

HKBWS

香港觀鳥會 The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society



bulletin

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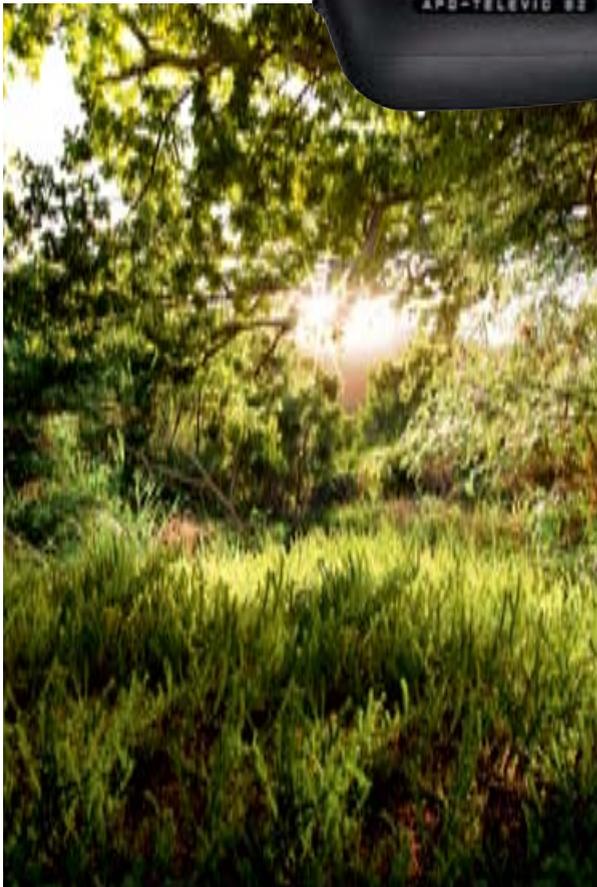
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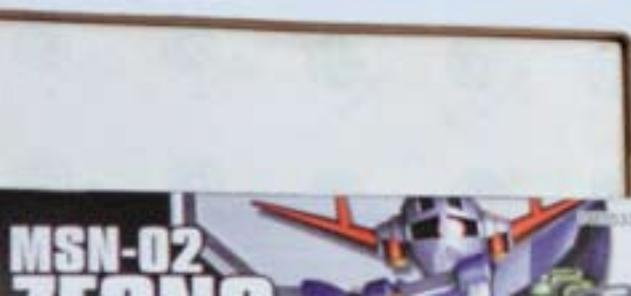
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Editor's Note

A "bumper" edition of the bulletin, with some tantalizing trip reports and a reminder in photographs of autumn migrants. Geoff Welch begins a series of articles about the birding seasons of Po Toi.

Nam Sang Wai features frequently as a location for photos in this bulletin and on the Society website. NSW is now threatened by the shadow of an intended housing/golf course development.

I urge every reader to take the time to view the HKBWS website "thread" on this topic and make

their views known to the developer, the Director of Lands and the Environment Secretary at the Email addresses given.

Although a coalition of "Green Groups" has made a submission opposing this project to Government, input by concerned individuals – as in the Long Valley Campaign – can still make a difference too.

We can't take any of our birding sites for granted, so, in the case for Nam Sang Wai, please, let's all exercise our Hong Kong freedom to speak out freely!



John Holmes

Society News and Projects

~ Lo Wai Yan

The Eighth Annual General Meeting & New Chairman of HKBWS

The 8th AGM was held on Sept 29th. Dr. Cheung Ho Fai who had been our Chairman for the last 6 years decided to resign from the post, but promised to contribute his invaluable service to the society and its members in the continuing future. The Society would like to express our heartfelt gratefulness to Dr. Cheung, under his guidance, the Society progressively expanded its scope of service and the number of members increased in twofold, now totaling over 1,500. Good news for members who relish his enthusiastic guiding and bountiful bird knowledge, Dr. Cheung will still help lead our outdoor birding activities, so don't miss out.

Mr. Lau Wai Man, former Education and Promotion Committee Chairman, agreed "reluctantly" to fill in Dr. Cheung's place as new Chairman of the Society. Mr. Lau appeals for the continuing support from members, for our work towards sustaining the harmony between man and birds of Hong Kong, and sharing the beauty of feathers.

Change of Staff

Ms Fion Cheung who had been with us for 5 years as Senior China Programme Officer, left the Society at the end of November. We thank her for her contribution in the China projects, her efforts had strengthened our ties and interflow with birding societies and birders in Mainland. We wish her every success in her new venture. Ms Vivian Fu will fill in the post and report to duty in mid December, we look forward to your support.

Our Conservation Officer Mr. Cheng Nok Ming, Beetle also report duty on mid December. Your support are also important too.

2011 Membership Renewal

Thank you for your continuous support and please remember to renew your subscription. You may send the completed subscription form with crossed cheque to the society. Alternatively, you may directly credit 'The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society Limited' account [Bank of China (HK) account no. 012-878-1-076439-9] and return the pay-in slip and the completed subscription form to the society.

Many thanks to Wendy Yu for her beautiful painting of the swallows and the refined design by Puk Yuk Yin.



HKBWS Hong Kong Bird Race 2011

Date : 9-10 Apr 2011
Details will be announced later

Elementary Bird Watching Course for Beginners

Date : 22 Feb 2011
(please see the attached leaflet for more details)

Members

Affairs



Crested Bulbul Club

1. Elderly leading elderly bird watching programme 2010 (June – Dec 2010)

The Club has been offering free lecture and outing to 9 elderly centres from Jun to Dec 2010. 255 and 114 people have attended the lecture and outings respectively.

2. Early Morning Bird Watchers

No. of participants in Hong Kong Park
from Aug – Nov 2010: 279

No. of participants in Kowloon Park
from Aug – Nov 2010: 459

3. Bird watching interpretation in Hong Kong Wetland Park

A total of 88 person-time participated from Oct-Nov 2010.

4. Bird watching services and activities

13 & 20 Nov 2010 Hong Kong Park Green Orienteering (about 60 members offering help)

20 Nov 2010 Fun fair in Kowloon

Bird Shop in HKBWS

Code	Sales Items	Member's price	Non-member's price
SOU0006	Cross Binocular Straps	HK\$60	HK\$80
B0016	A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Hong Kong (2010 edition)	HK\$240	HK\$270
B0018	Ecology of the Birds of Hong Kong (published by KFBG)	HK\$200	HK\$200
B00019	Birds of Hong Kong and South China	HK\$135	HK\$158
B00020	天地變何處安心 林超英著 (New)	HK\$65	HK\$78
B00021	A Field Guide to the Birds of China (Chinese edition)	HK\$110	HK\$130
B00022	台灣的貓頭鷹 (New)	HK\$155	HK\$170
B00023	深圳野生鳥類 (New)	HK\$90	HK\$100
SOU0007	2011 Calendar illustrated by Wendy Yu	HK\$35	HK\$40

Bird Watching Festival – Birds & Wetlands Funfair (6-7 Nov 2010)

The Festival was organized by the Hong Kong Wetland Park. We have participated in this festival by inviting 10 birdwatching organizations from Mainland China to manage a booth and to give a talk about the bird in their area. The organizations including: Beijing Bird Watching Society, Jiangsu Wild Birds Society, Kunming Birds Conservation Association, Shanghai Bird Watching Society, Wuhan Bird Watching Society, Shenzhen Bird Watching Society, Fujian Birdwatching Society, Xiamen Bird Watching Society, Zhejiang Wildbird Society and Chengdu Bird Watching Society.



Bird Watching Festival – The 11th Inter-school Bird Race (Nov 2010- Feb 2011)

The 11th Inter-school Bird Race is jointly organised by Hong Kong Wetland Park, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society and School of Biological Sciences, the University of Hong Kong, and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. It aims to promote bird watching activity in schools and enhance students to master their skills in ecological surveys through the training of watching birds and their ecological environments on one hand, and facilitates their team building capacity, as well as enrich their "Other Learning Experiences (OLE)" outside classroom. The race comprises 3 stages, including bird identification training and bird race (Stage 1); field survey and tour planning (Stage 2); and implementation of guided tour (Stage 3). At the end, two winning team will be selected and have a chance to join a study trip to wetlands in mainland China or overseas. The first stage was completed on 4 Dec 2010.

Many thanks to all involved volunteers and friends.



Hong Kong Park Green Orienteering (13 and 20 Nov 2010)

The 6th Hong Kong Park Green Hunt, jointly organized by Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society, continue to spreading fun and education to primary students about birds. 130 participants forming 28 teams, came from 15 primary schools join the championship. Special thanks have been given to the 60+ members of Crested Bulbul Club, Binnie Chan and Lilian Mak.

Result of the competition:



Winners of the Bird Hat Design Competition:

Rose-ringed Parakeet from LST Lau Tak Primary School, Black-crowned Night Heron from F.D.B.W.A. Chow Chin Yau School, Common Magpie from Tung Koon School (Sheung Shui)

Winners of the Hong Kong Park Green Orienteering

- Champion: Fork-tailed Sunbird from Tuen Mun Government Primary School
- First Runner-up: Common Kingfisher from Bishop Walsh School
- Second Runner-up: Little from Po Leung Kuk Chong Kee Ting Primary School

First Asian Bird Fair in Philippines (24-26 Sept 2010)

Many thanks to John Allcock, Samson So and Bond Shum attending the First Asian Bird Fair in Philippines.



2010 12th Taipei International Birdwatching Fair (13-14 Nov 2010)

Many thanks to Ada Chow and Ronley Lee attending the Birdwatching Fair in Taipei.



Hong Kong Photo Festival 2010: "Sea. Sky. Stars." Photography Exhibition

Organized by Hong Kong Photographic Culture Association and supported by HKBWS, HK Astronomical Society and underwater photographers. The exhibition was display from 6-10 Dec 2010 in Hong Kong Cultural Centre. We would like to express our gratitude to all supporting friends and photographers who have submitting their wondering pictures for the exhibition.

Nature Conservation Management for Long Valley 2010-2012

~ by Vicky Yeung

This October, we organized the 3rd Long Valley Eco-guides Training Course to recruit and train up more people to become eco-guides. Besides bird identification, trainees had to learn many different aspects of Long Valley such as ecology of wetland, village culture etc. It was not easy to equip them to become a certified eco-guides in the three-and-a-half days of training. Experience-sharing and assistance from current eco-guides was important. We also invited experts in different fields to give lectures. These new eco-guides will start leading tours in December. We will reserve some ecotour quotas for our members and the public. Details will be announced later on the HKBWS website.



Course
Long Valley first - Crested

The Paddy Rice that we have planted has been a success again. Many uncommon species were recorded on paddy fields such as Chinese

Penduline Tit, Eurasian Skylark, Yellow-browed Bunting, Rustic Bunting as well as a Long Valley "first" - Crested Bunting. It has been a wonderful and fruitful autumn. 12 bird species were added to the Long Valley list which is now 260 species. We hope that bird watchers and photographers will keep reporting their discoveries to the BBS to support the management project.



Bunting © Sam Chan

Class photo of the Eco-guides Training

Hong Kong ornithologist resolves 30-year riddle of China's most enigmatic bird Hong Kong grasslands crucial to survival of newly classified Chinese Grassbird

HKBWS Press Release 7 Oct 2010

Our senior member Mr Paul Leader and an international team of experts have resolved a 30-year mystery to reveal the true identity of Chinese Grassbird, a globally threatened species which depends on protection of grasslands in Hong Kong for its continuing survival.

Requiring trapping with mist nets on Hong Kong's highest mountain, sound recordings in the terai grasslands of Nepal, examination of 100-year-old skins in museums in Germany and England, securing export permits for blood and feather specimens from Government officials during the avian influenza outbreak, and DNA analysis of samples by Swedish biochemists, the story reads like a cross between an Indiana Jones adventure and an episode of CSI.

"Assembling the evidence that has led to the identification of Chinese Grassbird as a full species has been an interesting challenge," Paul Leader, the ornithologist who led the work. "But now we know how rare this bird is, the real work is ensure its survival. To do that we must protect and manage the grassland habitats it depends upon from the threats of development and reforestation."

Resolving the mystery

The mystery began when a large skulking warbler, first noted on Tai Mo Shan in the 1950s, was thought to be Brown Prinia. However a bird mist-netted by David Melville former Executive Director of WWF (Hong Kong) in 1982 proved to be Large Grass Warbler, a species which occurs from Hong Kong to Nepal.

But in 2006 DNA analysis of Large Grass Warbler showed that it was not a warbler at all, but belonged to a completely different family – the babblers, and it was renamed Rufous-rumped Grassbird, as it was thought to be the same species as a very similar bird found in Nepal, India and Bangladesh.

It was only last month when the final part of the mystery was resolved. Mr Leader and his collaborators showed that birds from the Indian subcontinent, and southern China were in fact different by analysing the vocalisations, structure and plumage, and the DNA of birds from both locations. They have proposed that the two species should now be called Chinese

Grassbird and Indian Grassbird. Full details can be found in the newly released Forktail paper, which was co-authored by Mr Leader.

The history of Chinese Grassbird

First recorded in Hainan in 1892 by tea merchant and ornithologist Frederick Styan, and with a range that once extended to grasslands in Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand, as well as Guangxi and Guangdong Provinces in China, Chinese



Grassbird, has only twice been seen away from Hong Kong in the last 80 years.

The first of these records was from Shiwandashan in Guangxi in May 1997, and the second, in May 2001 was from Wutong Shan - the mountain that lies directly across the border from Robin's Nest at the western end of the Frontier Closed Area. Curiously, both records were made by another Hong Kong ornithologist, Lee Kwok-shing, while conducting surveys for Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden.

The need for active conservation

Because it is found in low densities and difficult to detect – it rarely sings or calls – and is found mostly in remote mountainous areas, including Tai Mo Shan, Lantau Peak, and Robin's Nest, the population of Chinese Grassbird is poorly known. Initial estimates suggest that there are no more than 50-100 pairs in Hong Kong – giving a maximum known global population of just 200 birds.

In Hong Kong Chinese Grassbird is found in low densities in grassland and dwarf bamboo habitats between 200 and 800 metres – and much of this habitat is protected within Hong Kong's Country Parks. However, as Hong Kong continues to become greener and grassland becomes forest through a natural process called succession, the area of habitat available to this bird is shrinking steadily. In lowland areas outside the Country Parks, its habitat is also threatened by housing and infrastructure development.

As a result, in order to effectively protect the Chinese Grassbird, it is very important that sufficient grassland habitat is identified and actively managed to prevent further development and to prevent grasslands becoming forest (in which the birds cannot survive).

Mike Kilburn, Vice Chairman of Hong Kong Bird Watching Society called on the Hong Kong Government to take immediate steps to protect Chinese Grassbird and the habitat it depends on. This will require an accurate assessment of the current population, ecology and habitat requirements of the bird, as well as an assessment of the total area, quality and threats to its habitat. These would serve as essential steps in the development and the development and implementation of a species conservation plan that would ensure a secure future for Chinese Grassbird in Hong Kong.



Mai Po Update

~ Bena Smith

Summary graphs on Mai Po bird trends

A simple report showing the abundance of birds inside the Mai Po Nature Reserve can now be downloaded from the WWF website <<http://www.wwf.org.hk/en/whatwedo/conservation/wetlands/managemaiipo/researchprogramme/wwfreportplans>>. The report covers the 5-year period between 2006 - 2010 and the data was collected through our 'Morning Bird Count' which is part of the Reserve's Baseline Ecological Monitoring Programme.

Although the data is intended to inform management decisions, it does however provide a very useful analysis of species trends from the gei wai / pond / bund areas for both waterbirds and terrestrial birds. The graphs allow for quick comparisons such as which years / seasons were relatively 'good' or 'bad' for particular species at the Reserve. Species abundance is also summarized per 'half month' to illustrate changes across a full 1-year cycle.

Despite the graphs only covering a 5-year period, lots of interesting information can be gleaned from them. For example over the last 5 years species such as Yellow Bittern, Striated Heron, Eurasian Coot and White-throated Kingfisher (Figure 1a) appear to be on a gradual decline, conversely others such as Great Cormorant, Collared Crow and Common Tailorbird are slowly increasing; Autumn 2006 was relatively good for Oriental Reed Warbler, whilst 2007-08 was poor for Chinese Pond Heron; White-throated Kingfisher disappear from Mai Po in April and May (Figure 1b), etc. Not perhaps cutting edge stuff, but for the regular Mai Po birder these snippets of information can be quite interesting.

Graphs are only produced for the more frequently recorded species during counts, but if you are interested in other species, data sheets from each count (24 each year) can be accessed through the WWF website.

Summary graphs for White-throated Kingfisher

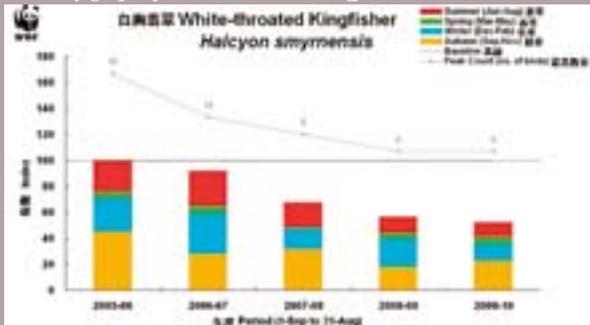


Figure 1a

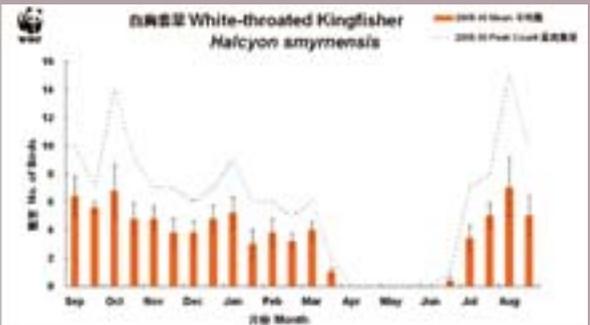


Figure 1b

Restoration of open water at the landward end of Gei wai #16/17



Credit : Bena Smith
Restored sballow water habitat at the Scrape

Over the summer 3 new wetland areas surrounding Gei wai #16/17 were successfully restored. The project was funded by the 2010 Big Bird Race, so once again a big thank you to those involved.

One of the restored areas is an extension to the Gei wai #16/17 high-tide roost (or the 'Scrape') which is now a ~16 ha area of shallow water with islands. Looking back through paper records I discovered it was Sir Bert Axel who recommended its construction at Mai Po in his 1983 proposal to set up the Mai Po Marshes. His suggestion was based on the success of a similar roost at the RSPB's Minsmere Nature Reserve in the United Kingdom. Later records also show the Scrape's creation - the removal of an earth bund between gei wai #16 and gei wai #17 - started in the summer of 1985.

Happy 25th birthday to the Scrape; hope you liked the HK\$1million make over!



Po Toi Winter

~ Geoff Welch

This is first of four articles, each covering one season, one for this and each of the next three Bulletins, with some of the background and highlights of the years 2006-2010 on Po Toi. Hopefully with something new and interesting in each.

Firstly, a chart showing the number of species seen on each day I have been on Po Toi during the period 2006-2010 (Fig 1)

Daily Non-resident Landbird Species Count

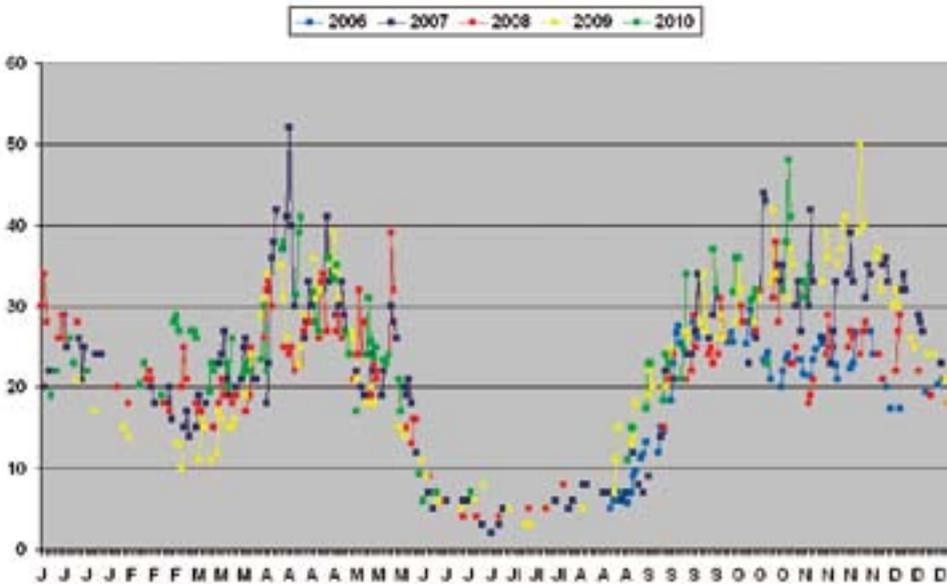


Figure 1. Daily Non-resident Species Count – Po Toi 2006-2010

Autumn migration has finished by mid December, the days are short and the birds that will be there for the winter are settled in. But for one species at least, the period from mid December to mid January is the peak time of the year - Scaly-breasted Munia. Up to 100 of these birds appear each year from nowhere to feed off the seeding elephant grass, dozens of them on a single stem bending under their weight. I don't know where they come from, where they go to or even how they know it's there - I presume the older birds lead the way. But I never see Scaly-breasted Munia in these numbers at other times so they must come from off the island somewhere. And by mid January they are gone, off to feed on some other winter seeds somewhere else.

Winter is a quiet time on Po Toi. It does not have enough habitat to support a large wintering population of any species, so numbers are generally low. But it's noticeable that numbers decline as the winter progresses with mid to end February being the low point, both for individual species and total number of species (see Fig 1). Where 25 may be the average number of non-resident species at the beginning of January, it's down to 15 by the middle of February. Mike Leven mentions this decline in his chapter on Shrubland and Grassland in 'Ecology of the Birds of Hong Kong' (p128), suggesting it is 'too marked and regular to be (solely) caused by mortality, so must be due to birds moving out seeking food in other locations' and I guess this happens on Po Toi also.



Chinese Thrush
- 16 February 2006,
the first photo
of this bird



Eagle Owl -
1 January
2008, photo by
Kinni



Red-breasted Flycatcher -
31 January 2008



Siberian Rubythroat -
13 February 2008

Hard weather movements are rare on Po Toi but late January/early February 2008 was a particularly severe period, with the longest cold spell for 40 years according to HKO. This had a noticeable effect on certain species. Two Siberian Rubythroats suddenly appeared in the area around the ferry pier, probably having come down from the hillside scrubland and giving an unprecedented opportunity to see this species at close hand. Increases in the numbers of other chats and thrushes were quite significant and must have been due to birds arriving from off the island. But the most significant effect of the cold weather was on Yellow-browed Warbler. This species disappeared from early February and was not seen again until the following October. Whether the birds died out or moved on I don't know but I suspect the former. It's interesting to compare this with Pallas's Leaf Warbler, which seemed to be quite unaffected by the cold with no change in numbers at all and must be a much hardier species. I'm sure the same fate as the Yellow-browed Warbler happened to a wintering Red-breasted Flycatcher which chose the wrong winter to stay on Po Toi. It disappeared on January 31, having spent its last few days desperately searching for something to eat on the ground - always a bad sign for a flycatcher.

Scaly-breasted Munia –
4 December 2008

Occasional visitors are the spice of life during the long winter, on Po Toi as anywhere. Hoopoes are quite regular, as are Common Rosefinches and Brown-headed Thrush sometimes turns up. Chestnut Bulbuls have invaded in two winters, 2006/7 and 2009/10 and two different Black-headed Buntings were seen in winter 2009/10. A pair of Japanese Quail spent the 2009/10 winter on the South Peninsula but my favourite occasional was the Eagle Owl found by Mike Kilburn at 5.30pm on the First of January 2008. A wonderful start to what was, unfortunately, a rather poor year but the sight of Kinni running up 50 concrete steps carrying a 600mm lens to get a photo before the ferry left was a moment to savour.

The timing of the Eagle Owl and other similar incidents are the origin of the expression 'what's the best time to see birds on Po Toi?' - 5 minutes before the ferry leaves' or the more macabre '5 minutes after the ferry has left'.

Not many seabirds are seen in winter, although this may be more due to my reluctance to seawatch in cold weather. A few Heuglin's Gulls start to arrive in southern waters in February prior to their northward migration in March, sometimes with an Ancient Murrelet. A Temminck's Cormorant in January 2007 has, to my knowledge, never been accepted by the Rarities Committee, but I think a Red-throated Diver in February 2008 and a Black-legged Kittiwake in the same month of 2010 will probably make it.

Spring migration usually starts with the first Barn Swallow in early February and is underway for other species such as Common Sandpiper by mid February. Which brings me to my favourite moment of all on Po Toi. At 1.30pm on 16 February 2006, I saw a thrush fly round the corner by the ferry pier. 'Good chance to photograph a White's Thrush' I thought. As I rounded the corner, I saw its head pop up from a rock and took a photo. As I did so, I could see the bird clearly in the viewfinder and it struck me - that's not a White's Thrush but what is it? And the rest is history.

The Chinese Thrush (as it was) was the first and still is, for me at least, the best rarity in my time on Po Toi. It was wonderfully photogenic and stayed around long enough for everyone to see it. An Orange-breasted Green Pigeon which was found two days later by a group looking for the thrush was the icing on the cake. Without these two birds I doubt Po Toi would have developed as it did.

I'm sure that both birds arrived on a rare and very warm February south west wind which happened on the previous two days. As land animals we underestimate how important wind and its direction is to a migrant bird - it's the difference between walking uphill or downhill for us. The next Bulletin covers Po Toi Spring, the most exciting season of the year on Po Toi, when wind and weather can sometimes combine to make life difficult for a migrant bird.

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Orange-breasted Green Pigeon –
18 February 2006,
photo by PWMK



Finding Potential New Breeding Sites of the Critically Endangered Chinese Crested Tern in Fujian Province

~ Fion Cheung



Chinese Egret
(© Fujian Bird Watching Society)

Chinese Crested Tern, which has a global population of less than 50, breeds only in Matsu (Fujian Province) and Jiushan Archipelago (Zhejiang Province). In view of the long coastline of Fujian Province, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society cooperated with Fujian Bird Watching Society to conduct coastal seabird surveys in 2009 and 2010 with the aim of finding potential new breeding sites of Chinese Crested Tern. The surveys were supported by Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong, and BirdLife International.



Fishermen collecting marine resources and bird eggs on island threaten the breeding seabirds there (© Fujian Bird Watching Society)

A lot of Black-tailed Gull were recorded on Taishan Archipelago (© Fujian Bird Watching Society)

In the period May to August 2009 and May to September 2010, 15 surveys visiting 7 archipelagoes and 3 other islands were conducted. Although no CCT were discovered in the surveys, islands where other seabird species bred were identified, including Shuangpi Dao of Changle Dongluo Archipelago, Sishuang Archipelago, Qixing Archipelago, Riyu Island, Taishan Archipelago and Xingzai Archipelago. Besides seabirds, Dollarbird, Tiger Shrike, Black-naped Oriole, Paradise Flycatcher, White-throated Rock Thrush, Narcissus Flycatcher, Mugimaki Flycatcher and Chinese Goshawk were also recorded. This shows that coastal uninhabited islands are important passage points for migratory forest birds.

The project results raised awareness of protection of seabirds among Mainland government departments and led to a meeting with the Fujian Provincial Departments of Ocean and Fisheries, Environmental Protection and Forestry on 17th July 2010. The Department of Ocean and Fisheries assured the meeting that they would fully support and work with Fujian Bird Watching Society towards seabird conservation in Fujian. In addition, although the land of Changle Dongluo Archipelago has been sold for industrial development by the Ministry of Land and Resources of Changle City in February 2010, the action was stopped by the Fujian Provincial People's Government after news media exposure and quotation of the FJBWS survey results. The local government of Changle city even had to claim back the sold land.

Bridled Tern (© Fujian Bird Watching Society)



White-bellied Sea Eagles

When the northerlies arrive and mercury begins to fall, the White-bellied Sea Eagles also prepare for breeding. With the first record from 1913, there are now about 10 pairs regularly breeding in Hong Kong.

These birds usually build their nests on islands or coastal cliffs, sites away from human interference, and protect their territory fiercely, driving away intruders such as Black Kites, crows and magpies.



There was a time when I spent long hours observing and recording the behaviour of a breeding pair of White-bellied Sea Eagles. I feel very close to this bird every time I see one. Looking through the telescope, the distance seems to have disappeared between us, scenes from years ago begin to appear in my mind, like it was only yesterday.

I spent 3 years in the field monitoring the behaviour of a pair of White-bellied Sea Eagles. They would use branches and dried weeds to build their nest, and the pair would perform duet calls and aerial displays to bond their relationship. After weeks of patient watching and waiting in the chilling winds, I finally saw the pair mate in the midst of their calls. It was a moment of great emotion, I felt tears in my eyes as I continued to press the shutter. I could still feel the impact of the moment when I went through the slides again years later.

When the egg was laid after mating, the female spent most of its time brooding, the male only took over temporarily when the female went looking for food. While sitting in the nest, the female would examine the eggs beneath it from time to time, as if to check the incubation progress or preparing itself for the new arrival. On the other hand, the male stayed close to the nest, at times hovering low in the air, at times giving out low calls, just like a father waiting anxiously outside the delivery room. In fact, the pair was not alone in their anxiety, the feeling was passed on to me through the telescope, and I was just as restless and excited.

At the end of six long weeks, on this day the female in the nest looked agitated, I looked closely through the scope, lo and behold, the moment of joy finally arrived! Beneath the female hid a white fuzzy ball, about the size of a fist, the little chick was beating its featherless wings, probably stretching! The female tore apart the big fish brought home by the male with its razor-sharp beak, and then gently and slowly, began to feed shreds of meat into the chick's tiny mouth, with movements so soft and full of motherly love. On the other hand, the male stepped up its territorial patrol, chasing away any possible threat to the healthy growth of the chick. As a consequent, all large birds in the neighborhood including the kites, magpies and crows, were turned into targets of the male's attack.

Another two months went by, under the parents' tender loving care, the 'white' hairy ball had become a big and strong juvenile eagle, almost the size of its parents, with handsome dark brown feathers. I felt lucky to be able to witness the birth and growth of the young eagle, and before I knew it, I was already drawn to it by a special feeling. On a sunny day in winter, with even greater luck, I watched as the young bird left the nest. At that moment, The song of R. Kelly ran through my mind amidst the background roar of strong winds and high waves. "I believe I can fly. I believe I can touch the sky. I think about it every night and day. Spread my wings and fly away. I believe I can soar. I see me running through that open door. I believe I can fly"

White-bellied Sea Eagles soar between the sea and the sky, somersault through the clouds, and play at the ends of high waves. As a bird lover and nature photographer, I am deeply attracted

by these beautiful and valiant raptors. They belong to nature, to the land dwelling homo sapiens, these birds are angels beyond reach. As a researcher, my mission is to watch and record the scientific data. But through the lenses of the telescope and camera, a delicate relationship has already developed. Every time a White-bellied Sea Eagle appears in the sky, my feeling soars, as if I can also fly through the sky and play amongst the clouds, my heart opens and nothing seems to matter. Well, after all we are sharing the same sky, it's not so strange that we share same feelings.

Today, the territory that was once the feeding habitat for the White-bellied Sea Eagles has become a virtual dreamland of firework shows and float parades going on night after night. When the northerlies blow and mercury drops, it's time for me to carry my telescope and search everywhere looking for birds. With information grown from the expanded network of photographers and bird watchers, the White-bellied Sea Eagle is no longer a rare bird shroud with mystery. Still, the sight of the bird always reminds me of the days when I travelled through land's end, tented out on beaches, ducked in hideouts, all that, just to be with the eagles. The eagles family that captivated several years of my life, with the calls of the adults that carry far and long, the snowy white shadow, the innocent look in the eyes of the chick, and its adorable features, all these have been etched deeply in my heart and will stay with me forever.



A VISIT TO FINLAND

~ Christina Y.M. Chan

Finland, a country in Northern Europe with 35 National Parks, over 69% with forest coverage, is a country with some of the highest forest coverage in the world. During my visit in June, I could see that the Finnish have tried their best to protect nature starting from national parks to wetlands. Their efforts have helped preserve the beautiful scenery and the living environment for the birds. What most impressed me was that the Finnish have a heartfelt concern for nature.

Bird watching is the activity that you cannot miss during a visit to Finland. Oulu regional wetland, also named Liminganlahti, is located at 64°N and 25°E, in the northern part of Finland, and is recognized as an important bird area (IBA) by BirdLife International. The area includes sea bays, archipelagoes, farmland, and the outskirts of Oulu city. Habitat types include extensive coastal meadows, early succession young deciduous forests, dry meadows, cattle-grazed farmland, sand beaches, sand dunes, lagoons and inhabited areas.

Finland is an important breeding site for many northern species. Bird species with breeding records at the Oulu region wetlands include Common Crane, Red-breasted Merganser, Great Bittern, Northern Harrier, Spotted Crake, Ruff and Short-eared Owl. However, the wetland is affected by over-grazing, overgrowth of wetlands and nutrient pollution. Conversely, active cultivation of farmland has benefited birds by providing large feeding grounds, especially for geese and cranes.

At the Oulu Wetland, I stayed at the Liminganlahti Visitor Centre. The Centre has a bird-watching tower and bird hides designed for bird watchers. The centre also has a cafe, restaurant, accommodation, meetings and sauna facilities, so it is popular with Finland environmental groups and bird conservation societies.

The restaurant of Liminganlahti Visitor Centre has an exhibition area where visitors can see and enjoy beautiful bird photographs and also enjoy their meals at the same time. The most delicious Finnish meal of my trip was taken there when the chefs cooked fresh salmon for me in Finnish style. It tasted very different to eating salmon sashimi in Hong Kong.

The Visitor Centre also provides accommodation for bird watchers. 6 en-suite rooms are named after different bird species such as Little Tern, Whooper Swan. Each room can accommodate 2-3 visitors. During my stay, I relaxed in the room with a coffee and surfed the Internet, and also observed birds through the window at the same time. This gives me a feeling that there are only birds in the world! If you want to see the northern lights, I would recommend staying in that Visitor Centre.

Apart from wetland birds, you can also try to join a bird watching tour to find more woodland birds in Oulu. Finland is a good place to see woodland birds. Along forest roads and tracks between Oulu and Kuusamo I have ticked 5 species of owls, as well as several types of woodpeckers, cranes and grouse.

European countries have always impressed me with their attempts at good environmental management, public awareness of environmental issues and beautiful natural scenery. These

positive aspects inspire me to return again and again. After this trip, I have reflected deeply on environmental conservation work in Hong Kong. When I was studying environmental management in University I learned of plenty of good case studies from different overseas countries. However, our society cannot apply those good examples as a reference in Hong Kong for setting up better management policy. Some foreign governments set up environmental legislation by employing money as a tool first. For example, using reward and punishment methods to encourage citizens to reduce their energy consumption, reduce waste and develop the “reuse and recycle” concept. Overseas, citizens are encouraged to join outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, birds and wildlife watching, in order to develop healthy attitudes towards nature and enjoyment of life.

However, in Hong Kong many people put their own interests first. Environmental issues in Hong Kong have included the implementation of the plastic bag tax, an anti-shark fin soup campaign, the “idling vehicles” ban, rural land use problems highlighted by the Tai Long Sai Wan situation, and conflicts over the extension of the landfill site in Tseung Kwan O. Everywhere we can see the difficulty of enforcing compliance with “greener” policies. The difficulty originates from two aspects, first, the Hong Kong Government does not have long-term planning on environmental issues. Second, there is resistance from some sectors of the public. When an environmental policy affects the interests of some people, they would prefer to be against the policy. This has resulted in compromised standards of legislation.

Besides, bird watchers also set their self-benefit on the first priority when doing bird watching or bird photographing. When there are rare birds species recorded in Hong Kong, the photographers and bird watchers would strive to be the first to watch or photograph the birds. In order to take bird flying pictures or special pictures, some photographers even ignore the welfare of the birds or other animals.

When I stayed at Liminganlahti, I was impressed by the many functions of this Visitor Centre. I will not discuss the Hong Kong's wetland policy here. But I would highly recommend that similar services could be applied in Hong Kong, so that visitors can be accommodated close to the wetland and then can freely access the boardwalk and bird hides. That could facilitate nature education in Hong Kong. As a nature educator, I would prefer to lead people to walk into the nature and teach them nature appreciation. Education should be the most efficient way to build up environmental awareness in our society.



翻石鹬
陳家強
西貢

Ruddy Turnstone
Issac Chan
Sai Kung

29.08.2009
DSLR Camera, 300mm lens+ 1.7x
teleconverter



三趾濱鶉
陳美蓮
泥涌

Sandlerling
Mandy Chan
Nai Chung

03.10.2010
DSLR Camera, 300mm f/4 lens





矛斑蝗鶯
郭匯昌
九龍公園

Lanceolated Warbler
Andy Kwok
Kowloon Park

08.11.2009
DSLR Camera, 500mm f/4 lens



暗綠柳鶯
何建業
蒲台

Greenish Warbler
Ho Kin Yip
Po Toi

17.10.2009
DSLR Camera, 600mm f/4 lens + 1.4x teleconverter



白喉林鶉
Geoff Welch
蒲台

Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher
Geoff Welch
Po Toi

08.10.2009
DSLR Camera, 300mm f/4 lens+
1.4x teleconverter



赤腹鷹
Geoff Welch
蒲台

Chinese Goshawk
Geoff Welch
Po Toi

14.09.2010
DSLR Camera, 300mm f/4 lens+ 1.4x teleconverter

小灰山椒鳥
何建業
蒲台

Swinhoe's Minivet
Ho Kin Yip
Po Toi

10.10.2010
DSLR Camera, 600mm f/4 lens + 1.4x teleconverter



中杜鵑
葉紀江
蒲台

Oriental Cuckoo
Ip Kee Kong Herman
Po Toi

09.09.2010
DSLR Camera, 300mm f/2.8 lens+
2x teleconverter



Birding Trip to Yang County, Shaanxi Province



I had the privilege to go birding with Amy, Cherry, Eliza and Koel to Yang County, Shaanxi Province for seven days. It was quite rewarding as we were able to see approximately one hundred and ten species. Thanks to Mr. Hwa Ying from the Bird Watching Society of Shaanxi Province and driver Mr. Li for their kind assistance.

7th August. First day of the trip. An early start in Hong Kong to Shenzhen airport for an onward flight to Xi'an. Arrived Xi'an at 3pm. We headed to Yang County after a short break by minivan. The scenery was spectacular with the highway surrounded by the rolling hills. We kept watching to see if there was any raptors around but only Chinese Bulbul and Barn Swallows were seen. A two-hour drive took us to Qinling Service Area. Having passed through more than two hundred tunnels, we were then at an altitude of above 1,000 meters. Birds started showing up including Collared Crow, Large-billed Crow, Common Magpie and an unknown buzzard was sitting on the top of the mountain. Another hour drive brought us to our destination - "The House of Crested Ibis" - home of Professor Hwa Ying in Yang County. It was about 7pm and numerous egrets were flying back to their roosting sites including Little Egret, Cattle Egrets and Night Herons but no Crested Ibis yet.

Day two. We woke up early to find our target bird - Crested Kingfisher. It was quite birdy on the way up to the river. Chinese Bamboo Partridge, Yellow-throated Bunting (Juv), Ashy Drongo, Hair-crested Drongo, Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler (heard), Eurasian Jay, White-crowned Forktail, Grey-capped Greenfinch, Asian Barred Owlet (two), White-browed Laughingthrush in large number and Oriental Turtle Dove (Spotted Dove does not occur) were seen. Additions to the list included Collared Finchbill, Daurian Redstart, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Grey-headed Woodpecker (three), Brown-breasted Bulbul and an Oriental Honey-buzzard seen soaring high in the sky. Finally I saw my dream bird - Crested Kingfisher around the stream in the lowlands. It is a large and adorable kingfisher. At the same time, Striated Heron, Brown Dipper and Russet Sparrow were feeding along the river. A nest of Dollarbird was also spotted and they were quite busy at the moment. Koel and I went up to the mountains hoping to find more birds, leaving Amy, Cherry and Eliza there enjoying their time for bird photography. Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Rufous-faced Warbler, Red-rumped Swallow (numerous) and a falcon were seen. While we were heading down, I fell onto the ground and my digital camera was broken, though I have not injured myself. Thanks to the help of Koel I managed to descend from the mountain. We went back to The House of Crested Ibis for lunch and two Black Baza and Yellow-bellied Tit (juv) were seen. We were attracted by a group of Black-throated Tit on the way back. While we were enjoying our time with the tits, two Fire-capped Tits and Grey-faced Buzzard appeared. A welcoming Common Pheasant was crossing the road which was so interesting. After having our specialty lunch (a kind of distinctive noodles) we headed to find Asian Paradise Flycatchers. I was the only one among the group who haven't seen APF, in other words, I was the most anxious person to see one. While we were looking for the APF, Black-naped Oriole, Swinhoe's Minivet, Black-capped Kingfisher, Yellow-rumped Flycatcher were seen. Finally we found the APF both in white and brown plumage but they were all short-tailed. I believe Cherry must be very disappointed as she loves the long-tailed APF very much. We headed towards the rocky shore after we finished shooting the APF. A Crested Ibis and Ibisbill were seen at a distance. The Ibisbill does not look like a normal sandpiper. It was grooming its feathers. We could only see it through the telescope which added a sense of mystery to me. Late at night, stargazing was not possible as it was cloudy. Surprisingly, three geese were flying over. It was strange.

9th August. The main activity of the day was photographing the Crested Ibis, Crested Kingfisher and two Long-billed Plovers. They had taken up almost all the capacity of our memory cards. Fortunately Eliza and Koel brought their notebooks with them so that back-up could be made. Wood Sandpiper, Yellow Wagtail and Red-billed Starling were added to our lists.

On the fourth day of our trip, we left Yang County to Taibaishan Evergreen Reserve to try our luck. Professor Hwa said he had seen a Tawny Fish Owl some days ago. I am an owl maniac and I was so eager to see one. I promised to sing a song if we could have the luck to see one. On the way to Taibaishan, we saw Streak-breasted Scimitar, two Spot-breasted Scimitar, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Yellow-bellied Tit, Chinese Goshawk, Crested Goshawk, Brown-breasted Flycatcher (Juv) and five Golden Pheasant. The male Gold Pheasant was so gorgeous but no good pictures were taken as I stayed inside the car. After several hours of drive-and-sleep finally we arrived at Taibaishan, which is about 1,700 meters above sea level. We cannot go into the protected area directly as we needed to deal with the red tape. As a result we can only go inside the protected area the other day. We spent our time along the roads outside the protected area and a Red-billed Leiothrix, White-collared Yuhina, Daurian Redstart and an unknown woodpecker were seen. In addition, a lot of wild snub-nosed monkey were around. We spent two nights on the mountain range where private facilities were not available. As altitude was high and temperature was low, taking a shower in that environment would have been a luxury.





Day 5. We entered into the Evergreen Protected Area and songs of Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler and Large-billed Leaf Warbler were always around. One Little Forktail and two Wood Pigeon were seen. Our target bird of the day was Blood Pheasant. Unfortunately we couldn't see any Blood Pheasant after a long wait in its territory. Driver Li said he heard the calls of Blood Pheasant but vegetation was too dense to spot it. It was disappointing. However, we still saw the Yellow-bellied Tit, Coal Tit, Buff-barred Warbler, Wood Pigeon, Spotted Nutcracker (three) and an unknown woodpecker. We drove to the top of the mountain and quite a number of Hwamei and Spotted Nutcracker were heard. Two Grey-headed Bullfinch appeared. We sat on the hillside for a short break with a cool breeze blowing and rolling mountains as the foreground picture. It was so relaxing as birds chirping around and was so poetic. After the break, we began to walk down from the mountain leaving the car behind us. All the way down we had seen Green-backed Tit, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Rusty-breasted Tit, Elliot's Laughingthrush, Blyth's Leaf Warbler, Dark-sided Flycatcher, a very confiding Large-billed Leaf Warbler. A very shy Grey-crested Tit was also seen. It was quite quiet at noon and we all rested inside the car until 4pm. We started walking down again and found a Common/Oriental Cuckoo. A bright-red-bird feeding on the nectar caught our attention (initially we thought it was a Mrs. Gould's Sunbird but eventually it was a Vinaceous Rosefinch). A Grey-headed Flycatcher was found inside a mixed group of

warblers. We were trying to search the Tawny Fish Owl along the river at dusk but out of our expectation a Pygmy Wren Babbler was found. At last, only Violet Whistling Thrush, a dozen Wood Pigeon, a black squirrel and a big buzzard were seen. No trace of owls. Back to our accommodation, a Daurian Redstart welcomed us and a friendly Chinese Bamboo Partridge was close by. A Common Pheasant was calling. That's the end of the day in the protected area.

12th August. A good start early in the morning with a flying Grey-headed Woodpecker and a perching Great-spotted Woodpecker. It was the most fruitful day of the whole trip (for me). Unfortunately Professor Hwa was not feeling well today and had to go to the hospital. We were led by Driver Li to find birds on the outskirts of the Evergreen Protected Area. We started from a stream which we found Plumbeous Redstart, Crested Kingfisher, Brown Dipper, Yellow-throated Bunting (male), Grey-capped Greenfinch, Blue Magpie. A group of Japanese White-eyes, Tits, White-throated Laughingthrush, a friendly Brownish-flanked Leaf Warbler, two White-bellied squirrel, and a Chinese Bamboo Partridge were found inside the woodland. At about 10am, Koel suggested to go inside the "wild boar forest" for a walk. We noticed a big raptor and thought it was a Bonelli's Eagle but Koel confirmed that it was a Mountain Hawk Eagle. This is my second dream-bird. We then climbed up to the top of the hill along the trail. A group of Black-throated Laughingthrush were seen and one particular Grey-headed Woodpecker was found inside the group of laughingthrush. Eurasian Jay and its nest was seen. While we were taking pictures of a Plumbeous Redstart, Driver Li said a buzzard appeared right on the top of the tree. We looked around and finally found a large owl. At first I thought it was Tawny Fish Owl but majority of the opinions suggested it should be an Eagle Owl. Finally we confirmed that it was indeed a Tawny Fish Owl when we returned to The House of Crested Ibis for further checking. When we saw the Tawny Fish Owl, I was so excited that I couldn't hold my camera tight. It was Driver Li who took my tripod for me so that I could get a record picture of it. The image of this owl was carved in my mind (of course, finally I needed to sing as promised). We returned to Yang County later the same day and took pictures of four lovely Long-billed Plovers. At the same time, Peregrine Falcon, Black-capped Kingfisher and Sand Martin were seen. On our return leg to The House of Crested Ibis, an Asian Barred Owllet and Common Pheasant (male) were seen. A group of Red-rumped Swallows and Barn Swallows were roosting. I could hear quite clearly the calls of Asian Barred Owllet from my room during the night but it turned out it was the calls of a dog who imitated the call.



13th August. Our last day of the trip. Calls from Collared Scops Owl, Blackbird and Long-tailed Shrike broke out the dawn. A Kestrel was attacking a night heron at a distance. We said farewell to Professor Hwa and planned going to Highway No. 108 for birding. A sudden rain forced us to abort our plan and we could only bird from the car along the dirt track. After the rain stopped, we found a number of Asian House Martin around the river bank. Two Brown Dippers and one Plumbeous Redstart were also spotted. Rain started again so we decided to return to Xi'an. Finally we saw a Spotted Dove, and it was the only one for the whole journey. After lunch, Driver Li took us to Xi'an Airport and we said goodbye to him. This bird-watching trip draws to a perfect ending here.

This is my second birding trip outside Hong Kong. I am so grateful to have Professor Hwa and Driver Li for finding us so many birds. My sincere regards to them. Of course, I indebted to my good friends Amy, Cherry, Eliza and Koel for planning this trip and taking care of me during the whole journey. I gained a lot from this trip and this is the most memorable 7-day in my life. I will cherish the memories, and hope in the near future and go birding with them again either in China or overseas.

**Interested parties
may check the
following links**

Crested Ibis Association <http://zhuhuanainiao.blog.163.com/>
 Bird Forum <http://www.birdnet.cn/>
 ChinaBirdGalley <http://www.wfchina.org/birdgallery/>
 Shaanxi Province Bird Watching Society <http://www.sxbird.org/bbs/index.php/>



Birding at Shannan Region, south-east Tibet

~ Carrie Ma

A birding trip was organised from 12 to 19 September, 2010 to cover the area around Cona (錯那) and Zara (扎日) at the Shannan area (山南地帶) of the south-east Tibet Autonomous Region (Map 1). Cona borders Bhutan (不丹) and Tawang (達旺) now administered by India as "Arunachal Pradesh". Both Cona and Zara are near the controversial McMahon Line (麥克馬洪線) within China.

The area is part of an extensive forested area shared with the rest of the eastern Himalayan range. Distinctly different habitats occur at different altitudes. In general, between 2,500-3,500m are mixed pine and broadleaf forest; at 3,500-4,000m coniferous forest; at 4,000 - 4,500m are rhododendron and dense scrub; and above 4,500m are rocky slopes, shrubs and montane grassland. The area at Shongsep Temple (雄色寺) near Lhasa (拉薩) and by the Yarlung Zangbo River (雅魯藏布江), comprises extensive farmlands, dry valleys and shrublands.

A special border permit is needed to access Cona and Lhunzi county (隆子縣). We flew from Shenzhen (深圳) to Chengdu (成都) on 12 September, stayed there overnight, and then travelled to Lhasa (拉薩) by the early morning flight, to allow more time for the permit application.



Map 1

Map showing birding locations from 13-19 September 2010 at the Shannan Region

Lhasa to Cona (13 September)

We landed at Lhasa airport at 8am, and we were lucky that we could get the permit before noon. Therefore, we changed our plan and instead of spending the day in Shongsep Temple, we went straight to Cona with the following itinerary:

12:00 - 15:00

Lhasa (3580m) to Zedang (澤當鎮) at Nêdong county (乃東縣) (3680m) with a distance of 160km. Lunch at Gonggar county (貢嘎縣)

15:00 - 19:30

Zedang to Cona (4210m), a distance of 220km, including going through the mountain pass of Mt. Yarla Shampo (雅拉香布雪山) at altitude 4954m. The road condition was quite good. There is a checkpoint at Subo Xian (俗波鄉) near the road leading to Lhunzi, we were asked to provide our identity documents and the border permit.

19:30 -

Evening at Cona

There was not much vegetation on our way to Cona. Much of the areas along the Yarlung Zangbo River (雅魯藏布江) at S202 road are farmlands and pastures. A number of Oriental Turtle Doves and Hill Pigeons, including good views of Grey-backed Shrikes, a Robin Acentor, and a White-winged Redstart were seen along the way, as well as Brown-cheeked Laughingthrushes at the shrubs near farmlands. We also encountered many high plateau mammals including Tibetan Gazelles, Black-lipped Pikas, and Himalayan Marmots.

Cona to Lebu Valley (14 September)

The Cona county has a size of about 34 times that of Hong Kong, but the population is about 15,000. We started our day early in the morning, with the following itinerary:

07:00 - 10:00

Cona town to the entrance Mama Valley (麻瑪溝) (entrance of Lebu Valley (勒布溝) (4500-4000m), 25km

10:00 - 12:30

Mama Valley to Mama Xian (麻瑪鄉) (4000-2800m), 15km

13:00 - 18:30

Mama Xian to Le Xian (勒鄉) (4000-2800m), 10km

18:30 -

Dinner and evening at Le Xian

The habitat here was quite diverse, from farmland, pastures and area without forest at Cona, with a sudden change to a wet upland area with moss and shrubs along a river catchment known as Mama Valley (plain shrubland at 4200m, good for Himalayan Monal!), then down the valley along the driving path to a large forested area known as Lebu Valley. On the way down the valley, we went into a short side trail, where one of my companions saw a Temmick's Tragopan and some Red-headed Bullfinches. The valley leads south along the Liangjiang River (娘江曲) to the forested area along the Himalayan mountain range. Here the climate is quite different, with more rainfall and higher humidity. It is also a place with good scenery of dense forest, deep valleys and many waterfalls.

There are several villages, of the indigenous Monpa (門巴) people. Here we can also find merchants and workmen from Sichuan, as well as soldiers guarding the border area. We travelled to Mama Xian, and further to Le Xian near the border of Bhutan (不丹), then up a 2km-mountain trail through a small village adjacent to a border station (the name of the village, in translation, is "Village for demonstration of border protection by young people of Tibet") to the end near a Lama Monastery.

Birding conditions were really good that day. We heard the call of a large pheasant, possibly a Himalayan Monal, early in the morning on our way down. However, since the area is quite big and we have not reached the forested areas yet, we decided to leave it for the time being, and deferred to another morning for a more thorough searching. At Lebu Valley, we saw Golden Bush Robins, and Black-throated Parrotbills. When we were reaching the Monpa villages, we encountered Speckled Wood Pigeons, Common Rosefinches and Yellow-breasted Greenfinches. In around the area of Le Xian, there were also Yellow-bellied Fantails and Ultramarine Flycatchers, Rufous-bellied Niltavas, a Rusty-flanked Treecreeper, Streaked Laughingthrushes, and Green-tailed Sunbirds. On the way down the Mama Valley, there were also good views of many Blue Sheep.

Lebu Valley (15 September)

From the experience of the last two days, we found that the birds are more active when the sun comes out at 8am. We started birding at 7:30am at the following direction:

- 07:00 - 13:00 Mama Xian to Le Xian (2,800m), 10km
- 13:30 - 18:00 Le Xian to Mama Valley (4,200m), 60km for a return trip
- 20:00 Evening and dinner at Le Xian

We left Mama Xian to Le Xian along a driving trail, and then went up the mountain again to the end of the trail through the village adjacent to the border station. To the end of the trail, we passed the gate on the left and walked up the slope with trees and dense shrubs. On the right hand side of the trail before the gate, there were stairs for climbing up to a Lama Monastery. In the afternoon, we went back to the Lebu Valley until the evening.

Some good birds were found, mostly in the morning. At Le Xian and nearby area, there were a Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, a Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, White-collared Thrushes, Streaked Laughingthrushes, Red-tailed Minlas, Fire-tailed Sunbirds and a Scarlet Finch. In the afternoon, it started to rain at Lebu Xian, and there were not many birds observed.



Entrance of Lebu Valley (16 September)

The road appeared muddy and slippery for driving after rainfall. It took much more time to reach our planned destination even we left Le Xian early at 6:45am to the entrance of Mama Valley with high mountain shrubs and grassland (4,200m). After waiting for around 2 hours for the Himalayan Monal, two of my friends saw a male bird at a plain slope of grassland at the top of the mountain on the other side of the valley. It was the bird of the day.

To explore more forested areas of lower altitude in the area, we tried another valley after returning to Cona. The road goes in a southward direction which, according to the map, should take us to Tawang. After driving for some 40km, however, we were stopped by soliders at a checkpoint and cannot go any further. So we returned to Cona for lunch and went back to the entrance of Mama-Valley to look again for the monal and other birds at the upper and lower part of the valley. However, the weather was not stable; it was windy, foggy and rainy. It was not really productive that afternoon.

Back to Cona town, at the small wetland adjacent to the town, we saw a Cattle Egret, Pallas's Gulls, Ruddy Shelduck, Common Redshanks and Green Sandpipers.

Table 1: Endemic and globally threatened species encountered during the trip

Bird species	Location	Threatened species	Endemic species	Important Bird Area
Tibetan Eared Pheasant	Shongsep Temple		(Southern Tibet)	Shongsep Temple
Tibetan Eared Pheasant	Shongsep Temple		(Southern Tibet)	Shongsep Temple
Giant Babax	Shongsep Temple		(Southern Tibet)	Shongsep Temple
Ludlow's Fulvetta (possible)	Mama Valley		(Eastern Himalayan)	
Saker Falcon	Cona	(Near Threatened)		

Lebu Valley and Zara (17 September)

In the early morning, we went back to Mama Valley for our last effort for Himalayan Monal. The mountain was unfortunately soon covered by heavy mist at around 9am, so we decided that it's about time to leave Cona to Zara (扎日):

- 10:00 - 15:00 Cona to Sangngaqoiling (三安曲林) (170km). This included 87km between Cona and Lhunzi county; 83km muddy road along Z802 from Lhunzi to Sangaqoiling from the entrance of Subo Xian. We had our lunch at Sangaqoiling at 15:00, and then turn left to the valley following the road signage to Mikyimdün (馬及墩)
- 16:00 - 20:00 Sangaqoiling to Zara (95km), via the mountain pass of Mt. Karrêg (卡拉山口) at 4,970m along the muddy road in rainfall
- 20:00 Evening at Zara

The rain became heavier after entering the mountain valley, the road was too slippery to drive, and the car had repeatedly scratched the bottom.

Most of the habitat around the mountain valley is deep slope with dense shrubs. Until we reached the Qusum Xian (曲松鄉) and Zara Xian (扎日鄉), the landscape gradually changed to a forest and catchment valley. This forest valley lies beneath a watershed in the mountain range, and the mountains are generally separated by many wide and narrow valleys. Towards the direction of Zara, waters run in the deep valleys through dense forests and cliffs. Being influenced by humid air current from the Himalayas, the whole area appeared warm and wet. On the way to Zara, we saw Eurasian Crag Martins, Himalayan Griffons, Lammergeiers and Brandt's Mountain Finches.

After a long day's drive, we finally reached Zara Xian in the evening, and had dinner at a small restaurant operated by a businessman from Chongxing. We learnt from him that Zara Xian has a distance of about 7 to 8km from the India-controlled area. It is also a good place with a large piece of dense mountain forest, and many of the tree trunks could have a diameter of about the size of a dinner table. Having seen our field guide on birds, he mentioned that in winter the area is not cold, and there is a good chance to catch Tibetan Pheasants for meals when they walked down the mountain to the villages searching for food. In the evening we stayed at his family hostel.

Table 2: Table for itinerary and accommodation

Date	Itinerary	Accommodation	Approx. cost
12 Sept 10	Chengdu	Flower Hotel Chengdu (3 Quintai Road)	RMB 178 / standard room / night
13 Sept 10	Lhasa - Cona town (380km)	Hefei Hotel	RMB 153 / standard room / night
14 Sept 10	Cona town - Le Xian (50km)	A small hostel adjacent to the Post Office of Mama Village	RMB 80 / standard room / night
15 Sept 10	Mama town - Le Xian (70km)	A small hostel adjacent to the Post Office of Mama Village	RMB 80 / standard room / night
16 Sept 10	Le Xian - Xiao Xian - Cona town (120km)	Hefei Hotel	RMB 153 / standard room / night
17 Sept 10	Cona - Zara (265km)	A family hotel in Zara	RMB 20 / bed / night
18 Sept 10	Zara - Lhasa (435km)	The International Grand Hotel	n/a

Zara to Lhasa (18 September)

The Zara forest is a primitive forest located between Qusum Xian and Zara Xian at an altitude of about 2800m. It is a mixed forest with coniferous, pine leaves and broadleaved trees. Some trees reached the height of 30-40m. We birded in the forest for around 2 hours in the early morning along a trail down the mountain, and started to return to Lhasa at 10:00.

Although the car was filled at the nearest oil station at Lhunzi on the day before, our tour guide considered that it would be insufficient to cover the 200km muddy road across the mountains in return trip. He had considered purchasing some petrol from the soldiers at Zara Xian, but for some reasons it had not been pursued. After we left Zara, it became clear that the amount of remaining petrol could just enough to reach Sangngaquiling if the roads were good. Therefore, we were more concerned about the car and asked for the availability of petrol in every small village we encountered, than actually birding on our way back. The road condition was unfortunately tough after leaving Zara for an hour, and, to make things worse, there was leakage in one of the tires.

Luckily, we could find a place at Qusum Xian with local people to help the tire repairment after we arrived Qusum Xian, where we also needed to register at a checkpoint, and then visited the home of one old villager. According to him, this place is about 70km north of the India-controlled area. During winter, there are people from the other side crossing the river to his village to exchange for daily necessities.

We arrived Sangngaquiling at 3:00pm, were there was people to repair the car and sell us petrol. So the problems seem solved. After leaving for about 10km, we had another big trouble. There was smoke emitted from the front of the car, and the car's cooling system was leaking water. In the middle of nowhere, it was really difficult to find people to help. Fortunately, one of us had brought along some super glue, which was quite effective to stop the leakage. After struggling for 2 hours, we continued the trip and left the place at 6:30pm. The insufficient petrol, tire leakage and water leakage had made us further delay the trip for 3 hours. We returned to Lhunzi county at 9pm for dinner, and rushed back to Lhasa at 1:45 in the morning. The distance travelled for today was about 435km.

Despite the all the troubles, we still considered Zara a good birding place and worth spending a few days more in the future. Birds included a large flock of Speckled Wood Pigeons, Himalayan Swiftlets, Chestnut-crowned, Brown-cheeked, Spotted and Black-faced Laughingthrushes.

Shongsep Temple (19 September)

We originally planned to visit the nunnery Shongsep Temple (雄色寺) at about 40km at the southern side of Lhasa on our first day of arrival on 13 September, but we had changed it to the last day of the trip after we learnt the bridge across the Lhasa River was broken. This morning, we travelled towards the direction of Liuwu Xian (柳梧鄉) along the Lhasa River and arrived Liburedui Cun (尼布熱堆村) at Caila Xian (才納鄉). Up the mountain, there was a signage on the way showing the area was designated as a nature reserve - Quxu Xian Caila Xian Shongsep Valley nature Reserve (曲水縣才納鄉雄色峽谷保護區). The car was parked at the carpark at altitude about 4,000m and we walked up to the temple from there to around 4,200m along a trail.

There were Tibetan Eared Pheasants up the slope near the carpark. Along the road to the temple, there were bird waves with White-browed Tit Warblers, Tickell's Leaf Warblers, Streaked Rosefinchs, White-winged Grosbeaks, Brown-cheeked Laughingthrushes, White-throated Redstarts, Brown Accentors and Giant Babaxes. There was renovation work at the temple, one of the nuns said that the pheasants favours the streams at the valley, and they used to walk down the mountain for searching for food. At this moment, there were 5 Tibetan Snowcocks, 3 Tibetan Partridges, and a flock of 30 Tibetan Eared Pheasants "walked" nearby. They appeared very tame. After the visit to the temple, we rushed to the airport after lunch. The 7-days birding trip completed.

The trip has changed my impression to Tibet. It is not only huge and barren, its southeastern part is nurtured and protected by rivers and forest, as well as green mountains rolling over one another, which are preserved in a natural state.

A total of 135 bird species were recorded. Table 1 lists out endemic and globally threatened species that we encountered during the trip. The endemic species was found at "Southern Tibet" Endemic Bird Area (EBA), it is believed that the forest in Cona and Zara are linked and could serve as a part of the "Eastern Himalayas" EBA, further information would be needed to find this out. Table 2 shows the itinerary and places for accommodation for future reference.

Special thanks to Wong Tin Wa and Lee Kam Cheong (KC), they offered valuable experiences to the overall trip planning, identification of birds and habitats, as well as sharing of trip experience to various places. KC has also reviewed the observation records and this article. I would also like to thank Tang Jun for his organization of the whole trip, particularly for the permit application, car and accommodation.



My Bird Watching Diary

~ Text and Illustrations: Wendy Yu

01 May 2009 (Fri)

In the afternoon, when I was watching birds outside the Mai Po education centre, one pure white feral pigeon flew down in front of me, resting near my telescope. Although feeding pigeons at Mai Po is not the right thing to do, I offered it a muffin. Starting from a long time ago, I was led to believe contact with birds could be dangerous. But having such a close encounter with a bird has become a treasured memory.



~ Richard Lewthwaite

(These are unofficial sightings reported to birdline or posted on the HKBWS website.

Observers are asked to take the time to properly report their records using the proforma on the website – Ed.)

July

- ▶ This was a very, very quiet month. The only notable reports concerned single **Black-winged Kites** at Lok Ma Chau on 11th and Mai Po on 24th (KH), seven singing **Brown-flanked Bush Warblers** at Tai Mo Shan on 18th (MLC), an adult **Greater Crested Tern** in Mirs Bay also on 18th (AK) and the over-summering **Great Crested Grebe** at Mai Po on 24th and 30th.
- ▶ Two **Roseate Terns** in Hong Kong eastern waters on 2nd (YYT) bore leg flags which traced them to Swain Reef, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland, Australia (6391 km away), where they had been flagged as adults in January or February in the period since 2002 (per YYT). A **Bridled Tern** photographed at Sai Kung on 18th (AK) bore a ring of the type used in Hong Kong and hence seems likely have been ringed as a chick at a breeding island in Hong Kong prior to 2004, although the ring number could not be read to confirm this (JAA, CHF).

August

- ▶ Undoubted highlight of the month was a **Fairy Pitta** at Po Toi on 26th (GW), the first ever August record and the earliest autumn record by two weeks. Shorebird passage was strong at Mai Po, with a **Little Stint** on 14th (RWL), a rare autumn report, 478 **Greater Sand Plovers** on 15th (JAA), the highest ever autumn count, and 197 **Whimbrels** on 22nd (RWL), possibly the second highest count on record. In addition, 119 **Collared Crows** were at Mai Po on 10th (WWF), a record count of a restricted-range species which has declined massively in China and whose stronghold now appears to be Hong Kong. At Tai Po Kau, puzzling flycatchers were again seen in early autumn, with one or two possible **Blue-throated Flycatchers** on 22nd and 29th (KPK).
- ▶ First reports of the autumn were received for **Eastern Crowned Warbler** at Shek Kong on 7th (CTM), the earliest on record by a day, **Asian Dowitcher** at Mai Po on 10th (WWF), **Yellow-rumped Flycatcher** at Tai Mo Shan on 18th (GHO), **Asian Paradise Flycatcher** at Lung Fu Shan on 21st (Bond), **Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** at Kam Tin on 30th (JAA) and **Asian Brown Flycatcher** at Po Toi on 31st (GW).
- ▶ Some passage of terns was detected during the month. Visits to Mirs Bay led to sightings of 68 **Roseate Terns** on 3rd and a **Sooty Tern** on 27th (KJ), the latter the earliest autumn record by 12 days. At Mai Po, two **Gull-billed Terns** were present on 22nd (EMSK, RWL). A mystery tern photographed at Tap Mun on 19th (FC) generated considerable interest and was eventually shown to be a first-summer **Roseate Tern**, the key feature eliminating other similar terns being a white edge to the tail (PJL).
- ▶ These birds apart, other notable reports during the month included an **Orange-headed Thrush** at Tai Po Kau Headland on 2nd (K&RB), a **Black-tailed Gull** in Mirs Bay on 3rd (KJ), a **Lesser Frigatebird** at Stonecutters Island on 5th (DS), 100 **Wood Sandpipers** and a **Red-rumped Swallow** at Long Valley on 8th (EMSK), the over-summering **Great Crested Grebe**, at Mai Po on 10th and 22nd (WWF, EMSK) an over-summering **Western Osprey** (now split from **Eastern Osprey** of Australasia) at Tolo Harbour on 12th, a **Black Bittern** and **Eurasian Hobby** at Mai Po on 15th (WWF, JAA), a **Brown Fish Owl** at Chung Chau on 26th (MDW) and a suspected Brown Wood Owl in flight at dusk at Tin Liu Ha, Lam Tsuen on 30th (EMSK).



September

- ▶ Though no first records or mega-rarities were found, this was a month full of interest and variety, especially in the first half, with migrants coming through in good numbers and also relatively early in the season.
- ▶ New early autumn dates were reported for the following species: **Himalayan Swiftlet** at Po Toi on 2nd (GW; earliest autumn date by 10 days), **Lanceolated Warbler** at Mai Po on 2nd (JAA; earliest by 13 days), **Ferruginous Flycatcher** at Leadmine Pass also on 2nd (SLT; earliest by 21 days), **Black-naped Monarch** at Tai Po Kau on 5th (SYH; earliest by 14 days) and **Chestnut-crowned Warbler** at Tai Po Kau on 18th (KPK; earliest by more than 6 weeks).
- ▶ Two species were reported in record numbers: six **Asian Paradise Flycatchers** at Leadmine Pass on 2nd (SLT) and 90 **Intermediate Egrets** at Lok Ma Chau on 22nd (PJL).
- ▶ Following the two sightings at Tai Po Kau in August, the run of puzzling blue flycatchers tentatively identified as “**Blue-throated Flycatchers**” (with Chinese Blue Flycatcher definitely eliminated from consideration) continued into the present month, with reports of a male again at Tai Po Kau on 4th (KPK) and single males at Fung Yuen on 13th (Ken – initials?) and Shing Mun on 17th (SLT).
- ▶ Among other notable reports in the month were an adult male **Yellow-rumped Flycatcher** at Tai Po Kau (PW, MK), a **Baikal Bush Warbler** at Mai Po (HWBWS) and a **Brown-chested Flycatcher** at Lung Fu Shan (BK), all on 5th, a **Brown Fish Owl** at Cheung Chau on 6th (MDW), a **Brown Wood Owl** calling at Lam Tsuen on 7th and other nights (DT, EMSK), a **Eurasian Eagle Owl** calling at Discovery Bay on 7th (ML), a **Russet Sparrow** at Long Valley on 7th (KJ), a **Drongo Cuckoo** at Tai Po Kau on 8th (OW), single **Chestnut-winged Cuckoos** (rare in autumn) at Po Toi on 8th (GW) and Mai Po on 12th (WWF), 50 **Pallas's Grasshopper Warblers** at Mai Po on 9th (PJL), 430 **Aleutian Terns** off Po Toi the same day (GW), a **Brown-breasted Flycatcher** at Fung Yuen on 13th (Ken – initials?) and a **Nordmann's Greenshank** at Sai Kung (the first record away from Deep Bay) on 18th.



The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society Bird Watching Tours Apr - Jun 2011

Outings

Date	Duration	Time and site	Difficulties (1...3)	Target species
2/4/2011 (Sat)	0800 - 1300	Tsim Bei Tsui (Crested Bulbul Club Activity) (08:00 Tin Chak Estate Shopping Centre, Exit near Tin Yat LT, Tin Shui Wai)	☆	Waterbirds
2/4/2011 (Sat)	1430 - 1900	Long Valley (Bird Race Training) (08:00 Taxi Station, Exit C, Sheung Shui MTR Station)	☆☆	Farmland birds & waterbirds
3/4/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Tai Po Kau (Bird Race Training) (08:00 Tai Po Kau carpark)	☆☆☆	Forest birds
5/4/2011 (Tue)	0800 - 1600	Mai Po Nature Reserve (Bird Race Training) (08:00 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (Kent Road exit), OR 09:00 Mai Po carpark, end 15:00 Mai Po, 16:00 Kowloon Tong)	☆☆	Waterbirds
9-10/4/2011 (Sat-Sun)		HKBWS Bird Race (Details will be announced later)		
17/4/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Tai Mo Shan (08:00 Exit B near Hang Seng Bank, Tsuen Wan MTR Station)	☆☆☆	Grassland birds
24/4/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1600	Mai Po Nature Reserve (08:00 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (Kent Road exit), OR 09:00 Mai Po carpark, end 15:00 Mai Po, 16:00 Kowloon Tong)	☆☆	Waterbirds
1/5/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1600	Po Toi and HK South Waters (08:00 Hang Seng Bank, Sai Wan Ho MTR Station) Note: This will be a long trip on open waters. The ride could be quite rough and some people may be seasick.	☆☆☆	Seabirds and migrants
7/5/2011 (Sat)	0800 - 1300	Aberdeen Reservoir (Crested Bulbul Club Activity) (08:00 Hang Seng Bank near Exit B, Central MTR Station)	☆	Forest birds
8/5/2011 (Sun)	0730 - 1600	Po Toi and HK South Waters (07:30 Aberdeen public pier, near Ocean Court) Note: This will be a long trip on open waters. The ride could be quite rough and some people may be seasick.	☆☆☆	Seabirds and migrants
15/5/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Wild Card Day (Details will be announced on 13 May on Discussion Forum)		Migrants
22/5/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1600	Mai Po Nature Reserve (08:00 Kowloon Tong MTR Station (Kent Road exit), OR 09:00 Mai Po carpark, end 15:00 Mai Po, 16:00 Kowloon Tong)	☆☆	Waterbirds
4/6/2011 (Sat)	0800 - 1300	Shing Mun (Crested Bulbul Club Activity) (08:00 Exit B near Hang Seng Bank, Tsuen Wan MTR Station)	☆	Forest birds
5/6/2011 (Sun)	0800 - 1200	Nam Chung and Luk Keng (08:00 Exit C, Fanling MTR, i.e. MTR exit near minibus terminal station)	☆☆	Waterbirds

Member: Free of Charge

Non-member: Free of Charge (registration not required)

Member: Free of Charge

Non-member: HK\$30 (HK\$10 for age under 19 student) (registration not required)

Member: HK\$40 (Student Member: HK\$20)

Non-member: HK\$70 (registration required)

Member: HK\$160

Non-member: HK\$200 (registration required)

Indoor Meetings

Date	Time	Topic	Speakers	Venue
23/2/2011 (Wed)	1900 - 2100	White-bellied Sea Eagle in HK	WBSE Research Group	Rm. 1101, Scout Asso of HK, Austin Road, Kowloon
2/3/2011 (Wed)	1900 - 2100	Identification of Flycatchers (Cantonese)	Dr. Cheung Ho Fai [Tentative]	Rm. 924, Scout Asso of HK, Austin Road, Kowloon
31/3/2011 (Thur)	1900 - 2100	Waterbird Monitoring Programme Public Lecture AND HKBWS Research Groups Report (Cantonese, Free of Charge)	Mr. Yu Yat Tung Bird Research Groups	Rm. 1030, Scout Asso of HK, Austin Road, Kowloon
26/5/2011 (Thur)	1900 - 2100	Experience Sharing: Digital Photography and Post-processing Workflow (Cantonese)	Mr. Phippen Ho	Rm. 924, Scout Asso of HK, Austin Road, Kowloon
7/2011 (to be confirmed)	1900 - 2100	Sharing on Bird Drawing (Cantonese)	Miss Wendy Yu	Scout Asso of HK, Austin Road, Kowloon

Hong Kong Bird Watching Society Activity Booking Slip

I would like to register the following HKBWS activities: (Please as appropriate)

Mai Po Outings [Coach Fare: Member: HK\$40 Student Member: HK\$20 Non-member: HK\$70]

(Members not using the coach do not need to pay. Non-members will have to pay the coach fare of HK\$70 disregard of whether they make use of the coach.)

- 5 Apr 2011 (Sun) (_____ member(s), _____ non-member(s)) No. of person(s) using the coach is _____)
- 24 Apr 2011 (Sun) (_____ member(s), _____ non-member(s)) No. of person(s) using the coach is _____)
- 22 May 2011 (Sun) (_____ member(s), _____ non-member(s)) No. of person(s) using the coach is _____)

Po Toi and Hong Kong South waters [Boat Fare: Member: HK\$160 Non-member: HK\$200]

*Please note that the gathering place and time are different for the 2 activities.

- 1 May 2011 (Sun) (_____ member(s), _____ non-member(s)) No. of person(s) is _____)
- 8 May 2011 (Sun) (_____ member(s), _____ non-member(s)) No. of person(s) is _____)

** We will confirm the participants whether their application is accepted or not about 1 week before the outing. Once confirmed, no refund will be made no matter they can attend the outing or not. Refund will be made only if the outing is cancelled officially due to inclement weather or special reason.

According to the requirement of the Hong Kong Police and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, participants entering Mai Po should provide their full name and Hong Kong ID Number (passport number for oversea visitors) that day in order to access to the Frontier Closed Area and Mai Po Marshes.

Information of Participant(s)

Date	Destination	Name	Membership No.	Mobile Phone	Email Address	Fare*

* Activities are processed individually, please use separate cheque.

Enclosed please find a Cheque of HK\$ _____ (Payable to **The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society Limited**)

Name : _____ Membership no: _____ E-mail: _____

Mobile Phone No. : _____ Date : _____ Signature : _____

Please send this slip together with a **crossed cheque** to: **14/F, Ruby Commercial Bldg, 480 Nathan Road, Kln**

Notes :

- Application should be made at least two weeks before the date of the outing and on the first come first served basis. HKBWS Members have a high priority to participate the activities.
- Any changes of the activities will be announced in our website: (<http://www.hkbws.org.hk/BBS>).
- Arrangement during bad weather: When Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No.3 or above or Rainstorm Warnings Red or Black are hoisted by the Hong Kong Observatory at 7:00 am on the event day, the activity will be cancelled. If Thunderstorm Warning is announced during the activity, Team Leader will decide if the activity should be continued or cancelled. You can call the team leader at 9457 3196 during the event day if you have any query about the weather.

Disclaimer

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society shall have no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for expenditure or other liabilities arising from the activities. Participants are recommended to purchase relevant insurance.

A small bird with a vibrant blue head and back, and a pale yellowish-buff breast, perched on a thin, light-colored branch. The background is a soft-focus thicket of brown branches and green leaves.

藍喉仙鶴
余柏維
大埔滘

Blue-throated Flycatcher
Yue Pak Wai
Tai Po Kau

29.08.2010
DSLR Camera, 500mm f/4 lens + 1.4x teleconverter

A bird with a black head and back, a bright yellow breast, and a white forehead stripe, perched on a thick, dark branch. The background is a soft-focus green.

白眉姬鶯
黃理沛 江敏兒
大埔滘

Yellow-rumped Flycatcher
Michelle & Peter Wong
Tai Po Kau

05.09.2010
DSLR Camera, 500mm f/4 lens



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尖沙咀彌敦道63號ISQUARE國際廣場MTR14號舖

鑽石山荷里活廣場二樓204號舖

香港區：

銅鑼灣時代廣場714號舖

銅鑼灣百德新街恒雅中心地下及地庫

銅鑼灣東角道26號地下16號舖

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雙筒望遠鏡
8x32/10x32/7x42/8x42/10x42

藝康EDG望遠鏡系列，讓你探視世界目不暇給的一面，無論在色調層次、光影效果，以至絲毫細節，表現均歎為觀止，將世間豐富色彩活畫展示。EDG系列擁有如此強大表現力，只因對光學科技發展不遺餘力，提供最出類拔萃的望遠鏡產品器材，讓你放眼更高、更遠。

EDG
THE CUTTING EDGE IN SPORT OPTICS

烏鵲
陳巨輝
大埔滘

Drongo Cuckoo
Sam Chan
Tai Po Kau

08.09.2010
DSLR Camera, 600mm f/4 lens + 1.4x teleconverter

