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The Birds, Mammals and other Wildlife recorded on the VENT Borneo 2010 Tour



Bornean Bristlehead – Sepilok © K. David Bishop

compiled and led by
K. David Bishop

Borneo 2010

I sometimes have to pinch myself to realise just how fortunate I am to return each year to this extraordinary island. VENT's tour of Borneo is without doubt one of the finest natural history trips anywhere on our planet, not least because Borneo is one of the most exciting, vibrant and biologically diverse places on earth. The combination of immense forests replete with a fabulous array of towering trees, plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates serviced by some of the most comfortable and attractive accommodations to be enjoyed anywhere in the tropics together with some truly sumptuous meals guarantees an unforgettable experience.



Whitehead's Broadbill © K. David Bishop

Borneo is indisputably an extraordinary place and this continues to be underscored by new discoveries. Recent genetic studies have now shown that the Bornean Pygmy Elephant is indeed a very distinct taxon; the Borneo population of Orang Utan should be treated as a separate species and most recently studies of the Bornean Clouded Leopard show that it too is a completely separate species from all other populations. And so it is with birds, reptiles,

amphibians and invertebrates too. Clearly Borneo exhibits more than its share of the weird and wonderful creatures and our experiences exemplify what a wonderful tour this is. Merely listing totals of 298 species of birds and 45 species of mammals in addition to a plethora of reptiles, invertebrates and flowering plants barely does justice to what was a truly delightful experience. It was a real joy to share a place I love so much with such an appreciative group. My aim as always is for each and every client to see each and every species well and ideally on more than one occasion and in this I believe we were very successful. Possessing an intimate knowledge of the calls of the birds and where to find them is a key to our success and has been built on many years of studying the birds of Borneo and the surrounding regions of Asia. I cannot wait until my next trip!

Some of this year's highlights included:

- Borneo hosts some of the world's truly most spectacular and colourful birds and this tour was no exception. We enjoyed:

Four species of trogons (including fabulous views of a male of the rarely encountered Whitehead's) and five species of gorgeous broadbills;

Two exceptional encounters with small groups of Bornean Bristleheads;

Unforgettable time with a very confiding pair of Bornean Wren-Babblers;

A male Great Argus (Pheasant) that approached to within two metres of our group;

- VENT's Borneo tours regularly garner an enviable array of exciting mammals. Species we saw on this tour included:

A memorable encounter with a truly wild female Orang Utan;

A series of unforgettable night-drives during which we saw the exquisitely marked Banded Linsang, Common Banded Civet, Small-toothed Palm Civet, numerous Large red and Thomas's flying-squirrels, Slow Loris, a pair of Colugos AND a very impressive Barred Eagle-Owl.

Troop after cheeky troop of Proboscis Monkeys along the mighty Kinabatangan River;

Fabulous and fun encounters with several Bornean Pygmy Elephants and a very truculent 'teenager'!

Evocative sounding and looking Bornean Gibbons - around our lodge;

A delightfully confiding group of Bornean Red Leaf Monkeys at very close range;

- Of Borneo's approximate 6,000 species of orchids we encountered several species in flower including: The tiny terrestrial Orchid - *Polochilus tenuis*; Rabbit Orchi - *Lipais sp*; Necklanced Orchid - *Coelogyne sp*; and a large and very attractive terrestrial orchid *Aria sp*.

- And what of those sumptuous meals at the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort - arguably the finest breakfast anywhere in Asia whilst at our friendly Fairy Garden accommodations we have rarely tasted better dinners anywhere. Nevertheless the food nowadays and the overall hospitality of the staff at Borneo Rainforest Lodge and their cheerful provision of superb early breakfast plus the knowledge that after a sweaty morning in the field you can return to the luxury of a lovely room and good shower all adds immeasurably to the special enjoyment we have at staying at this facility;

Thanks to you all for helping to make this tour such a great success! Borneo is without doubt one of the best and most enjoyable birding destinations in the world. There were many, many other birding and wildlife highlights, of course, but to be shared in the company of such a superbly friendly fun group is truly wonderful and what makes my life such a joy.

Thanks again to all our various boatmen, drivers, local guides and the many others who made our stay in Borneo so safe, friendly and fulfilling. Many thanks too to you all, it was a pleasure travelling and birding with you and I look forward to travelling with you again soon.

David Bishop

FLYING FROGS AND ALL THAT BORNEO 1995

“Pitcher-plants, forming the genus Nepenthes of botanists, here reach their greatest development. Every mountain-top abounds with them, running along the ground, or climbing over shrubs and stunted trees; their elegant pitchers hanging in every direction..... The finest yet known were obtained on the summit of Kini-balou, in North-west Borneo. One of the broad sort, Nepenthes rajah, will hold two quarts of water in its pitcher. Another has a narrow pitcher twenty inches long; while the plant itself grows to a length of twenty feet”.

December 1855 Alfred Russell Wallace
(The Malay Archipelago)

At dawn, the morning mist rises like steam from the world’s tallest tropical forests gracing the banks of the Danum River. The forest breathes. By early evening the rainforest seems to exhale the very darkness it holds within, and far away to the Northwest, when the last light gilds the highest rocks of Kinabalu, the blackness in the lowlands is already complete. Deep in the forest where the katydid lives, the insects are screaming. A family of red giant flying squirrels glides the night skies across the river,

and farther down in the dense understory little, goggle-eyed tarsiers awaken. His eyes open wide and round to drink in the secret motions of the darkness. He leaps between saplings and freezes, sinews tensed --- he's hungry tonight. Every feature of his being is designed for the night-time hunt --- powerful legs for jumping; sucker pads on his fingers and toes for clinging; huge radar ears for detecting the slightest sound. But it's his eyes that are truly extraordinary. They are 150 times bigger in relation to his body size than ours! This then is Borneo.

Looking for animals in the dimly lit underworld of a Bornean jungle is like trying to remember scenes from a dream. Even when they're within reach, they remain elusive, and a clear view all too infrequently eludes even the most diligent observer. From fleeting glimpses one constructs impressions of existences too often more imagined than experienced. Or are they? Peering out from behind a giant tree buttress, a nocturnal civet is ready to slink away into the darkness whilst a barely audible deep resonant hoot sends tingles of excitement emanating through our group. The symphony of cries surrounding us speaks to the extravagance of life in these most ancient of forests. We have five nights in which to seek out some of Borneo's most elusive and yet desired creatures. Several species of owls including the impressive Buffy Fish-Owl inhabit the Danum valley in addition to the rarely seen but nevertheless imposing Barred Eagle-Owl. Danum also hosts a truly mouth-watering array of nocturnal mammals including the magnificent Bornean Clouded Leopard --- the last remaining, albeit distant relative of the Sabre-toothed Tiger --- Danum is perhaps THE place to see try and see this species; Bornean 'Pygmy' Elephant; Leopard Cat; Scaly Pangolin; Slow Loris; Long-tailed Porcupine; Sun Bear; in addition to an intriguing collection of civets and 'lesser lights'.

Though it only covers 170 square miles, Danum Valley is the largest protected area of virgin lowland rain forest in Sabah, North Borneo. A magnificent lodge constructed deep, in the interior of this reserve enables us to sample at leisure and in considerable comfort the nature of these forests. Time and again the wonder of the forest's intricate connections reveal themselves when one takes the time to study the details. Marvel at the life of an unnamed mite, which glued its larvae to a daddy longlegs. Inside cup fungi, each the size of a fingernail are spore pockets designed to be dispersed by the impact of water drops dripping from the canopy. The beauty of the pitta's plumage belies the difficulty of observing these evocative birds. Five species inhabit Danum's forests including two exquisite endemics Blue-headed and Blue Banded pittas. No doubt their tantalising whistles will lead us a merry dance once again; but oh boy they are worth it.

Forest rhythms are not fully understood. Fig trees bear fruit unpredictably but when they do they inevitably produce a veritable feeding frenzy of barbets (5 species), broadbills (4 species), fairy bluebirds, bulbuls (12 species), flowerpeckers (7 species) and those most statuesque of Asian forest birds --- hornbills. My favourite the Helmeted Hornbill announces his presence with one of the most haunting vocalisations that culminates, after a tortuous wind-up with a maniacal cackle. Wonderful! Wonderful! Wonderful! Seven other species of hornbills inhabit these forests including the sub-canopy dwelling White-crowned Hornbill. There's nothing quite like watching a fruiting tree as species after species turns up. And just when you think you have seen everything up pops another surprise. And of course birds aren't the only ones to take advantage of such a rich feast. With luck we may even see the old man of the forest the Orang Utan cautiously emerging from the forest to compete with Pig-tailed Macaques and Bornean Gibbons for these easy pickings.

Found only in Borneo, the leaf-eating Proboscis monkey --- a Jimmy Durante look-alike, is one of those peculiar denizens one feels you just have to see. The swampy lower reaches of the Kinabatangan River provide a major retreat for this the biggest monkey of South-east Asia. Setting out from Sandakan at dawn and the comfort of a well appointed boat we will watch as an adult male takes measured leaps across a nipa palm clad tributary, dragging a well sprung bough to dip his tail inelegantly in the muddy waters before scrambling away and chattering encouragingly to his following troupe. To our amusement and disconsternation some fall short and land in the river with whopping belly flops. This too is the home of those mighty juggernauts --- Rhinoceros Hornbills and perhaps the forest dwelling Storm's Stork or richly clad Cinnamon Pigeon.

Ecologically, the island of Borneo is a centre of biological richness for the Indo-Malayan region ---- and a hot spot of world biodiversity. Twenty-five acres of Bornean lowland rainforest holds more species of tree than occur in all of North America. Borneo shelters more varieties of birds than are found in Europe and as many species of mammals as live on the entire continent of Australia. Borneo is everything you ever imagined a tropical forest to be. It just oozes with life. Each day in the field is a kaleidoscope of vignettes that add up to a life-time's experience:

- Caked with mud from a wallow, one of Sabah's last rhinos raises an eye that meets mine for an instant, before it vanishes into the undergrowth.
- Flying has become an easier way to travel for an unlikely array of creatures ranging from geckos and snakes to lizards and frogs. The flying frog first described by naturalist Alfred Russell Wallace, extends all four feet in a controlled glide as it moves amongst the dappled gloom of the epiphyte-laden sub-canopy.
- I have a special affection for wren-babblers and Danum hosts three species including two Bornean endemics: Black-throated and Bornean wren-babblers. Needless to say we make a special effort to find these wonderful vocalists.
- Danum hosts a remarkably rich community of birds and just when you think there are no other species to add to an already long list an intriguing song leads you to one of SE Asia's least known birds ---- the Bornean Ground-cuckoo.

Like other great mountains such Fuji and Kilimanjaro, Mount Kinabalu dominates the landscape physically and spiritually; and it is hard to accept the geologic fact that this awesome granite outcrop rose just over a million years ago. A floral fortress, Kinabalu's flanks nurture one of the highest concentrations of unique plant life on earth --- including 1,200 species of orchids. But what is more it harbours a truly wondrous community of Bornean endemic birds.

Diary



Daily Itinerary - 2011

- Fri. 3 Sept. Arrive Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Borneo. Introductory dinner. ON Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
- Sat. 4 Sept. Drive KK to Kota Belud. Birding a mosaic of wet rice-fields, swamps, scrub and secondary woodland. Back to KK for lunch and visit to state mosque and bookstore. PM birding hotel grounds. ON Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
- Sun. 5 Sept. Drive KK to Rafflesia Centre, Crocker Range Nat. Pk. Birded Hill Dipterocarp Forest then lunch and drive to Mahua Waterfall ca. 1,000m before continuing on to Mt Kinabalu Park. ON Fairy Garden Hotel.
- Mon. 6 Sept. Drive to Mesilau at 1850m, Kinabalu Park. Early am birded Montane Forest edge adjacent to facilities then walked up to 2200m. Returned for lunch at restaurant. PM Birded area around Timphon Gate. ON Fairy Gdn. Hotel.
- Tues. 7 Sept. Birded Timphon Gate to Liwagu restaurant; b'fast then Silau-Silau trail. PM Birded HQ roads. ON Fairy Gdn. Hotel.
- Wed. 8 Sept. Early am drive to Poring Hot Springs. Birded forest edge then 06.45 on to canopy walkway until 10.15. Midday onwards birded up to above Bat Cave.
- Thurs. 9 Sept. Birded Timphon Gate to new overlook. 09.00 drive to Likas Bay and on to the airport; fly to Sandakan. ON Sandakan Hotel.
- Fri. 10 Sept. Drive to Sepilok and onto canopy walkway and adjacent trails until midday. Back to hotel for lunch and R&R then return to Sepilok late afternoon and early evening. ON Sandakan Hotel.
- Sat. 11 Sept. Relaxed exploration of Sandakan: Agnes Keith's home; water village; city centre; Chinese Temple & harbour; Sandakan Death March Memorial. Lunch then boat across Sandakan Bay & up backwater to Kinabatangan River. ON Abai Lodge.
- Sun. 12 Sept. Early am boat to oxbow lake; return to Abai Lodge 08.00 for b'fast; birded boardwalk through swamp forest until lunch. Boat up river to Sukau Rainforest Lodge. PM birded Mennangal River. ON Sukau Rainforest Lodge.
- Mon. 13 Sept. AM Birded Mennangal River. PM Birded Goamantong Cave area. ON Sukau Rainforest Lodge.
- Tues. 14 Sept. AM Birded Mennangal River; drive to Lahad Datu; lunch then drive to Borneo Rainforest Lodge (arrive 18.30). ON Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL)
- Wed. 15 Sept. Birded around lodge; then along Tekala & Segama trails. PM Main rd. to canopy walkway. Night drive.
- Thurs. 16 Sept. Early am birded canopy walkway; b'fast; Danum Tril until lunch. PM Rain & verandah birding.
- Fri. 17 Sept. Early am canopy walkway and back to lodge; b'fast; local trails. Drive to BRL gate and walk to canopy walkway. Unforgettable night-drive.

- Sat. 18 Sept. Birded Hornbill Ridge to lunch. PM quiet. Night drive.
- Sun. 19 Sept. Early am canopy walkway; b'fast; drive to Lahad Datu & lunch; fly to KK. Farewell dinner. ON Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.

Annotated List of Birds

NON-PASSERINES

1. Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata* Two in the Kota Belud area; two along the road from Goamantong.
2. **Red-breasted Partridge** *Arborophila hyperythra*
Heard a number of times in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
3. Chestnut-necklaced Partridge *Arborophila charltonii* **NT**
A difficult bird to see at the best of times we heard it in the Danum Valley and along the Menanggol River.
4. **Crimson-headed Partridge** *Haematortyx sanguiniceps*
Heard frequently and close by on Mt Kinabalu and in the Crocker Range.
5. Crested Fireback *Lophura ignita* **NT**
Everyone enjoyed superb views of this spectacular species during the drive in to BRL. We recorded a total of nine birds during the late afternoon including an adult male together with two females and a covey of chicks. Although some birds appear to have become habituated at BRL we only saw two birds there this time.
6. Great Argus *Argusianus argus* **NT**
Fantastic views of a fully plumaged, adult male as he walked to within two metres of us in the Danum Valley! Heard daily thereafter. Surely this is one THE great avian experiences in the whole of the Oriental Region.
7. Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster* **NT**
This globally Near Threatened species was observed on 7 days with as many as seven counted as we mototd by boat from Sandakan to Abai Lodge. From thereon one or two recorded daily along the Kinabatangan and mennagal rivers and at BRL.
8. Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*
As many as eight in the wet grasslands near Kota Belud.

9. Great-billed Heron *Ardea sumatrana* **NT**
One adult along the Danum River seen well by all.
10. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
Rather scarce this year with just four around Kota Belud; two at Likas Bay and one along the Kinabatangan River.
11. Great Egret *Casmerodius alba*
Widespread and locally common with ca. 100 in the Kota Belud area and 14 counted between Sandakan and Abai Lodge on the Kinabatangan River
12. Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes* One seen well at the entrance to the Kinabatangan River.
13. Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
Common in the Kota Belud area and low numbers recorded most days except at BRL.
14. Pacific Reef Heron *Egretta sacra*
One nearby to the Tanjung Aru Beach Hotel. NOTE: Previously placed in *Demigretta*. Also known as Eastern Reef-Egret
15. Eastern Cattle Egret *Bulbulcus coromandus*
Ten in the wet fields near Kota Belud; one at the edge of the Crocker Range; several at Likas Bay. NOTE: **Consistent** differences between *B. ibis* and *B. coromandus* in breeding plumage, proportions and vocalisations indicate they are better treated as two species. Rasmussen & Anderton. 2005 'Birds of South Asia The Ripley Guide'. Birds in North America are referable to Western or Common Cattle Egret *B. ibis*.
16. Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa*
Three seen nicely in breeding plumage, near Kota Belud. This recent colonist appears to be increasing its numbers, in this much altered area of Sabah, Borneo.
17. Little Heron *Butorides striatus*
One immature in the Kota Belud area; two in mangroves *en route* to Abai Lodge; one along the Mennangal River. NOTE: The A.O.U. has recently separated North American populations of this widespread species from all other populations. Thus, birds in North America become *B. virescens* Green or Green-backed Heron. Observers would be advised to note wherever they see this species in their travels worldwide as this species is likely to be further divided into a number of allospecies. Also known as Mangrove, Striated or Green-backed Heron.
18. Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* Six at dawn in the Kota Belud area.
19. Storm's Stork *Ciconia stormi* **T**
An exceptionally good year for this, the world's rarest species of stork. A total of six along the Mennangal River and two there the following day. This species is globally endangered and recent assessments put the worldwide population at under 1,000 individuals.
20. Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilus javanicus* **T**
Just one along the Kinabatangan River *en route* to Abai Lodge.

21. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni*
One immature hunting domestic chickens at Goamantong.
22. Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*
A total of four over the Crocker Range; one on a nest along the Mennangal River and one nicely spotted by Lee-Ann in the Danum Valley.
23. Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus*
A pair scoped at a nest at Gomantong and then at least one hunting Wrinkle-lipped Bats as the latter emerged from the caves during the late afternoon.
24. Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*
Two over the wet fields near Kota Belud with both birds putting on a fine display of their aerial abilities. One in farmland just outside Lahad Datu.
25. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*
Six near Kota Belud; very common in Sandakan Bay and along on the Kinabatangan River, where seen daily. Two adults seen hunting bats above Goamantong caves.
26. White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*
One immature in the Kota Belud area; several over Sandakan Harbour and along the Kinabatangan River.
27. Lesser Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga humilis* NT
One bird appears to be resident on the middle reaches of the Mennangal River and we enjoyed very nice looks at this bird.
28. Grey-headed Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus* NT
One adult soaring over the Crocker Range at an unusual elevation of ca. 1800m+.
29. Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela*
Rather few seen this year with just two soaring over the Kinabatangan River near Sukau and 1-3 over the Danum Valley on three days where it was also heard regularly.
30. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*
7 Sept. One adult displaying over the entrance to Kinabalu Park. One seen also at Sepilok.
31. Besra *Accipiter virgatus*
One seen well at Kinabalu Park.
32. Blyth's Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus alboniger*
One observed displaying over the Danum Valley near BRL.
33. Wallace's Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus nanus* T
An increasingly rare albeit rather spectacular raptor; we observed an adult attending and immature at a nest in swamp forest near Abai Lodge; and two along the Mennangal River.
34. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus limnaeetus*
One immature seen above Mesilau, Kinabalu Park and one dark morph perched in the canopy at Sepilok.

35. **White-fronted Falconet** *Microhierax latifrons*
An exceptionally good year for this gem of an endemic species. The first was a group of four just outside the entrance to Mahua Waterfalls, Crocker Range Nat. Pk. and then a pair seen very nicely along the Mennangal River.
36. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* One seen by KD hunting bats above the caves at Goamantong.
37. White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
Very common in the Kota Belud area where several young chicks were noted; also heard at the oxbow lake above Abai Lodge.
38. Watercock *Gallicrex cinerea*
Good views of three adults in non-breeding plumage in the wet fields and surrounding rice-fields near Kota Belud.
39. Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*
Ten counted in the wet fields near Kota Belud.
40. Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* Six in breeding plumage the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
41. Greater Sand-Plover *Chardrius leschenaultii* Two near the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
42. Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura* One seen well in flight in the wet fields around Kota Belud.
43. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
Small numbers (<six) recorded on just four days.
44. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
Forty or more in the wet fields near Kota Belud.
45. Common Redshank *Tringa tetanus* Twenty at the entrance to the Kinabatangan River.
46. Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus* One seen very nicely at the entrance to the Kinabatangan River.
47. Whimbrel *Numenius arquatus*
Four on a small sand spit off the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
48. Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* One on a small sand spit off the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
49. Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* Two adults and ten immatures in wet fields near Kota Belud.
50. Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*
Twenty or more including individuals carrying fish as if feeding young on a small sand spit off the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
51. Common Tern *Sterna Hirundo*
Two on a small sand spit off the Tanjung Aru Beach Hotel.

52. Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana* Three (possibly only seen by KDB) off the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
53. White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucoptera* One in non-breeding plumage off the Tanjung Aru Beach resort.
54. Rock Dove *Columba livia* **FERAL**
Recorded in good numbers around Kota Kinabablu, Kota Belud, Sandakan and Lahad Datu.
55. Spotted Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*
Widespread and moderately common in the lightly wooded lowlands.
56. Little Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia ruficeps*
Common in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu, where seen daily.
57. Emerald Ground-Dove *Chalcophaps indica*
Single seen near Kota Belud; along the Mennangal River and heard in the Danum Valley.
58. Zebra Dove *Geopelia striata* **Introduced**
Several in the ground of the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
59. Little Green-Pigeon *Treron olax*
Twenty near Abai Lodge along the Kinabatangan River; and similar numbers along the Mennangal River.
60. Pink-necked Pigeon *Treron vernans*
Good prolonged views of this handsome green-pigeon at a fruiting fig in the grounds of the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort; ca 20 at a fruiting fig in the grounds of Sandakan Hotel; and four at Sepilok.
61. Cinnamon-headed Pigeon *Treron fulvicollis* 2-3 at the oxbow above Abai. This is an infrequently encountered species anywhere in its rather circumscribed range.
62. Thick-billed Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*
Good 'scope views of three at a fruiting tree at Sepilok and several at the oxbow above Abai.
63. Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea*
One near Kota Belud then seen and/or hear commonly, daily throughout the lowlands.
64. Mountain Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula badia*
Several in the Crocker Range and on Mt. Kinabalu.
65. Blue-rumped Parrot *Psittinus cyanurus* **NT**
One or two heard and seen daily, mostly in flight, in the Danum Valley and finally a couple perched long enough for us to 'scope and see well.
66. Blue-naped Parrot *Tanygnathus lucionensis* **T**
Superb views of four adults near the Tanjung Aru Resort. I am not convinced that this species is introduced in Borneo.

67. Long-tailed Parakeet *Psittacula longicauda* **NT**
Two in the Kota Belud area; notably common at Sepilik where ca. 150 were counted one morning; heard along the Mennangal River.
68. Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus galgulus*
Heard and seen in flight frequently throughout the lowlands with large numbers seen near Abai Lodge.
69. Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx vagans* Heard on two mornings along the Mennangal River and just once in the Danum Valley. NOTE: Retained in *Cuculus* by some authorities.
70. Malaysian Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx fugax* Heard at Poring and elsewhere in Kinabalu Park; one also heard along the Mennangal River.
71. Sunda Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus lepidus* Heard in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park. NOTE: Previously treated as a resident population of Oriental Cuckoo *C. saturatus*.
72. Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii*
Seen very nicely in response to KDB's tape in the Danum Valley. Also heard at the oxbow lake above Abai.
73. Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*
Heard along the Kinabatangan and Mennangal rivers. NOTE: Treated by some authorities as a sub-species of Brush Cuckoo *C. variolosus*.
74. Rusty-breasted Cuckoo *Cacomantis sepulcralis* Heard just once in the Danum Valley.
75. Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus* Seen very nicely in the 'scope at BRL; also heard at Goamantong.
76. Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*
Superb scope views of two very confiding males at BRL where also heard daily; males also seen at the oxbow above Abai and another along the Mennangal River; heard at Sepilik.
77. Asian Drongo-Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris*
Surprisingly heard just once in the Danum Valley.
78. Black-bellied Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus diardi* **NT**
Singles seen on two occasions in the Danum Valley.
79. Raffles's Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*
Our first pair of these attractive birds was at Poring. Thereafter we encountered this species at Sepilik; the Abai area; along the Mennangal River and almost daily in the Danum Valley.
80. Red-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus javanicus* A good year for this species; one seen nicely in the Goamantong Forest Reserve and then one or two most days in the Danum Valley.
81. Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*
One seen well at Abai Lodge and singles on one day in the Danum Valley.

82. **Bornean Ground-Cuckoo** *Carpococcyx radiatus* T
Heard along the Menanggal River and despite our best efforts two heard within 30 metres of our group along the Hornbill Trail, Danum Valley but they just would not go the extra yard!
83. Short-toed Coucal *Centropus rectunguis*
Heard in the Danum Valley.
84. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*
One seen between Goamantong and Sukau; heard along the Menanggal River.
85. Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*
Four in the Kota Belud area.
86. Bay Owl *Phodilus badius* Two heard calling very close to our group on the canopy walkway at Sepilok but despite our best efforts we just could not entice this beautiful vocalist into view.
87. Reddish Scops-Owl *Otus rufescens* Heard one evening at Sepilok.
88. Barred Eagle-Owl *Bubo sumatranus* Superb views of this spectacular owl on our unforgettable night-drive in the Danum Valley.
89. Buffy Fish-Owl *Ketupa ketupu*
Stunning views of one at Abai Lodge and then five birds along the Menanggal River one evening.
90. Brown Wood-Owl *Strix leptogrammica*
Superb views of one during the day-time from the board-walk behind our lodge at Sukau, thanks to Wan AND despite the attentions of the Long-tailed Macaques.
91. Brown Hawk-Owl *Ninox scutulata* Heard at Sepilok.
92. Gould's Frogmouth *Batrachostomus stellatus* Heard in the Danum Valley.
93. Silver-rumped Needletail *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*
This very attractive swift was constantly active around us over the Danum River at BRL affording us wonderful in-flight, action views. A single bird was also observed at Poring.
94. Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*
One near Kota Belud; three at Sepilok; one along the Menanggal River and a group of five one afternoon in the Danum Valley.
95. Glossy Swiftlet *Collocalia esculenta*
Seen almost daily at the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort where it was nesting; Kota Belud area; Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park. NOTE: 'Glossy' Swiftlets on Mt Kinabalu, of which we saw many, are often treated as a separate species viz Linchi Swiftlet *Collocalia linchii*. Smythies and Davison (1999) regarded the taxon *linchii* to be at best a subspecies of Glossy Swiftlet but other authors contest this. Also known as White-bellied Swiftlet.

96. Mossy-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus salangana*
Goamantong Caves.
97. Black-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus maxima*
Goamantong Caves. NOTE: Robson (2000 - FG to Birds of SE Asia) splits Germain's Swiftlet including *A. g. germani* and *A. g. amechana* of S Mynmar, C, S Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, E Tonkin, C, S Annam, Cochinchina, N, C Laos and possibly elsewhere, from White-nest (Edible-nest) Swiftlet. The latter's global range is thus restricted to Andaman and Nicobar Is., small islands off S Myanmar, Sundas (We are unsure what Robson means by this term???) and Tanahjampea (Flores Sea Is., Indonesia). The status of birds in N Borneo and the southern Philippines is ambiguous and for the time being we retain populations at the latter two sites in White-nest Swiftlet (see Smythies & Davison 1999).

The taxonomy and field identification of swiftlets represents some of the most challenging and most complex taxonomic problems in the Oriental region. For a helpful and up to date discussion of the situation see Smythies and Davison (1999 Birds of Borneo).

98. Edible-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus fuciphaga*
Goamantong Caves. NOTE: The above three species are impossible to differentiate in the field but can be safely identified on the nest. All three occur in the Goamantong Caves and a visit here provides a great opportunity to study the differences between the nests and thus identify the little blighters! We observed all dark swiftlets daily from 10 Sept.
99. Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*
Two at Kota Belud.
100. Little Swift *Apus nipalensis*
Several around Kota Kinabalu where they were observed nesting at the state mosque; also in the Kota Belud area. NOTE: Considered by some authorities to be a separate species *Apus nipalensis*, however, Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) note that there is currently insufficient evidence for allowing this split. Also known as House Swift.
101. Grey-rumped Treeswift *Hemiprocne longipennis*
Rather uncommon this year: three at Sepilok; and just two and three on two days in the Danum Valley.
102. Whiskered Treeswift *Hemiprocne comata*
The facial plumage of this bird is unusual to say the least and our eye-level views of several individuals on the canopy walkway in the Danum Valley and around BRL were outstanding.
103. Red-naped Trogon *Harpactes kasumba* NT
We enjoyed superb views of a spectacular male at Sepilok and heard this species along the board-walk at Abai Lodge.
104. Diard's Trogon *Harpactes diardii* NT
Heard at Poring and a female was seen nicely in the Danum Valley.

105. **Whitehead's Trogon** *Harpactes whiteheadi* NT
Superb views of a gorgeous male in Kinabalu Park. This is a sensational and rarely seen endemic!

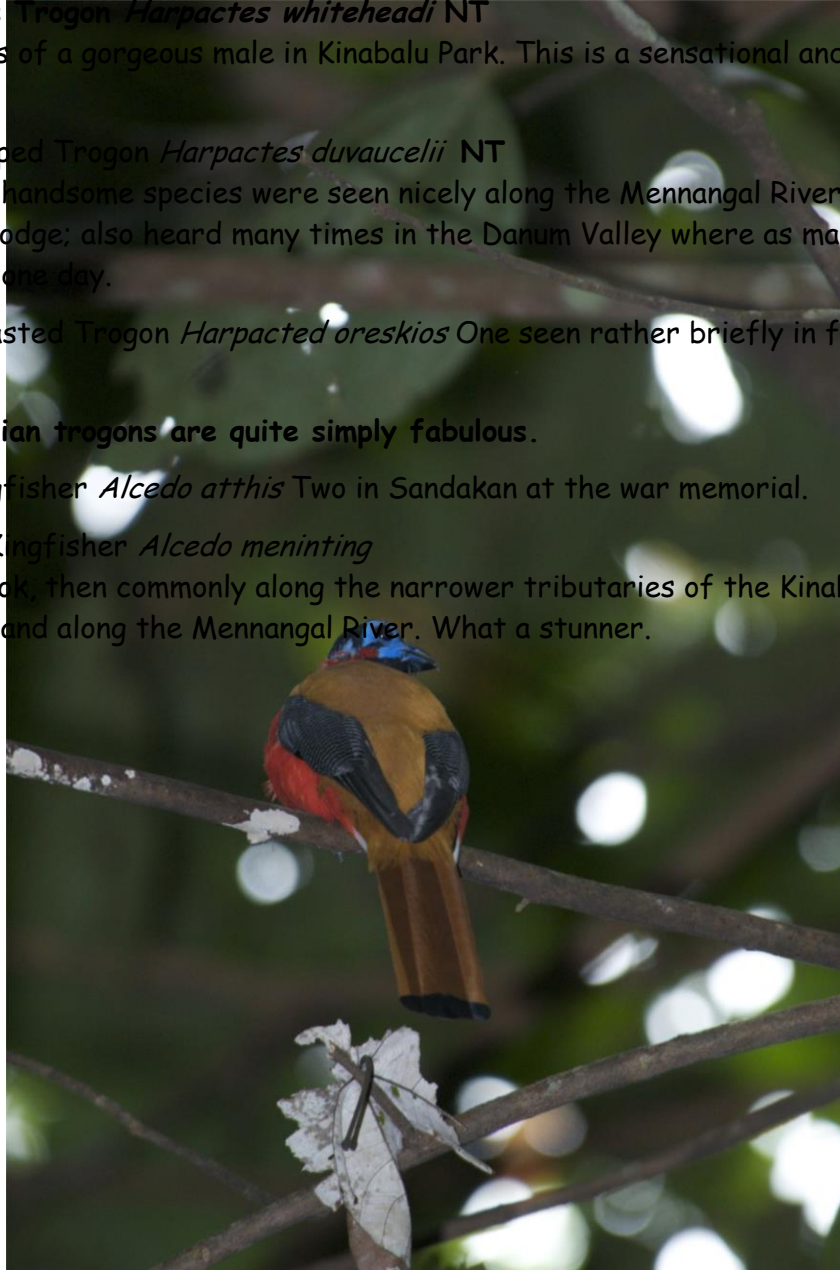
106. **Scarlet-rumped Trogon** *Harpactes duvaucelii* NT
Four of this handsome species were seen nicely along the Mennangal River and two at Sukau Rainforest Lodge; also heard many times in the Danum Valley where as many as six were observed on one day.

107. **Orange-breasted Trogon** *Harpactes oreskios* One seen rather briefly in forest near Mahua Waterfall.

All these Asian trogons are quite simply fabulous.

108. **Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis* Two in Sandakan at the war memorial.

109. **Blue-eared Kingfisher** *Alcedo meninting*
One at Sepilok, then commonly along the narrower tributaries of the Kinabatangan River around Abai and along the Mennangal River. What a stunner.




Male Red-naped Trogon © K. David Bishop

110. Black-backed Dwarf-Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca*
One seen diagnostically in the Danum Valley. NOTE: The two taxa *erithaca* and *rufidorsa* are treated by some authorities as a single species Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *C. rufidorsa*.
111. Rufous-backed Kingfisher *Ceyx rufidorsa* merous
The first of these gems was seen at Sepilok where several others were heard; two more were seen from the boardwalk in swamp forest at Abai Lodge; singles were heard and/or seen most days in the Danum Valley.
112. Banded Kingfisher *Lacedo pulchella*
One male seen in the Danum Valley. This is a very special bird!
113. Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*
A truly magnificent bird - we encountered our first tenderizing a fish along the roadside near Kota Belud; thereafter 1-3 daily along the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries and in the Danum Valley.
114. Ruddy Kingfisher *Halcyon coromanda* Wow! What a bird! Exceptional close and prolonged views of a pair of these rarely encountered birds along the boardwalk in swamp forest at Abai Lodge.
115. Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris*
Very common in all coastal areas and in the lower sections of the Kinabatangan River up as far as Abai Lodge.
116. Rufous-collared Kingfisher *Actenoides concretu*
Heard at very close quarters at dawn from the Sepilok canopy walkway.
117. Red-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis amictus*
Fantastic views of yet another spectacular species in the Danum Valley with as many as three seen on one day; also heard at Sepilok.
118. Blue-throated Bee-eater *Merops viridis*
This SE Asia migrant was observed in small numbers at Sepilok; at the oxbow above Abai; around Abai and along the Kinabatangan River to Sukau and in the Danum Valley.

119. Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*
Scattered ones and twos, mostly of the attractive resident race: Kota Belud area; Sepilok; Abai area and Kinabatangan River.
120. Oriental Pied-Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris*
Notably uncommon this year with just 1-2 observed at the oxbow lake above Abai; in swamp forest near Abai Lodge and along the Mennangal River. Heard at Sepilok.
121. Black Hornbill *Anthracoceros malayanus* **NT**
One of the more common of the many hornbill species we encountered, we saw this great bird several times at Sepilok; two along the Mennangal River and 2-4 most days in the Danum Valley.
122. Rhinoceros Hornbill *Buceros rhinoceros* **NT**
Sabah's faunal emblem and one of the world's most spectacular birds, we were fortunate to see this species during our morning at the oxbow lake; and then 2-3 on several days in the Danum Valley.
123. Helmeted Hornbill *Buceros vigil* **NT**
We heard the distinctive call of this fantastic bird on a couple of occasions but feared that like the previous trip we would not get to see this special bird. However, looming out of the mists one morning a single bird honking its head off treated us to a memorable fly-by in the Danum Valley.
124. Bushy-crested Hornbill *Anorrhinus galeritus*
This species was seen several times in groups of four at the oxbow lake above Abai; along the Mennangal River but was only heard in the Danum Valley.
125. White-crowned Hornbill *Aceros comatus* **NT**
Sadly heard on just one afternoon in the Danum Valley.
126. Wrinkled Hornbill *Aceros corrugatus* **NT**
Another spectacular hornbill of which we saw four one morning from the canopy walkway in the Danum Valley and then exceptional 'scope views of a pair later that afternoon above BRL.
127. Wreathed Hornbill *Aceros undulatus*
Astonishingly heard just once on one afternoon in the Danum Valley.
128. Gold-whiskered Barbet *Megalaima chrysopogon*
Heard on just three days in the forested lowlands but after a prolonged battle we did manage to see this handsome species at the periphery of the Crocker Range.
129. Red-throated Barbet *Megalaima mystacophanos* **NT**
Superb views of this lovely bird as two birds bathed in the bole of a large tree at Poring; heard on just three days in the Danum Valley.
130. **Mountain Barbet** *Megalaima monticola*
While this is not Borneo's most attractive endemic, it has until recently been one of the

more difficult species to actually see. We, however, had good views of two at a fruiting tree near the Rafflesia Centre in the Crocker Range; and heard it on two days in Kinabalu Park.

131. Yellow-crowned Barbet *Megalaima henricii* NT
Heard at Sepilok and in the Danum Valley.
132. **Golden-naped Barbet** *Megalaima pulcherrima*
We eventually saw this endemic, and saw it well, at the very last gasp after being teased by its calls for several days in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park.
133. Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis*
Typically heard commonly throughout the forested lowlands and hills and two seen well along the Mennangal River.
134. **Bornean Barbet** *Megalaima eximia*
Several heard in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park.
135. Brown Barbet *Calorhamphus fuliginosus*
This unusual looking and sounding barbet was seen very nicely at Abai Lodge.
136. Rufous Piculet *Sasia abnormis*
Fabulous views of this diminutive gem in swamp forest at Abai Lodge and in the Danum Valley.
137. Brown-capped Woodpecker *Dendrocopos moluccensis*
Heard at Kota Belud and just one see at the oxbow lake above Abai. Also known as Sunda Woodpecker
138. Grey-capped (Pygmy) Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus*
Heard at Poring, Sepilok and in the Danum Valley.
139. Rufous Woodpecker *Celeus brachyurus*
Nice looks at two birds at Poring.
140. White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*
Thanks to some great spotting by John we all enjoyed superb views of a group of three along the Kinabatangan River, below Abai Lodge. Also hear along the Mennangal River and a single male seen one afternoon in the Vanum Valley
141. Banded Woodpecker *Picus mineaceus*
Point-blank views of a very territorial male from the canopy walkways at Sepilok at dusk!
WOW!
142. Checker-throated Woodpecker *Picus mentalis* Heard in Kinabalu Park.
143. Common Flameback *Dinopium javanense* One seen fairly well along the Kinabatangan River.
144. Maroon Woodpecker *Blythipicus rubiginosus*
One seen well in the Crocker Range; two at Poring and scattered ones and twos seen and heard in the Danum Valley.



145. Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis*

Fine views of four one morning in the Danum Valley; also heard near Abai Lodge; along the Mennangal River and on several days in the Danum Valley.

146. Buff-necked Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tukki* NT

Seen and heard commonly around Sepilok; Abai Lodge and in the Danum Valley.

147. Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus concretus*

Great views of a very confiding pair along the boardwalk within swamp forest at Abai Lodge and a total of three along the Mennangal River.

148. Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*

A group of three seen nicely in flight at Sepilok; a total of five along the Mennangal River and heard on several days in the Danum Valley. This is Asia's largest woodpecker.

Male Great Argus (Pheasant) © K. David Bishop - photographed 3 metres from our group!

PASSERINES

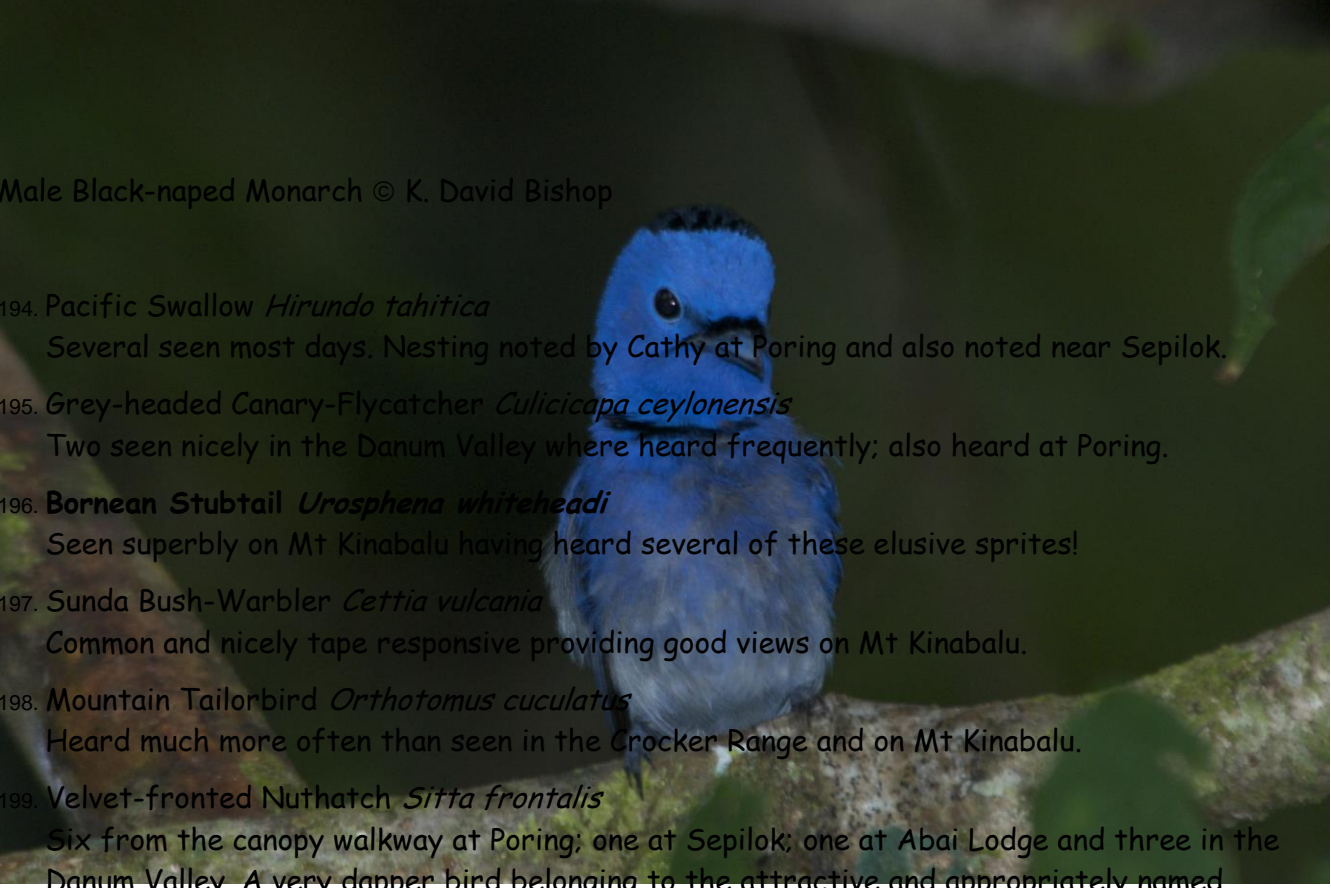
149. **Whitehead's Broadbill** *Calyptomena whiteheadi*
A pair of these much sought after endemics, were brilliantly spotted by Lee-Ann and put on a fabulous display permitting the entire group to study at leisure this handsome and increasingly difficult to find Bornean specialty in Kinabalu Park.
150. **Black-and-red Broadbill** *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*
Several of these gorgeous birds were seen superbly along the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries.
151. **Banded Broadbill** *Eurylaimus javanicus*
After hearing this species on several occasions we finally tracked down a very confiding pair on the canopy walkway in the Danum Valley.
152. **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** *Eurylaimus ochromalus* NT
Seen and heard most days in lowland and hill forest. This is one of the most endearing of Asia's many attractive broadbills.
153. **Dusky Broadbill** *Corydon sumatranus*
We finally tracked down a flock of six one morning, dragging them in from across the river but they just would not descend from the canopy to give us a really good view; Danum Valley.
154. **Giant Pitta** *Pitta caerulea*
Heard from just below us as we worked the canopy walkway in the Danum Valley.
155. **Banded Pitta** *Pitta guajana*
Heard along the Mennangal River.
156. **Blue-headed Pitta** *Pitta baudii* T
Sadly heard only along the Mennangal River and in the Danum Valley.
157. **Hooded Pitta** *Pitta sordida*
Fairly common on the Menangal River where everyone enjoyed good views of this striking bird.
158. **Blue-banded Pitta** *Pitta arquata*
Heard very close by above the bat-cave at Poring but it just would not reveal itself. Great try everyone!
159. **Black-and-crimson Pitta** *Pitta ussheri* T
Another trip highlight with one amazingly responsive bird in the Danum Valley - thanks too for some good field work by Darryl. Heard commonly in the Danum Valley at Abai and Sepilok.
160. **Golden-bellied Gerygone** *Gerygone sulphurea*
Heard and seen fairly frequently in Kinabalu Park.

161. Rufous-winged Philentoma *Philentoma pyrrhopterum*
One very responsive individual gave everyone a fine view of this infrequently seen species in the Danum Valley.
162. White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*
Common in the wetlands and farmlands around Kota Belud; one at the edge of the Crocker Range and common around Sandkan.
163. **Bornean Bristlehead** *Pityriasis gymnocephala* NT
Fantastic and prolonged views of a group of 3-4 of this endemic Bornean family from the canopy walkway at Sepilok. Undoubtedly one of THE highlights of the tour. NOTE: This species' affinities remain unclear; until recently DNA evidence suggested it to be most closely aligned with the Papuo-Australasian butcherbirds (Cracticidae). However, recently it has been placed in its own family the Pityriaseidae.
164. Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*
Several seen well along the Kinabatangan River; the oxbow lake above Abai; around Abai Lodge; along the Mennangal River and in the Danum Valley.
165. Green Iora *Aegithina viridissima*
A total of six seen from the Sepilok canopy walkway; and groups of four and two on two days in the Danum Valley.
166. Sunda Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina larvata*
2-4 birds seen well on three days in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park.
167. Bar-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracna striata*
One seen all too briefly at the oxbow lake above Abai.
168. Lesser Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina fimbriata*
One seen nicely with a mixed flock in the Danum Valley.
169. Pied Triller *Lalage nigra*
Two females seen in the grounds of the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
170. Fiery Minivet *Pericrocotus igneus* NT
One group of ten of this lovely species seen in the Danum Valley.
171. Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus speciosus*
Two males calling and flying back and forth over the forest *en route* into BRL. NOTE: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) show that southern India populations should be treated as a separate species. Consequently northern populations adopt the specific name *speciosus*.
172. Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris*
Common in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu Park.
173. Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike *Hemipus picatus*
A male seen with a mixed flock including several Fiery Minivets from the canopy walkway at Danum.

174. Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus hirundinaceus*
Several iseen nicely in swamp forest near Abai Lodge and just one in the Danum Valley.
175. Mangrove Whistler *Pachycephala grisola*
Fine views of a very territorial couple of males along the boardwalk in swamp forest near Abai Lodge.
176. **Bornean Whistler** *Pachycephala hypoxantha*
Notably common in Kinabalu Park where as many as 20 were seen on one morning; also seen in the Crocker Range. This is an unobtrusive endemic of the forest midstorey.
177. Dark-throated Oriole *Oriolus xanthonotus*
At least one handsome adult along the Menangul River on our last morning there; a single female was seen with a mixed flock near BRL.
178. Black-and-crimson Oriole *Oriolus cruentus*
Two attending a fruiting tree in the Crocker Range; one near Mahua Waterfall and one in Kinabalu Park.
179. Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*
Common in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
180. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*
Three along the BRL entrance road, in the Danum Valley.
181. Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*
Notably uncommon this year with just two in two mixed flocks, on Mt Kinabalu.
182. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*
One at Poring; heard at Sepilok; one near Abai Lodge; and ones and twos on several days in the in the Danum Valley.
183. White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis*
Seen daily in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu in numbers ranging from 2-15 per birding session. This replaces the following species at higher altitudes.
184. Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*
Widespread and common in the lowlands but outside areas of contiguous forest. Note, it has now been recorded right at BRL!
185. Spotted Fantail *Rhipidura perlata*
Seen regularly, often with mixed flocks in the Danum Valley.
186. Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*
Notably uncommon this year; our firsy was a t Sepilok followed by a heard bird along the Mennangal River and just one male but seen superbly along the canopy walkway in the Danum Valley.

187. *Asian Paradise Flycatcher* *Terpsiphone paradisi*
Sensational views of a long-tailed silver male as we drove into the Danum Valley and two more in the Danum Valley itself. Also heard along the Mennangal River.
188. *Crested Jay* *Platylophus galericulatus* NT
Three of these very striking birds seen fabulously well at Sepilok; heard most days in the Danum Valley and two seen on our last morning.
189. **Bornean Black Magpie** *Platysmurus leucopterus* NT
This is a great bird, not least because it possesses an extraordinarily beautiful song. Two were seen well on our last morning along the Mennangal River. Also heard in the Danum Valley.
NOTE: A distinctive Bornean taxon with no white in the wings and a short crest, which is increasingly being regarded as a separate endemic species.
190. *Short-tailed Magpie* *Cissa thalassina*
For such a spectacular and brightly coloured bird, this magpie is surprisingly difficult to see, however we were treated to several superb views of this species in the Crocker Range.
191. **Bornean Treepie** *Dendrocitta cinerascens*
Seen and heard daily on Mt Kinabalu and in the Crocker Range. NOTE: Treated as a separate species from Sumatran Treepie *D. occipitalis*.
192. *Slender-billed Crow* *Corvus enca*
Common in most lowland forest areas.
193. *Barn Swallow* *Hirundo rustica*
Approximately 1-2,000 on telephone wire in Kota Belud early one

Male Black-naped Monarch © K. David Bishop

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194. Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*
Several seen most days. Nesting noted by Cathy at Poring and also noted near Sepilok.
195. Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*
Two seen nicely in the Danum Valley where heard frequently; also heard at Poring.
196. **Bornean Stubtail** *Urosphena whiteheadi*
Seen superbly on Mt Kinabalu having heard several of these elusive sprites!
197. Sunda Bush-Warbler *Cettia vulcania*
Common and nicely tape responsive providing good views on Mt Kinabalu.
198. Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus*
Heard much more often than seen in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
199. Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*
Six from the canopy walkway at Poring; one at Sepilok; one at Abai Lodge and three in the Danum Valley. A very dapper bird belonging to the attractive and appropriately named *corallipes* subspecies.
200. Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*
Fairly common, but they would never sit still for a good look at Sepilok and at Abai Lodge.
201. **Bornean Black-crested Bulbul** *Pycnonotus montis*
Just one of these handsome birds were seen in the Crocker Range. NOTE: The Black-crested Bulbul group is better treated as a superspecies consisting probably of five allopatric species: *P. melanicteris* - Sri Lanka; *P. gularis* Western Ghats, South India; *P. flaviventris* - Himalayas and Central India eastwards to Vietnam and south to Peninsula Malaysia; *P. dispar* - Sumatra; and *P. montis* - Borneo. (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
202. Scaly-breasted Bulbul *Pycnonotus squamatus*
Excellent views of this most handsome of bulbuls from the canopy walkway at Poring.
203. Pale-faced Bulbul *Pycnonotus leucops*
Four seen very nicely at Mesilau on Mt Kinabalu. NOTE: Split from Flavescent Bulbul *P. flavescens*
204. Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier*
Very common in open and semi-open areas throughout Sabah and a few in the in the Danum Valley.

205. Olive-winged Bulbul *Pycnonotus plumosus*
Four along the Mennangal River.
206. Red-eyed Bulbul *Pycnonotus brunneus*
Widespread and common in the lowland forests. Given the extreme similarity of this species in Borneo with that of Cream-vented Bulbul *P. simplex* it is likely that a proportion of the birds seen were actually the latter species.
207. Spectacled Bulbul *Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*
Four seen very well from the canopy walkway at Poring.
208. Finsch's Bulbul *Alophoixus finschii*
One seen all too briefly from the Sepilok canopy walkway.
209. Ochraceous Bulbul *Alophoixus ochraceus*
Seen daily on Mt Kinabalu and one or two in the Crocker Range.
210. Grey-cheeked Bulbul *Alophoixus bres*
Several at Sepilok and on just one day in the Danum Valley.
211. Yellow-bellied Bulbul *Alophoixus phaeocephalus*
This rather quiet, midstorey bulbul was seen just twice in the Danum Valley.
212. Hairy-backed Bulbul *Tricholestes criniger*
Two of these rather 'stary-eyed' bulbuls were seen at Sepilok and quite commonly in the Danum Valley. NOTE: Previously placed in *Hypsipetes*.
213. Streaked Bulbul *Ixos malaccensis*
Low numbers seen at Poring and Sepilok.
214. **Cinereous Bulbul** *Hemixos cinereus*
Two seen nicely in the Crocker Range. NOTE: Split from Ashy Bulbul *H. flavala*. The differences in voice and plumage are quite striking.
215. Mountain Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*
Common in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
216. Yellow-breasted Warbler *Seicercus montis*
Very common on Mt Kinabalu.
217. Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis*
Seen beautifully in the Danum Valley.
218. Rufous-tailed Tailorbird *Orthotomus sericeus*
Moderately common in the Danum Valley; also hard at Poring and Sepilok.
219. Ashy Tailorbird *Orthotomus ruficeps*
A common bird of lowland areas, often near water.


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220. **Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris*
The Bornean race of this species is confusingly plain, seemingly lacking any yellow! We saw just one in scrub at Likas Bay.
221. **Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella*
This striking and quintessentially lovely Oriental bird was seen on just one or two days thanks to some good spotting by Lee-Ann.
222. **Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*
Apparently the first seen this Palearctic winter (19 Sept.), a single bird along the forest/roadside interface near the upper end of the canopy walkway, Danum Valley.
223. **Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperythra*
Quite shy on Mt Kinabalu this year but some good looks nonetheless including a lovely pair thanks to some good work by John.
224. **Rufous-chested Flycatcher** *Ficedula dumetoria* NT
Superb views of a male in the Danum Valley.
225. **Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*
Heard daily on Mt Kinabalu and a male was finally seen on our last morning.
226. **Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassina*
Rather scarce this year with just a female at Mahua Waterfall and a lovely male at Sepilok.
227. **Indigo Flycatcher** *Eumyias indigo*
Several seen most days on Mt Kinabalu.
228. **Malaysian Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis turcosus* NT
Several seen well along the boardwalk at Abai and along the Mennangal River.
229. **Bornean Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis superbus*
Females seen on just two days in the Danum Valley.
230. **Pygmy Blue-Flycatcher** *Muscicapella hodgsoni*
A male wing-wagging in Kinabalu Park where it is a rather uncommon species.
231. **Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*
Widespread and common throughout the lowlands and hills.
232. **White-crowned Shama** *Copsychus stricklandii*
This lovely songster is common in lowland tropical rainforest. NOTE: The specific status of this species is still hotly debated and on present evidence it would seem there is a possibility that the taxon is in reality a distinctive subspecies of the widespread White-rumped Shama *C. malabaricus*.
233. **Rufous-tailed Shama** *Trichixos pyrropyga* NT
One seen superbly singing from 5m up inside forest in the Danum Valley.
234. **Chestnut-naped Forktail** *Enicurus ruficapillus*
One seen nicely in the Danum Valley hopping down the trail in front of us.
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235. **White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaulti*
Notably inconspicuous this year with a pair in the Danum Valley once and a third bird seen nicely in the grounds of BRL.
236. **Bornean Forktail** *Enicurus sinensis*
A single and a pair seen very nicely along the stream in Kinabalu Park. NOTE: This taxon has recently been split from White-crowned Forktail.
237. **Bornean Whistling-Thrush** *Myiophonus borneensis*
Super views of this endemic in Kinabalu Park. Also seen by KDB at Mahua Waterfall where everyone heard its fine song. NOTE: Recently split from Sunda Whistling-Thrush *Myiophonus glaucinus*.
238. **Island Thrush** *Turdus poliocephalus*
An exceptional year for this species with three at dawn foraging at the forest edge at Mesilau and then a further 20 counted, mostly immatures as we walked up to 2,200m in Kinabalu Park. This is an exceptional record for this species, which in Borneo is more typically found near the treeline.
239. **Fruithunter** *Chlamydochaera jefferyi*
Thanks to some brilliant spotting by Darryl, an adult female was seen superbly by all participants at a fruiting tree in the Crocker Range. Fantastic!
240. **White-browed Shortwing** *Brachypteryx montanus*
Not very co-operative this year. We had OK views of one and heard several others at Kinabalu Park.
241. **Sunda Laughingthrush** *Garrulax palliatus*
Common and conspicuous in mixed flocks on Mt Kinabalu; just two in the Crocker Range.
242. **Bare-headed Laughingthrush** *Melanocichla calva*
By far the scarcest of the laughingthrushes on Borneo, nevertheless we saw two birds with a mixed flock on Mt Kinabalu. NOTE: Split from Black Laughingthrush *G. lugubris*. Formerly placed in *Garrulax*.
243. **Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrush** *Rhinocichla treacheri*
Very common in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu, where they form large and raucous mixed flocks with other laughingthrushes as well as various other species. NOTE: What was previously known as Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush *Garrulax mitratus* is now split into two species: Spectacled Laughingthrush *Rhinocichla mitrata* of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula and *R. treacheri* of Borneo.
244. **White-chested Babbler** *Trichastoma rostratum* **NT**
A common and conspicuous songster in riparian habitat in the Danum Valley and along the Mennangal River.
245. **Ferruginous Babbler** *Trichastoma bicolor*
Heard only in the Danum Valley.

246. Horsfield's Babbler *Malacocincla sepiarium*
Two seen very well along the Mennangal River and then heard and/or seen most days in the Danum Valley.
247. Short-tailed Babbler *Malacocincla malaccensis* NT
Two seen nicely in the Danum Valley.
248. Temminck's Babbler *Pellorneum pyrrogenys*
Just this year seen at dusk on Mt Kinabalu.
249. Moustached Babbler *Malacopteron magnirostre*
One seen in the Danum Valley.
250. Sooty-capped Babbler *Malacopteron affine* NT
Several most days in the Danum Valley.
251. Scaly-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron cinereum*
Common in lowland from Abai to the Danum Valley.
252. Rufous-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron magnum* NT
Often associating with the above species, recorded daily in mixed flocks in the Danum Valley.
253. Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus montanus*
Heard in the Crocker Range and a sensational pair seen beautifully after a bit of a struggle in the Danum Valley.
254. **Bornean Wren-Babbler** *Ptilocichla leucogrammica* T
This is what Bornean birding is all about! Thanks to Vivien's sharp ear we all enjoyed indescribably good looks at a pair of this most wonderful of Bornean endemics deep in the forests of the Danum Valley. Undoubtedly a serious contender for bird of the trip!!!!!!
255. Striped Wren-Babbler *Kenopia striata* NT
Seen superbly in the Danum Valley; also heard there and along the Mennagal River.
256. **Mountain Wren-Babbler** *Napothera crassa*
A group of four put on a great show one morning on Mt Kinabalu.
257. Rufous-fronted Babbler *Stachyridopsis rufifrons*
Heard most days in the Danum Valley where after a bit of a battle we finally saw one!
Although Judy was glad she didn't see it! NOTE: Formerly placed in *Stachyris*.
258. Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps*
A few seen in the Crocker Range and common on Mt Kinabalu.
259. Black-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigricollis* NT
A gorgeous couple of pairs seen superbly along the boardwalk in swamp forest near Abai Lodge..
260. Chestnut-rumped Babbler *Stachyris maculate* NT
This is a highly social babbler that is always highly responsive albeit relatively scarce, we had a fine sighting of a pair in the Danum Valley.

261. Chestnut-winged Babbler *Stachyris erythroptera*
One of the most common and conspicuous birds in the lowland rainforests of Borneo, its distinctive vocalisations were heard constantly and we had a great sighting of a pair at Sepilok.
262. **Bold Striped Tit-Babbler** *Macronous (gularis) bornensis*
Widespread and common throughout the lowlands. NOTE: Following the recent publication of the Handbook of Birds of the World the Bornean population of Striped Tit-Babbler *M. gularis*, from which it differs strikingly in both voice and appearance, is treated as a separate species.
263. Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler *Macronous ptilosus* **NT**
What a great name for a bird! Fantastic looks at four of these great birds along the Mennangal River.
264. White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis*
Another superb babbler seen very nicely from the canopy walkway at Poring.
265. Brown Fulvetta *Alcippe brunneicauda* **NT**
Just two seen in the Danum Valley.
266. Chestnut-crested Yuhina *Yuhina everetti*
One of the commonest birds at higher altitudes, we saw many large and mobile flocks in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
267. White-bellied Yuhina *Yuhina zantholeuca*
Seen several times with mixed flocks at Sepilok and in the Danum Valley. NOTE: DNA evidence now places this taxon in the genus *Erpornis*, seemingly without any close affinities with any other species.
268. Black-capped White-eye *Zosterops atricapillus*
Recorded daily in good numbers in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
269. Everett's White-eye *Zosterops everetti*
Two in the Crocker Range.
270. **Mountain Blackeye** *Chlorocharis emiliae*
At least 20 on Mt Kinabalu; a rather interesting looking endemic.
271. Asian Glossy Starling *Aplonis panayensis*
Very common around all the cities and towns we passed through - Kota Kinabalu, Kota Belud, Sandakan, and Lahad Datu.
272. Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*
ones and two seen and/or heard at Sepilok, Abai area and along the Mennagal River.
273. Crested Myna *Acridotheres cristatellus* **Introduced**
Several in the grounds of the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.

274. Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati*
Fine views of a female and then a pair with a mixed flock in the Danum Valley.
275. Lesser Green Leafbird *Chloropsis cyanopogon*
One female at Sepilok; a female at Goamantong and then several males and females most days in the Danum Valley.
276. **Bornean Leafbird** *Chloropsis kinabaluensis*
Fabulous views of four of these handsome birds in the Crocker Range. NOTE: The higher elevation of two subspecies of Blue-winged Leafbird that occur in Borneo has recently been split as a separate species.
277. Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus maculatus*
A smattering of great looking individuals in the Danum Valley.
278. Brown-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum everetti*
One of these very rare birds at Sepilok.
279. Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma*
Notably scarce with just ones and twos at Poring; Sepilok and in the Danum Valley.
280. **Black-sided Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum monticulum*
Superb looks at the handsome male both in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
281. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum*
Good looks at a male in the car park of our lovely Sandakan Hotel.
282. Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*
Several great looks at this lovely bird in the Danum Valley and at Abai.
283. Plain Sunbird *Anthreptes simplex*
Many sightings at Poring, Sepilok and in the Danum Valley.
284. Plain-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*
Seen feeding at a flowering tree in the grounds of the Tanjung Aru Beach resort; Kota Belud area; and at Abai Lodge.
285. Purple-naped Sunbird *Hypogramma hypogrammicum*
One at Abai Lodge and one male in the Danum Valley.
286. Copper-throated Sunbird *Leptocoma calcostetha*
Fantastic views of a male feeding at flowering plants at Abai Lodge. What a treat!
287. Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis*
Several in the Kota Belud area and around the Tanjung Aru Beach Resort.
288. Eastern Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*
Great looks at males at Abai Lodge.

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289. Temminck's Sunbird *Aethopyga temminckii*
Fabulous and multiple views of this diminutive but spectacular gem daily in the Crocker Range and on Mt Kinabalu.
290. Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra*
Ones and twos seen almost daily in the Danum Valley; also recorded at Poring and Sepilok.
291. Yellow-eared Spiderhunter *Arachnothera chrusogenys*
Two seen from the canopy walkway at Poring and Sepilok and several most days around BRL.
292. Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera affinis*
One in the Crocker Range and one in the Danum Valley.
293. **Whitehead's Spiderhunter *Arachnothera juliae***
This very scarce and outstanding endemic was sadly only heard and seen briefly in flight on Mt Kinabalu.
294. Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* **Introduced**
Recorded: Kota Kinabalu, Kota Belud, Ranau, Poring, Sandakan - where nesting in the eaves of the Chinese temple; and Abai Lodge.
295. **Dusky Munia *Lonchura fuscans***
Widespread and common except at the highest elevations visited.
296. Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*
Twenty in ricefields in the Kota Belud area.
297. Black-headed Munia *Lonchura malacca*
Common to abundant in the lowlands and hills in open areas.
298. Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*
Four in the Crocker Range and two at Mesilau in Kinabalu Park.

Borneo Pygmy Elephants playing as they bathe © K. David Bishop

MAMMALS

1. Lesser Gymnure *Hylomys suillus*
Mt Kinabalu.
2. Common Treeshrew *Tupaia glis*
Abai Lodge area.
3. **Mountain Treeshrew** *Tupaia montana*
Mt Kinabalu.
4. Lesser Treeshrew *Tupaia minor*
Poring, Abai Lodge area and Mennangal River.
5. Large Treeshrew *Tupaia tana*
Danum Valley
6. Malayan Colugo *Cynocephalus variegates*
A pair in the Danum Valley.
7. Large Fruit-Bat *Pteropus vampyrus*
Danum Valley.
8. Short-noed Fruit-Bat *Cyanopterus brachyotis*
Sepilok.
9. Bornean Horseshoe Bat sp
Poring.
10. Wrinkle-lipped Bat *Taderida plicata*
Thousands within and flying from the Goamantong Caves.

11. Sunda Slow Loris *Nycticebus coucang*
Danum Valley.
12. **Maroon Langur** *Presbytis rubicunda*
This very attractive primate was seen regularly in the Danum Valley.
13. Sundaic Silvered Langur *Presbytis cristata*
Common along the Kinabatangan River.
14. **Proboscis Monkey** *Nasalis larvatus*
One of the most remarkable mammals of Borneo, this strictly riparian species is very common on the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries we were treated to exceptional views of many groups.
15. Long-tailed (Crab-eating) Macaque *Macaca fascicularis*
Widespread.
16. Southern Pig-tailed Macaque *Macaca nemistrina*
Sepilok, Mennangal River, Danum Valley.
17. **Bornean Gibbon** *Hylobates muelleri*
A wonderfully charismatic animal whose calls are one of the most evocative sounds of the Bornean rainforests. Seen or heard daily at Sepilok and in the Danum Valley.
18. **Bornean Orang-Utan** *Pongo pygmaeus*
Owing to a fruit-drought we saw just one individual a superb adult female feeding very precariously over the entrance to the Goamantong Caves. This is just the first time in more than 20 trips to Danum Valley during which we have failed to encounter this species. It begs the question where do these large slow moving primates go and where do they go to?
NOTE: The Bornean population is now treated as a separate species from that in Sumatra.
19. Pale Giant Squirrel *Ratufa affinis*
Danum Valley.
20. Prevost's Squirrel *Callosciurus prevostii*
Widespread. This species is also quite common on Peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra but it differs markedly in pelage from the nearly all black Bornean race.
21. Plantain Squirrel *Callosciurus notatus*
Abai area and along the Mennangal Rive.
22. **Bornean Black-banded Squirrel** *Callosciurus orestes*
Crocker Range and Mt Kinabalu.
23. ? *Callosciurus atristriatus*
Individuals we originally named as Bornean Black-banded from the lowlands belong to a taxon whose identity is yet to be resolved by taxonomists but is most likely the species *atristriatus*. We saw one or two individuals in the patch of village mixed tree-crop and forest north of Kota Belud.

24. Horse-tailed Squirrel *Sundasciurus hippurus*
Very good views of this handsome species in the Danum Valley.
25. Low's Squirrel *Sundasciurus lowi*
Sepilok; Abai Lodge.
26. **Jentink's Squirrel** *Sundasciurus jentinki*
Mt Kinabalu.
27. **Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel** *Dremomys everetti*
Mt Kinabalu.
28. **Whitehead's Pygmy Squirrel** *Exilisciurus whiteheadi*
Two of these wonderful animals with those amazing ear tufts seen nicely on Mt Kinabalu.
29. **Plain Pygmy Squirrel** *Exilisciurus exilis*
Several seen in the Abai Lodge area and in the Danum Valley.
30. **Thomas's Flying Squirrel** *Aeromys thomasi*
Great looks at several individuals in the Danum Valley
31. Giant Red Flying-Squirrel *Petaurista petaurista*
Fantastic close views of two of these spectacular animals from the canopy walkway at Sepilok and several in the Danum Valley.
32. **Muller's Rat** *Sundamys muelleri*
Abai Lodge boardwalk.
33. Black Rat *Rattus norvegicus*
Goamantong Caves.
34. Common Pencil-tailed Tree-Mouse *Chiropodomys gilroides*
Danum Valley - the *coup de grace* on our fantastic night adventure!
35. Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula*
One brilliantly spotted by Judy.
36. Oriental Short-clawed Otter *Aonyx cinerea*
Danum Valley.
37. Malay Civet *Viverra zibetha*
One seen nicely along the road to BRL at night.
38. Common Palm Civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*
One at night in the Danum Valley.
39. Binturong *Arctictis binturong*
One seen rather poorly at night at Sepilok.
40. Small-toothed Palm Civet *Arctogalidia trivirgata*
Great looks at three in the forest midstorey, Danum Valley.

41. Banded Linsang *Prionodon linsang*
One of these rarely seen but gorgeous animals seen on the entrance track to BRL
42. Banded Palm Civet *Hemigalus derbyanus*
One of these gorgeous animals seen on the entrance track to BRL
43. **Bornean Pygmy Elephant** *Elaphas maximus borneensis*
A total of four including a stropky youngster as we drove into and out of BRL.
44. Bearded Pig *Sus barbatus*
Several along the Mennagal River and herd of ten one afternoon in the Danum Valley.
45. Greater Mouse Deer *Tragulus napu*
Exceptional views of one that stood in the middle of the entrance road to BRL, Danum Valley.

REPTILES

1. Estuarine or Saltwater Crocodile *Crocodylus porosus*
The Kinabatangan River and its tributaries.
2. Salvator's Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*
Rasa Ria Resort.
3. Tree Monitor *Varanus sp*
Danum Valley at night.
4. Comb-crested Lizard *Gonocephalus liogaster*
Danum Valley.
5. Green Crested Lizard *Bronchocela cristatella*
Danum Valley.
6. Fringe-winged Lizard
7. Garden Calotes
8. Ornate Lizard
9. House Gekko *Hemidactylus frenatus*
10. Reticulated Python
11. Vine or Whip Snake

BUTTERFLIES and MOTHS

Mottled Emmigrant	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i>
Grey Grass Tiger	<i>Ideopsis juvena</i>

Malayan Egg Fly	<i>Hypolimnias anomala</i>
Red Helen	<i>Papilio helenus</i>
Great Mormon	<i>Papilio memnon</i>
Common Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>
Blackie	<i>Orsotriaena medus</i>
Rajah Brooke's Birdwing	<i>Trogonoptera brookiana</i>
Common Birdwing	<i>Troides helena</i>
Green Dragonail	<i>Lamproptera meges</i>
Straight-lined Mapwing	<i>Cyrestis nivea</i>
Club Beak	<i>Libythea myrrha</i>
Blue Grass Tiger	<i>Ideopsis vulgaris</i>
Clipper	<i>Parthenos sylvia</i>
Tree Nymph	<i>Idea stollii</i>
Common Bush Brown	<i>Mycalesis janardana</i>
Common Four-ring	<i>Ypthima ceylonica</i>
Common Three-ring	<i>Ypthima pandocus</i>
Common Lancer	<i>Neptis duryodana</i>
Common Tiger	<i>Anosia genutia</i>
Cruiser	<i>Vindula dejone</i>
Island Rustic	<i>Cupha arias</i>
Lemon Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pomona</i>
Striped Blue Crow	<i>Euploea mulciber</i>
Grey Pansey	<i>Junonia atlites</i>