

BORNEO | SABAH

Orang-utans & Bristleheads

Wed 4th – Wed 18th July 2018



(Photos, clockwise from top left): The glorious **Golden-naped Barbet** seen on our first morning at Tambunan • Even more so was this brilliant **Black-crowned Pitta** at Sepilok • A dinky **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** found with its mate at Poring Hot Springs • We gained really good views of **Bornean Green Magpie** on Mt Kinabalu • Super scarlet **Whitehead's Trogon** on Mt Kinabalu – one of five seen! • The weird and bristly **Sunda Frogmouth** at Danum valley © Brian Small, Limosa - except the frogmouth © Lee Kok Chung

report compiled by tour leader: **Brian Small**

BORNEO | Orang-utans & Bristleheads**Tour Leaders: Lee Kok Chung & Brian Small****Summary**

With over 15 wild Orang-utans, many Proboscis Monkeys and even a brief Binturong our July 2018 tour to Northern Borneo was undoubtedly marvellous for mammals, but the birds were simply sensational! Endemics seen include Bornean Bristlehead, both Whitehead's Trogon and Broadbill, Crimson-headed Partridges and even Bornean Ground Cuckoo in the mangroves at Kinabatangan.

Starting with a bang, virtually the first bird seen on the tour was the vivid green Whitehead's Broadbill close to the road at Tambunan in Borneo's Crocker Range, and our visit here also gave us chattering flocks of Chestnut-headed Yuhina, Bornean and Mountain Barbets, Bornean Bulbul and Bornean Leafbird, which are often difficult to see elsewhere. At Kinabalu National Park, we had three whole days to seek out higher elevation endemics such as Crimson-headed and Red-breasted Partridges, Bornean Forktail, Bornean Whistling Thrush, Mountain Blackeye and the fabulous Whitehead's Trogon, amongst many others.

Moving on to lower elevations, at Sepilok we saw our first Orang-utan (wild and not part of the rehabilitation program) and first two pittas: the local race of Hooded and amazing close views of a pair of Black-crowned plus Bornean Bristlehead! At Kinabatangan, Storm's Stork, Rhinoceros Hornbills, White-fronted Falconet and the seldom seen Bornean Ground Cuckoo were among a long list of highlights – with more wild Orang-utans including one in the camp!

We completed our tour at the excellent Borneo Rainforest Lodge, deep within the rainforest in the Danum Valley Conservation Area - one of the world's oldest and richest lowland rainforests. The towering trees contain a huge biodiversity and we immersed ourselves into the birds, butterflies and dragonflies. Birding highlights include both Blue-headed and Bornean Banded Pittas, White-crested starred amongst seven species of hornbill; bewildering babblers included the furtive and endemic Bornean and Black-throated Wren-Babblers. Endemic races of Jay-shrike (Crested Jay), Banded Kingfisher and Brown Wood Owl – all set for elevation to species level – were all seen well.

Trip Diary**Wednesday 04/7 & Thursday 05/7**

The evening flight to KL 'happened' in a bit of a sleepless blur - a few films watched and broken sleep gained – before we landed at KLIA. We had a couple of hours between flights but entertained ourselves with buying currency and watching for birds. A handful of species we would not see in Borneo would be Germain's Swiftlet, Black-naped Oriole, House and Large-billed Crow. A little delayed, we eventually arrived at Kota Kinabalu, met by the inimitable Mr Lee and Francis – who was helping for the first part of the tour, and finally got to bed.

Friday 06/7

Having 'napped', we arose early for a 05:00hrs depart from our hotel in KK. Picnic breakfasts were consumed as we wound up the roads of the Crocker Mountains to Tambunan, where we stopped outside the Rafflesian Garden Centre. It was light enough to see and we began to pick out Pacific Swallow and Plume-toed Swiftlets as they buzzed up and down the road. However, they did not compare with the excitement of the first bird seen in the trees: a slight movement drew our eyes to the incredible emerald-green form of a Whitehead's Broadbill, right by the road and at eye level!! Having missed this last year this was an amazing start, though it was not going to hang around for long. Most got pretty good views, before it moved a little higher into the canopy and a little later Lee found it on the other side of the road.

We spent our time here moving along a 1km stretch of road seeing several other endemics: active and chatty parties of Chestnut-crested Yuhinas swept through; Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrushes skulked about the vines and were joined by larger Sunda Laughingthrushes; a couple of Bornean Treepies and stunning scarlet male Temminck's Sunbird showed well. With a little persistence we all got views of calling Mountain Barbets – a species tough to see elsewhere – and the same could be said of Bornean Leafbirds that appeared at the same location. Despite our very best efforts, Bornean Barbet could not be found here...

Added to the mix came crested Bornean Bulbuls, Grey-chinned Minivets (including a couple of fiery orange males), parties of Black-capped White-eyes (plus one briefly seen Pygmy White-eye/Heleia), but good looks at the very mobile Bornean Flowerpeckers would come a little later. A Whitehead's Spiderhunter that called and flew across the road was seen only by the leaders and was sadly the closest we got to views for the group. We bided our time here in the hope that the broadbill would re-appear as the light got better, or the spiderhunter or barbet would show, but settled for a superb list of other species: Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, Bornean Whistler, Ashy and Bornean Hair-crested Drongos, White-throated Fantail, Little Cuckoo Dove, Grey-rumped Treeswift, and a couple of richly coloured Ochraceous (Penan) Bulbuls. Eventually and having had an early breakfast we drove to a restaurant for lunch.

Following our rice or noodles we watched the nesting swiftlets on the side of the restaurant as well as House Swifts and a pair of Blyth's Hawk Eagles above, then strolled for a while, seeing a small party of Dusky Munias in the seeding grasses by the road. An endemic Kinabalu Bluebottle butterfly flew about and settled on the ground, too. Up a side road two Pale-faced Bulbuls appeared and promptly disappeared – only to be replaced by Yellow-vented (!), but we managed cracking views of Bornean Flowerpeckers and even better views of Golden-naped Barbet – posing nicely for the photographers.

Having descended a little in the early afternoon we arrived at the Mahua Waterfalls then spent most of our time trying to get views of barbets. More Penan Bulbuls were found in the roadside trees, but we eventually discovered a fruiting tree that was attracting birds: with patience we sorted through these and were able to see huge-billed Golden-whiskered, Red-throated, Mountain and finally at least two Bornean Barbets – one adult showing especially well through the 'scope. With the key species in the bag, we continued east to the Kinabalu Pine Resort at Kundasang on the lower slopes of Mount Kinabalu, where we checked in, took our bags to our rooms – a little breathlessly – and had a fine evening meal.

Saturday 07/7

The routine for the next three mornings was set, with an early breakfast before it got light – though the rain overnight meant the summit of Mount Kinabalu was shrouded in cloud – but the winds, a result of a storm passing to our north, seemed a little worrying. After a relatively short drive through the town's vegetable market, we arrived at the Kinabalu National Park just as it got light. We spent a lot of the morning walking the first two kilometres of the road, seeing several Eyebrowed Jungle Flycatchers (now sometimes called 'Bornean Shade-dweller') and a stunning Bornean Forktail came out onto the road before chasing off up the slope, calling as it went. Roadside Temminck's and Grey-throated Babblers, several Bornean Whistlers, Indigo Flycatchers and more Bornean Treepies were also seen. Some managed views of Crimson-headed Partridge, whilst others made do with hearing them and also Red-breasted. Down a small and dark gully, we could hear a singing Bornean Shortwing, and eventually most saw it as perched on a small culvert below us.

As we walked past the accommodation blocks, seeing more Black-capped White-eyes and Temminck's Sunbirds, Lee got a call from Francis that he had found a Whitehead's Trogon. A brisk 'walk' uphill in pursuit and suddenly there it was, an incredible male - scarlet-headed and grey-chested - and pretty close too in the roadside trees – well worth the sprint!! As we watched, a female appeared too and we enjoyed them for quite a while as they moved through the trees, before they disappeared – how can anything so bright hide in this habitat? Anyway, we were well pleased with that and continued uphill, picking up a couple of endemic Mountain Wren-Babblers – found by Colin; then at the top of the Silau Silau trail entrance we gained cracking views of a calling Bornean Stubtail on the ground just below us. Common birds seen all morning included Mountain Leaf Warblers (a little variable with a few more richly yellow below than the typical paler birds and probably age-related), Yellow-breasted Warbler (whose name does little to prepare you for this chestnut-crowned gem of a bird), Bornean Whistler, Chestnut-hooded and Sunda Laughingthrushes, Chestnut-crested Yuhina and White-throated Fantails.

To end the morning we drove up to the Timpohon gate, where we walked for a while, seeing interesting butterflies - including (as last year) Bornean Birdwings but also several unidentified ones. The wind was rather brisk up here and the local swiftlets hard to see, though we managed to find at least two that glossed green and had the sharply demarcated division between the dark throat and white belly that looks good as a feature. Here we also saw Golden-naped Barbet, Little Pied Flycatchers, a couple of Yellow-bellied Warblers (not really warblers) and below us another two Pale-faced Bulbuls for those that missed them yesterday.

We had a lovely lunch in a local restaurant just outside the park, before heading back to the hotel for a siesta or walk about the hotel grounds – with Paul finding Ashy Tailorbird, then it was back up onto the mountain late afternoon. Strolling the road, we managed to find our only Sunda Cuckooshrike of the trip and during a very busy

spell, when a flock moved through the canopy, had cracking views of Bornean Green Magpie, three Bare-headed Laughingthrushes alongside the commoner two laughingthrush species.

Sunday 08/7

Another breezy day as the storm continued to push through the Philippines, but early cloud cleared to a sunny day with a shower in the afternoon. The day more or less followed the same pattern as yesterday, with birding on the lower slopes around km 2 and km 3, continuing to pick up new species and to search for targets.

In the morning we picked up a Bornean Shortwing on the drive up and had super views of two Bornean Whistling Thrushes plus a Sunda Cuckoo, calling like a Hoopoe it was initially hidden but with manoeuvring we had good looks. A male Blyth's Shrike-babbler was also seen well. Back up at the Timpothon gate we had close views of Golden-naped Barbet, Little Pied Flycatcher – a dappled young male, a nesting Bornean Swiftlet, a pair of Sunda Bush Warblers displaying close to the group, a party of Chestnut-crested Yuhinas that came and fed on moths by the lights, and both an adult and immature Bornean Whistling Thrush; but these were bettered by views of a couple of Mountain Blackeyes. For the rest of the morning we took the undulating Mempoening Trail through the trees, but in truth we did not see as much as we had hoped – such is forest birding. We got cracking views of a Crimson-headed Partridge that circled us and Mountain Imperial Pigeon, but by and large it was a nice walk unspoilt by birds...

After lunch, during which we had superb views of a Bornean Birdwing, and a siesta, during which Paul again found a good bird in the form of a black-headed Long-tailed Shrike, we returned to the hill. We stopped low down and fairly quickly could hear a party of Red-breasted Partridge. With classic perseverance by Lee, we stood along the boarded path, looking down into the vegetation and eventually gained some excellent views of at least four. In the leaves by the road we also had a nice view of an Emerald Dove that atypically stayed put, allowing photographs, but the light was poor... Another ace bird seen today was an Orange-headed Thrush that showed in the last light of the day.

Monday 09/7

A warm and sunny morning gave us our best views of Mt Kinabalu and the wind had dropped significantly, so we rang the changes with a visit to Poring Hot Spring – a drop down to 500m in altitude. It was a good move as it gave us a chance to explore a different habitat and also a range of new species. En route was a Great Egret, but on entering the park we quickly picked up the first of several bulbuls: Black-headed were the most numerous, and we also saw Yellow-vented, Olive-winged and Asian Red-eyed plus a single Spectacled – later we were to see the very smart Scaly-breasted near the butterfly park.

We stood for some time watching the flowers in front of smart houses, with both Spectacled and Yellow-eared Spiderhunters coming in to sip the nectar; whilst a Bornean Spiderhunter was less cooperative. A Red-bearded Bee-eater could be heard high in the trees and it was Colin that won the prize and found it for us – great through the 'scopes! A brilliant Crimson Sunbird flew in and we also saw Ashy Tailorbirds and Orange-bellied Flower-peckers, plus a good variety of barbets. A Violet Cuckoo flew over calling and was called in by Lee. In the stand of bamboo we again picked up Yellow-bellied Warbler, but were drawn by the song of a Fulvous-chested Jungle Flycatcher, which we eventually found. A very smart Black-capped Babbler was found on the ground – the form here very possibly a different species. Three further species of sunbird included Ruby-cheeked, Plain and Brown-throated as well as Lesser Green Leafbirds.

We walked the Waterfall trail, past the bathing pools, where we saw several interesting species – both birds and butterflies: of the former we found a Yellow-crowned Barbet inspecting a hole; two Buff-rumped Woodpeckers came in very close; then more Green lorises. Of the latter we saw both Bornean and Common Birdwings plus several stunning Rajah Brooke's Birdwings and huge Great Mormon. Along the trail we saw White-crowned Shama, Moustached and Grey-headed Babblers, plus a fine Banded Broadbill – one of the birds of the trip for some. As we reached the Kipunyt Waterfall we could hear the call of a male Rufous-collared Kingfisher and once again Lee called it in and we gained great views overhead before it headed off into the trees. We headed back to the vehicles and then had some splendid views of Black-and-yellow Broadbill near the car park.

Lunch was taken near the park entrance, then as we drove back to the hotel, we stopped for a visit to see a 'day-5' Rafflesia – the optimum day for these huge flowers – as well as huge Rhinoceros Beetles and some very hungry Catfish! Back at the resort, we had a brief rest and cool down – it had been hot at Poring – then entered the Mt Kinabalu Park again. It was cloudy and cool this afternoon and we parked near the entrance and walked, again seeing the regulars of Indigo Flycatcher, Bornean Whistler, Yellow-breasted Warbler, etc., but new was the Mountain Tailorbird (not really a tailorbird) with Temminck's Babbler at the same spot. Try as hard as we might we could still not find Whitehead's Spiderhunter.

Tuesday 10/7

After our last night at the Pine Resort we visited Mt Kinabalu for the last time, with two hours along the road and Bukit Ular trail. The weather had changed with breezy and misty conditions with light rain coming and going. On the road at the base of the trail we were really pleased to come across three Whitehead's Trogon – two calling males and a female that showed very nicely. The trail was a little muddy in places and we scrambled round a couple of fallen trees, but stopped regularly to check the leaf-littered trail.

Bornean Stubtails called at regular intervals and a few overhead flocks included Mountain Barbet, but the clouds and light drizzle that came and went precluded seeing too much. With time pressing on, we called it a day and headed back – the large thrush that Lee glimpsed on the path was almost certainly Everett's but in waiting we saw and heard nothing. Before departing, once more we tried around the hotel for a final chance of the Pygmy White-eye - seen and heard the previous day - and were very pleased to find them. Then it was time to go, heading south to Sepilok with lunch at Telupid en route.

We arrived at the hotel at 15:30hrs – picking up many Collared Kingfishers en route - and having checked in and dumped our stuff had an eventful late afternoon walk about the hotel grounds. Black Hornbill was good to see, as were Zebra Doves and Little Green Pigeon; we saw a juvenile Violet Cuckoo being fed by a female sunbird and our first Rufous-tailed Tailorbirds and Brahminy Kite. An Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher zapped by and at the other end of the kingfisher scale was a Stork-billed; Blue-throated Bee-eaters and Oriental Pied Hornbills added to the list as did Banded and Maroon Woodpecker – the latter as flighty as ever! The list kept growing with Blue-rumped and Blue-crowned Hanging Parrots and Long-tailed Parakeets plus a male Asian Fairy-bluebird, but these were perhaps eclipsed by the Hooded Pittas that showed brilliantly.

An evening walk was eventful, though we only heard Oriental Bay Owl (again) we did manage to see a roosting Red-legged Crake at very close range.

Wednesday 11/7

A hot and humid morning dawned and as Lee had arranged an early visit to the Rainforest Development Centre (RDC) we went out before breakfast this morning. With rumbling tummies we pulled into the car park for a busy couple of hours' birding. Common Hill Mynas perched in a tree and Green Imperial Pigeons flew over as we entered the park. The lake was calm and swarming above it were many swiftlets and our first Silver-rumped Spinetails; a Blue-eared Kingfisher was found perched just above the water. In the trees behind us, we saw our first richly coloured Black-and-red Broadbills with their bright turquoise beaks, whilst in trees above the lake we were very lucky and extremely excited to see an Orang-utan as it casually moved through the huge trees. We watched for some time through the 'scopes before it was lost.

We took the next section of trails fairly nippily – Lee was on a mission – though we stopped to watch Diard's Trogon (it would have been rude not to!), Buff-necked Woodpecker and a handful of bulbuls including Streaked and Buff-vented just over the track. Fairly soon we came to 'a certain spot', where plenty of large leaves had fallen to the ground and a tree lay across the track. Taking our positions, Lee whistled the call and an immediate response came as first one then another Black-crowned Pitta popped onto the log and sat and posed nicely. One of them began to feed amongst the large leaves and came ever closer, and closer, and closer, until it was almost too close to breathe without worrying you would disturb it. Cameras clicked and we watched in awe for 30 minutes, before both birds eventually moved off. A-MAZ-ING! Again plentiful butterflies and other insects were studied as we strolled along – with treenympths floating above the trail.

On the Canopy walkway we watched a Wallace's Hawk-Eagle at its nest and another Brahminy Kite cruised across; both Blue-rumped and Long-tailed Parakeets noisily darted over in small flocks; two or three Dollarbirds glowed in the sun and our first Wrinkled Hornbill also flew across (Rhinoceros Hornbill was only heard). Our first Greater Green Leafbird, Yellow-vented Flowerpecker and chattering Purple-naped Spiderhunter/Sunbirds were also seen at the RDC, and we gained cracking views of a close Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher (joined by a second bird briefly). Perhaps even better, and again with great patience, were views of two Bornean Bristleheads. Initially heard calling, Lee tracked them down to where they sat in a tree; we watched them through a small window with the aid of 'scopes – what a morning it had been!

Back at the hotel we had our late breakfast – interrupted by Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and Rufous Piculet, packed and departed for the Gomantong caves a short distance away. Having parked, paid for camera permits and been shown the different types of nests for the four species of swiftlet nesting in the cave, we walked swiftly along the boardwalk to the site. The limestone cave itself has a large entrance and the floor is carpeted with bat 'guano' and other creatures that crawl about... luckily you are on a walkway, but still it is not for the fainthearted. Just before entering we were sidetracked by an Orang-utan sat above a dragonfly-adorned stream.

Having completed the circuit (well most of us did), enjoying the various swiftlets and insect life of the cave and a Crested Serpent Eagle that came into the entrance and caught a swiftlet, we exited and were immediately distracted by a female Orang-utan with a very small youngster clinging to her back. She was so close that we actually had to move back!

On the return walk, the trees were busy with Red Leaf Monkeys and a mottled yellow snake was discovered – and later identified as Dog-toothed Cat Snake – as a variety of birds mobbed it. These included Malaysian Blue Flycatcher, three new species of babbler – Sooty-capped, Scaly-crowned and Rufous-crowned, as well as Black-naped Monarch. Just along the track was a fine male Rufous-chested Flycatcher.

Lunch was taken at an Indian restaurant, a nice change, and we picked up several White-breasted Woodswallows and a Striated Grassbird en route then arrived at Sukau for our crossing of the Kinabatangan River mid afternoon. Having visited our rooms, and also seen a dirty green Bornean Colugo perched in the open on a tree, we took the opportunity to make our first boat ride heading upriver a short distance: Crested Goshawk and two White-bellied Sea Eagles we picked up fairly quickly; Black, Bushy-crested and Wrinkled Hornbills; and many Slender-billed Crows with their odd flight action. However, perhaps the most-desired bird was Storm's Stork and – especially for Paul – we found one late in the day – a bit of a relief.

Thursday 12/7

With three boat rides planned on the Kinabatangan River, we had a quick '1st breakfast' coffee and toast, then headed out up a tributary almost across from the camp. Taking things slowly, we had an enjoyable two hours peacefully cruising along taking in the new birds as they came along. White-chested Babblers, Little Green Pigeons and fly-over Long-tailed Parakeets came first. Many Proboscis Monkeys adorned the trees – some males spent time hacking about the trees – and we found Banded Bay Cuckoos, a couple of Grey-and-buff Woodpeckers and a male Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker.

Returning for 2nd breakfast, with the sun now out fully it was certainly warm, and then it was off again – this time heading downstream. Maybe because of the sun, the rest of the morning was relatively quiet. Up a quiet tributary Lee tried for Bornean Ground Cuckoo, without any joy, but we all saw richly coloured Fluffy-backed Tit-Babblers instead. Back on the main river, we found various species of hornbill, with many Oriental Pied, Black and parties of Bushy-crested, but also our first Wreathed and yet more Wrinkled. Amongst a flock of various swiftlets over distant palms, we found at least four Brown-backed Needletails; finally, as we headed back to camp, we picked up Wallace's Hawk-Eagle and White-bellied Sea Eagles and both Lesser Adjutant and five Storm's Storks.

Our last boat trip of the day took us upriver late afternoon and we were pleased to finally see Rhinoceros Hornbill, initially perched it flew right over our heads – with photos revealing that it was carrying a flying lizard! A very pale immature hawk-eagle was identified as a juvenile Wallace's; four woodpeckers that came across the river were Buff-necked; and we also saw a Rufous; a bare tree held at least three Common Hill Mynas and another held a party of green pigeons – the first that flew in were Cinnamon-headed, but there were also Pink-headed and Little. On our return we again saw several Storm's Storks – perhaps five – with a pair showing well in dead tree.

After dinner we headed out for a bit of a walk round the camp. Initially we let the eagle-eyed Lee go off on his own and he returned very shortly after having found a Large Frogmouth. Following him we gained super views over our heads with a Reddish Scops Owl calling in the distance, though the ground was muddy underfoot.

Friday 13/7

A hot and sunny morning greeted us as we set off after 1st breakfast. Heading up river we had a very irritating itch to scratch and so it was that we eventually heard – after several tries up narrow creeks – the low resonant call of a Bornean Ground Cuckoo! It was not too far from the edge of the trees and we manoeuvred ourselves for the next 30 minutes in an attempt to get any kind of view of where it was calling from, but to no avail. Over that period of time it did not seem to move, so we eventually took the boats over the river towards it and gently ran ashore within c. 10 m from where it was. It was Lee who first saw it perched in a tree with its tail pumping as it called; however, it was only visible from his boat. Some jumped from one boat to the other as it dropped to the ground. It never showed well, but we did at least get looks that we could piece together. As we watched, another started to call from across the river, but having dallied for longer than we should, we left.

Our time at Kinabatangan was not quite over as the boats took one last look up a side creek and managed to see two endemic White-fronted Falconets. We had stayed just the right amount of time and were ready to move on, so following breakfast and transport across the river we loaded the bus and headed to Lahad Datu for lunch and registration for entry to Danum Valley.

The drive to the Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL) at Danum Valley was relatively speedy, but we had to make one stop for the facilities, then another for a fallen tree blocking the road. A family party of six Oriental Small-clawed Otters crossed the road ahead of the lead vehicle. However, a 'brief' stop for a Whiskered Treeswift turned out to be a lot longer as we decided to bird the road ahead of a heavy shower. Several new species for us included Black-bellied Malkoha, eight Blue-rumped Parrots in flight, a silky white Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher, male Red-throated Sunbird, two Hairy-backed Bulbuls, and a juvenile Little Bronze Cuckoo. However, in many ways the best birds were the five Dusky Broadbills that fed in tall trees along the road - oddly comical, with broad pink-red bills. After over an hour we pressed on and indeed the rains fell.

Arriving in the camp, we settled in our rooms, ate dinner, then had a short night drive during which we saw a lovely rufous morph Bornean Colugo but not much else – though the roosting Yellow-bellied Prinia on the end of a grass stem seemed odd! Later we learned that Pauline had seen a male Bornean Crested Fireback at dusk, so a plan was laid for tomorrow...

Saturday 14/7

Setting out after an early breakfast we had plans of walking the main track. Close to the dragonfly ponds we picked up a couple of Horsfield's Babblers (on what would be a bit of a 'babbler day, with 13 species seen!) and small flock of Brown Fulvettas. A Bornean Blue Flycatcher sang, but did not respond to the briefly played tape, then Lee played Giant Pitta and from deep in the woods there seemed to be a response... Taking a trail towards where we could hear the bird, sadly whatever it was calling had stopped, though we found a Black-capped Babbler on the ground. On the river we picked up an immature Blue-banded Kingfisher resting on stones in the riverbed – an odd bird with an almost white rump. Yet another Orang-utan was found in the trees just above the trail as we headed back to the drive.

Back on the main track, we continued our walk, we picked up a couple each of Yellow-bellied and Hairy-backed Bulbuls, but then a deep resonant call from the forest brought back memories of Kinabatangan – a Bornean Ground Cuckoo. A decision made, we headed up the Hornbill Trail, hoping for better views of this species. The sound became louder and then another answered, but as hard as we tried, we could not see it. Red Leaf Monkeys performed overhead and close to the ground we had close views of Striped Wren-Babbler – with another Black-capped – we would end up seeing 14 species of babbler at Danum today!!

Along the trail we saw several new species: Bold-striped Tit-Babbler was good, but the two key endemics were much more difficult, but in the end seen fairly well. Two Bornean Wren-Babblers called about the track and circled us, giving brief views; over time we all managed nice looks. At the same location Lee also heard a Black-throated Wren-Babbler and soon located it; again, it stayed deep in the understorey but showed eventually. However, these were to be overshadowed for bird of the morning when a Blue-headed Pitta began to call; with us all lined up with views of the open trail ahead, slowly it came closer and soon was seen down the slope. Patiently we kept still and paid off when it popped onto the trail and showed very nicely; as ever, it did not hang around for long, but we were really pleased with things! A Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler was found in its favourite habitat – dense vines halfway up a thick tree trunk.

As we emerged back onto the main trail the very scarce Short-toed Coucal started to call, but this is an elusive species and indeed did not show. Reluctantly, we started to head back to the lodge and as we walked we found Lesser Green Leafbirds, Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker, Wreathed Hornbills and a pair of Black-naped Monarchs at their nest above the track. Rhinoceros Hornbill and Helmeted Hornbill frustratingly were heard only.

After lunch, some took a brief siesta whilst others wandered about the camp taking photos and getting a feel for the forest. A Lesser Fish Eagle flew along the river and Paul found Straw-headed Bulbul and at the beginning of the Coffin Trail a good flock was noted and so once the group had gathered mid afternoon this is where we headed. Before reaching the footbridge we found another white Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher and a Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher, but then spent the next hour hanging around the base of the trails checking through the various species. Chestnut-winged, Chestnut-rumped, Rufous-fronted and Rufous-crowned Babblers, Rufous Piculet, Maroon-breasted Philentoma, a couple of Spotted Fantails and White-crowned Forktail were all seen. However, a Bornean Banded Kingfisher gave us the run around and we just could not see it. On our way back we took a slight diversion and the fireback was seen again.

Later, after dinner, we all ventured out for a successful owling session, during which Lee's and Azmil's skills produced great views of a Bornean Brown Wood Owl near the bridge again and a couple of very smart Malay Civets behind the staff quarters. Another highlight of the walk was the totally splendid Bornean Horned Frog *Megophrys nasuta* found by Azmil in the leaf litter.

Sunday 15/7

A misty early morning cleared to a bright, sunny and hot morning. Along the main track we saw four White-crowned Hornbills and a couple of Rhinoceros Hornbills, Red-bearded Bee-eater, a party of Large Woodshrikes and distant Fiery Minivets and several Raffles's Malkoha. Jay-shrike (Crested Jay) was heard only.

With a mind to finding one or two key species, we were driven a few kilometres along the main track to close to the gate, where we slowly walked the Border/Trogon Trail. Before we even got onto the track a Bornean Banded Kingfisher started to call, but this time we were able to get views of this distinct black masked (sub-) species. Along the trail three species of pitta were targeted, but we were to return pitta-less... Not all was lost and we had views of Maroon and Buff-rumped Woodpeckers, several Dark-throated Orioles, Scaly-crowned Babblers, another Spotted Fantail and White-crowned Forktail and as we returned a singing Bornean Blue Flycatcher alerted us to its presence, but we only found a female (or maybe an immature young male).

In the afternoon, the main track was walked as far as the beginning of the canopy walkway. En route Wallace's Hawk-Eagle was seen well; feeding in a fruiting tree, six Thick-billed Green Pigeons, Puff-backed and Black-and-white Bulbuls, Thick-billed Flowerpecker and Yellow-crowned Barbets were seen. More Rhinoceros Hornbills, and Black-and red Broadbill were also found. After dinner we again went out, this time for a short night walk, but we did not really need to walk far as we saw Sambar and then a fine Buffy Fish Owl on the river by the lodge. Out by the pond we saw a good array of frogs, a tarantula and a Red-sided Keelback snake.

Monday 16/7

Our last whole day at BRL and Danum Valley was very warm and humid. With the aid of the truck we birded the canopy walkway, park ranger's house and the trail at the park entrance. Gaps on our checklist were few but significant and we were quite keen to fill them. Before we left we again saw the Plaintive Cuckoo and a small party of Bold-striped Tit-Babblers in the lodge grounds.

The main track and canopy walkway were enjoyed and we watched a variety of species at eye level: a smart Short-tailed Babbler, Raffles's and Black-bellied Malkoha; a Scarlet-rumped Trogon was briefly seen; more Bushy-crested Hornbills; a couple of Wrinkled Hornbills; red-legged Brown Barbets; a couple of distant White-fronted Falconets; Green Ioras and Fiery Minivets – opposites on the colour chart; plus Cream-vented Bulbuls and a Bronzed Drongo. Just as we were descending from the walkway, a Jay-shrike could be heard and with some determination we finally gained views of three of these incredibly elusive birds.

At the ranger's house we saw a couple of Greater Coucals and huge Rhinoceros Beetles, but as it was quiet here (apart from the calling Bornean Gibbons, which we just could not see), we headed back to the Border Trail for a final look for pittas. Walking the trail – not quite as far as yesterday, we were focusing on Blue-banded Pitta in a section of forest when a female Bornean Banded Pitta appeared – apparently inquisitive about the other species' call. Even though it was 'just' a female, it was still really superb! A Helmeted Hornbill started up in a tree not too deep in the forest, but again we failed to see it – this was becoming ridiculous... Azmil walked alone ahead of the group and managed to hear a Blue-banded Pitta; as we gathered in the clearing, we were again unlucky. As we came back down the trail a Green Broadbill was heard calling; despite waiting, it did not show.

In the afternoon, we again walked the main track as far as the beginning of the canopy walkway and again Helmeted Hornbill was heard. We saw a Thick-billed Green Pigeon, another Black-bellied Malkoha, but the most unusual thing seen was only seen by a few, as a Binturong (Bearcat) was discovered by Azmil lazing in a distant tree. We returned a little earlier in preparation for an early dinner and final night drive.

The night drive was fun and highlighted by two Buffy Fish Owls near the ranger's house, where there was also a Common Palm Civet, but best of all was a calling Sunda Frogmouth – a pale bird with very odd-looking long whiskers.

Tuesday 17/7

Our last day of birding began after breakfast, with the settling of bills and saying cheerio to our great local guides, before we set off back to Lahad Datu and our late-morning flight to Kota Kinabalu. As the Helmeted Hornbill itch was still in need of scratching we stopped along the dirt track at a superb viewing area and spent c. 30 minutes looking and listening. Maybe three birds were calling and after a while two flew briefly into a tall tree, but just as quickly out again. Despite our slight disappointment at them not hanging around, we did see plenty of other birds here: a flock of c. 20 Large Green Pigeons, perched Blue-crowned Hanging Parrots, Common Hill Myna, a couple of male Van Hasseldt's and Ruby-cheeked Sunbirds, as well as Thick-billed, Yellow-breasted and Yellow-rumped Flowerpeckers.

Time was not on our side, so with a flight to catch we pressed on. At Lahad Datu airfield we saw our first Paddyfield Pipits of the tour, with several feeding on the grassy fringes to the runway, five Chestnut Munias and a few White-breasted Woodswallows sat about bushes or even on the runway. We landed at Kota Kinabalu promptly and went to lunch locally, before heading to the beach. Here we watched a couple of noisy Blue-naped Parrots, several Common loras, a Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker seemingly excavating a hole and a female Pied Triller. Amongst the trees in the city centre we had cracking views of two roosting adult Nankeen Night Herons, then drove through the city to an area of fishponds. A busy 20 minutes included fair numbers of Wandering Whistling Ducks, plenty of egrets including our only Intermediates of the tour, Barn Swallows within flocks of Pacific Swallows, White-breasted Waterhens, Common Sandpipers, but best of all – and totally off the radar – was a Sacred Kingfisher – unusual so far north in Borneo.

We took one final drive out to the west of the city, where on the beach we found Little Terns, and six dark-rumped *variegatus* Whimbrel then returned to KK airport, checked in and said our farewells and huge thanks to Lee. What a leader and what a trip!

I sincerely thank you all for your great company and interest in virtually everything that moved.

Brian Small

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED (*n*=271)

Red-breasted [Bornean] Partridge *Arborophila hyperythra* - E

Seen and heard on two dates on Mt Kinabalu, often quite elusive in leaf litter beside the road we had good views on 08/7

Chestnut-necklaced Partridge *Arborophila charltonii*

Seen or heard on six dates, we were pleased to finally get views along the Hornbill Trail at Danum, 14/7

Crimson-headed Partridge *Haematortyx sanguiniceps* - E

We got looks at this at Mt Kinabalu, on 07/7 and 08/7, with first views along the Mempening Trail, 07/7

Bornean Crested Fireback *Lophura [ignita] nobilis*

Seen only at BRL, a single male that came to roost on a couple of evenings. A likely split...

Great Argus *Argusianus argus*

Heard only on two dates at BRL

Wandering Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

At least 10 adults and several ducklings were seen on fishponds at KK on 17/7

Storm's Stork *Ciconia stormi*

With only c. 350 individuals estimated to exist we felt lucky to see a single on our first evening at Kinabatangan, 11/7; 10 were noted the next day, including several in flight

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

A couple seen on two dates at Kinabatangan

Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Two lovely rufous adults were seen in the centre of KK at their daytime roost, 17/7

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*

Noted in lowland areas on five dates and in low numbers

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

One seen at KK fishponds and coming to roost at the airport on 17/7

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea manilensis*

Seen on four dates, most frequently at Kinabatangan as they flew to roost but also some nice views of richly coloured perched birds

Great Egret *Ardea alba modesta*

The majority seen were roadside singletons, but several were seen each day at Kinabatangan

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Just two seen at the fishponds at KK, 17/7

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Seen on three days in low numbers

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

Singles at the Rainforest Development Centre (RDC), 11/7; up to five at Kinabatangan on the next two days

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Up to three on three dates in lowland areas around palm plantations

Blyth's Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus alboniger*

Only one pair was seen this year, showing well above and perched in trees on a hillside at the restaurant in the Crocker Range, 06/7

Wallace's Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus nanus*

Noted on five days from one at a nest at Sepilok – 11/7; up to three seen daily from the Kinabatangan to Danum over the next few days

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malaiensis*

Singles on three dates, with the best being an adult at Poring on 09/7

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*

Just one at Kinabatangan on 11/7

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

Ones or twos on five dates, with the first at Sepilok, 10/7

White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Seen on five dates; our first an immature at Sepilok and our best views being along the Kinabatangan River

Lesser Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus humilis*

Most likely the same bird flew along the river at BRL on four days

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

One along the Kinabatangan, 11/7, then several at KK fishponds, 17/7

Red-legged Crake *Rallina fasciata*

One was spotlit at Sepilok on our night walk, 10/7

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons sinensis*

Several off 17/7, then a few landing on the airfield whilst we waited to catch the flight to KL

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus variegatus*

Six were seen on a rocky island then flew to a beach nearby at KK, 17/7; this race is notable for the barred rump and very limited (almost non-existent) white on the back

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

A single at KK fishponds on our last day

Feral Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Noted on four dates in larger towns

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis*

Seen on only five dates, often on roadside wires and on the ground, but often under-recorded

Little Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia ruficeps nana*

Our first were at Tambunan on 06/7 then on two subsequent dates on Mt Kinabalu; often seen in rapid flight, we managed perched views of a few with their golden body colour and heavily streaked chest most notable

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

A couple of briefly flight views, but superb looks at one picking through leaves on Mt Kinabalu, 08/7

Zebra Dove *Geopelia striata*

Four at Sepilok, 10/7, then low numbers on two dates near Lahad Datu

Cinnamon-headed Green Pigeon *Treron fulvicollis*

A scarce resident, so the two that flew into riverside trees at Kinabatangan on 12/7 were good

Little Green Pigeon *Treron olax*

Up to 20 were seen in lowland areas; our first at Sepilok, our most at Kinabatangan

Pink-necked Green Pigeon *Treron vernans*

Just five along the river at Kinabatangan, 12/7

Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*

Six and one on two dates along the main track at Danum

Large Green Pigeon *Treron capellei*

At least 20 flew low above us as we watched for Helmeted Hornbill at Danum as we headed to Lahad Datu

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea*

Noted in lowland areas on seven days from 11/7

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia*

Big and pale and seen well at times, 06/7-09/7

Short-toed Coucal *Centropus rectunguis*

Heard only along the Hornbill Trail, Danum, 14/7 – even that is an achievement

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

Heard twice and seen just once at the ranger's house at Danum, 16/7

Raffles's Malkoha (Rhinortha) *Rhinortha chlorophaea*

Not really a Malkoha, we saw these well on four dates in the lowlands, from Sepilok, 11/7, onwards; cracking views were gained at Danum

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*

Just two at Sepilok, 11/7, and one at Kinabatangan, 13/7 – an elusive species

Black-bellied Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus diardi*

One at BRL, 13/7, and another along the main track at Danum, 16/7

Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*

The first was at Poring, 09/7, then a juvenile was watched as it was fed by a female sunbird at Sepilok, 10/7

Little Bronze Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus*

Seen and heard as we drove to Danum, 13/7 and another along the track on 16/7

Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii*

Three were seen on 12/7 along the Kinabatangan

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus threnodes*

One as in the gardens of BRL, Danum, on two dates

Sunda Cuckoo *Cuculus lepidus insulae*

Seen on one date, 08/7, and heard on two at Mt Kinabalu; the form *insulae* ('Kinabalu Cuckoo') may well be split as its voice is subtly but distinctly different from the nominate

Oriental Bay Owl *Phodilus badius*

Heard only at Sepilok, 10/7

Reddish Scops Owl *Otus rufescens*

Heard only at both Kinabatangan and Danum

Buffy Fish Owl *Ketupa ketupu*

Up to two at Danum: the first sat on stones in the river hunting, 15/7, then two the next day on our night drive – they have almost certainly driven the Barred Eagle-Owl off!

Bornean Brown Wood Owl *Strix [leptogrammica] vaga*

Seen well near BRL, 14/7, this dark-brown form may be 'split' given its vocal and plumage differences

Large Frogmouth *Batrachostomus auritus*

Seen and heard on two nights at Borneo Nature Lodge by the Kinabatangan with great views on 12/7

Sunda Frogmouth *Batrachostomus cornutus*

An amazing bird to see at Danum on our night drive on 16/7 – all whiskers and very pale

Grey-rumped Treeswift *Hemiprocne longipennis*

Seen on just two dates bookending the tour: two at Tambunan, 06/7 and at Danum, 17/7

Whiskered Treeswift *Hemiprocne comata*

Only seen at Danum, with our first along the track as we drove in, 13/7; a superb bird!

Plume-toed Swiftlet *Collocalia affinis*

Seen on 10 dates with great views on the nest at the restaurant at Tambunan, 06/7 – we never did see the plumes on the toes, though!

Bornean Swiftlet *Collocalia dodgei* - E

Very similar to Plume-toed, but looks to be more slightly glossy green above and to have a more distinct contrast between the dark throat and pale belly, we only confidently identified a handful at higher altitudes on Mt Kinabalu and under optimal viewing conditions, with one visiting a nest at Timpohon

Mossy-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus salangana*

Only confidently identified at Gomantong Cave, 11/7, where a few nests were seen. This and the next three species are possibly all but identical in plumage

Black-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus maximus*

Again spotlighted by Lee at Gomantong, where a handful of nests were seen well and at close quarters

Edible-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus fuciphagus*

The white nests are valued very highly – at the airport at KK they were on sale for £150 for four! Sadly this has resulted in unregulated over harvesting and a decline in numbers – we saw just a handful of nests at Gomantong, but probably some of those seen along the rivers, etc., were of this species, too

Germain's Swiftlet *Aerodramus germani*

Only really noted with any confidence at KLIA, where these are numerous

Silver-rumped Spinetail *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*

A smart, short-tailed swift with distinctly shaped wings, we first noted them at Sepilok, 11/7, but then daily over the next seven days; good views at BRL

Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*

Five of these large super swifts were seen over palms by the Kinabatangan River, 12/7

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Two at Tambunan on 06/7 and a few at KK, 17/7

Diard's Trogon *Harpactes diardii*

A pair seen well at Sepilok, 11/7

Whitehead's Trogon *Harpactes whiteheadi*

Wow!! We were so pleased when Francis called to say he had found one on Mt Kinabalu 07/7 that we almost ran to him - when we finally saw the bright male and fine female we could have hugged him – maybe some did! On 10/7 we found two calling males and another female

Scarlet-rumped Trogon *Harpactes duvaucelii*

Just the one from the Canopy Walkway, Danum, 16/7

Oriental Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

Seen on three dates at Sepilok and Kinabatangan

Rufous-collared Kingfisher *Actenoides concretus*

A calling male at Poring, 09/7, near the waterfall, was finally tracked down and showed well (if briefly) above our heads before piling off into the forest

Bornean Banded Kingfisher *Lacedo pulchella melanops*

The marked plumage differences (notably black face) suggest this may well be a future 'split'; having heard a couple it was good to see a male on 15/7 at Danum

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*

Seen or heard on three dates, the first at the hotel at Sepilok, but views were 'sub-optimal'

Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris*

A common roadside kingfisher along the roads through the date-oil plantations on three dates

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

Completely off the radar was one found by Liz and seen by all at the KK fishponds, 17/7; a very good record this far north

Blue-banded Kingfisher *Alcedo euryzona*

An immature was found by Azmil on the river close to BRL, 14/7

Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting*

Seen brilliantly at the hotel at Sepilok, 11/7, then at RDC and regularly at Kinabatangan over the next three days

Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca motleyi*

If spilt this may be called 'Rufous-backed Dwarf Kingfisher', but confusingly in Borneo it has a black back and may be treated as a full species in future... First seen in the evening at Sepilok, 10/7, but the two together at RDC the next morning were stunning, with one sitting close by for quite some time as we photographed it. Heard at Danum

Red-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctornis amictus*

One was seen and heard high in a tree at Poring, 09/7; one was seen along the main track at Danum, 15/7

Blue-throated Bee-eater *Merops viridis*

Noted on seven dates in the lowlands: the first on 10/7 at Sepilok then in other lowland area near Kinabatangan and Danum, with a good number of dark-crowned immature birds seen along the river

White-crowned Hornbill *Berenicornis comatus*

Despite searching hard at Kinabatangan, we were really pleased to eventually find four at Danum on 15/7

Rhinoceros Hornbill *Buceros rhinoceros borneoensis*

A superb species noted on six dates, but seen on only five; the very best views were along the Kinabatangan River when one flew low overhead carrying a small flying lizard in its beak, 12/7. The form on Borneo has a 'horn' that is more strongly curved than others

Helmeted Hornbill *Rhinoplax vigil*

Despite hearing fair numbers on four days, it was not until our last that we eventually saw two, albeit briefly as we departed Danum, 17/7

Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris*

Seen well on four dates with several good-sized parties; the first was at Sepilok, 09/7, but most were along the Kinabatangan

Black Hornbill *Anthracoceros malayanus*

Seen on the same four dates, with that at Sepilok by the hotel the first, 10/7, then on the next three days

Bushy-crested Hornbill *Anorrhinus galeritus*

Mostly encountered in mobile parties, we saw these on six dates – from 11/7 at Sepilok to 13/7 at the Kinabatangan

Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulatus*

Noted on four dates, with our first along the Kinabatangan River, 12/7 – remember the reddish bare skin round the eye and largely all-white tail

Wrinkled Hornbill *Rhabdotorrhinus corrugatus*

Also seen on four dates, with two at RDC and BNL on 11/7 our first – this time remember the blue skin round the eye and black-based tail

Golden-whiskered Barbet *Psilopogon chrysopogon chrysopsis*

The Bornean endemic form is sometimes treated as Gold-faced Barbet, but is generally weakly differentiated genetically and vocally. We saw and heard it on six dates, with our first at the Mahua waterfalls, 06/7

Red-throated Barbet *Psilopogon mystacophanos*

Seen and/or heard on seven dates, its arhythmic song a good guide as to when it was about; first seen at Tambunan on our first morning

Mountain Barbet *Psilopogon monticola* - E

Only seen on one day, our first, at Tambunan, on 06/7; then heard on Mt Kinabalu on two dates

Yellow-crowned Barbet *Psilopogon henricii*

One was heard and eventually seen excavating a hole by the hot springs at Poring, 09/7, then seen or heard on three days at Danum

Golden-naped Barbet *Psilopogon pulcherrimus* - E

A stunning endemic seen superbly at Tambunan on the first morning, two on 06/7; after that seen only at Mt Kinabalu, with one fine view at Timpohon gate so close you had to move back to get in focus, 08/7

Blue-eared Barbet *Psilopogon duvaucelii*

Seen or heard on eight days: the first heard at Poring, 09/7, but then seen at Sepilok and regularly over the next few days

Bornean Barbet *Psilopogon eximius* - E

Confirming that they are a tough bird to find, we struggled at Tambunan, so were really pleased to find two at Mahua Waterfalls, 06/7, an adult and immature

Brown Barbet *Caloramphus fuliginosus* - E

Now that Brown and Sooty Barbet are split, this has become another Bornean endemic: first up to 10 were seen at RDC, Sepilok, 11/7, then more good views at Kinabatangan and Danum; an odd call and red legs

Rufous Piculet *Sasia abnormis*

Singles were seen at Sepilok by the dining area, 11/7, but much better views for all at Danum on two dates, the best by the bridge, 14/7

Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus concretus*

Five over two days, 12/7 and 13/7, at Kinabatangan

Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus moluccensis*

Our extra birding at the coast on 17/7 allowed us to find one near the beach car park at KK

White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*

Heard briefly at Sepilok on 10/7, but seen well on the Kinabatangan River on the morning of 13/7 as we hunted for 'BGC'

Banded Woodpecker *Chrysophlegma miniaceum*

One played hard to get at Sepilok on 09/7

Chequer-throated Yellownape *Chrysophlegma mentale*

When seen well it is obvious why this is better named as yellownape; singles were seen at Mt Kinabalu on both 07/7 and 08/7

Crimson-winged Yellownape *Picus puniceus*

One seen along the Kinabatangan River, 13/7

Rufous Woodpecker *Micropternus brachyurus*

Three seen and heard at Poring on 09/7, then one more along the Kinabatangan River, 12/7

Maroon Woodpecker *Blythipicus rubiginosus*

Having been heard at Mt Kinabalu, 09/7, it was nice to actually see one at Danum on 14/7 and 15/7 – even though for most it was largely in flight

Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis*

Two were seen at Sepilok, 09/7, and three seen at Danum over a couple of days

Buff-necked Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tukki*

The first was at RDC, Sepilok as we walked for the pittas, 11/7, and we had five the next day with a party of four at Kinabatangan River

White-fronted Falconet *Microhierax latifrons* - E

This smart and amazingly small falcon is an endemic and views of two were gained on our last morning along a tributary at Kinabatangan River, 13/7; three were also seen at Danum on 16/7

Blue-rumped Parrot *Psittinus cyanurus*

Seen and/or heard on four dates: having heard them at Sepilok, 09/7, we then gained views of eight as they flew over at Danum, 13/7, where we saw them again on two subsequent days

Blue-naped Parrot *Tanygnathus lucionensis*

Three noisy birds were found calling near the beach at KK - they showed well but then flew off

Long-tailed Parakeet *Psittacula longicauda*

I am not sure if we actually saw any perched birds, we noted them on four dates in the lowlands (Sepilok and Kinabatangan)

Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot *Loriculus galgulus*

Recorded each day away from Mt Kinabalu; most often in flight we saw several perched, but our best views were at eye level on the final day as we departed Danum, 17/7

Green Broadbill *Calyptomena viridis*

The slightly strange call was heard only along the Border trail at Danum, 16/7

Whitehead's Broadbill *Calyptomena whiteheadi*

One came in and fed on roadside fruit at Tambunan on the first morning, but all too briefly to enjoy prolonged views – still stunning though!

Black-and-red Broadbill *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchus*

Our first was near the entrance to the RDC, Sepilok, on 11/7 and then was seen well on the next four days – five on 12/7, but lower numbers after that

Banded Broadbill *Eurylaimus javanicus*

Another stunner and we spent some time trying to describe the soft colours of their plumage. Seen well along the path to the waterfall at Poring, 09/7, and then seen and heard at Danum, 14/7

Black-and-yellow Broadbill *Eurylaimus ochromalus*

A cracking bird, we found a pair at Poring, 09/7; seen and heard on six more dates, with super views at Sepilok and Danum

Dusky Broadbill *Corydon sumatranus*

A party of at least five were serendipitously found along the entrance track to Danum on 13/7 as we birded prior to imminent rain

Blue-headed Pitta *Hydrornis baudii* - E

As we walked the Hornbill Trail, 14/7, one started to call and slowly but surely came closer until eventually it popped out onto the track. Which pitta is best? There is only one way to find out...

Bornean Banded Pitta *Hydrornis schwaneri* - E

Despite listening carefully, it was not until 16/7 that a female responded to the tape of Blue-banded Pitta and came in allowing views as it moved up through the leaf litter

Black-crowned Pitta *Erythropitta ussheri* - E

Heard on five days at Danum, but by then we had already had stunning views of two at RDC, Sepilok, on 11/7, so were not too concerned...

Hooded Pitta *Pitta sordida*

Two were seen and heard at Sepilok, near the hotel, on 09/7. The black-headed resident form here differs from the migrant, chestnut-crowned form we see in Malaysia

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus*

We found several birds feeding in mixed flocks by the road at Tambunan, 06/7

Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus hirundinaceus*

A handsome (and perhaps a little chunkier) species with similar habits, but seen in more mature rainforest. Noted on juts three dates – the first four at RDC, 11/7, then subsequently at Danum

Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis virgatus*

A smart but elusive species, with four seen along the main track at Danum in the tallest trees on 15/7

Rufous-winged Philentoma *Philentoma pyrhoptera*

Noted on a couple of days, with two at the RDC, 11/7, and one at Danum, 14/7

Maroon-breasted Philentoma *Philentoma velata*

At first glance just a charcoal- or blue-grey bird, but in good light the maroon bib really stands out; noted on two dates at Danum

Bornean Bristlehead *Pityriasis gymnocephala* - E

Lee's amazing hearing picked the call out at the RDC, Sepilok on 11/7, and with perseverance we found two sat in a tree through a gap in the understorey

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Seen on five dates, with many roadside birds as we travelled to Kinabatangan on 10/7 and over 10 the next day from the boat

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

Only seen at the coast, with five at KK on 17/7

Green Iora *Aegithina viridissima*

Two were found at Poring on 09/7 – our first – then at RDC, 12/7, and two dates at Danum

Sunda Cuckooshrike *Coracina larvata*

Just a single male at Mt Kinabalu on 07/7

Lesser Cicadabird *Lalage fimbriata schierbrandi*

One was seen at Kinabatangan, 12/7. Previously treated as a *Coracina* cuckooshrike, this is actually a *Lalage* and best called 'Lesser Cicadabird'

Pied Triller *Lalage nigra*

Two at the beach car park at KK on 17/7

Fiery Minivet *Pericrocotus igneus*

All the minivets we saw were bright red, but these are especially bright orange. Seen on just two dates at Danum, with five on 15/7 and two the next day

Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris cinereogula*

Three on our first morning at Tambunan, 06/7, then on one subsequent date at Mt Kinabalu

Bornean Whistler *Pachycephala hypoxantha* - E

A nice endemic and one of the easier and more regularly seen ones. Found every day in fair numbers at Tambunan and Mt Kinabalu

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach bentet*

Noted on two dates near our hotel at Kundusang

Blyth's Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus*

Heard on the first morning at Tambunan, then seen at Mt Kinabalu on 08/7

Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis*

As evening drew in before our flight to Kota Kinabalu, several birds perched in trees near our gate at the airport 05/7

Dark-throated Oriole *Oriolus xanthonotus*

Seen or heard on three dates: The first were at Poring, 09/7, but got really good views at Danum, notably 15/7 near the end of the Border Trail

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

Several on our first morning at Tambunan, but then just a single on Mt Kinabalu, 08/7

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*

Just the one along the main track at Danum, 16/7

Bornean Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus [hottentottus] borneensis*

A 'split' waiting to happen, we saw this well at Tambunan and on Mt Kinabalu, 06/7-10/7

Greater Racquet-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*

Very few seen or heard: the first was at RDC/Sepilok but all others at Danum on three days

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis*

The first five dates in the highlands, from Tambunan, 06/7, to Mt Kinabalu, 10/7, and that was it

Malaysian Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*

Seen every day at lower elevations, often in singles with mixed flocks; the first five at Sepilok but most numerous at Danum

Spotted Fantail *Rhipidura perlata*

A total of four seen at Danum, with two at the beginning of the Coffin trail, 14/7, the first

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*

A male was seen dipping into the stream at Gomantong, 11/7, whilst others were seen at Kinabatangan and three dates at Danum, including a pair nesting by the main track – the nest appeared to have just a single nestling

Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone affinis*

Just three white males seen at different locations: firstly along the main track to Danum, 13/7, then two more there on subsequent days

Bornean Jay-shrike [Bornean Crested Jay] *Platylophus [galericulatus] lemprieri*

Seen and heard on two dates at Danum, 14/7 and 15/7. Sorry for all the square brackets, but the taxonomic treatment of this interesting species is all rather confused. A likely split

Bornean Green Magpie *Cissa jefferyi* - E

Noted on three dates at Mt Kinabalu, often amongst noisy laughingthrush flocks. Called Short-tailed Green Magpie in the past

Bornean Treepie *Dendrocitta cinerascens* - E

We saw several on our first day at Tambunan, 06/7, then on three more dates at Mt Kinabalu, with good views at times

House Crow *Corvus splendens*

Only seen at KLIA, 05/7. In Malaysia it is an introduced species

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Ditto

Slender-billed Crow *Corvus enca compiler*

Perhaps better to be called 'Sunda Crow' as Slender-billed Crow *sensu lato* is likely to be broken up into four species based on vocal and mtDNA differences. We saw this regularly away from the highland region often in small groups that followed each other about the forests; a very odd flight...

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher

Up to four seen on three dates at Danum

Straw-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus zeylanicus*

Sadly seen and heard only by a few this year

Black-and-white Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanoleucos*

One in a fruiting tree along the main track, 15/7

Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*

A smart and variable species found in small groups, but often quite secretive. The first were noted at the bulbul-fest at Poring, but then seen daily at Danum

Bornean Bulbul *Pycnonotus montis* - E

As last year, only seen at Tambunan, where several were seen on 06/7

Scaly-breasted Bulbul *Pycnonotus squamatus*

Just two at Poring, 09/7

Puff-backed Bulbul *Pycnonotus eutilotus*

Singles found at then at Danum in a fruiting tree on 15/7 and 16/7

Pale-faced [Flavescent] Bulbul *Pycnonotus [flavescens] leucops* (E)

The form on Borneo *leucops* only superficially resembles Flavescent Bulbul to the north in SE Asia and is best treated as a full species when it then becomes another Bornean endemic. Seen at Tambunan, 06/7, in bushes near the lunch stop, then near Timpohon Gate, Mt Kinabalu, the next day

Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier gourdini*

Seen widely on eight dates, the group's first were at Tambunan, 06/7

[Bornean] Olive-winged Bulbul *Pycnonotus plumosus hutzi*

First seen at Poring on 09/7, then Sepilok and Kinabatangan to Danum

Cream-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus simplex*

A couple at Danum in trackside trees, 16/7

Asian Red-eyed Bulbul *Pycnonotus brunneus*

Noted on five dates in lowland areas, firstly at Poring but with especially good views at Danum

Spectacled Bulbul *Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*

Seen at Poring, then frequently encountered at Danum

Penan [Ochraceous] Bulbul *Alophoixus [ochraceus] ruficrissus* (E)

Seen at Tambunan, 06/7, then at Mt Kinabalu 10/7. Like Pale-faced Bulbul there is a strong case for treating Penan Bulbul as a separate (endemic) species, based on morphological (it is so much more richly rufous coloured above and ventrally) and apparently genetic grounds

[Guttural] Grey-cheeked Bulbul *Alophoixus bres gutturalis*

Just three at RDC/Sepilok, 10/7. This is yet another bulbul with vocal, morphological and genetic differences that suggest it probably deserves specific status as Guttural Bulbul

[Sabah] Yellow-bellied Bulbul *Alophoixus phaeocephalus connectens*

One at Sepilok, 10/7, then found on three dates at Danum; the form on Borneo has a pale buff throat and bright yellow underparts and again may well be treated as a separate species in future

Hairy-backed Bulbul *Tricholestes criniger*

A small yellowish bulbul, seen Danum on two days

Charlotte's Bulbul *Iole charlottae* - E

The most recently described endemic for Borneo, this is now treated a full species having been split from Buff-vented Bulbul *Iole olivacea*. Just one was seen at RDC on 11/7

Streaked Bulbul *Ixos malaccensis*

One was seen near the lake at RDC on 11/7 close to the Charlotte's Bulbul

Cinereous Bulbul *Hemixos cinereus connectens*

Seen in roadside trees at Tambunan on our first day

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

After a small number along the river at Kinabatangan, there was passage along the coast at KK on 17/7

Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*

Seen daily – the only species we did – throughout the tour, with juveniles seen at many sites

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*

Not really a 'warbler' so perhaps best called 'Bamboo Bush Warbler' as it is more closely related to the Cettidae; it was amongst the bamboo that we saw two at Timpohon Gate, 07/7 and then heard at Poring

Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cuculatus*

I am ambivalent about the new name of Mountain Leaf-toiler! Only seen on 09/7 on Mt Kinabalu

Sunda Bush Warbler *Horornis vulcanius oreophilus*

Only seen near Timpohon Gate, Mt Kinabalu, on a couple of dates

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris forbesi*

One was found singing on roadside wires en route to Kinabatangan on 10/7 – it was baking hot and panting!

Bornean Stubtail *Urosphena whiteheadi* - E

This tiny endemic has a three-note song that is almost inaudible (to older ears especially...), but showed well near the top of the Silau Silau trail on 07/7 and several heard along another trail on 10/7

Mountain Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus kinabaluensis*

Noted on four dates on Mt Kinabalu

Yellow-breasted Warbler *Seicercus montis*

A bright and very vocal species, seen in good numbers on Mt Kinabalu

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris latrunculus*

Noted on seven dates at widespread locations; those roosting in grasses at Danum were unusual

Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis*

Oddly just one at Danum, 14/7

Rufous-tailed Tailorbird *Orthotomus sericeus*

A long-billed and short-tailed tailorbird seen firstly at Sepilok, 10/7, then on four days at Danum

Ashy Tailorbird *Orthotomus ruficeps*

A widespread and numerous tailorbird, being noted on eight dates

[Sunda] Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus [montanus] bornensis*

Two seen on the Hornbill trail at Danum on 14/7. Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler may well be split into two species - Sunda (as on Borneo) and Javan

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps borneensis*

Seen on five dates at Tambunan and at Mt Kinabalu often in small flocks with or without other species

Grey-headed Babbler *Stachyris poliocephala*

One of these richly coloured species was at Poring, 09/7, and another at Danum on 15/7

Chestnut-rumped Babbler *Stachyris maculata*

Seen on just three dates, our best views were at Danum, near the Coffin Trail, 14/7

Chestnut-winged Babbler *Stachyris [Cyanoderma] erythroptera*

Two were at Danum, near the Coffin Trail, 14/7

Rufous-fronted Babbler *Stachyridopsis [Cyanoderma] rufifrons poliogaster*

Just two at Danum on 14/7 – a day when we saw 14 species of babbler at Danum!!

Bold-striped Tit-Babbler *Macronus bornensis*

Sometimes lumped with Pin-striped Tit-Babbler, we saw this species well at Danum close to the hotel on 14/7 and 16/7

Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler *Macronus ptilosus reclusus*

Seen and heard whilst up a side channel off the Kinabatangan River on 12/7; a richly coloured species with a pale blue area on the lores (and throat sides as it calls)

[Bornean] Brown Fulvetta *Alcippe [brunneicauda] eriphaea*

Seen at Danum on three dates, where mobile parties moved through the vines, and sometimes sang. There is a likelihood that *eriphaea* will be separated from nominate as Bornean Fulvetta

Bornean Wren-Babbler *Ptilocichla leucogrammica* - E

This extremely elusive endemic was seen along the Hornbill Trail, 14/7, where a vocal pair showed themselves (with a great deal of patience on our part)

Black-throated Wren-Babbler *Napothera atrigularis* - E

Another difficult-to-see species, so we were lucky when one appeared as we watched the Bornean Wren-Babblers, 14/7

Mountain Wren-Babbler *Napothera crassa* - E

Two were seen on Mt Kinabalu, 07/7 then heard on two days after this

Horsfield's Babbler *Malacocincla sepiaria*

Two were seen on our first morning at Danum

Short-tailed Babbler *Malacocincla malaccensis*

One – the last babbler species to be found – was seen close to the main track at Danum, 16/7

Moustached Babbler *Malacopteron magnirostre*

Seen at Poring, 09/7 and at Danum along the Canopy Walkway, 16/7

Sooty-capped Babbler *Malacopteron affine*

The default babbler seen at Gomantong and Danum, we watched one at a nest on 16/7

Scaly-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron cinereum*

Seen on three dates at Danum at the same locations as above

Rufous-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron magnum*

And again, seen at Gomantong and Danum on four dates

White-chested Babbler *Trichastoma rostratum*

We enjoyed good views along Kinabatangan River and tributaries on 12/7 and 13/7, with many good views as they fed and sang by the water's edge

Ferruginous Babbler *Trichastoma bicolor*

Seen on just 15/7 at Danum

Striped Wren-Babbler *Kenopia striata*

One of the stars of our walk along the Hornbill Trail, 14/7

Temminck's Babbler *Pellorneum pyrrogenys*

Noted on three dates Mt Kinabalu – the grey-faced form *canicapillus*

Black-capped Babbler *Pellorneum capistratum morrelli*

Seen on three dates at Poring, 09/7, Sepilok (three) 11/7, and Danum 14/7. The form(s) in Sabah are very distinctive and are yet another possible future split

Sunda Laughingthrush *Garrulax palliates schistochlamys*

Several parties of this large and garrulous laughingthrush were seen on five consecutive dates from 06/7 onwards at Tambunan and Mt Kinabalu

Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrush *Garrulax treacheri* - E

Seen at the same sites as Sunda Laughingthrush but often higher in the trees at Tambunan and Mt Kinabalu. A lovely species but perhaps a little shy

Bare-headed Laughingthrush *Garrulax calvus* - E

Another endemic laughingthrush, seen in a mixed flock on Mt Kinabalu, 07/7, and heard on two subsequent dates

Chestnut-crested Yuhina *Yuhina everetti* - E

A very charismatic species as parties numbering over 30 at times sweeping through noisily then promptly flying off. We picked these up firstly at Tambunan then the next four days on Mt Kinabalu

Pygmy White-eye *Oculocincta squamifrons* - E

A rather localised and elusive species, we saw one very briefly at Tambunan, 06/7, then on three dates at our hotel at Kinabalu, with views for most on 10/7

Mountain Blackeye *Chlorocharis emiliae* - E

Very elusive this year, with two at Timpohon Gate, 08/7, and one on 10/7

Black-capped White-eye *Zosterops atricapilla*

A common bird at Tambunan and on Mt Kinabalu with the chance of many good looks at roadside flocks on five dates from 06/7

Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella*

A total of five dates in relatively low numbers: the first was a male at Sepilok, 10/7, then found on four days at Danum

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

Singles on Mt Kinabalu on two dates and two at Danum, on the Canopy Walkway, 16/7

Asian Glossy Starling *Aplonis panayensis*

Noted on just five dates in the lowlands mostly around habitation

Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*

Noted firstly at Sepilok, 10/7, then in bare trees along the Kinabatangan River; up to four noted on three days at Danum

Javan Myna *Acridotheres javanicus* l

Seen at KL then on five dates in Borneo near habitation

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

Seen by some at KL, 05/7 and then as we drove to and from RDC, 10/7 and 11/7

Orange-headed Thrush *Geokichla citrina aurata*

A brief encounter on Mt Kinabalu on the road late in the day, 08/7

Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*

Seen firstly at KL on 05/7, then on six days in Borneo

White-crowned Shama *Copsychus stricklandii* - E

Another endemic and seen on five dates in low numbers, our first at Poring on 09/7, then at RDC and three days at Danum

Bornean Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis superbus* - E

Heard on two days but seen on one, a female at Danum 15/7

Malaysian Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis turcosus*

Seen at Gomantong in a mobbing flock, 11/7, then on two dates at the Kinabatangan River

Fulvous-chested Jungle Flycatcher *Cyornis olivaceus*

Restricted to just a few sites in northern Borneo, we had views of just a couple at Poring on 09/7

Indigo Flycatcher *Eumyias indigo cerviniventris*

We got some very nice views of this species on four dates on Mt Kinabalu

Bornean [White-browed] Shortwing *Brachypteryx [montana] erythrogena* (E)

Noted on three days on Mt Kinabalu and seen on two: 07/7 and 08/9 – a male (without any white supra-loral line) posed nicely on the road on the latter date. Another putative split

Eyebrowed Jungle Flycatcher *Vauriella gularis* - E

Seen really well on one day on Mt Kinabalu – 07/7 – but not again. Not really a 'flycatcher' at all

White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaulti*

Seen on two dates at Danum, 14/7 and 16/7

Bornean Forktail *Enicurus borneensis* - E

Takes the place of White-crowned Forktail at higher altitudes and we got good views of just one on 07/7

Bornean Whistling Thrush *Myophonus borneensis* - E

We saw three adults on Mt Kinabalu, 08/7, plus a very interesting juvenile at Timpohon gate the same day

Rufous-chested Flycatcher *Ficedula dumetoria*

A lovely male was seen well and another heard as we walked to Gomantong caves on 11/7; heard along the Border Trail at Danum, 16/7

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra sumatrana*

We saw this small flycatcher on two days at Mt Kinabalu: one very close view of a male, 07/7, then two the next day

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*

Another tiny *Ficedula* that we saw on four dates in the highlands: several young birds noted, with one young male at Timpohon Gate showing especially well

Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati zosterops*

Seen on three dates, the first at RDC on 11/7 at Poring on 09/7 then at Danum on two dates

Lesser Green Leafbird *Chloropsis cyanopogon*

We saw these at Poring for the first time, 09/7; finally three dates at Danum where these were more numerous than Greater

Bornean Leafbird *Chloropsis kinabaluensis* - E

At least ten were found at Tambunan on 06/7

Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus maculatus*

Recorded on four successive dates at Danum Valley

Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker *Prionochilus xanthopygius* - E

The first male was seen along the river at Kinabatangan, 12/7, and another was seen at the BNL the next day; finally, three on three dates at Danum

Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile modestum*

Seen on two dates at Danum, but just singles

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*

Up to two on just two dates: at the Canopy Walkway, RDC, 11/7, and two at Danum, 16/7

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma dayakanum*

The most numerous flowerpecker by far being seen on six dates and in good numbers: the first were at Poring, 09/7

Bornean [Black-sided] Flowerpecker *Dicaeum monticolum* - E

Five dates in the highlands and in fairly good numbers; found on our first day at Tambunan and many on Mt Kinabalu

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum nigrimentum*

Recorded on just dates, with our first at Sepilok at the hotel, 11/7, and a male at Kinabatangan the next day

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis borneana*

Several were at Poring, and Sepilok; also seen well on 17/7 as we departed Danum

Plain Sunbird *Anthreptes simplex borneanum*

Again first seen at Poring on 09/7 and Danum 15/7

Brown-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*

Seen on seven dates at widespread locations from Poring onwards; Sepilok, Kinabatangan and KK on 17/7

Red-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes rhodolaemus*

Males and females at Danum on just two dates – often high in the canopy

Purple-naped Sunbird *Arachnothera hypogrammicum*

Basal to the spiderhunter clade of sunbirds; recorded only at RDC/Sepilok on 11/7 and Kinabatangan the next day

Van Hasseldt's Sunbird *Leptocoma brasiliana*

Two males fed in flowering trees as we departed Danum on 17/7

Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis ornatus*

Seen at Tambunan and Mt Kinabalu, with many feeding on the flowers at our hotel; two at KK, 17/7

Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*

A close male at Poring, 09/7, and a pair at Kinabatangan, 12/7

Temminck's Sunbird *Aethopyga temminckii*

Several seen on four dates in the highlands, with good views of several on Mt Kinabalu

Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra*

Seen on four dates: two at Poring and Sepilok, 09/7 and 10/7, then also at Danum on two dates

Long-billed Spiderhunter *Arachnothera robusta*

A grand total of four spread over three dates; firstly at Poring (two), of course, then also at Sepilok and Danum Valley. Long-billed and yellow bellied

Spectacled Spiderhunter *Arachnothera flavigaster*

Seen at Poring, 09/7, where we were lucky to get great views as they sipped nectar; one at Kinabatangan

Yellow-eared Spiderhunter *Arachnothera chrysogenys*

Two at Poring and one at Kinabatangan, 12/7

Bornean Spiderhunter *Arachnothera everetti* - E

One was seen at Poring, then on two days at Danum, with one bird feeding in the lodge itself on 13/7

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Seen every day in the highlands and about towns, but missing from the rainforest

Dusky Munia *Lonchura fuscans* - E

Noted on nine dates and in good numbers

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata cabanisi*

Ten seen at Tambunan, 07/7, and then at KK, 17/7

Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla jagori*

Seen on three dates, but easily the best views were at Lahad Datu on 17/7

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus*

Several were seen feeding on the grass at Lahad Datu airfield on 17/7

MAMMALS

Lesser Treeshrew *Tupaia montana*

Common Treeshrew *Tupaia glis*

Wrinkle-lipped Free-tailed Bat *Chaerephon plicata*

Bornean Colugo *Galeopterus variegatus*

Bornean Slow Loris *Nycticebus borneanus*

Bornean Gibbon *Hylobates muelleri*

Silvered Leaf Monkey *Trachypithecus cristatus*

Maroon Langur [Red Leaf Monkey] *Presbytis rubicunda*

Proboscis Monkey *Nasalis larvatus*

Long-tailed (Crab-eating) Macaque *Macaca fascicularis*

Southern Pig-tailed Macaque *Macaca nemestrina*

Bornean Gibbon *Hylobates muelleri*

Bornean Orang-utan *Pongo pygmaeus*

Cream-coloured Giant Squirrel *Ratufa affinis*

Prevost's Squirrel *Callosciurus prevostii*

Borneo Black-banded Squirrel *Callosciurus orestes*

Sunda Black-banded Squirrel *Callosciurus nigrovittatus*

Plantain Squirrel *Callosciurus notatus*

Jentink's Squirrel *Sundasciurus jentinki*

Low's Squirrel *Sundasciurus lowii*

Least [Plain] Pygmy Squirrel *Exilisciurus exilis*

Tufted Pygmy Squirrel *Exilisciurus whiteheadi*

Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel *Dremomys everetti*

Asian Small-clawed Otter *Aonyx cinereus*

Malay Civet *Viverra zibetha*

Common Palm Civet *Arctogalidia trivirgata*

Bornean Bearded Pig *Sus barbatus*

Lesser Mouse-deer *Tragulus kanchil*

Sambar *Rusa unicolor*

Southern Red Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjac*

OTHERS**Amphibians**

Saltwater Crocodile *Crocodylus porosus*

Red-sided Keelback Snake *Xenochrophis trianguligera*

Dog-toothed Cat Snake *Boiga cynodont*

Giant River Frog *Limnonectes leporinus*

Bornean Horned Frog *Megophrys nasuta*

Borneo Eared Tree Frog *Polypedates ottilophus*

Lichen Tree Frog spp.

Harlequin Tree Frog *Rhacophorus pardalis*

Horsfield's Parachute Gecko *Ptychozoon horsfieldii*

Horned Flying Lizard *Draco cornutus*

Crested Green Lizard *Bronchocela cristatella*
 Common Sun Skink *Eutropis multifasciata*
 Tokai Gecko *Gekko gekko*
 Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*
 Bornean Pill Millipede *Glomeris connexa*
 Long-legged Centipede *Scutigera* spp.
 Giant Forest Ant *Camponotus gigas*

Butterflies

Tailed Jay *Graphium agamemnon*
 Common Bluebottle *Graphium sarpedon*
 Red Helen *Papilio helenus*
 Great Mormon *Papilio memnon*
 Rajah Brooke's Birdwing *Troides (Trogonoptera) brookiana*
 Malayan Birdwing *Troides amphrysus*
 Common Birdwing *Troides helena*
 Bornean Birdwing *Troides andromache*
 Kinabalu Bluebottle *Graphium procles*
 Mottled Emigrant *Catopsilia pyranthe*
 Common Grass Yellow *Eurema hecabe*
 Three Spot Grass Yellow *Eurema blanda*
 Malayan Bush Brown *Mycalesis fusca*
 Red-Base Jezebel *Delias pasithoe*
 Great Orange Tip *Hebomoia glaucippe*
 Common Tiger *Danaus genutia*
 Striped Blue Crow *Euploea mulciber*
 Magpie Crow *Euploea radamanthus*
 Common Tree *Nymph Idea stollii*
 Blue Glassy Tiger *Ideopsis vulgaris*
 Malay Lacewing *Cethosia hypsea*
 Banded Yeoman *Cirrochroa orissa*
 Common Yeoman *Cirrochroa tyche*
 Kinabalu Bush Orange *Mycalesis marginata*
 Rustic *Cupha erymanthis*
 Cruiser *Vidula dejone*
 Malay Staff Sergeant *Athyma reta*
 Yellow Archduke *Lexias canescens*
 Tricoloured Baron *Euthalia whiteheadi*
 Kinabalu White-banded Count *Tanaecia amisa*
 Common Sailor *Neptis hylas*
 Common Faun *Faunis canens*
 Psyche *Leptosia nina*
 Straightline Mapwing *Cyrestis nivea*
 Common Mapwing *Cyrestis maenalis seminigra*
 Grey Pansy *Junonia atlites*
 Chocolate Pansy *Junonia hedonia*
 Chocolate Soldier *Junonia iphita*
 Clipper *Parthenos sylvia*
 Malayan Owl *Neorina lowii*
 Common Three Ring *Ypthima pandocus*
 Elbowed Pierrot *Caleta elna*
 Purple Sapphire *Heliophorus epicles*
 Kadazan Lass *Heliophorus kiana*
 Caudate Awl King *Choaspes subcaudatus*
 Awl spp *Husora*
 Bright Red Velvet Bob *Koruthailos sindu*
 Chocolate Demon *Ancistroides nigrita*
 Grass Dart spp
 Lesser Grass Blue *Zizina otis lampa*

Giant Uranid Moth *Lyssa menoetius*

Dragonflies

Indigo Dropwing *Trithemis festiva*

Crimson-tailed Marsh Hawk *Orthetrum pruinosum*

Orthetrum testaceum

Orthetrum glaucum



We saw an amazing number of butterflies, like this beautiful one at Timpohon Gate, Mt Kinabalu, quite a few of which sadly remain unidentified... © Brian Small, Limosa



...unlike this one – the superb Bornean Birdwing at Poring Hot Springs © Brian Small, Limosa