

# Birding Malaysia and Singapore – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015

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A Crested Honey-buzzard being mobbed by a House Crow at Sungei Buloh. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

I had birded before with David Jackson, a birder from UK who was here to visit his son, and he wanted to take the opportunity to visit the world famous Panti Forest Reserve. We had an early start and were at the Bunker Trail by 7.00 am. Unfortunately, we encountered heavy rain and so we took cover at the headquarters ground for about 45 minutes. After that, light rain continued but we decided to continue birding all the same. Birdlife was quiet and even bulbuls were scarce. We found a pair of Whiskered Treeswifts but they looked just as miserable as us. We moved on! Just past the swamp, we met some birders from Kuala Lumpur who were also birding here for the first time. They told us about the group of six Black-thighed Falconets hanging around a clump of dead trees. We moved on while the other birders stayed and we bumped into our birds of the day in the form of five Crested Partridges crossing the road right in front of us!

We stopped by the 5 km stream to look around despite the drizzle and were rewarded with Dusky Broadbill, a Buff-rumped Woodpecker and a male Scarlet-rumped Trogon. Although we drove all the way to the 7 km stream and back out, we saw little due to the weather. We decided to leave at 11.30 am with a decent tally of 56 species.

After lunch in Kota Tinggi, we headed for Singapore and were relieved to clear the customs easily. At 2.00 pm, we stopped by Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve. It was overcast and high tide, so we headed for the main pond. We were happy to see over one hundred waders – mainly Common Redshank and Common Greenshank – as well as an unexpected pair of Pied Imperial Pigeons. We also saw a group of four Oriental Pied Hornbills in the mangroves, an unseasonal Crested Honey Buzzard being mobbed by House Crows, and the mangrove dependent Copper-throated Sunbird.

There was still time for one last stop – Singapore Botanic Gardens. We got there at 3.50 pm and got to the Jungle to look for the Buffy Fish Owls that had made the area their home recently. We saw one bird staring at us and a Greater Racket-tailed Drongo. We tried looking for another owl – Sunda Scops Owl – that was supposed to be roosting nearby but we could not find it. We found consolation in the form of great views of a pair of Banded Woodpeckers and a Common Hill Myna. At 4.30 pm, we called it a day.

Despite the inclement weather, we had done well in recording 89 species of birds from birding the morning in Pantai and the afternoon in Singapore.

## A Checklist of the Birds Recorded in Malaysia and Singapore on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015

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

#	English Name	Scientific Name
1	Crested Partridge	<i>Rollulus rouloul</i>
2	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
3	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
4	Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
5	Crested Serpent Eagle*	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
6	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
7	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>
8	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
9	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
10	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
11	Rock Dove*	<i>Columba livia</i>

12	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
13	Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
14	Zebra Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
15	Little Green Pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>
16	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>
17	Pied Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula bicolor</i>
18	Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Rhinortha chlorophaea</i>
19	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>
20	Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>
21	Buffy Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>
22	Whiskered Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>
23	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelii</i>
24	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	<i>Actenoides concretus</i>
25	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
26	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>
27	Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>
28	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>
29	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
30	Red-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima rafflesii</i>
31	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>
32	Brown Barbet	<i>Caloramphus fuliginosus</i>
33	White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>
34	Banded Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma miniaceum</i>
35	Checker-throated Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma mentale</i>
36	Laced Woodpecker	<i>Picus vittatus</i>
37	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>
38	Buff-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>
39	Black-thighed Falconet	<i>Microhierax fringillarius</i>
40	Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>
41	Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>
42	Dusky Broadbill	<i>Corydon sumatranus</i>
43	Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>
44	Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyroptera</i>
45	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
46	Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>
47	Lesser Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina fimbriata</i>
48	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>
49	Dark-throated Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>
50	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>
51	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
52	House Crow*	<i>Corvus splendens</i>

53	Large-billed Crow*	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
54	Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>
55	Puff-backed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>
56	Olive-winged Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>
57	Asian Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>
58	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>
59	Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>
60	Buff-vented Bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>
61	Streaked Bulbul	<i>Ixos malaccensis</i>
62	Cinereous Bulbul	<i>Hemixos cinereus</i>
63	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
64	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>
65	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
66	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>
67	Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>
68	Chestnut-rumped Babbler	<i>Stachyris maculata</i>
69	Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>
70	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous ptilosus</i>
71	Horsfield's Babbler	<i>Malcocincla sepiaria</i>
72	Moustached Babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnirostre</i>
73	Black-capped Babbler	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>
74	Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>
75	Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>
76	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>
77	Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>
78	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
79	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
80	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>
81	Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>
82	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>
83	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>
84	Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>
85	Copper-throated Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma calcostetha</i>
86	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>
87	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>
88	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>
89	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>



A pair of Banded Woodpeckers at the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Photo © Lim Kim Seng