blue, perched on a twig in typical Liptenid fashion, awaits positive identification. A small bird flock included Buff-throated Sunbird and White-breasted Negrofinch.

We were a little late for the lunch I'd ordered, which amazingly had been ready on time, and was somewhat cold by the time we ate it! Agama lizards scuttled around the buildings, with some fine breeding males among them. After a siesta at the café, in the afternoon we returned to the canopy walkway.

Things were rather quiet on the canopy in the afternoon, but it was very peaceful in terms of no other visitors. Blue-throated Roller was seen well, as were several species we had already seen in the morning. We were the last to leave the walkway and I locked up as we left.

At the hotel after a long and rewarding day we ate another good buffet dinner beside the ocean, and followed this with a run through the checklists catching up with all that had been seen so far. After an eighteen hour day (for me!) it was time for bed! Water Thick-knees again called on the golf course.

Day 4 Friday 11th January Kakum-Antikwa & to Kumasi

A slightly more leisurely start today, as we ate breakfast at the Coconut Grove before departing. This year we were leaving the Coconut Grove after only two nights due to the rescheduling of the tour because of the African Nations Cup. However we were still able to spend a morning at Kakum, and then continue north to Kumasi. Today we travelled to a different part of Kakum, the abandoned cultivation and forest edge habitat at Antikwa, a little further north. This really is an excellent area, with many isolated tall trees still standing. Green Squirrel ran across the track as we approached, and later Slender-tailed Squirrel was seen.

Antikwa is an excellent butterfly area, and many species were seen here today. Dark Blue Pansy was especially attractive, as were the various Fairy Hairstreaks, *Hypolycaena* spp. Guineafowl was here, more typical of the savannah, as was African Joker. The characteristic African genus *Acraea* was well represented, with *Acraea alcinoe*, *Acraea jodutta*, *Acraea circeis*, *Acraea egina* and *Acraea epaea* among species seen today. Among the many other butterflies here were *Amauris niavius*, *Pseudoneptis bugandensis* African Blue Tiger, Black Bush Brown and Narrow-banded Green Swallowtail.

The bird highlight today was undoubtedly the gorgeous Black Bee-eater, a few of which were seen in the cultivation at the forest edge at the far point of our walk. When viewed in the right light the metallic blue feathers on this bird are stunning. White-throated Bee-eater was here too. Birds were generally much in evidence today, partly due to the many flowering and fruiting trees. One rather distant flowering *Ceiba* tree attracted a variety of Sunbirds including Johanna's, Collared, Little Green, Buff-throated, and Blue-throated Brown. Red-necked Buzzards and Lesser-striped Swallows were in the air. Other birds included Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, Naked-faced Barbet and Swamp Palm Greenbul. A perched Honey Buzzard was an interesting record, four Black-and White Casqued Hornbills flew over, and two Gabon Woodpeckers were seen well.

We were adopted by a White-crested Hornbill, who obviously though we were a troop of monkeys(!). The roles were reversed however as he moved above us from tree to tree, and we walked below. This species has a symbiotic relationship with monkey troops, benefitting from fruits etc. dropped by the feeding monkeys, and both benefit from mutual predator awareness.

Unfortunately the track which usually has several damp areas that attract mud puddling butterflies was completely dry today. Lycaenids were much fewer in number than usual, but included Smoky Bean Cupid and Common Chalk Blue. Among the skippers was *Tagiades flesus*. At the forest edge were a few Widespread Foresters, and Hewitson's Forester.

High up soared at least two Rosy Bee-eaters, for which this has become a reliable site. Getting a good look at the spinetails was difficult but Cassin's and Sabine's were definitely both here and Preuss's Cliff Swallow was a surprise this far into the forest zone. The forest edge is being gradually destroyed here, very disturbingly. The usual wealth of forest butterfly species seen along the track here was poignantly absent today. A perched immature Great Sparrowhawk, rather distant, was studied for some time before a positive identification was made. As we walked through the overgrown cassava plantation an Ahanta Francolin was flushed from underfoot. Fireball Lilies and the root parasite *Thonningia sanguinea* added some botanical interest, and *Combretum racemosum* was very attractive.

We returned to the wardens' house to eat our picnic lunch and rest from the midday sun. A flock of Black and White Mannikins put in an appearance.

It was time to start the journey north to Kumasi, via the interesting habitat near Aboabo in the north of Kakum National Park. Near the Aboabo turning a Black-throated Coucal in some roadside bamboo allowed good views. There were many road works south of Kumasi, meaning some long delays. We were pleased for the chance to stretch our legs at what used to be a rather pleasant spot that has been steadily built on and cultivated. However this still produced some good birds. European migrants were a feature with Whinchat and Woodchat Shrike both here. There were small flocks of Orange-cheeked Waxbills, and Yellow White-eye was new to us. Breeding Black and Chestnut (Vieillot's Black) Weavers were much in evidence. The red flowered *Quamoclit coccinea* was very attractive.

Arriving in Kumasi late afternoon, as always we had to negotiate the terrible traffic. We arrived at the Royal Basin Hotel in reasonable time however, and enjoyed a good if erratically served meal by the pool, with good wine available.

Day 5 Saturday 12th January Journey to Mole

We left the Royal Basin a little late, at 8.15, mainly due to the wait for the box lunches. The traffic in Kumasi was really not too bad this morning, but once on the road north of the city it was the multitude of roadworks that really held us up. In places the road was reasonably fast. Once through what is left of Techiman Forest we stopped in Techiman itself for fuel, supplies and toilets. The forest gradually gave way to savannah as we progressed.

At Kintampo we visited the waterfalls, a stop which gave us a welcome chance to stretch our legs. Unfortunately this being Saturday there were many visitors here today, one church group even ferrying big loudspeakers down to the falls. Grasshopper Buzzards and Black Kites soared through the smoke of a raging bush fire. There was good butterfly activity here and among the species seen were Small Grass Yellow, Precis antilope, Common Leopard and various blues, including Red-spot Ciliate Blue. Blue-bellied Roller was here, and a stop had been prompted a

little earlier by one on the wires south of Kintampo. Being behind schedule we decided to eat lunch in the shade here, rather than the usual spot north of the Volta Bridge.

North of Kintampo we entered true savannah, at this time of year charred and burnt from the annual deliberate fires. North of the bridge we stopped at a waterhole where a few stunted trees provided some shade. The water attracted several birds, among them Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu, Bush Petronias, Chestnut-backed Finch Larks, and two Purple Glossy Starlings which looked wonderful in the sunlight. An Exclamatory Paradise Whydah atop a tree was a highlight of the day. Guineafowl was among the few butterflies here. Lizard Buzzard was spotted from the vehicle.

We left the excellent tarmac and drove ninety kilometres along a reasonable dirt road, now much improved. A couple of unplanned stops occurred when the fuel line became disconnected leaving a trail of diesel behind us and steadily depleting the full tank of fuel that I'd just bought. Jones did a very good job of patching up the problem, here in what is effectively the middle of nowhere.

We arrived at Mole early evening, and settled into our rooms, before reconvening by the pool to look down at the escarpment and place our dinner orders. I was delighted to meet again my friend Zachariah, who is always so great to work with during our time at Mole. Soon we were spotting Kob, Hadada Ibis, and Senegal Thick-knees down by the waterholes.

Day 6 Sunday 13th January Mole National Park

The day started at 6.00 a.m., still in the dark, with tea, coffee and biscuits around the poolside. As the light slowly came we watched a good selection of birds in a flowering Daniela olivieri tree. Here were Beautiful and Pygmy Sunbirds, White-shouldered Black-tit, Northern Crombec, Northern Puffback, Northern Black Flycatcher, Little Weaver and Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-weavers. Lavender Waxbills fed close to us on the ground, and proved to be not uncommon today. Zachariah arrived and we set off down the escarpment and into the park below us. Today was one of those days when there was so much activity that it is difficult to know how to start writing it all down. Warthogs grazed near the rooms, unconcerned by our presence.

As we walked down the escarpment we had fine views of a perched Spot-bellied Eagle Owl, and later on heard a Pearl-spotted Owlet. The savannah habitat at Mole is very conducive to birding as it is open enough to allow very easy viewing. Senegal Parrots flew over regularly, mostly in pairs, and Rose-ringed Parakeets were not uncommon. A small group of Green Wood Hoopoes was seen twice, the third wood-hoopoe of the tour. Grey-headed Kingfisher and Malachite Kingfisher were both seen. More flowering trees attracted a combination of Pygmy, Beautiful and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, with the latter being by far the commonest. An African Golden Oriole put in a brief appearance and Lesser Honeyguide was a highlight.

Doves were numerous, with Vinaceous, Red-eyed, and Laughing all seen. The beautiful Red-throated Bee-eater was rather common by the further water hole. Among the many passerines seen were Pied Flycatcher, Senegal Batis, African Moustached Warbler, Senegal Eremomela, and Grey-backed Camaroptera. Migrant warblers were Olivaceous, Melodious and Willow. Finches are a feature here and today we saw Red-billed Firefinch, Bar-breasted Firefinch, Black-faced Firefinch and Orange-cheeked Waxbills. The brood parasitic Indigobird seen twice with Black-faced Firefinches was probably Baka Indigobird, but it is impossible to be sure. One patch of riverine woodland supported Blue Flycatcher (seen by some), African Paradise Flycatcher, Common Wattle-eye and Yellow-breasted Apalis (two), a fine selection of birds. A female African Hobby flew past.

Near the second water hole a wooden observation platform allowed great close views. Crocodiles basked on the shore and Senegal Thick-knees and Common Sandpiper were here. Sightings of Kob and Bushbuck punctuated our walk, and we saw a few Callithrix Monkeys. One of the mammal highlights was a Yellow-winged Bat, with blue fur and startlingly golden wings that flash as they fly from their roost sites in the bushes. Today we saw one well in the telescope.

At a regular waterside spot, we failed to turn up White-backed Night Heron this year, in a bush where we have seen it on several previous visits. Double-spurred Francolins, Guinea fowl and Hadada were all much in evidence. Oriole Warbler was difficult to see in waterside vegetation, and Swamp Flycatcher was found.

Towards the end of our walk we had a great Elephant experience. Led by a male with just one tusk, several approached the second water hole, and standing on the opposite side of the water we had fine views. More came in from the other direction, and there were fine photo opportunities. There were yet more Elephants at the first water hole and we ended up very close to one of them! Walking in the opposite direction was the sensible option. Some twenty animals were seen in total. Late in the walk, with the sun higher in the sky, raptors were more in evidence. Batelaur soared above us, and Hooded, White-backed, and White-headed Vultures were all seen. A Black-shouldered Kite flew over the waterhole, and Red-necked Buzzard was in the air. A lone Long-tailed Glossy Starling was seen. There were several Wattled Lapwings and one Spur-winged Lapwing. Butterflies were few in number, although Plain Tigers were rather common.

We returned to the motel for a welcome breakfast, punctually at 10.00a.m. Five-lined Skinks were active around the buildings and a group of Warthogs was foraging nearby. The middle of the day was time for a well-earned rest, with lunch being optional. Baboons were active and mischievous around the motel.

Later in the afternoon Jones drove us a short way down into the park and dropped us off, and from there we walked back to the motel. From the vehicle we saw Patas Monkeys at the roadside.

At a small waterhole we had another close Elephant encounter, perfectly safe as a tangle of fallen branches separated us. Here were several Night Herons. Zak called in Pearl-spotted Owlet and we

had great views of two birds. Nearby was a nesting Palm-nut Vulture. A group of some twenty Gambian Mongooses moving through the savannah was a pleasing sight.

We arrived back at the motel at dusk, and later enjoyed dinner and reflected on the extremely productive and enjoyable first day at Mole.

A night walk produced a Common Genet in a tree, and a Scrub Hare, as well as Kob, Bushbuck, and Warthog.

Day 7 Monday 14th January Mole National Park

A second morning was spent walking in the park before breakfast, concentrating on the riverine woodland that is very productive habitat. Before we left I removed an unwanted Brook's Gecko from Margaret's room, and it duly bit me! Many species seen yesterday were seen again, but of course several were added to the list. There was again the good selection of species in the flowering *Daniela olivieri* near the chalets, and a Lead-coloured Flycatcher near the lookout was a pleasing find. White-shouldered Black Tit was recorded for a second day and Waterbuck was spotted down by the waterholes.

Woolly-necked Stork was new, and two more Pearl-spotted Owlets were seen closely. A Blue-breasted Kingfisher was seen beautifully. Grey-headed Bush-shrike called continuously but we were distracted by other things before we could locate it. A single Bearded Barbet was rather distant. An immature Fine-spotted Woodpecker was difficult to follow as it moved from branch to branch among a flowering tree. Snowy-crowned Robin-chat was again glimpsed, and it was pleasing to see Yellow-breasted Apalis for a second day. A highlight was three Red-winged Pytilias, the host of Exclamatory Paradise Whydah, also seen. Remarkably Togo Paradise Whydah was noted too, at least four stunning breeding males, the host of this species being Yellow-winged Pytilia, which however is rare here.

Short-winged and Singing Cisticola were both noted, the former in the grass, the latter in a tree with several sunbirds, and a second Olivaceous Warbler was recorded. Green Squirrels were active in the trees. Towards the end of the walk, again at the waterholes, we had the usual Elephant encounters, with more fine photo opportunities.

After the usual mid day break, in the afternoon we headed in the vehicle towards the town of Damongo. Here we stopped at an almost dry reservoir where we finally saw Abyssinian Roller, much less in evidence at Mole than is usual this year. A small flock of Brown Babblers was characteristically rather elusive, and Black-rumped Waxbill was new for us. Among the few butterflies were Long-tailed Blue, and *Azanus moriqua*.

The rocky outcrop a few kilometres back along the Tamale road was very quiet today, producing very little. It is several years since we have seen Freckled Nightjars here. Back in Damongo a small

bank had stayed open so that I could change what was a very large sum of money in these parts, to enable me to pay the Mole bill in Cedis. In town a roadside tree supported a large colony of roosting Gambian Epaulleted Fruit Bats.

At dinner we celebrated Val's birthday by the pool, with Champagne thoughtfully provided by Margaret, and a bottle of red wine on Greentours.

Day 8 Tuesday 15th January Mole National Park

Today we set off further into the park, in a four wheel drive that is now available for hire at the motel. Our destination was the small ranger's camp at Lovi, but with planned and unplanned stops it didn't really matter if we reached that far or not. Setting out at 7a.m., and not returning until late afternoon, this trip gives an idea of the great size of the park. On a map one can see that Lovi is really not that far from the motel, and there is a vast expanse of park to the north of it. The area is little visited, except by the rangers, and today we saw not a single other person the whole journey!

With the group in the relative comfort inside the car, Zak and I sat on the roof and baked in the sun, spotting things as we went. It was a great day for mammals, notably both Kongoni and the stately Roan Antelope, several groups of each of which were encountered, some seen very closely. These species are rarely if ever seen in the usually visited parts of the park. Sadly no Ground Hornbills were seen this year.

A Kestrel perched, and Rufous Cisticola moved among the charred shrubs. One of the day's highlights was a Black-bellied Bustard in flight, characteristically showing much white in the wings. This was a new record for this tour. At one stop we walked through a rather dense patch of riverine forest. Gambaga Flycatcher was near the water's edge as were a few perched Wire-tailed Swallows. Black Crake was here too. The Bruce's Green Pigeons here were very wary. Yet another two Pearl-spotted Owlets were seen. Greater Honeyguide was calling, and located, a fine male.

Black-headed Heron and Purple Heron were noted, and another Woolly-necked Stork was seen. Mosque Swallows flew over. A small waterhole supported several White-faced Whistling Ducks, with Red-pate Cisticolas were active in the grass. Red-throated Bee-eaters were numerous today. Whinchat, another Yellow-breasted Apalis, and several Black-crowned Tchagras were among other species seen.

A patch of dry forest produced a small group of White Helmet Shrikes, a Brown-backed Woodpecker, and overhead two soaring Marabou Storks. Three Striped Kingfishers were noted along the way, and a Fine-spotted Woodpecker was rather peripatetic.

Elephants were seen also in this zone, and Buffalo droppings but none of the animals themselves.

We reached Lovi, and the almost dried up river there, in time for the picnic lunch. Even at the hottest time of the day there was still rather a lot of bird activity around the water. As we approached, the empty rangers' compound had a small covey of Stone Partridges scuttling around like chickens, hugging the walls of the mud huts. Some saw a Giant Kingfisher.

A short walk produced a mystery rodent, some 15 cm long, rufous, with a short tail, moving in the cover of some dry brush.

The drive back was much quieter due to the hot sun, although there was still much mammal activity. Striped Ground Squirrel and an Egyptian Mongoose were both new for us. Lesser Blue-eared Glossy Starling was added to the bird list. As we neared home a perched female Western Banded Snake-eagle prompted a stop.

In the evening, the pool and restaurant being much quieter tonight, Freckled Nightjar called and periodically flew around the lights.

Day 9 Wednesday 16th January Transfer to Bobiri

At breakfast we watched several now familiar birds and mammals down at the waterholes. Warthogs were again amazingly tame around the motel. It was time to pack and say farewell to all at Mole, not least to Zak who as usual had been excellent. We drove back along the dusty road to rejoin the northern highway. Most villages along this road are textbook African savannah villages, and very photogenic. Back on the tarmac we stopped at a few of the water-lily covered waterholes where we saw a female Marsh Harrier and Abyssinian Roller among others. I was pleased to spot a soaring Martial Eagle, and we stopped for good views. Namaqua Dove was finally added to the list, and a highlight was a Brown-rumped Bunting coming down to the water to drink. Chestnut-backed Sparrow-lark was here again. Entering Kumasi we negotiated the traffic, and drove past a huge roost of Straw-coloured Fruit Bats in the town centre.

Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary was to be our base for the next three nights. The small guesthouse in a forest clearing here is always a very peaceful place to stay. Very disturbingly this year logging trucks were much in evidence here, with several trundling along the track each morning, and returning laden in the evening. This is a great concern in such a small patch of good forest.

Having settled into the rooms we had our first walk at Bobiri, along the track amid tall trees. This produced Red-fronted Parrot, and Grey Parrot flying over. Yellow-whiskered, Little and Simple Greenbul were all calling.

After dinner, on the wooden balcony of an old colonial building next to the guesthouse, I went on a long night walk down the track. The peace of the forest and complete isolation were wonderful. I saw no Demidoff's Galagos (which used to be so easy to find here), or indeed other mammals, but did hear Sandy Scops Owl.

Day 10 Thursday 17th January Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary

We were all out before breakfast. The night had been tranquil, and the morning was refreshingly cool with a heavy mist that soon burnt away. African Wood Owl was calling early morning. Along the main track several birds were active in the very tall trees. Bird wise things were initially very quiet. Red-headed Malimbos were seen, and a pair of Red-fronted Parrots landed in a fruiting tree. Velvet-mantled Drongo sallied for insects, Tambourine Dove was seen briefly as usual, and Grey-crowned Negrosfinches sang from high perches. In the second clearing a Cameroon Sombre Greenbul was located in a tangle of vegetation. The diminutive Yellow-browed Camaroptera and Lemon-bellied Crombec were seen well.

Bobiri is a forest reserve that is protected for the wealth of butterflies that occur here. The current estimate is some five hundred species. It was a rather odd day for us at Bobiri as the total absence of any water precluded the usual clouds of mud puddling butterflies that are such a feature in the middle of the day. Genera such as *Eupheadra* and *Bebearia*, normally so well represented, were few and far between too. The end of the morning however saw us reaching what is usually a very wet marshy area, the water usually making further progress impossible. There was however some slightly damp mud here that supported some interesting species, concentrated here due to the lack of anything better.

It is always difficult to know how to start describing the butterflies here, even on a day like this we saw well over one hundred species. Among the swallowtails seen during the day were Mocker Swallowtail, *Papilio nireus*, *Papilio sosia*, *Papilio cypraeofila*, and Citrus Swallowtail. Pierids were much in evidence, with both Common and Forest Grass Yellows, Cambridge Vagrants, Forest Caper White, *Mylothris poppea* and *Mylothris rhodope* all noted. The wood whites *Leptosia alcesta* and *Leptosia hybrida* fluttered weakly at the forest edge and *Nepheronia pharis* was attractively patterned. Blues were the most speciose group today, particularly at the mud patch. Among them were *Anthene larydas*, *Anthene lysicles*, *Anthene liodes*, *Anthene lachares*, *Anthene sylvanus*, and *Pseudonacaduba sichela*. African Beak, or Nettle-tree Butterfly was numerous, particularly towards the end of the walk.

Larger and impressive species included Square-winged Red Charaxes, Ussher's Palla, African Leaf Butterfly, Gaudy Commodore, Variable Eggfly, Clouded Mother-of Pearl, African Map Butterfly, Pied Piper, Incipient False *Acraea*, Common Pink Forester, and Western Musanga *Acraea*.

A notice in the clearing states the number of bird species recorded here by a Dutch birder. In the two or so months that I have spent in total at Bobiri I have recorded more than that number, some 160 species, including some very rare birds such as Yellow-footed Honeyguide. It is important to remember that although diversity in forests such as this is high, numbers of each species are generally low, and on a short visit only a small selection of what is present will ever be seen. That is why, for example, each visit to the canopy walkway at Kakum yields different birds, and after an estimated 150 hours spent up there I am still recording new species there, i.e. this year Black Bee-eater.

Harrier Hawk soared over the forest, we have seen much more unusual raptors here in the past such as Crowned Eagle. Grey Kestrel has taken up residence in the cleared area near the guesthouse. Black-throated Coucal was seen very well, in bamboo near the track, and was unperturbed by our presence.

Blue-throated Roller, Bristle-nosed and Hairy-breasted Barbet were all seen, and a male Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike was seen briefly. Maxwell's Black Weaver was here, and as at Kakum Yellow-mantled Weaver was much in evidence. It was a reasonable day for sunbirds, with Collared, Little Green, Olive-bellied, Copper, Johanna's, Superb, Western Olive and Blue-throated Brown all noted.

We returned to the guesthouse verandah on time this year as I'd ordered lunch an hour later than usual.

After a siesta in the afternoon we walked the same way along the track, the best find being two Fraser's Forest Flycatchers. Ahanta Francolin was calling.

Day 11 Friday 18th January Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary

The second day at Bobiri always allows a more leisurely appreciation of the wealth of butterflies, after the sensory onslaught of the first day. And always a good number of species not seen on the first day are recorded.

Notable butterflies today included a female Western Red Charaxes; White-barred Charaxes; and Demon Charaxes. *Mimeresia semirufa* was a good find and just about the only liptenid seen at Bobiri this visit. Stately Bush Brown, Angular Glider and Lurid Glider were all seen. As usual there was a good selection of *Neptis* at Bobiri, among them *Neptis alta*, *Neptis puella*, *Neptis metanira*, *Neptis trigonophora* and *Neptis melicerta*.

Skippers were much in evidence, such as Striped Policeman, Common Orange Sprite, Common Elfin, Bouvier's Elfin, Pearl-spotted Forest Nymph, and White-banded Red-eye.

Gabon Woodpecker and Yellowbill were among the birds. I saw a Bush Duiker briefly, in the open area near the start of the track, but it quickly disappeared into the forest.

Come the time for the afternoon walk, Jones had still not returned from his drive to Accra, so we set off on foot towards the open area. Of course the familiar grey van soon came into sight and we climbed aboard.

We arrived at the open area outside the forest with plenty of time before dark and were able to walk at a leisurely pace for some distance through this interesting habitat.

A male Black and White Flycatcher was a good find in a rather distant tree, and an even more distant Viellot's Barbet looked very strange! Two perched Rufous-chested Swallows were seen superbly. Red-faced Cisticola was singing in the grass. The White-throated Bee-eaters were coming down onto the track to take insects, and there were Yellow Wagtails on the track too. Simple Greenbul was finally seen well, and there were a few Woodland Kingfishers.

Day 12 Saturday 19th January

Transfer to Amedzofe

It was time to say farewell to Agnes and Evans at Bobiri, and make our way east to pastures new for this tour. With now only five of us and our luggage there was plenty of room to rattle around in the vehicle. As we drove out of the forest at Bobiri a West African Goshawk flew across the track in front of us.

David was desperate for bananas and they were amazingly hard to come by today, until later in the journey. First of all we travelled the familiar (to me) Kumasi to Accra road stopping in Nkawkaw for fuel. I had hoped to take the road from here that leads up over the escarpment through Mpraeso and then along the shore of Lake Volta but it seemed that this route would be far too time consuming. Along the road was a disturbing selection of bush meat on offer, including an amazing three Long-tailed Pangolins.

A welcome stop was provided by Bunso Arboretum, a real find, with a small guest house and the friendly Samuel as warden. It was the butterflies that were the stars of the show here, and in an hour or so we caught up with several species we had not seen at Bobiri. Notable were the several Liptenids, which had been disturbingly absent at Bobiri. Birds were few as the sun was already high, but we saw Swamp Palm Greenbul. This was a beautiful peaceful place. Notable among the butterflies were Common Red Pentila, Western Cream Pentila, Similar Yellow, Western Pierid Blue, and Powdered Epitolina. Highlight was the scarce Hypolycaena kadiskos.

The journey became ever more interesting, with the hills forming a backdrop, and the habitat we were driving through predominantly savannah, which reaches the coast here in the Dahomey Gap. The roads were good and the only hold ups in some of the small towns such as Koforidua, where we kept ourselves amused by watching the many sellers of football regalia.

Blue-bellied Rollers and Lizard Buzzards perched on the wires. It became very difficult to find a spot with some shade and few people at which to stop for lunch, but once across the impressive Volta Bridge we turned onto a small road and stopped and ate quickly beside the river. Here were Heuglin's Masked Weavers.

Now we were in the Volta region, very different from what I was used to in Ghana, although I have travelled on the Togo side of this region. The roads became better surfaced and quieter and the villages more scattered. There was much very good savannah habitat which surely had very good wildlife potential. Black-shouldered Kite sat on the wires.

We stopped in Jones' home village to say hello to his father and then continued north. The last part of the journey was rather bumpy along what we were to learn was a little used road. The Mountain Paradise Lodge was certainly well situated, although somewhat basic. The surroundings were remarkably quiet natural history wise, considering the good habitat, certainly the forest in the valley below.

A late afternoon walk, with the sun already setting behind the hill, produced little other than Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher and a male Northern Puff-back.

We soon learnt there was no electricity and no generator, and were soon longing for the minor comforts of Bobiri. All this was taken in good humour, and dinner was a very amusing affair in the dark, with cold red red or whatever had been ordered. The night was beautifully peaceful under glorious starry skies and a very pleasant temperature.

Day 13 Sunday 20th January Amedzofe

Most of us were out before breakfast to explore the lodge environs. We walked the little used dirt road down to Biakpa village. Flowering Silk Cottons had Splendid Glossy Starling, Hairy-breasted Barbet and a selection of sunbirds. Fruiting trees attracted several African Thrushes, a Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, and most notably a Least Honeyguide, of which the tinkerbird was probably the host. Green Turacos called regularly but remained elusive.

A small patch of cultivation afforded good views of mixed habitat with good forest in the valley below. Things were surprisingly quiet here but a Yellow-mantled Weaver and then a Red-headed (of course) Malimbe perched on an exposed vine. A Tree Pipit was a surprise addition to the list. On the edge of the village there was a good mixed flock comprising African Paradise Flycatcher, a female Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike, Little Grey Greenbul and Slender-billed Greenbul. Green Crombec and Spotted Flycatcher were noted on the walk back.

Breakfast was an interesting affair, with very strange coffee. Jones drove us back to Vane village and from there we took a beautiful, mostly paved, road through much better habitat than that around the hotel, to the village of Amedzofe. There I organised a guide from the community ecotourism project and we set off to explore. The fact we were not heading for the water fall, as nearly all visitors do, and looking intently at butterflies and birds, as almost no visitors do, was initially a source of bemusement, but the guide was very helpful and soon adjusted to our idiosyncracies.

Things got off to a superb start with a spot by the river where two ladies were doing some washing, and where girls came to collect water. The salty earth here was alive with mud puddling butterflies, the greatest variety we had seen on the tour. It was overwhelming to start with, as new species were spotted continuously. The Acraea were numerous, and no fewer than seventeen species were recorded today, among them Falcate Acraea, Orina Acraea, Jodutta Acraea, Bonasia

Acraea, and Translucent Acraea. The scarce black and yellow *Mesoxantha ethosea* was a good find. There were some interesting lycaenids, particularly *Anthene locuples*, a ciliate blue with an orange patch on each wing. The remarkably named *Uranothauma falckensteini* was here, and *Azonus isis*, *Lipaphneaus leonina*, and *Tuxentius carana* were among the other lycaenids found. There were several *Mylothris jaopura*; African Map Butterfly; Golden Piper; Common Red Glider, *Sophus Forester*, and Green False Acraea among many others. Everywhere one looked new species were found.

Nearby was a small mixed flock containing most notably Cassin's Honeybird, as well as Gabon Woodpecker, Buff-throated Sunbird, and Superb Sunbird. A walk along a track through open savannah and woodland produced yet more butterflies, such as Broad Green-banded Swallowtails patrolling the track, and Western Blue Beauty. Yellowbill crept about in a vine tangle.

Back at the washing spot several more butterflies were added to the list. The black and white swallowtail *Papilio nobicea* was a good find. On some fermenting fruit were Banded Forester and Ceres Forester, and under the trees Yellow-banded Evening Brown, *Bicyclus maesseni*, Brown Pansy, and Brilliant Nymph. Emerald Cuckoo called above us and Levaillant's Cuckoo was seen.

Lunch proved interesting. I'd ordered it at a small guest house in the village. When we returned at the appointed hour we were stopped by a Japanese girl, and the film crew we'd seen earlier in the village were filming at the guest house. They stopped proceedings for us, and we quietly retired to the kitchen to eat so they could resume filming. Apparently this was a Japanese reality show, featuring a young couple. Lunch was good and we enjoyed a long siesta sitting on the balcony, with views across the valley to the Mountain Paradise Lodge. On the television was the opening ceremony of the African Nations Cup.

Once the temperature had cooled a little we walked slowly along the road down from the village. Little Greenbul called continuously. An interesting find was a very large Psychid moth larval case on the underside of a leaf. There was a good selection of bugs, grasshoppers and other insects too. A West African Goshawk soared overhead, and Blue-spotted Wood-dove on the road was seen well. I spotted a Drury's Emperor Swallowtail perched inside the forest, a new species for us. The skipper Blue Policeman was impressive, and Striped Policeman and White-banded Red-eye were here too.

Day 14 Monday 21st January

Wli Falls and Ho

Before breakfast we drove back to Amedzofe and walked down the paved road again. In such promising habitat things were surprisingly quiet, but it was a very pleasant early morning stroll nevertheless. Green Turaco was finally seen, and West African Goshawk was here again.

After breakfast we loaded up and said farewell to the Mountain Paradise Lodge. We travelled north via Hohoe, and then east to the Togo border, and what is apparently West Africa's most

impressive waterfall, at Wli on the Togo border. This is in the Agumatsa Wildlife Sanctuary. It was necessary to hire a 'guide' for the walk to the falls, and he was totally unused to the slow pace of naturalists and soon became very bored with us. He couldn't wait to leave us once we'd reached the falls!

Among the few birds seen the highlight was at least three Honeyguide Greenbuls, and a male Superb Sunbird perched atop a tree.

This was a superb place for butterflies however. Various spots along the walk to the falls were alive with them, particularly whenever we crossed the many bridges across the stream. Among the many species recorded along the two kilometre or so path were Drury's Emperor Swallowtail, Veined Swordtail, Common Striped Swordtail, African Palmfly, Scalloped Sailer, Common Glider, Common Red Glider, Friendly Nymph, Atossa Nymph, Edward's Forester, and Small Smoky Acraea. Large nymphalids were a feature, among them Common Forest Queen, Blue Diadem, Lilac Beauty, Western Blue Beauty, and Forest Mother-of-Pearl. Blue Leaf Butterfly was a highlight. The lovely Common Silver Spot was found, and the only Common Silverline of the tour. A Large Orange Playboy (!) was another good find.

The falls themselves were very impressive and well worth the walk. They cascade down an escarpment which is the border with Togo, the top of the falls being in that country. Incredibly impressive here was the vast roost of thousands of Straw-coloured Fruit Bats, noisy and squabbling as fruit bats usually do. They covered much of the extensive rock face. A Peregrine was seen briefly flying over the cliffs.

Again there was much butterfly activity around the falls. The 'black Charaxes' here were probably *Charaxes virilis*, as the blue upperside sheen was pronounced. Golden Pansy was here too.

For lunch we were pleased to find an excellent little guesthouse in town, with a very friendly owner. The cold drinks and sandwiches were very welcome. It was then time to head south to the town of Ho. A late afternoon stop in the savannah near Ho produced a pair of Striped Kingfishers, a pair and an immature Klaas's Cuckoo, and most notably Compact Weaver. The hotel was very busy tonight. Dinner was substantial, the Chinese options being nothing like Chinese food but very tasty anyway.

Day 15 Tuesday 22nd January to Accra, Aburi Botanic Gardens, and departure

A leisurely start today, and we drove back towards the Volta across the interesting savannah Dahomey Gap landscape with birds such as Blue-bellied Rollers and Black-shouldered Kite on the wires. As we crossed the impressive bridge over the river Jones told us that, before he was president, Jerry Rawlings flew a fighter plane under this bridge! Of most note on the journey were four Piapiacs.

A rather circuitous route took us to the botanic gardens at Aburi, in the Akwapim hills above Accra. There were several visitors today but the route I chose took us away from them, and via a couple of rubbish dumps that I'm sure are not on the itinerary of most visitors. It was rather late in the day for birds but we had good views of Splendid Glossy Starling. A wild area produced the third Cassin's Honeybird of the tour, as well as Speckled Tinkerbird. A couple of Slender-tailed Squirrels were active in the trees.

A flowering Erythrina had several sunbirds including Olive-bellied and Western Olive. Butterflies were not numerous but an interesting find was a female Diadem lacking the white apical markings and with hindwing orange, mimicking a form of African Tiger not found in west Africa.

Lunch at the garden cafe was so slow that I missed out completely, but thanks to David I had something to eat. We continued our journey and arrived in Accra mid afternoon. Jones and I went into town to do a couple of things whilst everyone used my room to change and shower in and do some final packing. At 6 p.m. we went to the airport to check in and then returned to the Shangri-la for dinner. Everyone left and I stayed on in west Africa for another ten days. My week in Sierra Leone was an experience(!), the highlight being three Picathartes which I saw superbly well.

Systematic List Number 1 Mammals

The nomenclature and taxonomic order are taken from ‘The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals’ by Jonathan Kingdon (1997). An indication of abundance is given by the number of days out of 14 seen during the tour e.g. 5/14 means that the species was seen on 5 days out of 14. ‘The North’ refers to areas north of Kintampo. For description and mapped extents of main vegetation zones (used below) see Grimes – basically the Forest zone is given as south of Techiman and west of Accra and the forest-savannah transition zone implies areas north of Techiman to around Kintampo and wooded savannah to the north of there.

The itinerary

Jan 9 th	Early morning around the Shangri-La Hotel Accra, later Panbros Salt Pans, Afternoon around the Coconut Grove Resort, Elmina
Jan 10 th	Kakum Rainforest: Canopy Walkway and Headquarters area
Jan 11 th	Kakum Rainforest: Antikwa. Journey to Kumasi
Jan 12 th	Kumasi to Kintampo Falls, to Mole National Park
Jan 13 th	Mole National Park
Jan 14 th	Mole National Park and Damongo
Jan 15 th	Mole National Park, drive to Lovi
Jan 16 th	Mole to Kumasi and Bobiri
Jan 17 th	Bobiri
Jan 18 th	Bobiri
Jan 19 th	Bobiri to Biakpa via Bunso Arboretum and the Volta at Senchi
Jan 20 th	Biakpa and Amedzofe
Jan 21 st	Wli Falls and Ho
Jan 22 nd	Ho to Accra via Aburi Botanic Gardens

Olive Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i>	Several troops at Mole, close to habitation. 3/14
Patas Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus patas</i>	A few seen well at Mole. 2/14
Lowe’s Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus (mona) lowei</i>	Seen well from the canopy walkway at Kakum. 1/14
Lesser Spot-nosed Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus petaurista</i>	Seen very well from the canopy walkway at Kakum
Callithrix Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus callithrix</i>	Part of the ‘Savannah Monkey’ superspecies which includes East Africa’s Vervet Monkey. Quite common at Mole. 3/14
Gambian Epaulleted Fruit Bat	<i>Epomorphorus gambianus</i>	A large colony in trees in Damongo centre. 2/14
Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>	Seen by the waterholes at Mole. 1/14
Straw-coloured Fruit Bat	<i>Eidolon helvum</i>	Huge quarrelling colonies seen in Kumasi and Accra, and most impressively at Wli Falls. 3/14
Bat spp.		Various insectivorous bats noted.
Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	Seen on two nights at Mole. 2/14
Striped Ground Squirrel	<i>Euxerus erythropus</i>	Mole. 1/14

Fire-footed Rope Squirrel	<i>Funisciurus pyrropus</i>	1 at Kakum. 1/14
Green Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus poensis</i>	Kakum and Bobiri, and this is the small Uniform coloured species at Mole. 3/14
Slender-tailed Squirrel	<i>Protoxerus aubinnii</i>	1 at Antikwa, 4 at Aburi. 2/14
Marsh Cane Rat	<i>Thryonomys swinderianus</i>	A few offered for sale as bushmeat along the roadsides in the forest zone.
Giant Pouched Rat	<i>Cricetomys gambianus</i>	For sale as bushmeat along the Kumasi to Accra road.
Rodent sp.		A rodent, c.15 cm long, rufous fur, short tail, was seen at Lovi in the middle of the day. I have been unable to identify it, even to genus.
Egyptian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Gambian Mongoose	<i>Mungos gambianus</i>	A group of about twenty at Mole. 1/14
Common Genet	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	1 found on a night walk at Mole. 1/14
African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	Prints at Bobiri.
Long-tailed Pangolin	<i>Uromanis tetradactyla</i>	Very disturbingly an amazing total of three for sale as bushmeat along the Kumasi to Accra road. This must indicate the species is not uncommon in the very degraded habitat in that area.
Aardvark	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>	Several burrows at Mole.
African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	Seen daily around Mole, most frequently by the waterhole below the escarpment but also in the wooded savannah – allowed very close approach! A daily maximum of c.25 animals. 3/15. Tracks of Forest Elephant were seen at Antikwa.
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	Quite common at Mole where seen daily – another species that allowed incredibly close approach. 5/14
African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	Droppings on the Lovi track at Mole.
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	Regular in small numbers at Mole. 3/14
Bush Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	1 at Bobiri. 1/14
Maxwell's Duiker	<i>Cephalophus monticola</i>	For sale as bushmeat in the forest zone.
Black Duiker	<i>Cephalophus niger</i>	1 in the forest at Bobiri was a good record. 1/14
Red-flanked Duiker	<i>Cephalophus rufilatus</i>	1 in riverine forest at Mole. 1/14
Bay Duiker	<i>Cephalophus dorsalis</i>	1 for sale as bushmeat along the Kumasi to Accra road.
Royal Antelope	<i>Neotragus pygmaeus</i>	1 for sale as bushmeat along the Kumasi to Accra road.
Kob	<i>Kobus kob</i>	Widespread and common at Mole. 4/14
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsyprimnus</i>	Small numbers at Mole. 2/14
Kongoni (Kanki)	<i>Alcelaphus busephalus ssp.major</i>	A good total of c.50 at Mole, along the Lovi track. 1/14
Roan Antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>	c.30 along the Lovi track at Mole, some seen very well. 1/14

Systematic List Number 2 Birds

The nomenclature and taxonomic order are taken from Grimes', 'The Birds of Ghana – an Annotated Checklist' published by the BOU in 1987. An indication of abundance is given by the number of days out of 14 seen during the tour e.g. 5/14 means that the species was seen on 5 days out of 14. 'The North' refers to areas north of the Kintampo. For description and mapped extents of main vegetation zones (used below) see Grimes – basically the Forest zone is given as south of Techiman and west of Accra and the forest-savannah transition zone implies areas north of Techiman to around Kintampo and wooded savannah to the north of there. The Volta Region is the area to the east of Lake Volta, bordering Togo. More notable records of species seen in previous years but not in 2008 are put in square brackets. 2008 indicates a species seen for the first time this year, or one we have not seen for several years.

The itinerary

Jan 9 th	Early morning around the Shangri-La Hotel Accra, later Panbros Salt Pans, Afternoon around the Coconut Grove Resort, Elmina
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Jan 22 nd	Ho to Accra via Aburi Botanic Gardens

Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	Numerous at Panbros. 1/14
[White-backed Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax leuconotus</i>	Not seen at Mole since 2004.]
Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Scattered - daily at Mole. 4/14
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Singles at Panbros and Mole. 2/14
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Widespread and very common. 11/14
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Scattered records, Panbros and Mole. 4/14
Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	Accra and Mole. 4/14
Great Egret	<i>Egretta albus</i>	Scattered records. 2/14
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	10+ at Panbros. 1/14
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Local. Numerous at Panbros. 2/14
Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>	Very common at Panbros. 1/14
Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophyx intermedia</i>	Panbros and Mole. 3/14
Hammerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Several at Mole. 3/14
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14
Marabout Stork	<i>Leptotilus crumeniferus</i>	2 at Mole. 1/14
[Saddlebill	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	2005. One daily at Mole.]
Hadada	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Common at Mole. 4/14

[Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	Usually at Mole, not in 2008]
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Near Cape Coast and en route to Lovi. 2/14
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
African White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	A few at Mole. 3/14
Hooded Vulture	<i>Neophron monachus</i>	Widespread and very common. 10/14
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14
[Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1 at Bobiri, 2007.]
Western Banded Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>	A female at Mole. 1/14
[Brown Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	2005. 1 at Mole.]
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	2 females at Panbros, 1 in north. 2/14
[Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	2005. A female at Panbros.]
Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 4/14
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	One or two daily at Mole. 4/14
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Scattered records. 5/14
[Red-thighed Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter erythropus</i>	1 seen very well in the canopy at Kakum. 2007]
Great Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	An immature at Antikwa. 1/14
West African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	1 at Bobiri, and two near Amedzofe. 3/14
	<i>ssp.macroscelides</i>	
[Gabar Goshawk	<i>Melierax gabar</i>	1 at Mole, 2007]
[Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	A total of 4 in the northern savanna, 2007]
Grasshopper Buzzard	<i>Butastur rufipennis</i>	Common in the north. 3/14
Red-necked Buzzard	<i>Buteo auguralis</i>	Widespread in low numbers. 5/14
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	Scattered at Mole and in wooded-savannah Zone, reaching the coast on the Accra plains. 6/14
		2005. An immature at Mole.]
[African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	2005. 1 at Nkawkaw. A rarely recorded species.]
[Cassin's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus africanus</i>	2007, 1 at Mole, not seen there for several years on the tour.]
		1 in the north. 1/14
[Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	2007, 1 at Bobiri, a good record.]
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	2008, Mole and Accra plains. 3/14
[African Cuckoo Hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	Widespread and very common. 9/14
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1 at Antikwa. 1/14
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	2007, 1 at a village waterhole in the northern savanna was a first for this tour.]
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	Coconut Grove and Bobiri. 3/14
[Secretary Bird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	Usually at Mole.]
		2007, Probably this species seen briefly near Damongo.]
Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>	A female at Mole. 1/14
[Lanner	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	1 at Wli Falls 2008. 1/14
[Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>	1 en route to and 1 at Mole. 2/14
		1 at Antikwa, and heard at Bobiri. 1/14
African Hobby	<i>Falco cuvieri</i>	Very common at Mole. 3/14
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	4 in the forest at Bobiri, 2007.]
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Seen on two days at Mole. 2/14
Ahanta Francolin	<i>Francolinus achantensis</i>	Large flocks seen every day at Mole. 5/14
Double-spurred Francolin	<i>Francolinus bicalcaratus</i>	1 seen very well at Coconut Grove. 1/14
[Latham's Forest Francolin	<i>Francolinus lathamii</i>	Several at Panbros, also Mole. 2/14
Stone Partridge	<i>Ptilopachus petrosus</i>	Scattered wetland records. 4/14
Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	2008, 2 at Panbros, 1 at Mole. 2/14
African Crane	<i>Crex egregia</i>	2008, 1 at Mole, in flight. 1/14
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	3 females at Mole, 2007.]
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africana</i>	
Black Crane	<i>Limnocorax flavirostra</i>	
Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Eupodotis melanogastor</i>	
[Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	

Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Common at Panbros. 1/14
Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>	Daily at Mole. 4/14
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	On the golf course at Coconut Grove. 1/14
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	2008, 1 at Panbros, after a gap of several years. 1/14
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
Wattled Plover	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14
Spur-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	2 at Panbros (few coastal records), and 1 on 2 days at Mole. 3/14
[Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	10+ at Panbros, 2007]
[Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	c.4 at Panbros, 2007]
[Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	Several at Panbros, 2007]
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	A few at Panbros. 1/14
Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
[Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1 at Coconut Grove, 2007]
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Panbros. 1/14
Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Panbros. 1/14
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Panbros and Mole. 2/14
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Panbros. 1/14
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Several at Panbros. 1/14
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Numerous at Panbros. 1/14
[Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	2004.1 at Panbros in the same pool as we have recorded it in the past. A vagrant to Ghana.]
Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	1 at Panbros 2008. 1/14
[Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>	Several at Panbros, 2007]
[Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	50+ at Panbros, 2007]
[Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Panbros, 2007]
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Several at Panbros, surprisingly not seen there in 2007. 1/14
[Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	2005. 2 near Damongo.]
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Scattered. Towns. 5/13
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	1 only, in northern savanna. 1/14
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Widespread. 12/14
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Widespread and common. 10/14
Vinaceous Dove	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>	Very common at Mole. 4/14
Green Pigeon	<i>Treron australis</i>	Locally common in forests. 8/14
Bruce's Green Pigeon	<i>Treron waalia</i>	A few at Mole. 1/14
Black-billed Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>	Scattered at Mole, and in savanna zone. 4/14
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>	Scattered in the forest and along coast. 4/14
Blue-headed Dove	<i>Turtur brehmeri</i>	Heard at Bobiri.
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistris</i>	Scattered in forest zones. Heard often. 6/14
[Black-collared Lovebird	<i>Agapornis swinderniana</i>	2004. Seen briefly flying away from the <i>Antiaris toxicaria</i> holding the furthest platform on the canopy walkway at Kakum, where it nests.]
Red-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	Daily at Bobiri. 3/14
Senegal Parrot	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	Rather common at Mole. 3/14
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Quite common at Mole where some observed nesting. 2/14
Grey Parrot	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	Kakum and Bobiri. 4/14
Western Grey Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 9/14

Violet Turaco	<i>Musophaga violacea</i>	A few at Mole, and a surprising coastal record near Winneba. 3/14
Yellow-billed Turaco	<i>Tauraco macrorhynchus</i>	Heard often at Kakum.
Green Turaco	<i>Tauraco persa</i>	Heard regularly in Volta region, and a few seen there. 1/14
Didric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	An immature at Kakum. 1/14
Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>	Heard at Kakum and Amedzofe.
Klaas' Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	Heard at widespread sites, and a pair and immature in savannah near Ho. 1/14
[Great Spotted Cuckoo	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>	2004. 1 at Coconut Grove.]
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>	3 at Kakum, 1 at Amedzofe. 2/14
Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	Heard at Kakum.
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	2008, an immature from the canopy walkway. 1/14
Yellowbill	<i>Ceuthmochares aereus</i>	Scattered in the forested zone. 3/14
Black-throated Coucal	<i>Centropus leucogastor</i>	Bobiri, and near Assin Foso. 2/14
Blue-headed Coucal	<i>Centropus monachus</i>	2008, 1 at Panbros. 1/14
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	Widespread, heard often. 6/13
[Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	2004. 2 seen very well near Damongo.]
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Seen well at Mole. 2/14
[Pel's Fishing Owl	<i>Scotopelia peli</i>	2005. A great find at Mole.]
African Wood Owl	<i>Ciccaba woodfordi</i>	Heard at night at Bobiri.
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>	6 sightings at Mole. 3/14
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>	Heard at Biakpa.
Sandy Scops Owl	<i>Otus icterorhynchus</i>	Heard at Bobiri.
Long-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus climacurus</i>	1 before dawn as we drove to Kakum. 1/14
Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>	Heard and seen at Mole. 1/14
[Standard-winged Nightjar	<i>Macrodipteryx longipennis</i>	1 seen very close near Lingbing Kura, 2007]
Cassin's Spinetail	<i>Neofrapus cassini</i>	Antikwa. 1/14
Sabine's Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura sabini</i>	Antikwa. 1/14
[Mottled Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura ussheri</i>	2005. Mole.]
[Black Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura melanopygia</i>	2005. 4 at Antikwa.]
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Widespread but local. 3/14
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Kakum area. 2/14
[White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	2005. Mole.]
Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	Widespread and locally common. 6/14
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle maxima</i>	1 at Lovi. 1/14
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Numerous at Panbros. 1/14
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>	Panbros and Mole. 4/14
[African Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx lecontei</i>	1 seen superbly from the canopy walkway at Kakum, 2007]
[African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx picta</i>	Kakum and Owabi, 2007]
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halycon leucocephala</i>	A few in the north. 3/14
Blue-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halycon malimbica</i>	On two days at Mole. 2/14
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halycon senegalensis</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 5/14
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	Mole and near Ho. 2/14
[Chocolate-backed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon badia</i>	Heard from platform 5 of the canopy walkway at Kakum where we discovered this species in September 2003. Very close but didn't see it this time. 2007]
White-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>	Widespread and locally common. 8/14
Red-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops bulocki</i>	Locally very common at Mole. 3/14
Black Bee-eater	<i>Merops gularis</i>	3+ noted at Antikwa, 1 from the canopy walkway. 2/14
Rosy Bee-eater	<i>Merops malimbicus</i>	2 at Antikwa. 1/14

Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	Scarce, Panbros, Elmina, Bobiri, and Accra Plains. 3/14
[Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicus</i>	Stunning views of 50+ at Mole, 2007]
Abyssinian Roller	<i>Coracias abyssinica</i>	A few in the north. 3/14
Blue-bellied Roller	<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>	Kintampo area, and several on Accra Plains. 3/14
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	Probably this species in north, seen from moving vehicle, so possibly an immature <i>C.abyssinica</i> .
[Rufous-crowned Roller	<i>Coracias naevia</i>	Daily at Mole. Remarkably absent in 2008]
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
Blue-throated Roller	<i>Eurystomus gularis</i>	Kakum and Bobiri. 3/14
[Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	1 at Mole, 2007]
Green Wood-Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	Daily at Mole. 3/14
Forest Wood-Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus castaneiceps</i>	3 at Kakum. 1/14
White-headed Wood-Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus bollei</i>	2008, 2 at Kakum. 1/14
[Black Wood-Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus aterrimus</i>	2005. A few at Mole.]
[Abyssinian Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus abyssinicus</i>	2007, 6 at Mole.]
[Piping Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes fistulator</i>	2005. Only at Kakum.]
Black and White Casqued Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes subcylindricus</i>	4 at Antikwa. 1/14
Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>	Heard only, at Mole.
Pied Hornbill	<i>Tockus fasciatus</i>	Widespread and common in the forest and forest-savannah zones. 10/14
Black Dwarf Hornbill	<i>Tockus hartlaubi</i>	Heard at Bobiri.
Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>	Common in the north. 5/14
White-crested Hornbill	<i>Tropicranus albocristatus</i>	1 seen very well at Antikwa. 1/14
[Yellow-spotted Barbet	<i>Buccanodon duchailui</i>	Kakum, 2007]
Naked-faced Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco calvus</i>	Widespread in small numbers. 5/14
Bristle-nosed Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco peli</i>	A few records in the forest zone. 2/14
[Double-toothed Barbet	<i>Lybius bidentatus</i>	2005. 4 at Brenu Beach.]
Bearded Barbet	<i>Lybius dubius</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Hairy-breasted Barbet	<i>Lybius hirsutus</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
Vieillot's Barbet	<i>Lybius vieilloti</i>	Heard at Mole, 1 at Bobiri in the open area outside the forest. 1/14
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>	A few in the forest zone. 2/14
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	Heard at Mole.
Speckled Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i>	Heard often, seen occasionally. 5/14
Yellow-throated Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i>	Heard at Kakum.
[Yellow-billed Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i>	2005. Nesting at Antikwa, and heard at Bobiri.]
Least Honeyguide	<i>Indicator exilis</i>	2008, 1 at Biakpa. 1/14
[Thick-billed Honeyguide	<i>Indicator conirostris</i>	2004. 1 at Kakum.]
[Yellow-footed Honeyguide	<i>Melignomon eisentrauti</i>	2004.1 was seen well at Bobiri and watched for some time. This is a very rare and little known species which occurs in Liberia and Cameroon and for which there are historical records for Ghana.]
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	A male at Mole. 1/14
Cassin's Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus insignis</i>	2008 a total of 3. Singles at Kakum, Amedzofe, and Aburi. 3/14
Brown-eared Woodpecker	<i>Campethera caroli</i>	1 from the canopy walkway at Kakum. 1/14
[Little Green Woodpecker	<i>Campethera maculosa</i>	2005. Bobiri, Techiman Forest and Nkawkaw.]

[Buff-spotted Woodpecker Fine-spotted Woodpecker Gabon Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nivosa</i> <i>Campethera puntuligera</i> <i>Dendropicos gabonensis</i>	Atewa Range, PGC. 2007] 2 at Mole. 2/14 2008. Race ' <i>lugubris</i> '. 2 at Antikwa, 3 at Bobiri, 2 at Amedzofe. 3/14
Brown-backed Woodpecker Grey Woodpecker [Rufous-sided Broadbill	<i>Dendropicos obsoletus</i> <i>Mesopicos goertae</i> <i>Smithornis rufolateralis</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14 A few at Mole. 2/14 The distinctive call was heard at Kakum, in the forest near the canopy walkway, 2007. Seen in January 2003 at Bobiri.] Seen at waterholes north of the Volta Bridge en route to Mole. 2/14
Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>	3 birds at Mole, en route to Lovi, probably a new record for the park, 2007]
[Rufous-rumped Lark	<i>Pinarocorys erythropygia</i>	Several at Bobiri, 2007]
[Common House Martin Lesser Striped Swallow Ethiopian Swallow Rufous-chested Swallow Mosque Swallow Barn Swallow Red-chested Swallow	<i>Delichon urbica</i> <i>Hirundo abyssinica</i> <i>Hirundo aethiopica</i> <i>Hirundo semirufa</i> <i>Hirundo senegalensis</i> <i>Hirundo rustica</i> <i>Hirundo (rustica) lucida</i>	Kakum and Amedzofe. 2/14 A few in Accra. 1/14 2 in the open area at Bobiri. 1/14 A few at Mole. 1/14 Common. 9/14 Mole and some surprising records in the south. 4/14
Wire-tailed Swallow Preuss's Cliff Swallow Plain-backed Pipit Tree Pipit Yellow Wagtail	<i>Hirundo smithi</i> <i>Hirundo preussi</i> <i>Anthus leucophrys</i> <i>Anthus trivialis</i> <i>Motacilla flava</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14 Antikwa and Amedzofe. 2/14 2008, 2 at Coconut Grove. 1/14 1 at Biakpa. 1/14 Panbros, common at Coconut Grove, and Bobiri. All ssp. <i>flava</i> . 3/14 Scattered records. 3/14
African Pied Wagtail [Red-shouldered Cuckoo-Shrike Purple-throated Cuckoo-Shrike	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i> <i>Campephaga phoenicea</i> <i>Campephaga quiscalina</i>	2004. A male seen briefly at Mole] 2008, a male at Bobiri, a female at Biakpa. 2/14
Blue Cuckoo-Shrike [White-breasted Cuckoo-Shrike [Anson's Greenbul Cameroun Sombre Greenbul Slender-billed Greenbul Little Grey Greenbul Yellow-whiskered Greenbul	<i>Coracina azurea</i> <i>Coracina pectoralis</i> <i>Andropadus ansorgei</i> <i>Andropadus curvirostris</i> <i>Andropadus gracilirostris</i> <i>Andropadus gracilis</i> <i>Andropadus latirostris</i>	1 from the canopy walkway at Kakum. 1/14 2005. 2+ at Mole.] Atewa Range, PGC, 2007] Bobiri and Amedzofe. 2/14 Scattered forest records, locally common. 6/14 Kakum and Amedzofe. 2/14 A commonly heard species at Kakum and Bobiri, one seen at the latter. 1/14
Little Greenbul	<i>Andropadus virens</i>	Heard regularly in the forest zone. Seen occasionally. 4/14
Honeyguide Greenbul [Red-tailed Bristlebill Serine Greenbul Simple Greenbul [Red-tailed Greenbul [Western Bearded Greenbul [Icterine Greenbul Spotted Greenbul Common Bulbul White-tailed Greenbul	<i>Baeopogon indicator</i> <i>Bleda syndactyla</i> <i>Calyptocichla serina</i> <i>Chlorocichla simplex</i> <i>Criniger calurus</i> <i>Criniger barbatus</i> <i>Phyllastrephus icterinus</i> <i>Ixonotus guttatus</i> <i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i> <i>Thescelocichla leucopleurus</i>	2008, 3+ at Wli Falls. 1/14 2005. 1 at Kakum.] 1 at Kakum. 1/14 Scattered in forest zone. 4/14 Kakum, 2007] Kakum, 2007] Atewa Range, PGC, 2007] 3+ in the canopy at Kakum. 1/14 Widespread and common in all zones. 14/14 Also known as Swamp Palm Greenbul. Seen at Antikwa and Bunso but most commonly heard. 2/14
[Red-billed Helmet Shrike White Helmet Shrike Northern Puff-back	<i>Prionops caniceps</i> <i>Prionops plumatus</i> <i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>	Singles at Antikwa and Bobiri, 2007] 3+ near Lovi. 1/14 Scattered at Mole, also Volta region. 5/14

Sabine's Puff-back	<i>Dryoscopus sabini</i>	2 males in the canopy at Kakum. 1/14
Yellow-crowned Gonolek	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>	Several seen at Mole. Heard at Coconut Grove. 3/14
Grey-headed Bush-Shrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	Only heard at Mole this year.
[Sulphur-breasted Bush-shrike	<i>Malaconotus sulfureopectus</i>	2005. Mole.]
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalensis</i>	Coconut Grove, Accra, and Mole. 2/14
Yellow-billed Shrike	<i>Corvinella corvina</i>	Several at Mole. 3/14
Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	1 south of Kumasi, 1 in north. 2/14
[Fire-crested Alethe	<i>Alethe diademata</i>	2005. 1 at Kakum.]
[Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>	One only, at Mole. 2007]
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>	A few at Mole, seen daily but always briefly. (PC or ZW). 3/14
[White-fronted Black Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla albifrons</i>	2007, a pair in dry forest near Lovi. Not seen at Mole since 2001 on the tour.]
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	1 south of Kumasi, 1 at Mole. 2/14
[Finsch's Flycatcher Thrush	<i>Stizorhina finschi</i>	1 near Nkawkaw was a good record, 2007]
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>	Scattered, common in Accra and Volta. 6/13
[Brown Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis fulvescens</i>	2005. Bobiri.]
[Puvel's Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis puveli</i>	1 in coastal scrub at Brenu. A new record for this tour. 2007]
Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>	Damongo, and heard at Mole. 1/14
[Black-cap Babbler	<i>Turdoides reinwardii</i>	One elusive flock at Mole, 2007]
[Greater Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>	2004.1 at Panbros.]
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	4 at Mole. 3/14
[Sharpe's Apalis	<i>Apalis sharpii</i>	2004. Noted from the Canopy Walkway, Kakum, and at Nkawkaw.]
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>	Widespread. Heard often. 5/14
Yellow-browed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera superciliaris</i>	A few at Bobiri. 2/14
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Panbros. 1/14
Black-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola eximius</i>	2 behind the Shangri-la, Accra. 1/14
Short-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brachyptera</i>	Mole. 1/14
Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>	In the grassland at Bobiri. 1/14
Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>	A few at Panbros. 1/14
[Whistling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lateralis</i>	Antikwa, 2007.]
Rufous Cisticola	<i>Cisticola rufa</i>	Seen at Mole. 1/14
Red-pate Cisticola	<i>Cisticola ruficeps</i>	3 at Mole. 1/14
[Rufous-crowned Eremomela	<i>Eremomela badiceps</i>	Several at Kakum and Antikwa. Not in 2008]
Senegal Eremomela	<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>	Widespread around Mole. 5/14
Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida</i>	2 at Mole. 2/14
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Green Hylia	<i>Hylia prasina</i>	Heard often in forest, seen at Antikwa. 1/14
Oriole Warbler	<i>Hypergerus atriceps</i>	2008, 1 seen well at Mole. 1/14
[Grey Longbill	<i>Macrosphenus concolor</i>	1 at Kakum, 2007]
[Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	1 at Kakum, 2007]
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	A few at Mole, and elsewhere. 5/14
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	Only a few records. 3/14
African Moustached Warbler	<i>Sphenoaecus mentalis</i>	1 or 2 daily at Mole. 3/14
Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>	A few at Mole. 3/14
Lemon-bellied Crombec	<i>Sylvietta denti</i>	A few at Bobiri. 2/14
Green Crombec	<i>Sylvietta virens</i>	Biakpa. 1/14
[Ussher's Flycatcher	<i>Artomyias ussheri</i>	2 at Antikwa, 2007]
Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	Quite common at Mole, one near Winneba. 4/14
Fraser's Forest Flycatcher	<i>Fraseria ocreata</i>	2008, 2 at Bobiri. 1/14

Northern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaeornis edolioides</i>	Several at Mole. 3/14
Swamp Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa aquatica</i>	Around the waterholes at Mole. 2/14
Little Grey Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa epulata</i>	2008, 1 at Kakum from the canopy walkway. 1/14
Gambaga Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa gambagae</i>	3 en route to Lovi, Mole. 2008. 1/14
[Dusky Blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa comitata</i>	On two days at Bobiri in 2007]
[Grey-throated Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseigularis</i>	1 at Bobiri 2007, seen there only once in the past.]
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1 near Winneba, 1 at Biakpa. 2/14
[Tessmann's Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa tessmanni</i>	2005. 1 at Antikwa was a good record.]
Lead-coloured Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Senegal Batis	<i>Batis senegalensis</i>	A female at Mole. 1/14
Black and White Flycatcher	<i>Bias musicus</i>	A male at Bobiri. 1/14
Chestnut Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira castanea</i>	Heard at Bobiri.
Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>	A few at Mole. 3/14
[Violet-backed Hyliota	<i>Hyliota violacea</i>	3+ in the canopy at Kakum, 2007]
Chestnut-capped Flycatcher	<i>Erythrocercus mccalli</i>	From the canopy walkway at Kakum. 1/14
Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>	Scattered records. 5/14
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	Several this year, notably a white phase male at Kakum. Scattered elsewhere. 5/14
African Blue Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus longicauda</i>	1 at Mole. 1/14
Dusky Tit	<i>Parus funereus</i>	Bobiri. 1/14
White-winged Black Tit	<i>Parus leucomelas</i>	A few at Mole. 3/14
[Tit-Hylia	<i>Pholidornis rushiae</i>	2005. 2 at Bobiri.]
Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>	Widespread in forest zone. 8/14
Pygmy Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna platura</i>	Common at Mole. 5/14
Fraser's Scarlet-tufted Sunbird	<i>Deleornis fraseri</i>	A few from the canopy walkway at Kakum. 1/14
Green Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes rectirostris</i>	Only at Antikwa. 1/14
Little Green Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes seimundi</i>	Common in forest zone. 4/14
Buff-throated Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra adelberti</i>	A few at Kakum, Bobiri and Amedzofe. 5/14
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	Common at Mole. 3/14
Olive-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i>	Widespread in the forest zone. 6/14
Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cupreus</i>	Scattered along the coast, also Bobiri and Volta. 4/14
Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>	Several in the Mole area. 3/14
Splendid Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris coccinigaster</i>	Coconut Grove, seen very well. 1/14
Madame Verreaux's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris johannae</i>	Also known as Johanna's Sunbird. Antikwa and Bobiri. 3/14
Superb Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris superbus</i>	Scattered forest records, mostly females seen. 5/14
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	A male at Mole. 1/14
Western Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra obscura</i>	Scattered in forest zone. 6/14
Blue-throated Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra cyanolaema</i>	Scattered records in forest zone. 3/14
[Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>	An immature at Kintampo Falls 2007]
Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	Mole, and south of Kumasi. 3/14
[Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	Usually at Mole.]
Brown-rumped Bunting	<i>Emberiza affinis</i>	1 at waterhole near Lingbing Kura. 1/14
[Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	1 at Mole is probably the second Ghana record, the first was also at Mole, 2007]
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	Several in savanna zone. 4/14
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	<i>Estrilda bengala</i>	Widespread and common in the north. 5/14
Lavender Waxbill	<i>Estrilda caerulescens</i>	Scattered at Mole. 3/14
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>	Scattered records. 3/14
Black-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>	Damongo. 1/14
Black-faced Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta larvata</i>	A few at Mole. 2/14

[Black-bellied Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rara</i>	Scarce at Mole, 2007]
Bar-breasted Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>	Accra and Mole. 2/14
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	Scattered at Mole. 3/14
Black-and-White Mannikin	<i>Lonchura bicolor</i>	Antikwa, Bobiri, and Amedzofe. 3/14
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	Widespread. 10/14
Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita bicolor</i>	Kakum and Antikwa. 2/14
Grey-headed Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita canicapilla</i>	Widespread in forest. Heard often. 6/14
White-breasted Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita fusconota</i>	1 at Kakum, and Bobiri. 2/14
Red-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i>	A few at Mole. 1/14
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>	Widespread. 7/14
Bush Petronia	<i>Petronia dentata</i>	Very common in the north. 5/14
Chestn't-crowned Sp'row-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i>	A few at Mole and elsewhere in the north. 3/14
[Grosbeak Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	2004. c.8 in the canopy at Kakum. A new record for this trip.]
Black-winged Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>	Coconut Grove. 1/14
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macrourus</i>	Bobiri and Mole, showing some yellow. 2/14
Northern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	Many non-breeding birds at Mole, some showing a little red. 2/14
Yellow-crowned Bishop	<i>Euplectes afer</i>	Non-breeding birds at Coconut Grove, and at Mole. 2/14
[Cassin's Malimbe	<i>Malimbus cassini</i>	Kakum 2007]
[Crested Malimbe	<i>Malimbus malimbicus</i>	Antikwa 2007]
[Blue-billed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus nitens</i>	3 at Kakum 2007]
Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>	Widespread in the forest zone, remarkably the only malimbe seen this year. 6/14
[Red-vented Malimbe	<i>Malimbus scutatus</i>	Bobiri, 2007]
Black-headed Village-Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	Widespread. 6/14
Little Weaver	<i>Ploceus luteolus</i>	Seen at Mole. 2/14
Chestnut and Black Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i>	Also known as Vieillot's Black Weaver. Amazingly no birds at the colony at Kakum this year, but seen at Antikwa and Bobiri, and south of Kumasi. 2/14
Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>	Scattered records. 4/14
[Slender-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus pelzelni</i>	2 at Panbros, 2007]
[Preuss's Golden-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus preussi</i>	Antikwa 2007]
Yellow-mantled Weaver	<i>Ploceus tricolor</i>	Widespread and locally common in the forest zone. 4/14
Maxwell's Black Weaver	<i>Ploceus albinucha</i>	2008, 1 at Kakum, also Bobiri. 2/14
Heuglin's Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus heuglini</i>	2008, a few just east of the Volta bridge, Senchi. 1/14
African Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	One or both of this and the previous species at Mole, non-breeding plumage.
Compact Weaver	<i>Ploceus superciliosus</i>	3, non-breeding plumage, in savannah near Ho, 2008. 1/14
Baka Indigobird	<i>Vidua larvaticola</i>	2 males of probably this species at Mole in the company of Black-faced Firefinches on which it is brood parasitic. 2/14
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	Widespread. Numerous at Coconut Grove. All non-breeding plumage. 5/14
Exclamatory Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua interjecta</i>	5+ breeding males at Mole. 3/14
Togo Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua togoensis</i>	4+ breeding males at Mole, 2008. 1/14
Long-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>	Several flocks seen at Mole. 3/14
Lesser Blue-eared Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chloropterus</i>	A few at Mole. 1/14
Copper-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis cupreocauda</i>	2 at Kakum, from the canopy walkway. 1/14

Purple Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>	Several at Mole, also Lingbing Kura and Accra Plains. 3/14
Splendid Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>	Scattered records. 7/14
Forest Chestnut-wing Starling	<i>Onychognathus fulgidus</i>	A few at Kakum. 1/14
Narrow-tailed Starling	<i>Poeoptera lugubris</i>	Kakum. 1/14
African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>	Several at Mole. 3/14
Western Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus brachyrhynchus</i>	Bobiri. 1/14
Black-winged Oriole	<i>Oriolus nigripennis</i>	Kakum, Bobiri and Amedzofe. 4/14
Velvet-mantled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus modestus</i>	Several in forest zone. 5/14
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	Mole and Volta region. 3/14
[Shining Drongo	<i>Dicruris atripennis</i>	Atewa Range, PGC, 2007]
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus alba</i>	Widespread. 11/14
Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>	4 on the Accra Plains. 1/14

Systematic List Number 3 Reptiles

West African Night Adder	<i>Causus maculatus</i>	2007, 1 at Bobiri near the toddy tappers camp, in leaf litter, went for my bare toes! Also seen at Coconut Grove in the past.
Green Snake species		2007, one at Antikwa and one at Kintampo. There are a number of similar species in the region.
Brook's Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus brooki</i>	Common around habitation, e.g. Shangri-la, Accra and the Coconut Grove, Elmina.
Forest Dwarf Gecko Gecko sp.	<i>Lygodactylus gutturalis</i>	From the canopy walkway, 2008. 2007, a beautiful small gecko, green above and white below was seen on platform 5 of the canopy walkway.
Five-lined Skink	<i>Mabuya quinquetaeniata</i>	Common at Mole Motel.
Speckle-lipped Skink	<i>Mabuya maculilabris</i>	Scattered records.
Red-flanked Skink	<i>Lygosoma fernandi</i>	This species at Kakum?
Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>	Widespread and very common.
Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	1 at Mole.
Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	A few at Mole.

Systematic List Number 4 Butterflies

The systematic order and nomenclature follow 'Butterflies of West Africa' by Torben B.Larsen, 2005. This is a superbly researched and written comprehensive handbook to all the species found from Senegal and Mauritania to extreme western Cameroun. The following systematic list is a composite list including all species recorded by us on all the Ghana tours, listing all species recorded over the last 12 visits, from January 2000 to January 2008. Larsen's book has clarified and corrected many mistakes in nomenclature and identification, and all such corrections are included in the following list. The inclusion this year of three nights spent in the Volta region, and particularly visits to Amedzofe and Wli Falls, added several new species to the list. The entries are colour coded as follows:-

Entries in black - Species recorded in January 2008, in effect the normal trip systematic list. Of course these species were usually seen on previous tours too. Where there is more than one comment following the entry, the initial one refers to the status in January 2008, and the following to the status on previous tours, e.g. noted on every visit. All definite skipper records are in black, and green is not used.

Entries in green Species recorded on one or more previous tours, but not in January 2008.

Entries in grey Species mistakenly recorded, with explanation.

Entries in blue Species which have probably been overlooked, due to confusion with similar species, or ignorance of their existence!

Entries in dark red Very surprising records, to be investigated.

PAPILIONOIDEA

Papilionidae

Papilioninae

Papilio antimachus

Giant African Swallowtail
1 at Bobiri in 2005. 1 from the canopy walkway at Kakum in 2007 seen by all the group. Two important records.

Papilio dardanus

Mocker Swallowtail
Widespread in small numbers. Mostly males were seen, and only males in 2008. Seen on every tour.

Papilio phorcas

Apple Green Swallowtail
Recorded on only 3 tours.

Papilio horribilis

Western Emperor Swallowtail
Recorded on 4 tours, mostly at Kakum. N.B. All records of *P.hesperus*, which does not occur west of Nigeria, refer to this species.

Papilio chrapkowskoides *ssp.nurettini*

Broad Green-Banded Swallowtail
Several at Bobiri, Bunso and Volta region. This is the correct name for *P.bromius*. Seen on most tours.

Papilio sosia

Medium-banded Green Swallowtail
Bobiri. Noted on 5 tours.

Papilio nireus

Narrow-banded Green Swallowtail
Antikwa and Bobiri. Seen on most tours.

Papilio menestheus

Drury's Emperor Swallowtail
Wli Falls and Amedzofe. Seen on every tour.

Papilio demodocus

Citrus Swallowtail
Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every tour.

<i>Papilio cyproeofila</i>	Common White-banded Swallowtail Only at Kakum. Noted on most tours. The name <i>P.zenobius</i> was mis-applied to this species.
<i>Papilio mechowianus</i>	This name is not to be found in Larsen.
<i>Papilio zenobia</i>	Zenobia Swallowtail Seen on 5 tours. 2007 at Nkawkaw, Atewa, and Antikwa. Widespread and locally common, as at Bobiri. Seen on every tour until 2008.
<i>Papilio nobicea</i>	Volta Swallowtail New in 2008. 1 at Amedzofe.
<i>Papilio cynorta</i>	Mimetic Swallowtail Scattered records. Seen on most tours.
<i>Graphium angolanus</i>	White Lady 1 at Panbros 2008. 1 in Accra 2005. Seen in the northern savannah on most tours.
<i>Graphium tynderaeus</i>	Electric Green Swallowtail Noted on 5 tours, e.g. from Aboabo.
<i>Graphium latreillianus</i>	Coppery Swallowtail Local in forests.
<i>Graphium adamastor</i>	Boisduval's White Lady Noted in September 2003 at Baobeng-Fiema.
<i>Graphium leonidas</i>	Veined Swordtail Panbros and Wli Falls. Seen on most tours.
<i>Graphium illyris</i>	Cream-banded Swordtail Seen only twice, at Bobiri.
<i>Graphium policenes</i>	Common Striped Swordtail Only 1, at Wli Falls. Seen on every tour.
<i>Graphium liponesco</i>	Long-tailed Striped Swordtail Probably overlooked among <i>G.policenes</i> .
<i>Graphium antheus</i>	Large Striped Swordtail Ankasa and Bobiri 2007.
Pieridae	
Coliadinae	
<i>Catopsilia florella</i>	African Emigrant Scattered records. Seen every tour, with much variation in numbers.
<i>Eurema senegalensis</i>	Forest Grass Yellow Common in forests. Seen on every visit.
<i>Eurema hecabe ssp.solifera</i>	Common Grass Yellow Widespread and very common. Seen on every visit.
<i>Eurema floricola ssp.leonis</i>	Malagasy Grass Yellow Surely overlooked among <i>E.hecabe</i> .
<i>Eurema hapale</i>	Marsh Grass Yellow A few records from the marshy stretch of track at Bobiri.
<i>Eurema desjardinsii ssp.regularis</i>	Desjardins' Grass Yellow A few at Bobiri. Noted on 5 tours.
<i>Eurema brigitta</i>	Small Grass Yellow Common in the savanna zone north of Kintampo. Also at Antikwa in the past.
Pierinae	
<i>Pinacopteryx eriphia ssp.tritogenia</i>	Zebra White 1 at the Volta Bridge at Buipe in December 2002 was an unusual record, being far to the south of its known range. It was in the company of various <i>Colotis</i> species.

<i>Nepheronia argia</i>	Large Vagrant Kakum, Bobiri, and Amedzofe. Seen on every tour.
<i>Nepheronia thalassina</i>	Cambridge Vagrant Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every tour.
<i>Nepheronia pharis</i>	Round-winged Vagrant Only 1 at Bobiri. Seen on all but one tour.
<i>Nepheronia buqueti</i>	Plain Vagrant A few records from the northern savannah are worth investigating.
<i>Colotis amata</i>	Small Salmon Arab Seen at the Volta Bridge at Buiepe in December 2002, in the company of <i>Pinacopteryx eriphia</i> . Another southerly record. Larsen does not know of it in Ghana.
<i>Colotis celimene ssp.sudanicus</i>	Magenta Tip With the above species in December 2002.
<i>Colotis aurora ssp.evarne</i>	Sulphur Orange Tip Often in the northern savannah. This is the correct name of <i>C.eucharis</i> .
<i>Colotis antevippe</i>	Large Orange Tip Scattered records.
<i>Colotis euippe</i>	Round-winged Orange-tip Scattered records in the forest zone in disturbed areas. Seen on every tour.
<i>Colotis evagore ssp.antigone</i>	Tiny Orange Tip Mole, seen on most tours there, and sometimes on the coast.
<i>Belenois aurota</i>	Caper White Singletons at Panbros and Kakum. Seen on only 4 tours.
<i>Belenois creona</i>	African Caper White Panbros and Wli Falls. Noted on 5 tours.
<i>Belenois subeida ssp.frobeniusi</i>	Northern Caper White Recorded on earlier tours, from Mole?
<i>Belenois calypso</i>	Calypso Caper White Small numbers in the forest zone. Seen on every tour.
<i>Belenois theora</i>	Forest Caper White A few at Bobiri. Noted on 8 tours. All records of <i>B.theuszi</i> , which does not occur in Ghana, refer to this species.
<i>Dixeia cebron</i>	Cebron White Seen on most visits to Bobiri. 2007, 2 males and a female.
<i>Dixeia capricornus</i>	Capricorn White Seen in September 2002 at Bobiri.
<i>Appias sylvia</i>	Common Albatross Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every tour.
<i>Appias sabina</i>	Sabine Albatross Usually in small numbers at Bobiri. For the first time not seen in 2008.
<i>Appias epaphia</i>	African Albatross Remarkably a female at Kakum in 2005 was the only record.
<i>Leptosia alcesta</i>	African Spirit Widespread and common. Seen on every visit.
<i>Leptosia nupta</i>	Immaculate Wood White This species does not occur in Ghana. My few records probably refer to unmarked <i>L.alcesta</i> .
<i>Leptosia hybrida</i>	Hybrid Spirit Scattered records, usually at Bobiri, as in 2008.
<i>Leptosia medusa</i>	Dainty Spirit Widespread. Seen on most visits. Some records of this and the previous species are undoubtedly confused.
<i>Leptosia marginea</i>	Black-edged Spirit Scattered records.

<i>Mylothris chloris</i>	Common Dotted Border Widespread and common. Seen on every visit.
<i>Mylothris dimidiata</i>	Western Sulphur Dotted Border Atewa Range in 2007.
<i>Mylothris aburi</i>	Savannah Dotted Border
<i>Mylothris poppea</i>	Poppea Dotted Border Scattered forest records. Seen on most visits.
<i>Mylothris spica</i>	Spica Dotted Border New in 2008. A female in the old HQ clearing at Kakum, and also Antikwa.
<i>Mylothris rhodope</i>	Tropical Dotted Border Scattered records. Seen on every tour.
<i>Mylothris jaopura</i>	Karsch's Dotted Border New in 2008. Several at Amedzofe.
<i>Mylothris schumanni</i>	Schumann's Dotted Border 2008 at Bunso Arboretum. Recorded in September 2002, and doubtless overlooked on other visits.

Lycaenidae

Miletinae

<i>Megalopalpus zymna</i>	Common Harvester Reasonably common in forests. Called <i>M. simplex</i> in previous lists.
<i>Megalopalpus metaleucus</i>	Large Harvester Reasonably common in forests. Less so than the previous species.
<i>Spalgis lemolea</i>	African Apefly 1 at Nkawkaw. Recorded in the clearing at Bobiri on 2 other visits.

Lipteninae

N.B. Many fewer Liptenids were seen than is usual, most notably at Bobiri where not a single species was recorded.

<i>Ptelina carnuta</i>	Bordered Buff From the canopy walkway at Kakum. Scattered records in the past.
<i>Pentila pauli</i>	Paul's Pentila Several records from the edge of the forest zone, e.g. Techiman forest.
<i>Pentila petreia</i>	Common Red Pentila Bunso Arboretum. Scattered records, seen on 6 tours.
<i>Pentila tachyroides</i>	Mylothrid Pentila Apparently not known west of eastern Nigeria, but I am confident we have seen one or two individuals on most visits to Bobiri.
<i>Pentila picena</i>	Western Cream Pentila A male and a female at Bunso Arboretum. Scattered records.
<i>Pentila phidia</i>	Ghana Pentila Scattered records.
<i>Pentila hewitsonii</i>	Hewitson's Cream Pentila Probably this species mistakenly recorded in September 2003 as <i>P. abraxas</i> .
<i>Telipna acraea</i>	Common Telipna Recorded only in September 2002.
<i>Ornipholidotos camerunensis</i>	Cameroun Glasswing
<i>Ornipholidotos nigeriae</i>	Nigerian Glasswing
<i>Ornipholidotos onitshae</i>	Onitsha Glasswing
<i>Ornipholidotos irwini</i>	Vane-Wright's Glasswing
<i>Ornipholidotos tiassale</i>	Western Glasswing
<i>Ornipholidotos nymphae</i>	Western Fragile Glasswing
<i>Torbenia wojtusiaki</i>	Wojtusiak's Glasswing One or more Glaswings are seen on most visits, but all remain undetermined. All the above species are possible.

<i>Mimacraea neurata</i>	Alciope Acraea Mimic Antikwa 2007. Also seen in September 2002.
<i>Mimacraea darwinia</i>	Common Acraea Mimic Scattered records, mostly Kakum.
<i>Mimeresia libentina</i>	Common Harlequin Nkawkaw 2007. Otherwise scattered records, e.g. Kakum.
<i>Mimeresia semirufa</i>	Eresine Harlequin Bobiri 2008. Otherwise scattered records.
<i>Pseuderesia eleaza</i>	Variable Harlequin Seen in September 2003.
<i>Eresiomera bicolor</i>	Western Pearly Scattered records.
<i>Eresiomera isca</i>	Common Pearly Scattered records.
<i>Citrinophila marginalis</i>	Narrow-margined Yellow Bobiri 2007, otherwise scattered forest records.
<i>Citrinophila similis</i>	Similar Yellow Bunso Arboretum and Aburi. Previously Kakum canopy walkway, and Atewa.
<i>Citrinophila erastus</i>	Large Yellow A few records from Bobiri.
<i>Liptena submacula</i>	Lathy's Liptena Various records, mostly from Bobiri. The record of <i>L.opaca</i> , which does not occur in Ghana, from September 2003, is probably this species.
<i>Liptena simplicia</i>	Simple Liptena Scattered records.
<i>Liptena alluaudi</i>	Alluaud's Liptena Atewa Range 2007.
<i>Liptena undularis</i>	This species does not occur in Ghana, but a similar species was recorded in September 2002.
<i>Liptena xanthostola</i>	Yellow Liptena Bobiri 2007. Seen on 4 visits.
<i>Liptena flavicans ssp.oniens</i>	Large Ochreous Liptena 2 seen by PGC from the Kakum canopy walkway, perched on twig and opening and closing wings through 180 °, 2007.
<i>Liptena helena</i>	Red-spot False Dots Recorded just once.
<i>Falcuna leonensis</i>	Western Marble Atewa 2007. Seen on several visits.
<i>Falcuna campimus</i>	Scarce Marble Nkawkaw. Noted on 2 visits.
<i>Tetrarhanis symplocus</i>	Clench's On-off Kakum. Noted on most tours. N.B. This and not <i>T.ilma</i> is the relevant species.
<i>Tetrarhanis baralingam</i>	Baralingam On-off
<i>Larinopoda aspidos</i>	Nigerian Pierid Blue New in 2008. A pair at Amedzofe.
<i>Larinopoda eurema</i>	Western Pierid Blue 2008 Bunso Arboretum. Noted on most tours. 2007 Atewa and Antikwa. This is the only species seen.
<i>Micropentila adelgitha</i>	Common Dots Scattered records.
<i>Hewitsonia boisduvali</i>	Large Tiger Blue Bobiri 2007. Seen on 4 tours, also at Kakum.
<i>Cerautola crowleyi</i>	Crowley's Epitola A few records.

<i>Cerautola ceraunia</i>	Silvery Epitola Mostly from the canopy walkway at Kakum.
<i>Cerautola miranda</i>	Wondrous Epitola Scattered records.
<i>Epitola posthumus</i>	Common Giant Epitola One dead individual at Bobiri in 2005. Seen on 5 tours.
<i>Epitola urania</i>	Purple Giant Epitola 2007 Nkawkaw.
<i>Hypophytala hyettina</i>	Western Flash Recorded in September 2002, but this may be an error.
<i>Phytala elais</i>	Giant Forest Blue A few records.
<i>Geritola gerina</i>	Gerina Epitola
<i>Stempfferia leonina</i>	Western Scalloped Epitola Scattered records.
<i>Stempfferia</i> sp.	To check , Kakum HQ clearing.
Many species of 'Epitola' have been seen but not identified. Using the excellent treatment in Larsen no doubt this situation will improve with future visits.	
<i>Aethiopana honorius</i>	Acraea Blue Seen on only 2 tours.
<i>Epitolina dispar</i>	Common Epitolina Widespread and reasonably common. Only on 2 days 2007, and not in 2008.
<i>Epitolina melissa</i>	Powdered Epitolina New in 2008, 1 at Bunso Arboretum.
Theclinae	
<i>Myrina silenus</i>	Common Fig Blue Only recorded once.
<i>Oxylides faunus</i>	Common False Head Widespread. Seen on most tours. Only at Bobiri 2008.
<i>Dapidodigma hymen</i>	Western Virgin 1 at Amedzofe.
<i>Dapidodigma demeter</i>	Eastern Virgin 3 individuals of this or the latter at Kakum, 2007.
<i>Aphnaeus orcas</i>	Common Silver Spot 2 at Wli Falls. Kakum and Bobiri in the past. Seen on 7 tours.
<i>Aphnaeus argyrocyclus</i>	Rare Silver Spot New in 2008. A male at Kakum, in the old HQ clearing.
<i>Aphnaeus asterius</i>	Brick Silver Spot 1 at Bobiri in 2005. Larsen knows of only one recent West African record, from Kakum in 1996.
<i>Spindasis mozambica</i>	Common Silverline 1 at Wli Falls. Previously seen twice in the disturbed area around Kakum visitor centre.
<i>Spindasis iza</i>	Black Silverline A dsf of this rare species at Bobiri 2007, photographed by DD, det. Torben Larsen.
<i>Axiocerces harpax</i>	Common Scarlet 2008 1 near Winneba. 2007, 4 at Antikwa, 1 at Mole.
<i>Lipaphnaeus leonina</i> ssp.ivoirensis	Orange Silver Speckle 2007 1 at Amedzofe. Previously recorded in December 2002.
<i>Pseudaletis</i> sp.	Fantasy sp. Apparently one seen at a long distance from the Kakum canopy walkway. It was similar to <i>Pseudaletis malangi</i> , which is known only from the Fouta Djallon in Guinea. 2007.

<i>Iolaus spp.</i>	Many seen but not identified. The most common species that occur are listed below.
<i>Iolaus sp.</i>	To check, Wli Falls.
<i>Iolaus eurisus</i>	Royal Sapphire
<i>Iolaus menas</i>	Blue Savannah Sapphire
<i>Iolaus iulus</i>	Julus Sapphire A fine example south of Kumasi 2007.
<i>Iolaus ismenias</i>	White Sapphire
<i>Iolaus alcibiades</i>	Giant Sapphire
<i>Iolaus paneperata</i>	Parallel Sapphire Bobiri 2007.
<i>Iolaus calisto</i>	Large Green Sapphire
<i>Iolaus laon</i>	Fine Sapphire
<i>Iolaus bellina</i>	White-spot Sapphire
<i>Iolaus aethria</i>	Karsch's Sapphire
<i>Iolaus iasis</i>	Iasis Sapphire
<i>Hypolycaena philippus</i>	Common Hairstreak Mole 2007. Previously at Kintampo Falls among scattered records.
<i>Hypolycaena kadiskos</i>	Scarce Hairstreak New in 2008, 1 at Bunso Arboretum. Had the characteristic combination of short tails and the underside pattern of <i>Hypolycaena hatita</i> .
<i>Hypolycaena liara</i>	Black-patch Hairstreak Bobiri. Scattered records.
<i>Hypolycaena lebona</i>	Fairy Hairstreak Widespread. However there has obviously been much confusion, and some of the following closely related species are commoner.
<i>Hypolycaena clenchi</i>	Clench's Fairy Hairstreak
<i>Hypolycaena scintillans</i>	Scintillating Fairy Hairstreak
<i>Hypolycaena dubia</i>	Dubious Fairy Hairstreak Photographed at Nkawkaw 2007. Surely seen 2008 too.
<i>Hypolycaena kakumi</i>	Kakum Fairy Hairstreak Recorded at Kakum, and probably elsewhere.
<i>Hypolycaena antifaunus</i>	Large Fairy Hairstreak Widespread, e.g. Bobiri and Amedzofe.
<i>Hypolycaena hatita</i>	Common Fairy Hairstreak Bobiri. Recorded on most visits.
<i>Hypolycaena nigra</i>	Black Fairy Hairstreak Bobiri, DD photo 2007.
<i>Pilodeudorix diyllus</i>	Green-streaked Playboy Bobiri, DD photo 2007.
<i>Pilodeudorix caerulea</i>	Blue Heart Playboy Mole.
<i>Pilodeudorix leonina</i>	Dark Round-spot A male at Bobiri. Atewa 2007.
<i>Paradeudorix eleala ssp.viridis</i>	Western Fairy Playboy 2007, Nkawkaw, photographed by DD, and one at Atewa.
<i>Deudorix antalus</i>	Brown Playboy 1 at Panbros. Mole 2007. Otherwise scattered records, e.g. Kintampo Falls.
<i>Deudorix lorisona</i>	Coffee Playboy South of Kumasi in September 2003.
<i>Deudorix dinomenes ssp.diomedes</i>	Large Orange Playboy A male at Wli Falls. Bobiri 2007 and 2005.

Polyommata

<i>Anthene rubricinctus</i>	Indigo Ciliate Blue Bobiri and Amedzofe. Seen on 7 tours.
<i>Anthene ligures</i>	Lesser Indigo Ciliate Blue Individuals named as <i>A. schoutedeni</i> are likely this species. Scattered records.
<i>Anthene sylvanus</i>	Common Indigo Ciliate Blue Kakum, Bobiri and Amedzofe.
<i>Anthene liodes</i>	Light Ciliate Blue Bobiri and Amedzofe. Noted on 7 tours from various locations.
<i>Anthene lunulata</i>	Red-spot Ciliate Blue Kintampo Falls. Mole in the past.
<i>Anthene larydas</i>	Common Ciliate Blue Common. One of the most widespread Lycaenids. Seen on every tour.
<i>Anthene crawshayi</i>	Crawshay's Ciliate Blue Nkawkaw 2005.
<i>Anthene lachares</i>	Silky Ciliate Blue Bobiri and Antikwa. Noted on 8 tours.
<i>Anthene lysicles</i>	Violet-spotted Ciliate Blue Bobiri. Noted on most tours.
<i>Anthene atewa</i>	Atewa Ciliate Blue?? An individual photographed at Bobiri by DD, underside very like <i>Anthene versatilis</i> , which apparently does not occur west of the Dahomey Gap. Awaiting determination. JD photo?
<i>Anthene locuples</i>	Curious Ciliate Blue New in 2008. A fine male at Amedzofe. Orange discal areas on ups.
<i>Neurypexina lyzanius</i>	Black-Patches Antikwa and Bobiri.
<i>Triclema lamias</i>	Blotched Ciliate Blue Bobiri.
<i>Triclema fasciatus</i>	Tiny Ciliate Blue Recorded in the forest zone.
<i>Cupidesthes leonina</i>	Leonine Ciliate Blue A female at Nkawkaw in Jnauray 2005. A scarce species.
<i>Pseudonacaduba sichela</i>	African Line Blue Bobiri. Recorded on most visits, also at Antikwa and Mole.
<i>Pseudonacaduba aethiops</i>	Dark African Line Blue This species does not occur in Ghana.
<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Long-tailed Blue Damongo. 2007 coast, Bobiri, and Mole. Recorded in small numbers on most tours. Also Antikwa.
<i>Uranothauma falkensteini</i>	Lowland Branded Blue 3 at Amedzofe. Small numbers on most tours.
<i>Phlyaria cyara ssp. stactalla</i>	Pied Blue 1 at Bobiri, and at Amedzofe. Noted on 5 tours.
<i>Cacyreus lingeus</i>	Common Bush Blue Amedzofe. Scattered forest records. Seen on 8 tours.
<i>Leptotes</i> sp.	Widespread, noted on most days in a variety of habitats. Genitalia dissection necessary for positive ID. The following species occur.
<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	Common Zebra Blue
<i>Leptotes babaulti</i>	Babault's Zebra Blue
<i>Leptotes jeanneli</i>	Jeannel's Zebra Blue
<i>Leptotes brevidentatus</i>	Tite's Zebra Blue
<i>Leptotes pulchra</i>	Beautiful Zebra Blue
<i>Tuxentius cretosus</i>	Savannah Pied Pierrot Mole.

<i>Tuxentius carana</i> ssp.kontu	Forest Pied Pierrot Several at Bobiri and Amedzofe.
<i>Tarucus ungemachi</i>	Ungemach's Pierrot Noted at Mole National Park on a few occasions. Records of <i>T.theophrastus</i> there probably refer to this species, or possibly the following.
<i>Tarucus rosacea</i>	Mediterranean Pierrot Probably this species at Mole 2007.
<i>Eicochrysops hippocrates</i>	White-tipped Cupid Scattered records, including at Bobiri. Seen on every tour.
<i>Eicochrysops dudgeoni</i>	Dudgeon's Cupid
<i>Cupidopsis cissus</i>	Meadow Blue Very few records.
<i>Euchrysops albistriata</i>	Capronnier's Cupid
ssp. <i>greenwoodi</i>	Scattered records.
<i>Euchrysops malathana</i>	Smoky Bean Cupid Locally numerous, including at Kakum. Seen on every tour.
<i>Euchrysops nilotica</i>	Desert Bean Cupid This species does not occur in Ghana.
<i>Euchrysops osiris</i>	African Cupid Bobiri and Amedzofe. Otherwise scattered savannah records.
<i>Euchrysops barkeri</i>	Barker's Cupid Possibly seen at Bobiri.
<i>Lepidochrysops parsimon</i>	Western Giant Cupid
<i>Lepidochrysops quassi</i>	Tailed Blue Giant Cupid Atewa 2007.
<i>Thermoniphas micyclus</i>	Common Chalk Blue Widespread. Seen on every tour.
<i>Oboronia punctatus</i>	Common Ginger White Scattered forest records, e.g. Kakum and Amedzofe. All or most records of <i>O.pseudopunctatus</i> probably refer to this species.
<i>Oboronia liberiana</i>	Liberian Ginger White Ankasa 2007.
<i>Oboronia guessfeldti</i>	Gussfeldt's Ginger White 1 at Bobiri. Seen previously at Kintampo Falls.
<i>Oboronia ornata</i>	Untailed Ginger White Several at Bobiri.
<i>Azanus jesous</i>	African Babul Blue Near Damongo. Several records.
<i>Azanus moriqua</i>	Black-bordered Babul Blue Damongo. Scattered records.
<i>Azanus mirza</i>	Pale Babul Blue Bobiri. Usually locally numerous, but much less common in 2008.
<i>Azanus isis</i>	White-banded Babul Blue A few at Amedzofe. Scattered records.
<i>Chilades trochilus</i>	Grass Jewel 2 at Mole 2007.
<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>	African Grass Blue Scattered records. Seen on every visit.
<i>Zizina antanossa</i>	Dark Grass Blue Local. Seen on most tours.
<i>Zizula hylax</i>	Tiny Grass Blue Widespread. Seen on every visit.

Nymphalidae

Libytheinae

Libythea labdaca

African Beak

Small numbers this year at Kakum, Antikwa, and Wli Falls, but many at Bobiri

Large numbers witnessed on several trips.

Danainae

Danaus chrysippus

Common Tiger

Widespread and common. All seen were of the form *alcippus*.

Tirumala petiverana

African Blue Tiger

Antikwa and Bobiri. Seen on every tour.

Amauris niavius

Friar

Widespread and common. Seen on every tour.

Amauris tartarea

Monk

Seen in small numbers at Bobiri and Amedzofe.

Amauris hecate

Scarce Monk

Scattered records in the past, e.g. Bobiri.

Amauris damocles

Small Monk

Several at Kintampo. Recorded on most tours.

Amauris crawshayi

Does not occur in Ghana.

Satyrinae

Gnophodes betsimena ssp. *parmeno* Yellow-banded Evening Brown

2 at Amedzofe. Seen on most tours.

Gnophodes chelys

Lobed Evening Brown

Widespread in forests. Seen on 5 tours.

Melanitis leda

Common Evening Brown

Scattered records.

Melanitis libya

Violet-eyed Evening Brown

1 at Kakum 2007.

Elymniopsis bammakoo

African Palmfly

Singletons at Amedzofe and Wli Falls. Recorded on 8 trips, e.g. Owabi.

Bicyclus xeneas ssp. *occidentalis*

Stately Bush Brown

A female at Bobiri. Scattered records.

Bicyclus evadne

Small Stately Bush Brown

Kakum. Seen on 5 tours.

Bicyclus ephorus

Common Blue-banded Bush Brown

Scattered records.

Bicyclus zinebi

Western Large Bush Brown

A few records. Records of *B. italus* refer to this species.

Bicyclus procora

Cinnamon Bush Brown

1 at Kakum 2007.

Bicyclus pavonis

Rock Bush Brown

Locally abundant at rocky outcrops near Mole.

Bicyclus milyas

Lesser Rock Bush Brown

As above.

Bicyclus ignobilis

Ignoble Bush Brown

Seen on 5 tours in small numbers.

Bicyclus maesseni

Maessen's Ignoble Bush Brown

New in 2008. 1 at Amedzofe was a pleasing addition to the list.

Bicyclus nobilis

Noble Bush Brown

A few records, e.g. Kakum.

Bicyclus taenias

Grey Bush Brown

Kakum. Seen in small numbers on 9 tours, e.g. Bobiri.

<i>Bicyclus vulgaris</i>	Vulgar Bush Brown Widespread. Seen on every tour.
<i>Bicyclus dorothea</i>	Light Bush Brown Common in the forest zone. Seen on every visit.
<i>Bicyclus sandace</i>	Dark Vulgar Bush Brown Scattered, e.g. Kakum. Seen on most visits.
<i>Bicyclus sangmelinae</i>	Condamini's Bush Brown A few forest records.
<i>Bicyclus mandanes</i>	Large Marbled Bush Brown Only recorded in January 2004.
<i>Bicyclus auricruda</i>	Small Marbled Bush Brown Kintampo 2007.
<i>Bicyclus angulosa</i>	Angular Bush Brown Only a few records.
<i>Bicyclus abnormis</i>	Western White-tipped Bush Brown A few at Bobiri.
<i>Bicyclus safitza</i>	Common Savannah Bush Brown Scattered in savannah and disturbed areas of the forest zone.
<i>Bicyclus funebris</i>	Funereal Bush Brown Several at Bobiri. Seen on every visit,
<i>Bicyclus istaris</i>	Velvet Bush Brown Kakum etc. Noted on 5 tours from various localities.
<i>Bicyclus madetes</i>	Brown-spot Bush Brown Bobiri. Recorded on 5 visits, also Nkawkaw.
<i>Bicyclus martius</i>	Black Bush Brown Antikwa. Local in forest.
<i>Hallelesis halyma</i>	Western Hallelesis 2007, 1 at Kakum (old HQ clearing), and Ankasa. Seen three times in the past Along the swampy stretch of the Bobiri track.
<i>Ypthima condamini ssp.nigeriae</i>	Condamini's Three-ring Probably this species recorded in the north.
<i>Ypthima antennata ssp.cornesi</i>	Clubbed Ringlet
<i>Ypthima vuattouxi</i>	Vuattoux's Ringlet
<i>Ypthima doleta</i>	Common Ringlet Widespread and common in forest. Seen on every visit.
<i>Ypthima lamto</i>	Lamto Ringlet
<i>Ypthima pupillaris</i>	Eyed Ringlet
<i>Ypthima impura</i>	Bushland Ringlet
<i>Ypthimomorpha itonia</i>	Swamp Ringlet Often seen in the north, scarce this year at Mole.

Charaxinae

As this list illustrates, species of *Charaxes* were much fewer in number on this tour than is usual, as was also the case in 2007.

<i>Charaxes varanes ssp.volgensis</i>	Pearl Charaxes Widespread. Recorded on 6 tours.
<i>Charaxes fulvescens ssp.senegala</i>	Forest Pearl Charaxes Only recorded in December 2002.
<i>Charaxes protoclea</i>	Flame-bordered Charaxes Atewa 2007. Previously seen on every visit.
<i>Charaxes boueti</i>	Bamboo Charaxes Only a few records, e.g. Owabi.
<i>Charaxes cynthia</i>	Western Red Charaxes A female at Bobiri. Recorded on most visits, often at Bobiri.

<i>Charaxes lucretius</i>	Common Red Charaxes Seen on most visits, e.g. Bobiri.
<i>Charaxes epijasius</i>	Cream-bordered Charaxes Panbros, and the northern savannah.
<i>Charaxes castor</i>	Giant Charaxes Only a few records, e.g. Antikwa.
<i>Charaxes brutus</i>	White-barred Charaxes Bobiri. Recorded on most tours.
<i>Charaxes tiridates</i>	Common Blue Charaxes Recorded on most visits, e.g. Bobiri.
<i>Charaxes numenes</i>	Lesser Blue Charaxes A female at Bobiri was probably this species. Recorded on only 4 tours.
<i>Charaxes imperialis</i>	Imperial Blue Charaxes A female in December 2002.
<i>Charaxes ameliae ssp.doumeti</i>	Blue-spotted Charaxes A male in September 2003.
<i>Charaxes zingha</i>	Shining Red Charaxes Three fine individuals near Nkawkaw in 2007. Previously only one record, at Antikwa in December 2002.
<i>Charaxes etesipe</i>	Blue-spotted Charaxes Bobiri. Seen on 5 tours.
<i>Charaxes achaemenes</i>	Bush Charaxes
<i>ssp.atlantica</i>	The wing of a male found at Wli Falls. Scattered savannah records.
<i>Charaxes eupale</i>	Common Green Charaxes 2007 Bobiri and Kakum. Seen on every tour until this one.
<i>Charaxes subornatus</i>	Ornate Green Charaxes
<i>ssp.couilloudi</i>	1 at Kakum. Recorded on most visits.
<i>Charaxes anticlea</i>	Small Flame-bordered Charaxes 1 at Bobiri, January 2005. Recorded on 3 visits.
<i>Charaxes hildebrandti ssp.gillesi</i>	Hildebrant's Charaxes 1 at Bobiri in September 2003.
<i>Charaxes theocles</i>	Demon Charaxes Bobiri. Recorded on every visit, from various locations.
<i>Charaxes virilis</i>	Blue Demon Charaxes Probably this species at Wli Falls.
<i>Charaxes cedreatis</i>	Green Demon Charaxes Bobiri. Recorded on all but two tours.
<i>Charaxes plantroui</i>	Pink-washed Demon Charaxes
<i>Charaxes viola</i>	Savannah Demon Charaxes Noted only twice in the northern savannah.
<i>Charaxes northcotti</i>	Northcott's Charaxes
<i>Charaxes pleione</i>	Square-winged Red Charaxes Bobiri. Also Atewaand Antikwa in the past . Recorded on every tour.
<i>Charaxes paphianus ssp.falcata</i>	Falcate Red Charaxes Bobiri. Recorded on most tours.
<i>Charaxes zelica</i>	Zelica Untailed Charaxes Recorded on 2 visits.
<i>Charaxes lycurgus</i>	Laodice Untailed Charaxes A male at Kakum. Recorded on 6 trips, usually Bobiri. Previously known as <i>C.laodice</i> .
<i>Euxanthe eurinome</i>	Common Forest Queen 1 at Wli Falls. Recorded on 6 tours, mostly at one coastal site.
<i>Euxanthe trajanus</i>	Trajan's Forest Queen 1 recorded in deep forest at Ankasa would be a very significant record. Not known from west of the Dahomey Gap, but a most distinctive species !?

<i>Palla violinitens</i>	Violet-banded Palla Bobiri 2007. Noted on 4 visits.
<i>Palla decius</i>	White-banded Palla Wli Falls. Usually reasonably common, noted on 8 tours.
<i>Palla ussheri</i>	Ussher's Palla Bobiri. The commonest <i>Palla</i> , seen on every tour.
<i>Palla publius</i>	Andromorph Palla 1 at Kakum. Only recorded on 3 tours.
<i>Apaturinae</i>	
<i>Apaturopsis cleochares</i>	Painted Empress 1 at Bobiri 2007. Seen on 5 visits, usually only 1 or 2.
<i>Nymphalinae</i>	
<i>Kallimoides rumia</i>	African Leaf Butterfly Kakum. Previously Bobiri and Nkawkaw. Seen on every tour.
<i>Antanartia delius</i>	Forest Admiral 2 at Bobiri. Seen on every visit.
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted Lady Only seen on two tours.
<i>Precis octavia</i>	Gaudy Commodore Kintampo Falls and Bobiri. Scattered records.
<i>Precis antilope</i>	Darker Commodore Bobiri and Kintampo Falls. Previously Kakum and Mole.
<i>Precis pelarga</i>	Common Commodore Scattered forest records. Seen on every tour.
<i>Precis sinuata</i>	Wide-banded Commodore Recorded in September 2001.
<i>Hypolimnas misippus</i>	Diadem Locally common, e.g. Bobiri and the coast. Seen on every visit. Female morph <i>inaria</i> seen at Aburi.
<i>Hypolimnas anthedon</i>	Variable Eggfly Bobiri, Wli and Kakum etc. Locally common. Seen on every visit.
<i>Hypolimnas dinarcha</i>	Large Variable Eggfly Check photo. Bunso Arboretum. Scarce. Seen on just 2 visits.
<i>Hypolimnas salmacis</i>	Blue Diadem Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every visit.
<i>Salamis cacta</i>	Lilac Beauty Kakum, Bobiri, and Wli Falls. Seen on every visit except 2007.
<i>Protogoniomorpha cytora</i>	Western Blue Beauty 1 at Amedzofe, c.5 at Wli Falls. Usually at Bobiri.
<i>Protogoniomorpha parhassus</i>	Forest Mother-of-Pearl 2008 Biakpa and Wli Falls. Not seen in 2005 or 2007. Previously widespread in small numbers in the forest zone.
<i>Protogoniomorpha anacardii</i>	Clouded Mother-of-Pearl 1 at Bobiri. Seen on most tours in small numbers.
<i>Junonia orithya</i>	Blue Pansy
<i>ssp.madagascariensis</i>	Damongo and Mole. Seen on all tours bar one.
<i>Junonia oenone</i>	Dark Blue Pansy Widespread and common in the forest zone. Seen on every visit.
<i>Junonia hierta</i>	Yellow Pansy Several in the north, e.g. Mole. Seen on 6 tours.
<i>Junonia cymodoce</i>	Blue Leaf Butterfly 2008, 2 at Wli Falls. Previously only seen at Baobeng-Fiema.

<i>Junonia hadrope</i>	Volta Pansy A male was seen at Bobiri in September 2001. Obviously a surprising record of this Volta endemic.
<i>Junonia sophia</i>	Little Commodore Widespread and common. Seen on every tour.
<i>Junonia stygia</i>	Brown Pansy Only a few this year. Kakum, Amedzofe, and Wli Falls. Seen on every tour.
<i>Junonia chorimene</i>	Golden Pansy 2 at Wli Falls. Previously Bobiri and Kintampo Falls.
<i>Junonia terea</i>	Soldier Pansy Widespread and common. Seen on every visit.
<i>Catacroptera cloanthe</i>	Pirate Recorded twice near Mole.
<i>Cyrestis camillus</i>	African Map Butterfly Bobiri, Bunso and Amedzofe. Seen in small numbers on most visits.
<i>Byblia anvatarata ssp.crameri</i>	African Joker Antikwa. Seen on all tours bar one.
<i>Mesoxantha ethosea</i>	Drury's Delight 2008, 2 at Amedzofe, 1 at Wli Falls. 2007, 2 at Bobiri and singletons at Kakum, Kintampo and Nkawkaw. Otherwise seen only at Kakum in January 2001 and Bobiri in January 2005.
<i>Ariadne enotrea</i>	African Castor Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every tour.
<i>Ariadne albifascia</i>	White-banded Castor Bobiri. Much less common than the latter.
<i>Neptidopsis ophione</i>	Scalloped Sailer Amedzofe and Wli Falls. Seen on most tours.
<i>Eurytela dryope</i>	Golden Piper Amedzofe. Recorded in small numbers on most visits.
<i>Eurytela hiarbus</i>	Pied Piper 1 at Bobiri. Seen on 8 tours, usually at Bobiri, but also Kakum and Nkawkaw.
<i>Sevenia occidentarium</i>	Velvet Tree Nymph Seen only in September 2001.
<i>Limnitiidae</i>	
<i>Harma theobene</i>	Angular Glider A male at Bobiri. Noted on most tours.
<i>Cymothoe fumana</i>	Scalloped Yellow Glider A few at Kakum 2007. Noted on most tours.
<i>Cymothoe fumosa</i>	This name, used in Seitz, is not found in Larsen, possibly a form of the latter.
<i>Cymothoe egesta</i>	Common Yellow Glider Scattered forest records. Seen on most tours. <i>C.confusa</i> is the subspecific name for the species from Cameroun east.
<i>Cymothoe lurida</i>	Lurid Glider A male at Bobiri. Also Kakum in the past.
<i>Cymothoe aubergeri</i>	Auberger's Yellow Glider 2 males at Kakum. Seen there on most tours.
<i>Cymothoe herminia ssp.gongoa</i>	Herminia Glider Noted on only two tours.
<i>Cymothoe weymeri ssp.mulatta</i>	Weymer's Glider One near Nkawkaw, January 2005.
<i>Cymothoe caenis</i>	Common Glider Scattered records, common at Wli Falls.
<i>Cymothoe althea</i>	Western Glider A few records, mostly from Kakum. Records of <i>C.consanguis</i> refer to this species.

<i>Cymothoe consanguis</i>	Cream Glider Records due to incorrect identification of the above species.
<i>Cymothoe jodutta</i>	Jodutta Glider Noted on several visits to Kakum. <i>ehmckeii</i> is the subspecies from southern Zaire.
<i>Cymothoe coccinata</i>	Common Red Glider Males at Amedzofe and Wli Falls. Scattered records, although there has certainly been much confusion with other red species.
<i>Cymothoe mabillei</i>	Western Red Glider Scattered records.
<i>Cymothoe 'sangaris'</i>	Blood Red Glider Kakum and Bobiri, a pair at both. Previous records of this species may refer to either of the above two species, although I was well aware that <i>sangaris</i> lacks the white spot on the hindwing costa. The blood-red colour is different in tone from the others. Now considered to be a complex of several similar species.
<i>Pseudoneptis bugandensis</i> <i>ssp. ianthe</i>	Blue Sailer Widespread in forests. Seen on every visit.
<i>Pseudacraea eurytus</i>	Common False Acraea Bobiri. Seen on every visit.
<i>Pseudacraea boisduvalii</i>	Boisduval's False Acraea Noted on a few tours, mostly at Baobeng-Fiema.
<i>Pseudacraea lucretia</i>	False Diadem Scattered forest records. Seen on every visit.
<i>Pseudacraea warburgi</i>	Incipient False Acraea Bobiri. Seen on most tours.
<i>Pseudacraea hostilia</i>	Western Incipient False Acraea Possibly overlooked as the latter, but definitely not seen 2007 or 2008.
<i>Pseudacraea semire</i>	Green False Acraea Amedzofe. Often at Nkawkaw or Kakum.
<i>Neptis nemetes</i>	Nemetes Sailer Widespread and noted on most tours.
<i>Neptis saclava</i>	Small Spotted Sailer Records of this species are erroneous.
<i>Neptis metella</i>	Yellow-base Sailer Kakum, Bobiri and Wli Falls. Seen on every tour.
<i>Neptis serena</i>	River Sailer Bobiri.
<i>Neptis kiriakoffi</i>	Kiriakoff's Sailer Undoubtedly overlooked in the Guinea Savannah.
<i>Neptis morosa</i>	Savannah Sailer Widespread in the savannah and clearings in the forest zone. Records of <i>N. jordani</i> refer to this species.
<i>Neptis alta</i>	High Sailer Bobiri. Also recorded from near Nkawkaw in January 2005.
<i>Neptis seeldrayersi</i>	Seeldrayer's Sailer Records probably refer to the latter species. But does occur in Ghana.
<i>Neptis puella</i>	Little Sailer Bobiri, where a few are seen on most visits.
<i>Neptis najo</i>	Karsch's Sailer Bobiri.
<i>Neptis metanira</i>	Holland's Sailer Bobiri.
<i>Neptis nysiades</i>	Variable Sailer Bobiri.

<i>Neptis quintilla</i>	Angled Pretty Sailer Bobiri 2007.
<i>Neptis paula</i>	Paula's Sailer Bobiri, 2005.
<i>Neptis strigata</i>	Strigate Sailer Atewa Range 2007.
<i>Neptis nicoteles</i>	Clubbed Sailer Wli Falls. Bobiri 2007.
<i>Neptis nicobule</i>	Scarce Clubbed Sailer Kakum 2007.
<i>Neptis mixophyes</i>	Holland's Clubbed Sailer
<i>Neptis nebrodes</i>	Broken-club Sailer Wli Falls. Kakum and Nkawkaw in 2007.
<i>Neptis trigonophora</i> ssp. <i>melicertula</i>	Regular Club-dot Sailer Bobiri.
<i>Neptis agouale</i>	Common Club-dot Sailer Widespread and common.
<i>Neptis melicerta</i>	Original Club-dot Sailer Widespread, although records confused with the latter.
<i>Neptis troundi</i>	Constricted Club-dot Sailer Antikwa and probably elsewhere.
<i>Catuna crithea</i>	Common Pathfinder 1 at Amedzofe. Very scarce this year. Seen on every visit.
<i>Catuna oberthueri</i>	Oberthur's Pathfinder Probably seen on all visits. Not in 2008.
<i>Catuna angustatum</i>	Large Pathfinder Wli Falls. Noted on most visits.
<i>Euryphura togoensis</i>	Suffert's Commander 2007 singletons at Kakum and Bobiri. Seen in small numbers on 7 tours. All records of <i>E.porphyrion</i> which occurs from eastern Nigeria east refer to this species.
<i>Euryphura plautilla</i>	Hewitson's Commander All records of this species are wrong and refer to the following species.
<i>Euryphura chalcis</i>	Common Commander Scattered records, Kakum, Bobiri, Bunso and Wli Falls.
<i>Hamanumida daedalus</i>	Guineafowl Common in savannah and disturbed areas in the forest zone. Seen on every visit.
<i>Aterica galene</i>	Forest Glade Nymph Bobiri and Wli Falls. Seen on every visit.
<i>Cynandra opis</i>	Brilliant Nymph Usually reasonably common in forests, but only Amedzofe and Wli this year. Seen on all bar one tour.
N.B. Species of <i>Euriphene</i> , <i>Bebearia</i> , and <i>Euphaedra</i> were notably few and far between in 2008, whereas often they are numerous.	
<i>Euriphene incerta</i>	Uncertain Nymph Kakum 2007.
<i>Euriphene barombina</i>	Common Nymph A male and female at Bobiri. Records of <i>E.veronica</i> , which just penetrates western Ghana, refer to this species.
<i>Euriphene veronica</i>	Veronica Nymph All records refer to the previous species.
<i>Euriphene simplex</i>	Simple Nymph Scattered forest records.
<i>Euriphene amicia</i>	Friendly Nymph Wli Falls.

<i>Euriphene aridatha</i> ssp. <i>transgressa</i>	Dark Nymph Nkawkaw 2007.
<i>Euriphene coerulea</i>	Western Nymph Reasonably common in forests.
<i>Euriphene atropurpurea</i>	Aurivillius' Nymph Records of this species are incorrect, those of males probably referable to <i>E.aridatha</i> .
<i>Euriphene gambiae</i> ssp. <i>vera</i>	Gambia Nymph Usually widespread in forests. Seen on all tours until this one.
<i>Euriphene ampedusa</i>	Common Brown Nymph Bobiri 2007.
<i>Euriphene atossa</i>	Atossa Nymph Wli Falls. Usually reasonably common in forests.
<i>Euriphene doriclea</i>	Doriclea Nymph
<i>Bebearia lucayensis</i>	Plain Forester Named as <i>B.subtentyris</i> .
<i>Bebearia tentyris</i>	Hewitson's Forester Common in forests. Seen on every tour.
<i>Bebearia osyris</i>	Winifred's Forester
<i>Bebearia carshena</i>	Shining Blue Forester Kakum and Bobiri 2007. Seen in small numbers on most visits.
<i>Bebearia absolon</i>	Absolon Forester Scattered in forests.
<i>Bebearia zonara</i>	Light Brown Forester Bobiri and Wli Falls. Seen on all visits.
<i>Bebearia mandinga</i>	Mandinga Forester A female at Antikwa 2007. Seen on most tours.
<i>Bebearia oxione</i>	Banded Forester A male at Amedzofe. Seen on most visits.
<i>Bebearia abesa</i>	Black Forester Bobiri. Recorded in small numbers on most visits.
<i>Bebearia barce</i>	Shining Green Forester A male at Bobiri 2007. Seen in September 2003 at Kakum.
<i>Bebearia mardania</i>	Dark Palm Forester Bobiri. Scattered records.
<i>Bebearia cocalia</i>	Common Palm Forester Only at Bobiri. Often widespread and common.
<i>Bebearia paludicola</i> ssp. <i>blandi</i>	Swamp Palm Forester 1 at Kakum, old HQ clearing.
<i>Bebearia sophus</i>	Sophus Forester Scattered records, Kakum, Bobiri, Amedzofe and Wli Falls. Seen on every tour.
<i>Bebearia laetitia</i>	Laetitia's Forester A male at Ankasa 2007.
<i>Bebearia phantasina</i>	Western Phantasia Bobiri 2007. Recorded on most visits, in small numbers.
<i>Bebearia ashantina</i>	Ashanti Forester
<i>Bebearia cutteri</i>	Cutter's Forester Recorded in September 2002.
<i>Euphaedra medon</i>	Widespread Forester Widespread and common in the forest zone. Seen on every visit.
<i>Euphaedra gausape</i>	Western Striped Forester Scarce. Recorded on 6 visits.
<i>Euphaedra xypete</i>	Common Pink Forester A few at Bobiri. Seen on every visit except 2007, widespread records.

<i>Euphaedra hebes</i>	Hebes Pink Forester Certainly present as well as the latter.
<i>Euphaedra diffusa</i> <i>ssp.alboeaerulea</i>	Unmarked Pink Forester Certainly present, e.g. Baobeng-Fiema.
<i>Euphaedra crossei ssp.akani</i>	Crosse's Forester Seen at Kintampo and misnamed as <i>E.gausape</i> .
<i>Euphaedra crockeri</i>	Crocker's Forester Kakum 2007.
<i>Euphaedra eusemoides</i>	Western Mimic Forester A few Bobiri records.
<i>Euphaedra cyparissa</i>	True Forester Scattered records, including at Mole.
<i>Euphaedra sarcoptera</i>	Large True Forester Bobiri and Nkawkaw. Small numbers on most tours.
<i>Euphaedra themis</i>	Common Themis Forester Bobiri. Recorded on most visits.
<i>Euphaedra laboureaana</i> <i>ssp.eburnensis</i>	Brownish Themis Forester
<i>Euphaedra minuta</i>	Cote d'Ivoire Forester
<i>Euphaedra modesta</i>	Modest Themis Forester
<i>Euphaedra janetta</i>	Janetta Themis Forester Bobiri 2007. Usually reasonably common.
<i>Euphaedra splendens</i> <i>ssp.ghanaensis</i>	Splendid Themis Forester
<i>Euphaedra ceres</i>	Ceres Forester Widespread in small numbers. Seen on every visit.
<i>Euphaedra phaethusa</i>	Common Ceres Forester Bobiri and Nkawkaw 2007. Often confused with <i>E.ceres</i> in the past.
<i>Euphaedra in anum</i>	Unmarked Ceres Forester Bobiri. Seen on most visits in small numbers.
<i>Euphaedra ravola</i>	Ravola Ceres Forester Very likely records of this refer to <i>E.phaethusa</i> .
<i>Euphaedra francina</i>	Magnificent Forester Seen near Nkawkaw on most visits.
<i>Euphaedra eleus</i>	Eleus Orange Forester Kakum 2007. Recorded on most visits.
<i>Euphaedra edwardsii</i>	Edwards' Forester Singletons at Bobiri and Wli Falls. Recorded on most visits in small numbers.
<i>Euphaedra perseis</i>	Perseis Mimic Forester A few Bobiri records.
<i>Euphaedra harpalyce</i>	Common Blue-banded Forester Bobiri and Wli Falls. Recorded on all visits.
<i>Euphaedra eupalus</i>	Western Blue-banded Forester 1 at Kintampo 2007. Recorded on most visits at various localities but less common than the latter.
<i>Euptera elabontas</i>	Common Euptera Recorded on several occasions in small numbers in Techiman Forest.
<i>Pseudathyma sibyllina</i>	Sibylline False Sergeant Bobiri, and several past records from there too.

Heliconiinae

N.B. Species of *Acraea* were particularly numerous in the Volta region.

<i>Acraea perenna</i>	Falcate <i>Acraea</i> A few at Amedzofe. Otherwise seen only in September 2001.
<i>Acraea circeis</i>	White <i>Acraea</i> 2 at Kakum. Widespread records, noted on 8 tours.

<i>Acraea translucida</i>	Translucent Acraea New in 2008. Numerous at Amedzofe.
<i>Acraea peneleos</i>	Peneleos Acraea Amedzofe. Noted on most tours. Records of <i>A.penelope</i> , which does not occur in Ghana, probably refer to this species.
<i>Acraea parrhasia</i>	Yellow-veined Acraea Bobiri. Otherwise scattered forest records.
<i>Acraea orina</i>	Orina Acraea Several at Amedzofe.
<i>Acraea pharsalus</i>	Pharsalus Acraea Bobiri and Amedzofe. Seen on most tours.
<i>Acraea encedon</i>	Encedon Acraea Panbros. Savannah and forest clearings. Seen on every visit.
<i>Acraea encedana</i>	Encedana Acraea Panbros 2008.
<i>Acraea alciope</i>	Alciope Acraea Amedzofe, Kakum and Bobiri. Seen on every visit.
<i>Acraea aurivillii</i>	Large Alciope Acraea Probably seen on every visit.
<i>Acraea jodutta</i>	Jodutta Acraea Antikwa, Bobiri and Amedzofe. Seen on most visits.
<i>Acraea lycoa</i>	Lycoa Acraea Kakum, Bobiri and Amedzofe. Recorded on most visits.
<i>Acraea serena</i>	Small Orange Acraea Widespread and common, particularly at Amedzofe. Seen on every tour. Previously known as <i>A.eponina</i> .
<i>Acraea acerata</i>	Small Yellow-banded Acraea Amedzofe. Previously seen on only 2 tours.
<i>Acraea bonasia</i>	Bonasia Acraea Many at Amedzofe. Otherwise scattered records.
<i>Acraea orestia</i>	Orestia Glassy Acraea Seen only in September 2002.
<i>Acraea polis</i>	Western Musanga Acraea Bobiri. Seen on every visit. Previously called <i>A.pentapolis</i> .
<i>Acraea vesperalis</i>	Rare Musanga Acraea A female at Bobiri 2007. Also there in 2005.
<i>Acraea rogersi</i>	Rogers' Large Acraea Bobiri and Amedzofe. Recorded on all tours bar one.
<i>Acraea abdera</i> ssp. <i>eginopsis</i>	Abdera Acraea New in 2008. 1+ at Amedzofe.
<i>Acraea egina</i>	Elegant Acraea Widespread and common. Seen on every tour.
<i>Acraea pseudEGINA</i>	Abadima Acraea Scattered records, noted on 4 tours.
<i>Acraea caecilia</i>	Pink Acraea Noted only occasionally, e.g. Mole.
<i>Acraea zetes</i>	Large Spotted Acraea Bobiri. Seen at various locations on 6 tours, e.g. Antikwa.
<i>Acraea endoscota</i>	Le Doux's Glassy Acraea Kakum 2007. Records of <i>A.leucographa</i> probably refer to this species, and of <i>A.admatha</i> certainly do.
<i>Acraea quirina</i>	Common Glassy Acraea Kakum and Bunso Arboretum. Scattered records.
<i>Acraea neobule</i>	Wandering Donkey Wli Falls. Recorded occasionally.

<i>Acraea eugenia</i>	Small Smoky Acraea New in 2008. A few at Wli Falls.
<i>Acraea camaena</i>	Large Smoky Acraea Recorded only once at Bobiri.
<i>Acraea vestalis</i>	Smoky Bematistes Bobiri and Biakpa. Recorded in small numbers on most tours.
<i>Acraea macaria</i>	Black-spot Bematistes Noted on 3 tours.
<i>Acraea umbra</i>	Clouded Bematistes Bobiri. Scattered records.
<i>Acraea alcinoe</i>	Alcinoe Bematistea Widespread and reasonably common.
<i>Acraea consanguinea</i>	Blood-brother Bematistes 1 at Bobiri 2007, and also there on two other visits. A scarce species.
<i>Acraea epaea</i>	Common Bematistes Common and widespread. Seen on every tour.
<i>Lachnoptera anticlia</i>	Blotched Leopard Bobiri and Atewa 2007. Seen on most visits, in the forest zone.
<i>Phalanta phalantha</i> ssp.aethiopica	Common Leopard Fritillary Scattered records. Seen on every visit.
<i>Phalanta eurytis</i>	African Leopard Fritillary Volta region. Recorded on every visit.

HESPERIOIDEA

Hesperiidae

The skippers have received far less attention than the other families, in most part due to the absence of relevant literature. I list below those species that we have recorded, but have not used the distinction between past records or 2008 records used above. I have however included the most likely overlooked species in blue. Many skippers have been seen but not identified, and the situation will greatly improve on future tours.

Coeliadinae

<i>Coeliades chalybe</i>	Blue Policeman Amedzofe in 2008. Bobiri, Owabi, Obuasi, Aboabo, and Baobeng-Fiema.
<i>Coeliades forestan</i>	Striped Policeman Bobiri and Amedzofe in 2008. Widespread, recorded at many sites.
<i>Coeliades pisistratus</i>	Two Pip Policeman Bobiri 2005. Near Kumasi, September 2002.
<i>Coeliades hanno</i>	Three Pip Policeman New in 2008. 1 at Amedzofe.
<i>Pyrrhides lucagus</i>	Western Blue Policeman Scattered records.
<i>Pyrrhochalcia iphis</i>	African Giant Skipper Widespread and locally common, also in 2008.

Pyrginae

<i>Celaenorrhinus ankasa</i>	Ankasa Sprite Antikwa 2007, photographed by DD, det. Torben Larsen.
<i>Celaenorrhinus galenus</i>	Common Orange Sprite Widespread and common in the forest zone. 2008 Bunso Arboretum, Amedzofe, and Bobiri.

<i>Celaenorrhinus proxima</i>	Common Black Sprite
<i>ssp.maesseni</i>	Scattered records, e.g. Bobiri. 2008 Bunso and Amedzofe.
<i>Tagiades flesus</i>	Clouded Flat
	Widespread and reasonably common.
<i>Eagris denuba</i>	Cream Flat
	Bobiri. Otherwise scattered records.
<i>Eagris hereus ssp.quaterna</i>	Beautiful Orange Flat
	Bobiri.
<i>Eagris tetrastigma</i>	Black Flat
	Scattered records.
<i>Eretis lugens</i>	Savannah Elf
	Mole.
<i>Eretis melania</i>	Common Elf
	Scattered savannah records.
<i>Sarangesa laelius</i>	Grey Elfin
	Scattered records.
<i>Sarangesa thecla</i>	Common Elfin
	Scattered records, e.g. Kakum.
<i>Sarangesa bouvieri</i>	Bouvier's Elfin
	Scattered records.
<i>Sarangesa brigida</i>	Brigid's Elfin
	Scattered forest records, e.g. Kakum.
<i>Abantis leucogaster</i>	Streaked Paradise Skipper
	This rare and fine species was seen at Bobiri in January 2005.
	Again at Bobiri in 2007, and at Nkawkaw. 2008 1 at Kakum in the old HQ clearing.
<i>Abantis pseudonigeriana</i>	Beige Paradise Skipper
	Probably this species in the northern savannah on 1 visit. I hope to trace a photograph.
	Other <i>Abantis</i> skippers have been seen, and possibly photographed, at Antikwa, at Bobiri in September 2003 and January 2004, at Baobeng-Fiema in September 2003, and in Techiman Forest in September 2003.
<i>Spialia spio</i>	Common Grizzled Skipper
	Scattered savannah records, e.g. Kintampo Falls. Mole 2008.
<i>Spialia diomus</i>	Diomus Grizzled Skipper
	Scattered records.
<i>Spialia ploetzi ssp.occidentalis</i>	Forest Grizzled Skipper
	Bobiri 2007. Scattered forest records.
<i>Gomalia elma</i>	Mallow Skipper
	Baobang-Fiema in previous years.
 <i>Hesperinae</i>	
<i>Astictopterus anomoeus</i>	Yellow Hopper
	Bobiri 2007.
<i>Astictopterus abjecta</i>	Abject Hopper
<i>Gorgyra</i> spp.	Leaf Sitters
	Those seen were unidentified.
<i>Ceratrachia phocion</i>	Common Forest Sylph
	Scattered records.
<i>Ceratrachia clara</i>	Clear Forest Sylph
<i>Ceratrachia crowleyi</i>	Crowley's Forest Sylph
	Ankasa, 2007.
<i>Ceratrachia argyrosticta</i>	Pearl-spotted Forest Sylph
	Ankasa, 2007. Bobiri 2008.
<i>Pardaleodes incerta ssp.murcia</i>	Savannah Pathfinder Skipper
	Scattered records.

<i>Pardaleodes edipus</i>	Common Pathfinder Skipper Common in the forest zone.
<i>Pardaleodes sator</i>	Scarce Pathfinder Skipper Ankasa and Bobiri 2007.
<i>Pardaleodes tibullus</i>	Large Pathfinder Skipper
<i>Xanthodisca rega</i>	Yellow-disk Skipper
<i>Xanthodisca astrape</i>	False Pathfinder Skipper
<i>Parosmodes morantii</i> ssp. <i>axis</i>	Morant Skipper Records of this species are erroneous. It is an extremely rare savannah species.
<i>Rhabdomantis sosia</i>	Common Large Fox Bobiri 2007.
<i>Osmodes laronia</i>	Large White-spots Widespread and common in forests.
<i>Osmodes omar</i>	Obsolete White-spots
<i>Osmodes lux</i>	Detached White-spots
<i>Osmodes thora</i>	Common White-spots Widespread and common.
<i>Osmodes lindseyi</i> ssp. <i>occidentalis</i>	Black-tufted White-spots
<i>Osphantes ogowena</i>	Lobed Skipper One record, possibly from Kakum?
<i>Paracleros placidus</i>	Western Dusky Dart
<i>Paracleros biguttulus</i>	Common Dusky Dart Scattered records.
<i>Paracleros substrigata</i>	Berger's Dusky Dart
<i>Paracleros maesseni</i>	Maessen's Dusky Dart
<i>Acleros ploetzi</i>	Plotz's Dusky Dart Widespread and reasonably common.
<i>Acleros mackenii</i> ssp. <i>olaus</i>	Macken's Dusky Dart Bobiri 2007. Wli Falls 2008.
<i>Acleros nigrapex</i>	Powdered Dusky Skipper
<i>Acleros bala</i>	Bobiri 2007, photographed by DD.
<i>Semalea</i> spp.	Silky Skippers Those seen were unidentified.
<i>Hypoleucis ophiusa</i>	Common Costus Skipper Scattered records.
<i>Hypoleucis tripunctata</i>	Unmarked Costus Skipper Bobiri 2008.
<i>Meza meza</i>	Common Missile Widespread.
<i>Andronymus caesar</i>	Common Dart Widespread in small numbers.
<i>Andronymus</i> spp.	Darts Other species probably overlooked.
<i>Zophopetes cerymica</i>	Common Palm Nightfly Scattered records, e.g. Fairhill Guesthouse September 2003.
<i>Gretna waga</i>	Common Crepuscular Skipper Scattered records.
<i>Gretna cylinda</i>	Lesser Crepuscular Skipper Previously at Bobiri.
<i>Pteroteinion caenira</i>	White-banded Red-eye Scattered forest records. Males at Bobiri and Amedzofe in 2008.
<i>Pteroteinion</i> spp.	Red-eyes Other species probably overlooked.
<i>Caenides dacela</i>	Common Recluse
<i>Caenides dacena</i>	White-fringed Recluse

<i>Monza alberti</i>	Black Grass Skipper Common and widespread.
<i>Monza cretacea</i>	White-bodied Grass Skipper
<i>Fresna netopha</i>	Common Acraea Skipper Scattered records in previous years.
<i>Platylesches</i> spp.	Hoppers Those seen were unidentified.
<i>Platylesches picanini</i>	Banded Hopper Kintampo, 2007.
<i>Pelopidas mathias</i>	Lesser Millet Skipper Widespread.
<i>Pelopidas thrax</i>	Millet Skipper Scattered records.
<i>Borbo</i> spp.	Swifts Those seen were not identified to species.

Ghana Plant List

This list is purely an initial attempt to name some of the plants seen on the trips to Ghana. It is intended as a framework to be added to and updated as we make repeated visits and learn more about the flora. The book 'A Handbook of West African Flowers' by H. N. Saunders is especially useful in naming many of the commoner species. The five volume 'Flora of West Africa' is the standard work.

Nymphaeaceae

Nymphaea maculata The water-lily common in water-holes in the savanna zone.

Capparidaceae

Cleome ciliata A weed, scattered records.
Ritcheia reflexa A shrub. Seen at roadside stop south of Kumasi.

Urticaceae

Urtica sp. A nettle seen at Owabi.

Polygonaceae

Polygonum sp. An aquatic knotgrass seen at Owabi.

Nyctaginaceae

Boerhavia diffusa A common weed. Tiny red-purple flowers.
Mirabilis jalapa Red or yellow showy flowers that open in the afternoon.
Common at Baobeng-Fiema.

Cucurbitaceae

Luffa aegyptiaca Loofah. Common near villages.

Melastomataceae

Dissotis rotundifolia A creeping herb with showy pink-purple flowers.
Widespread.

Combretaceae

Combretum racemosum A shrub with reddish flowers and showy white bracts.
Widespread in the forest zone.

Malvaceae

Sida acuta
Urena lobata

Pale orange flowers. Widespread and common.
Pink flowers. Common at Bobiri. Also in Accra.

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia hirta
Euphorbia heterophylla

A common weed.
Similar to *E.hirta* but larger, with larger leaves.

Caesalpiniaceae

Poinciana regia
Cassia fistula
Cassia occidentalis
Cassia alata
Cassia tora
Caesalpinia bonduc

Flamboyant or Flame of the Forest.
Indian Laburnum.
A widespread shrub.
An ornamental shrub. Locally common, as at Bobiri.
A widespread shrub.
A shrub with many prickles. The seeds are used in the game 'Ware'.

Mimosaceae

Mimosa pudica
Acacia pennata

Sensitive Plant. Widespread and abundant.
Common in forests.

Leguminosae

Clitoria ternatea
Erythrina senegalensis
Desmodium spp.

Widespread and very common.
A small tree with red flowers.
Several present.

Moraceae

Musanga cecropioides

A common tree of forest clearings that resembles the Neotropical genus *Cecropia*.

Loranthaceae

Phragmanthera nigriflora

African Mistletoe.

Balanophoraceae

Thonningia sanguinea

A parasite, with red scales surrounding the tiny flowers.
Terrestrial. Seen in forests at Owabi and Kakum.

Passifloraceae

Passiflora foetida

Accra.

Compositae

Tridax procumbens
Synedrella nodiflora
Bidens pilosa
Aspilia africana
Ageratum conyzoides
Ageratum sp.
Lactuca capensis

A native of America. A common weed.
A yellow flowered herb.
A common weed.
A large, yellow-flowered herb. Very attractive to butterflies.
Pale violet herb. Very common
A climbing species is very common and widespread.
Reddish-purple flowers. Seen at Antikwa.

Boraginaceae

Heliotropium indicum

Indian Heliotrope. A common weed.

Solanaceae

Solanum sp.

Several species noted.

Convolvulaceae

Quamoclit coccinea
Ipomoea kentrocarpa
Ipomoea cairica
Ipomoea involucrata
Merremia angustifolia

A beautiful bright red climber. Very common in the forest zone, although not seen at Kakum.
Flowers yellow with a purple centre. Seen at Bobiri.
Purple flowers, with deeply divided leaves. Very common.
Purple flowers and heart-shaped leaves. Very common.
Yellow flowers. Seen in lakeside vegetation at Owabi.

Pedaliaceae

Sesamum indicum

Sesame.

Acanthaceae

Justicia flava
Thunbergia erecta

Yellow flowers. Common in the forest zone.
Bobiri.

Verbenaceae

Lantana camara
Avicennia nitida
Stachytarpheta jamaicensis
Stachytarpheta angustifolia
Lippia multiflora

Widespread.
White Mangrove. Panbros Salt pans.
Widespread and common.
More slender than the above species.
Accra.

Commelinaceae

Commelina benghalensis
Commelina vogelii
Commelina lagosensis
Commelina sp.

Widespread.

Deep purple/black, behind Shangri-la, Accra.

Zingiberaceae

Costus afer

Ginger Lily. Tall with yellowish or pink flowers.

Cannaceae

Canna indica

Red or orange flowers. Common near villages.

Araceae

Anchomanes difformis
Amorphophallus dracontioides

A tall aroid, with purplish spathe. Several at Bobiri.
A very impressive aroid seen in the northern savanna.

Amaryllidaceae

Haemanthus cinnabarinus
Crinum jagus

Fireball Lily. Seen at Kakum, Antikwa, Bobiri, and Owabi.
A large white lily. Bobiri.

Liliaceae

Gloriosa superba

Bobiri.

Orchidaceae

Eulophia guineensis

A terrestrial orchid at Bobiri and Owabi.