

Turning from honey-guides to Cuckoos, more well known amongst bird parasites. On leaving the house on the afternoon of 2nd March 1973 I heard the plaintive and incessant cheeping of a young bird which turned out to be a fledged Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus*. Intrigued to see what was feeding this bird, I waited and watched, and to my surprise up flew a female Bronze Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis*. The young cuckoo cheeped more frantically, fluttered its wings in a helpless manner and the sunbird proceeded to feed it, stretching up to reach the mouth of the much larger cuckoo. This was repeated at regular intervals for two days. At times the cuckoo would suddenly lose its helplessness and fly after the sunbird. On several such occasions the cuckoo was chased by Fiscal Shrikes *Lanius collaris* and Reichenow's Weavers *Ploceus baglafecht*. The question is: "Did the sunbird rear the cuckoo from the egg?" If so, how did the adult cuckoo lay its egg in the sunbird's tiny nest, and how did the sunbird cope with such a large fledgling in her nest? If not, who did rear the cuckoo and why did the sunbird take over the upbringing?

S.J. Stagg,  
Kenton College,  
Box 30017, Nairobi.

SECRET - RHINO - ELEPHANT ASSOCIATION

On 11th February 1973, in the evening whilst sitting at Madana Rock in Tsavo National Park (East), we observed a rather unusual sight. From a long distance away we saw a small rhino leading an elephant right through the bush to the water at Madana. It was very apparent that the two animals were together. At the water-hole there was already another rhino, the small rhino did look at the bigger rhino as it passed but did not stop, but carried on leading the elephant to the water. Both animals got into the water and drank. Having had its fill, the elephant began to move off, but as the small rhino remained in the water, sometimes turning to look at the other rhino, the elephant waited on the bank. As his little rhino 'friend' still remained in the water with no sign of coming up the bank, the elephant returned to the water and stood beside the rhino, obviously waiting for it until it was ready to leave too.

It would be interesting to hear if any other reader has seen a similar 'friendship' between these animals, or whether it is unusual. I understand that once rhino move into an area the elephant tend to move out.

Mavis M. Heath,  
Box 271,  
Malindi,  
Kenya.

East Africa Natural History Society

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