



SOUTH COAST RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER 014 – FEBRUARY 2009

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

A Personal Note from the Chair	1
SCRA Info	1
SCRA General.....	1
Community Wellbeing	2
K.C.C. – Service Charter.....	2
AirKenya – New Service	2
Kenya takes the lead in fighting climate change	
.....	3
Insulation of Power Lines	3
Where has it gone?.....	4
Bambi.....	4
Elephant Poaching in Taita	5
Diani Dog Show.....	5
Colobus Corner.....	6
Useful Information.....	7
Advertising	7
Letters to the Editor	7
For Fun	8

This issue's sponsor

South Coast Residents' Association

If you would like to sponsor a Newsletter, please contact secretary@scra-kenya.com

A Personal Note from the Chair

I enjoy sitting in my garden, watching animals and birds of different species interact and play with each other. The sykes, the vervets and the Colobus all playing together, then out come the cat and rubs itself on the dog (whoever created the expression "fighting like cats and dogs?" - What nonsense!). I am fortunate to have suni running around and playing in my garden right under the dogs and cats' noses. The squirrels scatter past. Such peace and harmony.

Suddenly my mobile rings – can I go and help or interpret as two members of our community are fighting? Maybe it is because someone called in an authority on some trumped up accusation against his neighbour, and so it goes on. Yet we are supposed to be a "civilized" society! I come back home, turn on the TV to watch the news – even more

depressing, people fighting, killing each other, etc. Believe me animals are so much better than we are. They have more sense than we do, they learn to live with each other, they are not nasty to each other, and they do not kill the way human beings do.

My message therefore to you all is, why don't we all try and live as a community, in harmony, in peace, and stop all this nastiness, gossip, back-biting, fighting each other, and take an example from this wonderful animal world which surrounds us.

Luciana Parazzi Basile
HON CHAIRPERSON

SCRA Info

SCRA General

The last General Meeting was held on 29th January 2009 and Minutes of the same have been circulated, albeit a bit late this time ☺. Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 26th at Leisure Lodge Golf Club at 14.30 hours.

Please note that this General Meeting will be followed by the Association's Annual General Meeting at 15.00 hrs, at which the year's audited accounts will be presented and a new Committee voted in. Notice of the AGM and the Agenda have been sent out already, together with a Nomination Form for those unable to attend the AGM. Please do send us your nominations. For members receiving information by post, you will find a Nomination Form and the Notice of the AGM attached. A further reminder will be sent out 14 days prior to the meeting but only to those members on email.

We have received the majority of subscription renewals but please be advised that if you have not renewed before the AGM, you will not be entitled to vote. In addition, you will be taken off the mailing list as it will be assumed that you no longer wish to be a member of SCRA. It is, of course, possible to re-join at a later date if you so wish.

We thank our members for their support during 2008 and hope for a successful 2009.

Community Wellbeing

K.C.C. – Service Charter

The K.C.C. have produced a Service Charter. Here are excerpts from this booklet. You can obtain a copy from the K.C.C. offices.

“The purpose of this Service Charter (SC) is to enhance and promote levels of awareness on the services we offer, provide insights on our mandate, core values and the standards we have set.

The SC further informs you of the quality of service you can expect from us and provides for clients expectations, avenues for comments and remedy should services fall short of standards.

The Mandate of the Council is to provide infrastructural, economic and social services to residents of the County Council of Kwale as provided for in CAP 265 Laws of Kenya and other relevant Laws and Government Regulations.

Our Vision is to be a model Local Authority in service delivery for enhancement of socio-economic development and poverty reduction.

Our Mission is to render efficient, effective and quality participatory services within our area of jurisdiction with the ultimate goal of reducing the poverty level of our people to advance humanity.

We commit ourselves through this SC to continuous improvement of our services in pursuit of your satisfaction, excellence in our operations and exceeding your expectations.

The Organisational Structure of the Council consists of:

- Chairman
- Committee Chairman
- Councillors

The Chief Executive Officer is the Clerk to Council (currently Mr Wilberforce Wambulkwa Malanga). He is assisted by Heads of Department in the following departments:

- Treasurers Department
- Town Planning and Works Department
- Education and Social Services Department
- County Clerks Department (headed by the Clerk to Council).

The Council pledge the following:

If you telephone us, we shall:

- Answer your call by the fourth ring
- Give our names on the telephone
- Connect you to the right department and officers that you need
- Respond appropriately to any other request you make

If you visit our offices, we shall:

- Attend to you in 15 minutes if you come into the office without appointment
- Attend to you within 10 minutes of your appointment
- Refer you to the right department and person for assistance

If you write to us, we shall:

- Acknowledge receipt of your inquiry or request within fourteen working days stating:
- What will be done about your request and how long that will take
- The need, if any, for you to submit further information concerning the matter
- Other offices or organizations that will be consulted before final action is taken

The official working hours are 7.45am to 4.30pm with a lunch break from 12.30pm to 1.45pm during weekdays.

Our contact details are:

Location of the Council Offices – County Hall, next to District Commissioner’s Office, Kwale

Telephone: +254 40 2104261

Mailing Address: P O Box 4 – 80403, Kwale, Kenya

This Charter will be amended from time to time by the Council after necessary consultations with our clients and stakeholders. These amendments will be made with a view to improving our services.”

AirKenya – New Service



“EXCITING NEWS –
AIR KENYA SOON TO
START OPERATING
OUT OF UKUNDA”

We are pleased to inform our members that Air Kenya is planning to resume a scheduled service into Ukunda. Further details will follow in due course. We are hoping to meet with Air Kenya's marketing representative in April and will let you all know when we have more information.

Kenya takes the lead in fighting climate change



Climate change might be a global issue but some of the most innovative action in combating its growing threat is taking place right here in Kenya. Over the past two years a host of carbon saving projects have been set up, many of which are located along the South Coast of Kenya. Leading the line in fighting climate change is carbon management company co2balance Kenya. They work with a range of companies throughout the world to measure and help reduce their carbon footprint, and then balance out their remaining carbon emissions through their own in-house carbon offsetting projects.

Peter Coventry, Director of co2balance Kenya said: "We all produce carbon dioxide in the way that we live. The huge amount of carbon that we emit is causing climate change, and this is where carbon offsetting comes in."

"We have a range of carbon offsetting projects that we run here in Kenya, from energy saving cooking stoves to small scale bio-gas plants. We own and manage all our projects to ensure absolute control of the schemes, and they all go beyond carbon saving, having clear social and economic benefits to the local villages".

"As a company we have offices throughout the world and work with the likes of Toshiba and OKI Printing Solutions. When we offset a company's carbon footprint they achieve "CarbonZero" status, and as well as helping the environment, it helps their image in becoming a company that is taking serious eco-action. Over the past year we have seen a marked increase in the number of Kenyan companies that are contacting us to help manage their carbon footprint."

co2balance Kenya's local client list includes Beach2Bush, Diving the Crab, Forty Thieves and The Sands at Nomads, where they are working with the businesses to offset the carbon emissions created by guests travelling to and using the facilities.

The most popular carbon offsetting project that co2balance Kenya run is their energy efficient stove project. These stoves replace the use of open fires for cooking and are approximately 70% more efficient than an open fire, therefore needing considerably less wood to cook with. As a result, each energy efficient stove will save over 15 tonnes of CO₂ over the lifetime of the stove.

Each stove is individually tagged via GPS, in order to track the locations of all the stoves that are built. This provides reassurance to co2balance Kenya's clients that the stoves have been built and are in use, the coordinates of the stoves can be provided so that clients can view their stoves via Google Earth.



The stoves have social benefits as well as environmental ones

"Climate change is not something that is going to simply go away, and areas along the coast line will be exposed to major flooding due to rising sea level, so running these local carbon saving projects will help local environment, as well as the global problem of climate change".

For information on the work of co2balance Kenya, and the climate friendly action that is happening in the region, please contact them on the details below:

Telephone – 0713 222555
Email: pete.coventry@co2balance.co.ke
Web: www.co2balance.co.ke

Insulation of Power Lines

[Submitted by Lulu Clark, Diani House]



Diani House is proud to be the first property in Diani, privately to sponsor the insulation of its power lines, thus preventing electrocution of monkeys and other unfortunate creatures that sometimes use the power lines to get about in the forest.

The exercise was quick and easy: the Colobus Trust measures the distance, does a quote, purchase and

deliver the materials on behalf of the client. KPLC is efficient in doing the installation and, depending on the length to be insulated; the power is off for only a short time.

For more information on how to insulate your own power lines contact The Colobus Trust:

info@colobustrust.org

Lulu Clark, Diani House

Advert
Why not plant a beautiful and useful tree?



Pongamia/Millettia Pinatta

The Kenya Coast is an area in which any tree is a blessing if not a miracle. A tree that is attractive, gives good shade, lasts for 100 years and produces oil probably has a place.

Pongamia characteristics applicable to the Kenya Coast are namely:

- It is an attractive, deciduous, long lasting tree.
- Thrives on as little rainfall as 250mm / annum.
- Accepts a degree of salinity, and will grow along the seashore.
- Puts its taproot down up to 40m.
- Is leguminous thus requiring minimal fertilizing.
- Has a heavy leaf growth, providing excellent shade and ground cover.
- At maturity, it can produce up to 500kgs of seed per annum.
- The seed contains about 40 % oil of which 32 % is recoverable.
- The seed cake is good stock or poultry feed.
- The oil can be refined into bio diesel, or used as a paraffin substitute.
- Pongamia/pinnata is environmentally friendly, sequestering and storing Carbon Dioxide

We supply seedlings, expertise; if required, planting and aftercare.

Selected seedlings \$ 10 inclusive of delivery

Call: 0733 654312 / Email: sable@jambo.co.ke

Where has it gone?

Up to a few years ago driving down the Diani Beach Road, along the Diani Forest, from just before Jadini to after Baobab Hotel there was a beautiful lush evergreen forest of indigenous trees. The forest canopy was very tall and had an abundance of monkeys, Colobus and other smaller animals. What a joy it was to drive down this road! Where has the forest gone?

People have destroyed the forest be it for charcoal, woodcarvings or unscrupulous developers, there is hardly anything left as can be seen by the



photos below. No wonder baboons and monkeys are raiding houses for food. This never happened before. No wonder our precious and beautiful Colobus are so endangered.



Diani is (was?!) not only famous for its pristine beaches and blue ocean with abundant marine life (also fast disappearing) but also because it is/was ONE OF THE

ONLY THREE CORAL RAG FORESTS IN OUR ENTIRE PLANET. Why are we so quick to destroy such wonders and beauty Mother Nature has given us? Please think about this, and help us try to save what very little is left.

Bambi

Hi, my name is Bambi. Recently I was rescued by



someone who found my mother dead in a snare. I have found a new home where there is another suni with the same sad story as mine. Her name is Suni and we have become

friends and play together in the garden. Although we are very happy where we are, we should in fact be growing up in the wild. Please help the Colobus

Trust to protect us by contributing to their de-snaring program so that my brothers/sisters do not suffer the same fate as my mother. Death in a snare is very slow and painful and my mummy cried for a long time before she died.

Elephant Poaching in Taita

[Submitted by Rob Dodson, Wildlife Works]

We have had a sudden spate of elephant killings on Taita Ranch this week. We believe all the elephants were killed by poison-tipped arrows and in all cases the tusks were removed with axes and no other part of the carcass were taken. This is the first time in many years that we have seen this type of multiple killing for ivory.

The Wildlife Works head ranger received a call on Sunday 15th of February from an anonymous person



who claimed to be one of the herdsmen on Taita Ranch. He said that he had seen one male elephant dead between tank number 7 and 8 on Taita Ranch.

At about 9pm on the same evening the message was passed to a KWS Platoon Commander and arrangements were made to meet the following morning and to go to the area and confirm the report. The Wildlife Works and KWS rangers met the next morning at 8.30am at the carcass of the reported elephant, which was just 50 meters from the roadway. The elephant was a large male and had had both tusks removed, the elephant looked as though it had been dead for about 5 days.

The herdsmen from a nearby cattle boma were questioned and the rangers were told about another elephant carcass some distance away. The rangers



then fanned out, searched the area, and found the second carcass at 12.30pm. This was another large male elephant, again with the tusks missing and it had been dead for about 5 days. It was suspected that both elephants were killed by poisoned arrows. KWS arrested five herdsmen and took them to Voi for questioning.

At 11.30am on Wednesday 18th of February, another incident was reported to the Platoon Commander. This time a female elephant was found dead along the eastern border of Taita Ranch, close to the Kilibasi-Makinnon road. Wildlife Works, Taita Ranch and KWS rangers went to the area and found a large female elephant carcass, again with the tusks missing. This elephant was about 8 days old and was presumably killed on the same day as the other two bulls.

We also believe that one other carcass has been located in the Bachuma/Makinnon Road area of Tsavo East National Park, which is only a few km north of the place where the other three elephants were found."

Looks like the ivory trade with the Chinese is taking its toll. Interesting that if you touch a Panda in China, you will be executed but killing other countries wildlife is very acceptable...

Diani Dog Show

[Submitted by Marlen Enz, KSPCA Mombasa]

KSPCA Mombasa is as busy as ever, our work is always on the increase and as such more funds are needed to meet our daily running costs. In an effort to raise more funds we are organizing a Dog Show in Diani, which is taking place on 8 March 2009.

The show is being organized by a volunteer Pauline McKenzie and will be held at the Leisure Lodge Golf Club. This is a fun day for everybody and we welcome you all to attend the show while you support this charity at the same time. The show is scheduled to start at 12pm and the first class entry from 2pm.

The classes to be registered for are:

- Best puppy**
- Best pedigree dog**
- Best veteran**
- Shaggiest dog**
- Judges favorite**
- Waggiest Tail**



Of course the show will not end without the champion, which will be the dog that accumulates most points in all the classes. There will be fabulous prizes to be won by every dog that wins a class. There will also be food and drinks so come along and have a fun day. Kids are also most welcome; there will be various entertainments on offer to keep them busy.

Secondly, most of you read or heard about our cries for help since last October due to our lack of funding and the threat to have to close down if we did not get help from the public.

There are not enough words to thank all the people who helped us with various donations since this time. In fact, it is the first time in many years that we could cover all our expenses with the income we received during the month and even a small surplus. This took place during November until January and it looks it will be the same this month. All this assistance gives us the hope that we still have a future and the ones who are really in need of all our help, all the dogs and cats, can go on counting on us and use us as their voices.

From the SCRA secretary we received in January 82500 shillings and we have been told there are additional donations since then. Also on Valentines Day there was a fundraising effort for the KSPCA at Forty Thieves which brought in Kshs 27000/-. We are so touched by the fact that so many people from your Association appreciate our work and keep us in their heart.

We started the year also with a membership drive and got up to now more than 50 members what is the highest figure we ever had. Still nearly every day we get one or two new ones on top so we are hoping to reach our margin of 100 members in 2009.

Often we are asked where the money we are getting is going. All the donations and other income we are getting are strictly used by the KSPCA Mombasa and are not going to any other branches or the head office. All the donations received go to help the many domestic animals in our shelter, to feed and treat them and to cover all the running costs like fuel, power, maintenance, staff, insurances, campaigns etc.

Once more thank you all for your concern. We wish there were more people like you in our midst. No animal would have to suffer anymore.

With my best wishes for 2009
Marlen Enz, Executive officer KSPCA Mombasa

Colobus Corner

Most people know that I (Luciana) am also a Trustee of the Colobus Trust and a keen conservationist. Recently, on a Sunday morning I received the following letter that I would like to share with our readers, as it was a pleasant surprise and goes to

show that some people do care. Thank you Ali for your letter.

The Chairperson
SCRA, DIANI

Dear Sir,

Re: Accident on Diani Beach Road

On the 21st day of February 09 while driving along Diani Beach Road, I accidentally ran over a monkey and unfortunately killed it instantly.

I am hereby reporting and consequently apologizing for this dreadful act. I feel sorry for the poor animal that lost its life because of me, and even more sorry for not having reported this to my supervisors sooner.

Please accept my apology, and I promise to be more careful henceforth.

Sincerely,
ALI DOLA
DRIVER, ALI BARBOUR'S

The Colobus Trust thanks Lantana - Galu Beach for their generous donation of KSh 100,000; this is a very welcome gift, which will go a long way toward helping the trust continue its important work.

Lantana is a recently opened local development comprising 48 holiday homes made up of houses, bungalows and villas.

The cheque was handed over on Friday, 13th February at The Colobus Trust's office in Diani. Below is a picture of Colobus Trust Chairman Mr Raymond Matiba receiving the cheque from Mr Hamish Govani, one of Lantana's Directors. Standing beside them is Mr Onesmus Macharia, the General Manager of the Trust.



Useful Information

Important Information for All British Nationals –
The British High Commission has had a notice in the national newspapers regarding LOCATE.

LOCATE is an annual registration application which enables British Citizens, whether visiting or resident abroad, to register their details on-line so that they can be contacted in the case of an emergency.

British Nationals in Kenya who registered between January and March 2008 are required to renew their registrations now.

To renew your registration or to register on Locate for the first time visit: www.ukinkenya.fco.gov.uk Alternatively, you can send an email to locate.nairobi@fco.gov.uk

Only persons who registered online can access their registrations on-line. For further information, contact Consular Section at the British High Commission on (020) 2844075. More information on LOCATE is available on the Help for British National page of the British High Commission website www.ukinkenya.fco.gov.uk

Tips for Printing

When you print something with lots of colour or graphics, go into 'Properties' on the print pop up box and select 'fast draft' or 'fast normal' before proceeding to print. This uses much less ink and prints much quicker. The colours will not be as bright but that will depend on what you wish to print.

HTTP and HTTPS – The Difference

Many people are unaware of the main difference between http:// and https://. It is about keeping you secure. HTTP stands for Hypertext Transport Protocol, which is just a fancy way of saying it is a protocol (a language, in a manner of speaking) for information to be passed back and forth between web servers and clients. The important thing is the letter 'S' and (big surprise) stands for 'Secure'.

If you visit a website or webpage and look at the address in the web browser, it will likely begin with http://. This means that the website is talking to your browser using the regular 'unsecure' language. I.e. it is possible for someone to 'eavesdrop' on your computer's conversation with the website.

If you fill out a form on the website, someone might see the information you send to that site. This is why you never enter your credit card number in an http:// website!

If the address begins with https:// that basically means your computer is talking to the website in a secure code that no one can 'eavesdrop' on. If a website ever asks you to enter personal information such as credit card information, you should automatically check to see what the address begins with. If it does not start with https://, do not enter any sensitive information like a credit card number.

Send us your tips to secretary@scra-kenya.com



Advertising...

You can advertise too!
Contact secretary@scra-kenya.com for details on how to advertise in the SCRA Newsletter

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for your enthusiasm and vigour in pursuing the issues mentioned - as non-resident house owners we really do appreciate the efforts the Association is making to keep Diani 'a nice place to live'!

Best regards, Cathie and Geoff Nightingale

Dear Editor

I met recently with a tourist staying at Papillion Hotel, Diani. Whilst having a wonderful holiday and full of praise for Kenyan hospitality and value for money... there was a statement that on being admitted to a Hospital in Diani and being diagnosed with gastro-enteritis (tummy bug)... the bill presented by the Doctor to be paid prior to being released was UK Pounds 2,500, because insurance cover was involved.

Do you often hear complaints about Diani bills for medical services. This seems incredibly high to me.

Yours, A SCRA MEMBER

Linda is the proprietor of a bar. In order to increase sales, she decides to allow her loyal customers - most of whom are unemployed alcoholics - to drink now but pay later. She keeps track of the drinks consumed on a ledger (thereby granting the customers loans). Word gets around and as a result increasing numbers of customers flood into Linda's bar. Taking advantage of her customers' freedom from immediate payment constraints, Linda increases her prices for wine and beer, the most-consumed beverages. Her sales volume increase massively. A young and dynamic customer service consultant at the local bank recognizes these customer debts as valuable future assets and increases Linda's borrowing limit. He sees no reason for undue concern since he has the debts of the alcoholics as collateral. At the bank's corporate headquarters, expert bankers transform these customer assets into DRINKBONDS, ALKBONDS and PUKEBONDS. These securities are then traded on markets worldwide. No one really understands what these abbreviations mean and how the securities are guaranteed. Nevertheless, as their prices continuously climb, the securities become top-selling items. One day, although the prices are still climbing, a risk manager (subsequently of course fired due to his negativity) of the bank decides that slowly the time has come to demand payment of the debts incurred by the drinkers at Linda's bar. However, they cannot pay back the debts. Linda cannot fulfill her loan obligations and claims bankruptcy. DRINKBOND and ALKBOND drop in price by 95 %. PUKEBOND performs better, stabilizing in price after dropping by 80 %. The suppliers of Linda's bar, having granted her generous payment due dates and having invested in the securities are faced with a new situation. Her wine supplier claims bankruptcy, her beer supplier is taken over by a competitor. The bank is saved by the Government following dramatic round-the-clock consultations by leaders from the governing political parties (and vested interests). The funds required for this purpose are obtained by a tax levied on the non-drinkers.

Letters to the Editor: the SCRA Newsletter welcomes "letters to the editor". Any received will be reprinted verbatim and responses will be provided to the best of our abilities. Letters may be submitted anonymously either by post to the SCRA PO Box 5672, Diani Beach, 80401 or via email.

For Fun ...

PEOPLE ON A ROPE

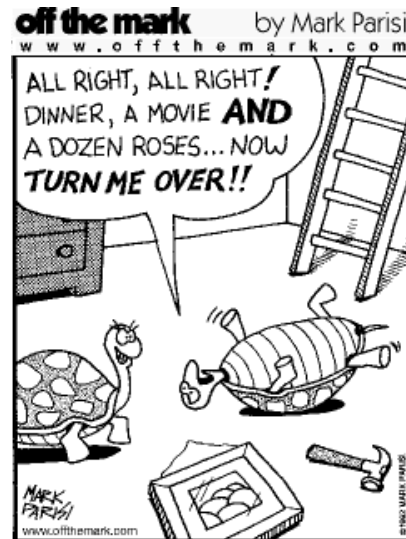
Eleven people were hanging on a rope, under a helicopter. 10 men and 1 woman.

The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that 1 had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall.

They weren't able to choose that person, until the woman gave a very touching speech she said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids or for men in general, and was used to always making sacrifices with little in return.

As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping...

This issues comic...



Solution to January Crossword

1	P		2	G		3	P		4	H		5	S		6	D		7	T
8	E	V	A	S	I	V	E		9	H	O	O	C	H					
	R		L	T						L	I	M		U					
10	F	I	L	T	H				11	P	E	N	C	I	L	S			
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12	R	E	N	D				13	A	D	V	I	S	O	R		14	S	
	M							15	A										
16	S	O	L	I	D	I	F	Y				18	W	A	I	L			
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22	T	O	P	M	O	S	T					23	O	L	D	E	N		
	O		S		U		U					A		R		C			
24	S	W	E	A	R							25	R	E	P	T	I	L	E
	S		S		N							E		S		N			D

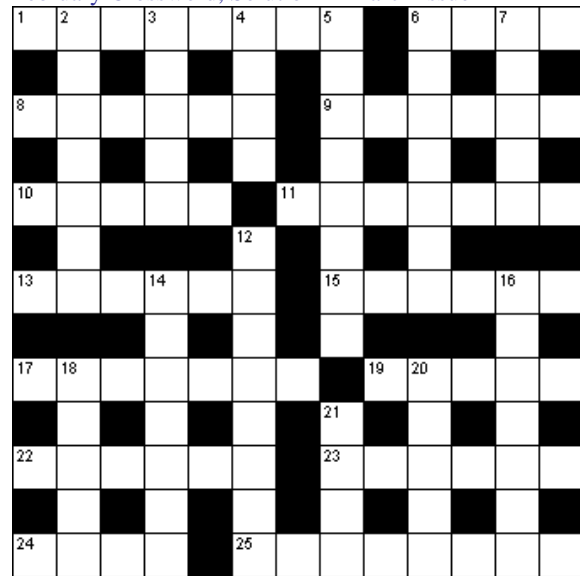
Across

- 1. Main roads (8)
- 6. Entertain in a public place (4)
- 8. Chicken of very small size (6)
- 9. Package (6)
- 10. Recess in a wall (5)
- 11. Scholar (7)
- 13. Capital of Germany (6)
- 15. Dirty (6)
- 17. Tremble (7)
- 19. Strong thread (5)
- 22. Roman Catholic (6)
- 23. Achieve (6)
- 24. Embankment (4)
- 25. Female descendant (8)

Down

- 2. Conceive (7)
- 3. Tie (5)
- 4. Intentions (4)
- 5. Deliberate damage (8)
- 6. Welsh village (7)
- 7. Drawing room (5)
- 12. Septic (8)
- 14. Opponent of new technologies (7)
- 16. Open air fire (7)
- 18. Intoxicating (5)
- 20. Look attentively (5)
- 21. Capital of Azerbaijan (4)

February Crossword, Solution in March Issue



Office Bearers 2009

Honorary Chair

Mrs. Luciana Parazzi Basile
 Email: chairperson@scra-kenya.com

Honorary Vice-Chair

Ms. Hilary Martin
 Email: vice-chairperson@scra-kenya.com

Honorary Treasurer

Post Open
 Email: Pending

Honorary Secretary

Miss. Cecilia Floren
 Email: secretary@scra-kenya.com

Join us today!

What to pay for 2009...

- Individual membership: 1,500/=
- Corporate membership: 4,500/=

(If you wish to pay by cheque, please add additional 100 Kes for up-country cheques.)

How to register...

At www.scra-kenya.com for online registration or to download a membership form. Alternatively, you can email secretary@scra-kenya.com for a copy.

Where to pay...

- To the Office Bearers directly; or
- c/o Luciana at Leisure Lodge Shopping Arcade; or
- c/o Charity Shop, Diani Beach Shopping Centre

