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Whispering Wings®

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHANDIGARH BIRD CLUB®

Volume 2 Issue 4

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

सावन घनां गरजे घूम घूम
बरसत शीतल जल झूम झूम
हँस चकोर चारों दिशा डोले
चातक तोता कोकिला बोले
नाचे वर अति करत किलोल
मोर मोरनी झूम झूम ।

-राम तनू , राग मीयां की मलहार

In the month of Saavan, heavy clouds come around and thunder
They shower cool water as they move
Swan and chakora dance around
In all four directions wherever you look
The chaatak, parrot, and the cuckoo “speak”
They dance well and make much din
The peacock and the peahen sway dancing

- Ram Tanu, Raaga Miyan ki Malhaar

The harbinger of rains has been sighted and has raised the hopes of a good monsoon. Lakes will fill up and rivers flow replete. It is the time to sing Malhaar as water woes mount and pray that monsoons are normal. It is also time to encourage people to plant trees and shrubs in their neighbourhood.

Urban sprawl is taking a great toll on the wetlands, agricultural land and forests, as a result of which the avian species are greatly impacted. Making people aware of this is the duty of our club and we should start adopting schools and colleges to spread the good word.

May you always hear the bird song!

Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

CBC IN PRESS THIS QUARTER

BENEVOLENT STALKERS

This Group Of
Varied People Hits
The Nature Trail
Drawn By The Call
Of Love For Birds

The two single-lens models on the new steel superwall are identical, like so many others of the 1,400-plus steel I-beam On Its. Their inside space (see left) is a 10 ft x 10 ft x 10 ft cube. They are made of heavy-duty steel beams.

[illegible]

Malik Isak, a 16-year-old from Phase 7 of Midway and one of the 100 students, says, "I'm a 'top' because I'm tall" (4'10", by the way). It is his confidence that counts.

Creating a personality with just 100 students may be a daunting task for Isak, but it is not for the students. Following Isak's lead, he is one to take the purpose of his

Trial
Instinct

In testimony of the cooperation, the two men visited a 120-acre site, about 100 miles to the east of Memphis in Missouri, which is another famous for migratory birds in the city. "They gave a briefing around there to local kids. There's a museum there and they were hand-crafting to make some 'tin birds,'" he says.

Meanwhile, Missouri Wildlife, one of the group's partners, also sent a letter to the Illinois Wildlife Dept. "The last we heard of it, it," he says on the phone, "was in the process of its final stages. It's the same old story."

DOI: 10.1002/for

CHANDIGARH

**Their private
nesting garden
in his backyard**

Minister Fisheries, Georges Deschamps, stood on the pier in Falmouth, who has been the first minister always to visit the waters he used for public recreation, to count fish. This was an example! Indeed, by designating the pier as a way to attract a steady stream of tourists.

usually interrupted as, finding eggs
belonging to a bettering hen, and so
further with most species of birds
I can find no pattern. The two
chickens put back in objective fact
and their habits. In 2000, I was the
part of The Playful game which
is that I built, there were no pattern
and unpatterned pattern. Over a

It's over, high-plucked that is.

"I'm difficult to imagine much more than producing such a work," she asserted. But there it is, it strikes across time registers to take the best that have existed (they've grown), "I exclaim."

...about the things that drive you
to work & manage differently & you'll not
even stop for those rednecks.

**छह हजार फीट की
ऊंचाई पर देखे पक्षी**
सिटी के बर्ड वाचर पहुंचे तीर्थथन नदी के घाट पर



चंडीगढ़ स्टूडेंट्स क्लब के सदस्य

अथर उज्जल्लो क्युरो
पंटीगढ़।

बहुत आर्थिक के लिए प

गोधर इस बार उह
कंचहूँ पर पड़ुन गर
फलन के सात सदरने
इन्ने जिमाघरन के
लौरधन नदी की घाटी

सहायक नदी है। इसका
हिमालयन नदी

(जीएचएनपी) स्थित
लिए एक अनुकूल ज
मनसोहक जंगल और
शामिल चंडीगढ़ अ
प्रेसिडेंट प्रोफेसर ए

'जन्मत जैसी है जगह'

टीम में शामिल रीडर दिल्ली, समरना

अपराधित से बनाया कि यह जगह पुराने से जगह है। यहां पर तो प्रमुख है और वही सर्वोत्तम की है। स्वयं इस के साथ ही इतनी-इतनी दंडक में है। यहां पर टाउट नगरिका दिखी। तुलना से इसे पता चलता है। चौकीदार की टीका में से आउट, यहां से बरगार में प्रवेश। टीका दिखने से बनाया कि इतनी से ब्रह्म विष्णु और शैलेश्वर का पिता है। कुछ दिखी, जो इस दौर का मुख्य अवस्था है।

70 से अधिक पक्षियों की प्रजाति देखी

ये पक्षी देखे टीम ने

१० प्रजापति के

संयोजकता के अभाव में ही हमें अक्सर एक ही चीज को अलग-अलग तरीकों से देखने की आवश्यकता पड़ती है।

कहती मुझे भी देखो।

Amar Ujala, MyCity
15 May 2017

पक्षियों को बचा रहा चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब

[illegible][illegible]

लिंग बिगड़ रहे यशवीर के खिलाफ लड़ाई लड़ने हैं।
 सोनियाका पहिचान के लिए एक कोलाजिन पत्रकार है,
 लेकिन पिछले कई महीने से यशवीर बिगड़ रहा है।
 उसके लिए लड़ाई लड़ने के कारण लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं।
 उसके बाद मैं यशवीर, सोनिया अन्तर और सोनिया

[illegible]

Amar Ujala, MyCity
5 June 2017

BIRDING IN TIRTHAN VALLEY

Birded in Flachan Valley, GNPH (Ropa Gate) and Bathad.

5 to 8 May, 2017

Stayed at - Tirthan Angler's Retreat, Barnagi.

CBC Members on the trip:

1. Rima Dhillon
2. Aparajita Lobana
3. Jaspreet Kaur
4. Saba
5. Raghu
6. Samrath Singh
7. Miti Sekhon

Route: Chandigarh – Ropar – Kiratpur Sahib – Swar Ghat – Sundernagar – Mandi – Aut – Goshaini – Barnagi

Distance: 260 kms

Areas covered: Other than birding enroute, the group covered following areas –

1. Village Barnagi and its adjacent area of Falachan Valley.
2. Village Bathad
3. From Goshaini to Ropa near the gate of Greater Himalayan National Park.

River Tirthan is a tributary of River Beas. This region falls in the eco-zone of Greater Himalayan National Park (GHNP) with the Information Centres at Larji and Sai Ropa. The people of this valley have ensured that no Hydro-electric Projects are constructed here. Thus the beauty is intact. Since this region is mainly agrarian, single roads connect the villages along the valley. Crass commercialisation has not taken place so the forests are intact, the stream waters are gin clear and the region is replete with varied flora and fauna. In these streets of paradise, we spent 4 days looking for birds and angling for trout.

Species seen: 72



Miti, Samrath, Aparajita, Rima, Saba and Raghu



White-capped Water Redstart



Himalayan Woodpecker



Brown Dipper (juv)

Bird List

Black Francolin	Ashy Drongo	Oriental White-eye
Kalij	Asian Paradise Fly-catcher	Brown Dipper
Common Kestrel	Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	Bar-tailed Treecreeper
Shikra	Grey Tree-pie	Jungle Myna
Black Kite	Northern Raven	Common Myna
Black-eared Kite	Large-billed Crow	Blue Whistling-thrush
Lammergeier	Cinereous Tit	Plumbeous Water Redstart
Himalayan Vulture	Green-backed Tit	White-capped Water Redstart
Himalayan Buzzard	Black-throated Tit	Blue-fronted Redstart
Upland Buzzard	Spot-winged Tit	Little Fork-tail
Rock Pigeon	House Martin	Spotted Fork-tail
Speckled Wood Pigeon	Red - rumped Swallow	Grey Bush-chat
Oriental Turtledove	Himalayan Bulbul	Dark-sided Flycatcher
Eurasian Collard Dove	Black Bulbul	Little Pied Flycatcher
Spotted Dove	Mountain Chiffchaff	Ultramarine Flycatcher
Slaty-headed Parakeet	Grey-breasted Prinia	Verditer's Flycatcher
Plum-headed Parakeet	Sulphur -bellied Warbler	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher
Asian Barred Owlet	Humes' Warbler	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker
Crested Kingfisher	Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (heard)	Green-tailed Sunbird
Great Barbet	Grey-hooded Warbler	House Sparrow
Himalayan Woodpecker	Striated Laughing-thrush	Russet Sparrow
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	Streaked Laughing-thrush	Grey Wagtail
Scaly-bellied Woodpecker	Rufous Sibia	Common Rose-finch
Long-tailed Minivet	Whiskered Yuhina	

A TRIP TO KERALA

During the first week of April 2017, from 1st—8th, my family and I planned a trip to Kerala, God's own country. We visited tea estates in the hills of Munnar, backwaters of Alleppey, and the port and city of Kochi. Along with the usual touristy things, I undertook a birding excursion to Thattekad, a famous birding hotspot in the state.



My birding began as soon as the sun rose on our first day in Kerala, while travelling to Munnar. For the first time, I saw, so closely, a Red-whiskered Bulbul, which was a solitary sighting in Mohali, with no photographic evidence, also by me. All along the way to Munnar I saw many birds, adding to my list, Hill Myna and Malabar Whistlingthrush, later adding Purple Sunbird, Black-lored Tit, Bank



Myna, and Common Myna. By the time we reached our home-stay in Devikullem, near Munnar town, I had already seen eleven species. A new day brought more birds with it. Among the new additions were

an Indian Scimitar Babbler lurking in the bushes, and a Brahminy Kite in the reservoir of the Mattupetty Dam. As the day ended we stopped at Hydel Park. It was here that I saw a White-cheeked Barbet and Black and Orange Flycatcher.



On 4th April, we were going to Alleppey. The road passes very close to Thattekad, so I organised myself a guide, Mr. Ajo Mon Peter, to guide me in Thattekad. Arriving at the meeting point at half past seven early morning, after a drive of two and a half hours from Munnar in pitch darkness and the threat of a wild elephant on rampage (having seen the evidence of said rampage with my own eyes), down the winding roads in the hills, I was dismayed by the thick foliage of the forest that awaited me. My guide pointed this out to me. But we carried on as planned. Despite the foliage, he was able to show me a multitude of species, including White-bellied Woodpecker, Crimson-fronted Barbet, Oriental (Ceylon) Bay Owl, Malabar Trogon, and Ceylon Frogmouth among many others.



The next day was spent in the famous backwaters of Kerala. Riding in a shikara, at a moderate speed, I was again able to bird and added to my growing list, a Great Thick-knee, White-bellied Drongo, Stork-billed Kingfisher, and Spot-billed Pelican. The last leg of the trip was to Fort Kochi and the Cochin Shipyard where I saw the Western Reef Egret.



Brahminy Kite

The coastal area was full of crows, Black Kites and Brahminy Kites. This was probably due to fishing in the area, Chinese fishing nets being the most favoured by the birds since it easy for them to perch on them. Brahminy Kites were present also along the rivers and dam reservoirs. As one moves in-



Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher

wards towards the Ghats, that's where the most variety can be found. In the list of bird species, one can recognise that the most variety was found in the Western Ghats.

Munnar was especially good a birding ground. There was a conception in my mind that tea estates do not have much birds. While true, I did see a Black Drongo, and some Red-whiskered Bulbuls. Other than that, Hill Mynas and Malabar Whistlingthrushes were only seen and heard in the hills of Munnar and Devikulam. The local hydel dams of Anayirangalam and Mattupetty were also the feeding grounds of several Brahminy Kites. The local elephant ride obviously had a heap of elephant dung which attracted a lot of wagtails.

The backwaters of Alleppey were rich in species and warranted an entire day dedicated to just them. The area contains cormorants, egrets and kingfishers in multitudes. Pelicans are also present in the backwaters, though I only saw one. Ducks and waterfowl were aplenty. Probably, the best way to bird in the area is to hire a shikara and stop at islands and the border lands at will.

The city of Kochi and flourishing beach town of Cherrai were largely uneventful with respect to birding and the only species which were aplenty were House Crows and Brahminy Kites. Other than that, egrets could be found occasionally.

Thattekad happened to be a largely forested, dense area that time of the year. The best time to visit are the cooler months from December to February. The forest was rich in species but the thick foli-



Red-whiskered Bulbul

age rendered me unable to click photographs, but yes, I did see many species. One highlight, that many of my fellow birders missed in their previous visits, was a very rare Ceylon Bay Owl, a subspecies of the Oriental Bay Owl, found in Sri Lanka and Kerala. I was able to click a photograph of it.

I will end by saying that, the state of Kerala is a birding paradise, with very well informed and practiced bird guides. I very much enjoyed my birding trips in the places that I visited. The total count of species was fifty-six with twenty-one lifers.

Amandeep Singh Channa
Chandigarh Bird Club®

A TRIP TO KERALA

Munnar, 2nd – 3rd April 2017

1. Babbler, Indian Scimitar (L)
2. Barbet, White-cheeked (L)
3. Bulbul, Red-whiskered
4. Bushchat, Pied
5. Cormorant, Little
6. Crow, House



Red-whiskered Bulbul

7. Crow, Large-billed
8. Dove, Spotted
9. Egret, Cattle
10. Egret, Little
11. Flycatcher, Black and Orange
12. Flycatcher, Grey-hooded Canary

13. Kite, Brahminy
14. Myna, Bank
15. Myna, Common
16. Myna, Hill (L)
17. Myna, Jungle
18. Pigeon, Rock
19. Sunbird, Purple
20. Thrush, Malabar Whistling (L)



Oriental (Ceylon) Bay Owl

21. Tit, Black-lored
22. Wagtail, Yellow
23. White-eye, Oriental

Thattekad, 4th April 2017

1. Babbler, Dark-fronted (L)
2. Barbet, Crimson-fronted (L)

3. Bluebird, Asian Fairy (L)
4. Cuckoo, Indian
5. Drongo, Bronzed (L)
6. Drongo, Greater Racket-tailed (L)
7. Egret, Little
8. Flycatcher, White-bellied Blue (L)
9. Frogmouth, Ceylon (L)
10. Heron, Pond
11. Hornbill, Malabar Grey (L)
12. Myna, Hill
13. Owl, Oriental (Ceylon) Bay (L)



Ceylon Frogmouth

14. Peafowl, Indian
15. Starling, Chestnut-tailed (L)
16. Tern, Whiskered (L)
17. Treepie, White-bellied (L)
18. Trogon, Malabar (L)
19. Woodpecker, White-bellied (L)

Alleppey Backwaters, 5th April 2017

1. Bee-eater, Chestnut-headed
2. Cormorant, Great

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3. Cormorant, Little | 7. Robin, Oriental Magpie |
| 4. Crow, House | 8. Sandpiper, Common |
| 5. Darter | 9. Sparrow, House |
| 6. Drongo, White-bellied (L) | |
| 7. Egret, Little | |
| 8. Kingfisher, Stork-billed | |
| 9. Kingfisher, White-throated | |
| 10. Kite, Brahminy | |
| 11. Pelican, Spot-billed (L) | |
| 12. Robin, Oriental Magpie | |
| 13. Teal, Common | |
| 14. Tern, Whiskered | |



Common Sandpiper

15. Thick-knee, Great (L)
16. Waterhen, White-breasted

Fort Kochi, 7th April 2017

1. Barbet, Brown-headed
2. Crow, House
3. Egret, Western Reef
4. Kite, Black
5. Kite, Brahminy
6. Pigeon, Rock

BIRDING IN BEAUTIFUL BHUTAN

If there is any heaven on earth, it's here, it's here! Yes, I am referring to Bhutan and no place else!

I had an opportunity to be here in this beautiful country for ten days in April for birding. The country is a real heaven for birders too! Such is the diversity and density of the avian friends here that Bhutan is indeed every birder's delight.

We reached Paro on the 7th of April and soon after we dropped our bags in the hotel, our guide Tshering, took us to Pachu River where we sighted the black-tailed crane and the Ibisbill, long longed for, besides a host of more common species. Buffet at a first floor eatery close to Hotel Jigmeling where we were putting up was indeed delicious and is strongly recommended. I seem to have forgotten the name this place. Paro bazaar in the evening is truly an other-worldly experience and the home made burnt honey ice cream at Cafe Brioche is to die for.



Himalayan Cutia

Early next morning, we were off to Chelela Pass, essentially to see the Blood Pheasants. The forest between Paro and Chelela is one of the surest places in the world to spot the Blood Pheasants. After the initial couple of sightings of Kalij, we had a number of sightings of the beautiful blood pheasants, usually scurrying about in groups of 2-4. In addition, we also got a number of other species such as Mrs. Gould's Sunbird, Black-faced Laughingthrush, Spotted Laughingthrush, Collared Grosbeak, White-winged Grosbeak, White-browed Fulvetta, Rufous-vented Tit, Rufous-fronted Tit, Yellow-browed Tit, Green-tailed Sunbird, Olive-backed Pipit, Spotted Nutcracker and some others as bonus. Such was the bounty of birds on the road to Chelela, that we came back here, towards the end of our trip, only to find it snowing heavily through the morning that day, but that did not deter our friends, the Blood Pheasants, from coming out full steam and giving us their even more beautiful pictures against a snowy backdrop.

Our next stop was Thimphu. You need to obtain a permit from the Immigration Office to travel to places outside Paro and Thimphu. It is important for any prospective visitor to Bhutan to note that the Immigration Office is open only from Monday to Friday. So, time your trip accordingly. Recently, however, they seem to have introduced the facility of providing this permit in advance through travel agents. Thimphu has some birding around sewage pond area but nothing much to write home about.

Next, we drove to Dochula Pass, at a height of around 10500 feet, easily the most beautiful and well-developed pass of Bhutan. Just about an hour's drive from Thimphu. While most tourists would busy themselves at the swanky restaurant or with the 108 stupas there, the birders would walk down the road and discover their treasures around the next 1-2 kilometres. Bar-throated Siva, Fire-tailed Myzornis, Stripe-throated Yuhina, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush and some other species were therefore everyone to see from up close. Further down from Dochula, on the way to Punakha valley, we stopped at Lam-pleri Botanical Garden. No sooner did we enter the garden that the two woodpeckers expected to be seen in Bhutan appeared right in front of us, and that too at eye level—the Darjeeling Woodpecker, and the Rufous-bellied Woodpecker. The Brown Parrotbill soon appeared but stayed behind foliage, much to the birders' distress. Slender-billed and Streak-breasted Scimitar Babblers kept calling from the bushes but won't show up, whatever you may do. Black-tailed Crake made a brief appearance for those who had missed it at Paro. As we walked deeper into the Garden, we saw and missed a pair of Barred Cuckoo Doves, we saw and missed the Large Hawk-cuckoo and we heard the Himalayan Cuckoo. Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher showed itself, so also the Blyth's Leaf Warbler. A Plain-backed Thrush led us along the circular garden path for about 300 meters and we kept following it faithfully with our cameras. Ru-



Asian Emerald Cuckoo

fous-bellied Niltava was next to be seen and finally, the Brown Parrotbill showed out in an open bamboo thicket. Whoa! Botanical Garden trip proved really good!

We reached Punakha, the fabulous valley which sees the confluence of the Mochu and Phochu rivers around its dzonga (fortress) to form the Punaxanchu River. The Phochu River basin is known to be the home of the critically endangered White-bellied Heron and we spent full three hours there but could only sight the River Lapwings, Plumbeous Water Redstarts and a couple of Ibisbills but no heron!

The next day was spent at Jigme Dorji National Park, along Mochu River and we were rewarded with a Hodgson's Redstart, Nepal Fulvetta, Rusty-fronted Barwing, Black-throated Sunbird, Maroon Orioles, Golden-throated Barbets, Golden Babbler, Slaty-backed Forktail, Orange-bellied Leafbird, and some others.

The next day was 13th April and our luckiest day of birding in Bhutan. We started towards Nobding, on our way to Phobjikha, with good sightings of Asian Emerald Cuckoo, Barred Cuckoo Dove, Great Barbets, Blue-throated Barbet, Black-winged Cuckooshrike, and soon moved on to Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Himalayan Cutia, Fire-capped Tit, many Sunbirds, couple of varieties of Fulvettas, and finally the Ward's Trogon! That too posing for us for good ten minutes at no more than ten metres distance from our lenses! We were blessed!

As the weather turned a little cloudy, our guide Norbu decided to take a detour through Pelela Pass with the hope for Satyr Tragopan. Nothing could go wrong for us on the auspicious 13th and the Satyr appeared soon thereafter. Two of them, in fact. Happiness!! As we turned towards Phobjikha, we crossed two Himalayan Buzzards, two Blood Pheasants and a Himalayan Monal. The area of Great Parrotbill gave us Dark-rumped Rosefinch and many other small birds but the Parrotbill went missing.



Blood Pheasant

At Phobjikha, known as the “Black-necked Crane Valley”, we could see an injured Black-necked Crane, Karma, at the Conservation Centre, waiting to heal its wing, while its brethren had already flown back to their summer retreat.

Next morning was spent full time at Pelela Pass. And sheer joy it was. Hoary-throated Barwing came very, very close, a pair of Red-headed Bullfinches moved around us all time, a Dark-sided Bush Warbler won't stop singing and one of our non-birding member of the group, who had fallen behind us, had the Satyr Tragopan dancing in front of her unabashedly in great light for as long as a few minutes but she only had a mobile phone to shoot it with! We also got White-browed Rosefinches, Dark-rumped Rosefinches, some more Spotted Nutcrackers, Red-billed Choughs, and a variety of Sunbirds.

We were on the verge of completing our Bhutan trip, and we suddenly realised, we hadn't seen the Bhutan Laughingthrush yet. We raised our concerns to Norbu and Tshering, and they promised they would try. After a while, those interested in Bhutan Laughingthrushes were asked to come for a couple kilometres of walk. Only three out of seven gumpions left in them. Like the pied piper, Norbu sure managed to get this shy species out of its bushy habitat and we had another lifer ticked in our notepads

We ended the Bhutan trip at Paro but not before we had another round of Blood Pheasants in a snowy landscape and another round of homemade burnt honey ice cream at café Brioche in Paro bazaar!

Bhupesh K Goyal
Chandigarh Bird Club®



Darjeeling Woodpecker

BIRD LIST FOR BHUTAN

1. Hill Partridge (H)
2. Blood Pheasant (*cruentus and tibetanus*)
3. Satyr Tragopan
4. Himalayan Monal
5. Kalij Pheasant (*melanota*)
6. Bar-headed Goose
7. Ruddy Shelduck
8. Red-crested Pochard
9. Great Cormorant
10. Eurasian Hobby
11. Oriental Honey Buzzard
12. Black Eagle
13. Himalayan Vulture
14. Crested Serpent Eagle
15. Himalayan Buzzard
16. Mountain Hawk Eagle
17. Black-tailed Crake
18. Ibisbill
19. River Lapwing
20. Red-wattled Lapwing
21. Common Sandpiper
22. Common Pigeon
23. Snow Pigeon
24. Barred Cuckoo Dove
25. Oriental Turtle Dove
26. Spotted Dove
27. Asian Emerald Cuckoo
28. Himalayan Cuckoo
29. Eurasian Cuckoo
30. Large Hawk Cuckoo
31. Asian Barred Owlet
32. Fork-tailed Swift
33. Common Hoopoe
34. Ward's Trogon
35. White-throated Kingfisher
36. Crested Kingfisher
37. Great Barbet
38. Blue-throated Barbet
39. Golden-throated Barbet
40. Yellow-rumped Honeyguide
41. Rufous-bellied Woodpecker
42. Darjeeling Woodpecker
43. Greater Yellownap
44. Black-winged Cuckooshrike
45. Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike
46. Scarlet Minivet
47. Long-tailed Minivet
48. Grey-backed Shrike
49. Long-tailed Shrike
50. Spangled Drongo
51. Ashy Drongo
52. Maroon Oriole
53. Eurasian Jay
54. Yellow-billed Blue Magpie
55. Grey Treepie
56. Large-billed Crow
57. Spotted Nutcracker
58. Green-backed Tit
59. Coal Tit
60. Rufous-vented Tit
61. Grey-crested Tit
62. Rufous-fronted Tit
63. Yellow-browed Tit
64. Fire-capped Tit
65. Red-vented Bulbul
66. Mountain Bulbul
67. Black Bulbul
68. Striated Prinia
69. Grey-sided Bush Warbler
70. Slaty-bellied Tesia
71. Tickell's Leaf Warbler
72. Buff-barred Warbler
73. Lemon-rumped Warbler
74. Grey-hooded Warbler
75. Blyth's Leaf Warbler
76. Black-faced Warbler
77. Whistler's Warbler
78. Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler (H)
79. Golden Babbler
80. Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler

- | | |
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| 81. Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler (H) | 105. Brown Dipper |
| 82. White-throated Laughingthrush | 106. White-tailed Nuthatch |
| 83. Striated Laughingthrush | 107. Hodgson's Treecreeper |
| 84. Spotted Laughingthrush | 108. Common Myna |
| 85. Black-faced Laughingthrush | 109. Chestnut-tailed Starling |
| 86. Grey-sided Laughingthrush | 110. Blue Whistling Thrush |
| 87. Bhutan Laughingthrush | 111. Plain-backed Thrush |
| 88. Rusty-fronted Barwing | 112. White-collared Blackbird |
| 89. Hoary-throated Barwing | 113. Grey-winged Blackbird |
| 90. Red-billed Leiothrix | 114. Black-throated Thrush |
| 91. Himalayan Cutia | 115. Lesser Shortwing (H) |
| 92. Bar-throated Siva | 116. Himalayan Bluetail |
| 93. White-browed Shrike-babbler | 117. Golden Bush Robin (H) |
| 94. Green Shrike-babbler | 118. Oriental Magpie Robin |



Rufous-vented Tit

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 95. Rufous-winged Fulvetta | 119. Plumbeous Water Redstart |
| 96. White-browed Fulvetta | 120. White-capped Redstart |
| 97. Nepal Fulvetta | 121. Hodgson's Redstart |
| 98. Rufous Sibia | 122. Blue-fronted Redstart |
| 99. Whiskered Yuhina | 123. Slaty-backed Forktail |
| 100. Rufous-vented Yuhina | 124. Grey Bushchat |
| 101. Stripe-throated Yuhina | 125. Blue-capped Rock Thrush |
| 102. Brown Parrotbill | 126. Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush |
| 103. Fire-tailed Myzornis | 127. Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher |
| 104. Oriental White-eye | 128. Ultramarine Flycatcher |

- 129. Verditer Flycatcher
- 130. Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher
- 131. Rufous-bellied Niltava
- 132. Large Niltava
- 133. Small Niltava
- 134. Orange-bellied Leafbird
- 135. Fire-breasted Flowerpecker
- 136. Mrs Gould's Sunbird
- 137. Green-tailed Sunbird
- 138. Black-throated Sunbird
- 139. Fire-tailed Sunbird
- 140. Eurasian Tree Sparrow

- 152. White-winged Grosbeak
- 153. Collared Grosbeak



Ward's Trogon

- 141. Russet Sparrow
- 142. Alpine Accentor
- 143. Rufous-breasted Accentor
- 144. Grey Wagtail
- 145. White Wagtail
- 146. Olive-backed Pipit
- 147. Plain Mountain Finch
- 148. Blanford's Rosefinch
- 149. Dark-rumped Rosefinch
- 150. White-browed Rosefinch
- 151. Red-headed Bullfinch

BIRD WATCHING: HOBBY OR COMPETITION—MY FEELINGS

I started birding in the year 2003. My sister, and friend, Dr Chetna introduced me to it officially and our mentor Mr. Suresh Sharma gave us many tips and also took us on bird watching trips. I remember someone mentioning, enjoy the bird, you are going to recognize it any way, because other people in your group are also looking at the same thing, be silent take in the details and discuss a little later. By talking and describing the bird, you may spoil someone being in silence or enjoying the bird song.

Here, I am just sharing a thought...may be call it loud thinking... Birding was/is for happiness, for being close to the nature, for getting inner peace, for enjoyment. It's been almost 13 years. I have travelled places with my partners and seen a lot of beauties. Over the years I have felt the change in the way of birding. You may or may not agree with me, but these are my feelings, purely mine.

We have entered into a competition and somewhere want to prove that I am better, I have seen more birds. Or for that matter I have not seen this bird. The twitching or the ticking has brought in a race. I also entered into the twitching, having done it a few times, I realized that the happiness, the calmness, the meditateness of my birdwatching is getting marred. So I decided to hold back and be my original self and go back to birding. I still bird, I still go on trips but I do it in a relaxed way not as a race against time or others.

Stop and think what and how you are doing it. May be you will derive more satisfaction. For what is life all about? To be happy in what you are doing. To be an aware human, to introduce this hobby to other people who enjoy nature.

Sharing bird sights, letting others know where what you have seen is perfect. Birding does bring sharing and generosity, a team spirit. I have learnt a lot from my companions.

It was a young birder who questioned me about why I bird, which jolted me back into my birding spirit.

So here I am telling you I love it.. I do it for pleasure. You do because you enjoy it too...

May you always hear the inner silence.

Geeta Goswami
Chandigarh Bird Club®

SIKKIM TRIP PHOTOGRAPHS BY BHUPESH K. GOYAL



Robin Accentor



Brandt's Mountain Finch



Rufous-necked Snowfinch

SIKKIM TRIP PHOTOGRAPHS BY BHUPESH K. GOYAL

Robin Accentor



Alpine Chough



Snow Pigeon



SIKKIM TRIP PHOTOGRAPHS BY BHUPESH K. GOYAL



Hill Pigeon



White-throated Dipper



Buff-throated Siva

SIKKIM TRIP PHOTOGRAPHS BY BHUPESH K. GOYAL

Horned Lark



Groundpecker



Whispering Wings®



Newsletter of the Chandigarh
Bird Club

Incepted in 2008, the Chandigarh Bird Club has been dedicated to its goal of protecting the environment. The Club owes its existence to those few dedicated and expert members, who started this club in the Chandigarh Boat Club, namely, Navjit Singh, Narbir Kahlon, Vikramjeet Singh, Mrs. Rima Dhillon, Mrs. Sarbjeet and Mrs. Geeta Goswami. The Basic objective of the Chandigarh Bird Club continues to be to:

- Bring people specially the younger generation closer to nature through birding and help them to enjoy the outdoors while making it a fun activity
- To make people and government more sensitive towards the environment to create a dynamic database for analysis in order to focus conservation efforts.
- To create a forum for birders to share information and discuss issues related to this activity

- President, CBC — M. S. Sekhon
- Vice-President, CBC — Narbir Kahlon
- Secretary, CBC — Rima Dhillon
- Joint Secretary, CBC — Sarbjeet Kaur
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