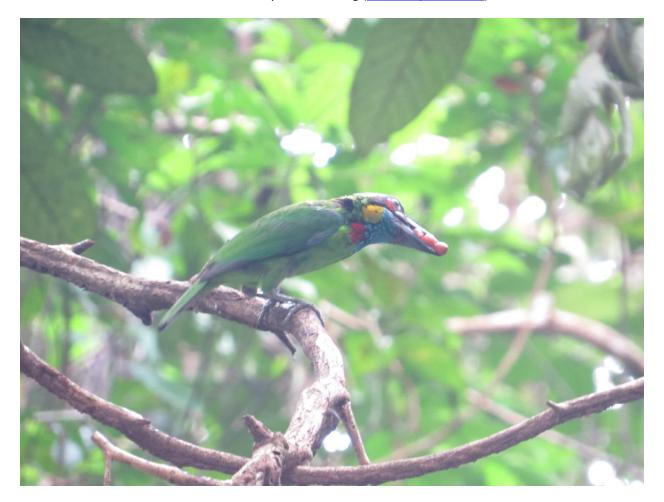
Birding Singapore – 4th June 2017

Text & Photos by Lim Kim Seng (ibisbill@yahoo.com)



An adult Red-crowned Barbet with fruit at Upper Seletar Reservoir Park. Photo © Birding Singapore/Lim Kim Seng

Martin Whiting is a herpetologist from Sydney, Australia, who also happens to be keen on birds. Time was limited as we only have half a day, so we arranged a special itinerary to find some of Singapore's special birds.

Our first stop was Bukit Batok Nature Park. We got here by 7.00 am and were immediately welcomed by a flock of White-crested Laughingthrushes and a pair of Red Junglefowls. They were tame and not bothered by the hordes of people walking past. Then, I heard a Straw-headed Bulbul calling from the carpark and we rushed over. Despite a careful search, there was no sign of this globally endangered gem but we find a pair of Banded Woodpeckers. A short while later, I heard its bubbling call and traced it to a small piece of scrub across the road. We found three birds perched low and feeding on *simpoh air* seeds along with other birds. Target seen in half an hour!

Next, we headed for Dairy Farm Nature Park for some more forest birding. Unfortunately, we could not get a place in the carpark, it being a Sunday and school holiday as well. The park was full of cars with bicycles straddled on their tops. We decided to change our plans and head for another site. We did however tick off a Little Spiderhunter along the way.

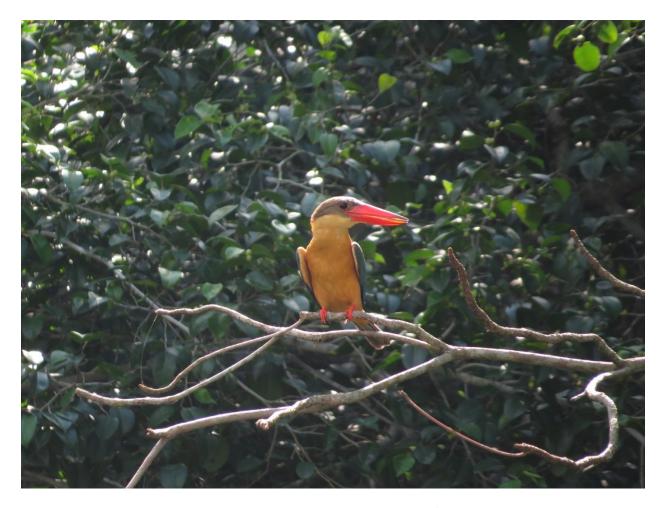
It was 9.00 am when we reached Upper Seletar Reservoir Park. Here, we found a nesting Red-crowned Barbet, which gave great views and was our Bird of the Day, as it came to feed a nestling. Not wanting to disturb it, we left soon after, but not before adding Olive-winged and Cream-vented Bulbuls.



A Greater Coucal calling at Pasir Ris Park. Photo © Birding Singapore/Lim Kim Seng

Our last spot was Pasir Ris Park and we got there by 10.00 am. A fly-by Oriental Pied Hornbill greeted us as we got our gear ready. We also saw Greater Coucal, White-throated Kingfisher, Pied Triller and Blacknaped Oriole in the carpark. We rewarded ourselves with some cold drinks before moving out to the park proper.

It took some finding but we managed to locate a pair of roosting Spotted Wood Owls in the middle of the park and then proceeded over to the mangroves. We stopped at a viewing platform and saw Grey and Striated Herons, and a Blue-throated Bee-eater. We also found a swimming Dog-faced Watersnake. We stopped by the bridge over looking Sungei Tampines and managed to see the very striking Stork-billed Kingfisher perched on a high branch. Walking around the small pond, we added Malaysian Pied Fantail and a calling Blue-winged Pitta. On our walk through the boardwalk, we found a few Giant Mudskippers as well as a friendly pair of Common Flamebacks. Back at the carpark, our morning ended well with sightings of a pair of Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker.



A Stork-billed Kingfisher fishing at Pasir Ris Park. Photo © Birding Singapore/Lim Kim Seng

A Checklist of the Birds Recorded in Singapore on 4th June 2017

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

#	English Name	Scientific Name
1	Red Junglefowl	Gallus gallus
2	Striated Heron	Butorides striata
3	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea
4	White-breasted Waterhen	Amaurornis phoenicurus
5	Spotted Dove	Spilopelia chinensis
6	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	Treron vernans
7	Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis
8	Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus
9	Little Bronze Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx minutillus
10	Spotted Wood Owl	Strix selouto
11	Oriental Dollarbird	Eurystomus orientalis
12	Stork-billed Kingfisher	Pelargopsis capensis
13	White-throated Kingfisher	Halcyon smyrnensis
14	Collared Kingfisher	Todiramphus chloris
15	Blue-throated Bee-eater	Merops viridis
16	Oriental Pied Hornbill	Anthracoceros albirostris
17	Lineated Barbet	Megalaima lineata
18	Red-crowned Barbet	Megalaima rafflesii
19	Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker	Dendrocopus moluccensis
20	Banded Woodpecker	Chrysophlegma miniaceum
21	Common Flameback	Dinopium javanense
22	Tanimbar Corella	Cacatua goffiniana
23	Rose-ringed Parakeet	Psittacula krameri
24	Red-breasted Parakeet	Psittacula alexandri
25	Long-tailed Parakeet	Psittacula longicauda
26	Blue-winged Pitta	Pitta moluccensis
27	Common Iora	Aegithina tiphia
28	Pied Triller	Lalage nigra
29	Black-naped Oriole	Oriolus chinensis
30	Malaysian Pied Fantail	Rhipidura javanica
31	House Crow	Corvus splendens
32	Straw-headed Bulbul	Pycnonotus zeylanicus
33	Yellow-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus goiavier
34	Olive-winged Bulbul	Pycnonotus plumosus
35	Cream-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus simplex
36	Pacific Swallow	Hirundo tahitica
37	Yellow-bellied Prinia	Prinia flavicentris
38	Dark-necked Tailorbird	Orthotomus atrogularis
39	Ashy Tailorbird	Orthotomus ruficeps

40	Short-tailed Babbler	Malcocincla malaccensis
41	White-crested Laughingthrush	Garrulax leucolopus
42	Oriental White-eye	Zosterops palpebrosus
43	Asian Glossy Starling	Aplonis panayensis
44	Javan Myna	Acridotheres javanicus
45	Oriental Magpie-Robin	Copsychus saularis
46	Brown-throated Sunbird	Anthreptes malacensis
47	Olive-backed Sunbird	Cinnyris jugularis
48	Crimson Sunbird	Aethopyga siparaja
49	Little Spiderhunter	Arachnothera longirostra



A well concealed Black-naped Oriole at Pasir Ris Park. Photo © Birding Singapore/Lim Kim Seng