

**Day 9, Sunday, 16 Dec 2001**

## **Relocation Day**

This was a day to get back to work. We did more focal behavior studies and are all getting better at keeping track of our own designated zebra as well as doing data entry.

The afternoon brought us a slight scare at one point because we spotted “Elvis”, the resident GZ territorial male that had been keeping watch over “Priscilla” and little “Bel.” He was at the edge of his range and had 2 females nearby, neither of which had a foal. After much maneuvering, Bel managed to get us close enough to photograph their rear ends for identification, but we still couldn’t locate “Little Bel.” The mood in the truck was subdued because we feared she might have been “taken.”



We stopped on the way home to look at the hand ax site and take our thoughts from the tragedy. The site is unremarkable unless you know it is there. There is an uninterrupted view of Mt. Kenya and the site is just west of one of the rivers. The site is dated to about 500,000 years ago and hand axes are just lying about.

On the still somewhat gloomy ride home, we turned a corner and there in the road was “Priscilla” with “Little Bel” at her side. Great cheers went up and the rest of the ride home was not so quiet!



At noon, Samwell had shown us a leopard kill in a tree across the ravine from Anna’s house. It was easily spotted from our veranda. When we arrived home, everyone raced over to check. The dead waterbuck was still there, but there was no leopard in sight. While some of us did Yoga at the main house, Alison did leopard look out duty. In the middle of our routine, she raced up to say he’d returned. We took off running, Yoga forgotten in a heart beat. A beautiful male leopard was at his kill and had moved part of it down the tree where it had gotten stuck in a low fork. The leopard appeared periodically to try and prize it loose. Sometime during the night he succeeded.

**Other new sightings:** little bee eater.