

Borneo

Mount Kinabalu & Sabah's Fabulous Rainforests

A Greentours Tour Report

9th – 24th January 2008

Led by Phil Benstead

Day 1 UK to Borneo

Just Peter and Phil departed from a rather quiet Heathrow airport in the morning – the rest of the team were flying in from various points in Asia no less. The Malaysian Airlines flight was comfortable as usual and the service was outstandingly attentive.

Day 2 to Kinabalu National Park

Arriving in KL is always a pleasure, Peter and I quickly changed some currency and headed for the domestic departure terminal for the short flight on to Kota Kinabalu (KK). This went smoothly and we dozed off.

At KK we were met by the ever-cheerful Osman and went on to pick up Jill at a nearby hotel. After a quick refreshment break and a stop to buy umbrellas we headed on out of town and up the hill to Kinabalu National Park. Driving around the coastline we spotted a few egrets, doves and a pair of displaying white-bellied sea-eagles. We reached the Park by three o'clock after driving through fairly solid rain for most of the hill section of the journey. After settling into our rooms we donned our waterproofs and tested the brollies. A short walk uphill felt good but was rather quiet, we did manage excellent views of eye-browed jungle-flycatcher however – a Bornean endemic. Roadside *Medinilla speciosa* plants provided welcome splashes of colour. We also encountered a common but nonetheless attractive yellow terrestrial orchid *Spathoglottis macrochilina*. It was raining stair-rods however so after an hour we turned for home and a hot shower!

At dinner we were joined by John and Elizabeth who had flown in from Singapore. Afterwards we headed out for a frog session which produced some great species including Kinabalu slender toad (plentiful), montane litter frog (ditto), and a single glorious mossy tree-frog as well as a hatful of stick-insects or phasmids. Back at the house we spent sometime admiring the haul of moths we had attracted to the front porch by leaving the lights on. Also lured here was a huge three-horned rhinoceros beetle – the endemic *Chalcosoma mollenkampii* – that received a fair amount of photographic attention and once picked up was hard to put down. It was 11.30 before many of us got to bed for a much-needed bit of kip.

Day 3 Kinabalu National Park

After a leisurely start and breakfast we headed out up the Pandanus Trail to its junction with the Kiau View trail and then took this trail all the way up hill to the road and the top end of the Silau-Silau trail. We had a couple of hours of clear weather at the start of the walk and we made the most of them. The cloud forest along the ridge produced some great orchids and these and a few other showy flowers occupied most of our time. Orchids we could initially identify included the delicate salmon-pink *Coelogyne kinabaluensis* (a site endemic) and the white-flowered, terrestrial *Macodes lowii* with its distinctive oval, pale-veined leaves.

We also found some other interesting plants. Occasional smooth eucalyptus-like *Tristaniopsis* trees were encountered, adorned with long hanging shreds of bark. Rattans *Plectocomia* lurked by the path, their spine-covered tendrils straining for an unwary hat or umbrella. We found the curious acorns of the endemic Bornean oak *Lithocarpus luteus*. The endemic conifer *Dacrydium gibbsiae* was noted. Kinabalu balsam *Impatiens platyphylla*, a pretty busy-lizzie was found and enjoyed. The delightful pink flowers of *Phyllagathis elliptica* were occasionally found alongside the path. We all admired the deep-red flowers of the lipstick plant (*Aeschyanthus speciosa*) – a vine.

As light rain began to fall Peter found an impressively camouflaged leaf-mimicking grasshopper. A yellow species that when alarmed walked slowly away swaying like a leaf blowing in the wind. In the end we had to drag Peter away from this little gem and he was still talking about 'jumping leaf' the next day! A nearby large rotten log hosted our first trilobite beetles (*Duliticola*).

A few birds put in an appearance, mostly in mixed-species flocks. We enjoyed great views of a number of flycatchers including the common resident indigo flycatcher and the visiting Mugimaki flycatcher. The tiny and brightly-coloured yellow-breasted warbler occurred alongside the rather duller mountain warbler. A male Temminck's sunbird caused a stir and some of us caught sight of a lurking gang of mountain wren-babblers. Small flocks of hyperactive chestnut-crested yuhinas zipped about in the canopy. From the canopy the curious calls of the Bornean treepie could be heard.

Walking back for lunch we took the Silau-Silau trail where, in the increasingly damp conditions, we found a nice flowering spike of *Calanthe pulchra*. You had to stand in a small stream to photograph it but by this stage that did not really matter! Back at the chalets a huge *Lyssa* moth made the mistake of flying out into the open and was swiftly intercepted by a beady-eyed ashy drongo.

After lunch Peter went down to KK to try and replace a macro flash unit that had popped – it was unfortunately a public holiday though and the one shop that might have been able to help was shut. A reduced team took in the botanical garden and enjoyed some close-up views of many of the upper montane plants that grace the higher areas of the mountain and some more great orchids. We saw some great captive *Nepenthes* here including the stunning *edwardsiana* and the huge *rajah*. Light rain continued to fall and we walked the road circuit before heading back to the chalet and a rest before checklists and dinner.

Day 4 Kinabalu, Poring area and on to Mesilau

Today dawned beautifully clear and we became aware of the huge bulk of the mountain towering over us. Stunning views and a great omen, it was to be an enjoyable day. Birds were very evident this morning and provided much entertainment on the side. Our focus today however was on climbing part of the summit trail.

After another leisurely start we hit the trailhead at 8 o'clock. Birds were buzzing about and we got good views of a number of flycatchers and the gangly Bornean treepie. The climb up was punctuated with stops for our target species – *Nepenthes tentaculata* – as well as a number of different orchids. At the beginning of the walk we quickly found our first new *Rhododendron* – the blousy, yellow retivenium. Higher up we became acquainted with the small, shade-loving and epiphytic *Rhododendron crassifolium*. Light rain started to fall as we reached the second shelter and we stopped our trek here, taking a breather and baiting in an entertaining gang of squirrels and tree-shrews which fought each other for chunks of peanut biscuits. Whilst watching these Elizabeth drew our attention to a superb Malay weasel just metres away climbing a tree to see what all the fuss was about. The squirrel gang went mad and all shot up trees and started scolding it. A great view and at a high altitude for this species. Getting back down took no time at all of course and soon we were back at the van.

During the climb Osman had been busy networking and had discovered that there was a *Rafflesia* in flower near Poring, but that it was getting a bit past its sell-by date. We therefore decided to visit this after lunch to avoid the disappointment of finding it a blackened husk in two days time. We took our lunch en route in a small Muslim restaurant in Ranau. Here many of us sampled the simple but fabulous dish of roti chanai – a kind of fried bread with curry or lentil dipping sauce. Delicious. Others tried the freshly wokked up fried noodles or rice. Beats a buffet anyday.

Travelling on we quickly came to the entrance of the 'garden' (here used to describe an area used for swidden or 'slash-and-burn' agriculture) that had the flowering *Rafflesia keithi*. After a short walk we were gazing down on the plant. It was starting to look a little worse for wear (at just five days old too - these flowers degrade quickly) but we were all relieved to have at least seen one. Nearby a stunning white *Calanthe* orchid was present. Walking back we located a few colonies of another new *Nepenthes* – this time we had found *mirabilis*. Photographs were a must of course. Nearby fish ponds held a variety of widespread dragonfly species and Peter got busy photographing a range of blues and skippers for later identification. Also here we saw a great looking spider – a fourlegs (perhaps *Argiope pulchella*).

Driving back we stopped at Kundasang for a fruit-tasting event (my kind of botany). The durian was not rejected by anyone but failed to find a true convert I suspect. Mangosteens and ripe mangos went down much better and we tried the curious snakeskin fruit and another rather dry, powdery fruit that looked a little like a yellow avocado. Afterwards we visited the nearby Kundasang war memorial – a moving tribute to the 2,500 allied POW's murdered by the Japanese on the Sandakan to Ranau death march of 1945. The Borneo Garden here is a treasure trove of native orchids and a very high proportion of them were in flower. We were gobsmacked – the *Bulbophyllum lobbii* was amazing and the red *Rhentanthera bella* stunning. We all had our favourites and hoped fervently that we might one day see them in the wild. That

done, all we had to do was drive back up the hill into the rain and check in to Mesilau – our home for the next two nights.

Walking up to our chalets we were greeted by the resident Sunda whistling thrush and the high-pitched morse code song of the Bornean stubtail.

Day 5 Mesilau

Phil and Jill took a short pre-breakfast walk around the trail to the restaurant. The forest along the way was very pleasant, odd birds appeared. We heard the song of the elusive Bornean stubtail yet again and a skulking red-breasted partridge gave excellent views. A big surprise came in the form of a very wayward and rather noisy Asian stubtail – a huge record for Borneo and almost unbelievable. Perhaps the lights of the resort had attracted this very lost bird down onto the slopes of the mountain. Although superficially similar to the endemic stubtail (which is common at Mesilau) these two birds cannot really be confused with adequate views.

After breakfast we met up with Osman and our local guide (Sukaibin) and trekked the short distance through the forest to the *Nepenthes* area. This landslip-created open area is choked with fantastic flora and no-one was disappointed with the couple or three hours we spent here. Crossing the bridge you are immediately confronted with your first pitcher plant – the gloriously marked *Nepenthes burbidgeae*. Climbing higher we found huge *Nepenthes rajah* pitchers by the side of the track. These plants can live for 100 years and the largest pitchers are capable of holding 3.5 litres of water and can even trap small mammals. All very photogenic and we took some time here before we were ready to move on. All around us orchid after orchid was appearing and we quickly became over-loaded by the enormous number of genera let alone species. Sukaibin was especially excited by a *Dendrochilum* that had flowered for the first time in the history of the reserve and had yet to be identified. The gorgeous ‘chocolate-dipped’ *Coelogyne radioferrans* was outstanding as usual.

Sukaibin pointed out some tiny five-year old pitcher plants, scrabbling to maintain a toehold in the nutrient poor ultramafic soils. At the highest point of the trail we found *Nepenthes fusca* and more *tentaculata* to add to the list of species seen here. Occasional curious Sunda bush-warblers came to check us out. As the first rain fell we returned to the chalet and headed for lunch.

After lunch we took the minibus down the road to an area near the golf-course. Here Sukaibin took us to ‘Soggy Bottom’, a rather damp but superb site for yet more pitcher plant species. First up was the glorious bright green pitchers of *Nepenthes reinwardtiana* – each pitcher complete with two subtle ‘eye-spots’ that stare at you from inside the back wall. Splashing onwards we noted huge quantities of the attractive bamboo orchid *Arundina graminifolium*, as well as smaller numbers of an equally attractive pink *Calanthe*. Sukaibin next showed us the locations of two plants of *Nepenthes stenophylla*, an attractive striped species and nearby we found more *tentaculata* and *fusca*. We also found another type of pitcher here that may have been *macrovulgaris* but had a suspicious hybrid quality to it? A few common odonates were found on the walk back to the minibus and when we got back most of us elected for a short walk around the restaurant trail. During this rather quiet walk we did encounter a nice flock of

birds high in the canopy that included our first grey-chinned minivets and velvet-fronted nuthatches.

After dinner Phil and Peter headed out for a very quiet nightwalk along the restaurant trail (Kopongon Trail). We saw nothing!

Day 6 Poring

A pre-dawn start saw us off into the minibus with all our gear for the transfer to Poring. We stopped twice en route, once to take photographs of the mountain wreathed in cloud and again in Ranau for a quick breakfast.

The morning at Poring was spent pottering around the clearings near the Sungai Kipungit. Before crossing the bridge we checked out the vicinity of the powerful floodlight at the start and found a splendid variety of moths. As we entered the forest we bumped straight into our first real forest butterflies in the shape of a fantastic *Paralaxita* and an equally attractive *Lexias*. We all enjoyed the sun and warmth after being stuck in the clouds for so long. Butterflies and other invertebrates seemed to be enjoying it too and observing them took up most of our time. We found the glorious white dragontail, our first *Idea stollii* floated over, clippers cruised past and we got busy optimistically photo-documenting a range of blues and skippers. Dragonflies were also evident and number of widespread libellulids were in all the clearings.

Moving on our first lantern bug was special and we also acquainted ourselves with the flying lizard. The botanists still found things to look at and found a beautiful flowering shrub. A few birds were noticed including the noisy white-crowned shama, grey-headed babbler and the splendid Asian fairy bluebird. As the sun was shining we paid to go inside the Butterfly Garden and were not disappointed. The highlight came when Phil spotted a mud-puddling Rajah Brooke's birdwing and we all enjoyed excellent scope views. Other butterflies seen in the wild included the monstrous great mormon, the delicate psyche, the colourful orange emigrant and our first swallowtails. A quick perusal of the butterfly house provided ample opportunity for us to photograph many of the species we had just seen in the wild.

After another big lunch we checked into our rooms and then walked up to the orchid garden. En route we spotted more butterflies and the roadside drains held a new damselfly (*Coeliccia nemoricola*). The orchid garden here was rather disappointing after the splendour of Kundasang but searching the wet areas revealed the endemic damselfly *Devadatta podolestoides*. The orang-utan that loafs here as part of its rehab programme was lying in a hammock reading the paper when we came out of the garden and paid little attention to the throng of admirers. Walking back we elected for an early shower and a rest before dinner. Phil and Peter bought some fruit and went back to the clearing to bait it up for butterflies.

Just John and Phil made it out for a short nightwalk after dinner. We walked the same circuit as this morning and were rewarded with a number of amphibians including the incomparable Malaysian horned toad, the cryptically marked rock skipper and the stunning spotted stream frog. The baited areas produced large numbers of two rather dull moth species. A brown wood

owl was heard. We found some big huntsman spiders, an enormous *Nephila* spider and a huge *Lyssa* moth drinking at a stream. Not a bad evening but where were the phasmids?

Day 7 Poring

A before breakfast departure saw most of us venturing out onto the canopy walkway. The forest was rather quiet this morning with none of the normally vocal species being heard. Those on the walkway reported a very quiet time indeed. Phil and John climbed the 'down' trail so as to meet the others and saw some good birds en route including close views of odd-looking banded broadbill and a rather stereotypical male olive-backed woodpecker. The highlight of our ascent came close to the walkway though in the form of a superb endemic damselfly – *Vestalis beryllae* – a metallic green damsel with an enormously long abdomen. Meeting the others we dropped down the hill, stopping occasionally for butterflies such as the yamfly. As we left we finally heard the song of the Diard's trogon, normally a common sound at Poring.

After breakfast we did the same circuit as yesterday, walking up to the waterfall and then back through the clearing downstream. We spent some time near the springs enjoying a range of common Odonates. We also spent some time watching a stunning white dragontail (butterfly) as it sucked up water, processed it for salts and then explosively expelled it from its rear end. Just before the waterfall we found last night's Malaysian horned frog – much to the delight of those that had not been present. It had not moved an inch but was still incredibly well camouflaged – it took Osman about five minutes to work out what we were all so excited about. We spent a huge amount of time making the most of this splendid photographic opportunity. Walking downstream we bumped into a colourful *Euphaea* and a number of flashy *Vestalis* damselflies.

The clearing was rather quiet and hot so we quickly had a look around for new butterflies and checked the baited sites. Walking back up the river, many of us had a close encounter with a leaf butterfly *Kallima limborgii*, whose closed wing is a perfect representation of a dead leaf but when it flies reveals a stunning blue and orange upperwing. Walking back we headed for a light lunch.

Osman had discovered that there was another *Rafflesia keithi* within walking distance of the park gate. So after a short break we met up and walked through some secondary habitat to the site. The entrance fee to see this plant cost twice as much as the last one so we were anticipating that it would be in better condition. Sure enough it was, probably about two days old it was just starting to look worse for wear. Nice plant and at nearly two foot across bigger than our last specimen. Spoilt we were. A nearby stream produced a new damselfly in the form of a showy *Heliocypha biseriata*. The walk in and out was excellent for butterflies and we all enjoyed the views we got of *Troides helena* – a big black and yellow birdwing.

The rest of the afternoon was taken up with an exploratory walk up the road, unfortunately the sun dipped behind clouds for the first time and we were left with few butterflies to watch. Heading back we took some free time or potted about on our own before the rigours of another night walk.

Tonight's nightwalk took us on the same route and again we had a hatful of frogs including some very photogenic spotted stream frogs. An undoubted highlight was a roosting Oriental dwarf kingfisher.

Day 8 to Sukau via Gomantong

A late start allowed a bit of free time in the morning. As we left we spotted a huge giant river toad sitting in the river from the suspension bridge. The drive to Gomantong took us five and a half hours, with numerous stops. We stopped at Telupid for an early lunch – roti chanai becoming a firm favourite with the group.

Eventually we reached Gomantong and took to our feet for a walk along the entrance track. Huge *Alocasia* plants were evident, their enormous leaves big enough to shade two or three people. Plenty of birds here too although many were heard only as we searched for butterflies, dragonflies and interesting plants. We would have enjoyed the two species of trogon that we heard close to the road but neither put in an appearance. It was a warm sunny afternoon though and invertebrate activity was high. New Odonates included the lovely red-legged *Copera vittata* and the libellulids *Cratilla lineata* and *Tyriobapta torrida*. Reaching the carpark we armed ourselves with flashlights and headed for the cave entrance.

The swiftlet/bat cave at Gomantong is a love it or hate it experience. Smelly, dank, and filled with creepy crawlies; it is not for the faint-hearted. The huge bat roost and resultant pile of guano is a sight to behold though. The security team who live inside the cave must be made of steel to tolerate the cockroaches, rats and the overall ambience. Staggering back out into the light we did not have to wait long before the first tentative stream of bats emerged and started flying around in a huge ball. Almost immediately we spotted our first predators in the shape of two dashing bat hawks. We watched as they ripped into bat after bat, devouring each one on the wing before moving onto to another hapless victim. In half an hour they fed in a frenzy. Also joining them and superficially similar was at least one peregrine (resident race). After a while we also got scope views of a fine adult Blyth's hawk-eagle, this species prefers to snatch the bats from the opening as they pour out. Also seen whilst here were our first bushy-crested hornbills and a single crested serpent-eagle. Just before we left our driver showed us a troupe of maroon langurs that were on their way to bed down for the night. Good scope views were obtained.

Heading back to the van we walked through the darkening forest, hearing the calls of the brown wood owl. At the carpark we chased down some cricket frog calls but only succeeded in seeing a brace of red-sided keelbacks. This snake specialises in hunting frogs and their tadpoles and eggs. Plenty of time was spent photographing one of the larger keelbacks, which was just under a metre long – a good size. By now it was truly dark and we headed out slowly spotlighting as we went. It was rather quiet but we did get a couple of small-toothed palm civets for our troubles. They were initially shy but a bit of squeaking brought them out into view – an adult and a half-grown youngster. A few frogs were spotted on the road and on inspection these all proved to be white-lipped – a new species for the trip.

At the gate we drove the 21km to the jetty and then got into a boat for the transfer to the lodge. Arriving at eight thirty, we walked straight up the stairs and got stuck into a buffet dinner. A long day but we could now relax into our three night sojourn on the Kinabatangan.

Day 9 Sukau

A dawn departure saw us motoring up the river on a very misty morning. One of the first birds that we saw was the rare Storm's stork which loomed out of the mist as it flew purposely upstream. Chugging on we stopped to look at things as they appeared. Our first proboscis monkeys were examined at length. We also saw our first silvered langurs. More birds appeared in the shape of our first buffy fish owl (a fleeting glimpse), somnolent dollarbirds hung out in trees and darters flew about looking prehistoric. Cruising an oxbow we found our first *Ceragrion cerinorubellum* – a very attractive damselfly. Black hornbills appeared occasionally in pairs throughout the day and not so far away we could hear the manic laughter of the helmeted hornbill. Eventually we headed back for breakfast and a bit of free time. Some of us walked the boardwalk finding a beautiful yellow *Calanthe* in bloom.

During our siesta period the heavens opened and it rained for much of the remainder of the day. At five o'clock we elected to risk it and headed out. It rained for the first half an hour but after that it was dry. We were instantly rewarded with a pair of cinnamon-headed green pigeons, sitting in a tree. A scarce bird hereabouts. Other new birds followed including a fine osprey. As dusk fell we spotted another buffy fish owl flying across the river and tracked him to his lair getting good views. Motoring on in the dark we spotted a number of roosting birds including black-and-red broadbill and blue-eared kingfisher. Night herons appeared in small numbers. Star of the show however was a superb fat Wagler's pit-viper, lying doggo on the lower branches of a tree overhanging the water. Our boatman got us in close and we simply had to trust to his boat-handling skills when we found ourselves face-to-face with this impressive but deadly beast. On the way back we had more views of buffy fish owl and had a close encounter with a small saltwater corcodile. Great boat ride.

Arriving back late we once again went straight to dinner. Afterwards some of us headed out on a nightwalk around the boardwalk. In a short time we found three species of tree frog – all calling madly in the wet forest. We also found a huge pair of mating phasmids and another roosting Oriental dwarf kingfisher. But star of the show was undoubtedly the bay owl found by Phil – which looked back at us whilst perching on a vertical tree trunk and gave spectacular views. Nearby a brown wood-owl called a querulous hoot. Good end to the day.

Day 10 Sukau

It rained through the night with the four-lined tree frogs loud 'quacks' having to compete with the stentorian snores of the lodge's residents. Despite the rain (and the snoring) we all reported for duty at six o'clock and went out for a soggy boat trip. We did a nice little side channel this time but the weather put a severe dampener on things. Around dawn a few birds were evident, including a courting pair of black magpie, the male bowing repeatedly to the female and giving

its bell-like call. After two hours and just before it really chucked it down we called a halt to proceedings and opted for an early breakfast. Pascal's omelettes never tasted so good.

Rain continued to fall for most of the middle part of the day. We had the covered boardwalk out the back though and during a drier spell many of us were out there before lunch. An undoubted highlight was a flying lemur roosting low down on a tree trunk – great to see in the day. Peter's baiting had also drawn in a number of big *Zeuxidia* – huge flashy blue butterflies with cryptically coloured underwings.

After lunch we caught up with our checklists and then headed out once more in the rain. Luckily the rain stopped after just a short time and we were able to see and watch things without hunching under umbrellas! Birds delivered the goods this afternoon and we finally got close enough to proboscis monkeys to get some photographs. New and interesting birds included a number of Jerdon's bazas, an entertaining pair of white-bellied woodpeckers, a pair of slaty-backed woodpeckers in flight and good views of some little green pigeons. A distant flock of long-tailed parakeets were less satisfying. Hornbills were very evident this afternoon and we saw our first rhinoceros and wrinkled hornbills. Black and Oriental pied hornbills were commonplace. A crested goshawk flew across the river alternating long glides with its curious wing-shivering display. As we motored back we were joined by huge numbers of ephemeral flies that scooted manically over the water surface. Arriving back just ahead of the next big lump of rain was satisfying and we actually had time this evening to prepare for dinner and don our sarongs.

After dinner Phil and Jill took a boat ride and had two capable boatmen/guides. They found us a stack load of roosting diurnal birds. Many of the usual suspects appeared but we also had a nice male black bittern. Frogs appeared too; both four-lined tree frog and giant river frog were spotted by our eagle-eyed team. The star of the show tonight though was a fine mangrove snake, lying in a tree at eye level and very photogenic. Heading back more rain began to fall and we wondered what the next few days would be like.

Day 11 to Danum via Gomantong

Up bright and early this morning for breakfast and a quick transfer to the waiting bus. Driving to Gomantong we stopped a couple of times, seeing an excellent perched Storm's stork at one point. We spent a pleasant couple of hours walking along the track into the Gomantong caves, chasing butterflies and birds. Birdy highlights included several large feeding flocks that included a large number of new species. A flock of malkohas contained three species; Raffle's, red-billed and chestnut-breasted. Fruiting roadside shrubs produced a pair of endemic yellow-rumped flowerpeckers and a single elusive yellow-breasted flowerpecker was glimpsed. A quiet tapping led to the discovery of a fine pair of banded woodpeckers in a close dead snag. A gang of brown barbets appeared and disappeared in the canopy. Our first black-and-yellow broadbill and scarlet-rumped trogon were much more obliging and allowed prolonged scope views. Dark-throated orioles gave their fluty calls and appeared occasionally. Peter was in his element as the morning warmed and more and more butterflies appeared. The Malay lacewings were especially attractive and the whole group was soon involved in trying to get a decent photo.

Dragging ourselves away we drove the two hours to Lahad Datu for another roti chanai lunch and a bit of shopping. Then we transferred to the Danum bus and headed off down the road to the forest with our guide Wang Kong. We stopped at the junction to buy more fruit for us and the butterflies. The dirt road from the junction was heavily rutted and slippery after recent rain but the minibus and its driver took everything in its stride. We were passed by many huge logging trucks on the way in – always a sobering start to any stay here. We stopped about a third of the way in at some loos and nearby we had a damselfly bonanza. The striking green wing flashes of *Neurobasis longipes* grabbed everyone's attention. Less obvious were the pair of *Heliocypha biseriata* and the single male *Libellago phaeton* – all endemic to Borneo. Later on we stopped for a superbly fit looking male pig-tailed macaque who stared back at us before wandering nonchalantly back into the forest. Evidence of recent elephant feeding sessions were all along the road. Eventually we reached the Lodge and were warmly welcomed and escorted to our rooms.

After a short break it was up and at 'em. This time off on a night drive. We packed into the truck with a busload of Danes and rattled off. We had only gone 5 yards when we stopped to look at the first of many greater mouse-deer. The Lodge clearing was heaving with them. Our able spotter showed us a collection of mammals during the 1.5 hour trip. First up was a splendid red giant flying squirrel. Next came a black giant flying squirrel, studiously ignoring us as it munched on its breakfast. A Malay civet close to the truck gave excellent views. Our keen-eyed lamper soon located a Wallace's flying frog – a special amphibian indeed, especially if you used to collect Brooke Bond tea cards. The finale consisted of another red giant flying squirrel, which we watched at length until it got tired of us and glided serenely across a clearing to a tree further away. Result!

After dinner, some of us went out to the frog pond for a quick look, plenty of harlequin tree frogs and white-lipped frogs were present and a single Kuhl's creek frog. We also spent some time photographing a large stick insect. In the end we dragged ourselves away, it was time to turn in after a long day.

Day 12 Danum

Danum – just to be here is exciting. This morning we had a dawn start and walked the access track as far as the canopy walkway. A big fruiting fig was present near the lodge and we spent some time watching two bachelor Bornean gibbons and both rhinoceros and helmeted hornbills feeding on the large fruit. Nearby we also had black and bushy-crested hornbills. The sound of the forest was captivating, bird, mammal and insect calls filled the air. The walk culminated in us doing a short section of the canopy walkway. From here we got eye-level views of high canopy birds such as greater green leafbird and spectacled spiderhunter. Back down at ground level we heard a blue-headed pitta calling nearby and a little spiderhunter showed us the location of a beautiful yellow ginger flower. Walking back for breakfast we started to see the first butterflies of the day, Peter determined to beat the total his friend had amassed on a previous visit.

After breakfast we headed back in, this time under the canopy. Peter laid a trail of rotten fruit as we went for later inspection. A beautiful *Paralaxita* danced on a leaf for us and was

photographed at length. Although by now the forest had quietened down we bumped into a few good flocks of birds and the female Diard's trogon we found was especially well received. Surprisingly there were very few leeches about, although Peter managed to pick up a few bites and emerged blood-stained and weary from his bait-station work. Walking back to the Lodge for lunch we stopped off to look at the many beautiful species of dragonfly and damselfly at the frog pond. These included the enormous *Indaeshna grubaueri* and the tiny red endemic *Prodasineura hypererythra*.

After lunch we met up at three o'clock and headed out. It started raining almost immediately but we doggedly trudged up to the Jacuzzi Pool under our umbrellas. At the pool it magically stopped raining and we enjoyed this peaceful spot, shared only with two large rock skippers (frogs) up on the falls. Various arty photographs ensued but as we climbed back out of the riverbed it started to rain again so we walked slowly back for an early bath.

After dinner (the squid divine, the coconut pudding perhaps a little dry) we went out for our night drive. The Lodge had emptied during the day and we found ourselves almost the only occupants of the truck. Again we had plenty of flying squirrels, recording two species, red giant and Thomas', the latter being new for the trip. We saw three gliding between trees in a splendid display. Other notables included common and small-toothed palm civets and plenty of greater mouse-deer. We also spotted some new frogs – cricket frog and file-eared tree-frog – at a roadside pool. Perhaps the most impressive find of the drive though was Wang's excellent roosting garnet pitta at the start.

Phil and Jill pottered about briefly after the drive and visited the frog pond, Here we found more file-eared tree-frogs, as well as the usual suspects.

Day 13 Danum

A day without rain! Today dawned fine and despite high humidity, stayed that way. We elected to have breakfast before getting out in the field today and this allowed us a long walk in the morning. We crossed the suspension bridge and took a trail that followed the river downstream until we could recross the river and walk up onto the access track and back. Nice walk though some great forest but rather quiet for some reason this morning. Early on we had a couple of nice birds. First up was a pristine male Siberian blue robin, bouncing along the trail ahead of us. Next a plaintive warbling drew our attention to a splendid grey-chested jungle-flycatcher and this bird followed us for some time. After that things got very quiet indeed. We did find a new *Calanthe* and an eye-catching *Begonia*. Once we got back on the access track though things picked up again. A few flocks and fruiting shrubs produced some good birds and we marvelled at the giant woodlice. Elizabeth found a huge scorpion wandering the road. Butterflies were much in evidence and included some new *Euthalia* and *Taneacia* species and a new *Rhiodinid*. Peter stayed out searching for butterflies long after we were beaten by the sun.

Before lunch Phil made the most of the sunshine and yomped up to the Jacuzzi Pool. Here the male endemic damselflies *Rhinocypha aurofulgens* were competing against each other for favoured perches. In pairs the males perform a spectacular aerial ballet, wingtips flashing bronze they dance in the air to decide seniority. Whilst putting shoes and socks back on there

was a loud splash behind in the pool and Phil turned to find that a snake had fallen into the water from one of the overhanging trees! A beautiful 1.5 metre painted bronze-back – it eventually emerged, scaling the sheer walls of the waterfall and posing for distant photographs. Presumably it had been hunting tree-frogs and lost its ‘footing’!

In the afternoon we all headed out for a very productive afternoon walk. It stayed dry and this may have contributed to the success of the walk. Often afternoons can be a dead loss in lowland rainforest but we had a succession of good things to look at. A variety of crepuscular butterflies were on the wing along the baited section of the nature trail – evidence of Peter’s hard work. Wang spotted a fine great-billed heron – at last we had found him. A small flock of crested fireback pheasants appeared in front of us. Grey-streaked flycatcher was added to the list and was joined by a small flock of short-tailed babblers. Lurking in a gully a Bornean blue flycatcher appeared briefly. A log in mid-stream supported both a large terrapin and a water monitor. Nice walk.

With no night drive on offer for tonight, most of us elected for an early night to try and recharge the batteries. Those of us who did want to go for a walk were stymied by the rain finally arriving and bucketing down.

Day 14 Danum

There was one glaring omission to the mammal list and today was designed to put it right. We had failed to see an orang-utan! Phil, worried for his job, had a quick conference with Wang and we decided to climb up to the viewpoint. The ridge-top forest had been hosting a female for some days and was our best chance. Climbing slowly and steadily we made short work of the ridge and after a while Wang whistled for us to stop. A fallen pod had alerted him to the orang-utan’s feeding place. Sure enough after a little searching of the canopy we came up with the female. We all enjoyed watching her feeding high in the trees for about 20 minutes. No P45 required – job done.

Having made it this far it would have been churlish not to go on to the viewpoint. The trail got a little technical but our slow, careful progress meant that most of the team made it to the top. From the viewpoint we could see out over the bend in the river where the Lodge is situated and take in the valley and the forest. Superb. Whilst here a rhinoceros hornbill landed nearby and was rather surprised to find us looking back at it. Dropping back down we paid our respects at the Sugpan burial cliff before walking carefully down the muddy trail, seeing a frisky Bornean gibbon swinging through the tall trees high above our heads. At the Jacuzzi Pool we stopped again for half an hour – it really is a tranquil spot. Here Phil went for a swim, creeping up on the stunning *Rhinocypha aurofulgens* perched at eye level on twigs sticking out of the water. Others chose to chase mud-puddling butterflies or take more photographs of this photogenic stream.

Lunch beckoned and chef’s bread pudding finally made an appearance after much anticipation. After lunch we split into three groups, some elected to mooch about, Peter went off with Wang looking at his baited sites and Phil and Jill hit the canopy walkway. En route we spotted a tame troupe of maroon langurs that allowed a close approach. In the troupe was one blonde

individual – a known colour variation in this species. Under the fruiting fig we found a number of butterflies attracted to the fig-mash on the road. A number of flashy *Lexias* were present. The walkway was predictably quiet at this time of day but enjoyable nonetheless. On the way back we put the scope up and watched three rhinoceros hornbills gulping down the big orange figs in the tree. As we neared the lodge the first rain of the day began to fall – nice timing.

After dinner the rain came again, bucketing down so hard that umbrellas were useless. We beat a retreat to our rooms and missed out on our last night drive. Shame.

Day 15 Bukit Silam and onto KK

After a leisurely start to the day, during which we had time to look for birds in the many flowering trees and shrubs. New birds here included plain sunbird, olive-winged bulbul and lesser green leafbird. Saying goodbye to the friendly staff here we headed off in two 4WD vehicles for the ascent of Bukit Silam. Situated just off the road junction we had a two and a half hour journey to get there. The overnight rain had made road conditions rather challenging and we enjoyed watching the lead vehicle ‘fish-tailing’ up the muddy slopes. Jill found a splendid black eagle flying over the canopy – our only one of the trip. The climb up Bukit Silam was easy by comparison, paved road all the way. Getting out at the telecom towers we walked downhill at a botanical pace. We quickly found a number of butterflies including our first chocolate pansy and another fine Rajah Brooke’s birdwing. Elizabeth found a superbly well camouflaged mantis, chomping on a wasp. But stars of the show were the *Nepenthes macrovulgaris*, we found several large colonies along the road and found some glorious upper pitchers and some immense lower pitchers. We lunched by a roadside runnel filled with crabs that enjoyed egg sandwiches nearly as much as us.

Arriving at the airport we sweltered in the heat and went through the check-in procedures. The X-ray machine had broken down and the security women seemed reluctant to hand search our hold luggage thoroughly. Good news though, we were on our way to the excellent laundry facilities at the Rasa Ria.

The flight went smoothly and we were quickly back in Osman’s care and on our way to Rasa Ria. We stopped briefly en route to enjoy our final *Nepenthes – gracilis* growing on marshy waste ground. Whilst here and as dusk gathered we also saw the tiny *Nannophya pygmaea* – one of the world’s smallest dragonflies – and our first *Rhyothemis fluctuans*. An osprey flew past.

We checked into the hotel and had a good buffet dinner. The nightwalk was somewhat truncated by equipment failure but we did manage to see several green paddy frogs around the golf course.

Day 16 Rasa Ria and Pulau Sapi

Phil took a walk out in the morning seeing many of the common birds of Rasa Ria including collared kingfisher, olive-backed sunbird, pink-necked green pigeon and some roosting waders. The latter included the rather localised Malaysian plover – a great little bird. After breakfast we headed for the islands of KK, having elected to visit the small island of Pulau Sapi on our last full day. On the drive down to the jetty for the boat ride out, our driver kindly stopped at Likas lagoons. The tide was just right and we had some great waders including Pacific golden plover and grey-tailed tattler. Nearby a much more familiar common greenshank was feeding and a few whimbrel loafed about. Driving on we got to the jetty just in time to buy tickets and bundle onto the boat. The speedboat took just 15 minutes to get us out to the island. Scudding across the blue sea on a sunny day was pretty pleasant. We had three hours on the island. Whilst here some of us did the short island trail to get away from the hordes, here we saw some new birds, notably the rather drab mangrove whistler and the rather splendid male mangrove blue flycatcher. Fruiting trees held southern pied hornbill and green imperial pigeons. Scuttling about in the leaf litter and lounging by the BBQ vendors were several large water monitors. More subtle were the mangrove skinks in the forest. Peter found one new butterfly – an Appias.

Arriving back at KK we headed for our last roti chanai lunch. We also had time for a visit to Borneo Books. Books were bought, money disappeared. Driving back to the hotel we had time to walk about the place. Phil went out again adding pied triller, brown shrike and plain-throated sunbird to the list. We all enjoyed a spectacular sunset before our final dinner together.

After dinner Peter and Phil went out to try and get definitive photographs of the golf course green paddy frogs and achieved reasonable results. Also here we saw a very vocal large-tailed nightjar and a hunting yellow bittern.

Day 17 Rasa Ria

A dawn start on the last day saw us striding up the road to try and get some photographs of the mountain. It was swathed in cloud at dawn but this soon burnt off as the first of the sun backlit the mountain. The marsh was rather quiet for birds but we got good views of striated grassbird and three little ringed plovers on nearby building land were new for the trip. Plenty of scaly-breasted and black-headed munias festooned the wires. Walking back to breakfast we watched purple herons flying out of roost and checked the fine lotus lilies on a nearby pond. Less obvious were the small yellow flowers of a bladderwort.

Breakfast beckoned so we walked back to refuel and then headed out along the beach. It was a hot, muggy walk but we were rewarded with good views of both Malaysian plover and greater sand plover on the beach. The crabs were the stars though, scuttling about on the sand and in the water, leaving complex patterns on the sand as they fed. We walked back via the *Nepenthes gracilis* site for some photographs in good light and finally added common iora to the list!

After that it was down to showering and packing and preparing for our flights later in the day. We lunched together, said our goodbyes and in the manner of our arrival, left at different times on different flights to different locations!

Day 18 to the UK

A late departure from KK meant Phil said a hurried goodbye to Peter and carried on (without his luggage) to London. Peter was staying on in West Malaysia for a few days. Arriving in London without luggage was liberating and allowed a comfortable transfer to Copenhagen.

Systematic List Number 1 – Birds

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria and Pulau Sapi.

Species in square brackets were heard only.

Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Seen in small numbers at Sukau and Danum.
Great-billed heron	<i>Ardea sumatrana</i>	Singles seen twice on river at Danum.
Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Sukau and Rasa Ria. Also in oil palm plantations en route to Gomantong.
Little heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	Widespread in small numbers.
Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Widespread.
Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Widespread in open country and also along the Kinabatangan and the Danum.
Pacific reef egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	Seen around KK and Rasa Ria.
Great egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	Recorded in small numbers along the Kinabatangan at Sukau and also around Kota Kinabalu and Rasa Ria.
Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Several at night at Sukau.
Yellow bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>	Several along the river at Sukau. Single seen at night at Rasa Ria.
Black bittern	<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	Single roosting male on night boat ride at Sukau.
Storm's stork	<i>Ciconia stormii</i>	Single bird looming out of the mist on the first boat ride at Sukau. Two singles perched up and seen well on each of the next two days in the Sukau area.
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Singles at Sukau, Rasa Ria (twice) and Pulau Sapi.
Jerdon's baza	<i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>	Several noted on the last day at Sukau.
Bathawk	<i>Machaeramphus alcinus</i>	2-3 hunting bats just before dusk at Gomantong.
Black-winged kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Small numbers in wider countryside, especially around KK.
Brahminy kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	Singles at Gomantong and small numbers daily at Sukau. Common around Rasa Ria.
White-bellied fish-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	Pair circling over Likas on first day. Singles seen well at Rasa Ria and KK.
Lesser fish-eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga humilis</i>	Several seen daily at Sukau. Single bird flying up river at Danum, others heard.
Crested goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	Several seen at Sukau and a single at Danum.
Crested serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Noted in small numbers at Gomantong, Sukau and Danum.
Black eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	Single on the way out of Danum.
Blyth's hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus alboniger</i>	Single at Gomantong.
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Single ernsti race individual hunting bats at Gomantong.
[Chestnut-necklaced partridge]	<i>Arborophila charltonii</i>	Heard daily at Sukau and Danum.
Red-breasted partridge	<i>Arborophila hyperythra</i>	Heard frequently at KNP HQ and one seen very well at Mesilau.

Crested fireback	<i>Lophura ignita</i>	Family party seen well on a number of occasions around the lodge clearing at Danum. Heard at Danum.
[Great argus]	<i>Argusianus argus</i>	Small numbers throughout.
White-breasted waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	Two on pool between Sukau and the main road to Lahad Datu.
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Four birds on the mud at Likas (KK). Three roosting on waste ground at Rasa Ria. 2-3 birds at Rasa Ria. At least one of these attractive waders at Rasa Ria.
Pacific golden plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Just three on beach at Rasa Ria.
Little ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	Two or three birds on the mud at Likas (KK). Six birds at Likas (KK).
Kentish plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Single bird on the mud at Likas lagoon (KK). Seen on five dates.
Malaysian plover	<i>Charadrius peronii</i>	Birds feeding offshore at Rasa Ria in the evening were this species. Single over pond near Sukau resembled this species.
Greater sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Pair almost opposite the lodge at Sukau. A scarce bird in north Borneo.
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Small numbers at dusk along the Kinabatangan on the last day at Sukau. The small green pigeons seen in rapid flight at Danum were almost certainly this species.
Grey-tailed tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Common around Rasa Ria and KK. Reasonably common along the Kinabatangan. Also seen in small numbers at Pulau Sapi.
Common greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Noted in the KK area and at Lahad Datu.
Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Noted at Kinabalu in small numbers. Several at Poring.
Great crested tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>	KK, Rasa Ria and Lahad Datu. Roadside birds noted around KK and Rasa Ria. Heard at Poring and Sukau. Single in flight at Gomantong.
Whiskered tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	Single distant flock in flight at Sukau. Small numbers seen at Poring and Danum. Commoner at Sukau where frequently heard. [Gomantong], [Sukau]
Cinnamon-headed green pigeon	<i>Treron fulvicollis</i>	Heard at Gomantong and Sukau. Frequently heard in all lowland forest visited. Several at Danum, frequently heard elsewhere in the lowlands.
Little green pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>	Single seen poorly at Sukau (where very vocal), frequently heard elsewhere in lowland forest.
Pink-necked green pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>	Single at Gomantong.
Green imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>	Noted in small numbers at Gomantong.
Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Three at Gomantong, others heard elsewhere.
Little cuckoo-dove	<i>Macropygia ruficeps</i>	Commonly heard in lowlands, occasionally seen.
Ruddy cuckoo-dove	<i>Macropygia emiliana</i>	Single at the Rafflesia site near Poring.
Spotted dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Single from the boardwalk at Sukau during a nightwalk – superb.
Zebra dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	
Emerald dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	
Long-tailed parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda</i>	
Blue-crowned hanging-parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	
[Moustached hawk-cuckoo]	<i>Cuculus vagans</i>	
[Large hawk-cuckoo]	<i>Cuculus sparveroides</i>	
[Indian cuckoo]	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	
Plaintive cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	
Drongo cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	
Red-billed malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus javanicus</i>	
Chestnut-breasted malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	
Raffle's malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus</i>	
Greater coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	
Lesser coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	
Bay owl	<i>Phodilus badius</i>	

Buffy fish-owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>	One flushed during the day at Sukau. 1-2 on night boat rides at Sukau. Heard and glimpsed occasionally at Danum.
Brown wood-owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	Vocal at this time of year, heard at Poring, Sukau, Gomantong and Danum.
[Mountain scops-owl]	<i>Otus spilocephalus</i>	Single heard at KNP.
Large-tailed nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	2 males heard and one seen at night at Rasa Ria.
Glossy swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>	Widespread lowland bird.
?-nest swiftlet	<i>Collocalia maxima/vanikorensis/esculenta</i>	Swiftlets around Gomantong, Sukau and Rasa Ria could not be identified but were one of these three species.
Asian palm swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>	Small numbers around palm trees at the first Rafflesia site near Poring.
Silver-rumped swift	<i>Raphidura leucopygialis</i>	Noted in small numbers at Danum.
Grey-rumped tree-swift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>	Common in Poring area. Small numbers at Sukau.
Whiskered tree-swift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>	Common along the access track to Danum – seen on a most days.
[Red-naped trogon]	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>	Danum – heard there daily.
Diard's trogon	<i>Harpactes diardii</i>	Heard at Poring, Gomantong and Sukau. Female seen on one day at Danum.
Scarlet-rumped trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelli</i>	Male seen well at Gomantong, others heard. Frequently heard at Danum.
Common kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Single at Sukau.
Blue-eared kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	Common along smaller waterways at Gomantong and Sukau.
Blue-banded kingfisher	<i>Alcedo euryzona</i>	Single at Danum on the main river.
Oriental dwarf kingfisher	<i>Ceyx erithacus</i>	Singles seen well at Poring (night), Gomantong and Sukau (night and day). Commoner at Danum where recorded daily.
Stork-billed kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	Small numbers along Kinabatangan and at Danum.
[Banded kingfisher]	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>	Heard at Poring.
Collared kingfisher	<i>Todirhamphus chloris</i>	Common at Rasa Ria.
Blue-throated bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	Widespread in small numbers in the lowlands.
Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Small numbers noted at Sukau
Bushy-crested hornbill	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	Single group seen at Gomantong. Frequently encountered at Sukau. Seen occasionally at Danum too.
Wrinkled hornbill	<i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	Just a pair at Sukau.
Asian black hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	Frequent observations of pairs at Sukau this year. Also one pair at Danum.
Oriental pied hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	Several flocks and pairs at Gomantong and along the Kinabatangan. A male seen feeding fruit to a female in nest-hole at Gomantong. Also watched in fruiting trees at Pulau Sapi.
Rhinoceros hornbill	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	Heard at Gomantong. Observed along the river at Sukau. Frequently heard and occasionally seen at Danum.
Helmeted hornbill	<i>Buceros vigil</i>	Heard at Sukau. Two seen and many others heard at Danum.
[Gold-whiskered barbet]	<i>Megalaima chysopogon</i>	Commonly heard at Danum.
[Red-throated barbet]	<i>Megalaima mystacophanus</i>	Heard at Sukau.
[Yellow-crowned barbet]	<i>Megalaima henrici</i>	Heard at Danum.

Golden-naped barbet	<i>Megalaima pulcherrima</i>	Several seen well at KNP along summit trail, others heard.
[Blue-eared barbet]	<i>Megalaima australis</i>	Commonly heard at Sukau.
Brown barbet	<i>Calorhamphus fuliginosus</i>	Noted in small numbers at Gomantong.
White-bellied woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	Pair seen very well at Sukau.
Banded woodpecker	<i>Picus miniaceus</i>	Two birds at Gomantong.
Checker-throated woodpecker	<i>Picus mentalis</i>	Pair seen at Mesilau.
Olive-backed woodpecker	<i>Dinopium rafflesii</i>	Single male seen well at Poring.
Great slaty woodpecker	<i>Mulleripicus pulverulentus</i>	Pair seen flying over the river at Sukau.
Black-and-red broadbill	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchus</i>	Seen well at Sukau by day and night.
Banded broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>	Single seen at Poring, others heard in lowland forest.
Black-and-yellow broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	This fantastic little bird was seen well by all at Gomantong. Heard frequently in lowland forest.
[Blue-headed pitta]	<i>Pitta baudii</i>	Heard daily at Danum.
Black-and-crimson pitta	<i>Pitta usherii</i>	Heard at Gomantong, Sukau and Danum. One seen at night at Danum, thanks to Wang. Considered by some authorities to be a race of garnet pitta <i>Pitta granatina</i> .
[Hooded pitta]	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	Heard at Gomantong.
Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common in wider countryside.
Pacific swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	Observed in roadside villages and along the Kinabatangan and Danum River.
Sunda cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina larvata</i>	Singles at KNP HQ and Mesilau.
Lesser cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina fimbriata</i>	Single at Gomantong.
Pied triller	<i>Lalage nigra</i>	Common in Rasa Ria area.
Grey-chinned minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>	Frequent component of canopy flocks at KNP, only seen at Mesilau though.
Black-winged flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus hirundinaceus</i>	Small group in mixed-species feeding flock at Gomantong.
Green iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	Single at Gomantong.
Common iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Single at Rasa Ria.
Lesser green leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	Noted at Danum on the last day.
Greater green leafbird	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	Several at Poring. Frequently encountered at Danum.
Black-headed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	Small numbers at Poring and Sukau.
Puff-backed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Poring.
Flavescent bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flavescens</i>	Noted in small numbers at Mesilau.
Yellow-vented bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	Common in open areas and secondary habitat.
Red-eyed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	Common in lowland forests.
Spectacled bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmus</i>	Recorded at Poring and Danum.
Olive-winged bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>	Single at Danum on last day.
Finsch's bulbul	<i>Criniger finschi</i>	Single at Danum.
Ochraceous bulbul	<i>Criniger ochraceus</i>	Only recorded in small numbers at KNP HQ and Mesilau.
Grey-cheeked bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	Recorded at Poring and Danum.
Yellow-bellied bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	Small numbers at Poring and Danum.
Hairy-backed bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	Recorded at Danum only this year.
Buff-vented bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>	Recorded at Poring only this year.
Ashy drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Recorded daily at Kinabalu.
Bronzed drongo	<i>Dicrurus annectans</i>	Seen en route to Sukau.

Greater racquet-tailed drongo	<i>Dicurus paradiseus</i>	Small numbers at Poring and Sukau.
Dark-throated oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	Small numbers at Poring, Sukau and Gomantong.
Black-and-crimson oriole	<i>Oriolus cruentus</i>	Just two at KNP.
Asian fairy bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	Small numbers at Poring, Sukau and Danum, commonly heard.
Crested jay	<i>Platylophus galericulatus</i>	Heard on both days at Poring. Heard frequently elsewhere and single seen well at Danum.
Short-tailed magpie	<i>Cissa thalassina</i>	Just a single at Mesilau.
Bornean treepie	<i>Dendrocitta cinerascens</i>	Commonly encountered at KNP and occasionally at Poring.
Black magpie	<i>Ptilatysmurus leucopterus</i>	Several seen at Gomantong. Male 'bowing' display to female watched at Sukau. Also encountered along access track at Danum.
Slender-billed crow	<i>Corvus enca</i>	Recorded daily at Sukau and Danum.
Bornean bristlehead	<i>Pityriasis gymnocephala</i>	5-6 birds on the first morning at Danum from the canopy walkway.
Velvet-fronted nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>	Noted in small numbers at Mesilau only.
Black-capped babbler	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	Single at Danum.
White-chested babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>	Noted daily at Sukau.
Ferruginous babbler	<i>Trichastoma bicolor</i>	Single at Sukau.
Short-tailed babbler	<i>Malacocincla malaccense</i>	Seen at Danum in small numbers.
Sooty-capped babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>	Recorded at Poring, Gomantong, Sukau and Danum.
Scaly-crowned babbler	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>	Seen at Poring, Gomantong, Sukau and Danum.
Rufous-crowned babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnum</i>	Small numbers at Danum.
Eye-browed wren-babbler	<i>Napothera epilepidota</i>	Single seen very well on lower part of summit trail – a good bird.
Mountain wren-babbler	<i>Napothera crassa</i>	Seen well along the Kiau View trail and the summit trail (KNP).
Striped wren-babbler	<i>Kenopia striata</i>	Single on Hornbill Trail (Danum).
Grey-throated babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	Recorded daily at KNP.
Grey-headed babbler	<i>Stachyris poliocephala</i>	Single at Poring.
Chestnut-rumped babbler	<i>Stachyris maculata</i>	Noted at Gomantong and Danum.
Chestnut-winged babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>	Common lowland forest babbler.
Striped tit-babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>	Heard frequently in lowlands, seen well at Danum and Rasa Ria.
Sunda laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax palliatus</i>	Small numbers only at Mesilau.
Chestnut-capped laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax mitratus</i>	Common component of flocks at KNP.
Chestnut-crested yuhina	<i>Yuhina everetti</i>	Commonly encountered, often in large single species flocks at KNP.
White-bellied yuhina	<i>Yuhina xantholeuca</i>	Several on first day at Danum, in flock along Hornbill Trail.
White-browed shortwing	<i>Brachypteryx montana</i>	Commonly heard at KNP and seen just once at Mesilau.
Siberian blue robin	<i>Erithacus cyane</i>	Single male at Danum.
Magpie robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
White-browed shama	<i>Copsychus stricklandi</i>	Common in lowland forests.
White-crowned forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>	Recorded in small numbers at KNP, Poring and Danum.
Sunda whistling-thrush	<i>Myiophoneus glaucinus</i>	Often heard at KNP and occasionally seen at Mesilau.
Yellow-breasted warbler	<i>Seicercus montis</i>	Common at KNP.
Mountain leaf warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trivirgatus</i>	Commonly seen around KNP.

Striated grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>	Noted near Sukau, KK and Rasa Ria.
Dark-necked tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Gomantong only.
Ashy tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	Present throughout the lowlands.
Rufous-tailed tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	Recorded at Poring, Gomantong, Danum and Pulau Sapi.
[Mountain tailorbird]	<i>Orthotomus cucullatus</i>	Frequently heard at KNP.
Yellow-bellied prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	Scattered records in disturbed, lowland habitat.
Asian stubtail	<i>Urosphena squameiceps</i>	Single at Mesilau – a real surprise as a long way out of range.
[Bornean stubtail]	<i>Urosphena whiteheadi</i>	Frequently heard at KNP.
Sunda bush-warbler	<i>Cettia vulcania</i>	Common above 1,700 metres at KNP.
Eye-browed jungle-flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias gularis</i>	Two sightings of two birds at KNP.
Grey-chested jungle-flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias umbratilis</i>	Single singing male at Danum.
Grey-streaked flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	Several at Danum.
Asian brown flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa latirostris</i>	Single at Kinabalu HQ. Noted daily at Danum – all probably short-distance migrant or resident race.
Indigo flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa indigo</i>	Noted daily in small numbers at KNP.
Mugimaki flycatcher	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>	Small numbers daily at KNP HQ and Mesilau.
Snowy-browed flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hyperythra</i>	Noted daily in small numbers at KNP.
Little pied flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>	Noted on one day in small numbers at KNP.
Pygmy blue flycatcher	<i>Muscicapella hodgsoni</i>	Single male at bottom of summit trail (KNP).
Mangrove blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis rufigastra</i>	Single male at Pulau Sapi.
Bornean blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis superbus</i>	Male along river at Danum.
White-throated fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	Noted daily in small numbers at KNP.
Spotted fantail	<i>Rhipidura perlata</i>	Noted daily in small numbers at Gomantong and Danum.
Pied fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	Common in disturbed lowland habitat and mangroves. Also at Sukau.
Black-naped monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	Small numbers at Gomantong.
Maroon-breasted philentoma	<i>Philentoma velatum</i>	A single bird at Danum.
Asian paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	Recorded at Danum, including one great white male.
Bornean whistler	<i>Pachycephala hypoxantha</i>	Common constituent of bird flocks at KNP.
Mangrove whistler	<i>Pachycephala grisola</i>	Single on Pulau Sapi.
White-breasted wood-swallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	Common in wider countryside – feeding from the roof at Rasa Ria.
Long-tailed shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Single in oil palm en route to Lahad Datu. A rare bird in North Borneo.
Brown shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	Single at Rasa Ria.
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Widespread – recorded most days.
Paddyfield pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Noted at Lahad Datu airstrip and Rasa Ria.
Asian glossy starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	Widespread in open countryside.
[Crested myna]	<i>Acridotheres cristatellus</i>	Single at Rasa Ria. Introduced.
Plain sunbird	<i>Anthreptes simplex</i>	Several in the garden on the last day at Danum.
Plain-throated sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	Small numbers at Rasa Ria.
Ruby-cheeked sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>	Small numbers in lowland forest throughout.
Purple-naped sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>	Small numbers at Gomantong and Danum.
Olive-backed sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis</i>	Common at Rasa Ria.
Temminck's sunbird	<i>Aethopyga temminckii</i>	Noted in small numbers at KNP.
Little spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostris</i>	Common in lowland forest throughout but hard to get a good view.

Spectacled spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera flavigaster</i>	Single from canopy walkway at Danum.
Grey-breasted spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera affinis</i>	Small numbers at Poring only this year.
Yellow-breasted flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>	Single at Gomantong.
Yellow-rumped flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus xanthopygius</i>	Single in mixed-species feeding flock at Poring. A pair at Gomantong.
Orange-bellied flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	Recorded in the garden at Poring and Danum.
Black-sided flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum monticulum</i>	Several in the chalet/restaurant area at KNP HQ. Also seen well at Mesilau.
Black-capped white-eye	<i>Zosterops atricapilla</i>	Recorded on just one day at KNP HQ area.
Mountain black-eye	<i>Chlorocharis emilae</i>	Common above 2,000 metres on Kinabalu.
Eurasian tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Widespread open country and town species.
Dusky munia	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	Widespread in lowland forest edge habitat.
Black-headed munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Common in the wider countryside – most often seen from the bus.
Scaly-breasted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Small numbers in black-headed munia flocks at Rasa Ria. Introduced.

Systematic List Number 2 – Mammals

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

Lesser/slender treeshrew	<i>Tupaia minor/gracilis</i>	Difficult to differentiate between these two species. Recorded occasionally at lowland locations.
Mountain treeshrew	<i>Tupaia montana</i>	Frequent around shelters on summit trail at KNP – prefers chicken but did come to biscuits this year. Small numbers in the HQ area this year.
Colugo	<i>Cynocephalus variegatus</i>	An individual possibly carrying a youngster (in pouch) by the lodge at Sukau during the day.
Silvered langur	<i>Presbytis cristata</i>	Frequently encountered at Sukau.
Maroon langur	<i>Presbytis rubicunda</i>	Small group at Gomantong. Also recorded at Danum occasionally. One tame troupe enjoyed on the last day near the lodge.
Proboscis monkey	<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>	Many groups encountered on each boat ride at Sukau. Seemed to loaf along the river banks more in the afternoons.
Long-tailed macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	Seen at Poring, Sukau and Danum.
Pig-tailed macaque	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	Single on drive into Danum. Large groups encountered on two days at Danum.
Bornean gibbon	<i>Hylobates muelleri</i>	Heard at Sukau. Calling regularly at Danum and two bachelors seen very well on the first day. A single animal seen well swinging about on the last day.
Orang-utan	<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	“Jessica” the re-habilitated individual present near the orchid garden at Poring. The first wild one was found on our last full day in habitat at Danum. A super female feeding on beans and occasionally dropping the pods. Elizabeth and John followed this up with no less than three more from the balcony as they took things easy.
Giant squirrel	<i>Ratufa affinis</i>	Recorded in small numbers at Poring and Danum. More often heard than seen.
Prevost’s squirrel	<i>Callosciurus prevostii</i>	Widespread at lowland forest sites.
Kinabalu squirrel	<i>Callosciurus baluensis</i>	Noted on two dates at KNP.
Plantain squirrel	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	Scattered records from lowland forest sites.
Bornean black-banded squirrel	<i>Callosciurus orestes</i>	Single at Mesilau.
Low’s squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus lowii</i>	Single at Danum.
Jentinck’s squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus jentinki</i>	Seen best at the shelters en route to the summit at KNP.
Bornean mountain ground squirrel	<i>Dremomys everetti</i>	Big fan of peanut biscuits around the shelters en route to the summit at KNP.
Plain pygmy squirrel	<i>Exilisciurus exilis</i>	Several of these engaging tiny chaps were noted at Poring, Sukau and Danum. Heard frequently.
Black flying squirrel	<i>Aeromys tephromelas</i>	Just one on night drives at Danum, but seen well.
Thomas’ flying squirrel	<i>Aeromys thomasi</i>	Several seen on the night drives at Danum.
Red giant flying squirrel	<i>Petaurista petaurista</i>	Several seen from night drives at Danum.
Brown rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Several in cave at Gomantong.
Malay weasel	<i>Mustela nudipes</i>	Single at second pondok on the summit trail (KNP) – seen well and enjoyed by all.

[Teledu]	<i>Mydaus javensis</i>	Single road-killed individual spotted between Sukau and Lahad Datu. The van was filled with a pleasant 'skunk-like' odour for five minutes afterwards.
Malay civet	<i>Viverra zangalunga</i>	Single on first night drive at Danum.
Common palm civet	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	Recorded during one of the night trips at Sukau. Several at Danum at night.
Small-toothed palm civet	<i>Arctogalida trivirgata</i>	Two high in tree at Gomantong on night drive. Single on night drive in Danum.
[Asian elephant]	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	Plenty of fresh sign around Danum and along the access road.
Bearded pig	<i>Sus barbatus</i>	Recorded at Gomantong and Danum.
Greater mouse-deer	<i>Tragulus napu</i>	Recorded in good numbers at Danum, mostly around lodge at night.
Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	Seen daily and nightly at Danum.

Systematic List Number 3 - Amphibians

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

Montane litter frog	<i>Leptobrachium montanum</i>	Quite common on nightwalk up Silau-Silau trail at KNP.
Malaysian horned frog	<i>Megophrys nasuta</i>	Single near the Kipungit waterfall (Poring) seen at night and during the day. Fabulous!
Kinabalu slender toad	<i>Ansonia hanitschi</i>	Several along Silau-Silau trail at night (KNP).
Giant river toad	<i>Bufo juxtasper</i>	Single small individual well seen during nightwalk. A larger individual from the suspension bridge on the last morning.
[Treehole frog]	<i>Metaphrynella sundana</i>	Commonly heard in lowland forest.
Giant river frog	<i>Limnonectes leporinus</i>	Several on the nocturnal boat rides at Sukau.
Kuhl's creek frog	<i>Limnonectes kuhli</i>	Widespread.
Rough guardian frog	<i>Limnonectes finchi</i>	Single on lawn at Danum.
Whitehead's torrent frog	<i>Meristogenys whiteheadi</i>	Several photographed along Sg. Kipungit I on a nightwalk.
White-lipped frog	<i>Rana chalconota</i>	Two on road during night drive out of Gomantong, others at Sukau and Danum.
Green paddy frog	<i>Rana erythraea</i>	Common around Rasa Ria.
Spotted stream frog	<i>Rana picturata</i>	Seen on the pond at the start of the canopy walkway at night at Poring. Also along the Sg. Kipungit.
[Cricket frog]	<i>Rana nicobariensis</i>	Gomantong, and Danum – commonly heard calling from ditches, etc. Single seen in roadside pool during one of the night drives.
Rock skipper	<i>Staurois latopalmaris</i>	Splendid observation of several of these stunning beasts during the night walks at Poring (below Kipungit waterfall). Two on falls above Jacuzzi Pool (Danum).
Green-spotted rock frog	<i>Staurois tuberilinguis</i>	Single perched on rock in the middle of the Silau-Silau stream (KNP) during the day.
File-eared tree frog	<i>Polypedates otilophus</i>	Small numbers most nights at the frog pool at Danum.
Four-lined tree frog	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i>	Noisy at Sukau after rain, some seen. Also heard at Rasa Ria.
Mossy tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus everetti</i>	One along Silau-Silau trail at night (KNP).
Wallace's flying frog	<i>Rhacophorus nigropalmatus</i>	Single perched in roadside tree on one of the night drives at Danum. Superb.
Harlequin tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus pardalis</i>	Single at Sukau. Sometimes in good numbers at the frog pool at Danum.
Friilled tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus appendiculatus</i>	Small numbers seen at Sukau, many others heard.

Systematic List Number 4 - Reptiles

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

flying lizards	<i>Draco</i> spp.	Several seen but none specifically identified this year.
Rough-scaled brown skink	<i>Mabuya rudis</i> <i>Mabuya multifasciata</i>	Common lowland forest floor species. Poring – around restaurant. Single at Gomantong.
Mangrove skink	<i>Emoia atrocostata</i>	Single Pulau Sapi.
Striped tree skink	<i>Apterygodon vittatus</i>	Noted at Poring and Danum.
Sabah slender skink	<i>Sphenomorphus sabanus</i> <i>Tropidophorus beccarii</i>	Small numbers at Gomantong and Danum. This semi-aquatic skink was only seen in small numbers at Kipungit waterfall (Poring).
Smith's giant gecko	<i>Gekko smithii</i> <i>Gekko monachus</i>	Single under boardwalk at Sukau. Single in the pondok at the top of the Silau-Silau trail at KNP at night.
Frilly house gecko	<i>Cosymbotus platyurus</i>	Small numbers in the restaurant building at Danum.
Common house gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	Ubiquitous.
Kinabalu gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus baluensis</i>	Two on chalets at KNP HQ were thought to be this forest species.
Green tree lizard	<i>Bronchocoela cristatella</i>	Noted at Gomantong and on the access track to Danum.
Monitor lizard	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	Noted in small numbers at Gomantong, Danum and Pulau Sapi.
Saltwater crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Several on the night boat rides at Sukau – all small (<120cm).
Red-sided keelback	<i>Xenochropis trianguligera</i>	Two observed hunting frogs in drainage ditch at Gomantong.
Mangrove snake	<i>Boiga dendrophila</i>	Single on one of the night boat trips at Sukau.
Paradise tree snake	<i>Chrysopelea paradisi</i>	Single on boardwalk at Danum (P B-J)
Painted bronze-back	<i>Dendrelaphis pictus</i>	One fell into the Jacuzzi Pool whilst hunting frogs in the trees and was photographed as it struggled back out.
Wagler's pit-viper	<i>Tropidolaemus wagleri</i>	Single posing in low vegetation by small channel at Sukau. Excellent.

Systematic List Number 5 – Odonata

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

	<i>Devadatta podolestoides</i>	Just one encountered at Poring this year. Endemic to Borneo.
	<i>Libellago phaeton</i>	A single male of this splendid species on a stream on the way into Danum (Taliwas). Endemic to NW Borneo.
	<i>Heliocypha biseriata</i>	Single male near Poring (second Rafflesia site) and a pair at Taliwas (en route to Danum). Beautiful.
a jewel	<i>Rhinocypha aurofulgens</i>	Small numbers at Danum, best watched at the Jacuzzi Pool. Endemic to Borneo.
a gossamerwing	<i>Euphaea subnodalis</i>	Several of these stunning zygopterans noted at Kipungit waterfall (Poring) and at points along the river downstream. Also present in good numbers at Danum.
	<i>Dysphaea dimidiata</i>	The glorious black damsel perching on twigs in the middle of the Danum River and its tributaries – often opens out its wings.
	<i>Vestalis ?amoena?</i>	The <i>Vestalis</i> present at Poring and at Danum around the Jacuzzi Pool was probably this species.
	<i>Vestalis beryllae</i>	A single example of this endemic, in hill forest at the end of the canopy walkway at Poring.
a greenwing	<i>Neurobasis longipes</i>	Endemic species. The flashy green number along the streams at Danum – a <i>Caleopteryx</i> style damsel.
a Lestidae damselfly	<i>Lestes praeivus</i>	Several at the frog pool at Danum.
Painted wxtail	<i>Prodasineura hyperythra</i>	Several daily at the Danum frog pool.
	<i>Ceriagrion cerinorubellum</i>	Small numbers at Sukau.
	<i>Pseudagrion microcephalum</i>	Small numbers near Poring and at Sukau.
Orange-tailed midget	<i>Pseudagrion perfuscatum</i>	Small numbers at Poring.
	<i>Agriocnemis femina</i>	Noted at Mesilau and Gomantong.
	<i>Agriocnemis pygmaea</i>	Common at Gomantong.
	<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	Small numbers at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Coeliccia nemoricola</i>	Small numbers at Poring.
	<i>Copera vittata</i>	Common at Gomantong and Danum.
	<i>Indaeschna grubaueri</i>	Single male hanging in shade at frog pool (Danum) waiting for females on two dates. Impressive.
	<i>Tetrathemis irregularis</i>	Small numbers at Gomantong and Danum.
	<i>Agrionoptera insignis</i>	Noted at Gomantong and the frog pool at Danum.
Rufous-backed skimmer	<i>Cratilla lineata</i>	Small numbers at Gomantong and Danum.
	<i>Orthetrum testaceum</i>	The common red <i>Orthetrum</i> at Poring. Also noted at Gomantong and Danum.
Common blue skimmer	<i>Orthetrum glaucum</i>	The common blue <i>Orthetrum</i> at Poring and Danum.
Common red skimmer	<i>Orthetrum pruniosum</i>	Common at Poring.
Green skimmer	<i>Orthetrum sabina</i>	Widespread.

	<i>Nannophya pygmaea</i>	Quite common at Rasa Ria – a minute anisopteran.
	<i>Tyriobapta torrida</i>	Single at Gomantong.
	<i>Brachydiplax chalybea</i>	Widespread in lowland habitats in small numbers.
	<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i>	Widespread, even occurring in the rain at Soggy Bottom (Mesilau).
	<i>Crocothemis servilia</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
	<i>Neurothemis fluctuans</i>	Common at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Neurothemis ramburii</i>	The common dragonfly with the heavy red wings. Attractive and common in lowland locations.
	<i>Neurothemis terminata</i>	Widespread in lowlands and foothills.
	<i>Rhodothemis rufa</i>	Small numbers at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Trithemis festiva</i>	Small numbers at Poring.
	<i>Trithemis aurora</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
	<i>Tholymis tillarga</i>	Common at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	Widespread, locally abundant.
	<i>Rhyothemis phyllis</i>	Noted in small numbers at Gomantong and Rasa Ria.
Indigo dropwing		
Crimson dropwing		
Evening skimmer		
Globe skimmer		

Systematic List Number 6 - Butterflies

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

Rajah Brooke's birdwing	<i>Troides brookiana</i>	Several at Poring. Singles at Danum and Bukit Silam. Immense.
Common birdwing	<i>Troides helena</i>	Recorded at Danum.
	<i>Troides amphrysus</i>	The big birdwing common at Danum. Also seen at Gomantong and Poring.
Common rose	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Banded swallowtail	<i>Papilio demolion</i>	Danum (common).
Black-and-white helen	<i>Papilio nephelus</i>	Common in lowlands.
Red helen	<i>Papilio helenus</i>	Gomantong and Danum (P B-J).
Great mormon	<i>Papilio memnon</i>	common throughout.
Banded peacock	<i>Papilio palinurus</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Common bluebottle	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i>	Poring and Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Graphium eurypylus</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Pathysa aristeus</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Green dragontail	<i>Lamproptera meges</i>	Poring and Danum.
White dragontail	<i>Lamproptera curius</i>	Poring.
The psyche	<i>Leptosia nina</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Painted jezebel	<i>Delias hyparete</i>	Poring.
	<i>Delias georgina</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Prioneris cornelia</i>	Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Appias libythea</i>	Danum (P B-J).
Orange albatross	<i>Appias nero</i>	Danum (P B-J).
Common albatross	<i>Appias albina</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Lesser albatross	<i>Appias paulina</i>	Pulau Sapi (P B-J).
	<i>Appias pandione</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Appias cardena</i>	Possibly this species seen at Danum (P B-J).
Great orangetip	<i>Hebomoia glaucippe</i>	Poring.
Wanderer	<i>Pareronia valeria</i>	Widespread.
Lemon emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pomona</i>	Poring.
Orange emigrant	<i>Catopsilia scylla</i>	Poring.
Three-spot grass yellow	<i>Eurema blanda</i>	KNP and lowlands.
	<i>Eurema tilaha/tominia</i>	Danum and Gomantong.
Common tiger	<i>Danaus genutia</i>	Poring and Bukit Silam (Danum).
Dark-blue tiger	<i>Tirumala septentrionis</i>	Poring, Gomantong and Danum.
Yellow glassy tiger	<i>Parantica aspasia</i>	Poring.
	<i>Parantica aglaoides</i>	Poring – in spiders web.
Blue glassy tiger	<i>Ideopsis vulgaris</i>	Danum.
Tree nymph	<i>Idea lynceus</i>	Danum.
	<i>Idea stollii</i>	Frequently encountered lowland forest.
Malayan crow	<i>Euploea caramalzman</i>	Gomantong.
	<i>Euploea modesta</i>	Single at Poring.
Striped blue crow	<i>Euploea mulciber</i>	Poring and Sukau.
Blue spotted crow	<i>Euploea midamus</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
Bamboo tree-brown	<i>Lethe europa</i>	Probably this species at Sukau.
Yellow band	<i>Xanthotaenia busiris</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
	<i>Mycalesis patiana</i>	Widespread and common in lowlands.
	<i>Mycalesis anapita</i>	Gomantong (P B-J)
	<i>Mycalesis marginata</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Dark brand bush brown	<i>Mycalesis mineus</i>	Danum (P B-J).

	<i>Mycalesis visala</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Mycalesis perseoides</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
	<i>Mycalesis horsfieldii</i>	Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Mycalesis intermedia</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Mycalesis orseis</i>	Widespread in lowlands (P B-J).
Striped ringlet	<i>Ragadia makuta</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Common three-ring	<i>Ypthima pandocus</i>	Widespread, only butterfly recorded at KNP.
	<i>Ypthima horsfieldii</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Ypthima fasciata</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Common faun	<i>Faunis canens</i>	Poring and Danum.
	<i>Faunis stomphax</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Palm king	<i>Amathusia phidippus</i>	Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Zeuxidia aurelius</i>	Sukau.
	<i>Thaumantis klugius</i>	Sukau.
Great duffer	<i>Discophora timora</i>	Poring (P B-J).
The rustic	<i>Cupha erymanthis</i>	Poring, Danum and Gomantong.
	<i>Paduca fasciata</i>	Danum (P B-J).
The malayan yeoman	<i>Cirrochroa emalea</i>	Danum.
	<i>Cirrochroa malaya</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Cirrochroa satellita</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Vindula erota</i>	Danum.
Cruiser	<i>Vindula dejone</i>	Danum (P B-J).
Malay lacewing	<i>Cethosia hypsia</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Chocolate soldier	<i>Junonia iphita</i>	Bukit Silam (Danum) and Rasa Ria.
	<i>Junonia hedonia</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Grey pansy	<i>Junonia atlites</i>	Widespread in lowlands.
Blue pansy	<i>Junonia orythia</i>	Noted in transit to Lahad Datu and at Bukit Silam (Danum).
Wizard	<i>Rhinopalpa polynice</i>	Danum (P B-J).
Great egg-fly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	En route to Lahad Datu, Danum and Gomantong.
Danaid egg-fly	<i>Hypolimnas misippus</i>	Poring, Pulau Sapi and Rasa Ria.
Leaf butterfly	<i>Kallima limborgii</i>	Poring and Danum.
	<i>Chersonesia risa</i>	Poring.
Common sailor	<i>Neptis hylas</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Pantaporia sandaka</i>	Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Athyma larymna</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Colour sergeant	<i>Athyma nefte</i>	Poring and Gomantong (P B-J).
	<i>Athyma reta</i>	Poring.
Commander	<i>Moduza procris</i>	Poring (P B-J).
Clipper	<i>Parthenos sylvia</i>	Lowlands (common).
	<i>Tanaecia munda</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Tanaecia aruna</i>	Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Euthalia adonia</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Euthalia lubentina</i>	Danum.
	<i>Euthalia merta</i>	Danum (P B-J).
Pearl necklace	<i>Bassarona dunnya</i>	Danum.
The archduke	<i>Lexias pardalis/dirtea</i>	Lowlands
	<i>Lexias cyanepardus</i>	Danum.
	<i>Lexias canescens</i>	Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Zemeros emesoides</i>	Poring (P B-J).
	<i>Paralaxita orphna</i>	Danum.
	<i>Laxita thuisto</i>	Danum.
	<i>Taxila haquinus</i>	Poring.
	<i>Curetis tagalica</i>	Poring and Danum (P B-J).
	<i>Tarucus waterstradti</i>	Danum (P B-J).

	Caleta elna	Danum
	Caleta manovus	Danum (P B-J).
Lesser grass blue	Zizinia otis	Poring (P B-J).
	Nacaduba angusta	Danum (P B-J).
	Prosotas gracilis	Poring (P B-J).
Ciliate blue	Anthene emolus	Poring (P B-J).
	Drina cowani	Poring (P B-J).
Yamfly	Loxura sp.	Poring.
Common imperial	Cheritra freja	Poring (P B-J).
	Ticherra acte	Danum (P B-J).
Common posy	Drupadia ravindra	Danum (P B-J).
Fluffy tit	Zeltus amasa	Poring.
Ceylon snow flat	Tagiades japedus	Gomantong (P B-J).
Large snow flat	Tagiades gana	Poring.
Banded angle	Odontoptilum pygela	Danum (P B-J).
Bright red velvet bob	Koruthaialos sindu	Poring.
	Notocrypta pria	Poring.
	Taractrocera ardonia	Gomantong (P B-J).
	Potanthus chloe	Poring (P B-J).

Systematic List Number 7 – Selected flora

Sites visited: 9th – 11th January Kinabalu National Park (KNP) HQ area; 11th January Rafflesia site near Poring; 12th January Mesilau; 13th – 14th January Poring Hot Springs (PHS); 15th January Gomantong Cave; 16th – 18th January Sukau; 18th – 22nd January Danum Valley; 23rd – 24th January Rasa Ria.

Nepenthes

[<i>Nepenthes burbidgeae</i>]	A transplanted colony at Mesilau.
<i>Nepenthes tentaculata</i>	Common, very variable and widespread at Kinabalu HQ and Mesilau.
<i>Nepenthes raja</i>	Huge size 11 pitchers seen at Mesilau.
<i>Nepenthes stenophylla</i>	Sukaibin showed us two plants that were probably this species at Soggy Bottom (Mesilau). Just to make sure we visited Bukit Silam (Danum) and saw some there too!
<i>Nepenthes macrovulgaris</i>	Sukaibin's latest discovery at Soggy Bottom was two or three plants of this species (hard to see at KNP).
<i>Nepenthes mirabilis</i>	Common along the last stretch of the access road to Poring. We photographed a colony at the first Rafflesia site.
<i>Nepenthes fusca</i>	Only noted at Mesilau.
[<i>Nepenthes villosa</i>]	Tiny translocated individual at Mesilau.
[<i>Nepenthes edwardsiana</i>]	A beautiful specimen in the Mountain Garden at KNP HQ.
<i>Nepenthes reinwardtiana</i>	Splendid plant at Soggy Bottom (Mesilau).
<i>Nepenthes gracilis</i>	Several plants in waste ground near Rasa Ria hotel.

Rhododendron

[<i>Rhododendron javanicum</i>]	Not seen in the wild but good specimen outside visitor centre at Mesilau.
<i>Rhododendron retivenum</i>	Noted above Timphon Gate on our short walk up part of the summit trail (KNP). Big yellow flowers and narrow elliptical leaves.
<i>Rhododendron crassifolium</i>	Shade loving epiphytic species noted on the summit trail at KNP. Will also grow in a bush form – one such in visitor centre garden at Mesilau.

Gingers

<i>Etlingera elatior</i>	The torch ginger – nice one flowering in the garden at Danum.
<i>Etlingera</i> spp.	Several photographed along the access track at Danum. Beautiful red flowers at ground level.
<i>Globba</i> spp.	Small forest ginger species with small orange flowers with an exerted stamen. Noted at Danum.
<i>Hedychium cylindricum</i>	The ginger with e bright orange-red seed pods at Kinabalu HQ and Mesilau.

Systematic List Number 8 – Moths

Family	Genus	Species	Bornean endemic	Kinabalu & Mesilau	Poring Hot Springs	Gomantong	Sukau	Danum	Rasa Ria	Photos
Limacodidae	Setothosea	assigna	no	#	#					yes
Lasiocampidae	Kunugia	basimacula	yes	#						yes
Lasiocampidae	Odonestis	lipara	yes	#						yes
Lasiocampidae	Trabala	ganesha	no				#			yes
Eupterotidae	Eupterote	niassana	ssp	#						yes
Bombycidae	Andraca	apodecta	no	#						yes
Saturniidae	Samia	borneensis	yes		#					yes
Sphingidae	Ambulyx	tattina	no		#					yes
Sphingidae	Daphnusa	ocellaris	no		#					yes
Sphingidae	Macroglossum	mittelli	no	#						yes
Sphingidae	Theretra	alecto	no						#	
Notodontidae	Phalera	acutoides	yes		#					yes
Notodontidae	Phalera	sundana	no		#					yes
Notodontidae	Quadricalcarifera	triguttata	no	#						yes
Notodontidae	Benbowia	sp nr virescens	no	#						yes
Notodontidae	Allata	argentifera	no				#			yes
Lymantriidae	Lymantria	singapura	no		#					yes
Lymantriidae	Psilochira	lineata	ssp	#						yes
Lymantriidae	Orgyia	osseata	no		#					yes
Lymantriidae	Nygmia	guttulata	no		#					yes
Lymantriidae	Rhypotoses	sp ?brooksi	no	#						yes
Lymantriidae	Leucoma	impressa	no				#			yes
Arctiidae	Amata	egenaria	yes		#					yes
Arctiidae	Spilosoma	groganae	yes	#						yes
Arctiidae	Spilosoma	sp. ?borneensis	yes	#						
Arctiidae	Nyctemera	baulus	no		#					yes
Arctiidae	Nyctemera	tripunctaria	no					#		
Arctiidae	Neochera	marmorea	no					#		
Arctiidae	?Asota	?sp	?		#					
Arctiidae	Hesudra	mjobergi	no	#						yes
Arctiidae	Vamuna	remelana	no	#						yes
Arctiidae	Nishada	sambara	no		#					yes
Arctiidae	Cyana	perornata	no		#					yes
Arctiidae	Cyana	malayensis	no	#						yes
Arctiidae	Cyana	selangorica	no		#					yes
Arctiidae	Cyana	determinata	no		#					yes
Arctiidae	Lyclene	obscurilinea	yes	#						yes
Arctiidae	Barsine	roseororatus	no	#						yes
Arctiidae	Barsine	flavodiscalis	no	#						yes
Callidulidae	Callidula	sakuni	no					#		yes
Drepanidae	Horithyatira	decorata	no	#						yes
Uraniidae	Lyssa	menoetius	no		dead					yes
Uraniidae	Lyssa	sp.	no			#				
Geometridae	Ornithospila	submonstrans	no		#					yes
Geometridae	Eucyclodes	albisparsa	no		#					

Geometridae	Jodis	subtractata	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Synegiodes	diffusifascia	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Problepsis	apollinaria leptomita /	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Hypocometa	titanis	yes	#		yes
Geometridae	Hypochrosis	hyadaria	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Fascellina	clausaria	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Ourapteryx	claretta	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Orthocabera	ocernaria	no		#	yes
Geometridae	Luxiaria	mitorrhaphes	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Godonela	nora	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Godonela	avitusaria	no	#		
Geometridae	Pogonopygia	xanthura baria	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Hyposidra	picaria	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Racotis	sp	no		dead	yes
Geometridae	Biston	insularis	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Amraica	solivagaria	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Cleora	pendleburyi	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Ophthalmitis	basiscripta	no	#		
Geometridae	Sysstema	pauxilloides (?)	no	#		yes
Geometridae	Alcis	praevariegata	yes	#		yes
Geometridae	Alcis	maculata	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Crinocula	kinabaluensis	yes	#		
Noctuidae	Scrobigeria	hesperioides	yes	#		yes
Noctuidae	Chrysodeixis	eriosoma	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Ctenoplusia	sigillata	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Sypna	albilinea	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Ercheia	cyllaria	no		#	yes
Noctuidae	Mocis	undata	no		#	yes
Noctuidae	Phyllodes	eindhovii	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Brontypena	ochrocuprea	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Hulodes	caranea	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Amphigonia	hepatizans	no	#		
Noctuidae	Episparis	costistriga	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Oxyodes	billeti	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Simplicia	rufa	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Cryptastria	fuscomarginata	no	#		yes
Noctuidae	Oxmenarius	brontesalis	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Bertula	delosticha	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Avittonia	albidentata	?		#	yes
Noctuidae	Bocana	manifestalis	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Bocana	silenusalis	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Adrapsa	geometroides	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Adrapsa	sp	?	#		yes
Noctuidae	Hydrillodes	sp ?murudensis	?	#		yes
Nolidae	Tyana	marina	yes	#		yes
Nolidae	Diehlea	ducalis	yes	#		yes
Tortricidae	?	?	?	#		yes
Pyralidae	?	?	?	#		yes
Crambidae	?	?	?	#		yes