Bhutan

Land of the Thunder Dragon

A Greentours Trip Report

14th to 30th May 2019

Led by Paul Cardy

Daily Accounts and Systematic Lists written by Paul Cardy

Days 1 and 2 Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th May Delhi

We arrived in Delhi at varied times, only Roger and Penny coming on the scheduled flight from Heathrow, the rest of us already in India.

A good dinner buffet in the hotel was puzzlingly also supplemented by other dishes brought to the table!

Day 3 Thursday 16th May Journey to Paro, and Tiger's Nest Monastery

We left at 5.30, for the short drive to the airport where things went very smoothly. The flight was excellent with Druk Air, and smooth. The very good views of close Mount Everest in the morning light were sublime, announced by the pilot.

The descent was an experience. The sudden drop and spiral down to the Paro valley was spectacular. Even I enjoyed it. Arrival at the characterful airport saw many passengers hurriedly taking photos of the architecture and scenery, and all very relaxed. Immigration was quick in the quiet terminal. We were met by Kaengdu who would be our local guide for the tour.

Near the airport we stopped and soon found Ibisbill on the river gravels, where also were Plumbeous Water Redstart and River Lapwing, and Black Bulbuls were in the trees.

We drove to the hotel, fascinated by the Bhutanese architecture along the way.

At the hotel we soon settled in to the very pleasant rooms and had a half hour break to get ready for the afternoon. Lunch was taken at a small restaurant in town, the entrance unsalubrious but the food superb.

There was much of the cream flowered *Rosa sericea* in bloom in the area, and *Lepidium virginicum* was a trackside weed. Russet Sparrows were much in evidence around the hotel.

We drove through the characterful town of Paro, with its attractive painted buildings. Eastern Pale Clouded Yellows were on the wing around town.

The afternoon excursion was towards the Tiger's Nest Monastery. An iconic site in western Bhutan, and the most famous of Bhutan's monasteries, there were many visitors here, most making the arduous climb up to the precipitously perched monastery. We had established earlier that the five hour (!) walk to the monastery itself was not for us, but a short walk towards it allowed great views of this impressive structure perched above on the cliffs. Taking side tracks to avoid the crowds we were soon finding many interesting plants, and a few birds too.

Here we were in Blue Pine forest, *Populus ciliata* among the broadleafs, and very spiky *Quercus* semecarpifolia in the understory. *Pieris formosa* was much in evidence with cascades of blooms. The strawberry *Fragaria nubicola* was numerous on the forest floor. A highlight was many yellow *Primula* sikkimensis in fine flower, and this was followed by a few mauve flowered *Primula denticulata*. *Euphorbia griffithii* was a striking red-tinged species. Plants continued with *Berberis praecipua*, *Mazus* surculosus, and *Viburnum cotinifolium*. New this year were *Disporum cantoniense*, *Anemone rivularis*, *Asparagus filicinus giraldii*, and *Jasminum humile*.

The yellow flowered cudweed *Pseudognapthalium affine* was identified, a species we would see at many sites. *Valeriana jatemansi* flowered beside the stream, where wet rocks had yellow *Mimulus nepalensis*. *Tiarella polyphylla* and *Viola bhutanica* bloomed beside a small waterfall. Nearby was beautiful yellow flowered *Rhododendron triflorum*, and *Leycesteria formosa*, the Himalayan Honeysuckle. The forget-me-not here was *Myosotis alpestris asiatica*.

Byasa latrellei, the Rose Windmill, flew in the undergrowth.

A real puzzle was a remarkably strange insect on which we could not quite work out what was what, there seemed too many parts for one individual, but not enough for two!

White-collared Blackbird fed on the ground, and Nutcrackers were typically noisy in the conifers and were seen well. An amazingly close pair of Yellow-billed Blue Magpies gave great photo opportunities, and Blue Whistling Thrush and Grey-backed Shrike were here. A very close group of some ten White-throated Laughingthrushes hopped on the ground. Green-backed Tit was the first of many we would see.

Back at the hotel we enjoyed a pleasant dinner.

Day 4 Friday 17th May Chele La

We departed at 6.30, the morning fine with the sun rising over the hills. We took the road up from the Paro Valley that climbs to the pass of Chele La, the border with Ha District. *Rhododendron arboreum* was commonly in flower and *Lonicera quinquelocularis* was floriferous. Kalij Pheasant was briefly on the road.

'While on bend, speed you mend.'

Here we were in *Abies densa* forest, where was *Piptanthus nepalensis*, a yellow flowered leguminous shrub. Very many fine *Primula denticulata* bloomed on one grassy slope, we would see very many more today and the genus continued with *Primula smithiana* and *Primula sikkimensis*.

We had great views of a characterful little Moupin's Pika, with a pale spot behind its rather large ears. Superb *Bryocarpum himalaicum*, a primula relative with yellow flowers, became rather common. Beautiful *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* was in fine flower, these campanulate and orange/red. *Rhododendron campylocarpum* was admired, and next was superb purple *Primula calderiana*.

The next rhododendron was the mauve flowered *Rhododendron wallichii*. Superb Collared Grosbeak was on the ground right beside the bus and we had prolonged fantastic views.

Breakfast was awaiting us in a clearing just below the pass. Table and chairs had been set out by the excellent cooking team who, with superb attentive service, prepared us all sorts from porridge to omelettes to tea to toast. (Try as we might we could not escape the porridge during the tour!).

It was now not far to the pass, for which figures for the height varied widely! 3900, 3600? Of course from here we had superb views of snow capped peaks. More prayer flags and a surprising number of people characterised the pass. This part of the country is well touristed, later in the tour we would be in areas with no visitors at all. Fine patches of the buttercup *Oxygraphis endlicheri* on the ground were a plant highlight here.

A tour highlight was a superb male Himalayan Monal that I located after hearing it call. What a fantastic bird, and a little later we would see a female and another male. Himalayan Buzzard was perched. *Gentiana bryoides* was in flower, and, as expected *Meconopsis simplicifolia* was in bud at this season. *Rhododendron lepidotum* was added to the growing list, this one a subshrub. The diminutive *Primula glabra* was added to the list and *Cassiope selaginoides* was in flower. Buff-barred Warbler worked the rhododendrons.

Late morning saw us heading a little onto the Ha side of pass. *Viburnum grandiflorum* had flowers on still leafless branches. There were several Swallowtails (*machaon*) flying back and forth. *Callianthemum pimpinelloides* in flower was a good find, and *Cotoneaster microphyllus* was here. Of interest was the joint pine *Ephedra gerardiana*, *Clematis montana* was in flower, and *Euphorbia himalayensis* was identified.

Eurasian Cuckoos gave their familiar call and were seen well and Indian Tortoiseshell was on the wing. Black-faced Laughingthrushes fed among *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* flowers, and several Spot-winged Grosbeaks were a highlight.

Meconopsis paniculata was in leaf and lovely creeping *Salix serpyllum* was in flower.

Back over the pass we enjoyed an excellent al fresco lunch, on the expansive grassy slope.

Stops in the afternoon yielded *Ranunculus brotherusii*, a creeping yellow flowered *Potentilla*, *Chrysosplenium nepalense* in flower, the gentian *Megacodon stylophus*, and *Pyrola sikkimensis*.

Sword-leaved Helleborine, the familiar European species, was our first orchid, and a pleasing find. *Viola biflora* was already in flower, apparently rather early for the species here.

There was much fine *Rhododendron triflorum* in bloom and one wet flush had much impressive yellow *Primula smithiana*.

Day 5 Saturday 18th May Thimphu, Dochu La, Botanic Garden, Lobesa

'Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished'.

It was farewell to the pleasant hotel at Paro, and the friendly staff. We left at 8 after a good breakfast. Red-billed Choughs were in the air. A sunny scenic route took us towards the capital Thimphu.

We made a short stop to look at a fifteenth century bridge and monastery. Unexpected was a large troupe of Grey Langurs, whose movements on the cliffs were causing small rocks to fall onto the road. We watched them for some time, and their interesting interaction with a pack of dogs.

Thimphu was predictably a small compact capital. Once past Thimphu we climbed up towards the pass of Dochu La. Near a checkpoint Chinese Windmill and *Colias fieldii* were on the wing. A little higher, purple *Rhododendron hodgsonii* and yellow *Rhododendron falconeri* were in impressive bloom. *Quercus lanata* became a feature, and Large Hawk Cuckoo called.

Reaching the pass, we found it remarkably busy with many tourists admiring the many stupas here, atmospheric in the mist. Of course we headed away from the crowds and found much of interest.

Among the plants here were the club moss *Lycopodium clavatum*, the composite *Ainslaea aptera*, *Daphne bholua*, and both *Viola bhutanica* and *Viola biflora*. A highlight was our first arisaema, beautiful *Arisaema nepenthoides*. This genus would be a great feature of the tour. This one had beautifully chequered blotches on the pseudostem, petiole, and peduncle, and the spathe blade arching over the spadix. Also here this year were stunning large-bloomed *Arisaema griffithii*. *Vaccinium nummularia* and *Maianthemum oleraceum* were in flower, and a highlight were a number of stunning *Pleione hookeriana* on mossy trunks, a beautiful orchid.

Rufous Sibias worked through the trees and Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher sallied for insects.

Now on the Punakha side of the pass, *Rhododendron falconeri* was in abundant flower. Now in *Quercus griffithii* forest the epiphytic orchid *Coelogyne corymbosa* became common, with some on fallen logs being easily photographable, the flowers white with yellow blotches. *Viburnum erubescens* was in flower, the ivy *Hedera nepalensis* flowered on tree trunks, and leaves of *Sambucus adnata* were a feature of roadsides. A gentian similar to *Gentiana carinata* flowered on a fallen log. The mistletoe *Scurrula elata*, here on oaks, had green and red flowers. Impressive was *Benthamidia capitata*.

Lunch was waiting for us at the botanic garden gates. Verditer Flycatcher perched conspicuosly atop tall trees and a pair of Mrs Gould's Sunbirds was admired. A single white flowered herbaceous bramble here was *Rubus calycinus, Ranunculus ficariifolius* was identified, there was the small white *Cardamine circaeoides, Rumex nepalensis,* and *Sagina japonica.*

The afternoon was spent exploring the botanic garden, with much native forest as well as the plantings. The garden boasts a fine collection of Rhododendrons, and the *Rhododendron keysii* was especially fine today. *Chrysosplenium adoxoides* was in flower.

The birds here were superb. White-throated and Grey-sided Laughingthrushes started things off. Rufous Sibia was again much in evidence and formed the core of the mixed flocks, and Whiskered

Yuhinas moved through the vegetation. Speckled Wood Pigeons were seen both perched and in flight, and were rather numerous today. Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler was seen superbly. Blyth's Leaf Warbler worked the trees, Himalayan Cuckoo called, we found nesting Slaty-blue Flycatcher, a pair of Darjeeling Woodpeckers, and Eurasian Jays. A very dark squirrel was Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel.

It was not far now to our hotel. This initially looks unpromising, situated right beside the road as it is, but it was in fact the best of the tour. The rooms were lovely, with views to the paddies below. The staff were excellent, with a whole host of young girls to look after us. My room at least was furnished with a very large wooden phallus!

A stroll below the hotel yielded many of the expected common birds such as Red-vented Bulbuls, Oriental Turtle and Spotted Doves, Oriental Magpie Robin, Common Myna, and Tree Sparrow. The great surprise here was a Rufous Woodpecker seen very well in rather unusual open habitat.

There were even a couple of butterflies, Large White, and Himalayan Fivering. Among the shrubs were *Berberis asiatica* and *Osyris lanceolata*.

At dinner we learnt to avoid the Takin red wine!

Day 6 Sunday 19th May Tashithang Valley, Punakha Dzong

Fine weather saw us heading towards Punakha, the district capital, passing on the way the 'Phallus bar' in Lobesa. *Asclepias curassavica* and *Euphorbia pulcherrima* were naturalised on the roadsides.

A short stop yielded Grey-bellied Cuckoo, Rufous Treepie, and Grey-hooded Warbler.

We reached the stunning Punakha Dzong, fronted by impressive flowering jacarandas. Behind the monastery our breakfast crew were awaiting us and we enjoyed the morning sunshine and the fine surroundings as we ate. Eurasian Cuckoo and Asian Koel called and both were seen.

Now in the Tashithang Valley an early highlight was a colony of Ringed Argus, *Callerebia annada*, always a special butterfly to find. Plain Tiger was on the wing and *Zizeeria maha* flew over the turf. *Schima wallichi* was in attractive flower. On a sunny corner where a small stream crossed the road were Orange Staff Sergeant, Common Map, and Bright Sunbeam, and metalmarks featured with Orange Punch, Tailed Punch, and Mixed Punch. Black Bulbuls flew from tree to tree, and dragonflies included Triangle Skimmer. The attractive blue pea *Parochoetus communis* was in flower, and a small St.John's wort was *Hypericum japonicum*. Yellow Coster was on the wing.

The fine Stately Nawab was superb, and we would see many more. The lizard *Calotes versicolor* basked. Black-backed Forktail frequented a very productive stream where were Crested Kingfisher and female Plumbeous Water Redstart. Red Helen flew past. Metalmarks continued with Punchinello, Chestnut Tiger was here, and we admired the first beautiful Paris Peacock, a species that would be common on the tour. Yellow Pansy was here too.

A very large Yellow-throated Marten crossed in front of us.

Another stop was prompted by puddling Hill Jezebel. Scaly-breasted Munias were active in disturbed habitat. The dragonfly *Orthetrum pruinosum* was attractive, a *Mussaenda* was in flower, and a 'golden tortoise beetle' was admired. Butterflies continued with *Hypolycaena kina*, Eastern Courtier, and Indian Fritillary.

We reached a small settlement where most houses sported phallus paintings.

New butterflies were now coming thick and fast, Glassy Bluebottle, Common Beak, another Stately Nawab, Spectacle Swordtail, and Plain Hedge-blue among them. The first of many sapphires was on the wing. *Neptis zaida* and Indian Red Admiral continued the variety.

House Swifts were in the air, and Long-tailed Shrike perched. A bizarre insect with a very long ovipositor was a Water Scorpion. The beautiful fritillary *Argynnis childrenae* settled on the track but one of today's very few cars came along at just the wrong time and scared it off! Spotless Grass Yellow was seen.

New butterflies kept coming, namely Sixbar Swordtail, Silver-grey Silverline, White Commodore, and The Tawny.

We reached the boundary of Jigme Dorje National Park, marked by a pristine river.

Circe, Great Windmill, Black Prince, Powdery Green Sapphire, and Blue Peacock as well as the commoner Paris Peacock were all here, and Blue Admiral was admired. Impressive was *Arisaema tortuosum*.

We found lunch awaiting us in a roadside clearing, Bhutan Sergeant flying here. There were several more arisaemas too.

The afternoon saw more fine sightings, but we soon learnt that butterfly activity here quietens considerably by early afternoon. Yellow Orange-tip was much in evidence. A flowering rosaceous shrub was *Pyracantha crenulata*. Fantastic broadleaf forested slopes were all around, with Tree Ferns a feature.

Melastoma normale in fine flower prompted a stop, and serendipity struck as there was also a perfect Leaf Butterfly here. There followed many mud puddling blues, Stately Nawab, Popinjay, Nepal Fulvettas, and *Leucas ciliata*.

There was time for a late afternoon visit to Punakha Dzong, so we joined the tourists! The monastery is only open to visitors late afternoon so the timing was ideal for us. This is one of the most impressive in the country so was a good choice for a visit. River Lapwing was along the river shore. Pendulous bee nests hung from the eaves of the monastery.

Day 7 Monday 20th May Jigme Dorje National Park

The morning was again fine with clear blue skies. We motored purposefully along the Tashithang Valley, heading for Punakha where another great breakfast awaited us on the banks of the river.

Here we were pleased to see Ibisbill, and River Lapwing was much in evidence. Hoopoes were here too. Among the breakfast dishes today was chips!

Blue-capped Rock Thrush and Grey Treepie were seen.

A short way to the north brought us into the park HQ clearing, with a map of the extensive protected area, and Takin statues (this the 'valley of Takins'). Sprays of *Dendrobium densiflorum* cascaded from trees. Butterflies began with Redbreast, Tabby, Large Hedge Blue, and Yellow Sailor. *Thladiantha cordifolia* was in flower.

Great Barbets called, and were a continuous presence at many sites we visited. Verditer Flycatcher was again much in evidence. The fierce looking nettle *Girardinia diversifolia* grew at the roadsides.

Himalayan Striped Squirrel was highly active scampering from trunk to trunk. Dragonflies seen today included *Diplacodes trivialis* and *Indothemis carnatica*.

Blue flowered *Cynoglossum furcatum* was identified, and a species of *Aeschynathus*, belonging to the Gesneriaceae, had tubular red flowers.

An impressive waterfall prompted another stop. The primula mostly in leaf here was *Primula denticulata*, with a couple of flowers left. The attractive gentian *Swertia bimaculata* was a good find.

Lesser Yellownape worked tree trunks, Hill Jezebels were again admired, and *Lobelia pyramidalis* was in impressive flower. Rose, Common, and Great Windmills were all seen today and Chestnut Tiger was on the wing.

We reached the boundary with Gasa District, a vast wilderness, which until recently had no road access, stretching all the way to Tibet. The swallowtail *Graphium cloanthus* puddling was a great find. Numerous small tadpoles swam in small pools which we feared would soon dry out, although one was fed by a trickle of water. Stately Nawab was here again. Black-throated Sunbird was seen well, and Six-bar Swordtail, Pale Hockey-stick Sailor, and Striped Punch were highlights. A beautiful cicada had netted black veined wings, red eyes, and a red patch behind the eye.

Butterflies continued with Redbreast, Great Nawab, Yellow Sailor, Long-tailed Blue, Indian Tortoiseshell, Himalayan Jester, and the impressive Large Spot Pied Flat. We drove even further up the valley, to a very isolated group of houses, the forested steep slopes all around incredibly impressive.

Lunch was someway back down the road, still inside the park. Our table had been set beside the rushing river, amid fine forest. This was a superb site for arisaema and we found four species here, *Arisaema speciosum, Arisaema tortuosum, Arisaema echinatum,* and *Arisaema consanguineum*. Other plants here included *Alnus nepalensis, Mahonia napaulensis, Phytolacca acinosa,* and the creeping scrophulariaceous *Ellisiophyllum pinnatum*.

Calinaga buddha, a very unusual nymphalid, a fact shown by the English name The Freak, was a good find. This was the only site at which we would see the species. Mud puddling Great and Stately Nawabs, and Tailed Jay followed.

Melastoma normale was again in fine flower. The beautiful colourful ginger *Cucurma aromatica* flowered in dry paddies and the thistle *Cirsium verutum* was in flower.

Day 8 Tuesday 21st May Journey to Trongsa

Today we faced the longest drive of the tour.

We left our pleasant hotel at 7.30, and said farewell to the excellent staff, and the phalluses. There was little traffic, and progress was excellent. We were soon in continuous superb forest.

An early highlight was at a stop where large pendulous rock bee nests hung from cliffs above the road. Here we were hoping to see Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, a scarce, unobtrusive, and very special bird associated with the bees. Before too long we located a male, then a female, and we all had fine views in the telescope. Certainly a bird highlight of the tour. Also here were a pair of Plumbeous Water Redstart, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, and Rufous Sibia. The white flowered *Buddleja asiatica* was in bloom.

The fagaceous tree *Castanopsis indica* had impressive sprays of green flowers.

A pair of Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrushes, later another male, followed by Slaty-blue Flycatcher, and Dark-sided Flycatcher, continued the birds.

We reached the pass at Pele La where a side track took us into fascinating alpine habitat. Many rhododendrons were in flower including *Rhododendron campylocarpum*, *Rhododendron kesangiae*, and *Rhododendron thomsonii*. There were flushes of Marsh Marigolds, fine *Clintonia udensis*, *Tiarella polyphylla*, and *Pyrola sikkimensis*.

A highlight was a number of Himalayan Griffons soaring majestically above us, and later we saw one perched. Whistler's Warbler worked the shrubs. A swift skipper was at a very high altitude, probably a Himalayan Swift.

Gordon saw a Pika (still Moupin here?). There were fine shows of a blue flowered anemone, *Anemone obtusiloba*. *Prunus cornuta* was in beautiful profuse bloom. Nutcrackers were much in evidence. Here we ate lunch in the light rain, yaks grazing nearby.

A mixed bird flock had Rufous-vented Tit, Rufous-vented Yuhina, White-browed Fulvetta, Chestnuttailed Minla, Green-tailed Sunbird, and Rusty-flanked Treecreeper. Here were more fine *Pleione hookeriana*. Dark-sided Flycatcher sallied for insects.

Back on the road we continued east. A stop at a stupa had White Wagtail and White-capped Water Redstart.

At a viewpoint, Trongsa below, a bonus was a fine selection of moths that had been attracted by a building's lights, the girl here intrigued by what we were looking at and coming out to see. Here were tigers, limacodids, geometers, and prominents.

We were pleased to see Trongsa below us, but first the road took us further away again as we had to head down the valley where a bridge allowed us to cross the river. Here an immigration post had only a few moths around the lights. Frustrating as last time I'd been here the moths and other insects had been many, but then we had been running late and just had no time to stop and admire them. Today we had a little time, but there were few moths! There were a few footmen, tigers, and a red and black bug. A lithophytic orchid in flower is proving an id challenge!

We arrived at the hotel, settled in to the pleasant rooms, and met for a very welcome dinner.

Day 9 Wednesday 22nd May Trongsa to Tingtibi

We awoke to a misty morning and, from the balconies, views of Trongsa Dzong and the verdant valley below. Blue Whistling Thrush and Russet Sparrows frequented the hotel.

We set out at 7 am along the rough road that had brought us here, and soon reached the attractive town, and a much better paved road. Assamese Macaques were in the town. We made a short stop for supplies in a general store.

The mist became very heavy, with light rain. Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons were much in evidence and seen very well. Striated Prinia sang. Green-backed Tit and Mrs Gould's Sunbirds were in the trees. Next we had fine close views of the endemic Bhutan Laughingthrush, split from the extralimital Striated Laughingthrush. We watched it displaying. Grey Bushchat was more prosaic. *Vanda cristata* flowered on rocks, in fine condition. The flora gives it for this area but states it is an epiphyte on oaks, and in fact nearby were some others epiphytic on *Quercus*. However it is obviously also a lithophyte.

Darjeeling Woodpecker and Asian Emerald Cuckoo were highlighs. Grey-winged Blackbird was seen well and Green-tailed Sunbirds were admired. Many *Rosa brunonii* were in flower. Blue-throated Barbets called and were seen. A very active Yellow-browed Tit was a bonus. Himalayan Striped Squirrel scuttled along branches, Scarlet Minivet looked fine in the improving light, and there were more Assamese Macaques.

Nesting Fork-tailed Swifts sped around the vehicle as we negotiated a narrow stretch of road, cliffs to one side. A bridge stop had more impressive pendulous rock bee nests, and another pair of Yellow-rumped Honeyguides. There were two Little Forktails, and Plumbeous Water Redstart too. Plain Hedge Blue was here and Ashy Drongo was on its nest.

Arisaema tortuosum was in fine flower. A Vanda(?) was the same as that seen on a rock yesterday.

Crested Buntings were a feature of one scenic stretch of road, where we also saw the only Jungle Mynas of the tour. Now in fine forest, Black Eagle soared, and we found Spotted Sawtooth.

It was already time for lunch, today set out in a small pavilion at a pass. Streaked Spiderhunter was much in evidence. On an after lunch stroll I found a tree with fine *Dendrobium devonianum* flowering on it (originally collected for the Duke of Devonshire, hence the name), and led the group back to see it. Striped Blue Crow was fine in the sunlight, and Crimson-breasted Woodpecker was seen well.

Fine flowering *Albizzia* trees became a feature of the forest. *Duabanga grandiflora*, a tree with distinctive flowers and fruits, became rather common in the area. A perched Crested Serpent Eagle prompted a stop, Spotted Forktail was on the road (the fourth species of forktail we'd seen), followed by Red Muntjac, and Red Junglefowl.

There followed some fine birding, with White-crested Laughingthrush, Golden-throated Barbet, Great Barbet, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Asian Fairy Bluebird, and Himalayan Bulbul. *Callicarpa arborea* was in flower.

Golden Langurs were the next highlight, a troupe active by the road. This beautiful primate is almost endemic to Bhutan, ranging just over the border into Assam. Classified as endangered, it is pleasingly rather regularly seen within its small range and we had several fine sightings over the next week.

Having reached the river, a search for White-bellied Heron was unsuccessful. This species is now very scarce in the whole of its fragmented range. It occurs very locally in north east India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. At least it is known to still nest in this area, the nest being several hours walk away from the village we could see across the river. The birds do travel down to the river here and are not infrequently seen.

Late afternoon saw us arriving in the leafy small spread out town of Tingtibi. We had been prepared for basic accommodation and that it certainly was. It was not too bad though really! We were in fine habitat, amid verdant lush forested hills.

Dinner was enjoyed in the hotel.

Day 10 Thursday 23rd May Zhemghang circuit

Very heavy rain overnight led to a misty morning.

Only a few minutes in the vehicle saw us stopping, still in Tingtibi, for Chestnut-winged Cuckoo, always an impressive bird. Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrel leapt from trunk to trunk (we call this species Irrawaddy Squirrel in Burma).

Next were the first Great Hornbills of the tour, in fruiting silk cottons, we watched them feeding, and heard them whooshing in flight. Here were both Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes and Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrushes. A pair of Drongo Cuckoos were very vocal, and Pin-tailed Green Pigeons were a highlight.

We walked a beautiful leafy lane, where an excellent breakfast awaited us. Perched Rufous-necked Hornbills were beautiful.

Mountain and White-throated Bulbuls worked the trees. Close Golden Langurs were admired. Birds continued with Verditer Flycatcher, Scarlet Minivet, Black-chinned Yuhina, Ashy Bulbul, and Yellow-vented Warbler.

We drove a beautiful circuitous route through fine forest up to the district capital of Zhemghang, intending to head down the northern slopes of the mountain. This is now a little driven road as a bypass has been built skirting the mountain at its base alongside the river below, so it was beautifully tranquil.

Unfortunately the relentless mist turned to very heavy rain and having reached the town of Zhemghang we had to take shelter in a small hotel, and to order tea and coffee.

Rain continued but we headed back to the pass where lunch was being set up. *Arisaema tortuosum* flowered on the roadside, and *Lindenbergia hookeri* was a yellow flowered scrophulariaceous herb. Another Yellow-throated Marten crossed the road. White-throated Fantail moved characteristically in the trees.

We enjoyed another excellent lunch at the pass, eaten in the mist. The hot tomato soup was very welcome. This was a supremely tranquil site with no traffic. The *Quercus* supported red flowered epiphytic *Agapetes serpens* and there was also much *Coelogyne corymbosa* in flower. The small yellow flowered monocot *Hypoxis aurea* was a fine find. And there was another arisaema, this one *Arisaema consanguineum*, with narrow lobes to the palmate leaves, the spathe with a long filiform tip.

The weather did at last improve a little. A fine bird flock had White-browed Scimitar Babbler, two White-tailed Nuthatches, Grey-chinned Minivet, Grey-hooded Warbler, Black-chinned Yuhina, and an attendant group of characterful Black-throated Tits.

Our first *Bulbophyllum odoratissimum* was in flower, as were *Lyonia ovalifolia* and a *Castanopsis*. Nepal House Martins were in the air. *Dendrobium nobile* bloomed and Striated Bulbul was here.

We returned to the small settlement of Zhemghang, the capital of what is now a very large district extending all the way south to the Indian border, and its impressive dzong.

Descending the northern slopes we walked a beautiful lane, a site for Beautiful Nuthatch. Sadly none of this much hoped for species today. *Viola hamiltoniana* was in flower, and Golden-throated Barbet (winged termites), Maroon Oriole, and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo were here.

We tried again for White-bellied Heron from the river viewpoint, but still no luck. Striated Prinia sang.

Day 11 Friday 24th May Tingtibi to Gongphu

We awoke to heavy rain and the decision was made for the team to prepare breakfast in the hotel. I then went for a long walk above town, the rain having lessened. Among things I saw were Crimson Sunbird, Red-rumped Swallows, Ashy Woodswallows, and Mountain Imperial Pigeon.

Back in the village a great find was the ATM booth outside the bank which had attracted many moths and other insects overnight. After breakfast I took the group up there, mugs of tea in hand, and we enjoyed the great variety, and caused amusement to the children going to school. Longhorn beetles, tigers, footmen, and an Atlas Moth were among the many things here.

Back at the hotel I persuaded them to let me buy the umbrella they'd lent me for my walk!

Having loaded up the vehicles we said farewell to the hotel and set off south. Again of course we were in fine forest, here at the northern limits of the extensive Manas National Park. As we left town the first stop was prompted by the terrestrial orchid *Arundina graminifolia* flowering on the verges. Anoher troupe of Golden Langurs was encountered, and Emerald Dove and Slaty-backed Forktail were on the road.

A shady corner had a water driven prayer wheel enclosed in a small building. Soon butterflies started gathering, signalled by Spot Puffins which at the slightest disturbance took to the air, chasing each other in a line of white. Black Prince settled characteristically on the ground. Common Lineblue, Club Beak, *Dercas verhuelli*, Indian Purple Sapphire, Red Helen, Great Mormon and the lovely Yellow Flat were all here. Stems of *Amorphophallus* were impressive and beautifully patterned.

A stop was made ovelooking a site where White-bellied Heron had recently nested, but the chicks had recently fledged, so we saw only the nest.

Great Hornbills whooshed over. A cucurbit with tasselled white flowers was *Hodgsonia macrocarpa*. A species of *Dysphania*, a yellow, black and white geometer, was probably *Dysphania subrepleta*.

A pink flowered *Impatiens* bloomed at the shady streamside, but I ran out of time to identify it (some 25 species occur). There were several dragonflies and damsels here, including *Orthetrum pruinosum*, and a red *Ceriagrion*. Remarkable here were several cicadas apparently mud puddling. This was a large species, or maybe more than one species, very wary, but we did get good views. A species of Humming-bird Hawk was here too.

A small settlement with two houses even had a name!

After a landslide delay we arrived at Gongphu and had lunch as we settled into the basic rooms at Gongphu camp finely situated at the forest edge. Few or no foreigners get here, and we were one of only a few groups to ever stay here.

It was soon apparent that aroids were a feature here. In the 'gardens' were striking *Amorphophallus nepalensis* and under the trees was *Arisaema concinnum*. Cascading from large tree trunks was the monstera like *Rhapidophora grandis*.

Having organised ourselves we set out to walk the short distance from the village which took us into superb mid altitude broadleaf forest. *Arisaema tortuosum* was in fine flower. In this species the curved spadix greatly exceeds the spathe. Here was again the showy epiphytic orchid *Dendrobium nobile* in fine flower and a frilled yellow orchid, common on one tree, was *Bulbophyllum odoratissimum*. Our next aroid was *Arisaema speciosum*, very robust, with purplish flowers and an appendix with a very long flagellum up to half a meter long! A woody *Lobelia* was in flower, and a blue *Cynoglossum*. Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler skulked in the vegetation and Greater Yellownape flew between trees.

The cooks did their best in the basic camp kitchen and served another fine meal that evening. We then went for a night walk, being in such promising habitat. Many frogs gave a soundtrack, and there were a few bats in the air.

Day 12 Saturday 25th May Gongphu to Panbang

There was a remarkable dawn chorus around camp, provided by Yellow-billed Blue Magpies, Golden-throated Barbet, Collared Owlet, and Himalayan, Indian and Large Hawk Cuckoos. Tea, coffee, and biscuits were available and then we went for a pre-breakfast walk.

Back into the fine forest near the camp, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babblers very close was an early highlight. Rufous-necked and White-crested Laughingthrushes were seen again. Another new aroid was a species of *Remusatia*. Rufous-necked Hornbills were again much in evidence and Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker was a bonus.

Penny spotted a superb group of Ghost Orchids. These were very impressive, *Epipogium roseum*, which is perhaps a new species for Bhutan, as it's not given for the country in the flora. Later today we found *Cymbidium aloifolium*, also not given for Bhutan in the flora, and possible a second new orchid record for the country today.

Male Little Pied and Pygmy Blue Flycatchers appeared in the same tree, one after the other. Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler called commonly here, and one was seen briefly. Black-faced Warbler was attractive. *Dendrobium nobile* and *Bulbophyllum odoratissimum* were in flower. A Muntjac moved on the slopes below us. Himalayan Five-ring was at the forest edge and several Common Birdwings were flying. The hydrangea *Dichroa febrifuga* was in flower.

Back at camp we had been invaded by a large group of youngsters, who intently watched my every move as I took down my tent. Quite unnerving, it was because my camping spot was exactly where they were going to establish their camp and as soon as I moved away they claimed the spot!

Loaded up we headed out.

Aerides multiflorum was in flower, a pink cascading raceme. A view point had Golden-fronted Leafbird, singing Ashy Bulbul, a flock of Striated Yuhinas, and Yellow-vented Warbler. Lesser Batwing flew and Grey-headed Woodpecker was seen. A weedy roadside had many butterflies typical of open habitat including Common Castors, Common Yeoman, Spotless Grass Yellow, Common Tiger, Blue-spotted Crow, Common Mormon, Forget-me-not, Long-brand Bushbrown, *Ypthima newara*, and Common Four-ring. Autumn Leaf was a highlight. Kaengdu found frilly scale insects on a stick. Another Muntjac was here.

Lunch had been set up at a waterfall site which proved to be the butterfly site of the tour, such numbers and variety were there. Among many puddling swallowtails were both Yellow and Red Helens, *Graphium cloanthe*, Common Jay, Veined Jay, Common Bluebottle, Glassy Bluebottle, Common Rose, Four-bar Swordtail, Five-bar Swordtail, Great Zebra, Paris Peacock, Great and Common Mormons, Redbreast, and Spangle.

Among the pierids were Lesser and Common Gulls, Chocolate Albatross, Striped Albatross, Common Albatross, Yellow Orange-tip, Great Orange-tip, Narrow Wanderer, Spotted Sawtooth, and Three-spot Grass Yellow.

The variety continued with Bright Sunbeam, *Ethope himachala*, Common Map, Indian Purple Sapphire, Small Yellow Sailor, Common Nawab, Cruiser, and Autumn Leaf. Skippers included Tree Flitter, and among lycaenids were Malayan and Fluffy Tit. Some eight Orange Oakleafs were seen today.

Water cascading from rocks provided a better shower than that in last night's camp! The Manas river rushed by on the other side of the road.

We arrived early at the hotel near the village of Panbang, and settled into the clean pleasant rooms. We were again surrounded by fine habitat and we soon set off on an exploratory walk. Mountain Imperial Pigeon flew over the forest. There was another *Aerides multiflorum* in flower. Asian Palm Swifts were associated of course with, palms!

Dinner in the hotel was good.

Fireflies pulsed around the hotel and a winged termite event caused much excitement. Among many insects attracted by the hotel lights was a superb large red-spotted longhorn beetle.

Days 13 and 14 Sunday 26th and Monday 27th May Manas National Park

We had two full days to explore the fine lowland forests of Manas National Park. A very short drive took us from the hotel to Panbang village and from there to the park gate. Formalities there were straightforward and we drove the beautiful forested road that leads down to the Indian border, currently closed (or not, see below!), so there was very little traffic.

Things began with Black-crested Bulbul, Orange-breasted Leafbird, a superb Forest Calotes, and One-spot Grass Yellow.

A great breakfast had been prepared in the forest. Chips again!

White-bellied Erpornis and Nepal Fulvettas worked through the vegetation, Lesser Batwing nectared on *Mussaenda*, and a pair of Red-headed Trogons was a highlight. A transparent moth bug was admired and butterflies continued with *Neptis clinia* and Common Jester.

There were beautiful Common Purple Sapphires, Common Castor, Tailed Sulphur, and various blues. A Globba species with orange flowers was probably *Globba racemosa*, and a white thunbergia was *Thunbergia grandiflora*.

Indian Purple Emperor settled on us, Fluffy and Common Tits were both seen, followed by Common Acacia Blue, Lemon Pansy, and Common and Pointed Ciliate Blues.

We drove onto the river gravels where a boat awaited us to ferry us across the Manas River to the HQ buildings and army camp. One series of buildings here is owned by the royal family.

Red-breasted Parakeets were a feature of the tall woodland and noisy Hill Mynas called. Common Rose was on the wing, and the only Common Indian Crow of the tour was seen.

A track took us into fine forest. A very dark *Calotes*, probably a forest calotes, was here. Satyrids were a feature, the overcast weather ideal for them, and they had been noticeably absent from most sites visited so far. Various *Ypthimas* and *Mycalesis* flew as we walked, and Psyches too.

Notable were some very clear Leopard prints, and sign of Elephant and Gaur.

The highlight was several Hooded Pittas. In fact the calls of this species came every few steps, and several were seen taking flight, often landing higher up in a tree. A stick insect was found, and then another, probably of a different species. Various moths, bugs, and other insects punctuated the walk. Greater Flameback called and was seen.

More or less 'wild' water buffalo grazed in the wooded grounds of the army camp, some with especially impressive horns. Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrels scampered among the trees. Chestnut-headed Bee-eaters perched and Indian Roller was much in evidence.

Lunch had been set out for us inside an interesting colonial building. There was free time for exploration or relaxation after lunch. I wandered far and found a pair of Red Junglefowl with young.

The first time I came here I had walked into Bhutan from India, taken a boat across the river, and spent a fine morning here in Bhutanese Manas, not fully legally however (!). We'd seen Rufous-necked Hornbills and Golden Langurs, both so typical of the area, and a Binturong curled up atop a tree. We'd been very fortunate to see that I think.

Back to this year. After lunch we had an exciting trip back across the rushing river. Once back on the entrance road, mud puddling was also now exciting. Tiger Hopper was a beautiful little skipper. A very large shield bug was admired, and Oriental Greenwing flashed over rocks in the stream. There were several Ciliate Blues, and the hedge blue *Actyolepis puspa*. Skinks scuttled in the leaf litter and *Begonia hatacoa* was in flower.

There were still many butterflies flying late afternoon.

That evening we celebrated Gordon's birthday.

The second morning saw us exploring another part of Manas along a road we hadn't visited before. First we admired a long rope bridge, from the comfort of the new road bridge. Golden-fronted Leafbirds were in the trees. Great Hornbills were as always impressive and a troupe of Capped Langurs, a new primate for us, was a great bonus. Blue-striped Crow was on the wing. Among insects here were a Buprestid and a 'black witch' moth.

Purple Sapphire was admired and we saw a male Staff Sergeant. Crow-billed Drongo, a female Crimson Sunbird, Branded Orange Awlet, tiger beetles, Wreathed Hornbill, a pair of Asian Fairy Bluebirds, a mud puddling group of some thirty Tailed Yellows, and Forest Calotes, continued the variety.

Back at the excellent mud puddling site by the waterfall the butterfly display was amazing, an incredible spectacle. Wet steps were the focus of activity, one full of many species of swallowtails, the other full of pierids. Among many other species were Common Beak, Large Yeoman, Common Jester, Dark Blue Tiger, Chocolate Tiger, *Neptis miah*, Popinjay, and Indian Purple Emperor.

Here goes for the swallowtails, quite something to see all these together, Common Raven, Paris Peacock, Spangle, Redbreast, Red Helen, Yellow Helen, Common Mormon, Great Mormon, Common Rose, Five-bar Swordtail, Four-bar Swordtail, Spot Swordtail, Common Jay, Veined Jay, Tailed Jay, Common Bluebottle, Glassy Bluebottle, Great Zebra, Common Mime, and Common Birdwing. Wow! We saw twenty species of swallowtails today.

Pierids included Great Orange-tip, Tailed Sulphur, Tree Yellow, Common Gull, Lesser Gull, Spot Puffin, Plain Puffin, Common Albatross, Chocolate Albatross, Spotted Sawtooth, and Painted Jezebel.

There were several nectaring Punchinellos.

Back through the village, and along the Manas entrance road, by a prayer wheel were a selection of crows and tigers, including Long-branded Blue Crow and Blue-spotted Crow. Rufous-necked Hornbills were seen well.

Various insects included a narrow stick-like grasshopper and more cicadas. A beautiful forest libellulid, with a red and orange abdomen, and two broad yellow bands laterally on the thorax was *Calicnemia eximia*.

Although we now and again had extensive views of the riverine grasslands below us, no mammals were seen. A species of *Peperomia* grew epiphytically, and the white flowered sedge *Kyllinga brevifolia* was attractive and common on the damp roadsides, where were also many different *Cyperus* sedges.

Both Common and Himalayan Jesters were on the wing. Orange-sided Skinks scuttled in the leaf litter.

One of the highlights of the tour for most of us was a ridiculously active clearwing with ornamented hindlegs that could not get enough of our hands, I wonder if we were giving off pheromones! Although in appearance we thought it a minute humming-bird hawk, it was in fact a sesiid, probably *Melittia eurytion*.

Cicadas and frogs provided a soundtrack.

Days 15 & 16 Tues 28th May & Wed 29th May Panbang, to Guwahati, to Delhi

An Atlas Moth at the hotel started the day well for us. Above the hotel we reached more fine forest. Ruddy Kingfisher was seen briefly in flight. Slaty-backed Forktail frequented streams, and Rufousnecked Hornbill was seen again. I was pleased to spot an Asian Barred Owlet, Sultan Tits were a highlight, there were Golden-fronted Leafbird, Striated Yuhina, and Scarlet Minivet. The only Long-tailed Broadbill of the tour was another highlight.

Butterflies included Small Staff Sergeant, Newar Three-ring, Common Windmill, Glassy Tiger, Red Lacewing, Banded Treebrown, and Red-spot and Yellow Jezebels. A lovely impatiens with very distinctive flowers was *Impatiens jurpia*.

The afternoon was left as free time to catch up on notes, or rest after the challenges of the last few days! Grey-breasted Prinia and Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch were among several species seen near the hotel.

Heavy rain came overnight, and we set out. The same rock slide as yesterday had again blocked the road, but the digger was soon at work and we did not have to wait too long for the road to be clear. A great bonus was that two government officials were also making this journey today in their 4WD, and they stayed with us, stopping now and again to make sure all was OK, and making sure we reached Indian Manas safely.

Indeed we did, and at a small hotel in the Indian part of Manas, currently deserted, where I had last stayed in 2005, we arrived at just the same time as our Indian drivers, so moving all our luggage between vehicles was straightforward in this tranquil spot. It was then farewell to Kaengdu, the drivers, and the cooks who had been a superb team looking after us.

We drove through deserted Indian Manas and reached an isolated border post with a small garden where they were certainly surprised to see us, when had any foreigner last used this border? The official had some trouble finding a stamp that worked. But soon we were on our way, very happy to be in Assam and en route to Guwahati airport.

Now on the Assam plains we finally saw common open country birds such as Cattle Egret, in breeding plumage (on Day 16!), and Great, Intermediate, and Little too. This was a beautiful drive, at least as far as the highway. (I'm sure that fast highway was not here the last time I was in Assam!).

Storks were a feature in India and we saw Woolly-necked Stork, White Stork, Asian Openbill, and Lesser Adjutant. Also added to the bird list were Lesser Whistling Duck, Indian Pond Heron, Little Cormorant, Grey-headed Swamphen (Purple Gallinule), Red Collared Dove, Rufous Treepie, Black-hooded Oriole, and Black Drongo.

In good time we reached the bustling Guwahati Airport, and enjoyed a very good vegetarian lunch in an a/c restuarant nearby. The last challenge of the tour was a complete surprise after the main concerns of today and landslides. An obnoxious airline official took delight in refusing to check any of us in as we did not have the credit card used to make the flight bookings. He was rude and intransigent. In the end I had to buy all the tickets again.

The departure lounge was packed, with many flights departing, most of them to Delhi. As one by one departed we had more and more space to relax. Our flight was punctual, pleasant, and smooth. We arrived in Delhi to find a remarkable 32 degrees, even after 8 o'clock in the evening!

We were met by Ravindra, good to see him again. The journey to the hotel was straightforward and there we enjoyed a good dinner, being very pleased to be able to enjoy curry again.

However I said my farewells during dinner as I had to fly this evening, to enable me, once in UK, to then fly to Turin, collect a mini-bus, return to my home in Italy for one night, then the next day drive across France to Toulouse to meet the Pyrenees group.

Day 17 Thursday 30th May Departure

Departures were at various times, with different transfers to the nearby airport during the day.

Systematic List Number 1 Butterflies

The taxonomy follows 'Butterflies of Thailand' by Ek-Amnuay, 2nd revised edition, 2012. The BNHS Field Guide 'Butterflies of India' by Isaac Kehimkar is an excellent photographic guide. Species annotated 2019 were added to the list this year. Species not seen this year are annotated with the year in which they were last seen. Of course all species with no year annotation were seen this year.

Papilionidae

Papilionidae		
Troides helena	Common Birdwing	Scattered records. Several in Gongphu and Manas
		areas. Seen on 4 days.
Atrophaneura aidonius	Lesser Batwing	3 in Manas area
Atrophaneura latreillei	Rose Windmill	Several Tiger's Nest Monastery, also Tashitrang
		Valley, 2019
Atrophaneura dasarada	Great Windmill	Tashitrang Valley, 2019
Atrophaneura polyeuctes	Common Windmill	Scattered records, seen on 3 days
Atrophaneura plutonius	Chinese Windmill	Between Thimphu and Dochu La, 2019
Pachliopta aristolochiae	Common Rose	Daily at Manas
Papilio machaon	Swallowtail	Several around Chele La
Papilio castor	Common Raven	Manas
Papilio helenus	Red Helen	Widespread in small numbers
Papilio nephelus	Yellow Helen	Manas
Papilio polytes	Common Mormon	Widespread in Manas
Papilio memnon	Great Mormon	Tingtibi to Gongphu, between Gongphu and
		Panbang, and Manas
Papilio alcmenor	Redbreast	Scattered records, seen on 3 days
Papilio protenor	The Spangle	Panbang
Papilio arcturus	Blue Peacock	Tashitrang Valley and Day 8, 2019
Papilio paris	Paris Peacock	Widespread and common. The commonest
		swallowtail.
Papilio clytia	Common Mime	1 at Manas
Meandrusa lachinus	Brown Gorgon	1 in Jigme Dorje NP 2017
Graphium mandarinum	Spectacle Swordtail	1 in Tashitrang Valley
Graphium eurous	Sixbar Swordtail	1 each day in Jigme Dorje NP
Graphium agetes	Fourbar Swordtail	Scattered Manas records
Graphium nomius	Spot Swordtail	Manas
Graphium antiphates	Fivebar Swordtail	Manas 2019
Graphium xenocles	Great Zebra	Manas
Graphium cloanthus	Glassy Bluebottle	Widespread, seen on 4 days. c.10 in Jigme
		Dorje NP.
Graphium sarpedon	Common Bluebottle	Scattered records in Manas
Graphium doson	Common Jay	On two days in Manas 2019
Graphium chironides	Veined Jay	On two days in Manas
Graphium agamemnon	Tailed Green Jay	Manas
Pieridae		
Pierinae		
Delias sanaca	Pale Jezebel	Tingtibi to Gongphu
		5 6

Delias sanaca Delias belladonna Delias pasithoe Delias acalis

Tingtibi to Gongphu Several in Tashithang Valley on 2 days Day 11 Tingtibi to Gongphu 2017

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Hill Jezebel

Red-base Jezebel

Red-breast Jezebel

Delias descombesi Delias agostina Delias hyparete Leptosia nina Prioneris thestylis

Pieris brassicae Artogeia canidia Cepora nerissa Cepora nadina Appias lyncida Appias olferna Appias albina Appias indra Appias lalage Ixias pyrene Hebomoia glaucippe Pareronia avatar

Coliadinae

Dercas verhuelli Catopsilia pyranthe Catopsilia pomona Eurema laeta Eurema hecabe Eurema brigitta Eurema blanda Eurema andersoni Gandaca harina Colias fieldii Colias erate

Nymphalidae Danainae

Danaus chrysippus Danaus genutia Tirumala septentrionis Parantica aglea Parantica melaneus Parantica sita Euploea core Euploea algea Euploea mulciber

Euploea midamus Euploea klugii

Satyrinae

Melanitis leda Elymnias vasudeva Lethe confusa Red-spot Jezebel Yellow Jezebel Painted Jezebel Psyche Spotted Sawtooth

Large White Indian Small White Common Gull Lesser Gull Chocolate Albatross Striped Albatross Common Albatross Plain Puffin Spot Puffin Yellow Orange Tip Great Orange Tip Narrow Wanderer

Tailed SulphurDay 10 orMottled EmigrantOnly at MLemon EmigrantOnly or 2Spotless Grass YellowTashitranCommon Grass YellowManasSmall Grass YellowA few redThree-spot Grass YellowScatteredAnderson's Grass YellowScatteredTree YellowTashitrana clouded yellowDochu LaEastern Pale Clouded YellowParo area

Plain Tiger Common Tiger Dark Blue Tiger Glassy Tiger Chocolate Tiger Chestnut Tiger Common Indian Crow Long-branded Blue Crow Striped Blue Crow

Blue-spotted Crow Brown King Crow

Common Evening Brown Jezebel Palmfly Banded Treebrown Panbang 2019 Scattered Manas records Trongsa to Tingtibi, Gongphu to Panbang, and Manas Paro, Chele La, and Lobesa Widespread Widespread from Day 8 Day 10 onwards Gongphu to Panbang, and Manas Gongphu to Panbang Manas Widespread, seen on 6 days Widespread, seen on 6 days Widespread and often common Scattered records, Day 10 onwards Panbang

Panbang

Panbang

Day 10 onwards Only at Manas Only on 2 days, 2017 Tashitrang Valley Manas A few records Scattered Manas records Scattered Manas records Tashitrang Valley and scattered Manas records Dochu La Paro area

A few records in disturbed habitat Gongphu to Panbang Manas NP Manas NP Widespread in small numbers 1 at Manas NP 2019 Manas NP Widespread and reasonably common in Manas Manas NP Manas NP

Seen on 2 days 2019 This fine species seen at Manas NP 2017 Panbang

Lethe verma Lethe kansa Ethope himachala Penthema darlisa Mycalesis perseus Mycalesis mineus Mycalesis visala Orsotriaena medus Ypthima baldus Ypthima sakra Ypthima huebneri Ypthima newara Callerebia annada

Morphinae

Melanocyma faunula

Charaxinae Polyura athamas Polyura eudamippus Polyura dolon Charaxes bernardus Charaxes solon

Calinaginae Calinaga buddha

Heliconiinae Acraea issoria

Cethosia biblis Childrena childreni Argyreus hyperbius Phalanta phalantha Vagrans sinha Cirrochroa aoris Cirrochroa tyche Vindula erota

Limenitidinae Neptis clinia Neptis hylas Neptis omeroda Neptis magadha Neptis ananta Neptis zaida Neptis manasa Athyma jina Athyma larymna Straight Treebrown Bamboo Forester Dusky Diadem Three-coloured Kaiser Common Bushbrown Dark Brand Bushbrown Long-branded Bushbrown

Common Fivering Himalayan Fivering Common Fourring Newar Three-ring Ringed Argus

Pallid Faun

Tingtibi to Gongphu 2017 Tingtibi area 2017 One on day 11 2 fine males south of Tingtibi 2017

Common at Manas Manas NP Manas NP 2017 Numerous at Manas 1 at Gongphu Daily in Manas NP Scattered records On two days in Tashitrang Valley, and Day 8 (sometimes spelt ananda!)

The c

Common Nawab Great Nawab Stately Nawab Common Tawny Rajah Black Rajah

The Orange Freak

Yellow Coster

Red Lacewing Large Silverstripe Indian Fritillary Common Leopard The Vagrant Large Yeoman Common Yeoman Common Cruiser

Clear Sailor Common Sailor Dingy Sailor Small Yellow Sailor Spotted Sailor Ananta Yellow Sailor Variable Sailor Pale Hockey-stick Sailor Bhutan Sergeant Great Siam Sergeant The only 'amathusiid' seen was this fine species. Tingtibi to Gongphu.

Panbang Tashithang Valley on 2 days Several in Tashithang Valley on 2 days 1 at Manas 2017 Day 11 2019

2 in Jigme Dorje National Park

Tashitrang Valley, and Gongphu, locally numerous Tashitrang Valley and Manas Tashitrang Valley 2019 A female Tashitrang Valley Delhi and Manas NP 2017 Manas NP, only 1, 2017 On two days at Manas, 2019 Daily at Manas 2017 Between Gongphu and Panbang, 2019.

Manas NP Manas NP Tingtibi to Gongphu 2017 Manas NP Manas NP Tashitrang Valley Tashitrang Valley on 2 days Several in Jigme Dorje National Park Tashitrang Valley 2019 An intriguing find in 2017 was a forewing of a

Athyma selenophora Athyma zeroca Athyma cama Athyma nefte Athyma ranga Sumalia daraxa

Sumalia zulema Parasarpa dudu Auzakia danava Euthalia anosia Euthalia aconthea Euthalia lubentina

Cyrestinae Cyrestis thyodamus Pseudergolis wedah

Stibochiona nicea

Biblidinae Ariadne merione Ariadne ariadne

Apaturinae

Mimathyma ambica Rohana parisatis Sephisa chandra Hestina nama Hestina persimilis

Nymphalinae

Polygonia c-aureum Vanessa indica Vanessa cardui Vanessa ladakhensis Kaniska canace Symbrenthia lilaea Symbrenthia hypselis Symbrenthia silana Symbrenthia niphanda Junonia iphita Junonia almana Junonia lemonias Junonia orithya Junonia hierta Hypolimnas misippus Doleschallia bisaltide

Staff Sergeant Small Staff Sergeant Orange Staff Sergeant Colour Sergeant Black-veined Sergeant Green Commodore

Scarce White Commodore White Commodore Chocolate Commodore Grey Baron Mango Baron Common Gaudy Baron

Common Map Tabby

Popinjay

Common Castor Angled Castor

Indian Purple Emperor Black Prince Eastern Courtesan The Circe The Siren

Golden-C Comma Indian Red Admiral Painted Lady Indian Tortoiseshell Blue Admiral Common Jester Himalayan Jester Scarce Jester Blue-tail Jester Chocolate Pansy Peacock Pansy Lemon Pansy Blue Pansy Yellow Pansy Danaid Eggfly Autumn Leaf

large Athyma species, found at Manas NP. It is closest to this species, rare in the region, but the markings differ in several details. A male, Manas NP Panbang 2019 Tashitrang Valley on 2 days A female, Trongsa to Tingtibi, 2017 1, Manas NP, 2017 Tashithang Valley and Tingtibi to Gongphu 2017 On three days in Manas 2017 Tashitrang Valley on 2 days 2, Tashithang Valley 2017 1 south of Tingtibi 2017 Day 10 2019 Day 14 2017

Widespread and often common Jigme Dorje National Park on two days, and Day 10 Tashitrang Valley and Manas NP

Manas, locally common Manas

A total of 5 in Manas Daily in Manas, also Tashitrang Valley Several Tashitrang Valley, also Manas NP 1, Tashitrang Valley Jigme Dorje NP 2017

Chele La 2017 Punakha area Punakha area and Manas 2017 Haa and Tashitrang Valley Tashitrang Valley 2019 Manas NP Jigme Dorje NP Scattered from Day 10 onwards **Tashitrang Valley 2017** Widespread Tashitrang Valley 2017 Manas NP Tashitrang Valley 2017 Tashitrang Valley and Manas A male Tashitrang Valley, 2019 2 at Panbang

Kallima inachus

Libytheinae Libythea celtis Libythea myrrha

Lycaenidae Riodininae

Zemeros flegyas Dodona ouida Dodona egeon Dodona eugenes Dodona adonira Abisara fylla Abisara echerius

Miletinae

Taraka hamada Spalgis epius

Curetinae

Curetis bulis

Polyommatinae

Caleta elna Everes lacturnus Megisba malaya Actyolepis puspa Udara dilecta Celastrina huegelii Celastrina lavendularis Udara albocaerulea Celatoxia marginata Zizina otis Zizeeria maha Zizula hylax Catachrysops strabo Leptotes plinius Lampides boeticus Jamides bochus

Jamides celeno Jamides elpis Jamides alecto Nacaduba kurava Nacaduba beroe Ionolyce helicon Prosotas nora Prosotas dubiosa Prosotas lutea Common Beak Club Beak

Indian Leaf Butterfly

The Punchinello Mixed Punch Orange Punch Tailed Punch Striped Punch Dark Judy Common Plum Judy

Forest Pierrot The Apefly

Bright Sunbeam

Elbowed Pierrot

Indian Cupid The Malayan Common Hedge Blue Pale Hedge Blue Large Hedge Blue Plain Hedge Blue Albocaerulean Margined Hedge Blue Lesser Grass Blue Pale Grass Blue Tiny Grass Blue Forget-me-not Zebra Blue Long-tailed Blue (Pea Blue) Dark Caerulean

Common Caerulean Glistening Caerulean Metallic Caerulean Transparent Six-line Blue Opaque Six-line Blue Pointed Lineblue Common Lineblue Tailless Lineblue Banded Lineblue Tashitrang Valley, and on 3 days in the south, maximum 8 in one day

Tashithang Valley on two days Several in Manas

Widespread in small numbers Tashitrang Valley Tashitrang Valley Tashitrang Valley 2019 Tashitrang Valley 2017 2017

Near Tingtibi 2017 1, Manas NP 2017

Widespread in small numbers

Several in Manas Manas NP Tashitrang Valley Tingtibi to Gongphu Scattered records Tashitrang Valley 2019 Scattered records Trongsa to Tingtibi 2019

Scattered records 2017 Scattered records Zhemghang circuit 2017 Manas NP

Punakha area and Trongsa to Tingtibi Widespread in small numbers, 2017, not seen 2019 Manas NP Manas NP 2017 Scattered records

Tingtibi to Gongphu 2019 Scattered records Widespread Manas NP

Anthene lycaenina	Pointed Ciliate Blue	Manas NP
	Tonnea Childe Diae	
Lycaeninae		
Heliophorus epicles	Common Purple Sapphire	Several at Manas
Heliophorus indicus	Indian Purple Sapphire	Tingtibi to Gongphu
Heliophorus tamu	Powdery Green Sapphire	Several in Tashitrang Valley 2019
Theclinae		
Cigaristis rukmini	Khaki Silverline	2 south of Tingtibi 2017
Cigaritis lohita	Long-banded Silverline	Gongphu to Panbang 2017
Cigaritis nipalicus	Silver-grey Silverline	Tashitrang Valley 2019
Surendra quercetorum	Common Acacia Blue	A female at Manas NP
Cheritra freja	Common Imperial	1 at Manas NP 2017
Hypolycaena erylus	Common Tit	A few at Manas NP
Hypolycaena amasa	Fluffy Tit	Several Manas NP
Hypolycaena kina	Blue Tit	Tashitrang Valley and Day 10, 2019
Uaspaniidaa		
Hesperiidae		
Coeliadinae		
Burara oedipodea	Branded Orange Awlet	2 at Manas 2019
Pyrginae		
Darpa hanria	Hairy Angle	Tashithang Valley 2017
Pseudocoladenia dan	Fulvous Pied Flat	Tashithang Valley and Manas NP 2017
Coladenia agni	Brown Pied Flat	Manas NP 2019
Coladenia hoenei	Large Spot Pied Flat	Tashitrang Valley 2019
Mooreana trichoneura	Yellow Flat	Tingtibi to Gongphu 2019
Hesperiinae		
Aeromachus kali	Blue-spotted Scrub Hopper	Tashitrang Valley 2019
Aeromachus sp.	scrub hopper sp.	Tingtibi to Gongphu 2019
Ochus subvittatus	Tiger Hopper	Gongphu to Panbang
Thoressa cerata	Northern Ace	Gongphu to Panbang 2019
Hyarotis adrastus	Tree Flitter	Gongphu to Panbang 2017
Polytremis lubricans	Contiguous Swift	2017
	Swift spp.	Day 11, and at 3400m Day 8

Common Ciliate Blue

Manas NP

Anthene emolus

Systematic List Number 2 Birds

The nomenclature and systematic order generally follow 'Birds of South Asia, The Ripley Guide' by Rasmussen and Anderton, Lynx Edicions 2005. Some more recent taxonomic changes are taken from 'Birds of South-east Asia' by Craig Robson, Second Edition 2015. The standard field guide is now 'Birds of Bhutan and the Eastern Himalayas' by Grimmett, Inskipp, Inskipp, and Sherub, Helm 2019.

Little Cormorant Great Egret Intermediate Egret Little Egret Eastern Cattle Egret Indian Pond Heron Asian Openbill White Stork Woolly-necked Stork Lesser Whistling Duck Himalayan Vulture Oriental Honey Buzzard **Crested Serpent Eagle** Mountain Hawk Eagle **Black Eagle** Himalayan Buzzard Black Kite Common Kestrel Common Hill Partridge **Black Francolin** Red Junglefowl

Himalayan Monal Kalij Pheasant Ibisbill **River Lapwing Red-wattled Lapwing** Rock Dove Speckled Wood Pigeon Mountain Imperial Pigeon Oriental Turtle Dove Spotted Dove Red Collared Dove **Emerald** Dove Pin-tailed Green Pigeon Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon **Rose-ringed Parakeet Red-breasted Parakeet** Large Hawk Cuckoo Chestnut-winged Cuckoo Asian Koel

Banded Bay Cuckoo Grey-bellied Cuckoo

Phalacrocorax niger Ardea alba Mesophoyx intermedia Egretta garzetta Bubulcus coromandus Ardeola grayii Anastomus oscitans Ciconia ciconia Ciconia episcopus Dendrocygna javanica Gyps himalayensis Pernis ptilorhynchus Spilornis cheela Nisaetus nipalensis Ictinaetus malayensis Buteo refectus Milvus migrans Falco tinnunculus Arborophila torqueola Francolinus francolinus Gallus gallus

Lophophorus impejanus Lophura leucomelanos Ibidorhyncha struthersii Vanellus duvaucelii Vanellus indicus Columba livia Columba hodgsonii Ducula badia Streptopelia orientalis Streptopelia chinensis Streptopelia tranquebarica Chalcophaps indica Treron apicauda Treron sphenurus Psittacula krameri Psittacula alexandri *Hierococcyx* sparverioides Clamator coromandus Eudynamys scolopaceus

Cacomantis sonneratii Cacomantis passerinus

Assam Assam Assam Assam 1 at Paro, and Assam Assam Assam Several in Assam Assam Assam c.10 Pele La Day 11 Trongsa to Tingtibi, and Panbang Pele La and Manas Seen on 3 days Chele La Delhi A female on Day 7 Heard at various sites

A male on Day 8, and several males, females, and young, at Manas Two males and a female at Chele La Chele La 1 at Paro, 1 Tashitrang Valley Paro and Punakha Delhi Feral Pigeon widespread Paro and Dochu La Gongphu, Panbang, and Manas NP Widespread and common Widespread, commoner in the south Seen in Assam Tingtibi and Manas NP Zhemghang and Day 10 Trongsa and Day 11 Delhi Manas NP Widespread, often heard 2 at Tingtibi Heard at various sites, seen Tashitrang Vallev Heard at various sites Lobesa and Punakha

Drongo Cuckoo Indian Cuckoo Eurasian Cuckoo

Himalayan Cuckoo Asian Emerald Cuckoo Mountain Scops Owl Asian Barred Owlet Collared Owlet Himalayan Swiftlet Asian Palm Swift Fork-tailed Swift House Swift White-throated Needletail Red-headed Trogon Indian Roller Hoopoe White-throated Kingfisher Ruddy Kingfisher Crested Kingfisher Pied Kingfisher Little Green Bee-eater Chestnut-headed Bee-eater Blue-bearded Bee-eater

Great Hornbill

Rufous-necked Hornbill

Wreathed Hornbill Yellow-rumped Honeyguide

Great Barbet

Golden-throated Barbet Blue-throated Barbet Blue-eared Barbet Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker Crimson-breasted Woodpecker Darjeeling Woodpecker Greater Yellownape Lesser Yellownape Grey-headed Woodpecker Greater Goldenback Rufous Woodpecker Bay Woodpecker Long-tailed Broadbill Hooded Pitta White-bellied Erpornis Nepal House Martin Red-rumped Swallow White Wagtail

Surniculus lugubris Cuculus micropterus Cuculus canorus

Cuculus saturatus Chrysococcyx maculatus Otus spilocephalus Glaucidium cuculoides Glaucidium brodiei Aerodramus brevirostris Cypsiurus balasiensis Apus pacificus Apus nipalensis Hirundapus caudacutus Harpactes erythrocephalus Coracias benghalensis Upupa epops Halcyon smyrnensis Halcyon coromanda Ceryle lugubris Ceryle rudis Merops orientalis Merops leschenaulti Nyctyornis athertoni

Buceros bicornis

Aceros nipalensis

Aceros undulatus Indicator xanthonotus

Megalaima virens

Megalaima franklinii Megalaima asiatica Megalaima australis Dendrocopos macei Dendrocopos cathpharius Dendrocopos darjellensis Chrysophlegma flavinucha Picus chlorolophus Picus canus Chrysocolaptes lucidus Micropternus brachyurus Blythipicus pyrrhotis Psarisomus dalhousiae Pitta sordida Erpornis zantholeuca Delichon nipalense Cecropis daurica Motacilla alba

2, Zhemghang Heard in Tingtibi and Gongphu areas Often heard, sometimes seen, e.g. Chele La Heard at several sites A male Day 8 Heard at Gongphu Panbang Heard at Gongphu Day 10 Panbang Scattered records Day 5 **Tashitrang Valley** 2 at Manas NP Manas, several, and Assam Punakha Tingtibi, Zhemghang, Manas, and Assam 1 at Panbang Tashithang Valley and Manas 2, Manas Delhi and Day 11 Manas NP Zhemghang, Tingtibi, Gongphu, and Manas NP Many sightings in Manas, seen on 5 days Many sightings in Manas, seen on 5 days A male at Manas A pair seen very well west of Pele La, and another pair south of Trongsa Widespread and common. Heard almost continuously. Widespread at mid altitudes Widespread in the south Manas NP Gongphu Between Trongsa and Tingtibi A pair at Dochu La, and Day 8 Gongphu and Panbang Jigme Dorje National Park Day 11 2 at Manas 1 at Lobesa Manas NP Near Panbang Several in Manas NP Zhemghang and Manas Zhemghang A few records Scattered records

Olive-backed Pipit Ashy Woodswallow Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike Black-winged Cuckooshrike Grey-chinned Minivet Short-billed Minivet Scarlet Minivet

Striated Bulbul Black-crested Bulbul Red-whiskered Bulbul Himalayan Bulbul Red-vented Bulbul Ashy Bulbul Mountain Bulbul White-throated Bulbul Himalayan Black Bulbul

Golden-fronted Leafbird Orange-bellied Leafbird Asian Fairy Bluebird

Long-tailed Shrike Grey-backed Shrike Common Iora Black-naped Monarch Asian Paradise Flycatcher White-throated Fantail Yellow-bellied Fantail Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush Blue-capped Rock Thrush Blue Whistling Thrush

White-collared Blackbird Grey-winged Blackbird Oriental Magpie Robin Little Forktail Black-backed Forktail Slaty-backed Forktail Spotted Forktail Plumbeous Water Redstart Anthus hodgsoni Artamus fuscus Hemipus picatus Coracina melaschistos Pericrocotus solaris Pericrocotus brevirostris Pericrocotus speciosus

Pycnonotus striatus Pycnonotus flaviventris Pycnonotus jocosus Pycnonotus leucogenis Pycnonotus cafer Hemixos flavala Ixos mcclellandii Alophoixus flaveolus Hypsipetes leucocephalus

Chloropsis aurifrons Chloropsis hardwickii Irena puella

Lanius schach Lanius tephronotus Aegithina tiphia Hypothymis azurea

Rhipidura albicollis Chelidorhynx hypoxantha Culicicapa ceylonensis Monticola rufiventris Monticola cinclorhynchus Myophonus caeruleus

Turdus albocinctus Turdus boulboul Copsychus saularis Enicurus scouleri Enicurus immaculatus Enicurus schistaceus Enicurus maculatus

Chaimarrornis leucocephalus

watercourses,

White-capped Water Redstart Grey Bushchat Dark-sided Flycatcher Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher Little Pied Flycatcher Slaty-blue Flycatcher

Verditer Flycatcher

Eumyias thalassinus

Saxicola ferreus

Muscicapa sibirica

Ficedula strophiata

Ficedula tricolor

Ficedula westermanni

Chele La Tingtibi onwards Near Panbang Day 11 Zhemghang and Day 10 Pele La Zhemghang, Tingtibi, Gongphu, and Manas Zhemghang and Panbang area Manas Manas Tingtibi area Widespread and very common On 5 days from Trongsa south Zhemghang and Panbang On 5 days from Trongsa south Widespread and common, seen on 13 Day Manas NP Manas NP Trongsa to Tingtibi, Zhemghang, and Manas NP Scattered records, ssp.tricolor Widespread and reasonably common Panbang Manas NP Terpsiphone paradisi Manas NP Dochu La and Zhemghang Pele La Pele La A pair, Pele La Scattered records, seen on 5 days Widespread in small numbers, seen on 12 days Several in the Paro area, and Day 7 Day 8 Widespread 2 near Trongsa Tashitrang Valley and Manas Scattered records, seen on 3 days Trongsa to Tingtibi Rhyacornis fuliginosa Scattered records along

last seen near Trongsa Day 7 Scattered records Pele La Dochu La and Pele La A male at Gongphu Nesting at Dochu La, and also seen at Pele La Widespread, seen on 7 days

Pale Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis unicolor	A female at Panbang
Pygmy Blue Flycatcher	Muscicapella hodgsoni Trasladari taran imbai astara	A male at Gongphu
Bhutan Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron imbricatum	Trongsa. Endemic. Split from Streaked
Diad, faced Loughing thread	Tue de destaures affins	Laughing-thrush, <i>T.lineatum</i> .
Black-faced Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron affine	Chele La
Rufous-necked Laughingthrush	Dryonastes ruficollis	Seen very well in Tingtibi, Gongphu and
		Panbang areas
Grey-sided Laughingthrush	Dryonastes caerulatus	Dochu La
Spotted Laughingthrush	Ianthocincla ocellata	Heard at Chele La
Striated Laughingthrush	Grammatoptila striata	Jigme Dorje NP and Zhemghang
White-crested Laughingthrush	Garrulax leucolophus	Trongsa to Tingtibi and Day 11
White-throated Laughingthrush	Garrulax albogularis	Scattered records, seen on 5 days
Greater Necklaced Laughingthru		<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i> Manas NP
Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrus	<u> </u>	Zhemghang
Red-faced Liocichla	Liocichla phoenicea	Heard Gongphu
White-browed Scimitar Babbler	Pomatorhinus schisticeps	Zhemghang
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	Pomatorhinus ruficollis	Dochu La
Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler	Pomatorhinus erythrogenys	Gongphu
Silver-eared Mesia	Mesia argentauris	Heard on Day 10
Red-billed Leiothrix	Leiothrix lutea	Pele La
Black-chinned Yuhina	Yuhina nigrimenta	Zhemghang
Whiskered Yuhina	Yuhina flavicollis	Dochu La
Rufous-vented Yuhina	Yuhina occipitalis	Pele La
Striated Yuhina	Staphida castaniceps	Gongphu to Panbang, and Panbang
White-browed Fulvetta	Fulvetta vinipectus	Pele La
Nepal Fulvetta	Alcippe nipalensis	Tashitrang Valley
Rufous Sibia	Heterophasia capistrata	Common at mid altitudes
Bar-throated Minla	Chrysominla strigula	Pele La
Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill	1 5 1	Day 8
Striated Prinia	Prinia crinigera	Trongsa and Tingtibi areas
Rufescent Prinia	Prinia rufescens	Day 8
Grey-breasted Prinia	Prinia hodgsonii	Panbang
Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Scattered lowland records
Brown-flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>	Seen at Gongphu, heard elsewhere
Yellow-browed Warbler	Phylloscopus inornatus	Tiger's Nest Monastery
Buff-barred Warbler	Phylloscopus pulcher	Chele La
Greenish Warbler	Phylloscopus trochiloides	Chele La
Large-billed Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus magnirostris	Paro
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus reguloides	Dochu La
Grey-hooded Warbler	Phylloscopus xanthoschistos	Tashitrang Valley, Zhemghang, and
N/ 11 / 1 XA7 1 1		Gongphu
Yellow-vented Warbler	Phylloscopus cantator Seicercus whistleri	Zhemghang and Gongphu
Whistler's Warbler		Pele La
Black-faced Warbler	Abroscopus schisticeps	Gongphu
Yellow-browed Tit	Sylviparus modestus Busingarus star	South of Trongsa
Coal Tit	Periparus ater	Tiger's Nest Monastery, Chele La,
Dufous worked Tit	Dominanto multi dia sultais	Dochu La Bola La
Rufous-vented Tit	Periparus rubidiventris	Pele La Widespread scop on 0 days
Green-backed Tit	Parus monticolus	Widespread, seen on 9 days
Sultan Tit	Melanochlora sultanea	Panbang area
Black-throated Tit	Aegithalos concinnus	10+ Zhemghang
Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	Certhia nipalensis	Pele La
Creation	Notural History Halidays	vivie and antoning of ult 29

Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch White-tailed Nuthatch Plain Flowerpecker Fire-breasted Flowerpecker Mrs Gould's Sunbird Black-throated Sunbird

Green-tailed Sunbird Crimson Sunbird Streaked Spiderhunter Oriental White-eye **Crested Bunting** Yellow-breasted Greenfinch Collared Grosbeak Spot-winged Grosbeak White-rumped Munia Scaly-breasted Munia Russet Sparrow Eurasian Tree Sparrow Black-hooded Oriole Maroon Oriole Black Drongo Ashy Drongo Crow-billed Drongo Bronzed Drongo Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo Greater Racket-tailed Drongo Asian Pied Starling Common Myna Jungle Myna Common Hill Myna **Rufous** Treepie Grey Treepie **Collared Treepie** Red-billed Chough Yellow-billed Blue Magpie Eurasian Jay Spotted Nutcracker

Large-billed Crow House Crow Sitta castanea Sitta himalayensis Dicaeum minullum Dicaeum ignipectus Aethopyga gouldiae Aethopyga saturata

Aethopyga nipalensis Aethopyga siparaja Arachnothera magna *Zosterops palpebrosus* Emberiza lathami Chloris spinoides Mycerobas affinis Mycerobas melanozanthos Lonchura striata Lonchura punctulata Passer rutilans Passer montanus Oriolus xanthornus Oriolus traillii Dicrurus macrocercus Dicrurus leucophaeus Dicrurus annectens Dicrurus aeneus Dicrurus remifer Dicrurus paradiseus Gracupica contra Acridotheres tristis Acridotheres fuscus Gracula religiosa Dendrocitta vagabunda Dendrocitta formosae Dendrocitta frontalis Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax Urocissa flavirostris Garrulus glandarius Nucifraga caryocatactes

Corvus japonensis Corvus splendens

Near Panbang 2, Zhemghang Zhemghang Dochu La and Day 8 Dochu La and Trongsa to Tingtibi Jigme Dorje National Park, Trongsa to Tingtibi, Zhemghang, and Tingtibi to Gongphu Pele La and Trongsa to Tingtibi Tingtibi, Gongphu and Manas On 6 days from Trongsa south Scattered records Trongsa to Tingtibi Trongsa to Tingtibi Chele La Several Chele La Day 8 Lobesa and Tashithang Valley Widespread Widespread and common

Scattered records Assam Widespread and reasonably common Manas NP Zhemghang and Manas Zhemghang Manas NP Assam Widespread and common 2, Trongsa to Tingtibi Manas NP Punakha Widespread and rather common

Paro and Dochu La Scattered records Dochu La and Pele La Tiger's Nest Monastery, Chele La, and Pele La Widespread India, and southern Bhutan

Systematic List Number 3 Plants

This list is rather provisional, it however lists all that was identified. The standard work is the excellent nine volume 'Flora of Bhutan', by Grierson and Long (volumes 3:1 and 3:2 by Noltie, volume 3:3, 'Orchids of Bhutan', by Pearce and Cribb), Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, 1983 to 2002. Of use was 'A Photo Guide to Flowers of Bhutan' by Thinley Namgyel and Karma Tenzin, WWF Bhutan, 2009.

N.B. Many ferns and fern allies were present but unidentified. Pteridophytes are not covered by the flora. To work on next time!

Lycopodiaceae		
Lycopodium clavatum	Stag's-horn Clubmoss. Dochu La.	
Equisetaceae		
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	
Equisetum sp.	An unbranched species Tashitrang Valley	
Ferns		
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Polystichum spp.		
Anogramma sp.		
Adiantum spp.		
Asplenium spp.		
Dicranopteris spp.		
Matteucia sp.		
<i>Gymnocarpium</i> sp.		
Cyathea andersonii	Tree Fern, this species?	
Gymnospermae		
Pinaceae		
Pinus wallichiana	Blue Pine. Dominant over large areas.	
Pinus bhutanica	0	
Pinus roxburghii	Chir Pine. Lower altitudes.	
Larix griffithiana	Sikkim Larch. Chele La etc.	
Picea spinulosa	East Himalayan Spruce. Abundant above 2400m.	
Tsuga dumosa	Himalayan Hemlock. Common.	
Abies densa	East Himalayan Fir. Above 3000m.	
Cupressaceae		
Juniperus recurva	Weeping Blue Juniper	
Taxaceae		
Taxus baccata		
Ephedraceae		
Ephedra gerardiana	a joint pine. Ha side of Chele La.	

Angiospermae Dicotyledonae Juglandaceae

Engelhardia spicata

Juglans regia

Salicaceae

Populus ciliata Populus rotundifolia Salix serpyllum Salix babylonica Salix spp.

Betulaceae

Alnus nepalensis Betula utilis Betula alnoides

Fagaceae

Quercus lanata Quercus griffithii Quercus semecarpifolia Quercus spp. Lithocarpus spp. Castanopsis indica Castanopsis hystrix Castanopsis tribuloides

Moraceae

Ficus religiosa Ficus spp.

Urticaceae

Urtica spp. Girardinia diversifolia Pilea spp.

Cannabaceae

Cannabis sativa

Santalaceae

Osyris lanceolata

Loranthaceae

Scurrula parasitica Scurrula elata

Taxillus kaempferi Viscum sp. Tree with impressive pendulous fruiting racemes with large bracts Walnut

Tiger's Nest Monastery

Chele La

an alder

Bo-tree

Lobesa

Various hosts East side of Dochu La on *Quercus,* also occurs on other hosts On conifers

Polygonaceae

Aconogonon molle Persicaria chinensis Persicaria capitata Persicaria nepalensis Persicaria spp. Rumex nepalensis

Phytolaccaceae

Phytolacca acinosa

Caryophyllaceae

Cerastium glomeratum Stellaria vestita Pseudostellaria heterantha Sagina japonica

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium album Chenopodium ambrosioides

Cactaceae

Opuntia vulgaris

Prickly Pair

Magnoliaceae Magnolia campbellii

Dochu La

Annonaceae *Polyalthia longifolia*

Ashok

Lauraceae

Various Lauraceous trees an important component of forests

Ranunculaceae

Clematis montana Anemone rivularis Anemone obtusiloba Anemone sp. Thalictrum sp. Callianthemum pimpinelloides Ranunculus ficariifolius Ranunculus brotherusii Ranunculus diffusus Ranunculus chinensis Oxygraphis endlicheri Caltha palustris

Berberidaceae

Berberis praecipua Berberis asiatica Chele La, in flower Tiger's Nest Monastery Common at Chele La Dochu La

Ha side of Chele La, in flower Outside botanic garden

Lobesa Paro Common at Chele La Marsh Marigold. Pele La.

Tiger's Nest Monastery Asiatic Barberry. Lobesa.

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Outside the botanic garden

Sticky Mouse-ear

Paro

Chele La

Dochu La

Fat Hen

Lobesa

Mahonia napaulensis

Saururaceae *Houttuynia cordata*

Piperaceae *Peperomia* sp. *Piper* spp.

Hypericaceae Hypericum japonicum

Fumariaceae *Corydalis leptocarpa*

Papaveraceae

Meconopsis paniculata Meconopsis simplicifolia

Capparaceae *Capparis* sp.

Cruciferae

Lepidium virginicum Cardamine circaeoides Cardamine hirsuta Cardamine sp.? Barbarea intermedia Nasturtium officinale

Hydrangeaceae

Dichroa febrifuga

Saxifragaceae

Tiarella polyphylla Chrysosplenium nepalense Chrysosplenium adoxoides

Rosaceae

Aruncus dioicus Prunus cornuta Rubus calycinus Rubus pentagonus Rubus ellipticus Rubus biflorus Rubus indotibetanus Rubus spp. Potentilla spp. Potentilla cuneata Potentilla eriocarpoides

Jigme Dorje National Park

Manas National Park A few in the south. 10 species occur.

Jigme Dorje National Park

Jigme Dorje National Park and Zhemghang, 2017

In leaf Chele La In bud Chele La

a pepperwort Possibly this, streamside outside botanic garden. Hairy Bittercress *C.multijuga*? Purple flowers. Dochu La. Intermediate Wintercress Water-cress. Paro.

Gongphu

Tiger's Nest Monastery and Pele La opposite leaves, Chele La alternate leaves, wild in the botanic garden

Goatsbeard Spiraea Pele La, fine scented flowers Single white flowered herb. Outside botanic garden.

Yellow Himalayan Raspberry Silver-stemmed Bramble Tashitrang Valley

Confusing. Several seen. The most likely species are:-

In leaf Chele La?

Potentilla sundaica Potentilla saundersiana Potentilla griffithii Potentilla supina Potentilla microphylla Fragaria nubicola Duchesnea indica Rosa sericea Rosa brunonii Rosa macrophylla Cotoneaster microphyllus Pyracantha crenulata Sorbus thibetica

Fabaceae

Bauhinia variegata Mimosa pudica Albizzia julibrissin Albizzia chinensis Indigofera cassioides Desmodium spp. Erythrina stricta Erythrina arborescens Astragalus sp. Vicia sativa Parochetus communis Trifolium repens Crotalaria spp. Piptanthus nepalensis

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis corniculata Oxalis latifolia

Geraniaceae

Geranium nepalense

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia pulcherrima Euphorbia griffithii Euphorbia himalayensis Ricinus communis Sapium insigne

Rutaceae

Citrus limon

Meliaceae

Melia azederach Azadirachta indica

In leaf Chele La?

In leaf Chele La a strawberry. Common in the highlands. False Strawberry Silky Rose. Much in flower in Paro. Scattered records Chele La Chele La and Pele La Jigme Dorje National Park Dochu La

White Purple Orchid Tree. In fine flower.

In fine flower In fine flower

a coral tree Coral Tree In leaf Tiger's Nest Monastery Common Vetch. Paro. Tashitrang Valley White Clover

A yellow flowered shrub. Chele La.

Paro etc. Tashithang Valley

Scattered records

Poinsettia Tiger's Nest Monastery and Chele La Chele La Castor Oil Plant Tree

Neem. Roadside tree in India.

Coriaria ceae *Coriaria napalensis*

Anacardiaceae

Mangifera indica

Aceraceae

Acer oblongum Acer campbellii Acer spp.

Balsaminanceae

Impatiens jurpia Impatiens trilobata Impatiens spp.

Aquifoliaceae

Ilex spp.

Malvaceae

Sida spp. Urena lobata

Bombacaceae *Bombax ceiba*

Thymelaeaceae *Daphne bholua*

Elaeagnaceae *Elaeagnus parvifolia*

Violaceae

Viola biflora Viola betonicifolia Viola bhutanica Viola hookeri Viola hamiltoniana

Begoniaceae

Begonia hatacoa Begonia cathcartii Begonia annulata

Cucurbitaceae

Thladiantha cordifolia Hodgsonia macrocarpa

Dochu La

Mango

Tashitrang Valley

Panbang Trongsa to Tingtibi At least three other species seen in the south

Silk Cotton Tree

Dochu La

In flower at Paro

In early flower Chele La and Dochu La Paro Tiger's Nest Monastery, Chele La, Dochu La This species Chele La? Zhemghang

Manas North of Gelephu 2017 North of Gelephu 2017

Yellow and white flowers with long tassels

Lythraceae Woodfordia fruticosa

Myrtaceae *Callistemon citrinus*

Sonneratiaceae *Duabanga grandiflora*

Punicaceae *Punica granatum*

Melastomataceae *Melastoma normale*

Cornaceae *Benthamidia capitata*

Araliaceae Brassaiopsis mitis Hedera nepalensis

Apiaceae

Pyrolaceae Pyrola sikkimensis

Ericaceae

Rhododendron kesangiae Rhododendron falconeri

Rhododendron hodgsonii Rhododendron campylocarpum Rhododendron arboreum Rhododendron triflorum

Rhododendron cinnabarinum Rhododendron wallichii Rhododendron thomsonii Rhododendron keysii

Rhododendron lepidotum Cassiope selaginoides Lyonia ovalifolia Pieris formosa Vaccinium nummularia Agapetes serpens

Primulaceae

Primula calderiana

Red-flowered shrub

Red Bottle Brush

Tree with distinctive subglobose capsules

Pomegranate

Shrub with showy five petalled purple flowers. Widespread.

Dochu La

an ivy. Dochu La, Punakha side.

Chele La and Pele La

Campanulate pink flowers. Pele La Creamy yellow flowers with a purple base. Numerous Dochu La. Flowers pinkish-red to purple. Dochu La. Campanulate pale yellow flowers. Dochu La and Pele La Red flowers. Common above 3000m. Pale yellow flowers. Tiger's Nest Monastery, Chele La, Pele La. Orange-yellow tubular campanulate flowers. Chele La. Lilac flower. Chele La. Deep crimson flowers. Pele La Orange/red/crimson flowers. In fine flower in the Botanic Garden and Pele La. Subshrub with flowers of variable colour. Chele La. In flower Chele La Tiger's Nest Monastery Tiger's Nest Monastery, Chele La, Dochu La Chele La Epiphyte with tubular red flowers. Zhemghang.

Flowers purple with yellow eye. Chele La. Greentours Natural History Holidays <u>www.greentours.co.uk</u> 36 Primula griffithii Primula smithiana Primula sikkimensis Primula glabra Primula denticulata

Primula erythrocarpa Androsace geraniifolia Androsace strigillosa Bryocarpum himalaicum Lysimachia spp.

Oleaceae

Jasminum humile

Gentianaceae

Megacodon stylophus Swertia bimaculata Gentiana bryoides Gentiana capitata

Apocynaceae

Thevetia peruviana Catharanthus roseus

Asclepiadaceae

Calotropis gigantea Asclepias curassavica Hoya sp.

Rubiaceae

Mussaenda roxburghii Mussaenda treutleri Galium sp. Leptodermis stapfiana

Convolvulaceae

Ipomoea quamoclit Ipomoea spp.

Boraginanceae

Myosotis alpestris asiatica Cynoglossum lanceolatum Cynoglossum furcatum

Verbenaceae

Verbena officinalis Lantana camara Callicarpa arborea Clerodendrum spp. Blue flowers with yellow eye. Chele La. Yellow flowers. Above Paro. Yellow flowers. Tiger's Nest Monastery and Chele La. Flowers blue or purplish with yellow eye. Chele La. Purple flowers with yellow eye. Drumstick Primrose. Abundant Chele La, scattered elsewhere. Flowers blue-violet with orange eye. Paro. Tiger's Nest Monastery 2017 Chele La Yellow flowers. Chele La. Scattered records.

Tiger's Nest Monastery

Chele La Jigme Dorje National Park Chele La Chele La

Naturalised at Tingtibi, given for there in the Flora.

Giant Milkweed a milkweed Manas NP

a handkerchief tree a handkerchief tree. Punakha.

Dochu La

Manas NP

Tiger's Nest Monastery Flowers white with blue centre Flowers blue. Tashitrang Valley.

Vervain Lantana Tree with mauve flowers in rounded cyme. Day 8 onwards.

Lamiaceae

Prunella vulgaris Leucas ciliata Salvia sp.

Solanaceae

Anisodus luridus Physalis divaricata Solanum americanum ssp.nodiflorum Solanum viarum Solanum virginianum Datura stramonium Brugmansia suaveolens Pele La Tashitrang Valley

Pele La Annual with campanulate yellow flowers

Tashitrang Valley

Thorn Apple

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja asiatica

Scrophulariaceae

Verbascum thapsus Mimulus nepalensis Mazus surculosus Mazus dentatus Mazus delavayi Lindenbergia hookeri Ellisiophyllum pinnatum Hemiphragmum heterophyllum

Bignoniaceae

Jacaranda mimosifolia

Acanthaceae Thunbergia grandiflora

Gesneriaceae *Aeschynanthus* sp.

Plantaginanceae

Plantago erosa

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera quinquelocularis Leycesteria formosa Viburnum cotinifolium Viburnum nervosum Viburnum erubescens Viburnum grandiflorum Viburnum sp. Sambucus adnata White Butterfly Bush

Aaron's Rod Paro Tiger's Nest Monastery

Zhemghang Jigme Dorje National Park Chele La

Tashitrang Valley

In flower Paro Valley Himalayan Honeysuckle. Tiger's Nest Monastery. Tiger's Nest Monastery and Chele La

Dochu La, Punakha side Chele La Day 8 an elder. Scattered records. **Valerianaceae** Valeriana jatamansi

Campanulaceae

Campanula sp. Lobelia pyramidalis Lobelia sp.

Asteraceae

Ainsliaea aptera Cirsium verutum Taraxacum parvulum Sonchus asper Sonchus oleraceus Vernonia sp. Pseudognapthalium affine *Erigeron* sp. Artemisia spp. Erechites valerianifolia Emilia sonchifolia Galinsoga parviflora Galinsoga ciliata Tridax procumbens Sigesbeckia orientalis Bidens pilosa Parthenium hysterophorus Ageratina adenophora Ageratum conyzoides Hypochoeris radicata

Monocotyledonae Dioscoreaceae

Dioscorea spp.

Smilacaceae

Smilax spp.

Asparagaceae Asparagus filicinus ssp.giraldii

Convallariaceae *Polygonatum hookeri Maianthemum oleraceum*

Agavaceae Agave lurida

Hypoxidaceae

Hypoxis aurea

Tiger's Nest Monastery

Jigme Dorje National Park Gongphu

Chele La, Dochu La, Pele La Dochu La and Tashithang Valley a dandelion Prickly Sow-thistle Smooth Sow-thistle

Widespread

Various species common Tashitrang Valley

Coat Buttons

Tiger's Nest Monastery

Chele La Dochu La

Zhemghang

Uvulariaceae

Clintonia udensis ssp.alpina Disporum cantoniense

Iridaceae

Iris tectorum Iris clarkei

Araceae

Rhaphidophora grandis Rhaphidophora spp. Amorphophallus napalensis Remusatia sp. Colocasia esculenta Arisaema nepenthoides Arisaema tortuosum Arisaema consanguineum Arisaema concinnum Arisaema echinatum Arisaema speciosum Arisaema galeatum Arisaema griffithii Arisaema spp.

Pontederiaceae

Eichhornia crassipes

Musaceae

Musa sp.

Zingiberaceae

Globba racemosa Cucurma aromatica

Commelinaceae

Commelina spp. Commelina paludosa Commelina maculata Commelina sikkimensis Commelina caroliniana Commelina benghalensis

Juncaceae

Juncus spp. Luzula effusa Luzula plumosa

Cyperaceae

Eleocharis spp. Fimbristylis spp. Chele La Tiger's Nest Monastery

Naturalised In leaf Chele La

Robust liana with dissected leaves. On trees at Gongphu.

Gongphu Gongphu Taro Dochu La Tashitrang Valley, Day 8, Gongphu Tashitrang Valley and Day 8 Tashitrang Valley and Gongphu Tashitrang Valley Tashitrang Valley North of Gelephu 2017 Fine at Dochu La Others seen? Gelephu.

Water Hyacinth. Assam.

Manas NP. No species given for the area in the flora.

This species rather common Manas NP Paddies in Tashithang Valley, also Day 8. Locally common.

several seen, possibilities are:-

c.34 species occur

Cyperus cyperoides Cyperus compressus Cyperus difformis Cyperus iria Cyperus laxus Cyperus distans Cyperus rotundus Kyllinga brevifolia Carex spp.

Poaceae

Many grasses were seen. To work on next time! Poa annua Cynodon dactylon Thysanolaena latifolia

Pandanaceae

Pandanus furcatus Pandanus unguifer Both seen Gelephu area? a tree a shrub

Orchidaceae

Epipogium roseumSoFlaCephalanthera longifoliaCheirostylis moniliformisCymbidium aloifoliumDasp

Bulbophyllum odoratissimum Coelogyne corymbosa Coelogyne spp. Papilionanthe teres Aerides multiflorum Eria lasiopetala Dendrobium densiflorum Dendrobium devonianum Dendrobium nobile Vanda cristata Pleione hookeriana Arundina graminifolia Some fine examples at Gongphu. Not given for Bhutan in the Flora, so may be a new species for the country. Chele La Terrestrial, fringed white flowers. Near Tingtibi. 2017. Day 11. Not given for Bhutan in the Flora, so may be a new species for the country. Gongphu Dochu La Others possibly present Manas NP 2017 Gongphu to Panbang, and Manas NP Manas NP 2017 **Tashitrang Valley** Day 8 Gongphu, many fine flowering plants Trongsa Fine Dochu La, and common Pele La Tingtibi and Panbang

Systematic List Number 4

Mammals

Assamese Macaque	Macaca assamensis	Punakha area, Pele La, Trongsa,
Grey Langur	Semnopithecus entellus	Some 50 near Paro
Capped Langur	Trachypithecus pileatus	Panbang 2019
Golden Langur	Trachypithecus geei	Several fine sightings, from Trongsa south.
C	<i> .</i>	Seen on 4 days.
Leopard	Panthera pardus	Prints in Manas NP
Yellow-throated Marten	Martes flavigula	Seen on three days
Black Giant Squirrel	Ratufa bicolor	Tingtibi to Gongphu, and Day 14, 2017
Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrel <i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>		Scattered records (also known as
		Irrawaddy Squirrel)
Pallas's Squirrel	Callosciurus erythraeus	
Orange-bellied Himalayan	Dremomys lokriah	
Squirrel	-	
Himalayan Striped Squirrel	Tamiops mcclellandii	Scattered records
Moupin Pika	Ochotona thibetana	Chele La, and this species at Pele La? This is
		the species at least in western Bhutan.
		Handbook of the Mammals of the World 6:1.
Asian Elephant	Elephas maximus	Sign only, Manas NP
Gaur	Bos gaurus	Prints, Manas NP, 2017
Wild Buffalo	Bubalis bubalis	Semi domesticated, Manas NP
Goral	Nemorhaedus goral	3, Pele La, 2017
Serow	Capricornis sumatraensis	1 seen very well between Tingtibi and
		Gongphu 2017
Muntjac	Muntiacus muntjak	Seen on three days, and heard on others
Wild Boar	Sus scrofa	3 young, with no adult, Zhemghang 2017.
		Sign this year.

Systematic List Number 5

Himalayan Toad Asian House Gecko skink spp. Garden Calotes Forest Calotes

Common Rat Snake

Bufo himalayanus Hemidactylus frenatus

Calotes versicolor *Calotes rouxi Calotes* sp. Ptyas mucosus

Amphibians and Reptiles

Panbang 2017 Scattered records in human habitation

Manas NP

A large individual at Panbang 2017