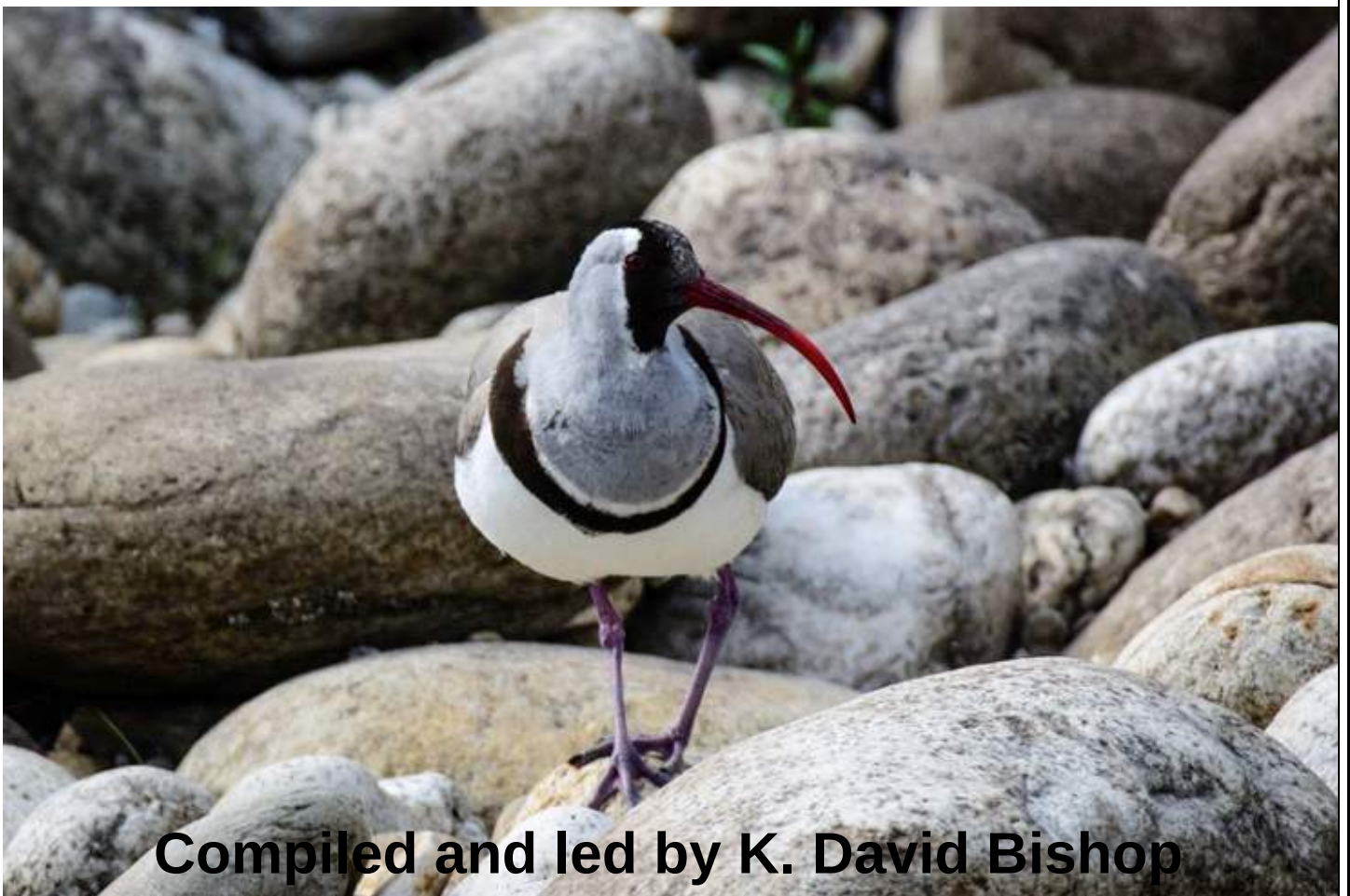


BIRD TOURS
David Bishop

**The Birds and Other Wildlife
recorded on the Bhutan Tour - 2016**



Compiled and led by K. David Bishop

BHUTAN 2016

"The Paro Dzong (monastery), guarded by icy crags, sits warming under the late afternoon sun. It seems to welcome our approach to our beautifully located hotel. An Ibisbill, so subtle as to be taken for a glacial stone, dips quietly in the snowmelt. This is indeed the Kingdom of Bhutan and the land of the peaceful Dragon." As my good friend Steve Hilty remarked on first setting foot in the kingdom, "This is fairytale land."

K. David Bishop



Dawn in the high Himalayas © K. David Bishop

INTRODUCTION

This was my 29th bird tour to Bhutan. I first began leading bird tours to this magical kingdom in 1994 and have enjoyed the privilege of returning there once or twice a year almost annually since then. So what is it that has makes this particular tour so attractive? Quite simply Bhutan is in a class of its very own. Yes it is an expensive tour (although with David Bishop Bird Tours perhaps not so), largely because the Bhutanese have decided (in our opinion quite rightly) that they would rather not compromise their culture and spectacular natural environment to hundreds of thousands of tourists and in consequence they charge a princely sum for being among the privileged few to visit their country. Similarly we feel that we have a very special product to offer and whilst we could make it shorter and thus less expensive we feel that that would diminish the experience.

By taking more time in Bhutan we can literally take the opportunity to smell the 'roses' or rather the Daphne, imbibe the various serendipitous cultural opportunities that offer themselves as well as really enjoy the birds, mammals, butterflies and flowering plants that are so profuse in spring in the eastern Himalayas. Many of these species and experiences require time and we don't want to short-change our valued clients. How often have you heard on tour after tour that one wishes one was here 40 or more years ago. In the case of Bhutan, we are there 40 years ago BUT with all the joys and comforts that an increasingly good infrastructure brings.

Bhutan is literally everything we had hoped it would be and more. And it just gets better and better. Our ground agents Gangri Tours and Travel treat us like royalty and are absolutely professional sometimes to the point of this leader's amazement. From Wangdi, our truly world-class bus driver to the newest dining room recruit and our wonderful ground crew they all contribute majorly to the fun, happiness, comfort and enjoyment everyone derives from this special tour.

On David Bishop Bhutan Bird tours we typically record well in excess of 330 species of birds (our record is 375 species in Bhutan) and 12-25 species of mammals. This year we recorded a very impressive 368 species of birds despite the road works! It has to be said that our mammal list seems to be getting better and bigger each year, perhaps a reflection of my personal interest in the mammalian critters of Asia and in particular the Himalayas. And perhaps the enthusiasm of our clients and our driver for night-drives and spotlighting! The brand new field guide to the butterflies of the India subcontinent will undoubtedly result in more butterflies being recorded on this and other tours in and around the Indian Sub-Continent and I am especially grateful to David M. for his enthusiasm for seeking out and identifying Bhutan's butterflies on this tour.

Whilst clearly everyone wants to see such mega-charismatic species as Satyr Tragopan, Ward's Trogon, Rufous-necked Hornbill, Himalayan Monal, Ibisbill, Beautiful Nuthatch and a host of other specialties there is always a tremendous sense of excitement at experiencing the unknown on David Bishop Bhutan Bird tours. Some years we have done very nicely with the enigmatic and globally critically endangered White-bellied Heron – sadly not so this year :(.

Sometimes we struggle with Satyr Tragopans whilst in other years they behave like a dream and males show off to us – as they did this year! Beautiful Nuthatch is yet another blue ribbon bird but has become very difficult at one site possibly because of excessive use of tape-play-back.



Himalayan Monal © K. David Bishop

Because we know Bhutan so well we not only know the birds very well but also know Bhutan well enough to take our clients to less utilised sites. This year we turned up trumps with exceptional and prolonged views of a delightful Scaly-breasted Cupwing, Beautiful Nuthatches with young, Satyr Tragopan, sensational Himalayan Monal and wonderful encounters with Rufous-necked Hornbill. It really was quite a trip. Hmmm

Migration adds enormously to the excitement of Bhutan tours; for example sometimes you can go for several days without seeing a species you would typically expect to find fairly easily and then you bump into a migrating flock of 200 or so. And then there is the real thrill of something completely off the wall such as Jerdon's Baza or Silver-breasted Broadbill. Flowering plants are a constant distraction and the more you get into them the more you see. A spray of orchids gracing lichen dappled rock and mountainsides ablaze with as many as 8-10 species of flowering rhododendrons most of them in giant tree-like growth-forms merely hint at the floristic joys of the kingdom of the thunder dragon.

This then is Bhutan a place as wonderful and enchanting as you can imagine and with more real birds as you could ever hope for!

I consider myself very privileged to have travelled so often and so extensively throughout the kingdom of Bhutan (1994 to the present). To have the opportunity to regularly explore such an incredible and special destination and in company with my wonderful Bhutanese friends is something I treasure and look forward to every year. This particular Bhutan tour was especially memorable and I thank you my clients and friends for help making it so. The vastness and beauty of Bhutan's forests is to experience a window onto what Asia and the Himalayas once

were like. This combined with the opportunity to make very real discoveries never fails to rejuvenate my soul and make me want to return there time after time.

In large part the success of our Bhutan tours is due to our wonderful ... no change that, fantastic ground crew. I would like to thank them and of course you all for making the entire tour such a great experience. My special thanks to our remarkable driver Wangdi and of course my irrepressible colleague Ugyen.

The following is a summary of our daily activities, including some of the trip's highlights together with a list of what we heard and saw. Nevertheless it only conveys part of the story and can never really express the wonderful sights and sounds of Bhutan, its land, its forests, wildlife and its people. I doubt any of us will forget the encounter with the Satyr Tragopans, Blood Pheasants, Himalayan Monal; Beautiful Nuthatches; various parrotbills and sensational Coral-billed Scimitar-babblers with a mixed flock that foraged around us; fine 'scope views of Sultan Tits ☺. Of course the birding is always great in Bhutan and any time you find Rufous-necked Hornbills as well as we did is very special. But as seems to be a recurring theme on David Bishop Bird tours it was a very good trip for mammals with a total of 14 species seen including many Golden Langurs and superlative studies of Hodgson's Flying-Squirrel.

This tour is undoubtedly a wonderful exposition of the rich biodiversity, landscapes and culture of this fascinating Kingdom. I cannot wait to return!

Thank you

David Bishop

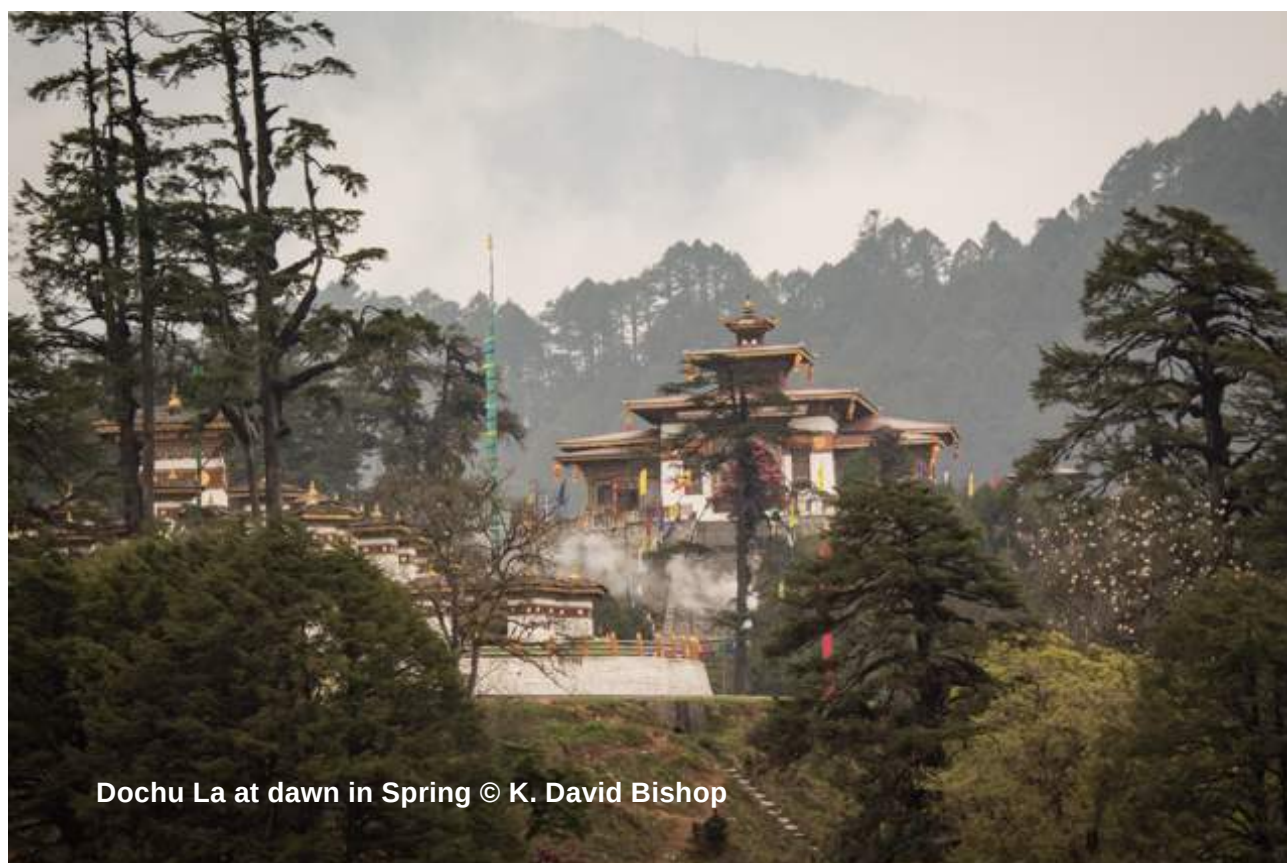


Diary

- 15 April** Early AM flight Bangkok via Bagdogra to Paro, Bhutan. Met by guide Ugyen and driver Wangdi. PM birding Paro Valley; Tigers Nest and Drugyel Dzong. Ibisbill, Black-tailed Crake, Wallcreeper.
- 16 April** Slow birding drive up to Cheli La circa 3,900m for b'fast; descended into Ha Valley and long circuitous drive to capital Thimpu. Kalij, Himalayan Monal, Blood Pheasant.
- 17 April** AM Cheri Valley; Jigme Dorji National park - superlative primeval Boreal Forest. Afternoon wandering the streets of the capital and some really fun shopping. Yellow-rumped Honeyguide
- 18 April** Dochu La; breakfast 2,700m; drive to Puna Tsang Chuu; visit to Punakha Dzong - thousands of Bhutanese in spectacular best traditional dress attending once in a lifetime viewing of Bhutan's most significant relic; drive and bird to campsite' on the Mo Chuu.
- 19 April** Birding around camp and along the Tashitang Trail Returned to Punakha hotel for dinner. Fabulous butterflies.
- 20 April** Searched the Po Chu unsuccessfully for White-bellied Heron; then followed Puna Tsang Chu, checking for migrants, especially waterbirds before driving up through Wangdi to Pele La and camp on the old road.
- 21 April** 05.40 - 11.00 birding old Pele La Road before driving through horrendous roadworks all the way to Trongsa. Himalayan Monal, female Satyr Tragopan, Himalayan Griffon.
- 22 April** Unbelievably horrendous roadworks all the way from Trongsa up over Yutong La to the Jakar Valey, made birding very challenging. PM revelling in the intricacies of Aum Leki's extraordinary weavings.
- 23 April** The journey to our camp at Sengor is surely one of the engineering marvels of the world via Ura. Birded down from Thrumsing La to Sengor and then below our camp. Superlative, prolonged views of two male Himalayan Monal, several raptors and delightful views of Asian House Martins collecting mud for their nest. Nevertheless it was a tad quiet with virtually no birds encountered on the Limithang Road; undoubtedly a response to nearly three days of solid rain and the prevailing dull, overcast and chilly conditions. However, our camp sported a lovely new restaurant with a very welcome hot-stove around which to warm ourselves.

- 24 April** We woke to the sound of Satyr Tragopans calling all around us; drove up to Thrumsing La birding in superb high elevation boreal forest; then birded and drove, avoiding road works, rain and cloud, absolutely fantastic scenery, crossed the 'Namling Death Drop' to new lodge just below Yongkola. Very comfortable rooms with hot showers and a spectacular view over the Shonkhar Chu Valley. Blood Pheasant, Rufous-breasted Bush-Robin, Alpine Thrush, displaying Fire-tailed Sunbirds.
- 25 April** 05.30 birded from our lodge up to Namling; worked bamboo for specialties; b'fast then; rest of the day birding the Limithang Road. Male Satyr Tragopan, Beautiful Nuthatch.
- 26 April** Limithang Road all day searching successfully for Ward's Trogon. "Orchids abound, and the understory of the forest is often relatively clear, although the higher strata are often strung with enormous woody vines and lianas. And then there are the patches of bamboo so full of secrets and promise." Magnificent close views of a very confiding Hodgson's Flying Squirrel on our night drive.
- 27 April** Long drive to Trongsa via new 'short-cut' bypass but highlighted by spectacular views of a singing Scaly-breasted Cupwing.
- 28 April** Descended from the Trongsa Dzong into the Upper Mangde Chu Valley with initially its rich forests and extensive but lovely farmlands. Birded up and down hill through secondary woodland to camp just before Zhemgang. Massive overnight storm.
- 29 April** With an altitudinal range of circa. 500 - 2000m the Zhemgang Road nicely compliments its more illustrious cousin, the Limithang Road. Furthermore, the Shemgang Road sees very little traffic, leaving one in peace and serenity to enjoy the beauty of its quite remarkable forests. Common Green Magpie and Long-tailed Broadbills. PM birding in slightly degraded subtropical forest; then drove to a new camp in the lovely Mangde Chu Valley.
- 30 April** 06.00 - 08.45 Mangde Chu Valley; ascended Tama La for lunch then birded down south slope to 1780m and finally drove to Jigmicholing Camp 1280m. Pale-billed Parrotbill; White-hooded Babbler, huge mixed flock; small movement of raptors at very close range.
- 1 May** 05.00 birded, b'fasted and birded down to 510m. Alive with birds. Silver-breasted Broadbill - second Bhutan record. PM exploring the river gravels near Gelyephu
- 2 May** 05.30 birded Sal Forest and adjoining scrub 1.5 - 5 km west of Geylephu -- Common Peafowl - common; Black Stork. Ascended to overlook for lunch and thence to Camp at Tsirang and a great evening's revelry. Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler.

- 3 May** *Long drive uphill initially through spectacular landscapes; 50km through a massive dam project to Wangdi and up over Dochu La and into Paro. Phew. Wangdi you are amazing.*
- 4 May** *With our flight delayed we spent the early am birding Cheli La. And so this magical tour once again came to end.*



Annotated List of Birds

(H) = Heard only.

Species marked in **bold** represent unusual or noteworthy records.

NON-PASSERINES

Ducks & Geese ANATIDAE

1. **Lesser Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*

A rather surprising flock of circa 35 in flight over the Mou Khola River near Geylephu.

[Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Astonishing that we did not encounter this species which has been seen all of my previous 28 trips to Bhutan. Go figure.]

2. Gadwall *Anas s. strepera*

One drake on the Puna Tsang Chu.

3. Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Three along the Mo Chu and a single drake together with other migrant waterfowl on the Puna Tsang Chu.

4. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

One drake on the Puna Tsang Chu.

5. Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

A single drake together with other migrant waterfowl on the Puna Tsang Chu.

Pheasants & Partridges PHASIANIDAE

6. **H** (Common) Hill Partridge *Arborophila t. torqueola*

Widespread and heard most days.

7. **H** Chestnut-breasted Partridge *Arborophila mandellii*

Pairs heard duetting daily along the Limithang Road. Classified by Birdlife International as globally Vulnerable.

8. Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

A total of ten this year in the scrub adjoining tall Sal Forest circa 5 km west of Geylephu. Eight fully plumaged males plus two females or non-fully-plumaged males were either sitting out calling or in one case in flight showing us the true glory of his magnificent tail. A grand sight indeed. This species was unknown in Bhutan until a few years ago, however, recent exploration of the narrow strip of lowland Terai forest that belongs to Bhutan reveals that this species is actually locally common.



Male Kalij Pheasant © K. David Bishop

9. **H** Gray Peacock-Pheasant *Polyplectron bicalcaratum bakeri*

At least two males heard giving their advertising call from a beautifully forested river valley far below as we descended from our b'fast stop (780m) on the Jigmicholing to Geylephu Road. Despite that there was no way to access the forest to try and see this species it was exciting just to hear such a bird in the midst of these wonderful wild landscapes.

10. **H** Black Francolin *Francolinus francolinus asiae*

Heard two adjacent to the Mou Khola River near Geylephu and during our one morning in the Terai between Geylephu and Sarpang Several were heard calling within dense scrub circa 5 km west of Geylephu. Although until recently there have been very few records of this species for Bhutan, our annual records adds further to the suggestion that this species is likely resident in the area

11. **H** Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus murghi*

One heard circa 5km west of Geylephu. Apparently a local resident.

12. Blood Pheasant *Ithaginis cruentus tibetanus*

A total of 12 on the upper slopes of Cheli La on our first morning in Bhutan; two pairs seen very nicely as we ascended through Boreal Hemlock and Rhododendron Forest from our camp at Sengor to Thrumsing La; and two as we retraced our way back along the Limithang Road to Trongsa.



Female Blood Pheasant in the snow on Cheli La © K. David Bishop

13. Himalayan Monal *Lophophorus impejanus*

Two fabulous males on the upper slopes of Cheli La; a total of 12 including seemingly numerous glowing males on Pele La permitted some wonderful images. We then found two more wonderfully confiding males *en route* to the Ura Valley. Undoubtedly one of the world's most iridescent and spectacular birds.

14. Satyr Tragopan *Tragopan satyra*

A single female on Cheli La was something of a surprise; two females on Pele La was a temporary disappointment; a resplendent male feeding along the roadside on the Limithang Road was unforgettable. Several others were heard especially around our Sengor camp.

15. Kalij Pheasant *Lophura leucomelana melanota* and *moffiti*

A total of 15, including a group of five males on the slopes of Cheli La; a pair on Pele La; a male and two females on Yutong La; a pair on the Limithang Road; two males along the road from Trongsa to Zhemgang and a final superb male on the Zhemgang Road.

Grebes PODICEPIDAE

16. Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps c. cristatus*

One in breeding plumage together with several other migrant waterbirds on the Puna Tsang Chu (20 April). A rare passage migrant in Bhutan.

Storks CICONIDAE

17. **Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*

Two soaring over farmland along the Bhutan border with India. A rarely recorded species in the kingdom and a first for KDB.

Cormorants PHALACROCORACIDAE

18. Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*

Just one along the Mo Chu (18 April). The subspecies *sinensis* regularly winters in the Kingdom.

19. **Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

One on the Mou Khola River near Geylephu. A rarity in Bhutan.

Hérons & Egrets ARDEIDAE

20. Little Egret *Egretta g. garzetta*

Six on river gravels along the Mou Khola River near to Geylephu.

21. Indian Pond-Heron *Ardeola grayii*

Two on river gravels along the Mou Khola River near to Geylephu.

Hawks, Eagles & Kites ACCIPITRIDAE

22. Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis*

One seen well in flight near Trogon Lodge on the Limithang Road and one between Sarpang and Tsirang.

An interesting piece of trivia just came my way with regards to this species: 'An experimental study of food location by the Oriental Honey-buzzard Pernis ptilorhynchus in captivity has found that the birds can choose between food sources using olfaction alone. In Taiwan this species regularly raids apiaries and one of its foods there is yellow pollen dough: a soft, ball-sized mixture of pollen, soybeans and sugar that beekeepers provide as a supplementary food for bees. When individuals were presented with a choice of two doughballs they almost unerringly chose pollen-containing over pollen-lacking doughs when otherwise the doughballs were identical in size, shape, and yellow colour. The olfactory receptor gene repertoire size in this honey-buzzard's genome has been found to be almost five times as large as that of three other raptor species, suggesting that olfaction is of far greater ecological importance to this species than to some other raptors.' (Yang, Walther & Weng 2015)

23. **Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda j. jerdoni*

Thanks to some quite amazing spotting by David A. we all enjoyed fine 'scope views of this Bhutan rarity deep within Sal Forest a few km west of Geylephu.

24. Cinereous Vulture *Aegypius monachus*

One at 500m elevation above Geylephu and a second bird over farmland on the Bhutan border with India. A rarely recorded species in the Kingdom.



3,300m on Pele La at dawn © K. David Bishop

25. Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayensis*

Our sole record this year was a group of five soaring over Pele La. This species tends to be most often encountered in areas regularly frequented by domestic Yak. However, by the time of our visit the yak had already been herded to higher elevations, which may account for the paucity of records of this species this year.

26. Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis c. cheela*

Two birds possibly nesting along the Tashitang Trail; one heard over the Zhemgang Road; one seen well from camp over the lower Mangde Chu; one below our Jigmicholing camp; one west of Geylephu along the Bhutan border with India and one between Sarpang and Tsirang.

27. Mountain Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus n. nipalensis*

A good year for this impressive species; we found it widespread with individuals seen on at least six days including some impressive close views in flight of this powerful raptor. Three seen superbly with other raptors migrating northwards on the lower slopes of Tama La.

28. Rufous-bellied Eagle *Lophotriorchis (Hieraetus) kienerii*

One superb adult along the Tashitang Trail; one over the middle Limithang Road and one as we descended Tama La towards Jigmicholing.

29. Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malaiensis* (NOTE revised spelling)

A most evocative and distinctive eagle; we watched in awe as one hunted at eye-level and at very close quarters as we descended from Tama La towards Jigmicholing. Watching the dexterity with which this large eagle hunted back and forth deep within the forest, dropping into densely branched and leaved canopies and then re-emerging once again was surely one of the highlights of the trip. We also recorded singles in the Ha Valley; one soaring in front of Trogon Lodge on the Limithang Road and a total of four on the lower slopes of Tama La, seemingly moving north together with other large raptors.

30. *Aquila sp* most likely Greater Spotted Eagle soaring over the slopes between Sarpang and Tsirang.

31. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus indicus*

One exhibiting its distinctive display flight as we drove up the Limithang Road from Trogon Lodge to Sengor; two in the Mangde Chu Valley.



Adult Black Eagle © K. David Bishop

32. Shikra *Accipiter badius poliopsis*

One adult female as we drove towards Thrumsing La; one near Geylephu and one over farmland on the Bhutan border with India. This is a scarce species in Bhutan.

33. Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus subsp?*

One in the Chummey Valley and two between Ura and Thrumsing La.

34. Pallas's Fish-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Fabulous views of an immature well hidden in forest above the Ha Chu. Heard along the Po Chu. Classified by Birdlife International as globally Vulnerable.

35. Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo rufectus*

One over Cheli La; one over the Tashitang Trail; two along the Po Chu and two between Ura and Thrumsing La.

36. Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus*

One over Yutong La and two, possibly a pair, over the new road from Thrumsing La to Yutong La.

37. Upland Buzzard *Buteo hemilasius*

Two between Jakar and Thrumsing La.



Rails and Crakes RALLIDAE

38. Black-tailed Crake *Amaurornis bicolor*

Fabulous views of two at our regular site in the Paro Valley. This species was only known from one specimen prior to the first bird tours to visit Bhutan in 1994. However, with the information others and we have gained over the ensuing years it now appears that this species is locally common throughout the kingdom.

39. Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

Two with other waterbirds along the Puna Tsang Chu.

Ibisbill IBIDORHYNCHIDAE

40. Ibisbill *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

Fabulous views of four of these wonderful birds along the Paro Chu; one in flight along the Mo Chu and three along the Po Chu. Despite that Bhutan is indeed a stronghold for this very special species, sometimes finding it during the nesting season can prove challenging as we have noted on some previous tours. Thus we were fortunate in observing this mega-charismatic species at such close quarters and for such a prolonged period.

Plovers & Lapwings CHARADRIDAE

41. River Lapwing *Vanellus duvauceli*

Two along the Paro Chu; circa 15, including one adorable chick, along the Mo Chu; circa 40 along the Po Chu and downstream along the Puna Tsang Chu and three along the Mou Khola River, near Geylephu.

42. Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus i. indicus*

Two on short grassy sward alongside the Po Chu and one 5km west of Geylephu.

43. Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius jerdoni*

Three in breeding plumage on river gravels along the Po Chu.

Sandpipers & Allies SCOLOPACIDAE

44. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

One along the Paro Chu and three along the Po Chu.

45. Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola*

One roding over our Pele La camp.

46. **Great Thick-knee *Esacus recurvirostris***

One seen all too briefly in flight over river gravels near Geylephu. This is a very local and scarce bird in Bhutan.

Gulls & Terns LARIDAE

47. Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*

One migrant in superb breeding plumage along the Puna Tsang Chu.

Pigeons & Doves COLUMBIDAE

48. Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*

Widespread and common. It is now almost impossible to determine which individuals are feral and which are wild birds.

49. Snow Pigeon *Columba leuconota gradaria*

Fine views of a flock of 35 along the Thimpu Chu, below Cheri Monastery.

50. Speckled Wood-Pigeon *Columba hodgsonii*

Just one along the Limithang Road at circa 2100m.



51. **H** Ashy Wood-Pigeon *Columba pulchricollis*
Heard along the Tashitang Trail.

52. Oriental Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia orientalis agricola*
Widespread, common, sometime very common and observed daily, often foraging on the road.

53. Red Collared Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica humilis*
Just one male in farmland on the Bhutan border with India.

54. Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*
Moderately common in open country in upland areas and notably very common in the flat borderlands.

55. Barred Cuckoo-dove *Macropygia unchall tusalia*
Two on the Zhemgang Road and three between Sarpang and Tsirang.

56. Asian Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps i. indica*
Three as we climbed towards our camp below Zhemgang and two at the bottom of Zhemgang Road. NOTE: Formerly just Emerald or Green-winged Ground- Dove this taxon has recently been split into: Asian Emerald Dove and Pacific Emerald Dove *C. pacificus*.

57. Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*
Fine views of six in Sal Forest circa 5km west of Geylephu.

58. Pin-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron a. apicauda*

At least six seen very nicely in subtropical forest at the bottom of the Zhemgang Road; two along the lower Mangde Chu below Tingtibi; one on the slopes of Tama La; and three seen beautifully in Sal Forest circa 5km west of Geylephu.

59. Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus*

Thanks to some good spotting by Nancy we enjoyed fine views of a male in sub-tropical forest at the bottom of the Zhemgang Road.

60. Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea sylvatica*

Just six seen in Sal Forest circa 5 km west of Geylephu.

61. Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia insignis*

Superlative views of four including several birds exhibiting their spectacular display flight, over forest below Jigmecholing. Also heard on Tama La.

Cuckoos CUCULIDAE

62. Chestnut-winged Cuckoo *Clamator coromandus*

Superb views of a very responsive individual within sun-tropical forest at the bottom of Zhemgang Road; three others heard.

63. Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx s. sparveroides*

Widespread and seemingly common with superlative views of one along the Puna Tsang Chu. NOTE: Sometimes placed in *Cuculus*.

64. Common Hawk-Cuckoo *Cuculus v. varius*

Fine views of a very responsive adult in scrubby woodland near Geylephu. This species is an uncommon summer visitor to Bhutan.

65. Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx nisicolor*

One or two heard on two days along the Limithang Road and one seen there poorly. However, the individual seen above Sarpang permitted us all a good view of this elusive species.

66. Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus m. micropterus*

Heard along the Zhemgang Road and in the Mangde Chu Valley. Fine views of this often-elusive species in subtropical forest below our Jigmicholing Camp and one within Sal Forest near Geylephu.

67. Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus subtelephonus*

Widespread and heard most days. Two seen superbly well in lightly wooded farmland below Trongsa. They were constantly mobbed by a Tickell's Thrush, which may well breed at this site. Also known as Eurasian Cuckoo.

68. Himalayan (Oriental) Cuckoo *Cuculus saturates*

Widespread and moderately common. Heard most days and one seen well along the Limithang Road. NOTE: 'Oriental' Cuckoo *C. saturatus* has recently been split three ways: the taxon we saw was Himalayan Cuckoo *C. saturatus* (previously referred to as Oriental Cuckoo); Horsfield's Cuckoo *C. optatus* and Sunda Cuckoo *C. lepidus*.

69. Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis s. sonneratii*

Thanks to some great work by Ben we enjoyed good views of this scarce bird (in Bhutan) at 575m in degraded sub-tropical forest above Geylephu.

70. **H** Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*

Heard persistently (but sadly rather unresponsive to tape-playback) in degraded forest at circa 600m, below Jigmicholing.



Female Asian Emerald Cuckoo © K. David Bishop

71. **Asian Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx maculatus*

A good trip for this infrequently seen species. Sensational 'scope views of a pair of these gorgeous birds along the Tashitang Trail. Thereafter we found a surprisingly confiding adult female, which appeared to be attending a nest located in the mossy shadows of a rock face along the Limithang Road. To the best of our knowledge all *Chrysococcyx* cuckoos are brood-parasitic, however, the hosts of this species remain unconfirmed. Our last sighting was of a female below Trongsa.

72. Square-tailed Drongo Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris barussarum*

First recorded on 18 April along the Tashitang Trail (the tail was notably quite forked). Surprisingly not encountered again until 28 April near Zhemgang and thereafter heard daily. NOTE: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) point out that 'Drongo Cuckoo' clearly involves multiple species. The birds we saw and heard in the Himalayas belong to just one of several species derived from this split.

73. **H** Asian Koel *Eudynamys s. scolopacea*
Heard in Sal Forest near Geylephu.

74. Greater Coucal *Centropus s. sinensis*
One along the Puna Tsang Chu and two in the Mangde Chu Valley.

75. Lesser Coucal *Centropus b. bengalensis*
Six in scrub west of Geylephu.

Owls STRIGIDAE

76. **H** Mountain Scops-Owl *Otus s. spilocephalus*
Heard along the Limithang and Zhemgang roads.

77. **H** Collared Scops-Owl *Otus l. lettia*
Heard along the Limithang and Zhemgang roads.

78. Collared Owlet *Glaucidium b. brodei*
Typically heard on many occasions but only seen, albeit superbly, along the Limithang Road.

79. Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium c. cuculoides*
Great views of one in lightly wooded farmland west of Geylephu.

80. **H** Himalayan Owl *Strix n. niviculum*
Heard from our Pele La camp and from our Sengor camp.

Nightjars CAPRIMULGIDAE

81. **H** Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka hazarae*
Heard near Trongsa Lodge.

Swifts APODIDAE

82. White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus nudipes*
Two over the Limithang Road on 26 April; four over the upper Mangde Chu Valley on 28 April and a magnificent flock of circa 20, one afternoon as we descended the lower slopes of Tama La towards our Jigmicholing Camp.

83. Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus b. brevirostris*
A flock of 100+ foraging over the Limithang Road was followed by circa 20 the following day; circa 200 in the upper Mangde Chu Valley; circa 100 along the Zhemgang Road and over Tama La.

84. Blyth's (Fork-tailed) Swift *Apus (pacificus) leuconyx*
A widespread and locally common breeding resident. Seen daily from Dochu La east to the Limithang Road and south to the Mangde Chu Valley. A total of 70 in the upper Mangde Chu Valley was notable. NOTE: Fork-tailed Swift has recently been split into several species.

85. House Swift *Apus nipalensis*
Small numbers (<10) in and around Punakha.

86. Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus b. balasiensis*

Modest numbers around Geylephu (10) and as many as 10 among the *Arecca* sp Palms west of Geylephu.

Trogons TROGONIDAE

87. Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus hodgsoni*

Good views of a gorgeous male along the Zhemgang Road. Heard as we ascended to Zhemgang; in the Mangde Chu Valley; below our Jigmicholing Camp; within Sal Forest west of Geylephu and between Sarpang and Tsirang.

88. Ward's Trogon *Harpactes wardii*

Fine views of a male at 1,900m along the Limithang Road. This species is becoming increasingly difficult to find such that some groups/observers have actually missed this mega-charismatic species during the past few years. I attribute this largely to the destruction of roadside territories on Dochu La and Pele La (and probably elsewhere), the general increase in disturbance at most places coupled with the huge increase in the number of visiting birders and the injudicious use of 'tapes' to lure this species into view. Our thanks to the generosity of Norbu and his group for so kindly sharing 'their' bird.



Ward's Trogon © K. David Bishop

Kingfishers ALCEDINIDAE

89. Eurasian Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis bengalensis*
One along the Po Chu.
90. White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis subsp?*
Five along the Mo Chu; circa 20 the Po and Puna Tsang chus. Thereafter two as we climbed towards Zhemgang; six in the lower Mangde Chu Valley including a pair nesting and second pair mating; two in lightly wooded farmland as we descended Tama La towards our Jigmicholing camp and six in lightly wooded farmland on the Bhutan border with India.
91. Crested Kingfisher *Ceryle lugubris continentalis*
Fine views of this striking and charismatic species along a tributary of the Puna Tsang Chu – a regular haunt; two on the Po Chu near Punakha and one along the Mangde Chu.

Bee-eaters MEROPIDAE

92. Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctiornis a. athertoni*
Singles seen nicely along the Limithang Road; the Zhemgang Road and Mangde Chu Valley
93. Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops l. leschenaulti*
One of this handsome species in lightly wooded scrub eating a dragonfly, along the Mou Khola Chu, near Geylephu. Two in scrubby farmland on the Bhutan border with India.

Rollers CORACIDAE

94. Indian Roller *Coracias b. benghalensis*
Common between Geylephu and Sarpang where as many as eight counted. Until recently there were few Bhutan records of this species, however, it is quite common a short distance across the border into India.

Hoopoes UPUPIDAE

95. Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops longirostris*
Widespread but not common; one in the Paro Valley; one in the Ha Valley; three in the Cheri Valley; five along the Mo Chu; two along the Tashitang Trail; two along the Puna Tsang Chu; two in the Jakar valley and one on the Limithang Road.

Hornbills BUCEROTIDAE

96. Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros a. albirostris*
Just one male seen in flight over lowland Sal Forest 5km west of Geylephu. This is the least common species of hornbill in Bhutan.
97. ~~H~~ Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis*
Truly one of the world's most magnificent birds sadly, this year, we only heard it near Geylephu. Classified by Birdlife International as globally Near Threatened.

98. **Rufous-necked Hornbill *Aceros nipalensis***

Without doubt this species was a major highlight of a great tour. We enjoyed sensational views of several birds along the Limithang and Zhemgang roads down to and including the Mangde Chu Valley. A further six were seen as ascended toward Tsirang – what a send off!!!! Classified by Birdlife International as globally Vulnerable.

99. Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulates*

One in sub-tropical forest above Geylephu and several seen and heard in Sal Forest west of Geylephu.

Asian Barbets MEGALAIMIDAE

100. **H Coppersmith Barbet *Psilopogon haemacephala indicus***
Heard on the outskirts of Geylephu.

101. **Great Barbet *Psilopogon (Megalaima) virens magnificus***
Widespread and common, recorded on 12 days.

102. **Lineated Barbet *Psilopogon (Megalaima) lineatus hodgsoni***
Many heard and four seen in Sal Forest near Geylephu.

103. **Golden-throated Barbet *Psilopogon (Megalaima) f. franklinii***
Widespread and moderately common, recorded on seven days.



Gold-naped Barbet © K. David Bishop

104. **Blue-throated Barbet *Psilopogon (Megalaima) a. asiaticus***
Recorded in moderate numbers as we ascended to Zhemgang, along the

Zhemgang Road, the Mangde Chu Valley, over Tama La, down to Geylephu and up to near Tsirang.

Honeyguides INDICATORIDAE

105. **Yellow-rumped Honeyguide** *Indicator xanthonotus radcliffi*

One male seen very nicely at one of our regular Rock Bee hive sites, this one in the Cheri Valley; two near a nest on the Limithang Road and one at another regular site below Trongsa. Classified by Birdlife International as globally Near Threatened.



Adult male Yellow-rumped Honeyguide – a rare image of this poorly known species away from Rock-Bee hives © K. David Bishop

Woodpeckers PICIDAE

106. Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus* subsp?

Thanks to Ben we all enjoyed fine views of one between our Jigmicholing Camp and Geylephu.

107. **H** White-browed Piculet *Sasia ochracea*

Fine views of this gem in the Mangde Chu Valley.

108. Gray-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus semicoronatus*

One seen by Ben below Trongsa; one in Sub-tropical Forest at the bottom of the Zhemgang Road and one on the lower slopes of Tama La.

109. Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker *Picoides m. macei*

Good looks at one as we descended from our Jigmicholing Camp to Geylephu and one in Sal Forest near Geylephu.

110. Rufous-bellied Woodpecker *Dendrocopos h. hyperythrus*

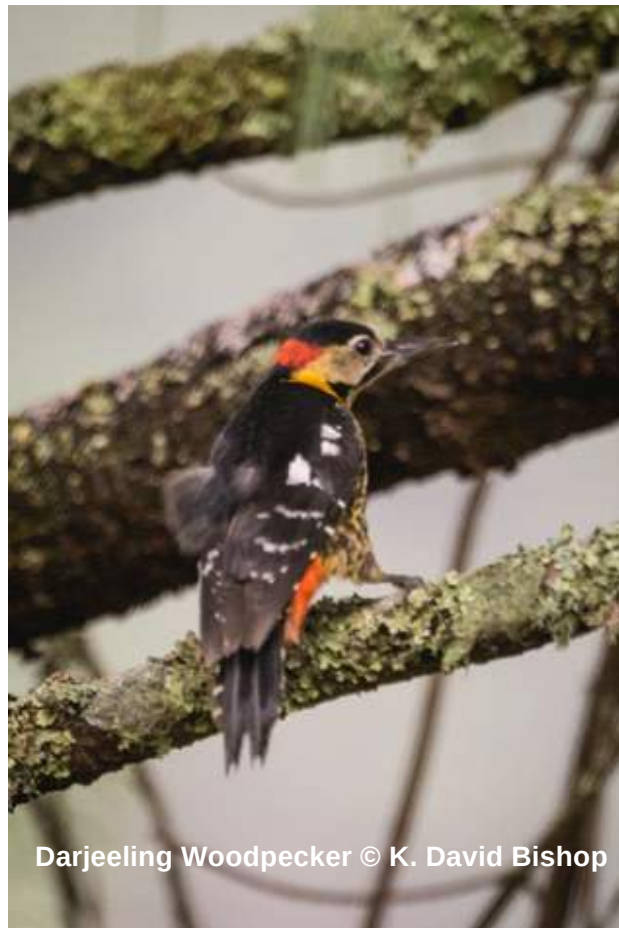
A truly fabulous Asian woodpecker. We saw three in the Ha Valley in a mixed woodpecker flock together with Crimson-breasted and Darjeeling woodpeckers; two in the Cheri Valley; one on Dochu La and three on Pele La.

111. Crimson-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos c. cathpharius*

One male in the Ha Valley in a mixed woodpecker flock together with Rufous-bellied and Darjeeling woodpeckers; one male in the Cheri valley and three on Pele La.

112. Darjeeling Woodpecker *Picoides darjellensis*

One pair in the Ha Valley in a mixed woodpecker flock together with Rufous-bellied and Crimson-breasted woodpeckers and one on Pele La.



Darjeeling Woodpecker © K. David Bishop

113. Lesser Yellownape *Picus c. chlorolophus*

Two along the Tashitang Trail; one male between our Jigmicholing Camp and Geylephu and one in Sal Forest near Geylephu.

114. Greater Yellownape *Picus f. flavinucha*
Great views of a male on the Limithang Road and on the Zhemgang Road.
115. Gray-headed (Grey-faced) Woodpecker *Picus canus hessei*
Excellent views of a pair along the Tashitang Trail; one along the Zhemgang Road; one in the Mangde Chu Valley; heard on Tama La; heard between our Jigmicholing Camp and Geyelephu and one in Sal Forest west of Geyelephu.
116. Rufous Woodpecker *Micropternus brachurus phaiiceps*
One nesting in a dead tree along the Mangde Chu above Tingtibi.
117. Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus p. pyrrhotis*
As is often the case heard commonly but only seen fleetingly albeit on several occasions.

Falcons FALCONIDAE

118. Common (Eurasian) Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus interstinctus*
Five in the Paro Valley; one in the Ha Valley; one along the Mo Chu; one along the Tashitang Trail; one over Pele La and one en route to Trongsa; a male in the Jakar Valley and a female in the upper Mangde Chu Valley. A widespread, common and frequently encountered resident and winter visitor to Bhutan.
119. Eurasian Hobby *Falco s. subbuteo*
One over our Jigmicholing Camp. NOTE: The resident population in Bhutan appears to belong to the Palaearctic subspecies. This is interesting as immediately to the east of Bhutan this species is seemingly only represented by wintering birds.
120. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus subsp?*
Thanks to David A. we enjoyed good views of a female perched over the lower Mangde Chu below Tingtibi.

Parakeets PSITTACIDAE

121. Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria nipalensis*
Three in Sal Forest circa 5km west of Geyelephu.
122. Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri borealis*
Seven in Sal Forest west of Geyelephu.
123. Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri fasciata*
Two near Geyelephu and five in Sal Forest circa 5km west of Geyelephu.

PASSERINES

Broadbills EURYLAIMIDAE

124. Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus d. dalhousiae*

Finally one seen well as we descended from our Jigmicholing Camp through slightly degraded subtropical forest above Geylephu. Heard at several other sites.

125. **Silver-breasted Broadbill *Serilophus lunatus rubropygius***

An adult female and her near-fledged young put on quite a show – perching and calling from right above where we were having brunch during our descent from Jigmicholing to Geylephu (575m elevation). This appears to be only the second record of this species for Bhutan. Prior to our observation this species was thought to be a vagrant winter visitor, however, our observation suggests this species may in fact be a very localised breeding bird. Yet another species to add to the ever burdgeoning Bhutan list of breeding birds.



Female Silver-breasted Broadbill
© K. David Bishop

Vangas & Allies VANGIDAE

126. Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis gularis pelvicus*

Three in slightly degraded subtropical forest above Geylephu (575m elevation).

127. Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus capitalis*
Two with a mixed flock in the Shonkhar Chu Valley and small numbers along the Zhemgang Road and Mangde Chu Valley.

Woodswallows ARTAMIDAE

128. Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus*
Four over Sal Forest circa 4km west of Geylephu.

Ioras AEGITHINIDAE

129. Common Iora *Aegithina t. tiphia*
Two in partially degraded subtropical forest above Geylephu.

Cuckooshrikes CAMPEPHAGIDAE

130. Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus s. solaris*
Several pairs and singles seen very nicely, often with mixed species flocks in mid-altitude forests especially in the east.
131. Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus b. brevirostris*
One pair as we ascended from Jakar to Thrumsing La and a second pair on the slopes of Tama La.
132. Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus laetus*
Widespread and moderately common; recorded on eight days.
133. Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus s. speciosus*
Seven along the Tashitang Trail; one male on the lower Limithang Road; common between Trongsa and Zhemgang; along the Zhemgang Road; in the lower Mangde Chu Valley; between Jigmicholing and Geylephu and in Sal Forest west of Geylephu. NOTE: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) show that southern India populations should be treated as a separate species. Consequently northern populations take the specific name *speciosus*.
134. Large Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei nipalensis*
Two in woodland adjacent to river gravels along the Mou Khola River near Geylephu and three in Sal Forest west of Geylephu.
135. Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike *Lalage (Coracina) m. melaschistos*
Widespread and locally common.

Shrikes LANIIDAE

136. Brown Shrike *Lanius c. cristatus*
Excellent views of one of these Palaearctic migrants along the Mo Chu; one in the Mangde Chu Valley and two in scrub on the Bhutan border with India.
137. Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach tricolor*
Widespread and common in open habitat.
138. Gray-backed Shrike *Lanius t. tephronotus*
Widespread and common, recorded almost daily.

Shrike-Babblers VIREONIDAE

139. Blyth's (White-browed) Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius (flaviscapis) aerulatus validirostris*

Fine views of a male with a mixed flock on Pele La; one male on the Limithang Road and three on the Zhemgang Road.

140. Black-eared Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius m. melanotis*

Great views of a pair of these striking birds with a mixed flock along the Limithang Road.



141. White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis z. zantholeuca*

Six on the Zhemgang Road and two below our Jigmicholing camp.

Old World Orioles ORIOLIDAE

142. H Slender-billed Oriole *Oriolus t. tenuirostris*

One heard in pine woods around our Punakha hotel.

143. Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus x. xanthornus*

Four in Sal Forest west of Geylephu. A very localised species in Bhutan.

144. Maroon Oriole *Oriolus t. trailli*

Two seen on Dochu La; an impressive total of 14 recorded along the Tashitang Trail; one below Trongsa; four on the Zhemgang Road and four between Geylephu and Sarpang.

Drongos DICRURIDAE

145. Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus albirictus*

Just one circa 8km west of Geylephu. NOTE: Asian populations were once

united with African Black Drongo under *D. adsimilis* are now widely treated as a separate species *macrocerus*.

146. Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus hopwoodi*

Widespread and common to very common, recorded almost daily.

147. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus a. aeneus*

Common in the upper Mangde Chu Valley AND daily to below Jigmicholing.

148. Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer tectirostris*

Two on the Limithang Road and one exhibiting a remarkable display flight at the same site two days later; one on the Zhemgang Road and one below Jigmicholing.

149. Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus h. hottentotus*

Three on the Tashitang Trail and four there the next morning; two below Jigmicholing and quite common (circa ten counted) in Sal Forest west of Geylephu and two above Sarpang.

Fantails RHIPIDURIDAE

150. White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis stanleyi*

Widespread in low numbers.

Monarch Flycatchers Monarchidae

151. Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea styani*

One male in slightly degraded sub-tropical forest above Geylephu.

152. Blyth's Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone affinis saturator*

A female of this infrequently seen (in Bhutan) species with a mixed flock within slightly degraded sub-tropical forest above Geylephu. NOTE: Asian Paradise-Flycatcher has been split into three species: Blyth's, Amur and Indian. See below courtesy Clements checklist of birds of the world.

Blyth's Paradise-Flycatcher

<i>Terpsiphone affinis saturator</i>	breeds in the eastern Himalayas, northeastern India (Assam), and Bangladesh. winters at lower elevations, but nonbreeding range poorly known: often reported to winter to Malay Peninsula, but perhaps only a vagrant that far south
<i>Terpsiphone affinis burmae</i>	Central and s Myanmar
<i>Terpsiphone affinis indochinensis</i>	S China (s Yunnan) to s Thailand and Indochina
<i>Terpsiphone affinis affinis</i>	Malaya, Sumatra, Riau and Lingga arch., Bangka, Belitung is.
<i>Terpsiphone affinis nicobarica</i>	Nicobar Islands
<i>Terpsiphone affinis madzoedi</i>	N Sumatra
<i>Terpsiphone affinis australis</i>	S Sumatra and Java

<i>Terpsiphone affinis borneensis</i>	Borneo
<i>Terpsiphone affinis procera</i>	Simeulue I. (off Sumatra)
<i>Terpsiphone affinis insularis</i>	Nias I. (off Sumatra)
<i>Terpsiphone affinis sumbaensis</i>	Sumba (w Lesser Sundas)
<i>Terpsiphone affinis floris</i>	W Lesser Sundas (Sumbawa, Alor, Besar, Lomblen and Flores)

Amur Paradise-Flycatcher

Amur Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone incei</i>	breeds China, Manchuria and Japan; winters to Thailand, Indochina, the Thai-Malay Peninsula, and Sumatra
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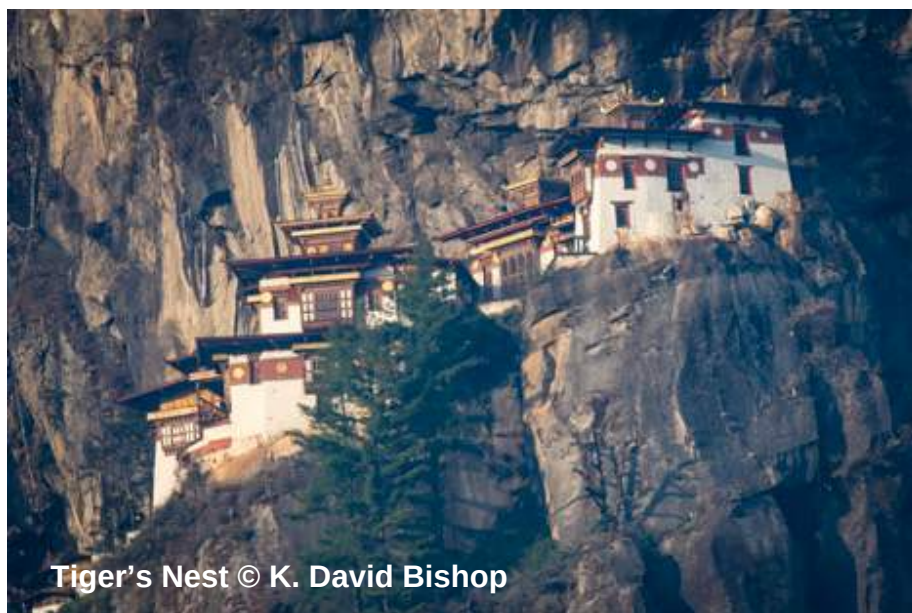
Indian Paradise-Flycatcher

Indian Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	
	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi leucogaster</i>	Mountains of Afghanistan, Pakistan and w India
	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi paradisi</i>	Central and s India; > to Sri Lanka
	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi ceylonensis</i>	Sri Lanka

Crows, Jays & Magpies CORVIDAE

153. Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius interstinctus*

Surprisingly just one of this rather distinctive race seen on Dochu La.



Tiger's Nest © K. David Bishop

154. Yellow-billed Blue (Gold-billed) Magpie *Urocissa f. flavirostris*

One of the many, truly great birds of Bhutan and the Himalayas. Widespread

and common, especially at the upper forest edge and around relatively undisturbed farmhouses from Cheli La east to Thrumsing La.

155. Common Green Magpie *Cissa c. chinensis*
Superb views of one below Trongsa.
156. Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta v. vagbunda*
Three in Sal Forest west of Geylephu.
157. Grey (Himalayan) Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae himalayensis*
Widespread and locally moderately common especially along the Limithang and Zhemgang roads.
158. Eurasian (Black-billed) Magpie *Pica pica bottanensis*
Common in the upland valleys of the Bumthang Region.
159. Eurasian (Spotted) Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes macella*
Widespread and common at higher elevations within Boreal Forest and lightly wooded Yak pastures from Cheli La and the Cheri Valley east to the Limithang Road. NOTE: This taxon is sometimes split from populations to the west viz. Larger Spotted Nutcracker *Nucifraga multipunctata*.
160. Red-billed Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax himalayanus*
Moderately common in groups of 2 to 70 within open fields surrounded by woodland, especially in the west.
161. House Crow *Corvus s. splendens*
Just two in Thimpu and common in and around Geylephu.
162. Large-billed Crow *Corvus japonensis*
Common to very common and widespread, recorded daily. NOTE: A revision of the entire 'Large-billed Crow' complex has been proposed (see Rasmussen and Anderton 2005). The very large-billed birds that inhabit the Himalayas from Afghanistan eastwards to Arunachal Pradesh are the birds we observed in Bhutan and they appropriately retain the common name Large-billed Crow but are given the specific name *japonensis*. Populations in the lowlands of NE India are now referred to as Eastern Jungle Crow *C. levaillantii* and populations in peninsula India, south from the base of the Himalayas are referred to as Indian Jungle Crow *C. culminatus*. Based on my own observations of the Indian sub-continent and populations elsewhere in SE Asia I completely concur with these authors revision of this fascinating group.
163. Eastern Jungle Crow *Corvus levaillantii*
Common around Geylephu.

Swallows & Martins HIRUNDINIDAE

164. Gray-throated Martin *Riparia c. chinensis*
Four along the Po Chu.

165. Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropsis daurica erythropygia*

A total of circa 20 foraging around houses where some may have been nesting on the lower slopes of Tama La.

166. Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus cashmiriense*

Four studied at length as they collected mud to make their nests high on rocky crags along the road from Uru to Gayzamchu. As a consequence we were able to examine these birds closely such that we were very comfortable with the ID – this species is very difficult to separate from Nepal House Martin and appears to be quite uncommon nowadays in Bhutan.

167. Nepal House Martin *Delichon nipalensis nipalense*

At least 50 attending a traditional nesting site just above the village of Namling on the Limithang Road. Thereafter seen on a couple more days along the Limithang Road.



Fairy Flycatchers STENOSTIRIDAE

168. Yellow-bellied Fairy-Fantail *Chelidohynx (Rhipidura) hypoxantha*

Seen in low numbers (<2), often with mixed flocks on at least seven days.

169. Gray-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicacapa ceylonensis calochrysea*

Widespread and moderately common.

Tits PARIDAE

170. Coal Tit *Periparus (Parus) ater aemodius*
Widespread and common in all high elevation Boreal forests. Often together with several other species of tits in classic mixed tit flocks.
171. Rufous-vented Tit *Periparus (Parus) rubidiventris beavani*
Common; recorded on seven days invariably with mixed tit flocks in high elevation Boreal forests.
172. Grey-crested Tit *Lophophanes (Parus) d. dichrous*
Recorded on five days but this year often in good numbers (<10) invariably with mixed tit flocks in high elevation Boreal forests.
173. Cinereous Tit *Parus cinereus nipalensis*
Six heard and seen in the lightly wooded outskirts of Geylephu. NOTE: Split by some authorities from Great Tit *P. major* (see Rasmussen & Anderton 2012 and IOC Checklist).
174. Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus yunnanensis*
This attractive Himalayan species was common to locally abundant and ubiquitous in suitable forested habitat. Seen daily at all localities visited. One of the most frequently seen species.
175. Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus s. spilonotus*
This very snazzy looking bird was locally common this year with as many as circa 15 observed along the Zhemgang Road plus six on the slopes of Tama La. Surprisingly just one along the Limithang Road.
176. Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus m. modestus*
Widespread and moderately common, especially in mixed species flocks at higher elevation Boreal forests.
177. Sultan Tit *Melanochloa s. sultanea*
What a stunner! Exceptional views of circa 12 on the Limithang Road; two along the Zhemgang Road; eight in the lower Mangde Chu Valley and two between Jigmicholing and Geylephu.

Long-tailed Tits AEGITHALIDAE

178. Black-throated Tit *Aegithalos concinnus* subsp?
A delightful species and a great favourite with everyone. This year this species was recorded on eight days ranging across the breadth of our Bhutan transect.
179. Black-browed Tit *Aegithalos i. iouschistos*
Rather scarce this year: eight with a mixed flock in the Ha Valley; six on Dochu La; two on Pele La and just two on the Limithang Road.



Black-throated Tit © K. David Bishop

Nuthatches SITTIDAE

180. Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *Sitta citrinocristata koelzi*

One pair on the Zhemgang Road; two pairs in the in the Mangde Chu Valley; moderately common between Jigmicholing and Geyelephu; five in Sal Forest west of Geyelephu and one lovely male as we ascended towards Tsirang. NOTE: This taxon forms a superspecies with Eurasian Nuthatch *S. europaea*, Chestnut-vented Nuthatch *S. nagaensis*, Kashmir Nuthatch *S. cashmirensis*, Indian Nuthatch *S. castanea*, and Neglected Nuthatch *S. neglecta* and often treated as conspecific with the last of these two taxa under the name Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *S. castanea*. However, *S. cinnamoventris* overlaps in range with *S. nagaensis* but separates altitudinally. *S. cinnamoventris* differs markedly morphologically and vocally from *S. castanea*. (see Rasmussen & Anderton 2005; HBW).

181. White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis*

Widespread but this year notably uncommon; usually in mixed species flocks.

182. **Beautiful Nuthatch *Sitta formosa***

Undoubtedly one of the most delightful highlights of the tour. We found at least one bird with young on two days on the Limithang Road. For many years we have speculated that this species should occur here but to no avail. Thus it was especially wonderful to find this very special species at this special site.

Wallcreeper TICHODROMIDAE

183. **Wallcreeper *Tichodroma muraria nepalensis***

An exceptional close and prolonged encounter, in the Paro Valley, with this softly marked gem as it foraged on a roadside cliff, permitting us to really get to know this bird. Wonderful!

Treecreepers CERTHIDAE

184. Hodgson's (Eurasian) Treecreeper *Certhia (familiaris) hodgsoni mandellii*

Singles seen well as we ascended through impressive in magnificent old growth Boreal forest on Cheli La; above Ura and Thrumsing La. NOTE: Formally treated as conspecific with *C. familiaris* Eurasian Treecreeper, however clear genetic and vocal differences indicate that populations in the Himalayas (including Bhutan) and the mountains of S China should be treated as a separate species: Hodgson's Treecreeper *C. hodgsoni*

185. Rusty-flanked Treecreeper *Certhia nipalensis*

Fine views of this uncommon species in magnificent old growth Boreal forest above Cheri within Jigme-Dorji National Park; thanks to some good work by Nancy we enjoyed great views of two on Pele La; and one on Thrumsing La.

186. Sikkim (Brown-throated) Treecreeper *Certhia discolor*

Heard at a scatter of localities and finally seen well on Tama La. NOTE: Clear genetic and vocal differences indicate that what was until recently regarded as one species is now regarded as comprising two distinct species: Sikkim Treecreeper *C. discolor* through the central and eastern Himalayas (including Bhutan) east to SW China and Manipur Treecreeper *C. manipurensis* which is distributed from NE India to parts of Burma, Thailand and Vietnam.

Wrens TROGLODYTIDAE

187. Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes nipalensis*

Singles seen within old growth Boreal forest on two days on Thrumsing La.

Dippers CINCLIDAE

188. Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii tenuirostris*

Two along the Paro Chu; two in the Ha Valley; one along the Mo Chu; one along the Puna Tsang Chu and one on the lower slopes of Tama La.

Bulbuls PYCNONOTIDAE

189. Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus s. striatus*

A strikingly handsome bulbul. Small numbers along the Limithang Road and heard as we ascended towards Tsirang.

190. Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus f. flaviventris*

Three in the lower Mangde Chu Valley; ten below Jimicholing in slightly degraded subtropical forest; one in Sal Forest west of Geylephu and six as we ascended towards Tsirang. 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; *P. dispar* – Sumatra; and *P. montis* – Borneo. (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).

191. Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer bengalensis*

Ubiquitous in all but the most densely forested areas up to circa 2,300m. For example it was notably common in the Shonkhar Chu Valley.

192. Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus monticola*

Thanks to some good work by Nancy we enjoyed good views of one as we descended Tama La towards Jigmicholing; notably common (circa 20) in scrub and Sal Forest west of Geylephu.

193. White-throated Bulbul *Alphoixus f. flaveolus*

Small numbers (<2) in the lower Mangde Chu Valley; many seen within slightly degraded subtropical forest below Jigmicholing and at least six in Sal Forest west of Geylephu.

194. Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus pasaroides*

Widespread and often common with as many as circa 20 or more being seen per day; recorded almost daily.



195. Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos f. flavala*

Daily in modest numbers (<10) from below Trongso; along the Zhemgang Road; the lower Mangde Chu Valley; below our camp near Jigmicholing to Geylephu and from Geylephu to Tsirang.

196. Mountain Bulbul *Hypsipetes m. maclellandi*
The bulbul with the 'bad hair day'; one along the Tashitang Trail; four along the Limithang Road and small numbers (<2) daily from Trongsa to Geylephu.

Goldcrests Regulidae

197. Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*
At least one male seen well in Boreal Forest on our last morning on Cheli La.

Cupwings PNOEPYGIDAE

198. **Scaly-breasted Cupwing** *Pnoepyga a. albiventer*
Arguably THE bird of the trip! Sensational views of this fabulous little forest sprite as he sang his heart out right in front of us along the Limithang Road. Fabulous. Also heard on Yutong La.
199. **H Pygmy (Wren-Babbler) Cupwing** *Pnoepyga p. pusilla*
Heard commonly on the Limithang Road. NOTE: These two species plus two others that do not occur in Bhutan and all in the genus *Pnoepyga* has recently been placed in a newly erected family viz Cupwings Pnoepygidae.

Bush-Warblers & Allies CETTIDAE

200. Gray-bellied Tesia *Tesia cyaniventer*
Heard occasionally and glimpsed along the Limithang Road.
201. Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivea*
Heard along the Tashitang Trail and regularly along the Limithang and Shemgang roads and finally seen between Sarpang and Tsirang.
202. Gray-sided Bush-Warbler *Cettia b. brunnifrons*
Fine views of one on Pele La and also heard commonly. Thereafter several heard daily east to the Limithang Road
203. Chestnut-headed Tesia *Cettia (Tesia) c. castaneocoronata*
We enjoyed remarkable views of this charismatic species in the Jigmi Dorji National Park above Cheri. Thereafter this species was heard and seen fairly commonly east to the Limithang Road.
204. Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopos supercilialis flaviventris*
A total of 12 seen and heard within stands of giant bamboo in the lower Mangde Chu Valley.
205. Black-faced Warbler *Abroscopus s. schisticeps*
One of the most attractive and charming of all Old World Warblers. Nevertheless it was a quiet year for this species with just ten counted on the Zhemgang Road and four on Tama La.
206. Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cucullatus*
One with a mixed flock on the Limithang Road.

207. Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler *Horornis (Cettia) f. fortipes*
Heard on several days, invariably in open, scrubby country with one very obliging individual seen on the Limithang Road.
208. Hume's Bush-Warbler *Horornis (Cettia) brunnescens*
Three seen in dwarf bamboo as we descended from Yutong La into the Chummey Valley and good looks at one as we climbed toward Gayzam Chu.

Leaf Warblers PHYLLOSCOPIDAE

209. Tickell's Leaf-warbler *Phylloscopus a. affinis*
Moderately common this year; one in the Ha Valley; one on Dochu La; four on the slopes of Yutong La; two on the Limithang Road and four along the Zhemgang Road.
210. Buff- (Orange) barred Warbler *Phylloscopus p. pulcher*
Widespread and regularly recorded at higher altitudes in low numbers (1-4).
211. Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus m. maculipennis*
Widespread and generally common, most frequently encountered in mixed species flocks at higher altitudes (circa 15 on Pele La). Also known as Grey-faced Warbler, Grey-faced Leaf-Warbler, Grey-throated Willow Warbler.



Ashy-throated Warbler © K. David Bishop

212. Pale-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Warbler *Phylloscopus c. chloronotus*
Moderately common this year with birds being seen, seemingly invariably in pairs in the Ha Valley; Pele La; Yutong La and the Limithang Road. NOTE: Several small and very similar *Phylloscopus* warblers were until recently considered to be a sub-species of Pallas's Warbler *P. proregulus*. Fieldwork in the mountains of central China by Per Alstrom and Urban Olsson has established that the forms *chloronotus* and *kansuensis* which were formerly considered to be subspecies of *P. proregulus* are in fact distinct species; Lemon-rumped Warbler *P. chloronotus* and Gansu Leaf Warbler *P. kansuensis*. This work continues and other taxa revealed some of which may winter or occur on passage in Bhutan.
213. Hume's Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus humei subsp?*
Widespread in small numbers. This and a couple of other very similar and very confusing species provide quite an identification challenge.
214. Large-billed Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus magnirostris*
One in Jigmi Dorji National Park above Cheri; one on Dochu La and several along the Limithang Road.
215. Blyth's Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus r. reguloides*
Widespread but common being seen and heard most days. Also known as Blyth's Crowned Leaf Warbler, Blyth's Crowned Willow Warbler.
216. Yellow-vented Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus c. cantator*
Great looks at circa 12 along the Tashitang Trail including many with a mixed flock. Two on the Zhemgang Road; six in the lower Mangde Chu Valley; two on Tama La and six below our Jigmicholing Camp. This is a distinctive and relatively little known *Phylloscopus* species. Also known as Yellow-faced Leaf Warbler or Yellow-throated Leaf Warbler.
217. Grey-hooded Warbler *Seicercus xanthoschistos jerdoni*
Notably common this year with circa 20 along the Tashitang Trail; small numbers (2 daily) along the Limithang Road and common from Trongsa to Zhemgang, along the Zhemgang Road, the lower Mangde Chu Valley, Tama La and below our Jigmicholing Camp.
218. Golden-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus burkii*
Two definitive individuals seen and heard nicely along the Limithang Road. Several others heard elsewhere.
219. Whistler's (Golden-spectacled) Warbler *Seicercus whistleri nemoralis*
Widespread in small numbers. NOTE: The Golden-spectacled Warbler has until very recently been treated as a single species, *Seicercus burkii*, widely distributed in the mountains of southern Asia. An important paper by Per Alstrom and others provides strong evidence that this taxon is actually a complex of six species. At least two species occur and probably breed in Bhutan: Golden-spectacled Warbler *S. burkii* and Whistler's Warbler *S. whistleri*. See Ibis (1999) 141, pp 545-568 and Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

220. White-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus a. affinis*
One seen superbly at Namling on the Limithang Road; one as we climbed towards our Zhemgang Camp and two with a mixed flock on Tama La.
221. Grey-cheeked Warbler *Seicercus poliogenys*
Good looks at one along the Limithang Road.
222. Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus c. castaniceps*
Widespread but mostly seen in low numbers, invariably with mixed species flocks.

Reed-Warblers ACROCEPHALIDAE

223. Blyth's Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*
One in the Paro Valley. This is a rare migrant in Bhutan.

Cisticolas & Allies CISTICOLIDAE

224. Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius patia*
One on the Zhemgang Road; two below our Jigmicholing Camp and two in scrub west of Geylephu on the Bhutan border with India.
225. Striated Prinia *Prinia criniger*
Great views of two on the Limithang Road; as many as ten in scrubby grassland in the upper Mangde Chu Valley (below Trongsa); two in the lower Mangde Chu Valley and one in scrub west of Geylephu on the Bhutan border with India.
226. Black-throated Hill Prinia *Prinia a. atrogularis*
Superb views of a pair on the Zhemgang Road.

Babblers – Colloquially known as ‘Real Birds’ (well at least by KDB) this is the most heterogenous group of Asian birds reflecting a surprising and generally very attractive diversity of form and function. Systematics of Asian birds has lagged behind that of other continents for an overly long time. Happily that situation is being rapidly redressed and the recent publication of Rasmussen & Anderton (2005 – Birds of South Asia) and even more recently volume 12 of the Handbook of the Birds of the World (HBW) got things underway. This work, especially the biogenetic analysis has now taken this process even further and as a consequence babblers have been completely revised and split into at least five families. I have tried to indicate these changes below and to relate them to our field guide in order to reduce confusion. Several worthy splits and numerous re-assignments at the generic level have now been confirmed.

Parrotbills & Allies PARADOXORNITHIDAE

227. Golden-breasted Fulvetta *Lioparus (Alcippe) c. chrysotis*
Superb views of two of these handsome birds in bamboo below Namling on the Limithang Road.

228. White-browed Fulvetta *Fulvetta (Alcippe) vinipectus chumbiensis*
Widespread and locally common, usually with mixed species flocks in the understorey of both mixed Evergreen and Cool Mixed Broad-leaved Forest at higher elevations.
229. Brown Parrotbill *Choloronis (Paradoxornis) unicolor*
A flock of five seen well in the Ha Valley was a nice surprise.
230. White-breasted Parrotbill *Psittiparus (Paradoxornis) ruficeps*
Great views of at least 15 in a mixed flock together with Rufous-fronted Barwings. The flock was foraging upslope on a steep incline around a dense patch of wild bananas and bamboo regrowth, circa 1,800m on the Limithang Road. NOTE: Previously known as Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill. This taxa has been split into two species: *P. b. bakeri* S Assam (south of the Brahmaputra) to n and e Myanmar and *P. bakeri magnirostris* in the Highlands of central Tonkin, Vietnam.
231. Black-throated Parrotbill *Suthora nipalensis crocotius*
Two in bamboo below Namling on the Limithang Road.
232. Pale-billed Parrotbill *Chleuasicus (Paradoxornis) atrosuperciliaris oatesi*
Exceptional views of two of these wonderful but oh so rarely encountered birds in a large, monotypic stand of Giant Bamboo *Dendrocalamus* sp in the lower Mangde Chu Valley. NOTE: Previously known as Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill,

Yuhinas, White-eyes & Allies Zosteropidae

233. Striated Yuhina *Yuhina castaniceps plumbeiceps*
A rather localised species; eight on the slopes just below Zhemgang; ten on the Zhemgang Road; common in the Mangde Chu Valley and at circa 600m between Jigmicholing and Geylephu; circa 12 between Sarpang and Tsirang.
234. White-naped Yuhina *Yuhina bakeri*.
This handsome species is by far the least common species of Yuhina in Bhutan. We saw a group of six on the Zhemgang Road and one between Sarpang and Tsirang.
235. Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina f. flavicollis*
Wonderfully widespread and common and recorded on eleven days. Regularly observed in mixed species flocks and mono-specific flocks in mixed Broad-leaved Forest.
236. Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina g. gularis*
Widespread and moderately common at high elevations.
237. Rufous-vented Yuhina *Yuhina o. occipitalis*
Widespread and common to very common, daily from Cheli La east to the Limithang Road, especially at higher elevations.



238. Black-chinned Yuhina *Yuhina n. nigrimenta*
Locally common this year with circa 30 recorded on one day along the Zhemgang Road. Circa 30 as we ascended from Sarpang towards Tsirang. Also known as Black-lored Yuhina.

239. Oriental White-eye *Zosterops p. palpebrosus*
Recorded on ten days at medium altitudes especially along the Zhemgang Road.

Tree-Babblers TIMALIIDAE

240. Pin-striped Tit-Babbler *Mixornis (Macronus) gularis rubricapilla*
Two seen well in lightly disturbed subtropical forest, circa 400m above Geylephu. NOTE: Formerly treated as conspecific with the Bornean population, however, clear morphological, biogeographic and vocal differences strongly suggest these two taxa should be treated as separate species.
241. Golden Babbler *Cyanoderma (Stachyridopsis, Stachyris) c. chrysaeum*
Totals of six and two on two days along the Limithang and four along the Zhemgang Road.
242. Rufous-capped Babbler *Cyanoderma (Stachyris) r. ruficeps*
Just two along the Zhemgang Road.
243. Rufous-fronted Babbler *Cyanoderma (Stachyris) rufifrons* subsp?
One with a mixed flock in the Ha Valley.

244. Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis caudatus*
Heard commonly and seen rather briefly along the Limithang Road.
245. Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus f. ferruginosus*
Incredible views of at least two together with a flock of Rufous-fronted Barwings within dense vegetation alongside a damp gulley between Sarpang and Tsirang.
246. Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus (Xiphirhynchus) s. superciliaris*
Superb views of one on Pele La and pair at 2,100m along the Limithang Road.
Also known as Sicklebilled Scimitar-babbler.
247. Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis godwini*
Great views of two very responsive birds in the Ha Valley; heard on Dochu La and regularly along the Limithang Road and two seen nicely on the Zhemgang Road.
248. White-browed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus s. schisticeps*
A pair of this handsome species was seen nicely below Jigmicholing and heard in the Mangde Chu Valley.
249. Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys harringtoni*
Moderately common in scrubby edges to farmland such as in the Shonkhar Chu Valley; the Upper Mangde Chu Valley below Trongsa and at low elevations on the Zhemgang Road.
250. Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris n. nigriceps*
Very uncommon this year with just one seen on the Zhemgang Road.

Ground-Babblers PELLORNEIDAE

251. White-hooded Babbler *Gampsorhynchus rufulus*
A flock of ten in bamboo along the Mangde Chu Valley made for great excitement.
252. Yellow-throated Fulvetta *Schoeniparus (Alcippe) cinerea*
In many ways this species epitomises the quality of the birding in Bhutan. A little known and rarely if ever seen species throughout most of its range it is locally common in Bhutan. However, this year we struggled with this species especially along the wonderful Limithang Road where we only heard it. However, we saw six on one day on the Zhemgang Road and six between Sarpang and Tsirang.
253. Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Schoeniparus (Alcippe) c. castaneiceps*
Low numbers observed on five days invariably with mixed flocks within cool mixed Broad-leaved Forest, typically with mixed flocks.
254. Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps mandellii*
One heard in scrub along the Bhutan border with India.
255. Long-billed Wren-Babbler *Napothera (Rimator) malacoptila*
One of these little sprites put on a great show along with two others that we

heard on the Limithang Road.



Laughingthrushes & Allies LEIOTHRICHIDAE

256. Nepal Fulvetta *Alcippe n. nipalensis*

Usually very skulking and locally quite numerous, this year, however, we were treated to several very good views of this interesting looking species including a total of circa 19 along the Tashitang Trail and six on two days along the Zhemgang Road.

257. Striated Laughingthrush *Grammatoptila (Garrulax) striata sikkimensis*

Common and recorded widely in suitable forested habitat on most days.

258. Himalayan Cutia *Cutia n. nipalensis*

Sensational views of a pair on the Limithang Road and four the following day including a nesting pair; another pair on the Zhemgang Road were exceptionally confiding. NOTE: Formerly treated as conspecific with *C. legalleni* Vietnamese Cutia.

259. Jungle Babbler *Turdoides s. striata*

12 and 10 recorded on two days in and around Geylephu.



Male Cutia ©
K. David Bishop

260. White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax l. leucolophus*
One of the most attractive and effervescent of Asia's laughingthrushes. Locally common along the Zhemgang Road and heard commonly as we ascended towards Tsirang. NOTE: Sumatran populations are now treated as a separate species *G. bicolor* Black-and-white-Laughingthrush
261. Lesser-necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax m. moniliger*
Two in giant bamboo in the Mangde Chu Valley.
262. Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush *Ianthocincla (Garrulax) r. rufogularis*
This scarce species is always elusive so we were very fortunate to see single birds on two days as we drove from Trongsa to Zhemgang and along the Zhemgang Road.
263. Spotted Laughingthrush *Ianthocincla (Garrulax) o. ocellata*
Exceptional views of two of these spectacular birds singing in woodland on Pele La. Just hearing this species is sheer joy.
264. White-throated Laughingthrush *Ianthocincla (Garrulax) a. albogularis*
Widespread and common, locally very common; occasionally in flocks of >50 with daily totals occasionally exceeding 150. Recorded on most days.

265. Rufous-necked Laughingthrush *Ianthocincla (Garrulax) ruficollis*
Fabulous views of a flock of ten in the Shonkhar Chu Valley and ten more between Sarpang and Tsirang.
266. H Gray-sided Laughingthrush *Ianthocincla (Garrulax) caerulatus*
Just a single bird heard between Sarpang and Tsirang.
267. Bhutan Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron (Garrulax) imbricatum*
Rather few records this year with two seen on three days along the Limithang Road; two between Trongsa and Zhemgang and two on the Zhemgang Road. NOTE: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) present good evidence for splitting this taxon from Streaked Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron (Garrulax) lineatus*. The Bhutan Laughingthrush ranges throughout Bhutan eastwards to W Aranachal Pradesh. Formerly placed in *Garrulax*.
268. Blue-winged Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron (Garrulax) squamatum*
A good year for this normally very difficult species. We observed a total of six on Pele La, which was a nice surprise, followed, amazingly by ten the next morning not far from our camp. Thereafter it was heard between Trongsa and Zhemgang and four were seen very nicely on the Zhemgang Road.
269. Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron (Garrulax) affinis bethelae*
Widespread and fairly common this year typically at upper elevations.
270. Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron (Garrulax) erythrocephalum nigrimentum*
One with a mixed flock in the Ha Valley; three in the Cheri Valley; two on the upper slopes of the Phobjika Valley; four on Pele La and one on the Limithang Road. NOTE: Formerly conspecific with *T. chrysopterum* Assam Laughingthrush, *T. melanostigma* Silver-eared Laughingthrush, and *T. peninsulae* Malayan Laughingthrush. Formerly placed in *Garrulax*.
271. Rufous (Black-capped) Sibia s *Heterophasia capistrata bayleyi*
Common to occasionally abundant and ubiquitous and seen almost daily.
272. Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia p. picaoides*
Three along the Tashitang Trail.
273. Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix a. argenteauris*
We saw four of this very striking species just below Zhemgang; common in lightly disturbed sub-tropical forest below our Jigmicholing Camp and circa ten between Sarpang and Tsirang.
274. Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea calipyga*
A truly lovely songster; we saw four followed by two the following day along the Limithang Road and superb views of two on the Zhemgang Road.



Male Red-tailed Minla © K. David Bishop

275. Red-tailed Minla *Minla i. ignotincta*

What a fabulous bird, definitely one of my all-time favourites. Three with a mixed flock in the Cheri Valley; two on Pele La and two on the upper slopes of the Phobjika Valley and an amazing circa 20 on the Limithang Road.

276. Red-faced Liocichla *Liocichla p. phoenicea*

Fine views of three along the Zhemgang Road; thereafter four in lightly disturbed subtropical forest below our Jigmicholing Camp.

277. Hoary Barwing *Actinodura nipalensis vinctura*

Exceptional views of three on Pele La

278. Rusty-fronted Barwing *Actinodura e. egertoni*

Fabulous views of 2-3 daily along the Limithang Road; one on the Zhemgang Road and eight with Coral-billed Scimitar-Babblers at circa 600m between Sarpang and Tsirang. .

279. Blue-winged Minla *Minla c. cyanouroptera*

One on Dochu La; a maxima of ten on one morning on the Limithang Road and 2-3 most other days along that marvellous road; a total of ten along the Zhemgang Road; two on Tama La.

280. Chestnut-tailed Minla *Minla s. strigula*

This striking 'babbler' was commonly seen through out the tour.

Old World Flycatchers MUSCICAPIDAE

281. Dark-sided Flycatcher *Muscicapa sibirica cacabata*
Rather common this year; three along the Tashitang Trail; two in the Phobjika Valley; four on the Pele La old road; one near Chendibji; one near Gayzamchu; singles on two days along the Limithang Road and one on the Zhemgang Road.
282. Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa d. dauurica*
Two of this uncommon species (in Bhutan) near Chendibji Chorten.
283. Oriental Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis erimelas*
Widespread and moderately common at low and medium elevations in lightly wooded farmland and around settlements: Puna Tsang and Po chus, and from Yongkola thereafter daily to Tsirang.
284. White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus indicus*
One heard below our Jigmicholing Camp circa 600m elevation.
285. Pale Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis u. unicolor*
Relatively common this year with singles seen nicely along the Limithang Road; the Zhemgang Road and below our Jigmicholing Camp.
286. Blue-throated Flycatcher *Cyornis r. rubeculoides*
At least four in the upper Mangde Chu Valley; two on the Zhemgang Road; three in the lower Mangde Chu Valley and a pair between Sarpang and Tsirang.
287. Large Niltava *Niltava g. grandis*
Fine views of a male along the Limithang Road and heard along the Zhemgang Road.



Female Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher © K. David Bishop

288. Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae signata*
Widespread and locally common including superb views of glowing males and females (total six) singing on territory.

289. Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava s. sundara*
A real stunner, we saw just one male on the Limithang Road and two between Sarpang and Tsirang.
290. Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias t. thalassina*
Widespread and often a very common bird, seen on 12 days. A truly lovely bird.
291. **H** Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophrys nipalensis*
Heard on several days along the Limithang Road and at our camp just below Tsirang.
292. Blue Whistling-Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* subsp?
Widespread, common and ubiquitous; recorded daily 150 – 3,200m; at times pairs were recorded along every 100 - 200m of road; many nest in the concrete road culverts.
293. Little Forktail *Enicurus s. scouleri*
One seen superbly as we drove from Trongsa down into the Mangde Chu Valley.
294. Spotted Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus guttatus*
One as we made the long trek back to Paro from Tsirang.
295. Black-backed Forktail *Enicurus immaculatus*
One pair seen well in the Mangde Chu Valley, which was a nice surprise.
296. Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*
Amazingly just one seen, albeit very well as we descended from our Jigmicholong Camp towards Geylephu.
297. **H** White-tailed Robin *Cinclidium l. leucurum*
Heard along the Limithang Road; the upper Mangde Chu Valley and the Zhemgang Road.
298. Himalayan Bluetail *Tarsiger rufilatus*
Four including two superb males at high altitude on Cheli La; two males in the Ha Valley and three as we climbed towards Thrumsing La. Also known as Red-flanked Bluetail; Orange-flanked Bush-Robin. NOTE: Sino-Himalayan *rufilatus* and N Asian *cyanurus* are widely disjunct in breeding ranges. Consistent differences in morphology and song-types over wide areas indicate they are better treated as separate species (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
299. Rufous-breasted Bush-Robin *Tarsiger hyperythrus*
Fabulous views of this scarce high-elevation resident in Boreal Forest on the upper slopes of Thrumsing La.
300. White-browed Bush-Robin *Tarsiger i. indicus*
Fine views of this high-elevation resident in Boreal Forest on the upper slopes of Thrumsing La.
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301. Golden Bush-Robin *Tariger chrysaeus*
One male seen by a lucky few in the Ha Valley.
302. Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni australorientalis*
Notably uncommon this year:- a pair on the Limithang Road and four on the Zhemgang Road.
303. Taiga Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla*
An uncommon migrant in Bhutan, we saw just one this year, a male in breeding plumage in the Bumthang valleys.
304. Ultramarine Flycatcher *Ficedula superciliaris aestigma*
A truly lovely bird that graced us with fine views on just three days, often with mixed species flocks. Thanks to some great spotting by Ben we enjoyed fine views of a male in Jigmidorji NP and small numbers daily along the Tashitang Trail.
305. Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula s. strophciata*
Widespread and notably common this year with good numbers recorded almost daily east to the Limithang Road including totals of circa 20 on 23rd April and circa 15 on the 24th as we drove from Ura via Thrumsing La to Sengor and from Sengor down to Trogon Lodge.
306. Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula sordida*
One male seen well in the Ha Valley and a second male seen nicely in the Chummey Valley.
307. Sapphire Flycatcher *Ficedula s. sapphire*
Undoubtedly one THE highlights of the tour. We enjoyed sensational views of a lovely male as he foraged high in the canopy along the Limithang Road. And then even better views of another male the following day, also along the Limithang Road.
308. Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*
Notably very uncommon this year which may suggest that most birds had already passed through and were already on their breeding grounds in the alpine scrub zone. We recorded just a single male on Cheli La; two males in the Cheri Valley and just one male on the Limithang Road.
309. Plumbeous Redstart *Phoenicurus f. fuliginosus*
Widespread and common; seen on many days; usually seen in pairs with many males singing; found along virtually every stretch of creek, stream and river we encountered in addition to cliff-side waterfalls and springs.
310. White-capped Redstart *Phoenicurus (Chaimarrornis) leucocephalus*
Widespread and moderately common except where surprisingly absent on the middle Limithang Road. This attractive species was seen on many of the creeks, streams and rivers that we encountered; c. 700 – 3,500m; a thoroughly

delightful, charming, dapper bird. Also known as River Chat, River Redstart, White-capped Chat, White-capped River Chat.

311. Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*

Most interesting; compared to last year's tour when we found this species 'Common and widespread' this year we recorded just one female along the Mo Chu.

312. Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros rufiventris*

Moderately common on two days along the Limithang Road and a single female as we descended from our Jigmicholing Camp towards Geylephu.

313. Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*

Yet another very handsome species that we saw on numerous occasions just one on Dochu La, thereafter daily in modest numbers (2-6) east to the Limithang Road.

314. Blue-capped Rock-Thrush *Monticola cinclorhynchus*

The male is not only a beautiful looking creature but also a great songster. The first bird we saw was a single female on the slopes of Yutong La. Thereafter we saw a single male on Thrumsing La and six on the Limithang Road. Numbers increased as we descended below Trongsa with a total of circa 15 in the upper Mangde Chu Valley; common on the Zhemgang Road; common in the lower Mangde Chu Valley and on the slopes of Tama La.

315. Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitaries pandoo*

Just two males along the Po Chu.

316. Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus indicus*

Just two males along the Puna Tsang Chu. NOTE: Some authorities treat the population wintering in the Indian sub-continent as a full species separate from Common Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus*. See, however, Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

317. Grey Bushchat *Saxicola f. ferreus*

Widespread and locally common; observed on a total of eleven days in open scrubby country, especially lightly wooded farmland.

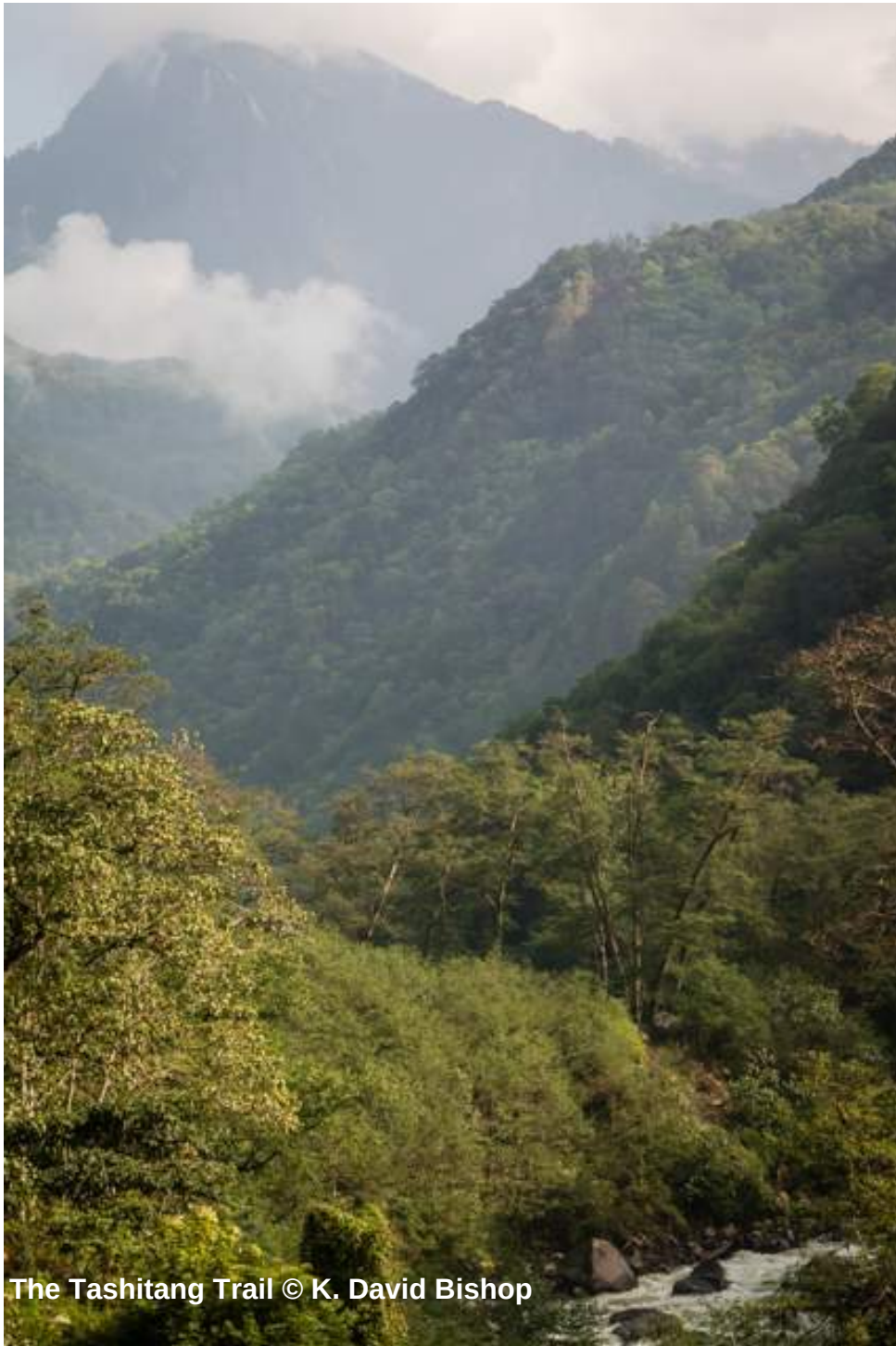
Thrushes & Allies TURDIDAE

318. **Himalayan Thrush *Zoothera salimalii***

The bird we taped and observed singing within tall Boreal Forest on the upper slopes of Thrumsing la belongs to this newly described taxon.

319. Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma*

Two spotted by Ugyen on the upper slopes of Thrumsing La.



320. **Tickell's Thrush *Turdus unicolor***

One pair almost certainly nesting at 2,100m in scrubby farmland in the Upper Mangde Chu Valley below Trongsa. Interestingly at almost the exact same site as last year. The birds were constantly mobbing a common cuckoo, which was

clearly homing in on their nest. Tickell's Thrush is a rare Spring migrant in Bhutan but may also be occasionally resident in the Kingdom.

321. White-collared Blackbird *Turdus albocinctus*

Widespread and encountered in low numbers on just eight days, invariably within Blue Pine Forest, east to the Limithang Road. A total of circa 20 were counted along the old Pele La Road.

322. Gray-winged Blackbird *Turdus bouboul*

A single male was observed singing on Tama La and three male were recorded below Tsirang.

323. Black-throated Thrush *Turdus atrogularis*

This species is supposedly indicative of thrush eruption, however, we saw no further evidence of such an event. Ben found one just below Trogon Lodge on the Limithang Road.

Starlings & Myna STURNIDAE

324. Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa intermedia*

Four in Sal Forest circa 4km west of Geylephu.

325. Great Myna *Acridotheres grandis*

Ten in scrubby farmland in and around Geylephu and just two counted along the Bhutan border with India.

326. Jungle Myna *Acridotheres f. fuscus*

Circa 40 in scrubby farmland west of Geylephu on the Bhutan border with India.

327. Common Myna *Acridotheres t. tristis*

Common just above Lobesa, the valley of the Puna Tsang Chu and Po Chu. Thereafter common in the upper and lower Mangde Chu valleys; the lower southern slopes of Tama La down to Geylephu and west to Sarpang.

328. Asian Pied Starling *Gracupica (Sturnus) contra sordidus*

Small numbers in and around Geylephu (6) and eight west of the same town..

329. Chestnut-tailed Starling *Sturnia (Sturnus) m. malabarica*

Two in lightly wooded country along the Puna Tsang Chu; two in the Mangde Chu Valley; circa 20 in scrub at the edge of Geylephu and circa 12 in Sal Forest, circa 4 km west of Geylephu.

Leafbirds CHLOROPSEIDAE

330. Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis a. aurifrons*

Four as we descended from our Jigmicholing Camp towards Geylephu and two in Sal Forest west of Geylephu. This is an uncommon species in Bhutan.

331. Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis h. hardwickii*

One superb pair on the Tashitang Trail. Thereafter small numbers seen daily from the Limithang Road to just above Geylephu.

Flowerpeckers DICAETIDAE

332. Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum minullum olivaceum*
Good, diagnostic views of one on the Zhemgang Road.
333. Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum i. ignipectus*
Notably uncommon this year with just scattered ones and twos with mixed flocks. Also known as Buff-bellied Flowerpecker.
334. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum c. cruentatum*
A single female seen nicely in scrubby woodland along the Bhutan border with India.

Sunbirds & Spiderhunters NECTARINIDAE

335. Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga i. ignicauda*
We enjoyed fine views of several glorious males (circa 5) displaying to females in the Boreal Forest on the upper slopes of Thrumsing La. Surely one of the world's most sumptuous sunbirds.



336. Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga s. saturata*
Widespread and generally common. This species typically occurs at altitudes generally lower than the next two species.
337. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga g. gouldiae*
Notably uncommon this year although we enjoyed several wonderful, close views of this exquisite creature in the Ha and Cheri valleys.
338. Green-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga nipalensis koelzi*
Widespread and common, seen on most days, often in mixed flocks.



339. Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja labecula*
Great looks at four gorgeous males plus four females in the upper Mangde Chu Valley.
340. **H** Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera l. longirostra*
Two heard in degraded subtropical forest as we descended towards Geylephu.
341. Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera m. magna*
Two as we climbed towards Zhemgang; two along the Zhemgang Road; three between our Jigmicholing Camp and Geylephu and small numbers in and around Geylephu and along the road up to Tsirang.

Accentors PRUNELIDAE

342. Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella s. strophciata*
Rather small numbers this year; five in the Paro Valley; two on Cheli La; two in the Ha Valley; one in the Cheri Valley; and two as we climbed towards Gayzamchu.

Wagtails & Pipits MOTACILLIDAE

343. Gray Wagtail *Motacilla c. cinerea*
Amazingly we recorded just six on one afternoon as we climbed towards Zhemgang.
344. White (Pied) Wagtail *Motacilla alba* multiple subsp.
Widespread and locally common along creeks and rivers and associated open habitats such as farmland: Paro Valley (15); Ha Valley (10); Cheri Valley (2); Po Chu Valley (2); Bumthang Valleys (4); Bumthang to Thrumsing La (6); and just

one along the Limithang Road. Examples of subspecies *dukhunensis*, *personata*, *leucopsis* and *alboides* were all recorded.

345. Oriental (Paddyfield) Pipit *Anthus r. rufulus*

One along the Mou Khola River near Geylephu. NOTE: The recent revision of the taxonomy of the Richard's Pipit (including Paddyfield Pipit) complex has resulted in the large northern migratory form *richardi* being accepted as a distinct species *Anthus richardi*. Consequently the name *Anthus novaeseelandiae* is now restricted to the species occurring in New Zealand and Australia. The relatively small(ish) form found in the cultivated lowlands of south and south-east Asia is now treated as Paddyfield Pipit *A. rufulus*.

346. Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewski*

Thanks to some good work by David M. we enjoyed good looks at this scarce migrant in the Po Chu Valley.

347. Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus h. hodgsoni*

Widespread but only modest numbers; Cheri Valley (10); Mo Chu (1); Ura to Gayzamchu (2) and Sengor (1)

Spotted Elachura ELACHURIDAE

348. Spotted Elachura (Wren-Babbler) *Elachura formosus*

Heard along the Tashitang Trail and near Chendibi. Seen nicely on the southern slopes of Tama La and heard again below our Jigmicholing Camp. NOTE: Formerly placed in *Spelaeornis*, this taxon is now placed on its own in a new family.

Buntings & Allies EMBERIZIDAE

349. Crested Bunting *Melophus lathamii*

One along the Mo Chu and four in the farmland of the upper Mangde Chu Valley.

Bullfinches, Rosefinches, Grosbeaks & Crossbills FRINGILLIDAE

350. **Plain Mountain Finch *Leucosticte n. nemoricola***

Astonishingly common to abundant this year: Paro Valley (100); Cheli La; (400); Cheri Valley (50); Dochu La (100); Tashitang Trail (200) – an unusually low elevation; Po Chu (100); Pele La to Trongsa (170); Trongsa to Ura (70); Ura to Sengor (150); Thrumsing La to Namling (40); Middle Limithang Road (10); Limithang Road to Trongsa (200); upper Mangde Chu Valley (30).

351. Gold-naped Finch *Pyrrhoplectes epaulette*

Fabulous views of two groups along the Limithang Road; six on the 25th April at circa 2000m and five males and 1 female on the 27th April in a small vegetable patch at Namling, provided fine photographic opportunities.



Male Gold-naped Finches © K. David Bishop

352. Crimson-browed Finch *Pinicola subhimachala*

Fine views of a male and two females of this uncommon species on Dochu La and two females on Pele La.



Male Crimson-browed Finch © K. David Bishop

353. Red-headed Bullfinch *Pyrrhula erythrocephala*
A pair of these handsome birds on Cheli La and a group of four on Pele La.
354. **Blanford's Rosefinch** *Carpodacus rubscens*
A group of four of these uncommon birds in Jigmi Dorji National Park, above the Cheri Valley
355. Dark-breasted Rosefinch *Carpodacus n. nipalensis*
Thanks to Ugyen fabulous looks at a striking male on Thrumsing La.
356. Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*
Six on the Limitang Road at circa 2000m.
357. Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch *Carpodacus p. pulcherrimus*
Fine views of a male feeding on the ground on the Pele La was something of a surprise. NOTE: Split from populations in China (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012).
358. Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch *Carpodacus t. thura*
Just a single male this year on Yutong La. NOTE: Split from populations in China (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012).
359. **Scarlet Finch** *Haematospiza sipahi*
A good year for this spectacular species:- two females on the Tashitang Trail and three more the next morning along the same track; an amazing flock of circa 40 as we descended Thrumsing La towards Sengor; a single male below Sengor; two males between Thrumsing La and Trongsa and an amazing flock of 63 counted in the upper Mangde Chu Valley.
360. Yellow-breasted Greenfinch *Chloris spiniodes heinrichi*
Two along the Limithang Road and a flock of circa 60 as we climbed towards Zhemgang.
361. Collared Grosbeak *Mycerobas affinis*
After a fair bit of work we all enjoyed good views of a single male in Boreal Forest on the upper Limithang Road.
362. White-winged Grosbeak *Mycerobas c. carnipes*
A total of ten on Cheli La; four on Pele La and heard on the Limithang Road.

Old World Sparrows PASSERIDAE

363. House Sparrow *Passer domesticus parkini*
Several observed in the village of Sengor and a pair seen nesting in a farmhouse on the Bhutan border with India.
364. Russet (Cinnamon) Sparrow *Passer rutilans cinnamomeus*
Widespread, common to locally very common and recorded daily in open country especially around farm buildings. Often together with Eurasian Tree Sparrows.

365. Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus obscuratus*
Ubiquitous in open country especially around farm buildings.

366. Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus burmanicus*
Two males of this rare (in Bhutan) resident in scrubby farmland on the Bhutan border with India.

Munias ESTRILIDAE

367. White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata acuticauda*
A flock of 17 feeding in seeding bamboo in the lower Mangde Chu Valley.

368. Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata subundulata*
A total of ten along the Puna Tsang Chu.



MAMMALS

1. Assamese Macaque *Macaca assamensis*
Widespread and common especially at lower elevations.
2. Common (Hanuman) Langur *Presbytis entellus*
Notably larger and more heavily furred than populations in the warmer plains of India.
3. Capped Langur *Presbytis pileatus*
A troop of circa 12 during the late afternoon in the Shonkhar Chu Valley put on a great show.



Capped Langur © K. David Bishop

4. Golden Langur *Presbytis geei*
Notably common from the Upper Mangde Chu Valley and down the Zhemgang Road to near Tingtibi and Geylephu. Large numbers (20 – 100) seen on five days with several troops feeding on or at the side of the road including taking dirt from exposed cliffs.
5. Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula*
Two in the Ha Valley.
6. Smooth-coated Otter *Lutrogale perspicillata*
Circa ten foraging along the Puna Tsang Chu below Punakha.
7. Hodgson's Flying Squirrel *Petaurista magnificus*
Seven of these truly gorgeous creatures were seen on our night safari along the Limithang Road.



8. Giant Pied Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*
One on the slopes of Tama La.
9. Orange-bellied Squirrel *Dremomys lokriah*
One between Ura and Gayzamchu.

10. Hoary-bellied Squirrel *Callosciurus pygerythrus*
Widespread and fairly common.
11. Irrawady Squirrel *Callosciurus pygerythrus*
Several on the Zhemgang Road and in the lower Mangde Chu Valley.
12. Himalayan Striped Squirrel *Tamiops macclellandi*
Several on the Tashitang Trail and Limithang Road.
13. Common Barking Deer (Muntjac) *Muntiacus muntjak*
Singles in the upper Mangde Chu Valley; along the Zhemgang Road and in the lower Mangde Chu Valley.
14. Royle's Pika *Ochotona roylei*
Widespread at high altitudes.



Butterflies

1. Glassy Bluebottle *Graphium cloanthus*



2. Common Bluebottle *Graphium sarpedon*

3. Veined Jay *Graphium chironides*

4. Fivebar Swordtail *Graphium antiphates*

5. Red Helen *Papilio helenus*



6. Great Mormon *Papilio memnon*

7. Paris Peacock *Papilio paris*



8. Common Windmill *Atrophaneura polyeuctes*

9. Common Rose *Atrophaneura aristolochiae*

10. Common Birdwing *Troides Helena*

11. Common Grass Yellow *Eurema hecabe*

12. Dark Clouded Yellow *Colias fieldii*



13. Yellow Orange Tip *Ixias pyrene*

14. Great Orange Tip *Hebomia glaucippe*

15. Indian Cabbage White *Pieris canidia*



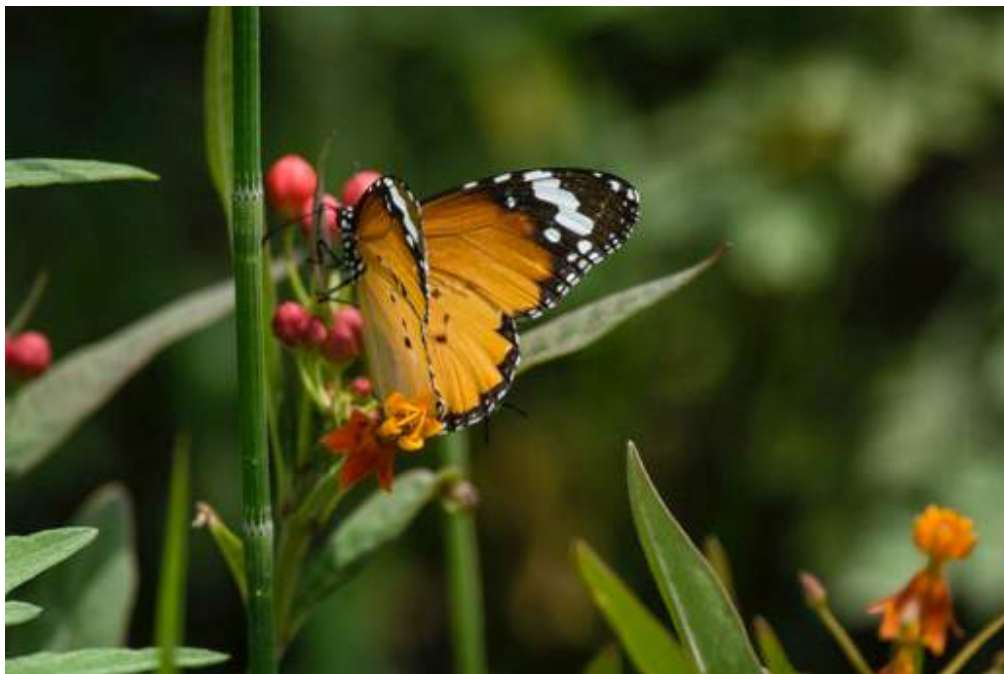
16. Purple Sapphire *Heliophorus epicles*



17. Punchinello *Heliophorus epicles*



- 17. Striped Punch *Dodona adonira*
- 18. Lesser Punch *Dodona dipoea*
- 19. Striped (Common) Tiger *Danaus genutia*
- 20. Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus*
- 21. Chestnut Tiger *Parantica sita*



22. Chocolate Tiger *Parantica melaneus*



23. Striped Crow *Euploea mulciber*

24. Yellow Coster *Acraea issoria*



24. Queen of Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia*



25. Common Sargeant *Athyma perius*

26. Common Map *Cyrestis thyodamas*

27. Popinjay *Stibochiona nicea*

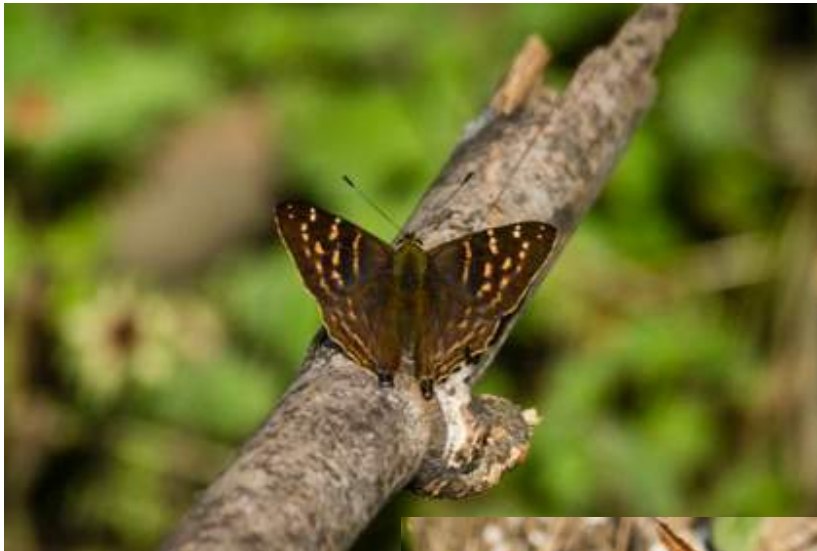


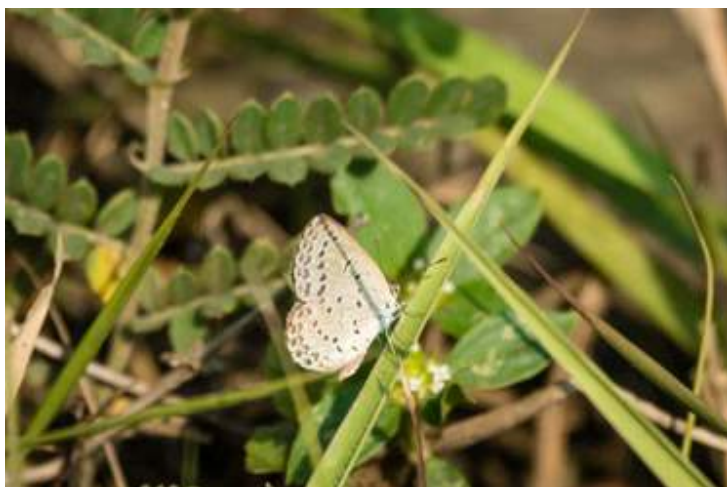
27. Indian Red Admiral *Vanessa indica*

28. Indian Tortoiseshell *Aglais cahmirensis*

29. Camberwell Beauty *Nymphalis antiopa*







A selection of flowering plants identified during the course of our Bhutan tour

Ageratum conyzoides
Aeschynanthus hookeri
Ainsliaea optea
Anemone rupicola
Bamboo (several species, incl. male)
Berberis: (*aristata*, *koehniiana*)
Begonia (*picata*?)
Bergenia ciliata
Buddleja crispa
Castanopsis sp



Begonias on the Limithang Road © K. David Bishop

Caesalpinia decapetala
Calestemon citrinus
Chrysanthemum purethroides
Clintonia udensis
Colocasia fallax
Cotinus coggygria
Cotoneaster – 4 spp
Corgeneia sp
Crassocephalum crepidioides
Daphne: *bholua*, *mucronata*
Datura - introduced
Dendrobium sp Orchids



Desmodium elegans
Deutzia bhutanensis
Erigeron bellidioides
Euphorbia milii
Ficus (*hispida*?)
Fragaria nubicola
Geranium nakaoanum
Gnaphalium affine
Impatiens glandulifera
Iris: (*goniocarpa*, *hookerana*)
Jasminum multiflorum

Larch griffithiana
Magnolia cambellii
Melastoma (prob. *normale*)
Michelia doltsopa
Mimosa: (*pudica*, *rubicaulis*)
Mussaenda roxburghii
Myosotis: (*alpestris*, *silvatica*)
Orchids: (many, incl. *coelogyne corymbosa*, *dendrobium denneanum*, *d. transparens*, *pleione praecox* darjeeling)
Parochetus communis
Pieris formosa
Pinus: (*roxburghii*, *walliciana*)
Piptanthus nepalensis
Platystemma violoides
Potentillaanserina
Primula denticulata, *edgeworthii*, *irregularis*
Quercus baloot
Quercus semecarpifolia
Rhaphidophora decursiva
Ranunculus adoxifolius
Rhododendron arborueum
Rhus javanica
Rosa: (*laevigata*, *serica*)
Salix spp – Willows 2spp
Streptopus sp
Thermopsis inflata
Tsuga dumosa
Viburnum cotinifolium
Viola wallichiana



This then is Bhutan

