
Whispering Wings®

Newsletter of the Chandigarh Bird Club®



Volume 6 - 1st Edition

July - September 2020

From the Editor's Desk

The pandemic rages on and locks us in. I would like to repeat what has almost become a cliché, it has made a lot of new birders and home birding is the mantra. Yet many of the members have ventured out and recorded so many new species and many new species have ventured into our home gardens... perhaps inquiring why we were not out looking for them!

The migration of birds started perhaps a little early as many of them were recorded a few weeks before their usual time of arrival. Hopefully, we may see a greater number of migrants this winter...

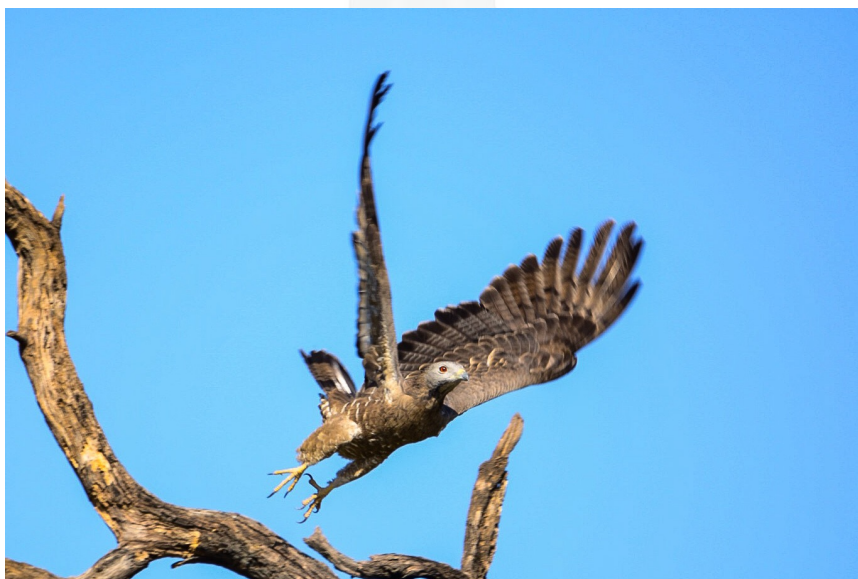
The Chapperchiri conservation initiative is a very concrete step of the club and all members must contribute to the effort and let us work hard to make it a success. Another great initiative is the Neighbourhood Park Survey where the club would be conducting surveys in different seasons so as to create a repertoire of frequently seen birds.

All we really need is the pandemic to go away and our main endeavour should be to follow the protocol. Stay safe, pray for the healing of Mother Earth and record the birds you see around you!

In the end, I would like to thank all of you for your contributions towards the newsletter which has completed five years.

May you always hear the birdsong!

Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon



Oriental Honey-buzzard, by Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

Secretary's Report

There seems to be no foreseeable end to the pandemic but going by all the International birding programmes being announced on the Net, birders all over the world are undaunted.

CBC members are no exception. From attending the monthly meetings on zoom to participating in all fieldtrips, we have not let our spirit flag. Formal fieldtrips and casual birding outings to areas within the Tricity were conducted with all required protocols of social distancing and wearing masks.

July fieldtrip was held at Jawarharpur near Derabassi. Bristled Grassbirds become very visible as the males start to serenade the females for the nesting season. Other birds seen nesting are Streaked Weavers, Baya Weavers and Black breasted Weavers along with Red Avadavat, Indian Silverbill, Tricoloured Munia and Scaly-breasted Munia. It is also the transit area for passage migrants. First to arrive this year were the Blyth's Reed Warbler and Grasshopper Warbler followed by Cetti's Warbler. Small Pratincole could be seen in large numbers. The small ponds formed by the rains attract early visitors like Stints, Sandpipers and Plovers.

August and September Fieldtrips were conducted at Chapparchiri and Jaintimajri respectively. Indian Golden Orioles and Indian Paradise Flycatchers were getting ready to depart after a successful breeding season while Wagtails and Black Redstarts were arriving from their breeding grounds in the far north.

CBC started an initiative for the conservation of Chhaparchiri wetland. It is formed along Patiali ki Rao which is a small seasonal rivulet. Though the area is small it is bird rich with over 100 species both breeding and wintering here. A programme is put in place wherein a monthly survey will be conducted for a period of 12 months of all bird species, the vegetation, insects butterflies and animals.

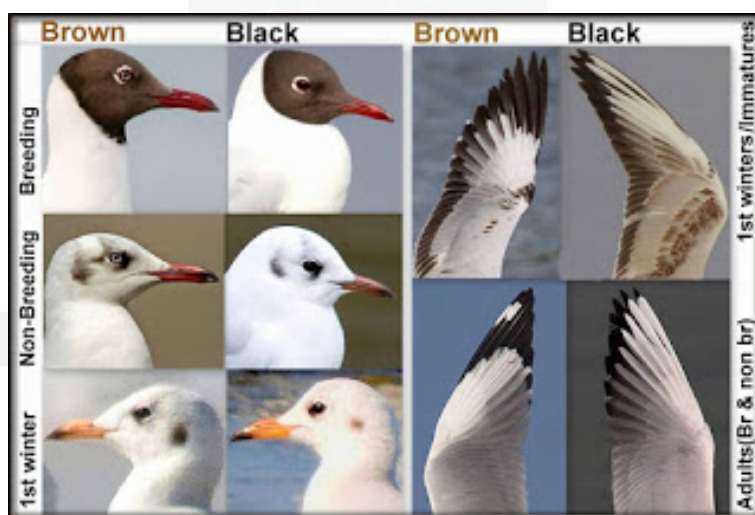
Inspite of restrictions due to pandemic, the birding community is active and enthusiastic as we look forward to the arrival of winter migrants.

With the hope and conviction that this strange time too shall pass, Keep safe and Happy Birding.

Rima Dhillon

The Gull Sees Farthest Who Flies Highest

Gulls are often referred to as "Seagulls", but what most people don't know is that the bird "Seagull" is not a real species of birds. The word **Seagull** is just an informal way referring to any of the species that belong to the family "*Laridae*". In layperson's term that is not used by most ornithologists and biologists and has no fixed taxonomic meaning. A very good book known as "Jonathan Livingston Seagull" by Richard Bach tells us about the story of a gull who is trying to learn about life and flight, and a lesson about self-perfection. The story is absolutely wonderful, though it repeatedly uses the word "Seagull" to refer to a gull which has created a mindset amongst people about a bird known as the "Seagull" and is a common mistake made by many authors



A comparison chart for the Brown-headed and the Black-headed Gulls

The study and identification of gulls is an extremely vast subject. It can be difficult to separate the many different species of gulls to the untrained eye but they always have minute differences in their size, leg colour, plumage and behaviour. Gulls are further divided into 10 different genus, most of which are not properly classified but the genus with the maximum species is the genus: *Larus*. There are approximately 50 species of gulls in the world, depending on how different species classifications are split or lumped.

Identifying immature and juvenile gulls usually creates havoc and can confuse even the best of ornithologists. One such incident happened with me, where I saw an



The Lesser Black-backed Gull I saw in Kalesar, Haryana

immature gull near the Yamuna river at Kalesar National Park, Haryana. A flock of three gulls flew by me and I clicked all of their photos. One of them was positively identified as a juvenile Pallas's Gull because of its head marks and red spot on beak but the other two were extremely intriguing. When I sent the photos to some of my friends who are also bird experts, we had a good long debate about deciding whether it was a Juvenile Steppe Gull or a Juvenile Heuglins Gull. In the end we categorised the bird as a Lesser Black Backed Gull which is a broad term used to refer to both of them as we couldn't determine that out of the both which one it was. Gulls also have different winter plumages according to which they change their feathers until they

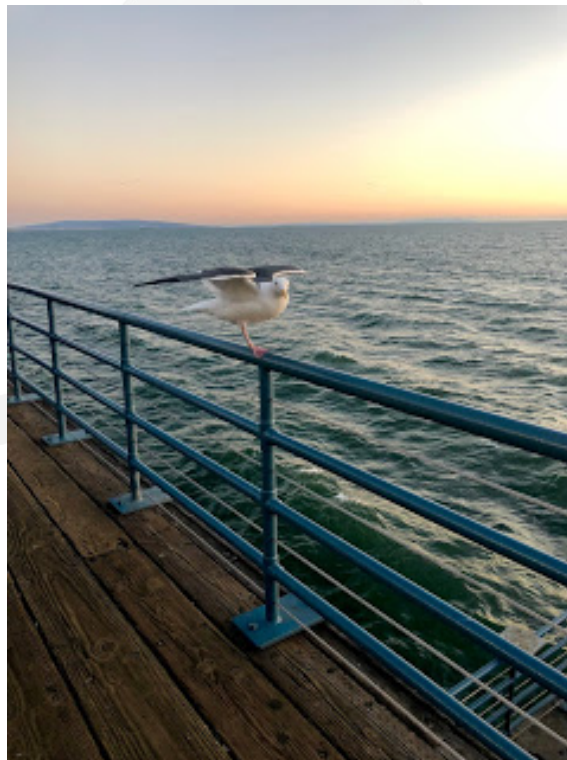


A colony of California Gulls on the Pacific Coast

reach maturity and even after that they change their plumages when breeding season approaches.

A very common example of confusing Gulls which can be seen at Sukhna Lake, Chandigarh every winter are the Brown Headed and Black Headed Gull. Both look very different when in breeding plumage but when the breeding season is off, differentiating between them can be a tricky matter. When not in breeding they can be identified only by a thin white ring around their eyes and to see it one must have clear closeups of the bird.

Gulls are also social birds. They nest in large colonies near large water bodies and sea shores. If you ever visited one of their colonies, let me tell you that they are extremely overcrowded and so noisy that you can't even hear yourself speaking. A common example of the social behaviour is portrayed by the California Gull which nests at the Great Basins and the Pacific Coast in USA. They are very friendly birds and may also snatch your food while you are having walk on the beach.



A California Gull clicked by my father

Gulls are also very clever. They learn, remember and even pass on behaviours, such as stamping their feet in a group to imitate rainfall and trick earthworms to come to the surface.

Gulls' intelligence is clearly demonstrated by a range of different feeding behaviours, such as dropping hard-shelled molluscs onto rocks so that they break open so they can eat them, and following ploughs in fields where they know upturned grubs and other food sources will be plentiful.

Everything about these magnificent gulls can't be covered in a single article, but I hope people acquire the knowledge about these amazing birds living amongst us.

Karmannye Chaudhary



Rose-ringed Parakeet by Rima Dhillon

Mystery Bird: Pheasant-tailed Jacana

This lovely south-east Asian mystery bird is unique that it is the only member of its genus. **Jacana**, also called **lily-trotter** or **lotus bird**, any of several species of water birds belonging to the family *Jacanidae*. Jacanas are uniquely equipped with long straight claws for walking on floating vegetation.

The seven or eight species of the genus *Jacana* include the American jacana ; the African jacana; the Australian lotus bird; and the **pheasant-tailed jacana** , of India and the Philippines, a handsome black, yellow, and white bird that acquires long tail feathers in breeding season.



Pheasant-tailed Jacana in Non Breeding Plumage

18th January, 2020 at Motemazra

The **Pheasant-tailed Jacana** also known as Water Pheasant, is a bird from Jacanas family. It is a group of waders that are identifiable by their huge feet and claws which enable them to walk on floating vegetation in shallow lakes, their preferred habitat. The Pheasant-tailed Jacana is capable of swimming, although it usually walks on the vegetation. The females are more colorful than the males and



Pheasant tailed Jacana in Breeding Plumage
22nd August 2020 at Motemazra

are polyandrous and thus, they are slightly larger than the males and have brighter plumage coloring.

The pheasant-tailed jacana is distinct because it is the only Jacana to have different plumages for the breeding and non-breeding seasons -- unique in its taxonomic family. The Pheasant-tailed Jacana is a conspicuous and unmistakable bird. In breeding plumage, the central tail feathers grow very long, resembling a pheasant's tail, which is how this bird got its common name. On the nape of the neck there is a patch of brilliant, gleaming gold feathers. The wings and under-parts are dazzlingly white in flight in both plumages, as you can see in this photograph. During the breeding season, the long tail adds another 8 cm. Breeding adults are mainly black other than white wings, head, and fore neck. The hind neck is golden. There is a striking white eye-stripe. The legs and very long toes are grey.

Non-breeding adults lack the long tail. The under-parts are white except for a brown breast band and neck stripe. The side of the neck is golden.

Lalit Mohan Bansal

The Dominant Eye!

During one of my talks on similarities and differences between the human eye and the camera delivered to students of photography some years ago, two questions emerged. When I took to bird photography, these appeared more relevant and over the years their explanation got richer in content. Therefore, I avail this opportunity to share these questions and their explanation with birders as well as photo-enthusiasts.

I assume many of us are aware that both the eye and the camera have a lens, an aperture, both receive light and have a system to see that light as an image. Sounds interesting, but there is a need to look beyond it to satisfy the inquisitive minds.

The first question is, do we have a dominant eye and the second, while composing photos why we focus on eye, may it be a human eye or that of a bird or an animal.

Experts say that about 70 per cent of us have right eye as the dominant eye and rest of the population either have the other eye as the dominant eye or none of their eyes is dominant. Here the dominant eye means the eye with which we prefer to see or say with which we feel comfortable to see through the view finder of the camera. In other words, it enables us to provide a greater input to our brain. Therefore, it is essential for photographers and shooters to be aware of their dominant eye, if any, and they must use it appropriately.

If we focus our subject with the dominant eye and with the other keep watching the activities around the subject, it will enable us to be aware of the possible distractions around. Also, there will be no need to keep an eye closed all the time which may be inconvenient and tiring. Some shooters and experienced photographers emphasise the need to shoot with both eyes open as that splits vision. While we see through the view finder with one eye, we keep watching around with the other. It's a bit difficult, but can be practiced. Shooting with both eyes open is not like getting a binocular equipped with a camera because in that case vision of both eyes will be controlled for space around. The other eye should not see through any optical device. One may shoot with one eye or with both eyes open, it is necessary to be conscious of our dominant eye.

The camera manufacturers have designed camera bodies keeping in mind two aspects. One, most people have right eye as the dominant eye and secondly majority of us are right hander. It's the reason that camera bodies have most of the buttons to their right side.

Second question, ever wondered why we focus on eye or why every photo-enthusiast is advised to ensure that the eye is prominently highlighted in an image. I remember, initially I too was advised by some of the experienced bird photographers to focus on eye of the bird and ensure that the eye has catch-light, but it was left up to me to understand why? To me that was a half-backed serving.

I know a few bird photographers who would delete those photographs that do not show eye of the bird as a significant part of the body or the eye is without a catch-light. They are right in doing so, but why we should focus on the eye ?

The focus system of cameras is designed in such a way that it acts successfully if focused on contrast. The eye, for instance the Iris and the sclera provide good contrast to let the camera focus without hunting. While considering the significance of sharp eyes in a photograph, over the years some camera manufacturers have added a unique feature of AF Face Detection and even AF for Animal Eye. With a view to quickly facilitate the existing users of a few camera models, a manufacturer had introduced a firmware upgrade for Animal Eye AF. It can't be termed as a marketing gimmick, because sharp eye holds the key to a good photograph. Another camera manufacturer brought out two new models of its digital camera with similar features and the experts say these have the capability to detect and track even the eye of a dragon fly. This is a technological revolution as its not easy to detect eye on faces of animals having different shapes.

The eyes aptly reflect emotions and personality of the subject. It is like silence speaks louder than words. Apart from this, the eye's location is such that if we focus on it, we get such a depth of field which makes both nose and ears look sharp. In case of birds, the area around the eye would get good sharpness. Also, the colour and shape of the eye, especially of birds help in their identification, say a male or female. Here a word of caution; although sharpness of an image depends on several factors, yet emphasis should be to get sharp eye preferably with glitter.

Although it's important for every photographer to understand his gear, it takes months to understand a camera, its equally important to be considerate about the factor of dominant eye, may it be of the photographer or that of a bird or animal in

an image. Remember, camera manuals do tell us how to adjust the diopter at the view finder, but they leave it to the user to think of the dominant eye.

Subhash Sapru



Spotted Owlet by Rima Dhillon

Neighbourhood Park and Home

Birding

It's fun to watch birds visiting my lawn while sitting in the veranda and sipping my morning tea. It's not only in the morning, in fact they are in my lawn the whole day. Neighbourhood park as well as wilderness next to Kisan Bhawan, only forty to fifty steps away from my house, are the most suitable habitat for different species. Doves like to have pearl millets and Rose-ringed Parakeets enjoy plucking Sunflowers and eating the tender seeds while perching in Bottlebrush tree or sometimes on the railing. Purple Sunbird likes Cat's tail flowers & tiny white hedge flowers for sucking nectar. Brahminy Starlings are hopping, bathing and preening in the Lemon tree. Actually Brahminy Starlings belong to this house, they have been nesting in my house for last 9 — 10 years. Environment in the surrounding area nurtures not only the resident birds but it lures some winter visitors and summer visitors too. There are almost fifty-one species found in this area.

1. House Sparrow (used to visit every day, for last two years not to be seen)
2. Black Drongo
3. Black-rumped Flameback Woodpecker
4. Shikra
5. Yellow-footed Green Pigeons
6. Grey Hornbill
7. Spotted Owlet
8. Common Hoopoe
9. Brow-headed Barbet (every year nesting in this area)
10. Coppersmith Barbet
11. Scaly-breasted Munia
12. Rose-ringed parakeet (spend whole day in the park as sunflower is their favourite food)
13. Indian Silverbill (they visit my house for pearl millet)
14. Laughing Dove
15. Spotted Dove
16. Eurasian Collared Dove
17. Rock Pigeons
18. Black Kite
19. Red-wattled Lapwing (normally nests in the park)
20. Ashy Prinia
21. Tailor Bird
22. Pitta (it was spotted in the park in 2017)
23. Jacobin Cuckoo
24. Common Myna
25. Brahminy Starling (have been nesting in my house for last 8-9 years)
26. Pied Starling (this year nesting in the top opening of telephone pole)
27. Jungle Myna

28. Oriental White-eye
29. Red-vented Bulbul
30. Oriental Magpie Robin
31. White-throated Fantail
32. Paradise Flycatcher
33. Rufous Treepie
34. Asian Koel
35. Common Hawk Cuckoo (can be heard calling in a eucalyptus tree during the breeding season)
36. House Crow (every year nesting in the eucalyptus tree in front of my house)
44. Himalayan Bulbul
45. Hume's Warbler
46. Common Chiffchaff
47. Black Redstart
37. Purple Sunbird
38. Long-tailed Shrike
39. Grey Francolin
40. Greater Coucal
41. Common Babbler
42. White-throated Kingfisher
43. Jungle Babbler
- Winter visitors (they like to forage on black aphids in Chrysanthemum flowers, especially when they get wilted, they are dying and full of insects)
48. Sulphur-bellied Warbler
49. Common Starling
50. Grey-headed Starling (they like Bottle brush flower seeds)
51. Lesser Whitethroat

Sarbjeet Kaur



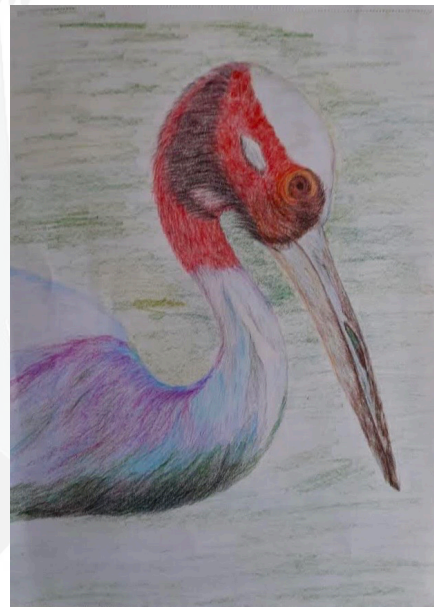
Ruddy Shelduck by Bhupesh K Goyal

My Sketches

I love colours as everyone else does. Human beings are probably the only living things who can decipher them. I love playing with them as most of us do. This is not pertaining to 'HOLI'. I play with all mediums especially WATER, PENCIL, AND POSTER colours.

This lockdown for all was almost the same with only a little difference here and there. For me...there was no unnecessary outing..... I got to spend more time with my colour pencils, my PERPETUAL COMPANIONS. Let me assure you that it was like going into timelessness.... I play with colours and make abstracts and use it as a therapy. BUT I do sketch birds, flowers and objects or whatever else that I can . I am not sure whether the bird sketches are worth sharing or if someone will get pleasure by looking at them.... I can only say that I enjoyed doing them, I would not know where the hours flew. I have only shared my drawings with people who are close to me. But then AS USUAL Amandeep's "send articles", made me write a few lines and share a few sketches, GOOD if you recognise them, otherwise you can CALL THEM MY FANTASY BIRDS.





Geeta Goswami

Five Years of the Newsletter

This issue marks the fifth anniversary of Whispering Wings. It has been an incredible journey for us on the editorial board and the club. Five years ago, designing and editing the newsletter was not easy. It was a new experience for me. Now, I shall like to tell you about ‘Whispering Wings’.

In September, the club had its monthly meeting as usual. Navjit Singh suggested that we need to come up with a publication to circulate among the members and other bird clubs. Being the youngest member of the club at that time, the responsibility was given to me. In that meeting we came up with the various sections of the newsletter; editorial, secretary’s report, technical section, birding hotspots, species under the scope, local monthly field trips, outstation field trips, international field trips, and calendar of the club. We also mulled over the period of the newsletter’s circulation. I vetoed monthly publication due to the weight of responsibility that would fall on me, and the amount of articles that would come in for the newsletter. We finally decided upon a quarterly publication. With sections and period of publication settled, I began with the first issue of the newsletter.

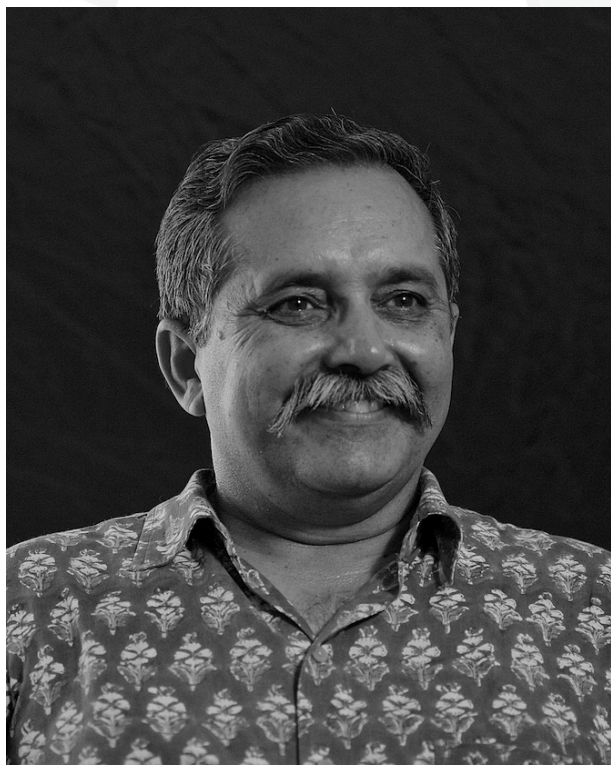
The first issue was published on 30th September 2015. Nine articles written by seven authors were put into the newsletter. The editorial was from the editor-in-chief and President of Chandigarh Bird Club Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon. Other important contributors were the Vice President Narbir Kahlon, Secretary Rima Dhillon, Joint Secretary Sarbjeet Kaur, Simerpreet Singh Cheema, Mandeep Kang, and I. The first issue, by virtue of being first, and above that edited by me, was bound to have problems and mistakes. But we learnt from them. The next issue came up in December, three months later. Improvements and corrections from our first attempt were apparent. And a system was now set.

Keen observers of the newsletter will have noticed that in the five years, significant, and subtle, changes have been made to the newsletter. With the advent of technology, we now have access to various word processing software. Every so often, we make changes to the design and layout of the newsletter. The editorial board is also always adapting to the changing times. This lockdown through March unto July and restrictions beyond has rendered meet-ups between the members of the Editorial Board; namely Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon and I. But once again technology came to our aid. With real-time editing of the newsletter over internet, we have been working as a team. Though, I do miss the tea at his house.

With twenty issues out, this twenty-first issue is a special landmark for the Board and the Club. With the fifth anniversary of what I have dubbed the ‘Declaration of Officialdom’ next year in January, and the fourth anniversary of Officialdom in March, the Club attains some very important landmarks.

Amandeep Singh Channa

The Editorial Board



Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon



Amandeep Singh Channa

July Field Trip

The field trip for the month of July was held to Chhappar Chhirri on 10th July 2020.

The following members were present:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Rima Dhillon | 4. Gurdip Singh Boparai |
| 2. Amandeep Singh | 5. Subhash Sapru |
| 3. Sarbjeet Kaur | 6. Lalit Mohan Bansal |

The following species were spotted:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Lesser Whistling-Duck | 19. Purple Heron |
| 2. Indian Spot-billed Duck | 20. Cattle Egret |
| 3. Indian Peafowl | 21. Indian Pond-Heron |
| 4. Black Francolin | 22. Black-crowned Night-Heron |
| 5. Grey Francolin | 23. Red-naped Ibis |
| 6. Rock Pigeon | 24. Black Kite |
| 7. Eurasian Collared-Dove | 25. Eurasian Hoopoe |
| 8. Greater Coucal | 26. White-throated Kingfisher |
| 9. Jacobin Cuckoo | 27. Green Bee-eater |
| 10. Grey-headed Swamphen | 28. Blue-tailed Bee-eater |
| 11. White-breasted Waterhen | 29. Rose-ringed Parakeet |
| 12. Black-winged Stilt | 30. Black Drongo |
| 13. Red-wattled Lapwing | 31. House Crow |
| 14. Common Snipe | 32. Yellow-bellied Prinia |
| 15. Green Sandpiper | 33. Ashy Prinia |
| 16. Barred Buttonquail | 34. Plain Prinia |
| 17. Cinnamon Bittern | 35. Zitting Cisticola |
| 18. Grey Heron | 36. Pale Sand Martin |

37. Wire-tailed Swallow

38. Red-vented Bulbul

39. Yellow-eyed Babbler

40. Striated Babbler

41. Asian Pied Starling

42. Common Myna

43. Pied Bushchat

44. Brown Rock Chat

45. Purple Sunbird

46. Streaked Weaver

47. Baya Weaver

48. Red Avadavat

49. Indian Silverbill

50. Scaly-breasted Munia

51. House Sparrow



Baya Weaver



Indian Silverbill



Grey Francolin

August Field Trip

The field trip for the month of August was held to Morni Hills and Tikkar Tal on 9th August 2020.

The following members were present:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Rima Dhillon | 6. Karandeep Singh |
| 2. Aprajita Lobana | 7. Onkar Singh |
| 3. Saroj Gulati | 8. Harbhajan Singh Pathania |
| 4. Sarbjeet Kaur | 9. Mahesh Garg |
| 5. Amandeep Singh Channa | 10. Gurdip Singh Boparai |



Green Bee-eater

The following birds were spotted:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Indian Peafowl | 24. Rufous Treepie |
| 2. Grey Francolin | 25. Large-billed Crow |
| 3. Red Junglefowl | 26. Cinereous Tit |
| 4. Spotted Dove | 27. Common Tailorbird |
| 5. Laughing Dove | 28. Grey-breasted Prinia |
| 6. Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon | 29. Wire-tailed Swallow |
| 7. Wedge-tailed Green-Pigeon | 30. Red-rumped Swallow |
| 8. Greater Coucal | 31. Streak-throated Swallow |
| 9. Jacobin Cuckoo | 32. Red-vented Bulbul |
| 10. Common Hawk-Cuckoo | 33. Himalayan Bulbul |
| 11. Red-wattled Lapwing | 34. Indian White-eye |
| 12. Little Cormorant (Accip) | 35. Jungle Babbler |
| 13. Spotted Owlet | 36. Common Myna |
| 14. Indian Grey Hornbill | 37. Indian Robin |
| 15. White-throated Kingfisher | 38. Oriental Magpie-Robin |
| 16. Green Bee-eater | 39. Pied Bushchat |
| 17. Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker | 40. Indian Chat |
| 18. Rose-ringed Parakeet | 41. Purple Sunbird |
| 19. Indian Golden Oriole | 42. Scaly-breasted Munia |
| 20. Ashy Woodswallow | 43. House Sparrow |
| 21. Black Drongo | 44. White-browed Wagtail |
| 22. Long-tailed Shrike | 45. Crested Bunting |
| 23. Red-billed Blue-Magpie | |

September Field Trip

The field trip for the month of September was held to Jayanti Dam on 13th September 2020

The following members were present:

1. Rima Dhillon
2. Sarbjeet Kaur
3. Manjot Singh
4. Amandeep Singh Channa
5. Narbir Kahlon



The following birds were spotted:

1. Lesser Whistling-Duck
2. Indian Peafowl
3. Black Francolin
4. Grey Francolin
5. Rock Pigeon
6. Eurasian Collared-Dove
7. Spotted Dove
8. Laughing Dove
9. Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon
10. Asian Koel
11. Common Hawk-Cuckoo
12. Eurasian Moorhen
13. White-breasted Waterhen
14. Black-winged Stilt
15. Red-wattled Lapwing
16. Green Sandpiper

17. Little Cormorant

26. White-throated Kingfisher

18. Intermediate Egret

27. Green Bee-eater



Crow feeding an Asian Koel Juvenile

19. Cattle Egret

28. Brown-headed Barbet

20. Indian Pond-Heron

29. Alexandrine Parakeet

21. Red-naped Ibis

30. Rose-ringed Parakeet

22. Black Kite

31. Black Drongo

23. Spotted Owlet

32. Ashy Drongo

24. Eurasian Hoopoe

33. Long-tailed Shrike



Lesser Whistling Teal

25. Indian Grey Hornbill

34. Rufous Treepie

35. House Crow

40. Blyth's Reed Warbler

36. Large-billed Crow

41. Grey-throated Martin



Red-naped Ibis

37. Common Tailorbird

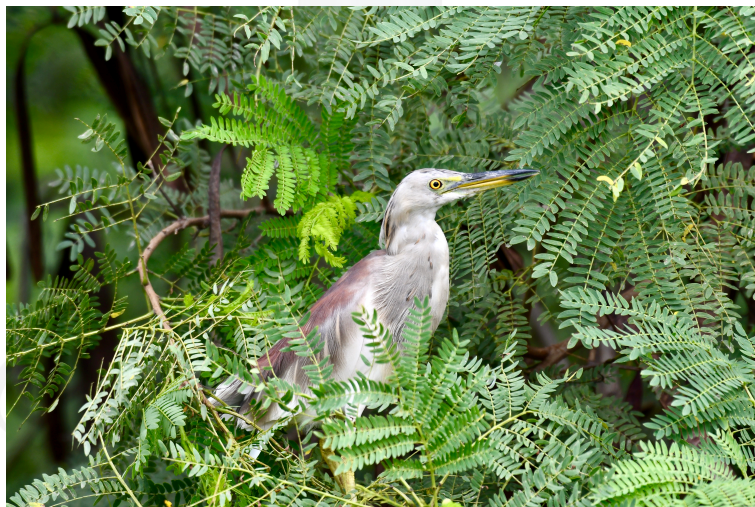
42. Wire-tailed Swallow

38. Jungle Prinia

43. Red-vented Bulbul

39. Ashy Prinia

44. Hume's Warbler



Indian Pond Heron

- 45. Lesser Whitethroat
- 46. Jungle Babbler
- 47. European Starling
- 48. Asian Pied Starling
- 49. Brahminy Starling
- 50. Chestnut-tailed Starling
- 51. Common Myna
- 52. Jungle Myna
- 53. Indian Robin
- 54. Pied Bushchat
- 55. Indian Chat
- 56. Purple Sunbird
- 57. Scaly-breasted Munia
- 58. House Sparrow
- 59. Grey Wagtail
- 60. White Wagtail
- 61. Olive-backed Pipit



Little Cormorant by Bhupesh K Goyal



**White-throated Kingfisher with snake kill by
Manjot Singh Arneja**

Whispering Wings®

Newsletter of the Chandigarh
Bird Club



Accepted in 2008, the Chandigarh Bird Club dedicated itself 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, Vikramjit Singh, Mrs Rima Dhillon, Mrs Sarbjeet Kaur, and Mrs Geeta Goswami.

The fundamental objectives of Chandigarh Bird Club continue to be to:

1. Bring people, especially the younger generation closer to nature, through birding and help them to enjoy the outdoors while making out a fun activity.
2. To make individuals and government more sensitive towards the environment to create a dynamic database for analysis to focus on conservation efforts.
3. To create a forum for birders to share information and discuss issues related to this activity.

Editors:-

Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

Amandeep Singh Channa

- **President - Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon**
- **Vice President - Narbir Singh Kahlon**
- **Secretary - Rima Dhillon**
- **Joint Secretary - Sarbjeet Kaur**
- **Treasurer - Mahesh Garg**