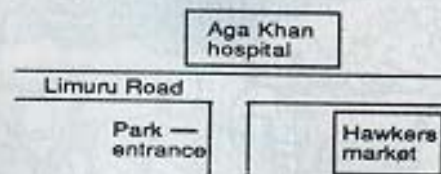




**G**enerations of Nairobi people have enjoyed City Park's peace and beauty over the years. Today, however, City Park needs our help. Cutting of trees, dumping of rubbish and other pressures of the growing city are degrading the park.

Friends of City Park was formed to bring together the people who enjoyed City Park and want to keep it for other generations. The Friends work with the City Council to protect, maintain, upgrade and enhance the Park's amenities. Anyone can become a Friend, by giving time or money to the project.



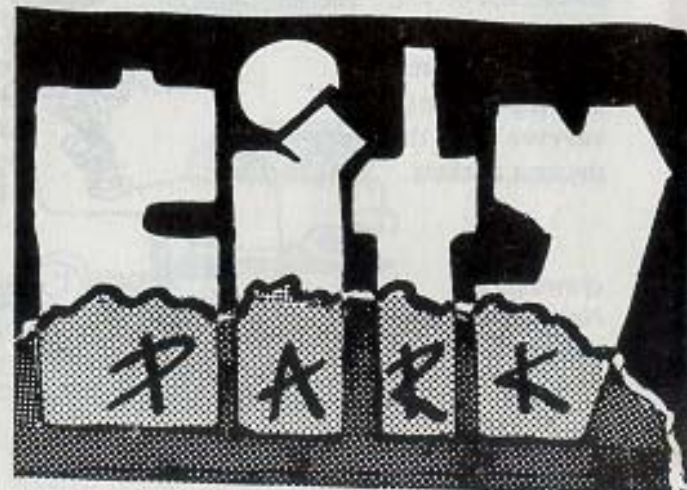
**F**riends of City Park is a Project of the East Africa Natural History Society. For more information please contact Catherine Ngarachu or ~~Narinder Heyes~~ at the E.A. Natural History Society, P.O. Box 44486, Nairobi, phone 749957 or 746090, fax 741049.



## A Park for the People of the City

In City Park, you can walk through landscaped gardens or groves of indigenous forest. You may see monkeys, birds and butterflies. There's a place to eat, a place to buy plants, and plenty of open space in which to play or rest. And it's just a few minutes from the bustling centre of the city.

The Parklands area of Nairobi takes its name from City Park, located between Limuru Road and Forest Road. The main entrance is across from the Aga Khan Hospital on Limuru Road, next to the Hawkers' Market. City Park is managed by the Nairobi City Council.



**F**orest once covered the land that is now Nairobi. As the city was built, the forest was cut, but small patches were preserved: Karura, Ngong Road and Oloolua Forests; the Nairobi Arboretum; and City Park. Part of City Park was landscaped with lawns, flower borders, and ornamental trees, and the stream was canalized between concrete banks. However, some of the land remained as remnants of the forest, sheltering a diversity of plants and animals.

The Sykes' monkeys are the most prominent of the Park's wildlife. These monkeys are dark grey in colour with a thick collar of white fur, and have a long tail. They feed on wild fruits and leaves in the forest but also beg for fruits and nuts from visitors! Sykes' monkeys are friendly and gentle and seldom bite.

Baboons and Vervet monkeys (which are light grey in colour, with a black face) can also be seen in City Park. They should not be fed, because they can bite! Small forest antelopes may survive in the thickest thickets.

*drawings by  
Nani Croze and  
Anselm Croze*

City Park is the best place in Nairobi to see butterflies. The caterpillars feed on the forest trees and the colourful adult butterflies sip nectar in the flower gardens. On a sunny day the air alive with fluttering butterflies.

Over a hundred different kinds of birds have been seen in City Park. Among them are Hadada ibis, big birds with long curved beaks; bright yellow and black weaver birds that nest in the acacias along the entrance drive; and large black and white hornbills with heavy beaks.

City Park features lawns and benches for picnics, walking paths, frames for swings and a bandstand for concerts. On weekdays one can buy — or rent! — plants grown by Parks staff, or visit the Boscawen Collection of rare and unusual plants. A small tea kiosk and an open-air restaurant provide food and beverages. People from all walks of life fill City Park on weekends and school holidays, and organized school groups, athletes and tourists visit during the week.

