



Thailand Highlights

February 2-21, 2008

Leaders: K. David Bishop & Dion Hobcroft

Compiled by K. David Bishop

Oriental Pied-Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris* © K. David Bishop

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours
2525 Wallingwood Drive, Suite 1003
Austin, TX 78746
www.ventbird.com

THAILAND HIGHLIGHTS

February 2-21, 2008

Our Thailand tour was the concluding part of what many are coming to regard as the ultimate Indochina Combo. Starting in December with our tour to Vietnam led by Susan Myers, it was followed by our immensely successful Cambodia tour, which some of the Thailand participants could not resist.

Thailand just gets better and better. It was a happy, easy tour with tons of birds and mammals, fabulous and fascinating landscapes, a delightfully charming people, some great antiquities, and some of the most delicious food you will ever encounter on tour anywhere in the world, especially those sumptuous meals in the field.

We garnered an impressive total of 453 species of birds in just 17 days in the field, and a very impressive list of 24 species of mammals, not to mention a plethora of gorgeous butterflies and some neat reptiles. But that wasn't the half of it. Highlights were numerous, but for us it was quite simply the joy of being in the field, being on tour with a harmonious, fun group, and working with our incomparable drivers, chef, and, of course, our wonderful friend Mike.

I doubt any of us will ever forget that incredible convocation of Siamese Fireback pheasants early one morning in Khao Yai National Park; nor the tranquility and beauty of the forests on Doi Lang; the incredibly delicious meals served to us in the field and at our hotels and lodges; the plethora of exotic butterflies that accompanied us throughout our tour; and that extraordinary final morning in the forests of Kaeng Krachan when, from a slow start, all hell (perhaps heaven would be more appropriate) broke loose, and we were forced to cancel breakfast and just revel in the onslaught of some very exciting birds—the flocks of Silver-breasted Broadbills will live in my memory forever! Fabulous stuff, and we cannot wait to get back.

Thailand has long been known as a great destination for first-time birders in Asia, as well as seasoned travelers, and it unfailingly lives up to such high expectations! Notwithstanding, first-time visitors and experienced Asian hands alike enjoy Thailand for its great national parks and superb birding opportunities, along with its fine cuisine, friendly people, and fascinating culture and history. In a nutshell, a birding trip to Thailand is a win-win situation. Our Highlights tour this year was typically exciting with stays in four of Thailand's, in fact, this region's, premier nature reserves: Khao Yai, Doi

Inthanon, Doi Ang Kang, and Kaeng Krachan, in addition to such premier sites as Doi Lang, the Mekong River, and the Gulf of Siam.

We spent the first day pottering northwards through the Chao Praya valley, stopping at Wat Phai Lom with its immense breeding colony of Asian Open-billed Storks, en route to the ancient capital of Ayuthya. In surrounding fields we enjoyed fine looks at a very confiding pair of Ruddy Crakes, in addition to a plethora of other birds including three species of kingfishers. Ayuthya treated us to the first of many sumptuous lunches and some attractive antiquities before we moved on to Wat Phra Phutthabat Noi and the home of the rather localized Limestone Wren-Babbler. This is a very attractive site, and a keeper for future tours.

As always, we had some wonderful experiences at Khao Yai, particularly a night of spotlighting which turned up a fine list of mammals and birds. Khao Yai is well-known for its abundance and diversity of birdlife; it holds a fabulous representation of the Indochinese avifauna, and we sampled an array of small, mixed-flock species, as well as many elusive ground-dwellers, not to mention raptors, hornbills, and nightbirds.

We concentrated on two very important birding sites in the north: Thailand's highest mountain, Doi Inthanon, and the picturesque Doi Ang Khang on the Burmese border. An early morning visit to Hua Hong Khrai, one of the Queen's projects just north of Chiang Mai, was rewarded with a stunning male Green Peafowl in the morning mist on the lakeside, not to mention great scope views of handsome Black Bazas.

One of the most exciting aspects of Doi Inthanon National Park is that the central road provides a transect through the lowland dry dipterocarp forests to moist evergreen forest, and ultimately to montane evergreen forest. This allows us to sample a wonderful variety of the wildlife of northern Southeast Asia. Essentially, we started at the top and worked our way down over three days. As the sun emerged, the mixed-flocks took advantage of the warming rays, and we thrilled to the non stop activity of Chestnut-tailed Minlas, Mrs. Gould's Sunbirds, Rufous-winged Fulvettas, Yellow-bellied Fantails, Blyth's Leaf-Warblers, and Dark-backed Sibias. Moving down the mountain we found barbets, forketails, babblers, and bulbuls (with great looks at the striking White-headed Bulbul) in profusion, especially in the vicinity of the jeep track. Two Dark-sided Thrushes, a Lesser Shortwing, and two Siberian Blue Robins at Mr. Deang's were a nice surprise.

Up in the far northwest at Doi Ang Khang, the birding is always super exciting! This year we found flowering trees just full of birds feeding on the nectar and insects: Crested

Finchbill, Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Silver-eared Mesia, and Streaked Spiderhunter were all in evidence. Small areas of grassland at the higher altitudes were especially productive with some very exciting birds seen exceptionally well: Mountain Bamboo-Partridge, Red-faced Liocichla, White-browed Laughingthrush, and a flock of six Spot-winged Grosbeaks to name but a few. Another undoubted highlight must be mentioned: the locality—those misty mornings with the rugged crags of Burma peeking above the clouds added a special and exciting aura to our birding at Doi Ang Khang.

After the previous year's exploratory morning along the border road to Doi Lang, we were left wanting more, so we assigned an entire day to this delightfully peaceful and magnificently forested site. From morning to late afternoon we reveled in the beauty of Doi Lang's seemingly untarnished and very birdy forests, and the complete lack of any traffic. Some of the highlights here included nesting Crested Finchbills, Black-eared Shrike-Babbler, White-necked Laughingthrushes, Spot-breasted Parrotbills, Orange-flanked Bush-Robin, an all too brief Black-headed Greenfinch, and a fruiting tree full of Chestnut and Eye-browed thrushes.

This year we added a morning at Chiang Saen and a visit to the mighty Mekong River. And what a year it was! Undoubtedly, the highlight for your leaders was Southeast Asia's first Long-tailed Duck, in addition to a good selection of wintering ducks, small pratincoles, and River Lapwing, to mention but a few.

Our day spent in the Gulf of Siam at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia, south of Bangkok, in search of migratory shorebirds, was a resounding success. We encountered so many wonderful shorebirds and the opportunity to study them at length. Tucked away among them were some special treats in the form of an obliging Spoon-billed Sandpiper (our observation was enhanced by the news from Mr. Tee that he had just discovered a flock of 84 wintering on the coast of Burma!), a remarkable flock of 20+ globally-threatened Nordmann's Greenshanks, Great Knot, Long-toed Stints, Broad-billed and a single Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Ruff, Red-necked Phalarope, and Greater Spotted Eagle. We also encountered several rare waterbirds, thanks to the burgeoning Thai birding "hotline," including Black-faced Spoonbill, Painted Stork, Chinese Egret, and the enigmatic and as yet undescribed "White-faced" Plover. The addition of a morning in the notably attractive freshwater marshes of Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park was a joy for all, and we encountered a good selection of species, including two species of jacanas, three species of bitterns, and our first banded leaf monkeys. All in all, a very birdy experience.

Kaeng Krachan is unarguably one of the most exciting reserves in Southeast Asia. This huge area of evergreen forest on the southern Burmese border simply abounds with all sorts of wildlife. The mixture of birds from the Sundaic region (Malaysia and Indonesia) and continental Thai-Burma region is one of the most exciting aspects of this superb reserve, and leaves you always wanting to go back for another day or three. "Real Birds" (babblers) abound, as do woodpeckers, pheasants (if you are lucky), partridges, adorable dusky leaf monkeys, trumpeting elephants, Asian wild dogs, Black-thighed Falconets, and, and, and...yes, the place never runs out of wonderful experiences and things to see.

Acknowledgments:

A very special thanks to all participants for helping make our 2008 Thailand tour the most fun and the most successful ever! Thanks a million from both of us and all at VENT to: Steve and Maggie, Mike and Joy, Horton and Brenda, Darryl and Lee-Ann, Bill, Jim, and Terry for being such fine birding and traveling companions.

Of course, the enjoyment of our tour was greatly enhanced by the presence of our friend Mike. His cheerfulness, charm, and professionalism are always very much appreciated. Our drivers Shy, Sam, Sarkhol, and Teerat proved to be indispensable and full of fun. Sarkhol and Teeup's culinary skills ensured that we enjoyed many scrumptious meals in the field amidst beautiful surroundings. Mr. Tee at Khok Kam was very helpful—he's doing a great job for visitors and for conservation at this excellent and important site. We were also generously helped by several birders we bumped into and we would like to extend our thanks to Phil Round, Jon Dunn, Smithsutibut at Chiang Saen Lake, Tony and Dio at Doi Inthanon, and several people, whose names I failed to record, in Khaeng Krachan. It's so good to see so many enthusiastic birders and nature photographers in the field in this marvelous country.

It was a great pleasure traveling and birding with you all, and we look forward to sharing with you more of Asia's secrets on another VENT tour.

David Bishop Dion Hobcroft

Diary

Daily Itinerary

- 4 February** Drive to Wat Phai Lom and onto the ancient capital of Ayuthya for lunch. Afternoon drive to Wat Phra Phutthabat Noi for the very local Limestone Wren Babbler and onto our accommodations at Khai Yai NP.
- 5 February** All day birding in Khao Yai N. P. Unseasonal rain and mist but very birdy with ca. 14 Siamese Firebacks seen superbly.
- 6 February** All day birding in Kao Yai NP (incl. a midday break) and delightful dinner in the field followed by a very productive night-drive.
- 7 February** Morning spent birding our way out of Khao Yai NP then drive to Bangkok for a sumptuous lunch before flying north to Chiang Mai.
- 8 February** Early morning drive to the Royal Agricultural Project at Huai Hong Krai then return to Chiang Mai for a very attractive lunch before driving southwards to Doi Inthanon. Birding near our lodge during the late afternoon.
- 9 February** Birding all day at the summit sphagnum bog, Doi Inthanon NP and other high elevation areas; during the afternoon we birded our way down the mountain stopping at attractive waterfalls and Mr Deng's café.
- 10 February** Birded all morning in the area of the 'Jeep Track' at Km 33; PM explored an area of dry dipterocarp forest on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon NP.
- 11 February** Birded the jeep track and waterfalls before driving north to Chiang Mai for lunch and then north via Chiang Dao to our lovely resort at Doi Ang Kang.
- 12 February** Birded all day (incl. midday break) at Doi Ang Kang.
- 13 February** Birded all morning before driving north and eastwards down into the lowlands and then north to Tha Ton. PM birded an area of scrubby farmland.

- 14 February** Birded all day on Doi Lang up to the summit at 2054m.
- 15 February** Drove to Chiang Saen, birded Chiang Saen Lake and the Mekong River before driving to Chiang Rai and flying to Bangkok.
- 16 February** Birded all day in the coastal wetlands and salt-pans of the Gulf of Siam including a short boat trip to the spit at Laem Pak Bia.
- 17 February** Birded all morning at Khao Sam Roi Yot NP (KSRY); PM drove to Kaeng Krachan NP.
- 18 February** Birded all day Kaeng Krachan NP.
- 19 February** Birded all day Kaeng Krachan NP.
- 20 February** Birded all morning Kaeng Krachan NP then drove back to Bangkok in time for our fairwell dinner.



NON-PASSERINES

- 1) **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*
Two between Bangkok and Ayuthya; several at Chiang Saen Lake including at least one pair with young; also KSRV.
- 2) **Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*
One seen definitively at Laem Pak Bia.
- 3) **Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*
At least two (incl. one in breeding plumage) at Chiang Saen Lake and one at Laem Pak Bia.
- 4) **Little Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax niger*
Several (total ca. 100) between Bangkok and Ayuthya; fairly common in the Gulf of Siam and ca. at KSRV.
- 5) **Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*
Fifteen roosting in trees around Chiang Saen Lake; ca. 30 in the Gulf of Siam.
- 6) **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*
Approximately 20 at KSRV the site of Thailand's largest breeding colony of this species.
- 7) **Great Egret** *Ardea alba*
Widespread and fairly common.
NOTE: Placed by some authorities in *Casmerodius* or *Ardea*.
- 8) **Intermediate Egret** *Mesophoyx intermedia*
Widespread and locally common.
- 9) **Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*
Widespread and common with as many as ca. 1,000 along the Gulf of Siam.
- 10) **Pacific Reef Egret** *Egretta sacra*
One dark morph at Laem Pak Bia spit.
- 11) **Chinese Egret** *Egretta eulophotes*
One in non-breeding plumage at Laem Pak Bia spit. Classified as globally Threatened.
- 12) **Chinese Pond-Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*
Common throughout the north and in and around Kaeng Krachan.
- 13) **Javan Pond-Heron** *Ardeola speciosa*
Common between Bangkok and Ayuthya and the Gulf of Siam.

NOTE: The situation with *Ardeola* pond-herons in Thailand can be very confusing at this time of year as the birds are virtually indistinguishable in non-breeding plumage. When the birds are seen in breeding plumage it appears that Javan Pond-Heron is restricted mainly to the area around Bangkok. It would seem reasonable to assume that most of the birds we saw in the Gulf of Siam were Javan, whilst those seen elsewhere in the country, especially in the north were Chinese. That said it is hard to know what the birds' movements might be outside the breeding season.

- 14) **Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bulbulcus ibis*
Several between Bangkok and Ayuthya; *en route* to Khao Yai, Suvarnabumi airport and Doi Inthanon; common in the Gulf of Siam.
NOTE: Consistent differences between *B. ibis* and *B. coromandus* in breeding plumage, proportions and vocalisations indicate they are better treated as two species. Rasmussen & Anderton. 2005 'Birds of South Asia The Ripley Guide' indicate that birds in north America are referable to Western or Common Cattle Egret *B. ibis*.
- 15) **Little Heron** *Butorides striatus*;
Three between Bangkok and Ayuthya; one at HHK; one at Doi Inthanon; one on the Mekong; several in the Gulf of Siam and at KSRV.
Also known as Striated Heron
NOTE: The A.O.U. now treats North America populations of the *Buteroides* superspecies as a separate species: Green-backed Heron *B. virescens*. *B. striatus* continues, for the time being, to apply to the rest of this widespread superspecies.
- 16) **Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*
One at night in Kaeng Krachan NP.
- 17) **Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis*
A total of four seen well between Bangkok and Ayuthya; ten, many seen very well and at length in KSRV.
- 18) **Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*
Good looks at three in KSRV.
- 19) **Black Bittern** *Dupetor flavicollis*
Superb views of one bird that flew straight at us in KSRV; an additional bird also seen by Maggie.
- 20) **Black-faced Spoonbill** *Platalea minor*
Two of this globally threatened species and a rare visitor to Thailand were seen beautifully at Laem Pak Bia.
- 21) **Painted Stork** *Mycteria leucocephala*
Three in non-breeding plumage at Laem Pak Bia. Classified as globally Near Threatened.
- 22) **Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans*
Very common north of Bangkok, we saw many *en route* between Bangkok and Ayuthya and between Khao Yai and Sukarnabumi airport with possibly as many as 2,000 feeding in the rice-fields of the central plains. Not nesting at this time at Wat Phai Lom. A flock of *ca.* 400 at KSRV.
- 23) **Lesser Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*
Two large flocks totalling >500 in flight between Bangkok and Ayuthya and *ca.* 40 constantly in flight over our heads at Hai Hong Krai (HHK). 1-2,000 at Chiang Saen Lake and 200+ at KSRV.

- 24) **Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas Penelope*
20 at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 25) **Gadwall** *Anas strepera*
Ten at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 26) **Chinese Spot-billed Duck** *Anas zonorhyncha*
40 at Chiang Saen Lake and 60 on the Mekong.
NOTE: This distinctive taxon has recently been given full species status by some authorities (see for example Rasmussen & Anderton 2005). It can be separated from Indian Spot-billed Duck by the more uniform, sooty black upperparts; blue as opposed to a green speculum and the absence of a pink-red bill spot. This taxon breeds in north and eastern Asia and is an uncommon migrant in Thailand.
- 27) **Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*
Ten at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 28) **Garganey** *Anas querquedula*
Two at Chiang Saen Lake thanks to some good work by Bill.
- 29) **Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*
Thirty at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 30) **Ferruginous Pochard** *Aythya nyroca*
Twenty at Chiang Saen Lake. Classified as Near Threatened.
- 31) **Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*
Ten at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 32) **Long-tailed Duck** *Clangula hyemalis*
One strikingly handsome male watched at length at Chiang Saen Lake. This is the first record for Thailand and SE Asia and one of just a handful for the entire South Asian region.
- 33) **Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda jerdoni*
Good views of one bird in flight in Kaeng Krachan.
- 34) **Black Baza** *Aviceda leuphotes*
Super 'scope views of one at HHK and another one more distantly.
- 35) **Oriental Honey-Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*
One at HHK; one or two on two days at Kaeng Krachan.
- 36) **Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*
Two between Wat Phai Lom and Ayuthya; one at Khao Yai; three between DAK at Tha Ton.
- 37) **Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*
One between Khao Yai and Suvarnabumi airport; two in the Gulf of Siam.
- 38) **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*
One near Wat Phai Lom; two in the Gulf of Siam.

- 39) **White-bellied Sea-Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*
One adult circled around the crags during the early morning at KSRV
- 40) **Crested Serpent-Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*
One of the more common birds of prey in Thailand, we saw or heard this attractive bird at several sites on tour.
- 41) **Eastern Marsh-Harrier** *Circus spilonotus*
One adult male between Khao Yai and Suvarnabhumi airport; at least two in the fields near Tha Ton; one male and one female seen very nicely at Chiang Saen Lake; at least one at KSRV.
NOTE: There has been and probably will be much dispute as to whether the 'marsh harriers' of Europe and Asia should be treated as one or two species. The evidence is inconclusive either way and in consequence we prefer to treat the two, generally clearly identifiable taxa, as good species so that more exact information is available for future studies of this group.
- 42) **Pied Harrier** *Circus melanoleucos*
Good looks at an adult male plus three others in flight near Tha Ton.
- 43) **Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*
One or two seen in flight and then one perched for superb and prolonged close views at Khao Yai NP; two seen giving display flights at HKK; one displaying at Doi Ang Khang; several seen daily at Kaeng Krachan.
- 44) **Shikra** *Accipiter badius*,
One or two daily at Khao Yai including a pair displaying; two at HKK; three at Doi Ang Khang; one at KSRV; and one at Kaeng Krachan.
- 45) **Japanese Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter gularis*
One seen well in Khao Yai and another at Kaeng Krachan.
- 46) **Besra** *Accipiter virgatus*
Superb views of three or four individuals in flight, Khao Yai; one carrying a still struggling passerine, Doi Ang Khang; one on two days at Kaeng Krachan.
- 47) **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*
On on the upper slopes of Doi Lang.
- 48) **Rufous-winged Buzzard** *Butastur liventer*
Great views of 4-6 near our accommodations at Doi Inthanon and two over waterfalls one lunch-time, Doi Inthanon NP; one over dry Dipterocarp woodland near Doi Chiang Dao.
- 49) **Grey-faced Buzzard** *Butastur indicus*
Excellent looks at one in farmland on the lower slopes of Doi Lang.
- 50) **Eurasian Buzzard** *Buteo buteo*
One seen by Terry in Doi Inthanon NP and two or three seen daily in the Doi Ang Khang area.

- 51) **Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga*
One adult seen very nicely near Laem Pak Bia. Globally threatened.
- 52) **Rufous-bellied Eagle** *Hieraaetus kienerii*
One adult seen daily at Kaeng Krachan.
- 53) **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus limnaetus*
One in flight at Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: Split from Crested Hawk-Eagle *S. cirrhatus* (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005)
- 54) **Mountain Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus nipalensis*
One over Doi Ang Khang; two over Doi Lang and one at Kaeng Krachan.
- 55) **Collared Falconet** *Microhierax caerulescens*
Thanks to some remarkable spotting by Jim and Bill we were all treated to fine 'scope views of this dapper little 'Tiger' in the dry forest at Doi Inthanon NP. A fine conclusion to a great day of birding.
- 56) **Black-thighed Falconet** *Microhierax fringillarius*
Sensational views of an adult male on our first morning at Kaeng Krachan and pairs and singles on the following days. WOW!
- 57) **Eurasian Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*
Thanks to some good spotting by Terry we all enjoyed excellent views of an adult female hunting near Fang.
- 58) **Oriental Hobby** *Falco severus*
Good 'scope views of one perched on a canopy snag, shortly after dawn, Khao Yai.
- 59) **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*
One over Doi Lang and then a fabulous view of migrant race individual near Laem Pak Bia.
- 60) **Rufous-throated Partridge** *Arborophila rufogularis*
Heard only. Several heard daily within Doi Inthanon NP and also on Doi Lang but despite our best efforts none were seen this year.
- 61) **Bar-backed Partridge** *Arborophila brunneopectus*
One flew across in front of the second vehicle at Kaeng Krachan.
- 62) **Ferruginous Wood Partridge** *Caloperdix oculatea*
Heard only. The distinctive voice of this 'myth' heard daily at Kaeng Krachan. Classified as Near Threatened.
- 63) **Scaly-breasted Partridge** *Arborophila chloropus*
Heard only. Heard commonly in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan NPs.
- 64) **Mountain Bamboo Partridge** *Bambusicola fytchii*
Three brilliantly spotted by Horton (albeit initially identified as 'Big ole chickens') on Doi Ang Khang.

- 65) **Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus*
This underrated bird is really quite spectacular; quite common in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan. A covey 14 birds near our lodge at Doi Inthanon was something of surprise.
- 66) **Siamese Fireback** *Lophura diardi*
Undoubtedly one of THE highlights of the entire tour; thanks to information from Phil Round we were treated to the remarkable spectacle of 12+ males and females congregating in the midst of the round whilst the dominant males wing-whirred and generally strutted his stuff, Khai Yai NP. Cosmic! Classified as Near Threatened.
- 67) **Silver Pheasant** *Lophura nycthemera*
The beauty of the male of this species left the entire group speechless as we watched him feeding unconcernedly along the Radar Station Road, Khao Yai NP for nearly ten minutes.
- 68) **Grey Peacock-Pheasant** *Polyplectron bicalcaratum*
Clearly very common at Kaeng Krachan as it is heard so frequently. Seeing the bird is an entirely different matter. Fortunately half the group managed spectacular close views of this wonderful bird.
- 69) **Green Peafowl** *Pavo muticus*
A truly fantastic show of a gorgeous male calling from his roost site and several others heard nearby at Hua Kong Khai. This highly charismatic and glamorous species is declining throughout its range and can now only realistically be seen by birders at a site in Vietnam, Java and here in Thailand. Globally Threatened.
- 70) **Slaty-breasted Rail** *Gallirallus striatus*
Leader only. KDB saw one slipping across the road at KSRV.
- 71) **White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
One of the most widespread and common Rallids in Thailand.
- 72) **Ruddy-breasted Crake** *Porzana fusca*
Fine and repeated views of a very obliging pair *en route* to Wat Phai Lom and again at KSRV.
- 73) **White-browed Crake** *Porzana cinerea*
Heard on our first morning *en route* to Wat Phai Lom and then several seen by all very nicely at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 74) **Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*
Small numbers on most freshwater marshes.
- 75) **Watercock** *Gallicrex cinerea*
One in non-breeding plumage at KSRV.
- 76) **Grey-headed Swampen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus*
Ten at Chiang Saen Lake; 40+ at KSRV.
- 77) **Common Coot** *Fulica atra*
40+ at Chiang Saen Lake.

- 78) **Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*
Three in non-breeding plumage (but very dapper nonetheless) at Chiang Saen Lake.
- 79) **Bronze-winged Jacana** *Metopidius indicus*
Four between Bangkok and Wat Phai Lom and six at KSRV.
- 80) **Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*
A flock of ca. 500 counted in rice paddies north of Bangkok; common in the Gulf of Siam.
- 81) **Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*
A group of six of these graceful birds at Laem Pak Bia. An uncommon migrant to Thailand.
- 82) **Indian Thick-knee** *Burhinus indicus*
Heard only. Heard near our lodgings at Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: Split from Eurasian Stone-curlew *B. oediacnemus* (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
- 83) **Little Pratincole** *Glareola lactea*
Approximately 100 on sand-bars in the Mekong River.
- 84) **River Lapwing** *Vanellus duvaucelli*
A total of five on the Mekong of this increasingly rare species in SE Asia.
- 85) **Grey-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus cinereus*
Two in freshly planted rice-fields near Doi Chiang Dao.
- 86) **Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus*
Common around Bangkok; Chiang Mai; Gulf of Siam and Kaeng Krachan.
- 87) **Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*
Just two at Lam Pak Bia.
- 88) **Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*
Approximately 40 at Lam Pak Bia.
- 89) **Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*
A total of 20+ in a muddy field between Bangkok and Ayuthya; several along the Mekong and the Gulf of Siam.
- 90) **Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*
Several along the Mekong River and at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
NOTE: This taxon is variously treated by a great many authors, some lump all populations such as Snowy, Javan, and Red-capped with Kentish as one species under *C. alexandrinus* whilst others treat them as separate species within a superspecies.
- 91) **Malaysian Plover** *Charadrius peronii*
Great studies of two pairs this very cute resident plover. Classified as Near Threatened.
- 92) **'White-faced' Plover**
Everyone got to see this newly discovered potential new species to science at Laem Pak Bia

spit. A very handsome and distinctive taxon. The outcomes of the ongoing studies of this species are awaited with interest.

- 93) **Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*
Several at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
- 94) **Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*
Several thousand at Khok Kam and Laem Pak Bia.
- 95) **Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*
Four along the Mekong.
- 96) **'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa [limosa] melanuroides*
Approximately 30 at Lam Pak Bia.
NOTE: Engelmoer & Roselaar (1998) provide good evidence that eastern populations should be treated as a separate species from Western populations (see Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
- 97) **Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*
A group of six at Lam Pak Bia.
- 98) **Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*
Seven at Laem Pak Bia spit.
- 99) **Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*
A flock of ca. six between Bangkok and Ayuthya and 200+ in the Gulf of Siam.
- 100) **Common Redshank** *Tringa tetanus*
One seen by Bill at Laem Pak Bia.
- 101) **Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*
Four between Bangkok and Ayuthya and common in the Gulf of Siam.
- 102) **Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*
Small numbers along the Mekong and in the Gulf of Siam.
- 103) **Nordmann's Greenshank** *Tringa guttifer*
Fabulous study of 29 birds at Lam Pak Bia. This is a globally threatened species and a great prize! It is thought this species only has a population of no more than a few hundred individuals.
- 104) **Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*
Two provided fine 'scope views along the Mekong.
- 105) **Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*
A total of four between Bangkok and Ayuthya and just two in the Gulf of Siam.
- 106) **Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*
Low numbers between Bangkok and Wat Phai Lom; along the Mekong and the Gulf of Siam.

- 107) **Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*
One at Khok Kam.
- 108) **Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris*
150 at Lam Pak Bia.
- 109) **Red Knot** *Calidris canutus*
Ten at Khok Kam.
- 110) **Sanderling** *Calidris alba*
Great looks at ten at Lam Pak Bia spit.
- 111) **Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*
Common throughout the Gulf of Siam.
- 112) **Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*
40+ at Khok Kam and Laem Pak Bia.
- 113) **Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta*
Super views of this very nice wader at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia where it was moderately common.
- 114) **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata*
One at Laem Pak Bia. This is a rare visitor to Thailand.
- 115) **Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*
Common at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
- 116) **Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*
Five along the Mekong.
- 117) **Spoon-billed Sandpiper** *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*
Fantastic views of one bird foraging in salt-fields at Khok Kam. This species is now regarded as globally endangered with a population of just 300-400 breeding pairs. It is not clear what the causes of its decline are but clearly it is a case of see this charismatic bird now or sadly perhaps never. The coast of Thailand is undoubtedly THE best place to see this species away from its breeding grounds. POSTSCRIPT: The discovery by Mr. Tee and his team of 84 birds along just one section of the Burmese coast is very exciting news and holds out some real hope for this species.
- 118) **Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Limicola falcinellus*
At least 40+ counted in the Gulf of Siam.
- 119) **Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*
Uncommon in Thailand, we saw four at Lam Pak Bia.
- 120) **Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus*
20+ at Laem Pak Bia.

- 121) **Heuglin's Gull** *Larus heuglini*
One recently injured bird although free was being nurtured by some residents at Lam Pak Bia.
- 122) **Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus*
Three in non-breeding plumage along the Mekong.
- 123) **Brown-headed Gull** *Larus brunnicephalus*
1-2 thousand at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
- 124) **Gull-billed Tern** *Sterna nilotica*
Several of the distinctive *affinis* subspecies at Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
- 125) **Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia*
Four at Lam Pak Bia.
- 126) **Great Crested Tern** *Sterna caspia*
Ten at Laem Pak Bia spit.
- 127) **Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*
100+ in the Gulf of Siam.
- 128) **Little Tern** *Sterna albifrons*
Several in the Gulf of Siam.
- 129) **Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus*
Very common in the Gulf of Siam.
- 130) **Rock Dove** *Columba livia*
- 131) **Oriental Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*
30+ in scrubby fields near Tha Ton and 20+ seen nicely on Doi Lang.
- 132) **Red Collared-Dove** *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
Notably common between Bangkok and Ayuthya and in the Gulf of Siam and in open country near Kaeng Krachan.
- 133) **Spotted Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*
Widespread and moderately common.
- 134) **Barred Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia unchall*
Several heard and three seen at Khao Yai.
- 135) **Little Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia ruficeps*
A group of ten feeding at a fruiting tree at Kaeng Krachan.
- 136) **Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*
Excellent views of a total of three at Khao Yai; one or two seen daily at Kaeng Krachan.
- 137) **Zebra Dove** *Geopelia striata*
Moderately common between Bangkok and Ayuthya and in the Gulf of Siam and in open country near Kaeng Krachan.

- 138) **Thick-billed Pigeon** *Treron curvirostra*
Excellent 'scope studies of this handsome species at several sites in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 139) **Wedge-tailed Pigeon** *Treron sphenura*
A flock of six feeding at a fruiting tree near the check-point at KM 36 and another 10+ at a fruiting tree with the huge mixed species flock along the jeep-track, Doi Inthanon NP.
- 140) **Yellow-vented Green Pigeon** *Treron seimundi*
Excellent views of two of these rare pigeons at a fruiting tree in Kaeng Krachan.
- 141) **Mountain Imperial-Pigeon** *Ducula badia*
Several excellent close studies views of 1-2 birds at Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon NP; Doi Lang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 142) **Red-breasted Parakeet** *Psittacula alexandri*
Although the numbers of this species have been greatly reduced in recent years it was wonderful to have such fine looks (total 10) at this beautiful bird near our lodgings on the periphery of Khao Yai NP.
- 143) **Vernal Hanging-Parrot** *Loriculus vernalis*
The infernal parrot! A bullet with wings. This year we managed some really outstanding 'scope views of this little gem especially at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 144) **Large Hawk-Cuckoo** *Hierococcyx sparveroides*
Heard daily at high elevations in Doi Inthanon NP; one seen in dryish woodland on the upper slopes of Doi Ang Khnag.
NOTE: Previously placed in *Cuculus*.
- 145) **Malaysian Hawk-Cuckoo** *Hierococcyx fugax*
Heard only in Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: Previously placed in *Cuculus*.
- 146) **Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus saturatus*
Heard only Kaeng Krachan.
- 147) **Banded Bay Cuckoo** *Cacomantis sonneratii*
Good looks at two singing birds on Doi Ang Khang and several heard in Kaeng Krachan.
- 148) **Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus*
Three in lightly wooded farmland near Wat Phai Lom; also heard in Doi Inthanon NP; and seen in KSRV.
- 149) **Asian Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx maculates*
Fabulous views of a gorgeous male at Wat Phai Lom thanks to Mike and another male in Doi Inthanon NP near the KM 36 Check-point and a third male at Kaeng Krachan.
- 150) **Violet Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*
One singing male seen superbly at Kaeng Krachan.

- 151) **Asian Drongo-Cuckoo** *Surniculus lugubris*
Heard only and just once at Kaeng Krachan.
- 152) **Asian Koel** *Eudynamys scolopacea*
Heard regularly and widely but only seen albeit commonly in the scrubby woodland *en route* to Wat Phai Lom and by Horton and Brenda near our lodgings at Kaeng Krachan.
- 153) **Green-billed Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus tristis*
Notably widespread and relatively conspicuous.
- 154) **Greater Coucal** *Centropus sinensis*
Recorded almost daily.
- 155) **Lesser Coucal** *Centropus bengalensis*
One and then two seen well in scrub at our lodgings on the periphery of Doi Inthanon NP.
- 156) **Oriental Bay Owl** *Phodilus badius*
Heard only in Kaeng Krachan NP.
- 157) **White-fronted Scops-Owl** *Otus sagittatus*
Heard only. Three or four birds heard giving their easily overlooked call in Kaeng Krachan. Classified as globally threatened.
- 158) **Collared Scops Owl** *Otus lempji*
Heard only in Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon.
- 159) **Sunda Scops-Owl** *Otus letia*
Heard only. One or two heard every evening at our lodgings at Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: Split from Collared Scops-Owl.
- 160) **Collared Owlet** *Glaucidium brodiei*
Heard at most forested sites and then on our last morning in the field we all got to enjoy superb views of one in the forest at Kaeng Krachan thanks to some brilliant spotting by Jim.
- 161) **Asian Barred Owlet** *Glaucidium cuculoides*
Very common especially in the north; excellent looks for everyone at this attractive bird at Khao Yai; Huai Hong Krai; and as many as eight at Kaeng Krachan.
- 162) **Spotted Owlet** *Athene brama*
One pair seen copulating and emerging from a nest at Tha Ton thanks to some good work by Mike. We also heard one bird briefly at our accommodations at Doi Inthanon. Interesting that they are so tough to get to grips with in Thailand and yet so easy in India.
- 163) **Brown Hawk-Owl** *Ninox scutulata*
Good views of this very handsome owl at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 164) **Great Eared Nightjar** *Eurostopodus macrotis*
Two seen nicely in flight in Khao Yai.

- 165) **Large-tailed Nightjar** *Caprimulgus macrurus*
Heard in Khao Yai but amazingly common in Kaeng Krachan where we were treated to numerous close looks at large numbers of this species.
- 166) **Indian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus asiaticus*
Brief looks at one in Kaeng Krachan.
- 167) **Himalayan Swiftlet** *Aerodramus brevirostris*
Several in Doi Inthanon NP; Doi Ang Khang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 168) **Indochinese Swiftlet** *Aerodramus rogersi*
Good looks at two in the Gulf of Siam.
NOTE: Split from Germain's Swiftlet.
- 169) **Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus*
Several over the forest at Khao Yai and again at at Kaeng Krachan.
- 170) **Asian Palm-Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*
Seen daily in open country.
- 171) **Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus*
Several seen well on Doi Inthanon and a flock of 50+ over Doi Ang Khang; also over Doi Lang.
- 172) **House Swift** *Apus nipalensis*
Several at Khao Yai, Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 173) **Crested Tree-swift** *Hemiprocne coronata*
Six on Doi Ang Khang.
- 174) **Grey-rumped Treeswift** *Hemiprocne longipennis*
Low numbers daily at Kaeng Krachan.
- 175) **Red-headed Trogon** *Harpactes erythrocephalus*
A couple of males and females were seen nicely in Khao Yai and three seen and others heard in Kaeng Krachan.
- 176) **Orange-breasted Trogon** *Harpactes oreskios*
Excellent looks at this very attractive species in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan where it is common and two pairs were found nesting.
- 177) **Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*
Scattered ones and twos.
- 178) **Banded Kingfisher** *Lacedo pulchella*
Heard only. Heard a couple of times in Khao Yai NP.
- 179) **Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Halcyon capensis*
Heard only. One heard in swampy forest near Wat Phai Lom.
NOTE: Sometimes placed in *Pelargopsis*.

- 180) **White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis*
Widespread and generally common, especially in open countryside in the lowlands.
- 181) **Black-capped Kingfisher** *Halcyon pileata*
Great looks at several of these handsome birds in the coastal lowlands.
- 182) **Collared Kingfisher** *Todiramphus chloris*
Several seen nicely in an around Khok Kam and Lam Pak Bia.
- 183) **Blue-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctyornis athertoni*
This fantastic bird was seen well several times at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan where it appeared to be nesting.
- 184) **Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*
Twenty or more near our accommodations at the foot of Doi Inthanon and thereafter small numbers seen most days.
- 185) **Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti*
Several good views of these lovely birds in Khai Yai NP and then found to be notably common in the hills of Kaeng Krachan with as many as 30+ roosting at one site.
- 186) **Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*
Seen almost daily in modest numbers in open country.
- 187) **Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis*
Moderate numbers daily at Kaeng Krachan.
- 188) **Common Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*
Two seen nicely at our accommodations at Kaeng Krachan.
- 189) **Oriental Pied-Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris*
The most common of the hornbills, we saw this species in good numbers in Khao Yai NP, especially at the fruiting fig tree and at Kaeng Krachan with as many as 30+ on one day.
- 190) **Great Hornbill** *Buceros bicornis*
This undoubtedly is one of the most spectacular and charismatic birds of Asia! We saw at least 3-4 in Khao Yai and 4-6 daily and a group of 20+ going to roost one afternoon at Kaeng Krachan. Our observations included some remarkably close and prolonged studies. Classified as Near Threatened.
- 191) **Wreathed Hornbill** *Aceros undulatus*
Several seen at two sites in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 192) **Plain-pouched Hornbill** *Aceros subruficollis*
A flock of 16 seen nicely in flight high over Kaeng Krachan. Classified as globally threatened.
- 193) **Great Barbet** *Megalaima virens*
This year we enjoyed fabulous looks at this spectacular bird that very cooperatively sat out

on a dead stag at Doi Ang Khang and was heard frequently on Doi Inthanon and at Kaeng Krachan.

- 194) **Lineated Barbet** *Megalaima lineate*
Two seen near Wat Phai Lom and singles seen at the foot of Doi Inthanon and heard at KSRV.
- 195) **Green-eared Barbet** *Megalaima faiostriata*
Numerous excellent 'scope views of this species at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 196) **Red-throated Barbet** *Megalaima mystacophanos*
Superb views of this handsome species on our last afternoon at Kaeng Krachan. Classified as Near Threatened.
- 197) **Golden-throated Barbet** *Megalaima franklinii*
Heard frequently in the north, we had some excellent looks at this species on Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 198) **Blue-throated Barbet** *Megalaima asiatica*
Probably the most common and confiding of the barbets, especially in the north. Seen and 'scoped at Doi Inthanon where one was digging a nest, Doi Ang Khang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 199) **Moustached Barbet** *Megalaima incognita*
Very common in Khao Yai where we had some good looks.
- 200) **Blue-eared Barbet** *Megalaima australis*
Seen notably frequently this year with several good looks Kaeng Krachan.
- 201) **Coppersmith Barbet** *Megalaima haemacephala*
This is the barbet of open areas and gardens, and we saw and heard it many times near Wat Phai Lom; at Huai Hong Krai and at our accommodations at Kaeng Krachan.
- 202) **Speckled Piculet** *Picumnus innominatus*
Heard only. Heard several times on Doi Ang Khang.
- 203) **White-browed Piculet** *Sasia ochracea*
Great looks at two birds with a small mixed species flock at Kaeng Krachan thanks to some good spotting by Anne.
- 204) **Grey-capped Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos canicapillus*
One on the lower slopes of Doi Ang Khang.
- 205) **Stripe-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos atratus*
Fine 'scope views of two pair in forest on Doi Ang Khang and on Doi Lang.
- 206) **Rufous Woodpecker** *Celeus brachyurus*
Great 'scope study of an adult female on Kaeng Krachan thanks to our driver Shy.
- 207) **Greater Yellownape** *Picus flavinucha*
Several seen and heard in Kaeng Krachan.



- 208) **Streak-breasted Woodpecker** *Picus viridianus*
One on two days at Kaeng Krachan.
- 209) **Streak-throated Woodpecker** *Picus xanthopygaeus*
One pair seen very nicely at Kaeng Krachan.
- 210) **Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus*
One in flight on Doi Ang Khang and then good looks at a females at Kaeng Krachan.
- 211) **Common Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*
One female seen very nicely at Khao Yai and a pair at Kaeng Krachan.
- 212) **Greater Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*
This spectacular woodpecker was encountered a couple of times at Khao Yai and then commonly at Kaeng Krachan.
- 213) **Bay Woodpecker** *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*
Brief views of one on Doi Lang and another at Kaeng Krachan.

- 214) **Grey-and-buff Woodpecker** *Hemicircus concretus*
One of the surprises of the tour and the first time this attractive species has been seen on our regular Thailand tour. One female was seen with the ephervescent mixed flock as we tried to drg ourselves away from Kaeng Krachn on our last morning of this wonderful tour.
- 215) **Heart-spotted Woodpecker** *Hemicircus canente*
Several individuals and pairs seen very nicely at Khao Yai and Kaeng Kracha; this is a particularly endearing woodpecker.
- 216) **Great Slaty Woodpecker** *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*
Undoubtedly one of the highlights of a great tour, two or three birds calling and carrying at Kaeng Krachan permitted us all superb views of this charismatic species.

PASSERINES

- 217) **Banded Broadbill** *Eurylaimus javanicus*
Heard only in Khao Yai and at Kaeng Krachan.
- 218) **Black-and-yellow Broadbill** *Eurylaimus ochromelas*
Fabulous looks at a very responsive pair of these gorgeous birds at Kaeng Krachan.
- 219) **Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae*
Sensational close views of this unbelievably lovely bird as one responded brilliantly to tape-play-back in Khao Yai and another three seen on the same afternoon; also heard on several

other occasions in the same park; one found by Bill on Doi Inthanon and others heard on Doi Ang Khang.

- 220) **Silver-breasted Broadbill** *Serilophus lunatus*
Excellent views of this elusive species at two sites in Doi Inthanon NP and then the explosion happened! We saw four one afternoon at Kaeng Krachan and then just as we were about to leave KK on our last morning a flock of 12 or more surrounded us permitting THE most amazing close views of this exquisite species. We then found several additional pairs and another group of 12 or more with a huge mixed species flock - all within 40 minutes of frenetic and unbelievably exciting birding!
- 221) **Rusty-naped Pitta** *Pitta oatesi*
Heard only on the summit of Doi Lang.
- 222) **Blue Pitta** *Pitta cyanea*
Many heard and one or two glimpsed by some in Khao Yai. Also heard at Kaeng Krachan.
- 223) **Indochinese Bushlark** *Mirafra marionae*
A total of three seen in dry scrubby country at the foot of Doi Inthanon.
- 224) **Oriental Skylark** *Alauda galgula*
One singing in flight at Laem Pak Bia.
- 225) **Grey-throated Sand-Martin** *Riparia chinensis*
Several seen in flight at close quarters along the Mekong River.
NOTE: Asian populations are widely disjunct from the much larger, darker Brown-throated (Plain) Sand-Martin *R. paludicola* of Africa. Vocalisations also differ markedly.
- 226) **Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*
Recorded daily throughout the tour.
- 227) **Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica*
Widespread and common with good numbers observed often over forest most days throughout the north and Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: For a discussion of the taxonomic status of this taxon and Striated Swallow see Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 228) **Striated Swallow** *Hirundo striolata*
Common over Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 229) **Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus*
A group of ten at Khao Yai; several at Doi Inthanon; at Doi Ang Khang and near Chiang Saen.
- 230) **Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*
One or two seen occasionally.
- 231) **Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava macronyx*
Low numbers in muddy rice-fields near Bangkok and in the Gulf of Siam.

- 232) **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschuensis*
20+ in muddy rice-fields near Wat Phai Lom.
- 233) **Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*
Widespread with one or two seen at most sites.
- 234) **Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus*
Good looks at one or two on two days at Khao Yai.
- 235) **Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi*
One in the Gulf of Siam.
- 236) **Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*
Two on Doi Ang Khang.
- 237) **#Large Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina macei*
One seen by Dion on Doi Lang.
- 238) **Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina melaschistos*
Common in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan; one on Doi Inthanon.
- 239) **Swinhoe's Minivet** *Pericrocotus cantonensis*
Ten on one day and two the next within Khao Yai NP and low numbers at Kaeng Krachan.
- 240) **Long-tailed Minivet** *Pericrocotus ethologus*
Low numbers at Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 241) **Short-billed Minivet** *Pericrocotus brevirostris*
A total of four birds were recorded on Doi Inthanon.
- 242) **Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus flammeus*
Widespread found at lower altitudes than the above species; seen in Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon; Doi Ang Khang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 243) **Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*
Just two on Doi Inthanon.
- 244) **Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*
Widespread and fairly common in Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon and Kaeng Krachan.
- 245) **Crested Finchbill** *Spizixos canifrons*
Excellent views of four birds feeding and fighting in and around a flowering *Erythrina* sp tree, Doi Ang Khang; notably common on Doi Lang where a pair were observed building a nest in a sapling at the forest edge.
- 246) **Striated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus striatus*
A rather striking bulbul and usually scarce but this year we were treated to several on Doi Inthanon and on Doi Ang Khang.

-
- 247) **Black-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus atriceps*
Widespread and common (notably common at Doi Inthanon), good numbers seen on many days.
- 248) **Flame-throated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flaviventris*
Widespread and common and seen on many days.
NOTE: The Black-crested Bulbul group is better treated as a superspecies consisting probably of five allopatric species: *P. melanicteris* - Sri Lanka; *P. gularis* Western Ghats, South India; *P. flaviventris* - Himalayas and Central India eastwards to Vietnam; *P. dispar* - Sumatra; and *P. montis* - Borneo. (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
- 249) **Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*
Two to four seen daily at Khao Yai and moderately common in the north where seen daily.
- 250) **Brown-breasted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*
Restricted to the far north-west corner of Thailand but we found this species to be very common on Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang this year.
- 251) **Sooty-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus aurigaster*
Fairly common and seen most days in the north.
- 252) **Stripe-throated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus finlaysoni*
Observed in moderate numbers at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 253) **Flavescent Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flavescens*
Common on all the mountains of the north.
- 254) **Streak-eared Bulbul** *Pycnonotus blanfordi*
Generally a common bird of gardens and rural areas in the south.
- 255) **Puff-throated Bulbul** *Alophoixus pallidus*
Common in Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon.
- 256) **Ochraceous Bulbul** *Alophoixus ochraceus*
Very common, vocal and pugnacious in Kaeng Krachan.
- 257) **Grey-eyed Bulbul** *Iole propinqua*
Uncommon in Khao Yai Kaeng Krachan.
- 258) **Buff-vented Bulbul** *Iole olivacea*
Several in Kaeng Krachan.
- 259) **Ashy Bulbul** *Hemixos flavala*
This handsome bulbul was seen in low numbers in Khao Yai and Doi Ang Lang.
- 260) **Mountain Bulbul** *Hypsipetes mcclllandii*
Common on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 261) **Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*
Fairly common seen this year on Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
-

- 262) **White-headed Bulbul** *Hypsipetes thompsoni*
This handsome species was another trip highlight, we had great views of three birds on Doi Inthanon in a flowering *Erythrina* sp with the spectacular Vachirathan Waterfalls providing the backdrop!
- 263) **Greater Green Leafbird** *Chloropsis sonnerati*
One or two of this essentially Sundaic species seen in Kaeng Krachan.
- 264) **Blue-winged Leafbird** *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*
This striking looking species was seen commonly in Khao Yai and less common in Kaeng Krachan.
- 265) **Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*
One lovely male at a flowering tree at HKK; two on Doi Inthanon and several at Kaeng Krachan.
- 266) **Orange-bellied Leafbird** *Chloropsis hardwickii*
Fabulous 'scope looks at this very fancy bird on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 267) **Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*
Low numbers at Khao Yai.
- 268) **Great Iora** *Aegithina lafresnayeii*
Singles seen on two days in Kaeng Krachan.
- 269) **White-throated Rock-Thrush** *Monticola gularis*
Fine views of a male in Khao Yai for everyone of this infrequently encountered winter resident.
- 270) **Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush** *Monticola rufiventris*
One pair seen well on Doi Ang Khang.
- 271) **Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius*
Several seen in Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 272) **Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myiophonus caeruleus*
Fairly common in Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon; Doi Ang Khang; Doi Lang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 273) **Small-billed Scaly Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*
One seen superbly and at length on Doi Ang Khang and another seen briefly in flight.
NOTE: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) point out that the treatment of the three resident (and one presumed vagrant) 'scaly thrushes' in the the region (*sic*) as races of *Z. dauma* appears untenable. The four forms are at least distinct morphologically and (as far as known) vocally as extralimital forms that have elsewhere been given specific status (e.g. in Australia and Amami Is., Japan).
- 274) **Dark-sided Thrush** *Zoothera marginata*
A fabulous bird was seen in the 'scope esconced deep in a gully and then a second was watched at length as it foraged just below Mr Deang's on Doi Inthanon. Many thanks to Dio

for sharing the birds with us. This is one of the few places in the world that this extremely skulking species can be reliably seen.

- 275) **Grey-winged Blackbird** *Turdus bouboul*
One male seen by Mike at the summit of Doi Inthanon during the early morning.
- 276) **Chestnut Thrush** *Turdus rubrocanus*
One seen by a couple of folks on the summit of Doi Inthanon and another handsome male seen superbly in the 'scope on Doi Lang.
- 277) **Grey-sided Thrush** *Turdus feae*
A good year for this elusive and declining species with 1-3 seen nicely on two days on the summit of Doi Inthanon. Globally threatened.
- 278) **Eye-browed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*
Two males in Khao Yai and a flock of 40+ at a fruiting tree along the jeep-track on Doi Inthanon and 50+ at a fruiting tree on Doi Lang.
- 279) **Lesser Shortwing** *Brachypteryx leucophrys*
One seen well just below Mr. Deang's, again thanks to Dio.
- 280) **White-browed Shortwing** *Brachypteryx montana*
Sensational views of several very co-operative males and for some a female at the summit bog, Doi Inthanon NP.
- 281) **Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*
Several in the grasslands at Khao Yai.
- 282) **Hill Prinia** *Prinia superciliaris*
This attractive warbler was seen and heard on Doi Ang Khang.
NOTE: Split from the nominate populations *atrogularis* in the Himalaya and Assam Hills (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
- 283) **Rufescent Prinia** *Prinia rufescens*
Two in scrub in Khao Yai and on Doi Ang Khang.
- 284) **Grey-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*
A pair in scrub in Khao Yai.
- 285) **Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris*
Two in fine plumage near Thaton. And at KSRY.
- 286) **Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*
Several seen in scrubby open country.
- 287) **Slaty-bellied Tesia** *Tesia olivea*
Incredible views of an astonishingly confiding pair along the jeep-track on Doi Inthanon; also heard and glimpsed on Doi Lang.
- 288) **Asian Stubtail** *Urosphena squamiceps*
Heard only, Doi Inthanon.

- 289) **Aberrant Bush-warbler** *Cettia flavolivacea*
Good looks at one at the Radar look-out, Khao Yai. The first record for this well watched park (info. courtesy of Phil Round).
- 290) **Russet Bush-Warbler** *Bradypterus mandelli*
Heard on Doi Ang Khang.
NOTE: For a discussion of the taxonomy etc. of this species and its allies see Dickinson, Rasmussen, Round and Rozendaal (2000).
- 291) **Lanceolated Warbler**
Good looks at this very skulking species at the scrubby edge of farmland between Bangkok and Ayuthya.
- 292) **Black-browed Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus bisrtigiceps*
Good looks at several individuals at KSRV.
- 293) **Manchurian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus tangorum*
One seen by Jim at KSRV. Classified as globally Near Threatened.
- 294) **Oriental Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus orientalis*
Heard and briefly seen near Wat Phai Lom and several seen well at KSRV.
- 295) **Thick-billed Warbler** *Phragmaticola aedon*
We all enjoyed good views of this distinctive Acrocephalid in Khao Yai.
NOTE: Placed in Acrocephalus by some authors.
- 296) **Mountain Tailorbird** *Orthotomus cuculatus*
Good looks at several on Doi Inthanon and heard on Doi Lang.
- 297) **Common Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sutorius*
Fairly widespread and common at the forest edge and in rural areas.
- 298) **Dark-necked Tailorbird** *Orthotomus atrogularis*
Very common in forested areas in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 299) **Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*
Good looks at four birds in scrubby farmland near Thaton; also near Chiang Saen and at KSRV.
- 300) **Buff-throated Warbler** *Phylloscopus subaffinis*
Several on Doi Ang Khang.
- 301) **Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi*
Widespread and moderately common in roadside scrub the south.
- 302) **Buff-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus pulcher*
Several on the summit of Doi Inthanon and Doi Loang; uncommon on Doi Ang Khang.
- 303) **Ashy-throated Warbler** *Phylloscopus maculipennis*
Several on the summit of Doi Inthanon.

304) **Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Notably common this year, very common throughout except at Kaeng Krachan.

NOTE: We used to think the genus *Phylloscopus* was challenging. Thanks to the likes of Per Alstrom and others we now know that what we knew 10-15 years ago bore no semblance of real understanding of what is a fascinating complex that we are only now beginning to unravel. On their wintering grounds this genus can appear to be just the same old 'LBJ' whereas on the breeding grounds and once these birds are in fresh spring breeding attire and singing their distinctive territorial songs you would not think you were dealing with the same birds - yet another reason for you to join Dion and David on the VENT 2008 tour to China! The very latest volume of HBW together with Rasmussen & Anderton's 2 vol. work on the birds of South Asia goes a long way to setting out how this complex sorts out and does a pretty nice job of defining what species occurs where in the breeding season and during winter. Hume's Warbler winters in peninsular India whereas Mandelli's Warbler which is very similar to Hume's winters in SE Asia alongside Yellow-browed (Inornate) Warbler. It is likely that several of the Yellow-broweds were in fact Mandelli's so difficult are they to sort out on their winter grounds.

305) **Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

One seen all too briefly in Khao Yai NP.

306) **Two-barred Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*

Great looks at one just north of Chiang Mai and another on Doi Ang Khang.

NOTE: Sometimes treated as a subspecies of Greenish Warbler, however, there are sufficient distinctive differences that the two taxa act as good species. See vol. 11 HBW.

307) **Pale-legged Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus tenellipes*

Heard and seen briefly at Khao Yai.

308) **Blyth's Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus reguloides*

Heard or seen almost daily in the north, low numbers at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.

309) **White-tailed Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus davisoni*

Common on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

310) **Sulphur-breasted Warbler** *Phylloscopus ricketti*

Singles seen well on two days in Kaeng Krachan.

311) **Alstrom's (Plain-tailed) Warbler** *Seicercus soror*

Excellent views of at least one individual as it fed very confidently on or near the ground (<1.5m up) among an understory of bamboo within evergreen forest at Kaeng Krachan.

312) **Bianchi's Warbler** *Seicercus valentini*

Singles on two days at Khao Yai.

NOTE: The Golden-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus burkii* was split into five species and then as result of additional research another species was located making a total of at least six species that form the 'Golden-spectacled Warbler complex. As with *Phylloscopus* the

members of this complex are much easier to recognise and clearly identify when they are on their breeding grounds and singing than they are on their wintering grounds. has been spilt into every which way!

- 313) **Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus castaniceps*
Two seen well with a mixed flock on Doi Inthanon.
- 314) **Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliaris*
Quite common in bamboo on the slopes of Kaeng Krachan.
- 315) **Dark-sided Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sibirica*
A winter migrant seen well a number of times in Kaeng Krachan.
Also known as Siberian Flycatcher.
- 316) **Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*
One to three daily at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon.
- 317) **Taiga Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla*
Widespread with scattered one and twos seen.
Also known as Red-throated Flycatcher
NOTE: it has been proposed that the eastern population of *F. (parva) albicilla* be elevated to specific status on the basis of differences in vocalisations and plumage. Either way, all the "Red-throated" Flycatchers we saw were of the *albicilla* taxon.
- 318) **Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperythra*
Superb views of a wonderfully confiding male along the summit trail on Doi Lang.
- 319) **Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*
Several with mixed species flocks on Doi Inthanon and Doi Lang.
- 320) **Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassina*
Widespread and locally common.
- 321) **Large Niltava** *Niltava grandis*
Marvellous looks at two beautiful males along the Jeep Trail at Doi Inthanon and another on Doi Lang.
- 322) **Small Niltava** *Niltava macgregoriae*
One male along the Jeep Track at Doi Inthanon.
- 323) **Hainan Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis hainanus*
One male seen well in Khao Yai; HHK and Doi Inthanon.
- 324) **Pale Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis unicolor*
One singing male seen nicely at Doi Inthanon.
- 325) **Blue-throated Flycatcher** *Cyornis rubeculoides*
One male provided a wonderful experience as he sat out in the morning light singing his heart out at Doi Inthanon. Also seen at HHK and Kaeng Krachan.

- 326) **Chinese Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis glaucicomans*
Seen superbly by Bill and David on Doi Lang and again at Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: This is a difficult complex and in the process of being resolved. We treat this taxa as a separate species from Blue-throated Flycatcher in order to facilitate this process. There may be more than two species involved: Blue-throated, Chinese Blue and ??? Watch this space.
- 327) **Hill Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis banyumas*
Widespread and moderately common.
- 328) **Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis tickelliae*
One male seen with a mixed flock at Kaeng Krachan
- 329) **Pygmy Blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapella hodgsoni*
One female with a mixed species flock on Doi Ang Khang. This diminutive species is an uncommon species in Thailand.
- 330) **Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*
Common at all forested sites.
- 331) **Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope*
Fabulous looks at four or more glowing birds within scrubby farmland near Tha Ton.
- 332) **Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*
At least six individuals many in near full breeding plumage in scrubby farmland near Thaton.
- 333) **Siberian Blue Robin** *Luscinia cyane*
Sensational views of a breeding plumaged male on the summit of the radar station road, Khao Yai and at least one female attending the back of a park café; one or two females seen regularly at Mr Deng's, Doi Inthanon.
- 334) **Northern Orange-flanked Bush-Robin** *Tarsiger cyanurus*
One male seen very nicely on the summit trail on Doi Lang.
NOTE: Rasmussen and Anderton (2005) note that Sino-Himalayan *rufilatus* and N Asian *cyanurus* are widely disjunct in breeding ranges. Consistent differences in morphology and song types over wide areas indicate they are best treated as separate species.
- 335) **Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*
Widespread and seen almost daily.
- 336) **White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*
Seen or heard daily at Khao Yai, Huai Hong Krai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 337) **White-capped River Redstart** *Chaimarriornis leucocephalus*
What a gorgeous bird! We watched this one at our luncheon waterfall, Doi Inthanon at length while it foraged along the stream.

- 338) **Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus*
Brilliant, prolonged scope studies for us all as we watched two along the stream in Khao Yai and from our luncheon waterfall at Doi Inthanon.
- 339) **White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaultia*
One seen all too briefly in Khao Yai.
- 340) **Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maura*
Widespread and common in open fields and grasslands.
NOTE: Now split by most authors from Common Stonechat *S. torquata*.
- 341) **Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*
Sparsely distributed in open fields and grasslands.
- 342) **Grey Bushchat** *Saxicola ferrea*
Common on Doi Ang Khang and one seen on Doi Lang.
- 343) **Yellow-bellied Fantail** *Rhipidura hypoxantha*
One of the characteristic components of mixed flocks at high altitudes on Doi Inthanon. Also on Doi Lang.
- 344) **White-throated Fantail** *Rhipidura albicollis*
Common on Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang; uncommon on Doi Inthanon.
- 345) **Pied Fantail** *Rhipidura javanica*
Common in the scrubby woodland between Bangkok and Ayuthya and in the Gulf of Siam.
- 346) **Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*
Widespread and moderately common, recorded at most sites.
- 347) **Asian Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi*
One male at Khao Yai and a female at Doi Ang Khang.
- 348) **White-crested Laughingthrush** *Garrulax leucolophus*
Several of this spectacular and very charismatic species were seen in Khao Yai; Doi Inthanon and Kaeng Krachan.
- 349) **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax pectoralis*
Common in mixed flocks at Kaeng Krachan.
- 350) **White-necked Laughingthrush** *Garrulax strepitans*
Superb views of this spectacular but ultimate skulker on Doi Lang.
- 351) **Black-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax chinensis*
Contrary to the rather frustrating experience last year we all enjoyed rather fine views of a small group feeding on the roadside in Khao Yai.
- 352) **White-browed Laughingthrush** *Garrulax sannio*
A flock of three on Doi Ang Khang put on a great show.

- 353) **Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush** *Garrulax erythrocephalus*
Quite common and confiding on the summit of Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
NOTE: Collar (2006) has revised the entire *erythrocephalus* complex. Thai birds now become Silver-eared Laughingthrush *G. melanostigma*.
- 354) **Red-faced Liocichla** *Liocichla phoenicea*
Great looks at this striking laughingthrush on Doi Ang Khang.
- 355) **Abbott's Babbler** *Malacocincla abbotti*
Several heard and at least one seen at Kaeng Krachan.
- 356) **Buff-breasted Babbler** *Pellorneum tickelli*
After a bit of a struggle good looks for all at this skulker in Kaeng Krachan.
- 357) **Puff-throated Babbler** *Pellorneum ruficeps*
Great close looks at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 358) **Large Scimitar-Babbler** *Pomatorhinus hypoleucos*
Pairs seen at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 359) **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler** *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*
A group of three seen superbly at Doi Ang Khang and on Doi Lang where they were collecting nest material.
- 360) **White-browed Scimitar-Babbler** *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*
We all enjoyed superb views of several birds in Khao Yai, Doi Inthanon and Kaeng Krachan. At the latter site a pair was seen with two young.
- 361) **Limestone Wren-Babbler** *Napothera crispifrons*
We all enjoyed multiple wonderful views of a pair of birds foraging unconcernedly on the slopes of some gorgeous limestone karst at Wat Wat Phra Phutthabat Noi.
- 362) **Pygmy Wren-Babbler** *Pnoepyga pusilla*
Truly a miracle! One very responsive individual gave the entire group a view of this charming sprite in the summit bog of Doi Inthanon.
- 363) **Rufous-fronted Babbler** *Stachyris rufifrons*
Commonly heard but less often seen, we had some good views of birds on Doi Ang Khang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 364) **Golden Babbler** *Stachyris chrysaea*
Several seen on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and two with a mixed species flock at Kaeng Krachan.
- 365) **Grey-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigriceps*
Several heard and seen on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang, Doi Lang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 366) **Striped Tit-Babbler** *Macronous gularis*
Common at all lowland forested sites.

- 367) **Yellow-eyed Babbler** *Chrysomma sinense*
Cracking looks at two on Doi Ang Khang.
- 368) **Silver-eared Mesia** *Leiothrix argentauris*
This spectacular babbler was quite common on Doi Ang Khang; also seen on Doi Inthanon.
- 369) **White-browed Shrike-Babbler** *Pteruthius flaviscapis*
Yet another fantastic babbler! This is a montane species that we saw or heard at Khao Yai, Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang
- 370) **Black-eared Shrike-babbler** *Pteruthius melanotis*
Fabulous views of a very confiding male on Doi Lang.
- 371) **Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler** *Pteruthius aenobarbus*
Nice views of a male in a mixed flock on Doi Inthanon and a female on Doi Lang.
- 372) **White-hooded Babbler** *Gampsorhychus rufulus*
Exceptional views of a very confiding group of four and then three at Kaeng Krachan.
NOTE: Almost certainly a separate species from the population in India (see Collar 2006, Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).
- 373) **Spectacled Barwing** *Actinodura ramsayi*
This very fancy bird was seen well on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 374) **Blue-winged Minla** *Minla cyanouroptera*
Small numbers on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 375) **Chestnut-tailed Minla** *Minla strigula*
One of the most common birds at the Ang Kha summit bog of Doi Inthanon. We enjoyed some outstanding close-up views, too!
- 376) **Rufous-winged Fulvetta** *Alcippe castaneiceps*
Common on Doi Inthanon.
- 377) **Brown-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe poioicephala*
Common at Kaeng Krachan.
- 378) **Grey-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe morrisonia*
Very common on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 379) **Rufous-backed Sibia** *Heterophasia annectens*
Although characteristically this is a rather scarce species we enjoyed a charming encounter with three of this handsome species on Doi Inthanon.
- 380) **Dark-backed Sibia** *Heterophasia melanoleuca*
Very common in the mountains of the north.
- 381) **Long-tailed Sibia** *Heterophasia picaoides*
A flock of six on Doi Lang.

- 382) **Striated Yuhina** *Yuhina castaneiceps*
A flock of 6 on Doi Ang Khang.
- 383) **Whiskered Yuhina** *Yuhina flavicollis*
Common on Doi Lang.
- 384) **White-bellied Yuhina** *Yuhina zantholeuca*
Very common in Khao Yai; with much smaller numbers on Doi Inthanon.
- 385) **Spot-breasted Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis guttaticollis*
Yet another tour highlight. A pair seen superbly in montane forest of Doi Lang.
- 386) **Flyeater** *Gerygone sulphurea*
Heard only in the Gulf of Siam.
- 387) **Great Tit** *Parus major*
Four on Doi Ang Khang.
- 388) **Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Parus spilonotus*
Several Doi Inthanon and then a total of ten on Doi Lang.
NOTE: For a discussion of the taxonomy of this complex see Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 389) **Yellow-browed Tit** *Sylviparus modestus*
Two on Doi Lang.
- 390) **Sultan Tit** *Melanochlora sultanea*
This strikingly charismatic bird was seen many times in Kaeng Krachan.
- 391) **Chestnut-vented Nuthatch** *Sitta nagaensis*
Moderately common on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 392) **Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*
Seen nicely on Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 393) **Brown-throated Treecreeper** *Certhia discolor*
Great views of at least three pairs along the Jeep Trail, Doi Inthanon.
- 394) **Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Anthreptes singalensis*
One male in Khao Yai and one in Kaeng Krachan.
- 395) **Brown-throated Sunbird** *Anthreptes malacensis*
Common between Bangkok and Ayuthya and within Khao Yai.
- 396) **Purple Sunbird** *Nectarinia asiatica*
Widespread and locally common in semi-open habitat near our accommodations at the foot of Doi Inthanon.
- 397) **Olive-backed Sunbird** *Nectarinia jugularis*
Widespread and locally common in semi-open habitat.
- 398) **Mrs. Gould's Sunbird** *Aethopyga gouldiae*
Very common at the summit on Doi Inthanon; less common on Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

- 399) **Green-tailed Sunbird** *Aethopyga nipalensis*
Common at the summit of Doi Inthanon.
- 400) **Black-throated Sunbird** *Aethopyga saturata*
Common at Khao Yai, Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 401) **Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja*
Sensational views of one male at Kaeng Krachan.
- 402) **Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra*
Good 'scope views of this frustrating species at Khao Yai.
- 403) **Streaked Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera magna*
This appealing bird was seen several times on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang, Doi Lang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 404) **Yellow-vented Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*
One seen at the over-look within Khao Yai.
- 405) **Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum melanoxanthum*
One seen in flight over the bog on the summit of Doi Inthanon. This is a rarely encountered species in Thailand.
- 406) **Plain Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum concolor*
One in Khao Yai; several on Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang.
- 407) **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum ignipectus*
Two at Huai Hong Krai.
- 408) **Buff-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cambodianum*
Common between Bangkok and Ayuthya and at Khao Yai.
- NOTE:** Previously treated as a subspecies of Fire-breasted Flowerpecker it is now considered by many to be a discrete taxon that is quite vocally and morphologically distinct, lacking any red on the breast.
- 409) **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum*
Common in lightly treed open country.
- 410) **Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythropleurus*
Notably common this year in Khao Yai.
- 411) **Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus*
Common in Khao Yai.
- 412) **Japanese White-eye** *Zosterops japonicus*
Common on Doi Inthanon and Doi Ang Khang
- 413) **Black-naped Oriole** *Oriolus chinensis*
Quite common and seen most days at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.

- 414) **Maroon Oriole** *Oriolus traillii*
One super male on Doi Inthanon also on Doi Ang Khang.
- 415) **Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella*
Many were seen daily in the two forested southern reserves that we visited, Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 416) **Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*
Widespread in ones and twos on seven days.
- 417) **Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*
Moderately common in the north between Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang. Also near Wat Phai Lom.
- 418) **Grey-backed Shrike** *Lanius tephronotus*
One or two daily in Khao Yai; 1-4 daily on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.
- 419) **Large Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis gularis*
One or two seen and heard in Khao Yai; one on Doi Inthanon one seen at Kaeng Krachan carrying food.
- 420) **Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*
Widespread and common in open country.
- 421) **Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*
Widespread but more common in forested areas throughout than Black Drongo, the pale, migrant *leucogenis* race was seen on a couple of occasions.
- 422) **Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*
Mostly in low numbers in evergreen forest on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang, Doi Lang and Kaeng Krachan.
- 423) **Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus remifer*
Several on Doi Inthanon, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang. Smaller numbers in Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.
- 424) **Hair-crested Drongo** *Dicrurus hottentottus*
Very common, arguably abundant at Khao Yai with flocks of circa. 100 attending flowering *Erythrina sp* trees; and Kaeng Krachan.
- 425) **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus*
Seen regularly at lower elevations in a variety of wooded habitats.
- 426) **Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*
Widespread in small groups.
- 427) **Crested Jay** *Platylophus galericulatus*
Heard only. Heard once or twice in Kaeng Krachan. Classified as globally Near Threatened.
- 428) **Green Magpie** *Cissa chinensis*
Fabulous looks at two pairs of this spectacular species with mixed flocks in Kaeng Krachan.

- 429) **Rufous Treepie** *Dendrocitta vagabunda*
Several in the dry woodland near our accommodations at Doi Inthanon.
- 430) **Grey Treepie** *Dendrocitta formosae*
Several seen on Doi Ang Khang.
- 431) **Racket-tailed Treepie** *Crypsirina temia*
Two in scrubby farmland at Chiang Saen.
- 432) **Large-billed Crow** *Corvus japonenesis*
Widespread and moderately common in open country.
NOTE: Split from *macrorhynchus*. For a revision of the Large-billed Crow complex see Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 433) **Golden-crested Myna**
Great 'scope looks at a total of four with a larger flock of Hill Mynas and Long-tailed Broadbills, Khao Yai. An observation of two in Kaeng Krachan is unusual.
- 434) **Common Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa*
Very common at Khao Yai with lower numbers at Khaeng Krachan.
- 435) **White-vented Myna** *Acridotheres grandis*
Widespread and common in open country.
- 436) **Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*
Widespread and common in open country.
- 437) **Black-collared Starling** *Sturnus nigricollis*
Several in lightly wooded farmland on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon also Doi Ang Khang and Tha Ton.
- 438) **Asian Pied Starling** *Sturnus contra*
Several between Bangkok and Ayuthya and six in the Gulf of Siam.
- 439) **Chestnut-tailed Starling** *Sturnia malabarica*
A flock of eight near Chiang Mai *en route* to Doi Ang Khang and six on Doi Ang Khang.
NOTE: Also known as and perhaps more appropriately named Grey-headed Starling.
- 440) **House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*
Scattered individuals in towns.
- 441) **Plain-backed Sparrow** *Passer flaveolus*
Twenty near Wat Phai Lom; several near our accommodations at the foot of Doi Inthanon; and near Thaton.
- 442) **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*
Common in urban areas.

- 443) **Baya Weaver** *Ploceus manyar*
Three or four in non-breeding plumage between Bangkok and Ayuthya and circa 50 roosting in tall grasses near Thaton.
- 444) **Pin-tailed Parrotfinch** *Erythrura prasina*
Undoubtedly one of the surprises and one of the many highlights of this tour. A group of ten or more feeding at flowering bamboo at top of the road in Kaeng Krachan put on a fabulous show. The colours of those males wow!!!!
- 445) **White-rumped Munia** *Lonchura striata*
Scattered small groups invariably associated with bamboo within forest.
- 446) **Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*
Four collecting nest material near Wat Phai Lom and circa 100 in scrubby farmland near Thaton.
- 447) **Chestnut Munia** *Lonchura atricapilla*
Four nesting in reed beds at KSRV.
- 448) **Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*
Seen in small numbers on Doi Ang Khang.
- 449) **#Black-headed Greenfinch** *Carduelis ambigua*
Two seen in flight as we were having breakfast on Doi Lang.
- 450) **Spot-winged Grosbeak** *Mycerobias melanozanthos*
Great looks at a male and female and earlier a flock of five in flight on Doi Ang Khang. A very impressive and infrequently seen species in Thailand.
- 451) **Crested Bunting** *Melophus lathami*
One male on the lower slopes of Doi Lang.
- 452) **Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*
Good looks at several of this nicely marked bird on Doi Ang Khang.
- 453) **Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila*
One male on Doi Ang Khang.

MAMMALS

- 1) **Black Giant Squirrel** *Ratufa bicolor*
This spectacular creature was seen very well at Khao Yai, Doi Inthanon and Kaeng Krachan.
- 2) **Grey-bellied Squirrel** *Callosciurus caniceps*
Several in Kaeng Krachan.

- 3) **Pallas's Squirrel** *Callosciurus erythraeus*
Scattered sightings in the north including a good 'scope study on the low slopes of Doi Ang Khang.
- 4) **Variable Squirrel** *Callosciurus finlaysoni*
Notably common at Khao Yai.
- 5) **Western (Himalayan) Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops maccllellandi*
Many sightings in Kaeng Krachan also HKK and Doi Inthanon.
- 6) **Cambodian Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops rudolphi*
Quite common in Khao Yai.
- 7) **Malayan Porcupine** *Hystrix brachyuran*
A total of five of these impressive animals seen in Khao Yai at night.
- 8) **Small Indian Civet** *Viverricula indica*
One in Khao Yai.
- 9) **Common Palm Civet** *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*
One seen poorly in Khao Yai and one seen very nicely in Kaeng Krachan.
- 10) **Small-toothed Palm Civet** *Arctogalidia trivirgatus*
A group of three put on a great show as the fed in a fruiting tree in Khao Yai. A lifer for Dion.
- 11) **Leopard Cat** *Felis bengalensis*
One seen all too briefly at dawn in Khaeng Krachan.
- 12) **Small Asian Mongoose** *Herpestes auropunctatus*
Good looks at one in Khao Yai.
- 13) **Asian Dhole** *Cuon alpinus*
One presumably a member of an unseen pack hunting a female muntjac in Khaeng Krachan.
- 14) **Common Jackal** *Canis aureus*
A lone male seen in Khao Yai; an unusual encounter in this reserve.
- 15) **Banded Langur** *Presbytis femoralis*
Several of these handsome but uncommon primates seen nicely in Kaeng Krachan.
- 16) **Dusky Leaf Monkey** *Trachypithecus obscurus*
A very lovely and very common primate in the KSRV and Kaeng Krachan forests.
- 17) **Long-tailed Macaque** *Macaca fascicularis*
Several seen *en route* back to Bangkok from Kaeng Krachan.
- 18) **Northern Pig-tailed Macaque** *Macaca leonina*
Many at Khao Yai.

- 19) **White-handed Gibbon** *Hylobates lar*
Fabulously vocal and visible with as many 12 seen over three days at Khao Yai and several seen at Kaeng Krachan.
- 20) **Northern Treeshrew** *Tupaia belangeri*
One seen on Doi Inthanon.
- 21) **Common Barking Deer** *Muntiacus muntjak*
Common in Khao Yai.
- 22) **Fea's Muntjac** *Muntiacus feae*
One female apparently being hunted by the Dhole which we saw a few moments later in Kaeng Krachan.
- 23) **Sambar** *Rusa unicolor*
Common in Khao Yai.
- 24) **Asian Elephant** *Elaphus maximus*
One loan bull on the road at dawn in Khao Yai. I never tire of watching this magnificent animal.

REPTILES

Kukri Snake sp *Oligodon* sp - Doi Lang; gravid female.

Rice-field Terrapin *Malayemys subtrijuga* - Khao Yai

Spiny Turtle *Heosemys spinosa* - Khao Yai; juvenile.

Tockay Gecko *Gecko gecko* - Khao Yai.

Spiny-tailed House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus*

Common Gliding Lizard *Draco volans* - Khao Yai.

Blanford's Gliding Lizard *Draco blanfordii* - Kaeng Krachan

BUTTERFLIES

The butterflies of Thailand are truly spectacular and provide one of the highlights of any tour to this wonderful country. In particular we saw great shows in Kaeng Krachan, especially at one of the stream crossings. Here are just some of the butterflies we were able to identify:

Common Birdwing *Troides helena*

Golden Birdwing *Troides aeacus*

Great Windmill *Parides dasarada*

Common Rose *Pachilocta aristochiae*

Common Mime *Chilasa clytia*
Red Helen *Papilio helenus*
Great Mormon *Papilio memnon*
Common Mormon *Papilio polytes*
Paris Peacock *Papilio paris*
Chain Swordtail *Graphium aristeus*
Fivebar Swordtail *Graphium antiphates*
Common Bluebottle *Graphium sarpedon*
Common Jay *Graphium doson*
Tailed Jay *Graphium agamemnon*
Red-spot Jezebel *Delias descombesi*
Orange Albatross *Appias nero*
Yellow Orange Tip *Ixias pyrene*
Great Orange Tip *Hebomoia glaucippe*
Lemon Emigrant *Catopsilia Pomona*
Common Grass Yellow *Eurema hecabe*
Dark Blue Tiger *Tirumala septentrionis*
Glassy Blue Tiger
Blue King Crow *Euploea camaralzeman*
Common Indian Crow *Euploea core*
Common Evening Brown *Melanitis leda*
Common Cruiser *Vindula erota*
Common Castor *Ariadne merione*
Common Maplet *Chersonesia risa*
Marbled Map *Cyretris cocles*
Commander *Moduza procris*
Clipper *Parthenos Sylvia*
Common Nawab *Polyura athamas*
Straight Pierrot *Caleta roxus*

David Bishop

kdbishop@ozemail.com.au

Dion Hobcroft

dionhobcroft@bigpond.com

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours

2525 Wallingwood Drive, Suite 1003

Austin, TX 78746

Tel: 800/328-VENT(8368) or 512/328-5221

FAX: 512/328-2919

E-mail: info@ventbird.com