



Butterfly Safari in South Africa
18-29 April 2024
Led by Steve Woodhall and Callan Cohen



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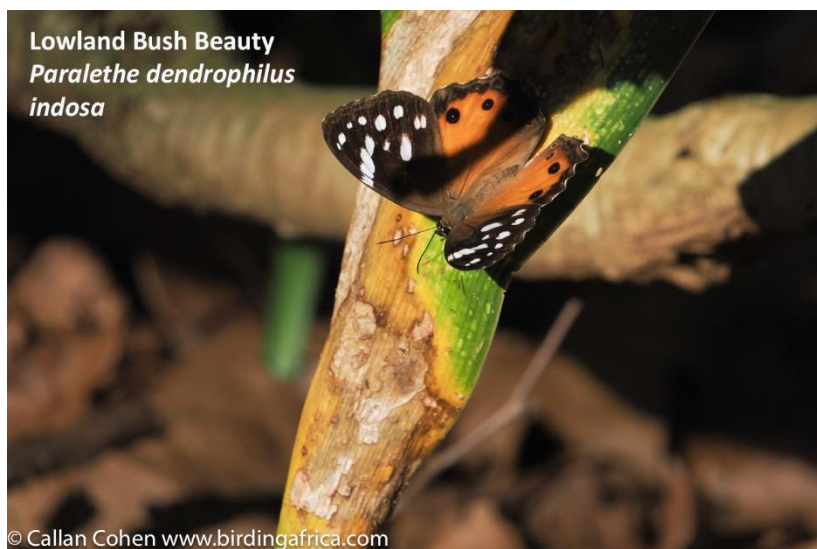
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Day 1 Thursday 18 April 2024 – Krantzkloof Nature Reserve – 69 species seen.

The day dawned full of excitement for the start of the tour! Our guests, Ralph and Claudette Moore, had arrived a few days early to acclimatize. We started off in the excellent Krantzkloof



Nature Reserve, which had been closed to visitors following flood damage but reopened just before our guests arrived. We met at my house to pack the car. Right on cue a Lowland Bush Beauty, *Paralethe dendrophilus indosa*, came to see us. This is a unique species, endemic to the forests of eastern South Africa.



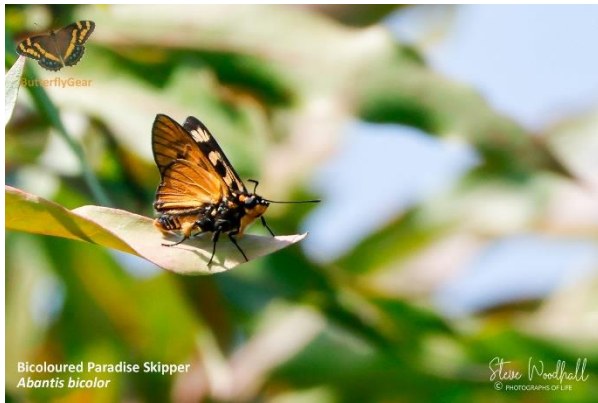
This we hoped would be a good omen, so we set off to explore the reserve. There was lots of activity along the trail including a male African Plain Tiger ingesting alkaloids from a seeding Manyflower Ragwort *Senecio polyanthemoides*. It felt good showing the guests one of my favourite local spots.



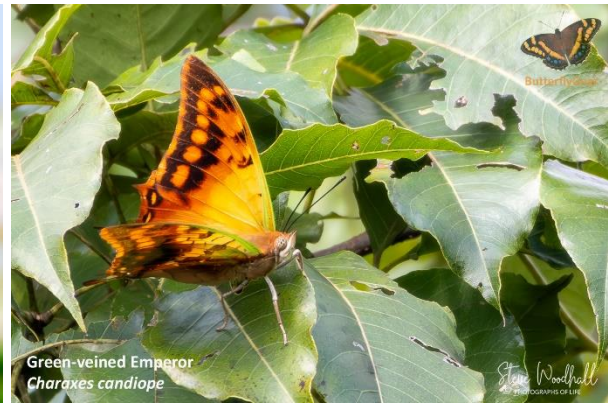
The views along the trail were impressive and the path was alive with butterflies including many *Charaxes* species.



Highlights were butterfly of the day Bicoloured Paradise Skipper, *Abantis bicolor*, Boisduval's False Acraea, *Pseudacraea boisduvali trimenii*, a scent-marking Striped Policeman, *Coeliades forestan*, and elusive Orange-barred Playboy, *Deudorix diocles*. We saw five *Charaxes* species including a male Blue-spotted King *Charaxes cithaeron cithaeron*, which was shy and reluctant to open his wings. Every so often a Small Striped Swordtail *Graphium policenes* appeared but was too fast to photograph. Hilltopping Veined Swordtails *Graphium leonidas* made up for that.



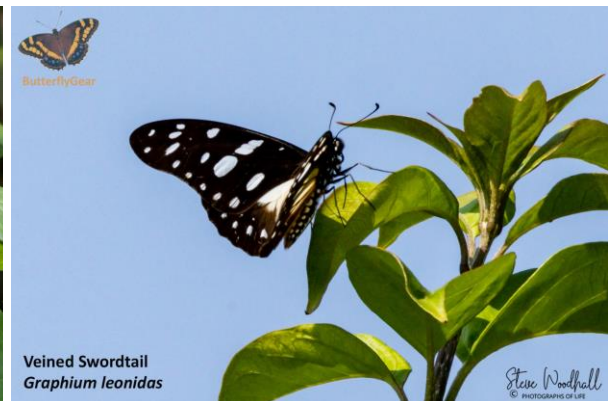
Bicoloured Paradise Skipper
Abantis bicolor



Green-veined Emperor
Charaxes candiope



Boisduval's False Acraea
Pseudacraea boisduvalii trimenii



Veined Swordtail
Graphium leonidas

After a leisurely walk back to the car it was a short afternoon drive to our next accommodation on the coast to the north where we met up with my fellow Lepsoc Africa members Pete and Jenny Sharland.

Day 2 Friday 19 April 2024 Harold Johnson Nature Reserve - 69 species seen.

Harold Johnson Nature Reserve is a coastal forest-grassland mosaic where the largest river in the province, the Tugela, reaches the sea. It sits on a high ridge over the river, which is the traditional



Tugela River from Harold Johnson Nature Reserve.
Fort Pearson is on the low ridge to the right.

boundary between the old Natal Colony and Zululand. It was a military strongpoint during the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 and has a lot of historical sites.

We started off along the road into the reserve where there were plenty of interesting Skippers (Hesperiidae) around, which kept Ralph busy. The local Baorini tribe can be very difficult to tell apart. We found several specimens of the Long-horned Swift *Borbo fatuellus fatuellus*, which has variable markings and can pose interesting challenges!



The reserve has some good hilltops, which make it a superb butterflying spot. We put out some fermented banana then explored the area. An early highlight was a female Autumn-leaf Vagrant *Afrodryas leda* waking up in the morning sun. We found many butterflies along the trail and in the surrounding grasslands. Eastern Pointed Caper White *Belenois gidica abyssinica* was one of the most abundant butterflies.

Mid-morning action had started with False Chief *Pseudacraea lucretia tarquinia* and various Charaxes species. We saw lots of Blonde Glider *Cymothoë coranus*, White Pearl Emperor *Charaxes varanes varanes*, and Natal Silverlines *Cigaritis natalensis* playing hard to get in the canopy. The flowers Wild Sage *Stachys aethiopica* were attracting lots of attention. Occasionally a Swordtail or Swallowtail would appear and cause a lot of interest.



On the way back up the hill we found two of South Africa's iconic red butterflies, making a glorious show against the green of the bush.

Back at the hilltop we found that the bananas had done their job, and there were several well-fed Charaxes. I persuaded some specimens to sit on a little banana bait placed on tree bark to emulate the leaking, fermenting sap these butterflies love. Butterfly of the day was a perfect, fresh, Blue-spotted King, who proved to be as feisty as every one of these I've encountered; he forced my fingers apart and headed for the canopy. Luckily, he decided to sit quite low down and

keep an eye on us so we could get good images. We were able to approach some of the *Charaxes* very closely – as we can see from Callan’s ‘Charaxes-eye’ portrait of Claudette and Ralph with a *Charaxes candiope*.

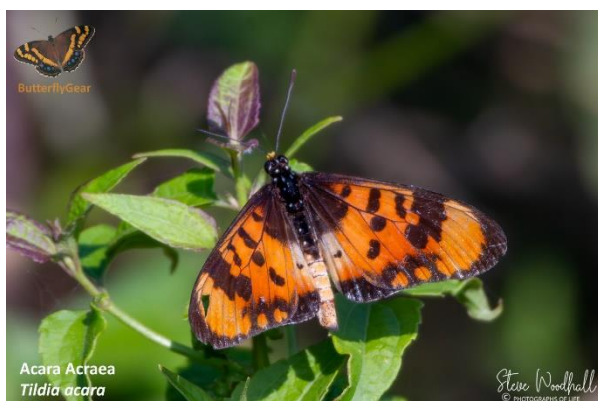


Late in the afternoon on the way back we spent some more time along the approach road hoping to find skippers of interest. We found the same species as before but also found *Acraea Acraea*, *Tildia acara*, which Ralph had wanted to see. It’s the model that Boisduval’s False *Acraea* mimics and is on the front cover of his copy of the Field Guide to Butterflies of South Africa. We also found many Pointed Caper Whites, which were rapidly becoming the trip’s ‘signature butterfly’, getting ready to roost communally.

Day 3 Saturday 20 April 2024 Fort Pearson – 62 species seen.

After another relaxing night at our luxury accommodation, we packed and drove back to Harold Johnson, arriving at Fort Pearson. There were some Orange-Barred Playboys *Deudorix diocles* and a rather worn Boisduval’s False *Acraea*.

We saw examples of the ubiquitous Purple-brown Hairstreak *Hypolycaena philippus philippus*, which we renamed the ‘PBH’ for short and found Buff-tipped Paradise Skipper *Abantis canopus* as well. There were a few Sulphur Orange Tips *Colotis auxo auxo* around, but they were skittish and hard to photograph. An African Snout *Libythea laius* appeared as well as the only Marsh Patroller *Brakefieldia perspicua* of the trip. True to form it buried itself in the grass and refused to give us a decent photo opportunity.



The bush along this trail has become somewhat overgrown which made progress (and photography) a bit difficult. Butterfly of the day was a Common Fig-tree Blue *Myrina silenus ficedula* perching at the summit. There were several *Charaxes*. Spotted Ciliate Blues *Anthene*

larydas were circling the bushes rapidly. More Buff-tipped Paradise Skippers were seen, as well as scent-marking male Striped Policemen and Black-bordered Babul Blues *Azanus moriqua*.



Purple-brown Hairstreak female
Hypolycaena philippus philippus

Steve Woodhall
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African Snout
Libythea laius

Steve Woodhall
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We found a Rufous-winged Flat *Eagris nottoana nottoana* in the place where I had found them before, close to their host plant Cat-thorn *Scutia myrtina*. As with everywhere we went on this trip we saw Golden Piper *Eurytela dryope angulata*, but they were extremely wary and hard to photograph.



African Joker sucking at a Sorghum seed head
Byblia anvatar acheloia

Steve Woodhall
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Common Fig-tree Blue
Myrina silenus ficedula

Steve Woodhall
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We found more Sulphur Orange Tips along the way and some Elfin Skippers/Forest Elfins *Sarangesa motozi* playing in the shade. Along the main road some African Jokers *Byblia anvatar acheloia* were frequenting a patch of Wild Sorghum grass and sucking at some liquid exudation from the glumes of the inflorescence. I've seen this species and a few others behaving similarly, and it's a mystery since grasses don't create nectar. The grass experts are flummoxed as well and are encouraging me to do some analysis.

We then drove on up the escarpment to Eshowe to our accommodation. We were warmly welcomed by our hostess, who pampered us for the next three nights.

Day 4 Sunday 21 April 2024 Dlinza Forest Boardwalk and Mandawe Cross – 74 species seen.

A short drive and an early start took us to Dlinza Forest, where the boardwalk and tower allow great canopy views. We spent a while along the forest edges as the sun rose, watching the day's butterflies waking up to sun themselves next to the large lawn at the entrance to the boardwalk. We saw the first Large Vagrants *Nepheronia argia variegata* of the trip as well as our first Albatrosses *Appias* spp, and a nice Large Ciliate Blue female *Anthene lemnos*. We also put up a couple of baited traps for *Charaxes*. We also found the rare Spotless Policeman *Coeliades libeon*.



The tower at the end of the boardwalk has a good viewing platform in the canopy of a huge Natal Fig tree *Ficus natalensis*. ‘Tree-topping’ butterflies use it as a lekking spot and it’s possible to get some great sightings there.



We soon had some ‘firsts’ for the trip, including the rarest of the three local *Pseudacraea* species, *P. eurytus imitator*. Males were perching on the canopy just below the tower and posing nicely. *Charaxes* were quite scarce, but we had good views of Coast/Satyr *Charaxes Eriboea ethalion ethalion*.



Our butterfly of the day was the male Lesser Fig-tree Blue *Myrina dermaptera dermaptera*, which refused to sit out in the open and chose to place a fig leaf between us and them. Despite this we managed a couple of photos and there were ‘oohs and aahs’ as the mirror-like blue upperside was seen. The banana produced a nice male Forest King, *Charaxes xiphares penningtoni*.

At midday we came off the boardwalk, picked up some lunch, and drove to Mandawe Cross. The drive takes in some of the vast landscapes of Zululand as one looks northwards. The Cross is on the steeple of a Norwegian Mission church built on a high point overlooking Phobane Lake and the uMhlatuze River valley.



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Ralph atop Mandawe

The surrounding lands have everything from arid savanna to moist forest and grasslands, so the mix of species on the summit can be very rich. Mandawe produced a few firsts for the trip. We had had a brief sighting of Clear-spotted Acraea *Stephenia aglaonice* at Fort Pearson but at Mandawe Ralph and I found a mint, shocking-pink male on the far hilltop. We had a couple of



Bush Scarlet
Axiocerses amanga

Steve Woodhall
© PHOTOGRAPHY OF LIFE



Confusing Sandman
Ernstia confusa

Steve Woodhall
© PHOTOGRAPHY OF LIFE

sightings of Queen Purple Tip *Colotis regina* including a mating pair that Callan managed to photograph. We saw our first Zulu Shade-fly *Coenyra hebe* of the trip, one of the species that normally flies at low altitude but is found on the hilltop at Mandawe. One of our surprises was here - a tiny Confusing Sandman *Ernsta confusa*, which is normally found only in the lowland areas of northern Zululand. It's very rare and so tiny one can easily mistake it for a small fly.



There was an African Yellow Pansy *Junonia hierta cebrene* on the road up the hill. We got Pearl-spotted Charaxes *Eriboea jahlusa argynnides* on the hilltop, dogfighting with Red-line Sapphires *Iolaus sidus* and Natal Silverlines. There was also a Bush Scarlet *Axiocerses amanga*, and a small colony of Tailed Black-eyes *Leptomyrina hirundo*. It was difficult to decide on a butterfly of the day!

From Mandawe we were able to look out to our objectives for the next two days – Nkandla Forest to the north-west and oNgoye Forest to the south-east.

We had a picnic lunch in the shadow of the church next to a big Mahogany tree, *Trichilia emetica*, whilst being buzzed by butterflies. Bliss.

Day 5 Monday 22 April 2024 Nkandla Forest – 28 species seen.

We awoke to high overcast and a southerly wind – the heatwave of the past few days was over, and we were headed for a high-altitude forest – Nkandla is mostly between 1000 and 1200m. As we drove north-west from Eshowe the road took us into the high grasslands of the heart of Zululand, where cattle farming is the mainstay of the economy. The scenery was breathtaking and although it was cool the sun was shining. Eventually we came over a high pass to the forest.

We put up a Charaxes trap on the southern (lowest) edge of the forest. Although it was cool there were good butterflies about.



The high sandstone bluffs of the middle Tugela valley edge to the left. Nkandla Forest is on the high ridge to the right.

The *Leonotis* flowers at the start of the route were attracting male Large Vagrants and we saw our first White-banded Swallowtails, *Papilio echerioides echerioides*. There were also some Bush Beauties on the wing – the first we’d seen since starting out in my garden. These butterflies like cool conditions.



Large Vagrant male
Nephronia argia variegata



White-banded Swallowtail male
Papilio echerioides echerioides

We were hoping to see Emperor Swallowtails *Papilio ophidicephalus* and Bush Kites *Papilio euphranor*, but neither did we see. This was strange because there were lots of other *Papilio* species on the wing. It appears the cool weather (it never got much above 20°C) was putting them off.

A forest clearing, however, was in excellent condition with many flowers blooming and lots of butterflies. It was a treat to see so many Red-hot Pokers *Kniphofia* sp. growing in the wild, because to many this is a popular garden plant. I wish my garden looked like this! They were pulling in the Mocker Swallowtails *Papilio dardanus cenea* – both sexes, which was fine because the females are normally deep forest skulkers. Curry Skunkbush *Chaenostoma floribundum* was also proving very attractive.

We also saw lots of both sexes of Large Vagrant as well as both female forms of East African Albatross *Appias sabina phoebe*. Eastern Battling Gliders *Cymothoë alcimeda trimeni* were visiting the flowers. There were also many small lycaenids and skippers like the Eastern Gold-spotted Sylph *Metisella metis paris* flitting around in the undergrowth.



I then recommended that we take a long shot and go looking for the isolated Nkandla colony of the Critically Endangered Karkloof Blue (or Karkloof Cupid), *Orachrysops ariadne*. This spot is 110km from the nearest colony in the Karkloof northwest of Durban. This was my first opportunity to be on this site at the right time of year for this enigmatic species. Also, an opportunity to show our US-based clients a local 'blue' that has the same status as their famous Miami, Karner and Paloverde blues.

It's a short, steep climb from the road. When we reached the site, I immediately saw that it closely resembled the better-known Wahroonga site east of Karkloof – steep herby grassland next to a forested gully. Soon Ralph called out 'is that one?' and sure enough the unmistakable (to me) form



The Karkloof Blue signboard © Ralph Moore



Karkloof Blue female *Orachrysops ariadne* in its photographer-unfriendly habitat

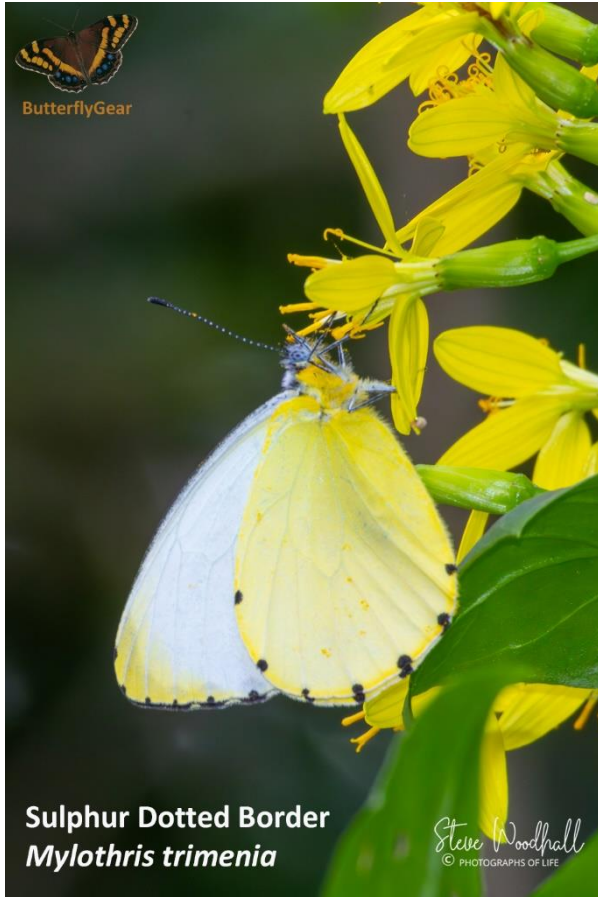
© Ralph Moore

of a patrolling male was whizzing over the grass. We stationed ourselves either side of the (illustrated above) ford across the gully where males could be seen circling just like they do at Wahroonga (now the uVemvane Nature Reserve) and females were seeking out the *Indigofera woodii* var *laxa* host plant. Photography was challenging, because I could find none perching on dead *Helichrysum* flowerheads as they do elsewhere. We had to work as a team, calling out landing spots and trying to get there before the quarry took off again. Eventually we all got photos, with Ralph getting a great shot of a wings-open female.

There were about six to eight individuals on the wing, comparable to a session at Wahroonga, and I reported this on the Lepsoc KZN WhatsApp group. I knew that the relevant Conservation officers would pick this up and so they did. We learned that the ‘egg count’ last season was the lowest on record. Counting eggs on a standard plot is the best way to estimate the number of butterflies and track them over time, so it was a relief that we’d seen adults in reasonable numbers. We also learned that one of the only five known locations for the butterfly is now under threat from

intensive cattle farming, which sparked a discussion on the challenges of conserving rare butterfly populations.

With this success under our belt (no prizes for guessing butterfly of the day at this point) we set off to explore further.



The trap hadn't attracted any *Charaxes* of note, Happily, the flowering Canary Creeper *Senecio tamoides* next to it had one of the target species nectaring on it. Sulphur Dotted Border *Mylothris trimenia* is our rarest of the genus and is restricted to Afromontane forests like Nkandla. We saw them on our last tour at Mariepskop, so it was good to see them again.

We set off down the forest trail. We had a few good sightings along there including White-banded Swallowtail and Rainforest *Acraea Acraea boopis*, but not all the target species I'd expected were there.

We found some massive caterpillars that turned out to be the Rose Eggar *Philotherma rosa*. There were also some Eastern Battling Gliders and a Large Flat, *Apallaga mokeezi mokeezi*.

We pressed on along the trail until it emerged into the grasslands beyond.



The huge caterpillar and its adult!

This ridge stretches for several kilometres, totally surrounded by forest. It always puts me in mind of the Barrowdowns in the Lord of the Rings, so I mentioned that we might encounter Tom Bombadil. To my delight Ralph sang out: 'Ho ho Tom Bombadil, Tom Bombadillo!' I came back with 'Bright blue his jacket is, and his boots are yellow!'. One of those lovely moments we have on tours...



The area has rare grassland butterflies in early summer, but I wasn't sure what we'd find in autumn. On one of the prominences, I spied a colourful skipper flying low down. At first, I thought it was a Gold-spotted Sylph that had strayed from the forest, but on closer inspection it was something far rarer. A Fulvous Painted Ranger, *Nervia mohozutsa*! It was a female, and soon afterwards Claudette found a male... and they were posing nicely for photos.



Painted Rangers are quite widely distributed and there are several species. They are never common and Fulvous is arguably the most spectacular in South Africa. One can't plan to see one of them, one must be in the right place at the right time and possess a modicum of luck. I know a few spots where they have been seen but they are unpredictable. This was a new one. There was a debate about whether this or the Karkloof Blue should be butterfly of the day!

The light was beginning to fail after the walk back to the vehicle, so we set off back to Eshowe and a well-earned dinner. Despite the clouds we had some great sightings and did Nkandla justice. The next day was scheduled for another iconic Zululand forest.

Day 6 Tuesday 23 April 2024 oNgoye Forest and Enseleni Nature Reserve – 45 species seen.

oNgoye is the largest 'Scarp' (as opposed to Afromontane) forest in South Africa and has floral and faunal affinities with areas in northern Mozambique and Tanzania. It has no locally endemic butterflies but is known for its beauty, high numbers of species, and the potential for surprises.

We reached it via the long road through the hills from Mandawe. After hanging some traps, we set off along the 4x4 trail on the northwest side of the forest.



The weather was looking reasonably good as we drove along the track stopping at concentrations of flowers that were growing in the grassland at the forest edge. We found a couple more firsts like Meadow Blue *Cupidopsis cissus*. A female Southern Sapphire *Iolus silas* that was ovipositing on her host plant in the canopy proved to be elusive – and confused – because she kept trying to lay on a nearby Canary Creeper. After battling to get close to them elsewhere we found Dusky-veined Telchinia *Telchinia igola* nectaring on Fever Tea *Lippia javanica*, and there were lots of Mocker and Citrus Swallowtails about.



In the forest Callan heard the calls of the endemic Ongoye Red Squirrel *Paraxerus palliatus ornatus*. We were rewarded with good sightings of this rare, threatened mammal – and photographs.

Not long afterwards Ralph came up with one of the big surprises of the tour – Ferrous (or Ferruginous) Swift, *Borbo ferruginea dondo*. This is a very rare skipper in South Africa and a few records have been trickling in from the area, so it wasn't impossible but unexpected. Shortly afterwards Callan found one as well. Despite much searching I could not see one. I commented that this is a once in a lifetime butterfly, my only sighting having been 30-odd years ago at Manguzi... I was very happy for Ralph because he has an affinity for Hesperidae and had seen some winners on this trip.



Ongoye Red Squirrel
Paraxerus palliatus ornatus

Steve Woodhall
PHOTOGRAPHS OF LIFE



Ferrous Swift
Borbo ferruginea dondo

© Ralph Moore

We decided to get on our way to St. Lucía, our next stop, because time was getting on and we hoped to stop at Enseleni Nature Reserve on the way. I had hopes of finding Large Glasswing *Ornipholidotos peucetia penningtoni* in the swamp along the river, having found it there 18 years ago. That was in December, but the local Poritiinae can turn up at any time of year, so it was worth a look.



Swamp at Enseleni
(inset - our quarry *Ornipholidotos peucetia penningtoni*)

Steve Woodhall
PHOTOGRAPHS OF LIFE

When we arrived, we told the gate officer that we were after butterflies. This clearly got relayed upwards because as we were getting ready to begin walking some friends of mine from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife conservation arrived. It turned out that they were having a big local meeting and word had got out about our success with the Karkloof Blue. The people knew we were on safari in the area so two and two were put together and four made when we arrived. After introductions all round we had an escort from Sharon Louw, the local researcher on lepidoptera (and other invertebrates) to the swamp. Unfortunately, despite a lot of swamp bashing and muddy feet no Glasswings were found.

As if in compensation there were skippers in the surrounding grasslands and a first in the form of one of the Three-ring species, a *Ypthima*. Those led Ralph a merry dance because they are so difficult to photograph. They are small and grey, fly low, and only land a good few meters away, hidden by the grass. Being Satyrines they have excellent hearing and spook before one gets within range. And there are at least three species in the area that are very difficult to tell apart.



One of the skippers was the wetland specialist Water Watchman *Parnara monasi*, but the other was another of Africa's confusing 'cryptospecies'. The three species of Dodgers, *Afrogegenes* sp., are completely indistinguishable in the females, not even DNA helps, nor genitalia.

Eventually Ralph had to admit defeat by *Ypthima* (this is not a rare thing with Satyrinae!) and we set off for St. Lucia.

Day 7 Wednesday 24 April 2024 St. Lucia – 40 species seen.

After breakfast we found a couple of very obliging Lesser-horned Swifts *Borbo lugens* – the first of the tour – nectaring and perching on a low hedge in the car park. These were duly stalked and photographed. We then packed and drove the short distance to a forest trail on the southern part of the St. Lucia peninsula. We hung our traps, and I tried out the fishy bait spray I had made up from advice of guides in Asia and South America. We were hoping for Gold-banded Forester *Euphaedra neophron* because one had been seen here a week or so earlier.



This is a thickly wooded area with lots of Hippopotamus spoor (it's unwise to come here at night) and warnings not to get too close to the river's edge. Crocodiles have been known to attack unwary fishermen here. There is a maze of narrow paths linking a series of clearings and some broad grassy areas near the water.

Streaked Sillers *Neptis goochii* were common here but shy and wary; they were fun to try and photograph. Unlike the previous sites the prevalent Bush Brown was the Squinting, *Bicyclus anynana anynana*. The squint in the forewing underside tornal ocellus was not always evident and we had to go off the shape of the hindwing median line. That is sinuous whereas in the commoner Black-haired Bush Brown it is straight or evenly convex towards the outer margin.

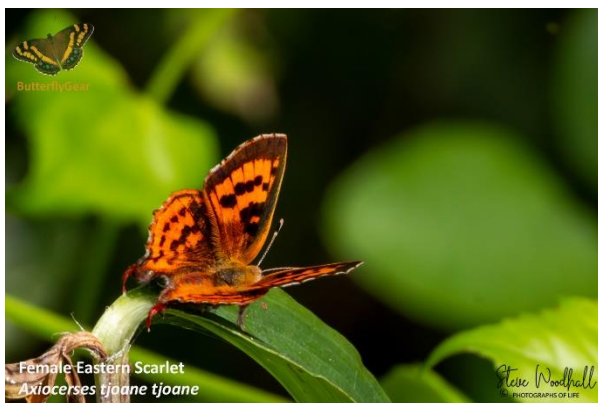
Near the water a perfect Citrus Swallowtail came down and perched beautifully giving a great photo opportunity.



The Hippo dung was not attracting butterflies as it has in other areas of Africa, and my fishy liquid was ignored as well. It proved to be of no use on the entire trip; I've kept it at home to mature further and will try it out in the garden over time to see if it gains effectiveness.

And the Gold-Banded Foresters remained elusive, although we did begin to see Buffs (Poritiinae). So far only the widespread Spotted Buff *Pentila tropicalis tropicalis* but we kept an eye out for the other species that were on our target list.

We decided to drive to the Estuary boardwalk then on to Nibela via the iSimangaliso Wetland Park.



Along the boardwalk we saw a few butterflies but nothing new. The law of diminishing returns was setting in. A beautiful fresh female Eastern Scarlet *Axiocerses tjoane* showed well and was voted butterfly of the day. The Buffs were flying high, then flying low, and perching on tendrils looking for extrafloral nectaries.

Going through the Park avoided the roadworks on the highway link and gave us a chance to see some megaherbivores. We also visited the uMthoma Boardwalk and lookout point. We saw Giraffe, Buffalo, Wildebeest (Brindled Gnu), Hippo and Waterbuck. The Hippo performed nicely with their grunting noises and the male opening his jaws to show us who is boss. A large dung beetle entertained us by rolling her ball around, periodically perching atop it to orient herself.



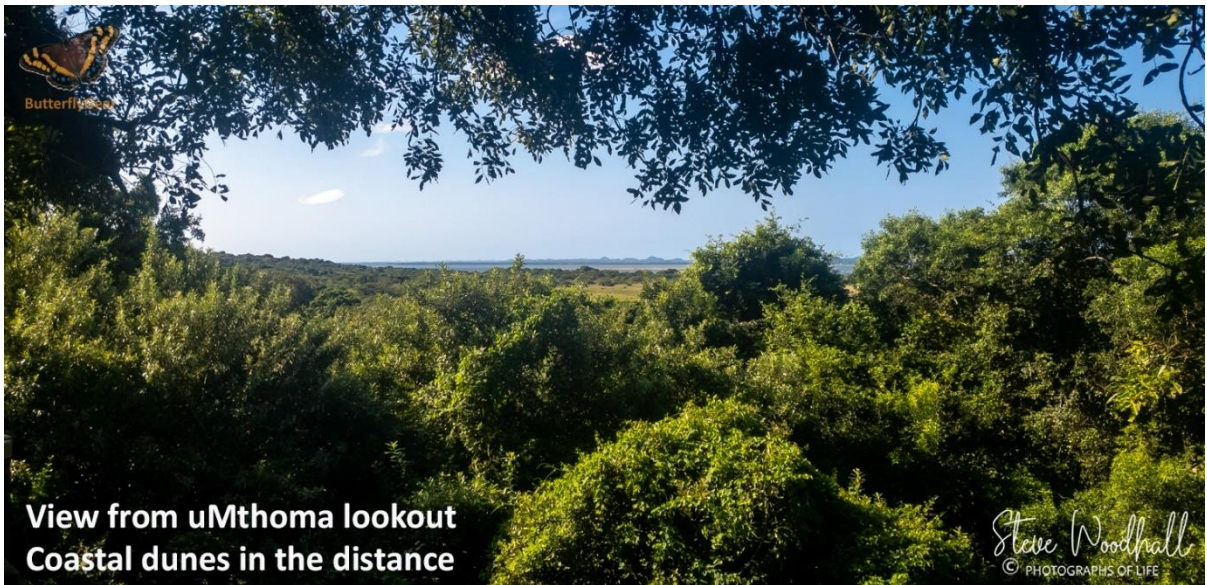
Dung Beetle
Genus *Kheper*

Steve Woodhall
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Hippo threat display
Hippopotamus amphibius

Steve Woodhall
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View from uMthoma lookout
Coastal dunes in the distance

Steve Woodhall
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The views from uMthoma were glorious. Butterflies were active in the canopy, but most were high up and hard to see. This did not detract from the experience! Some of the Buffs may have been the Natal Mottled *Baliochila aslanga* but the only ones we managed to photograph were the Spotted. We spent some time watching a Tree Nymph in the distance that turned out to be a Bronze Tree Nymph, *Sevenia natalensis*, but too far to get a usable photo.

Then it was time for the drive to Nibela at the other end of the lake system.

Day 8 Thursday 25 April 2024 Nibela Lake Lodge – 50 species seen.

The great thing about places like Nibela Lake Lodge is that one doesn't need to drive anywhere. Breakfasts are late (8am) so there's time to work up an appetite.



Female Zulu Shadefly
Coenra hebe

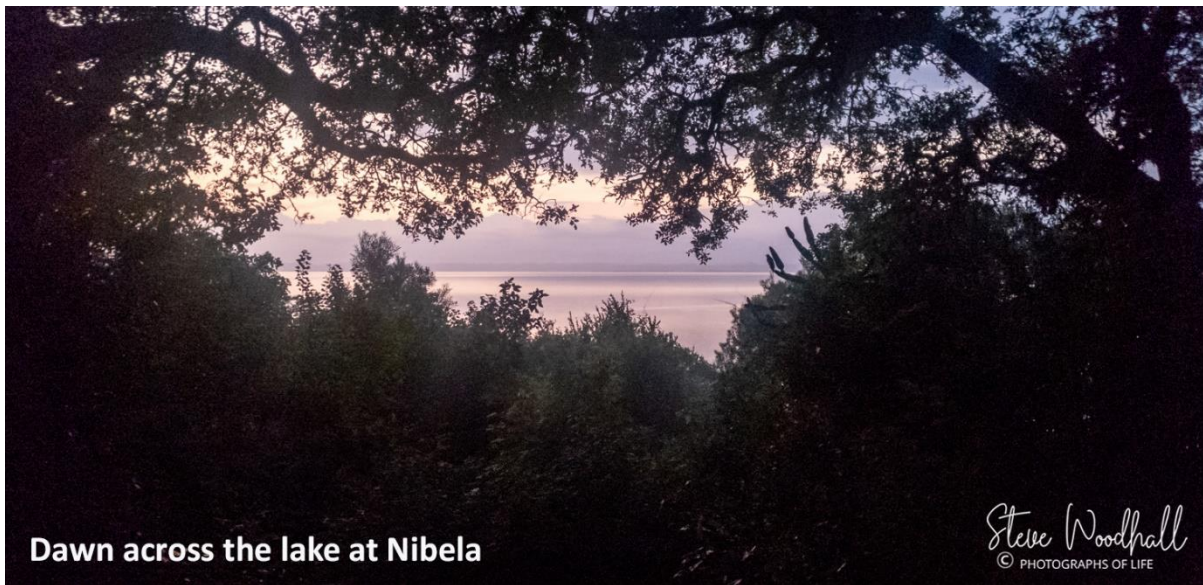
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Female Zulu Shadefly
Coenra hebe

Steve Woodhall
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We got up early to hang the traps and were soon into the first of many Zulu Shadeflies. The lake looked like this at sunup (5:51am).



Dawn across the lake at Nibela

There are many paths on Nibela and its neighbour Sobhengu. Our main target was the Gold-banded Forester *Euphaedra neophron neophron* but there were others as well!

We found a single Mamba Swordtail *Graphium colonna*, but it disappeared before anyone could get a photo. We combed the forest understorey but no Large Glasswings or Zulu Yellow Buffs *Teriomima zuluana* turned up. Sulphur Orange Tips *Colotis auxo auxo* were everywhere – and the occasional Round-winged Orange Tip *Colotis euipe omphale*. Veined Arabs *Colotis vesta argillaceus* were seen for the first time but proved elusive. Buquet's Vagrants *Nepheronia buquetii*



Male Sulphur Orange Tip
Colotis auxo auxo



Female Sulphur Orange Tip
Colotis auxo auxo



Buquet's Vagrant
Nepheronia buquetii buquetii



Female Rufous-winged Flat
Eagris nottoana nottoana

buquetii began to be seen as well as Shade Swallowtails *Papilio constantinus constantinus*. We at last got good views of a female Rufous-winged Flat, *Eagris nottoana nottoana*, and got photos.

We also started to see Babul Blues; a Topaz Babul Blue *Azanus jesous* was flying around a low bush in one of the clearings. A Natal Babul Blue *Azanus natalensis* was seen as well, but they were not performing well for the cameras.

Feeling rather hungry we were walking down the track when a little low flying saucer-like shape went shooting past us. Gold-banded Forester at last. Callan got this atmospheric shot of it sitting in a sunbeam in the road.



We would see more but this was the first. In the traps we had Blue-spotted Kings again as well as both sexes of Club-tailed Charaxes, *Polyura zoolina*. These were the dry season form *neanthes*.



With this we called it a day because clouds were massing, and rain looked likely. We went for dinner in the Lake Lodge's excellent restaurant. The night was very peaceful with only the sound of the lake waves and Wood Owls calling in the darkness (although there was a full moon).

Day 9 Friday 26 April 2024 Nibela Lake Lodge and the road to Kuleni – 45 species seen.

We decided to explore the area more deeply and the forests on the western side of the peninsula. At one point it started to rain softly, and cameras went into the bags, but the weather cleared, and it seemed to bring out more butterflies including more Gold-Banded Foresters. Claudia and Ralph found one of their own, which was sitting on the ground sucking at a fallen, squashed Kooboo-

berry *Mystroxydon aethiopicum*. There were plenty of these fruiting and the butterflies were probably scattered around the thickest parts of the bush where the fruit had fallen and was rotting.

We kept up the search for Large Glasswings and Zulu Yellow Buffs but there were none in the shady forest floor areas or on tendrils or twigs. There was a lot more activity around the golf course



Gold-banded Forester female on Kooboo-berry
Euphaedra neophron neophron



Gold-banded Forester female
Euphaedra neophron neophron

with Veined Arabs posing well, a new one in the form of Southern Black-veined Ant-heap White *Dixeia doxo parva*, and a Black-banded Swift Ralph and I had spotted zipping around one of the buildings. I took a shot, and the flash spooked it, but the ultrafast Canon R7 shutter captured it in flight, showing the upperside and allowing identification. Skippers have the fastest recorded reaction speed of any butterfly, and this one took off in the 3.5 milliseconds it takes for the camera's shutter slit to cross the sensor.

There were more Shade Swallowtails around and in the cloudy conditions they seemed more willing to sit still and pose.



Southern Black-veined Ant-heap White male
Dixeia doxo parva f. dispersa



Black-branded Swift male taking off
Pelopidas mathias



Veined Arab
Colotis vesta argillaceus



Shade Swallowtail female
Papilio constantinus constantinus

Eventually we sat down on the benches at the golf course and started eating lunch. Callan called out 'Buff!' and it flew low, settling on a rock right next to me. Zulu Yellow Buff at last! I had a sandwich in hand and during the time it took to replace it with the camera she took off. Lunch was forgotten for the time being! We soon realised it was a female laying eggs in bark crevices on nearby trees where the larval food, a black cyanobacteria, was growing. She would land, take a second or so to pop out an egg, and take off. Most of the time she was too fast for us but eventually we all got photos. I eyeballed the sites where she'd laid eggs and could see nothing, and there's nothing visible on the photos either. Most Poritiine eggs I've seen are black or dark brown so that's not surprising.



Even at this late stage in the tour we were still finding new species and some of them were targets. There was some debate about butterfly of the day here – was it our client's very own Gold-banded Forester, or the Zulu Yellow Buff?

After this excitement we decided to make a move towards Kuleni because we had seen on previous tours that the road out of Nibela Reserve could produce good sightings.



A white form Club-tailed Charaxes *Polyura zoolina* f. *zoolina* (the normal wet season form) was seen perching low enough on the canopy for photos. There was a patch of flowering plants just before the road leaves the forested area and starts following the wetlands. It produced a good sighting of Natal Babul Blue as well as a Pea Blue *Lampides boeticus*. This is normally very common in South Africa, but it was a rare sight on this tour.



Glossy Ibis juvenile
Plegadis falcinellus



Grey Heron
Ardea cinerea



African Spoonbill
Platalea alba



Yellow-billed Stork
Mycteria ibis

The wetlands in this area are very good for waterbirds and we could not resist a large bird party where the road forded a waterlogged area. Many birds were seen including Red-billed Teal *Anas erythrorhyncha*, Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*, Yellow-billed Storks *Mycteria ibis*, African Spoonbills *Platalea alba*, Grey Herons *Ardea cinerea*, and White-faced Whistling Ducks *Dendrocygna viduata*. For a while we forgot about butterflies among these photogenic creatures.

Day 10 Saturday 27 April 2024 Kuleni Game Park – 58 species seen.

Kuleni Game Park is an area with a mix of Sand Forest and Tembe Sandy Bushveld, so it is different to the areas we had visited earlier.

It's a beautiful place to walk around with huge trees and vistas of grassland. The reserve owner, Dylan Panos, lives inside an ancient patch of Sand Forest under massive Lebombo Wattle *Newtonia hildebrandtii* trees. He often sees Gold-banded Foresters in his 'garden'. Although we saw none on this visit, this was more than made up for by the large numbers of butterflies including Spotted Buffs, and the (by now famous) habituated Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina*, Archie.

On the first walk we soon found specials. Zulu Shade-fly was present, but also a first - Dark-webbed Ringlet *Physcaeneura panda*. This little butterfly's stunning underside is as attractive as the Shade-fly's and always attracts attention. The other special was Dusky Russet *Aloeides taikosama*. This is a small dull butterfly that flies low among the grasses but is of great scientific interest. It's one of a large genus of fascinating ant-associated Lycaenids whose phylogeny and

biology is poorly understood. This species has a very wide range across the subcontinent and it's more than likely that it's really a complex of related species.

We found a large colony of Dwarf Blues *Oraidium barberae* perching on low sedge flowers along the road. This is a candidate for smallest butterfly in the world. There was also a Common Evening Brown *Melanitis leda leda* skulking around in the undergrowth.



We spent the middle of the day at Dylan's house with Archie and the Buffs (and a lovely False Dotted Border *Belenois thyrsa thyrsa*).



We then went to the eastern end of the reserve to the uBhejane Nature Guide training area, which is more open. There was a lot of the low growing herb *Oocephala centauroides* which is normally a good butterfly plant, but only attracted a few on this day. Swallowtails were nectaring in the open on other plants like the invasive pantropical weed 'Meidebossie' or 'Sleepy Morning' *Waltheria indica*, where we were able to photograph them in flight.



Day 11 Sunday 28 April 2024 False Bay Park – 60 species seen.

This was the last full day of the tour, and we had another part of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park lined up – False Bay Park. This forms the western side of Lake St. Lucia; we had been to the southern and northern sides earlier and Nibela Peninsula is in the middle of the lake. The vegetation is similar, but the butterfly mix can be different, and it has a reputation for big numbers.

After another early morning walk and a great breakfast (freshly squeezed pineapple juice is delicious) we drove from Kuleni to False Bay Park along a back road that approaches the park gate from the north. It runs along the Park fence through the surrounding farms, many of which are managed for biodiversity and are known butterfly sites.

I have always wanted to explore this area and Callan fortunately knew the way. There was plenty of activity including more Dark-webbed Ringlets and a surprise in the form of a very fresh Cupreous Ash Blue *Eicochrysops messapus mahallakoena* male. This was Claudette's discovery, they are not common in the area, being more of a savanna and grassland species. There was a beautiful Spotted Ciliate Blue *Anthea larydas* nectaring on an *Ocimum* (Basil) species nearby.



Pink Cupreous Ash Blue male
Eicochrysops messapus mahallakoena



Spotted Ciliate Blue male
Anthea larydas

The level of water in the lake (which is an estuary) has increased dramatically since a move was made some years ago to open its river mouth to the ocean. Many trees had grown up on the banks and with the higher levels of salinity and water levels they have drowned, like the Tamboti *Spirostachys africana* trees along the road from the gate to the campsite we planned to visit for butterflies.

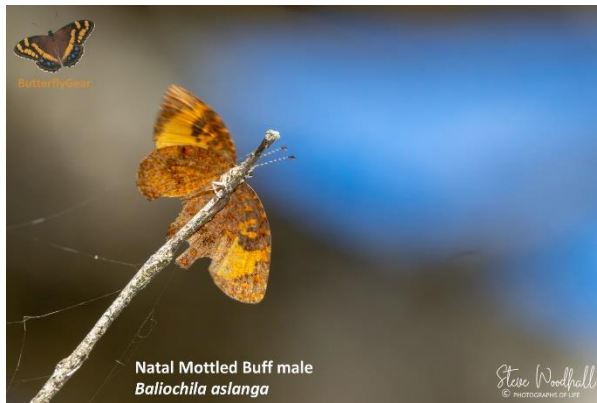


Drowned *Spirostachys africana* trees
where we found Natal Mottled Buff *Baliochila aslanga*

The eagle-eyed Callan spotted a tiny orange butterfly on one of the dead twigs. This was another first. Natal Mottled Buff *Baliochila aslanga*.

The area was buzzing with Pieridae. Both sexes of Autumn-leaf Vagrant *Afrodryas leda*, Vine-leaf Vagrant *Eronia cleodora*, and several species of skipper. Some of these were new for the trip, like

False Swift *Borbo fallax*, and we found a Rusty Swift *Borbo detecta*. There were also plenty of *Papilio* species.



Natal Mottled Buff male
Ballochila aslanga

Steve Woodhall
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False Swift
Borbo fallax

Steve Woodhall
© MICROSCOPES OF LIFE



Autumn-leaf Vagrant female
Afrodryas leda f. trimeni

Steve Woodhall
© MICROSCOPES OF LIFE



Autumn-leaf Vagrant male
Afrodryas leda

Steve Woodhall
© MICROSCOPES OF LIFE

We went up to a patch of Sand Forest where I've found rarities in the past. There is a huge Lebombo Wattle there with a big Caustic Vine *Cynanchum viminale* in its canopy. It was alive with Pierids of various species as well as a few Lycaenids. One was a Mimosa Sapphire *Iolais mimosae rhodosense* that was new for the tour. It was too high up for a decent photo, but we were able to identify it from an extreme telephoto shot.



Coastal Hairstreak *Hypolycaena lochmophila* ...?

© Callan Cohen www.birdingafrica.com

It's in the shade of that tree that I and others have found rare Coastal Hairstreaks *Hypolycaena lochmophila*. This closely resembles the ubiquitous 'PBH', *Hypolycaena philippus*, which was all over the bushes outside the forest like they normally were on this tour. The differences are in the genitalia, the male upperside colour and sex brand, the shape of the postmedian line on the forewing underside... and its behaviour. It's a skulker, not a treetop percher, and we found one skulking in the exact same spot

where I've seen them before. Callan managed to grab a shot that showed that postmedian line. It's a female, which makes it more difficult because the differences are more exaggerated in the

males. She was ovipositing on the correct host plant Dune Soapberry *Deinbollia oblongifolia*, which unfortunately doesn't rule out PBH because it uses the same plant, among dozens of others. The jury is going to have to remain out on this one.

We went back to the spot where I'd seen Zulu Yellow Buff in the past and found it to be full of Pierids – but no Buffs. But among all the Vagrants and Pointed Caper Whites I spotted something different – a single female Banded Gold Tip *Teracolus eris eris*. True to form for single sightings she didn't hang around. She led Ralph and Claudette a merry dance.



Vine-leaf Vagrant male
Eronia cleodora



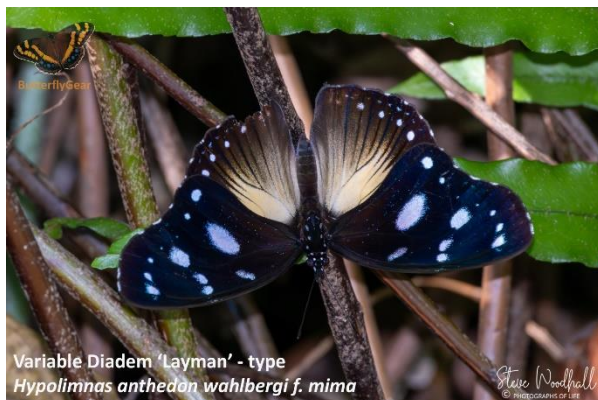
Banded Gold Tip female
Teracolus eris eris

Eventually we decided to call it a day and return for our evening meal. We had to get there before 5pm to catch the restaurant before they closed, this being Sunday. We drove back along Callan's special route but saw nothing new. Which is probably a good thing because we might have missed our supper!

Day 12 Monday 29 April 2024 Mtunzini area – 43 species seen.

At last, we came to the final day of the tour. After packing and a goodbye to Kuleni we set off south to King Shaka Airport. We had a planned stop-off at the coastal town of Mtunzini. It's very close to the highway so it's not much of a detour.

As soon as we entered the area, we spotted a big fresh Variable Diadem *Hypolycaena anthedon wahlbergi* flying low next to the road. Callan then pulled off one of his spotting feats – a pair of Palm-nut Vultures *Gypohierax angolensis* in the forest, very close to us. His photo of one of them is on the front cover. These are rare raptors at the extreme southern edge of their range. It was a treat to see them.



Variable Diadem 'Layman' - type
Hypolimnas anthedon wahlbergi f. mima



Variable Diadem 'Friar' - type
Hypolimnas anthedon wahlbergi f. wahlbergi

We were hoping to fill a few last gaps. We had seen only one of the Danaine genus *Amauris* (Clerics) on the tour – Novice *Amauris ochlea* – and hadn't seen the largest, Southern Friar

Amauris niavius dominicanus. It's a large aposematic black-and-white butterfly with several very good mimics, many of which kept fooling even me, who is supposed to be able to tell them apart!

One of these mimics is the *wahlbergi* form of Variable Diadem, which true to form was all over the place. Another is the female *hippocoonides* form of the Mocker Swallowtail. We saw at least one sex of this butterfly on every day of the trip. But no Friars! Below is one from last year for comparison.



Mocker Swallowtail female 'Friar' - type
Papilio dardanus cenea f. hippocoonides



Southern Friar at False Bay Park in 2023
Amauris niavius dominicanus

Wrap

This was a fun trip with clients who were good and knowledgeable companions. Everyone agreed that it had been a success. We found most of the target species with a few exceptions. Some species that are normally common, like the Layman *Amauris albimaculata*, were absent, which was surprising. There were some welcome surprises and we got to see some red listed species. And we saw some awesome scenery and a few good birds.

Only three species were seen on every day of the trip – Golden Piper *Eurytela dryope angulata*, Mocker Swallowtail *Papilio dardanus cenea*, and African Migrant *Catopsilia florella*. We had good weather almost every day and when it did rain it was not for long. This is an advantage of tours run at the beginning of the dry season. One might miss out on a couple of species, but time lost to poor conditions is minimised.

The total species count was 170. The following tables contain the list of species seen.

Three butterflies could not be identified to species level either because they are impossible to tell apart from the wing markings or because the genus could be identified but not the species:

- *Eretis* sp – the colour of the forelegs is vital to identification. They were invisible in flight and the butterfly did not land.
- *Leptotes* sp – there are four species of *Leptotes* found in South Africa – *pirithous*, *jeanneli*, *babaulti* and *brevidentatus* that can only be identified by genitalia dissection.
- *Ypthima* sp – specimens were seen flying but did not land. There are at least two species of *Ypthima* (*asterope* and *impura*) found in the area. A good photograph of both wing surfaces is needed for identification.

Steve Woodhall

Callan Cohen

6 May 2024

Family	Subfamily	Scientific name	Common name	Seen	2024/04/18 Krantzkloof	2024/04/19 Harold Johnson	2024/04/20 Fort Pearson	2024/04/21 Dlinza Mandawe	2024/04/22 Nkandla	2024/04/23 oNgoye Enseleni	2024/04/24 St Lucia	2024/04/25 Nibela	2024/04/26 Nibela	2024/04/27 Kuleni	2024/04/28 False Bay	2024/04/29 Mtunzini
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Abantis paradisea</i>	African paradise-skipper													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Abantis pillaana</i>	Ragged paradise-skipper													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Abantis venosa</i>	Veined paradise-skipper													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Eagris nottoana nottoana</i>	Rufous-winged elfin	X		X	X				X	X				
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Eretis djaelaelae</i>	Marbled elf													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Eretis umbra umbra</i>	Small marbled elf													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Eretis sp</i>	Elf	X	X											
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Sarangesa motozi</i>	Elfin skipper	X			X						X	X		
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Sarangesa phidyle</i>	Small elfin													
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Sarangesa seineri durbana</i>	Dark elfin	X							X					
HESPERIIDAE	TAGIADINAE	<i>Tagiades flesus</i>	Clouded forester	X		X		X		X	X	X		X		X
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides aranda</i>	Yellow russet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides damarensis damarensis</i>	Damara russet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides henningi</i>	Hillside russet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides penningtoni</i>	Natal russet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides swanepoeli</i>	Grassland russet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aloides taikosama</i>	Dusky russet	X										X		
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Aphnaeus hutchinsonii</i>	Hutchinson's highflier													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Axiocerses amanga amanga</i>	Bush scarlet	X				X								
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Axiocerses croesus</i>	Dark-banded scarlet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Axiocerses tjoane tjoane</i>	Eastern scarlet	X		X		X								
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Chloroselas mazoensis</i>	Purple gem													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Chloroselas pseudozeritis</i>	Brilliant gem													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Chrysothis chrysaor natalensis</i>	Natal opal													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Chrysothis phosphor borealis</i>	Scarce scarlet													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Cigaritis ella</i>	Ella's silverline													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Cigaritis mozambica</i>	Mozambique silverline													
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Cigaritis natalensis</i>	Natal silverline	X		X	X	X		X						X
LYCAENIDAE	APHNAEINAE	<i>Cigaritis phanes</i>	Silvery silverline													
LYCAENIDAE	MILETINAE	<i>Lachnocnema bibulus</i>	Common woolly legs													
LYCAENIDAE	MILETINAE	<i>Lachnocnema durbani</i>	D'Urban's woolly legs	X		X										
LYCAENIDAE	MILETINAE	<i>Lachnocnema laches</i>	Southern pied woolly legs	X	X						X					
LYCAENIDAE	MILETINAE	<i>Thestor basuta basuta</i>	Basuto skolly													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Actizera lucida</i>	Rayed blue	X	X											
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene amarah amarah</i>	Black striped ciliate blue	X		X	X				X		X	X	X	
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene definita definita</i>	Steelblue ciliate blue	X					X							
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene dulcis dulcis</i>	Mashuna ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene larydas</i>	Spotted ciliate blue	X	X		X				X	X	X	X	X	X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene lemnos lemnos</i>	Large ciliate blue	X			X	X								
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene liodes bihe</i>	Light ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene livida livida</i>	Pale ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene millari</i>	Estcourt ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene minima minima</i>	Little ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene otacilla otacilla</i>	Trimen's ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene princeps</i>	Lebombo ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Anthene talboti</i>	Savanna ciliate blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Azanus Jesus</i>	Topaz babul blue	X							X	X	X	X		
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Azanus mirza</i>	Pale babul blue	X							X					X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Azanus moriqua</i>	Black-bordered babul blue	X	X						X					

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LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Azanus natalensis</i>	Natal babut blue	X								X	X	X	X	
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Azanus ubaldus</i>	Velvet-spotted babut blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Brephidium metophis</i>	Tinktinkie blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cacyreus fracta fracta</i>	Water geranium bronze													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cacyreus lingeus</i>	Bush bronze	X	X	X	X		X	X						X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cacyreus marshalli</i>	Common geranium bronze	X					X							
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cacyreus virilis</i>	Mocker bronze	X				X								
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Crudaria leroma</i>	Silver spotted grey													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cupidopsis cissus cissus</i>	Common meadow blue	X						X						
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Cupidopsis jobates jobates</i>	Tailed meadow blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Eicochrysops hippocrates</i>	White-tipped ash blue	X												X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Eicochrysops messapus mahallakoena</i>	Cupreous ash blue	X											X	
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Euchrysops barkeri</i>	Barker's smoky blue	X	X	X										
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Euchrysops dolorosa</i>	Sable smoky blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Euchrysops malathana</i>	Grey smoky blue	X												X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Euchrysops osiris</i>	Osiris smoky blue	X	X							X		X		
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Euchrysops subpallida</i>	Ashen smoky blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Freyeria trochylus</i>	Grass jewel blue	X										X		
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Hemiolaus caeculus caeculus</i>	Azure hairstreak													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Hypolycaena buxtoni buxtoni</i>	Buxton's hairstreak													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Hypolycaena tochimophila</i>	Coastal hairstreak													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Hypolycaena philippus philippus</i>	Purplebrown hairstreak	X	X	X	X	X			X		X		X	
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Pea blue	X				X				X	X			
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Lepidochrysops glauca</i>	Silvery giant cupid													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Lepidochrysops patricia</i>	Patrician giant cupid													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Lepidochrysops plebeia plebeia</i>	Twin-spot giant cupid													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Leptotes babaulti</i>	Babault's zebra blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Leptotes jeanneli</i>	Jeannel's zebra blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Leptotes pirithous pirithous</i>	Common zebra blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Leptotes putchra putchra</i>	Sesbania blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Leptotes sp</i>	Zebra blue	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Orachrysops ariadne</i>	Karkloof cupid	X					X							
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Oraidium barberae</i>	Dwarf blue	X										X	X	
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Pseudonacadaba sichela sichela</i>	Dusky line blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Farucus bowkeri bowkeri</i>	Chequered pierrot													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Farucus sybaris sybaris</i>	Dotted pierrot													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Luxentius calice</i>	White pie													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Luxentius melaena melaena</i>	Black pie	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Zintha hintza hintza</i>	Hintza pierrot													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Zizeeria knysna knysna</i>	African grass blue	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Zizina otis antanossa</i>	Dark grass blue													
LYCAENIDAE	POLYOMMATINAE	<i>Zizula hylax</i>	Tiny grass blue	X									X			
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Alaena amazoula amazoula</i>	Yellow zulu													
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Baliochila aslanga</i>	Natal mottled buff	X											X	
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Baliochila lipara</i>	Lipara mottled buff													
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Cnodontes penningtoni</i>	Bushveld plain buff													
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Deloneura millari millari</i>	Millar's large buff													
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Ornipholidotos peucetia penningtoni</i>	Large glasswing/White mimic													
LYCAENIDAE	PORITHINAE	<i>Pentila tropicalis tropicalis</i>	Spotted buff	X	X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X

