

Borneo

Mount Kinabalu & Sabah's Fabulous Rainforests

2nd - 19th October 2009

A Greentours Trip Report

Leaders - Chris Gardner & Başak Gardner

Day 1 UK to Malaysia

We departed Stansted in the early hours!

Day 2 KL to Sukau

After a night in our somewhat bijou hotel we took an early flight to Sandakan where after lunch by the port and a spin around the fruit market we set off on our boat ride along the Kinabatangan River. Entering the main channel we began to see more wildlife with Brahminy Kites, White-bellied Sea-Eagle and then superb Rhinoceros Hornbills. After settling in we set off on another boat ride finding a very alert male Proboscis Monkey who seemed happy to bare his all for the cameras. Long-tailed Macaques and a rather distant Orang Utan followed before we picked up more Rhinoceros Hornbills feeding on figs as dusk arrived. We continued back in the dark spotlighting as we went and finding a hungry Common Palm Civet happily devouring figs, Blue-eared Kingfishers and larger Stork-billed Kingfishers, delicate Yellow-bellied Prinia, Clamorous Reed Warbler, Estuarine Crocs of various smaller sizes and then to finish with a fantastic Reticulated Python lurking in the tall grass.

Day 3 Sukau

Our morning ride took in Black-and-yellow Broadbill, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Wrinkled, Black and Oriental Pied Hornbills, plenty more Proboscis Monkeys and both Jerdon's Baza and Crested Serpent Eagle. A quieter channel held a troop of Pig-tailed Macaques and several Monitor Lizards and with a bit of searching by the boatmen Mangrove Snakes, which looped their handsome black and yellow coils across overhanging branches. Blue-eared Kingfishers also posed well as we patrolled the channel and as we returned to base there was the wonderful display flight of a Chinese Sparrowhawk. A boardwalk stroll after breakfast produced the dazzling Black-backed Kingfisher, Black-naped Monarch, graceful Tree Nymph butterflies and impossibly tiny Plain Pygmy Squirrels.

Blue-throated Bee-eaters, Dusky Munias and Prevost's Squirrels provided the entertainment during lunch.

We undertook an afternoon trip to Gomantong where we walked a section of the road there seeing bright red-bodied *Orthetrum testaceum* and red-winged *Neurothemis fluctuans*, Hairy-backed bulbul, Fiery Minivet, Greater Green Leafbird, a lovely Velvet-fronted Nuthatch and Buff-rumped Woodpecker before we picked up our next Orang Utan, which proved a bit elusive at first. Continuing on to the car park we then walked to the huge cave seeing Maroon Langurs very close as we arrive at the longhouses there. Inside the cave the air was thick with the odour of bat and swift guano and multitudes of swiftlets of various species zipped in and out as great swirls of bats built up for their dusk exit. Exiting the cave in time to see the emerging bats we watched as they were immediately set upon by Bat Hawks and then a Blyth's Hawk Eagle. We waited for dark, watching Cricket Frogs as it grew darker and then moving off with our spotlights finding a lovely Buffy Fish Owl, roosting Oriental Pied Hornbills and a flying Thomas's Flying Squirrel before returning.

Impressive specimens of *Gekko smithii* stalked the walls that evening, one at least 25cm long with fabulous reticulated green irises.

Day 4 Sukau

Setting off for this morning's session there were Silver Langurs in the grounds, the alpha male calling out to his rival across the other side of the river. We spent our time along a much narrower channel, moving slowly along using the quiet electric motors with the vegetation much closer and thus smaller creatures easier to observe. As the morning mists gradually lifted we picked up White-chested Babbler and flocks of Long-tailed Parakeets whirled overhead and Plain Pygmy Squirrels nibbled at things on the tree trunks. A flash of neon blue on the first floor drew our attention to a beautiful Hooded Pitta and everyone managed a good view of the bird which perched in low lianas or bounded across the forest floor. Three lovely Black-and-red Broadbills followed and as we progressed there were a pair of White-browed Shamas, Pied Fantail, Red-eyed Bulbul, Blue-throated Bee-eaters and many sightings of Stork-billed and Blue-eared Kingfishers. With rising temperatures butterflies began to appear with many Clippers, Banded Yeoman, Malayan Crows and the pretty damselfly *Ceriagrion cerinorubellum*. The return journey produced some good reptiles with a great view of an Estuarine Crocodile hauled out on the mud and then a very slender Painted Bronzeback that posed on a log for a while.

Post breakfast we took a walk around the boardwalk at the lodge finding some good butterflies with Plum Judy, Tree Nymph and Archduke together with a feeding flock of birds that included Scaly-crowned Babbler, Grey-headed Babbler, Puff-backed Bulbul and Thick-billed Spiderhunter. The yellow terrestrial orchid *Plocoglottis acuminatum* was quite common in one area.

The afternoon took us to the ox-bow lake via a narrow channel lined with *Dillenia exaltata* trees some with large yellow flowers. Another white flowered shrub proved irresistible to butterflies with Spotted Black Crows and Tigers (*Tirumala* sp) and nearby was another pair of the former engaged in mating ritual with the male hovering above the perched female for a long period of time perhaps dazzling her with his 'dancing' or intoxicating her with a pheromone? At the ox-bow grey clouds were gathering as a Common Kingfisher perched on a slender stick. There were a few Long-tailed Macaques and the loud whistles from a Hill Myna as we cruised to the

other end. A pair of Rhinoceros Hornbills glided across to a large tree and then an Oriental Pied Hornbill appeared. We sped back across the lake and through the narrow channel then made for the lodge as the skies darkened and splodges of rain fell arriving just before the rain really hit!

Of course rain isn't always a bad thing and it invariably brings out some good critters so our night time session around the board walk produced Harlequin Tree Frog, White-lipped Frog, Crested Toad, Frilled Tree Frog, phasmids, land crab, false scorpions and a splendid *Cryptodactylus* gecko.

Day 5 To Danum

An early morning spin around the boardwalk produced very little except a Short-tailed Babbler and a fine snail! We continued the natural history at Gomantong where as we arrived, a Storm's Stork was circling overhead. A couple of Maroon Langurs followed peering at us with their peculiar pale grey faces. The birdwatching was fairly low-key at first with Red-eyed Babbler, Greater Leafbird and Scaly-crowned Babbler, but as we walked back to the bus a knocking sound drew our attention to a handsome Orange-bellied Woodpecker that was taking its time hacking into a broken off stump.

From Gomantong we drove through the vast oil palm plantations to Lahad Datu where we had lunch and bought any bits and pieces we needed before boarding our 4x4s for the journey to Danum, which took us via a dirt road through various stages of post-logged forest and forestry projects. A loo stop by a clear stream full of barbs, rasboras and algae-sucking *Gyrinocheilus* produced a couple of blue-winged damselflies and then a lovely Whiskered Treeswift that repeatedly sallied out for insects, returning to the same perch each time. Elsewhere there were Fiery Minivets and Common Ioras before we carried on. One vehicle had already continued and they saw five Bearded Pigs, whilst Başak saw a Helmeted Hornbill fly across. At Danum after our welcome drinks we spent a bit of time watching a superb male Orang Utan with a big wide face lounging in a tree right next to the cabins.

Our first activity at Danum was a night drive which delivered almost at once with a superb view of Leopard Cat only two hundred metres from the lodge! A somewhat obscured view of a Wallace's Flying Frog followed and then a large tarantula at its burrow. The return trip yielded two more good mammals with first a Red Giant Flying Squirrel and then a fantastic little Slow Loris moving as its name suggest rather ponderously in the canopy.

Day 6 Danum

Our first full day at the superb lowland forests at Danum began with an early breakfast. We set out to follow the main road, but whooping Bornean Gibbons changed our plans and we headed for the river, where after a bit of searching we saw at least one lovely little ape swinging and feeding albeit for a short time. Back on track we walked the main road seeing Black Magpie and Black Hornbill, then Lesser Green Leafbird, mating hornets and Blue-naped Monarch. We reached the far end of the impressive canopy walkway and before crossing watched a gorgeous little Whiskered Treeswift that was sallying out from its perch on one of

the walkway cables. The walkway itself was quiet birdwise with only a perched Wallace's hawk-Eagle, but the views were superb of the immense trees and forest landscape. A Rajah Brookes Birdwing was seen fleetingly by Başak near the far end.

From here we entered another trail and made our way up the muddy forest path. A huge red shape halted progress as we watched a big male Orang Utan feeding and crossing the path above all no more than ten metres away, his huge wide face and powerful arms very obvious. How could we follow this? Nadil knew of lekking site for a very special bird and after a bit of calling a magnificent Great Argus made its way downslope to the flat open lekking area and proceeded to call and strut his stuff, the long tail and wing feathers seemingly made of glossy silk. There followed an all too brief view of female Blue-headed Pitta, Purple-naped Sunbird and a flock of at least a dozen Bushy-crested Hornbill before we reached the boardwalk and headed for the lodge. However, a distinctive loud hooting call drew our attention to a huge male Helmeted Hornbill perched high in tree and we all watched as he wound himself up for the maniacal cackling finale.

Everyone spent the post lunchtime relaxing or mooching about, Terry and Joyce witnessing a fantastic Red Giant Flying Squirrel that glided in and ran up the tree next to their chalet before flying off again. This normally nocturnal species had obviously been disturbed in its tree-hole hideaway and was making for another.

The afternoon walk began with a huge female Bornean Horned Frog, a truly amazing beast with remarkable camouflage and such a belief in this that it seldom budes from wherever it is found even when surrounded by photographers. Afternoons are generally quieter but we still managed a pair of handsome Diard's Trogons and a Jentink's Squirrel before we passed under the walkway and back to the main road. As we stood at the entrance to the walkway a pair of huge Wreathed Hornbills flew across as Rhinoceros Hornbills honked elsewhere. Our last goody for the day was a fine Crested Green Lizard perched on a leaf .

We took a night walk after dinner and found a good variety of nocturnal critters with first a sleeping Black-backed Kingfisher, then Ornate Shrub Lizard, an amazing stick insect that looked for all the world like a broken twig and a stunning swallowtailed moth. Assorted invertebrates followed before we reached the frog pond where plenty of File-eared Tree Frogs and Harlequin Tree Frogs were in residence. Nadil then picked up some eyeshine and we were able to follow a mother and two young Masked Palm Civets as they moved through the undergrowth to finish off a diverse night.

Day 7 Danum

After all the excitement of yesterday today was always going to struggle to keep up. Crested Firebacks stalked the grounds as we left for our walk along the main road, which still produced some new birds with Bornean Blue Flycatcher, Asian Paradise Flycatcher and Grey-cheeked Bulbul, then a good view of a pair of perched Wrinkled Hornbills. Descending into the forest we reached an area of flat forest where we all saw the lovely Rufous-chested Flycatcher. However, from here on in we only heard great birds with Scarlet-rumped and Red-naped Trogons, Red Bearded Bee-eater and Banded Kingfisher all frustratingly 'unavailable'!

During the interval Peter and Roy found the Leaf Butterfly feeding on a superb stinkhorn fungus complete with its net-like veil. By the riverside there were the handsome black-winged damselflies.

Our afternoon wander was via the pretty Jacuzzi Falls, the first of several pleasant jungle streams we crossed, but wildlife wise it was very quiet, but this is invariably the case in tropical forests. However, the night drive put us back on track with two beautiful Malay Civets that showed very well so we could enjoy their black spotted grey coats. There was also a Brown Wood Owl and excellent views of Red Giant Flying Squirrel and Wallace's Flying Frog.

Day 8 Danum

We began the day in the forest seeing a Greater Mouse Deer even before we'd reached the bridge. Moving along the undulating East Trail we started to hear the double-noted whistle of Blue-headed Pitta and eventually got an all-to-brief glimpse as it flew across the path. The Scarlet-rumped Trogon we saw was more obliging with a clear 'scope view as it sat near a clearing with hawking Hair-crested and Greater Racket-tailed Drongos. Very vocal Black-throated Wren-Babblers were seen also briefly and as we tried to locate Garnet Pitta. Sally drew our attention to a sleek and slender Striped Bronzeback (snake) that posed well for photos. A Chestnut Scimitar-Babbler interrupted proceedings followed by a Dark-throated Oriole and then Başak returned with news of two Garnet Pittas a short distance away but sadly we still couldn't locate them. However, in the nearby stream was the stunning little damselfly *Rhinagrion elopuræ*, with blue tipped red abdomen and yellow thorax. Long-billed Spiderhunter, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha and both a female and male Orang Utan were seen before we reached the bridge. Neil, Diana and I followed the Segama Trail back seeing Olive-backed Woodpecker, Purple-naped Sunbird and then a Garnet Pitta (finally), before crossing the next bridge where a large monitor lizard was swimming lazily along the river. However, had we stayed with the rest of the group we would have once again witnessed the superb Great Argus calling from its lek. This was followed by a stunning Red-bearded Bee-eater and Striped Wren-Babbler. Some of group took a vehicle back to base the rest carried on along the main road, which was now quite hot and perfect for butterflies, the pick of which was the dazzling Rajah Brooke Birdwing that spent some time taking salts from beside the road.

We returned to the main road for our afternoon walk hoping for more butterfly action but a brief rain shower put paid to the butterflies. However, we continued our walk and climbed on to the walkway spending the rest of the afternoon on one of the platforms where we enjoyed some productive birdwatching with first of all excellent views of lovely Black-and-yellow Broadbills, that fed around us for most of the time. Other gems such as Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Fiery Minivet and Green Iora appeared and there was a flyover of Bushy-crested Hornbill. Two Wrinkled Hornbills were perched on a distant tree and closer to us was a dinky little Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot.

Our night drive was at 6.30 and very quickly we picked up Lesser Mouse Deer and then a rather inactive Colugo on a tree trunk. We bumped along seeing Sambar and a Red Giant Flying Squirrel before we turned back. Things were going well with Nadil spotlighting a Red-legged Crake a difficult to see bird at the best of times. However, the stars had disappeared and spots of rain turned to a deluge as we hunkered down in the back of the open truck arriving

back at base a touch soggy and poor Nadil our spotter had been stuck on top of the vehicle with no waterproof the whole time and never stopped spotlighting!

Day 9 Danum to KNP

Our departure was not until after lunch so we had a full morning to enjoy. Driving out to the boundary of the reserve we began our walk back seeing a superb male Helmeted Hornbill fly across almost immediately. This was followed by Violet Cuckoo, Thick-billed Green Pigeon and then many Rhinoceros, Wrinkled and Wreathed Hornbills that were busy around a fruiting tree with much honking and noisy flying. Entered the more closed forest trails we saw White-crowned Forktail and then again happened upon a displaying male Great Argus – what a sight – and then eventually moving on (the pheasant walked off only a few metres before returning to his lek) we had excellent perched views of Striped Wren-Babbler and equally clear views of a male Orang Utan.

After enjoying a last good Danum lunch we drove to Lahad Datu and then flew to KK, continuing up to Kinabalu National Park and eventually enjoying a good dinner at the Fairy Garden. Some good moths were building up around the restaurant.

Day 10 KNP

An extra early team set off along the Bukit Ular trail at daybreak successfully finding the rare Everett's Thrush before returning down the main road where we found Bornean Whistler, Yellow-breasted Warbler, Sunda Laughingthrush, Sunda Bush Warbler, skulking Grey-throated Babbler and Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel. The rest of the group had started later and slowly walked to the restaurant seeing Green Magpie, Little Pied Flycatcher, Grey-chinned Minivet, Temminck's Babbler and Indigo Flycatcher. Post-breakfast we split up into two groups and walked the same trail in opposite directions, team A seeing Eye-browed Jungle Flycatcher, Arctic Warbler, some good butterflies, jewel orchids and White-browed Shrike-Babbler, then down onto Silau Silau where we picked up Rajah Brooke's Birdwing, which team B had seen on the way up along with Kinabalu Bluebottle, then Golden-naped Barbet, Bornean Spiderhunter, Temminck's Sunbird, the white orchid *Coelogyne rhabdoulbon* and golden-yellow *Calanthe pulchra*. At the Kaiw Viewpoint we all saw a wonderful flowering plant of superb *Rhododendron javanicum* ssp *brookeanum* var *kinabaluense*!

The afternoon session was along another trail which was quiet except for two lovely Whitehead's Pygmy Squirrel with their pretty ear-tufts and a pair of Orange-backed Woodpeckers. Our night walk produced many Kinabalu Slender Toad, Montane Torrent Frog, Mjoberg's Bush Frog and various crickets and phasmids.

Day 11 KNP to Mesilau

Again Everett's Thrush complied and was seen well. The morning session took in the same trail as yesterday afternoon and was quiet at first with only Snowy-browed Flycatcher, but it then exploded into life with a pair of Whitehead's Trogon including prolonged views of the

dazzling male. This was followed by a wonderful mixed flock with Bare-headed and Chestnut-headed Laughingthrushes, Black-and-crimson and Black Orioles, Golden-naped Barbet, Bornean Treepie, White-browed Shrike Babbler and Hair-crested Drongo. Descending to the river we saw a stunning black-blue demoiselle and then a fly past from a Rajah Brooke's Birdwing. Two more good butterflies followed; Archduke and Malayan Owl and a then stunning red and iridescent blue-black moth.

Lunch was followed by a tour of the botanic garden with some interesting orchids and drive to Mesilau. Watching from the chalets there we saw Ashy Drongo, Mountain Tailorbird, Bornean Whistler, Sunda Whistling Thrush and a very cute Mountain Treeshrew.

Day 12 Mesilau

Although this morning's early birding was fairly quiet in terms of the number of species we nonetheless saw a little cracker with very good views of Bornean Stubtail, a very cute skulker that we watched picking its way through the undergrowth. Sunda Bush Warbler and Mountain Tailorbird were also seen before breakfast on the veranda. The main event of the day was the walk to the see the magnificent Rajah pitcher plants. Crossing the small suspension we bridge we entered a fantastic floral world with many orchid species including *Coelogyne tenompokense* (pink) and *hirtella* (white) growing near the now well established transplanted colony of *Nepenthes burbidgei* a handsome cream coloured pitcher with black spotting and dark red under the lid. Climbing up we found bright scarlet *Rhododendron crassifolium* and pink *rugosum* before we encountered the first big rajah pitcher. However, higher still were many more very large examples with extra large lids and deep red, grooved rims with inward pointing teeth to prevent any inmates escaping a watery grave. A flowering *Paphiopedilum hookeri* drew a lot of attention and elsewhere was a very fine yellow and brown *Coelogyne radioferrens*. Down slope a mixed flock of birds was working the tree tops including Mountain Blackeye, Grey-chinned Minivet, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch and Flavescent Bulbul.

Lunch was interrupted by a splendid Kinabalu Tiger, which floated graefully over us and then settled on the steps. Post-lunch wanderings produced some more orchids with many long, pendant spikes of *Coelogyne moultonii* along with Checker-throated Woodpecker, Bornean Treepie, Temminck's Sunbird and Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel before we departed for our next hotel. We didn't drive far at first, stopping by an area of elephant grass and scrub that also contained some fine plants of *Nepenthes fusca* with elegant curved pitchers and narrow lids and a thriving population of a probable hybrid - *Nepenthes tentaculata x reinwardtiana*. From here we carried on down stopping to sample durian and roti canai at a roadside restaurant before making our way after various vehicle changes to our hotel atop a ridge overlooking the hills and hopefully Mount Kinabalu in the morning.

Day 13 Poring

We departed early for the drive to Poring arriving at 7am where we split into two groups, one heading for the higher slopes the other for the canopy walkway and lower areas. The upland team moved quickly into the forests around the waterfall climbing up towards the small bat cave there where a familiar hum greeted us. Scaly-crowned Babblers were making a lot of noise

as was a fine Maroon Woodpecker. Continuing up the forest was quiet although we did see Ferruginous Flycatcher, 'Ninja' butterflies and a stand of impressive Torch Ginger before we paused for a while among some huge bamboos. Noises along the path drew me to a stand of bamboo where a Yellow-throated Marten was jumping around making strange calls and clearly agitated by something. Sadly it had moved on by the time the others arrived leaving only Common Pencil-tailed Mouse running up the bamboo in its place! On the return journey we found Large Flying Lizard *Draco maximus* and then Purple-naped Sunbird. A glimpse of a female Banded Kingfisher caused us to wait around and as we did alarm calls from squirrels drew our attention to a bright orange, white faced Malay Weasel that was moving across the top of some rocks, a somewhat bizarre beast.

The other group had seen four Raffle's Malkohas on the canopy walkway and then lower down Rajah Brooke's Birdwing and Golden Birdwing. Around the restaurant while we ate lunch there were several large carpenter bees and a Striped Tree Skink. Post-lunch was fairly botanical with a trip to the orchid garden where other than the superb yellow hanging flowers of *Dimorphorchis rossii* there were the antics of Jackie the resident rehab Orang Utan playing with various garden implements and then after our walk she was wrapping herself in a plastic sheet to get out of the rain.

We had word of a *Rafflesia keithii* in bloom and stopped there on the way back finding the flower in good condition. It was adjacent to a thriving colony of *Nepenthes mirabilis*, which scrambled over shrubs with both male and female plants in flower.

Day 14 Tambunan

It was a spectacular dawn over the hills this morning as the granite of Mount Kinabalu glowed-red with the first rays of sunlight. We undertook the journey to Tambunan stopping a couple of times to birdwatch in the premontane forests. Our first session produced Black-crested, Ochraceous and Ashy Bulbul, along with Mountain Crested Serpent Eagle, Chestnut-crested Yuhina and Black-and-crimson Oriole. A bit higher up and we looked around an open area ringed by forest. All seemed quiet at first but then we hit on a fruiting tree that was brimming with barbets, finding Bornean, Brown and Mountain, the latter singing at length from a tree top. Along with the barbets was a Jentink's Squirrel and a pair of Blue-winged Leafbirds and although the latter were a bit elusive we needn't have worried as when we arrived at our coffee stop at a restaurant overlooking the forested Crocker Range another pair were in perfect view in a fruit tree next to the balcony. They were joined by a three Long-tailed macaques that had eyes only for our snacks and we had to guard them carefully the whole time.

At the Rafflesia Centre we picked up our guides and began our long descent into the forest where we eventually found a superb *Rafflesia pricei* in bloom, the beautiful forty centimetre wide reddish flower with raised white markings. The hike back up didn't seem so bad after we'd achieved our goal, yesterday's flower was just too easy, but we'd earned this one.

Late lunch was taken in Tambunan with a selection of tasty street foods and roti canai before returning to the hotel to enjoy the evening light on the hills.

Day 15 Poring and Mamut

Our return to Poring was much more productive with sunshine and lots of activity. A few of us went up towards the canopy walkway, picking up Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Purple-naped Sunbird and Banded Woodpecker on the way. The latter was also seen very well around the start of the walkway. From the first platform there was plenty of action with Pale Blue Flycatcher, Scaly-breasted Bulbul and Lesser Leafbird, whilst the next platform produced excellent views of Scarlet Minivet and Ruby-cheeked Sunbird. Dropping back down to terra firma we found Rufous-tailed Tailorbird and White-crowned Shama before reaching the small clearing where we met many of others who had seen Blue-eared Barbet, Rajah Brookes Birdwing, green and yellow lantern bug. We stayed around the clearing for a while seeing flying lizard and then Gold-whickered Barbet. An area of rocky stream held the blue-winged *Euphonia subnodalis* and big green *Vestalis amabilis* damselflies, Whitehead's Torrent Frog and Rajah Brooke's Birdwing. Shortly afterwards back at the clearing a Chestnut-breasted Malkoha signalled the arrival a very busy flock that included Dark-throated Oriole, Buff-rumped and Buff-necked Woodpeckers, Banded Bay Cuckoo, Orange-bellied Flowerpecker and Tawny-breasted Parrotfinch. Everyone dispersed to do their own thing before lunch, but Peter and I continued back into the forest where we found orange and brown *Symbrenthia hypselis* a type of Jester, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Brown Barbet and then the stunning Malay Harlequin that settled on shady leaves and allowed close approach after a bit of chasing.

A couple of hours were spent after lunch returning to find the Malay Harlequin for some or going to the butterfly garden where there was a female Rajah Brooke's Birdwing and a Slender Treeshrew.

From Poring we drove back to Ranau, transferred to smaller vehicles and then followed the rough road up to an old copper mine. At the mine site all was desolate with patches of vegetation and occasional *Rhododendron javanicum* flowering in the 'desert'. However, some of the steeper banks were still well vegetated and on one of these was a huge population of *Nepenthes stenophylla* the large slender upper pitchers smothering the trees in places. There were also odd plants of *Nepenthes fusca* and elegant *reinwardtiana* with the distinctive twin spots the inner pitcher wall. Bright orange *Rhododendron fallacinum* were also dotted about the site, which was actually very rich despite the devastation around it.

Some of us returned to Poring from here for a last night walk after a tasty dinner at the restaurant. There was an impressive stick insect, an elusive gecko and then both large and small specimens of Black-spotted Rock Frog, before Başak saw a huge phasmid perched on a leaf, fully twelve centimetres long.

Day 16 KK Bird Sanctuary and Rasa Ria

A more leisurely start to the morning saw us leaving the hotel at 8am and making the long descent to Kota Kinabalu or KK. We stopped at the bird sanctuary there, an area of mangrove forest through which runs a long boardwalk, allowing an insight into this unusual habitat. Common Iora got us started and then there were various purple and red limbed crabs, mudskippers, monitor lizard, Common Kingfisher and Mangrove Skink. The last stretch

produced Pied Triller, Plain-throated Sunbird and Ashy Tailorbird before the best bird of the morning, a Rufous Night Heron perched next to the centre building.

Lunch was followed by a bit of shopping, mainly in the very good Borneo Books and then we drove to Rasa Ria for our luxurious wind-down after a busy tour.

Day 17 Rasa Ria

Early birders enjoyed a productive and varied morning with Pink-necked Pigeon, Olive-backed Sunbird, Yellow-vented Bulbul and Plain-tailed Squirrel near the hotel and as we walked out there were excellent views of Collared Kingfisher, Scaly-breasted Munia, a somewhat hidden Chinese Pond Heron and Common Sandpiper. Zebra Doves and Black-headed Munia were seen around the scrubby marshes where there were plentiful *Nepenthes gracilis*, a smaller-pitched species that scrambled into the shrubs. Brief views of Crimson Sunbird and another Collared Kingfisher followed before we turned back to the hotel and a very large breakfast buffet.

The rest of the day was spent relaxing before convening for a last slap-up evening meal.

Day 18 To KL and UK

We said farewell to the opulence of Rasa Ria, exchanging it for the down-to-earth charms of KL's LCCT terminal where most of the group flew back to the UK. However, six of us had opted for a week in Sulawesi with its fabulous endemic wildlife and stunning coral reefs...but that's another story.

Systematic List Number 1 Birds

Recent new titles by both Phillips and Meyers have reclassified some species, we have followed the new version of the former here. Species in square brackets were heard only. KNP=Kinabalu National Park

Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Common at Sukau, occasional at Danum and Rasa Ria
Great-billed heron	<i>Ardea sumatrana</i>	Danum, seen in the river there
Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Frequent at Sukau and other wetlands inc Rasa Ria
Little heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	Sukau, KK wetland centre, Rasa Ria
Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Common and widespread in rural areas
Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Common and widespread near water
Pacific reef egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	On approach to Sukau
Intermediate egret	<i>Mesophox intermedia</i>	A few at Sukau
Great egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	Common and widespread near water
Chinese Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>	Probably this species at Rasa Ria
Storm's stork	<i>Ciconia stormii</i>	Sukau, with an impressive 7 birds on one boat ride
Jerdon's baza	<i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>	Occasional at Sukau
Bathawk	<i>Machaeramphus alcinus</i>	Gomantong
Brahminy kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	Common at Sukau
White-bellied fish-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	Sukau
Lesser fish-eagle	<i>Ichtyophaga humilis</i>	Sukau
Crested goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	Narrow channel at Sukau
Crested serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Common and widespread
Mountain serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis kinabaluensis</i>	Seen well near Tambunan
Black eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	Danum
Changeable hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>	Sukau
Blyth's hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus alboniger</i>	Gomantong
Wallace's hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus nanus</i>	Danum including a nest site
White-fronted falconet	<i>Microhierax latifrons</i>	Danum
Chestnut-necklaced partridge	<i>Arborophila charltonii</i>	Glimpsed at KNP on the second Everett's Thrush foray
Great argus	<i>Argusianus argus</i>	Seen to magnificent effect at leks at Danum on three occasions
White-breasted waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	On the Poring journeys and elsewhere
Little ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	En route to Sukau
Kentish plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Rasa Ria beach
Malaysian plover	<i>Charadrius peronii</i>	Rasa Ria beach
Greater sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Rasa Ria beach
Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Scattered, Sukau, Rasa Ria
Gull-billed tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Sukau
Great-crested tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>	Sukau
Little tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	Sukau
White-winged tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	Sukau and Rasa Ria
Little green pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>	Odd birds at Sukau
Pink-necked green pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>	Rasa Ria
Green imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>	Common and widespread in lowlands
Mountain imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>	Two at Mamut (LOB)
Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Towns
Little cuckoo-dove	<i>Macropygia ruficeps</i>	Scattered, KNP, Poring
Spotted dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Common in lowland towns, Rasa Ria

Zebra dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Rasa Ria and KK
Emerald dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	One at Danum (LOB)
Long-tailed parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda</i>	Flying over at Sukau
Blue-crowned hanging-parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	One seen very well at Danum walkway
Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonnerattii</i>	Poring
Violet cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	Danum
Chestnut-breasted malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	Widespread large Malkoha, e.g. Danum, Poring
Raffle's malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus</i>	Danum and several at Poring
Greater coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	Widespread in rural area and roadsides
Buffy fish-owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>	Seen very well at Sukau and Gomantong
Brown wood-owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	Danum night drive
Glossy swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>	Common and widespread. The only swiftlet at higher altitudes
Black-nest swiftlet	<i>Collocalia maxima</i>	Sukau area
Mossy-nest swiftlet	<i>Collocalia vanikorensis</i>	Gomantong
Edible-nest swiftlet		Unsure whether this species is also present at Gomantong, surely it is?
Silver-rumped swift	<i>Raphidura leucopygialis</i>	Scattered, common at Danum
Grey-rumped tree-swift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>	Sukau
Whiskered tree-swift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>	Beautiful views at Danum
[Red-naped trogon]	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>	Heard at Danum
Diard's trogon	<i>Harpactes diardii</i>	Danum
Whitehead's trogon	<i>Harpactes whiteheadi</i>	Two beauties at KNP
Scarlet-rumped trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelli</i>	Danum
Common kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Sukau and KNP bird sanctuary
Blue-eared kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	Sukau and KNP bird sanctuary
Oriental dwarf kingfisher	<i>Ceyx erithacus</i>	Sukau & Danum
Stork-billed kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	Sukau and KNP bird sanctuary
Banded kingfisher	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>	A glimpse at Poring
Collared kingfisher	<i>Todirhamphus chloris</i>	Rasa Ria
Blue-throated bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	Sukau
Red-bearded bee-eater	<i>Nyctiornis amictus</i>	Danum, seen well
Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Sukau
Bushy-crested hornbill	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	Danum
Wrinkled hornbill	<i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	Sukau and seen well at Danum
Wreathed hornbill	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>	Danum
Asian black hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	Sukau and Danum
Oriental pied hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	Sukau, Danum & Rasa Ria
Rhinoceros hornbill	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	Sukau and Danum
Helmeted hornbill	<i>Buceros vigil</i>	Seen and heard well at Danum
Gold-whiskered barbet	<i>Megalaima chysopogon</i>	Poring
Bornean barbet	<i>Megalaima eximia</i>	Tambunan one of three species in the same tree (next two species featured too)
Mountain barbet	<i>Megalaima monticola</i>	Tambunan
Golden-naped barbet	<i>Megalaima pulcherrima</i>	Tambunan and KNP
Blue-eared barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>	Sukau and Poring
Brown barbet	<i>Calorhamphus fuliginosus</i>	Sukau, Tambunan and Poring

Speckled piculet	<i>Picumnus innominatus</i>	Poring
Buff-rumped woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>	Sukau and Poring
Buff-necked woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tukki</i>	Poring
Grey-and-buff woodpecker	<i>Hemicircus concretus</i>	A group of four at Sukau
Maroon woodpecker	<i>Blythipicus rubiginosus</i>	Danum & Poring
Banded woodpecker	<i>Picus miniaceus</i>	Poring
Checker-throated woodpecker	<i>Picus mentalis</i>	Mesilau
Olive-backed woodpecker	<i>Dinopium rafflesii</i>	Danum
Orange-backed woodpecker	<i>Reinwardtipicus validus</i>	Danum and KNP
Dusky broadbill	<i>Corydon sumatranus</i>	Sukau
Black-and-red broadbill	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchus</i>	Sukau
Black-and-yellow broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	Sukau and Danum
Blue-headed pitta	<i>Pitta baudii</i>	Danum
Garnet pitta	<i>Pitta granatina</i>	Danum
Hooded pitta	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	Sukau
Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Widespread and common
Pacific swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	Widespread and common
Red-rumped swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	Possible at Sukau
Lesser cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina fimbriata</i>	Danum
Pied triller	<i>Lalage nigra</i>	Rasa Ria
Scarlet minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	Danum
Fiery minivet	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>	Sukau and Danum
Grey-chinned minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>	KNP
Green iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	Danum
Common iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Widespread
Blue-winged leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	Seen very well above Tambunan
Lesser green leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Greater green leafbird	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Black-headed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	Sukau
Black-crested bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	Poring
Scaly-breasted bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus squamatus</i>	Poring
Puff-backed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>	Sukau
Flavescent bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flavescens</i>	Mesilau
Yellow-vented bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	KK
Red-eyed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Finsch's bulbul	<i>Criniger finschi</i>	Danum
Ochraceous bulbul	<i>Criniger ochraceus</i>	KNP
Grey-cheeked bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	Danum
Yellow-bellied bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	Sukau and Danum
Hairy-backed bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Buff-vented bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>	Sukau and Danum
Ashy bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes flavala</i>	Mesilau
Ashy drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Highlands
Greater racquet-tailed drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Spangled drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentotus</i>	Widespread
Dark-throated oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	Danum and Poring
Black-and-crimson oriole	<i>Oriolus cruentus</i>	KNP

Black oriole	<i>Oriolus hosii</i>	KNP
Asian fairy bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	Danum and Poring
Short-tailed magpie	<i>Cissa thalassina</i>	KNP
Green magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>	KNP
Bornean treepie	<i>Dendrocitta cinerascens</i>	KNP, Tambunan
Black magpie	<i>Ptilatysmurus leucopterus</i>	Danum
Slender-billed crow	<i>Corvus enca</i>	Widespread in lowlands
[Bornean bristlehead]	<i>Pityriasis gymnocephala</i>	Heard at Danum
Velvet-fronted nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>	Gomantong, Mesilau
Temminck's babbler	<i>Trichastoma pyrrogenys</i>	Danum
White-chested babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>	Sukau
Short-tailed babbler	<i>Malacocincla malaccense</i>	Sukau and Danum
Abott's babbler	<i>Malacocincla abottii</i>	Sukau
Sooty-capped babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>	Danum
Scaly-crowned babbler	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Chestnut-backed scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus montanus</i>	Danum
Bornean wren-babbler	<i>Ptilocichla leucogrammica</i>	Danum
Striped wren-babbler	<i>Kenopia striata</i>	Seen superbly, singing at Danum
Black-throated wren-babbler	<i>Napothera atrigularis</i>	Danum
Grey-throated babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	Danum, KNP
Grey-headed babbler	<i>Stachyris poliocephala</i>	Sukau and Danum
Chestnut-winged babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Sunda laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax palliatus</i>	KNP
Chestnut-capped laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax mitratus</i>	Widespread in highlands
Black laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax lugubris</i>	KNP
White-browed shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthis flaviscapis</i>	KNP
Brown fulvetta	<i>Alcippe brunneicauda</i>	Danum
Chestnut-crested yuhina	<i>Yuhina everetti</i>	KNP
White-browed shortwing	<i>Brachypteryx montana</i>	KNP, Mesilau
Siberian blue robin	<i>Erithacus cyane</i>	Poring
Magpie robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Widespread in lowlands
White-browed shama	<i>Copsychus stricklandi</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Chestnut-naped forktail	<i>Enicurus ruficapillus</i>	Danum
White-crowned forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>	Danum and KNP
Sunda whistling-thrush	<i>Myiophoneus glaucinus</i>	KNP, Mesilau (common)
Everett's thrush	<i>Zoothera everetti</i>	Seen very well two mornings in a row at KNP
Yellow-breasted warbler	<i>Seicercus montis</i>	KNP, Tambunan
Yellow-bellied warbler	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>	KNP
Arctic warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	KNP, Poring
Mountain leaf warbler	<i>P. trivirgatus</i>	KNP
Striated grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>	Near Sukau
Dark-necked tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Ashy tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Rufous-tailed tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	Danum
Mountain tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus cucullatus</i>	KNP
Yellow-bellied prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	Sukau
Bornean stubtail	<i>Urosphena whiteheadi</i>	Mesilau, seen well

Sunda bush-warbler	<i>Cettia vulcania</i>	KNP, Mesilau
Grey-chested jungle-flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias umbratilis</i>	Danum
Eye-browed jungle-flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias gularis</i>	KNP
Asian brown flycatcher	<i>Musciapa latirostris</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Indigo flycatcher	<i>Musciapa indigo</i>	KNP, Mesilau
Snowy-browed flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hyperythra</i>	KNP, Mesilau
Rufous-chested flycatcher	<i>Ficedula dumetoria</i>	Seen well at Danum
Little pied flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>	KNP
Pale blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	Poring
Bornean blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis superbus</i>	Danum
Malaysian blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis turcosus</i>	Sukau
White-throated fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	Widespread
Spotted fantail	<i>Rhipidura perlata</i>	Danum
Pied fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	Sukau and Danum
Black-naped monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	Scattered in lowlands
Asian paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	Danum
Bornean whistler	<i>Pachycephala hypoxantha</i>	KNP
White-breasted wood-swallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Widespread
Paddyfield pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Danum
Asian glossy starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Hill myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	Sukau
Common myna	<i>Acridotherpes tristis</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Crested myna	<i>Acridotherpes cristatellus</i>	KK
Plain sunbird	<i>Anthreptes simplex</i>	Danum
Plain-throated sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	Sukau, Rasa Ria
Ruby-cheeked sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>	Danum
Purple-naped sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Copper-throated sunbird	<i>Nectarinia calcostetha</i>	Poring
Olive-backed sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Crimson sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	Danum
Temminck's sunbird	<i>Aethopyga temminckii</i>	KNP
Little spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostris</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Long-billed spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>	Danum
Thick-billed spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera crassirostris</i>	Sukau
Grey-breasted spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera affinis</i>	Danum
Bornean spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera everetii</i>	KNP
Scarlet-breasted flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus thoracicus</i>	Sukau
Yellow-rumped flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus xanthopygius</i>	Danum
Orange-bellied flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	Scattered in lowlands
Black-sided flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum monticulum</i>	KNP, Tambunan
Black-capped white-eye	<i>Zosterops atricapilla</i>	KNP
Mountain black-eye	<i>Chlorocharis emilae</i>	KNP

Eurasian tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Widespread
Dusky munia	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	Widespread in lowlands
Red avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>	Sukau
Tawny-breasted parrotfinch	<i>Erythrura hyperthra</i>	Poring
Black-headed munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Rasa Ria
Scaly-breasted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Rasa Ria

Systematic List Number 2 Mammals

34 species

Lesser/slender treeshrew	<i>Tupaia minor/gracilis</i>	Difficult to differentiate between these two species. Recorded at Poring.
Mountain treeshrew	<i>Tupaia montana</i>	Seen well at Mesilau
Large flying-fox	<i>Pteropus vampyrus</i>	Noted at Sukau and Danum.
Wrinkle-lipped bat		Many at Gomantong
Colugo	<i>Cynocephalus variegatus</i>	At Danum
Slow loris	<i>Nycticebus coucang</i>	One seen well moving slowly in the canopy on a Danum night drive
Silvered langur	<i>Presbytis cristata</i>	Only noted at Sukau on one occasion – a poor year.
Maroon langur	<i>Presbytis rubicunda</i>	Small group at Gomantong. Also recorded at Danum where frequently encountered.
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 Sukau, Danum and the café at Tambunan
Pig-tailed macaque	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	A group encountered at Sukau.
Bornean gibbon	<i>Hylobates muelleri</i>	Heard at calling regularly at Danum and one or two seen on the first day.
Orang-utan	<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	Amazing sightings this year with two very close big males at Danum, and seen on seven out of eight days in the lowlands. “Jackie” the rehabilitated individual present near the orchid garden at Poring. A very good showing this year.
Giant squirrel	<i>Ratufa affinis</i>	Recorded at Poring and Danum. More often heard than seen.
Prevost’s squirrel	<i>Callosciurus prevostii</i>	Widespread at lowland forest sites.
Plantain squirrel	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	Scattered records from lowland forest sites.
Bornean black-banded squirrel	<i>Callosciurus orestes</i>	Singles at Mesilau
Jentink’s squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus jentinki</i>	Seen best at the shelters en route to the summit at KNP. Also at Mesilau.
Brooke’s squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus brookei</i>	One seen well at Danum
Bornean mountain ground squirrel	<i>Dremomys everetti</i>	Common at KNP and Mesilau
Plain pygmy squirrel	<i>Exilisciurus exilis</i>	These engaging tiny chaps were noted at Poring, Sukau and Danum.
Whitehead’s pygmy squirrel	<i>Exilisciurus whiteheadi</i>	Lovely little squirrel with pronounced white ear-tufts, KNP
Thomas’ flying squirrel	<i>Aeromys thomasi</i>	One gliding at Gomantong
Red giant flying squirrel	<i>Petaurista petaurista</i>	Several seen from night drives at Danum.
Common pencil-tailed mouse	<i>Chiropodomys gliroides</i>	One at Poring
Yellow-throated marten	<i>Martes flavigula</i>	One jumping around a bamboo clump at Poring, calling a lot a clearly excited by something (CG)
Malay weasel	<i>Mustela nudipes</i>	Bizarre-looking ferret with bright orange fur and white face, seen quite well near bat cave at Poring
Malay civet	<i>Viverra zibetha</i>	Two seen very well on night drive at Danum

Common palm civet	<i>Paradozurus hermaphroditus</i>	Seen feeding calmly in a fig tree at Sukau on night cruise
Masked palm civet	<i>Paguma larvata</i>	A family seen creeping among the undergrowth during a night walk, also one at Tambunan
Leopard cat	<i>Felis bengalensis</i>	Single seen very well on first night drive at Danum.
[Asian elephant]	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	Signs at Sukau and Danum
Bearded pig	<i>Sus barbatus</i>	Huge male in the gardens at Danum.
Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	Seen at night at Danum.
Lesser mouse-deer	<i>Tragulus javanicus</i>	Recorded at Danum both during day and at night.

Systematic List Number 3 Amphibians

24 species

Malaysian horned frog	<i>Megophrys nasuta</i>	Single very large female at Danum
Kinabalu slender toad	<i>Ansonia hanitschi</i>	Very common along Silau-Silau trail at night (KNP).
Crested toad	<i>Bufo divergens</i>	One at Sukau
Treehole frog	<i>Metaphrynella sundana</i>	Commonly heard in lowland forest. A female was seen at Sukau
Mangrove frog	<i>Fejervarya cancrivora</i>	Large frog seen along river banks at Sukau, much rougher skin than next species
Greater swamp frog	<i>Limnonectes ingeri</i>	On the nocturnal boat ride at Sukau.
Kuhl's creek frog	<i>Limnonectes kuhli</i>	Single in small pool at Poring orchid garden and also on nightwalk there
Montane torrent frog	<i>Meristogenys kinabaluensis</i>	One along the Silau-Silau trailhead on one night (KNP).
Whitehead's torrent frog	<i>Meristogenys whiteheadi</i>	Along Sg. Kipungit, Poring during the day
Rough-sided frog	<i>Rana glandulosa</i>	One seen at Sukau smothered in mosquitoes! Calling loudly most nights there
White-lipped frog	<i>Rana chalconota</i>	Two in the orchid garden at Poring, others at Sukau
Cricket frog	<i>Rana nicobariensis</i>	Gomantong, Sukau, Danum – commonly heard calling from ditches, etc
Black-spotted rock frog	<i>Staurois natator</i>	Several at Poring, also Serpent Falls, Danum and a large one seen during the night at Danum.
Cinnamon frog	<i>Nyctixalus pictus</i>	Stunning frog seen between heavy downpours one night at Danum
Mjoberg's bush frog	<i>Philautus mjobergi</i> <i>Philautus amoenus</i>	Single along Sila-Silau trail at night (KNP). One at Mesilau. It is probably this species that makes so much noise early on there
File-eared tree frog	<i>Polypedates otlophus</i>	Single with frothy egg-mass at Poring. Up to eight most nights at the frog pool at Danum.
Four-lined tree frog	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i>	One at Sukau, unusually scarce this year
Dark-eared tree frog	<i>Polypedates macrotis</i>	One at Sukau
Mossy tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus everetti</i>	One tiny individual along Silau-Silau trail at night (KNP).
Wallace's flying frog	<i>Rhacophorus nigropalmatus</i>	Single over temporary pool on two of the night drives at Danum. Superb.
Harlequin tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus pardalis</i>	Sometimes in good numbers at the frog pool at Danum, also Sukau. Some almost unmarked and could be confused with red-legged tree frog but all showed characteristic underpart colouration and more rounded snouts.
Friilled tree frog	<i>Rhacophorus appendiculatus</i>	Very common at Sukau, though have to sought out.

Systematic List Number 4 Reptiles

Horned flying lizard	<i>Draco cornutus</i>	Danum, green.
Large flying lizard	<i>Draco maximus</i>	Single Poring on higher ridge, I originally misnamed this <i>Draco oscura</i> .
Black-banded sun skink	<i>Mabuya rudis</i>	Common lowland forest floor species, handsome orange throated males at Sukau, rougher scales
	<i>Mabuya multifasciata</i>	Poring – around restaurant.
Mangrove skink	<i>Mabuya ?</i>	KK City Reserve.
Striped tree skink	<i>Apterygodon vittatus</i>	Noted at Poring near restaurant
Many-scaled litter skink	<i>Sphenomorphus multisquamatus</i>	Danum among leaf litter and on logs
Sabah slender skink	<i>Sphenomorphus sabanus</i>	Small numbers at Sukau and Danum.
	<i>Tropidophorus beccarii</i>	Semi-aquatic skink was only seen briefly at Kipungit waterfall (Poring) CG.
Common house gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	Ubiquitous.
	<i>Gekko smithii</i>	Impressive large gecko at Sukau
Bent-toed gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus pubisulcus</i>	Around the chalets at Danum.
Kinabalu bent-toed gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus baluensis</i>	One at Poring that was shy of the lights
Angle-headed lizard	<i>Gonocephalus bornensis</i>	Only occasional in lowland forest this year.
Green tree lizard	<i>Bronchocoela cristatella</i>	Noted at Poring, Gomantong, Sukau and on the access track to Danum.
Monitor lizard	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	Noted at Sukau, Danum and KK City Reserve.
Saltwater crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Several on the night boat ride at Sukau – on large one 180cm+ on morning cruise
Red-sided keelback	<i>Xenochropis trianguligera</i>	Crossing the road at Danum
Reticulated python	<i>Python reticulatus</i>	A large (300cm+) one lurking among the grass on the river bank at Sukau
Mangrove snake	<i>Boiga dendrophila</i>	Singles on two of the boat trips at Sukau.
Striped bronze-back	<i>Dendrelaphis caudolineatus</i>	One at Danum
Painted bronze-back	<i>Dendrelaphis pictus</i>	One at Sukau perched on a log midstream

Systematic List Number 5 Odonata

A disappointing list this year, odonata seemed to be thin on the ground.

	<i>Devadatta podolestoides</i>	Frequently encountered at Poring this year. Endemic to Borneo.
	<i>Libellago phaeton</i>	Several males of this splendid species on a stream on the way into Danum. Endemic to NW Borneo.
a jewel	<i>Rhinocypha cucullatus</i>	Noted only on a stream on the way into Danum. Endemic to Borneo.
a jewel	<i>Rhinocypha humeralis</i>	Single at Jacuzzi Pool at Danum.
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 along the small stream at Danum.
	<i>Dysphaea dimidiata</i>	The glorious black damsel perching on twigs in the middle of the Danum River and its tributaries at Danum – often opens out its wings.
	<i>Vestalis ?amoena?</i>	The <i>Vestalis</i> present at Poring and Danum around the Jacuzzi Pool was probably this species.
a greenwing	<i>Neurobasis longipes</i>	Endemic species. The flashy green number along the streams at Poring and Danum – a <i>Caleopteryx</i> style damsel.
	<i>Matronoides?</i>	Two females en route to Danum looked good for this species but were too low.
a Lestidae damselfly	<i>Lestes praeivus</i>	Several at the frog pool at Danum.
	<i>Prodasineura verticalis</i>	Nice damsel – seen well along a stream on the way into Danum.
	<i>Prodasineura hyperythra</i>	Single daily at the Danum frog pool.
	<i>Ceriagrion cerinorubellum</i>	Several at one location at Sukau.
	<i>Ceriagrion bellona</i>	The small red damsel breeding in the frog pool at Danum.
	<i>Pseudagrion microcephalum</i>	Small numbers at Rasa Ria.
Orange-tailed midget	<i>Agriocnemis femina</i>	Small colony located in a vegetated stretch of the drain around the football pitch at Poring.
	<i>Agriocnemis pygmaea</i>	Single at Gomantong.
	<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	Small numbers at Sukau and Rasa Ria.
	<i>Coeliccia arcuata</i>	Small numbers at Danum.
	<i>Copera vittata</i>	The ghostly immatures seen in deep shade under the canopy at Danum.
	<i>Ictinogomphus decoratus</i>	Single on golf course at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Gynacantha dohrni</i>	Single male attracted to lights at dawn at Sukau.
	<i>Tetragnacantha</i> spp.	Single enormous individual flashed downstream at Poring.
	<i>Indaeschna grubaueri</i>	Single male hanging in shade at frog pool (Danum) waiting for females on two dates. Impressive.
	<i>Tetrathemis irregularis</i>	One rescued from a spiders web, cleaned up and released at Danum.
	<i>Agrionoptera insignis</i>	Noted at Gomantong and the frog pool at Danum.
	<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i>	Single on golf course at Rasa Ria.

	<i>Cratilla lineata</i>	Found at Danum but only around the frog pool and lodge.
Rufous-backed skimmer	<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>	Single individual noted on pool at end of canopy walkway trail at Poring. Much commoner at Danum.
Green skimmer	<i>Orthetrum sabina</i>	Single individual noted at Gomantong. Common at Rasa Ria.
	<i>Nannophya pygmaea</i>	Quite common at Rasa Ria – a minute anisopteran.
	<i>Tyriobapta torrida</i>	Noted in small numbers at the Danum frog pool.
	<i>Brachydiplax chalybea</i>	Sukau (scarce) and Rasa Ria (abundant).
	<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i>	Single boarded bus from airport on first day. Also noted at Poring and Rasa Ria.
	<i>Crocothemis servilia</i>	Small numbers at Rasa Ria.
	<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>Pseudothemis jorina</i>	Several at Sukau – stunning black-and-white dragonfly.
Indigo dropwing	<i>Trithemis festiva</i>	Single corpse in the hot spring at Poring.
Crimson dropwing	<i>Trithemis aurora</i>	Noted along the access track at Danum.
Evening skimmer	<i>Tholymis tillarga</i>	Crepuscular species noted hawking around the boats on the last evening cruise at Sukau. Also common at Rasa Ria.
Globe skimmer	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	Widespread.
	<i>Tramea</i>	Sukau and Rasa Ria – tricky to identify in flight!
	<i>transmarine/phaeoneura</i>	
	<i>Rhyothemis phyllis</i>	Noted in small numbers at Sukau, Gomantong and Rasa Ria.

Systematic List Number 6

Butterflies

66 species identified

Rajah Brooke's birdwing	<i>Troides brookiana</i>	The 'big one' - common this year, Danum, several at Poring including a female and also along the Silau-silau at KNP
Golden birdwing	<i>Troides amphrysus</i>	The big birdwing common at Danum. Also seen at Sukau.
The banded swallowtail	<i>Papilio demolion</i>	Danum (common). Black with prominent cream band & black tails
Black-and-white helen	<i>Papilio nephelus</i>	Common in lowlands. Black with cream markings
The great mormon	<i>Papilio memnon</i>	Lowlands; large blue-black birdwing
Common bluebottle	<i>Meandrusa payeni</i>	Handsome forest species on KaioView trail KNP
Kinabalu bluebottle	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i>	Forest edges Sukau & Poring
White dragontail	<i>Graphium procles</i>	KNP
The psyche	<i>Lamproptera curius</i>	Maybe this at Poring
The orange gull	<i>Leptosia nina</i>	Poring
The orange albatross	<i>Cepora iudith</i>	Danum & Poring
The great orangetip	<i>Appias nero</i>	Danum
The wanderer	<i>Hebomoia glaucippe</i>	Danum.
Orange emigrant	<i>Pareronia valeria</i>	Danum
Common grass yellow	<i>Catopsilia scylla</i>	Poring, Danum.
Banded grass yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>	Lowlands.
Common tiger	<i>Eurema tilaha</i>	Danum
Kinabalu tiger	<i>Danaus genutia</i>	Poring and Sukau.
The blue glassy tiger	<i>Parentica crowleyi</i>	Mesilau
Tree nymph	<i>Ideaopsis vulgaris</i>	Forest edge in Sukau
	<i>Idea stollii</i>	Lowlands. Amazingly graceful large butterflies with see-through wings and dark spots
Malayan crow	<i>Euploea caramalzeman</i>	Sukau, Poring and Tambunan.
Striped blue crow	<i>Euploea mulciber</i>	Danum and Poring
Blue-spotted crow	<i>Euploea midamus</i>	Sukau
Bamboo tree-brown	<i>Lethae mekara</i>	Poring
Malayan owl	<i>Neorina lowii</i>	KNP & Poring
	<i>Xanthotaenia busiris</i>	Poring
	<i>Mycalesis perseoides</i>	Poring
	<i>Mycalesis orseis</i>	Danum and Poring
Striped ringlet	<i>Ragadia makuta</i>	Sukau & Poring.
Common three-ring	<i>Ypthima pandocus</i>	Mesilau
	<i>Ypthima horsefieldii</i>	Danum
Small ring	<i>Ypthima fasciata</i>	Sukau
	<i>Ypthima savara</i>	Poring
Common faun	<i>Faunis canens</i>	Danum
Jungle lady	<i>Melanocyma faunola</i>	Poring
Large palm king	<i>Zeuxidia aureleus</i>	KNP
	<i>Amathuxidia amythaon</i>	Tambunan
The rustic	<i>Cupha erymanthis</i>	Sukau & Poring
The malayan yeoman	<i>Cirrochroa emalea</i>	Poring
The banded yeoman	<i>Cirrochroa orissa</i>	Danum
	<i>Cirrochroa satellita</i>	Sukau

The big cruiser	<i>Vindula erota</i>	Tambunan
The cruiser	<i>Vindula dejone</i>	Sukau
Velvet nymph	<i>Terinos clarissa</i>	Danum
Malay lacewing	<i>Cethosia hypsia</i>	Danum & Poring
Grey pansy	<i>Junonia atlites</i>	Sukau
Blue pansy	<i>Junonia orythia</i>	Rasa Ria
	<i>Symbrenthea hypselis</i>	Poring
Great egg-fly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	Sukau and KK
The leaf butterfly	<i>Kallima limborgii</i>	Danum & Poring
Common sailor	<i>Neptis hylas</i>	Poring
	<i>Neptis anjana</i>	Poring
The clipper	<i>Parthenos sylvia</i>	Lowlands
The ninja	<i>Amnosia decora</i>	Poring
Horsefield's baron	<i>Tanaecia iapis</i>	Danum
The archduke	<i>Lexias pardalis</i>	Lowlands
Montane archduke	<i>Lexias dirtea</i>	KNP
Malaysian plum judy	<i>Abisara saturata</i>	Sukau
Malay red harlequin	<i>Paralaxita damajanti</i>	Poring
	<i>Loxura cassiopeia</i>	Poring
The branded imperial	<i>Eooxylides tharis</i>	Danum
The common imperial	<i>Cheritra freja</i>	Poring
Common posy	<i>Drupadia ravindra</i>	Sukau
Yellow-banded flat	<i>Celanaorrhinus ladana</i>	KNP
The bright red velvet bob	<i>Koruthaialos sindu</i>	Poring