

Birding Malaysia and Singapore – 10th & 11th July 2015

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A male Blue-winged Leafbird feeding on a Clidemia berry at Pantí. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

We made good time due to our early start and were at Pantí by 7.30 am. The weather was good and Nick Green, a birder and photographer from London, England, and I encountered quite a lot of activity starting with a pair of Blue-winged Leafbirds foraging on roadside berries to a tricky pair of Fluffy-backed Tit-babblers. We also explored the tower and stopped by the shrine and both streams. Highlights included Buff-necked Woodpecker, Red-naped and Scarlet-rumped Trogons, Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Red-billed Malkoha, Dusky Broadbill, Black-naped Monarch and the usual bunch of bulbuls. We stopped at 12.00 pm and drove back to Kota Tinggi for lunch and a siesta.



A male Red-naped Trogon at Panti. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

At 4.00 pm, we were back but it was much quieter and we finished by 6.30 pm. It was a good start and we ended the day with 71 species.

The next day, we were at Panti by 6.00 am and we had our torches ready for the pre-dawn drive. Unfortunately, we did hear any nocturnal birds but loud thunder towards dawn. It drizzled for a while after that and we decided to explore the open clearing at 8 km. We had good views of the mountains enveloped in mist and also saw the few birds that were about such as Paddyfield Pipit. At 8.00 am, we decided to return to the forest and check out what was around. The 7 km stream was quiet and gloomy but we got out to check out a pair of Grey-headed Babblers. I bumped into my brother who was also present with another birder. *Sip-sip!* We heard the familiar call and looked up. This was the rare Black-and-white Bulbul. We chased the birds for a while and eventually found three birds. Minutes later, they were gone! After that heart-stopping encounter, we moved on to the 5 km stream, where we saw lots of Little Green Pigeon, and then, the temple trail. The highlight here was a bold Black-capped Babbler that stepped out onto the road in front of us!

It was another superb morning and we logged 81 species despite spending just five hours. A quick lunch and we were back in Singapore by 1.40 pm.



Bird of the trip – Black-and-white Bulbul at Pantí. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

Our last spot for the day was Pasir Ris Park. We had done very well in the lowland forest at Pantí so we thought that a parkland habitat would be good as a final stop for Nick. It proved to be a wise decision. The birds were very cooperative and we got close to many wonderful birds ranging from the black-and-white Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker to the brilliant yellow Black-naped Oriole. We were also fortunate to see a pair of Smooth-coated Otters and two big owls – Spotted Wood Owl and Buffy Fish Owl. At 4.00 pm, we decided to call it a day. We saw 25 species in just two hours and such wonderful birds!

Over two days, we recorded 122 species of birds, enjoyed photographing a large percentage of them and got to enjoy some beautiful birding places in Malaysia and Singapore.

A Checklist of the Birds Recorded in Malaysia and Singapore on 10th & 11th July 2015

Nomenclature, sequence and taxonomy follow IOC. Species highlighted in yellow indicate those that were “heard only”.

#	English Name	Scientific Name
1	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
2	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
3	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
4	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
5	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
6	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>
7	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
8	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
9	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
10	Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
11	Zebra Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
12	Little Green Pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>
13	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>
14	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
15	Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Rhinortha chlorophaea</i>
16	Red-billed Malkoha	<i>Zanclostomus javanicus</i>
17	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>
18	Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>
19	Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>
20	Buffy Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>
21	Spotted Wood Owl	<i>Strix selouto</i>
22	Grey-rumped Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>
23	Whiskered Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>
24	Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>
25	Red-naped Trogon	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>
26	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelii</i>
27	Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
28	Banded Kingfisher	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>
29	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>
30	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
31	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>
32	Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>
33	Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx erithaca</i>
34	Red-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis amictus</i>
35	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>
36	Black Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>

37	Red-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima rafflesii</i>
38	Yellow-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima henricii</i>
39	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>
40	Brown Barbet	<i>Caloramphus fuliginosus</i>
41	Grey-and-buff Woodpecker	<i>Hemicircus coccyretus</i>
42	Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus moluccensis</i>
43	White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>
44	Checker-throated Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma mentale</i>
45	Orange-backed Woodpecker	<i>Reinwardtipicus validus</i>
46	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>
47	Buff-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>
48	Buff-necked Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tukki</i>
49	Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>
50	Blue-rumped Parrot	<i>Psittinus cyanurus</i>
51	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
52	Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>
53	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>
54	Dusky Broadbill	<i>Corydon sumatranus</i>
55	Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>
56	Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyroptera</i>
57	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
58	Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>
59	Lesser Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina fimbriata</i>
60	Fiery Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>
61	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>
62	Dark-throated Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>
63	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>
64	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
65	Malaysian Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>
66	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
67	Crested Jay	<i>Platylophus galericulatus</i>
68	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
69	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
70	Rail-babbler	<i>Eupetes macrocerus</i>
71	Black-and-white Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanoleucos</i>
72	Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>
73	Puff-backed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>
74	Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>
75	Olive-winged Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>
76	Cream-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus simplex</i>
77	Asian Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>

78	Spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos</i>
79	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>
80	Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>
81	Buff-vented Bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>
82	Cinereous Bulbul	<i>Hemixos cinereus</i>
83	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>
84	Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicentris</i>
85	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
86	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
87	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>
88	Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>
89	Grey-headed Babbler	<i>Stachyris poliocephala</i>
90	Chestnut-rumped Babbler	<i>Stachyris maculata</i>
91	Black-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigricollis</i>
92	Rufous-fronted Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis rufifrons</i>
93	Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>
94	Horsfield's Babbler	<i>Malcocincla sepiaria</i>
95	Short-tailed Babbler	<i>Malcocincla malaccensis</i>
96	Moustached Babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnirostre</i>
97	Sooty-capped Babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>
98	Rufous-crowned Babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnum</i>
99	Black-capped Babbler	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>
100	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
101	Everett's White-eye	<i>Zosterops everetti</i>
102	Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>
103	Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>
104	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>
105	Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>
106	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
107	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
108	Pale Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>
109	Rufous-chested Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula dumetoria</i>
110	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>
111	Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>
112	Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>
113	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>
114	Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>
115	Red-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes rhodolaemus</i>
116	Purple-naped Sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>
117	Van Hasselt's Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma brasiliانا</i>
118	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>

119	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>
120	Long-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>
121	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
122	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>



A pair of Spotted Wood Owls at Pasir Ris Park. Photo © Lim Kim Seng