

RICK HOPCRAFT

The Hopcraft family were amongst the first pioneering English settler families who arrived in Kenya at the turn of the Century. Rick's grandparents settled on the shores of Lake Naivasha in Kenya's Great Rift Valley where they carved out a 6,000 acre cattle ranch.

Rick was born in Kenya in 1947 and was a third generation Kenyan. As a young man, like so many of today's professional hunters, Rick learnt his trade hunting hippo and buffalo on the shores of Lake Naivasha, together with his Masai tracker Tinea. After school in Kenya, Rick attended Agricultural College in England, before returning to help his father manage the family ranch.

Rick started hunting professionally in 1971 and joined Ker & Downey as a Professional Hunter until Kenya closed hunting in 1977. Rick then hunted the Sudan and Zambia and in 1985 he joined Robin Hurt hunting in Tanzania.

Rick enjoyed duck shooting and fishing and collected old Africana and hunting books. He was a superb shot, excellent company and a dedicated professional. Rick leaves his wife Bette, together with their two children, living at Naivasha where they continue the family tradition of ranching on the shores of the Lake.