

NEPAL

P. JEFFERSON

(1989)

*** NATURETREK ***

THE LANGTANG VALLEY OF NEPAL

29th April to 21st May 1989

Group members: Paul Jessop (Leader), Bob Erwin, Don & Mary Jennings, Veronica O'Connor, John & Jean Ross,

Itinerary.

- April 29th: Traveled from London.
- April 30th: Arrival in Kathmandu. Late afternoon visit to the Royal Palace.
- May 1st: Sightseeing in Kathmandu.
- May 2nd: Driving from Kathmandu to Dharan, stopping for lunch by the river at Trisuli Bazar.
- May 3rd: Trekking from Dhunche to Bharku and then on to Syabru. Stopped for lunch at the above Bharku.
- May 4th: Descended from Syabru to the Langtang Khola and then walked up the Langtang Valley to Lama Hotel. Stopped for lunch by the river at Bamboo Lodge.
- May 5th: Spent the day relaxing and exploring the forest around Lama Hotel.
- May 6th: Continued to walk through beautiful forest habitats to Ghora Tabela where we stopped for lunch. During the afternoon walked on to Langtang Village.
- May 7th: Walked from Langtang to Kyangin during the morning. Afternoon spent relaxing at base of the group walked up to observe the Koyunjung glacier.
- May 8th: Walked further up the valley past the derelict village along the higher reaches of the Langtang Khola to approximately Nubama Dhang. Returned to our camp at Kyangin at about mid afternoon.
- May 9th: Retraced our steps, returning to the Kyangin where we had a mid-day lunch, and then on to Ghora Tabela for the night camp. Went for a night walk in the nearby forest.
- May 10th: Slowly walked down through the forest to Bamboo Lodge, breaking our walk for lunch at Lama Hotel.
- May 11th: Made the steep, hot climb from Bamboo Lodge to the top of the mountain. The afternoon was spent relaxing with some gentle evening bird-watching around Syabru.

- May 12th: Ascended from Syabru to Sing Ghompa, on the ridge above, arriving for a late lunch. During the day there was no rain but it cleared enough water on for us to take a late evening walk down in the beautiful pine forest which we had trekked through earlier.
- May 13th: Started walking towards Soainkund, Nearing Lower Laurabing the rain started, and ascending towards Upper Laurabing were caught in a heavy snow fall. No extra gear was left in the lodge for our return at the day and night.
- May 14th: Further snowfalls in the night ruled out a crossing of the pass so we returned to Sing Ghompe for lunch, and then walked on to the ridge apex above Syabru where we made camp. Had an adventurous, though unsuccessful, search for tragopans in the forest below before dusk.
- May 15th: During the day dropped in excess of 1000 ft. to Syabru then at the junction of the Langtang Khola and Bhote Kosi. Stayed again at Syabru for lunch.
- May 16th: During the morning we made a pleasant excursion up the Bhote Kosi valley towards Tibet. During the afternoon we made a hot and exhausting walk to Kathmandu.
- May 17th: Morning all pleasant, walk from Sherku through Dhunche to Ramche, stopping between Doka Grande and There for lunch.
- May 18th: For our final day's trekking we had a downhill and rather hot, walk from Ramche to Trisuli Bazar, where we had a hot, dry rice paddy outside the village.
- May 19th: Returned to Kathmandu, arriving at lunch time.
- May 20th: Morning spent shopping and sightseeing. Evening walk to Nagarjung but rained off after an hour or so.

Birds and Mammals Recorded in the Langtang National Park and Kathmandu.

Approximate location of each record is denoted by the following symbols:

K = Kathmandu, Gorkana and Nagarjung.
 T = Trisuli Bazar & Beterauti, D = Dhunche, B = Sherku, S = Syabru,
 SB = Syabru Benzi, BI = Bamboo Lodge, LH = Lama House, Ky = Kyangla,
 L = Langtang, Ky = Kyangla, BI = Bamboo Lodge, SB = Laurabing, S = Ramche

Birds.

Night Heron
 Indian pond heron.

Castle Raven
 Golden Oriole

Location. Notes.

K.

K.

K.

T.

Black Kite	K, T, L.
Egyptian vulture	T.
Lammergeier	L, KY, S, SB.
Oriental white-bird vulture	K, T.
Himalayan griffon	S, L, KY.
Griffon vulture	R.
Crested serpent eagle	S, R.
Mountain hawk eagle	S, SB.
Common hawk-eagle	K, S, LA.
Slow lorikeet	LA.
Black francolin	T, B, SB.
Himalayan monal	GT, L.
Kallij pheasant	S.
Rock pigeon	KY.
Snow pigeon	K, BI, L, KY, SB.
Ashy woodpigeon	L, KY.
Rufous surinam dove	S.
Spotted dove	B, S, L, GT, L, KY, SB, SB.
Wedge tailed green pigeon	D, B, SB, T.
Yellow-legged green pigeon.	S/BI, D.
Blossom-headed parakeet	R/T.
Common hawk cuckoo	R/T. Heard & only brief views.
Indian cuckoo	S, SB. Heard only.
Common cuckoo	K, B, R, T.
Common keel	K, D, B, R, H, B, L, LA, SB, R, T.
Brown fish owl	K.
Himalayan swiftlet	K.
Pacific swift	D, S, LH, GT, L, SB, SB, R.
Alpine swift	S, LH, GT.
Green-backed kingfisher	S.
Common kingfisher	K.
Chestnut-headed bee-eater	T.
Great Cuckoo	K, B, T.
Blue-throated barbet	B, B, SB, D.
Golden-throated barbet	R/T.
Himalayan honeyguide	S.
Scaly-bellied green woodpecker.	BI.
Bay woodpecker	GT, S.
Scaly-bellied woodpecker	LA, GT.
White-bellied woodpecker	GT.
Brown-fronted pied woodpecker	S, D.
Fulvous-breasted pied woodpecker	K.
Grey-capped piety woodpecker	K.
Red-breasted nuthatch	LH, D, T.
Barn swallow	K.
Noddy house martin	S.
Olive-backed pipit	S, GT, L, KY, SB.
Rosy pipit	L, KY, SB.
White pipit	R.
White wagtail	LH, L, KY.
Bar-winged flycatcher-shrike	KY.
	K.
	Brief views approx 100%

	<u>Location.</u>	<u>Notes.</u>
Black-winged cuckoo-shrike	S, R, T.	
Large cuckoo-shrike	T.	
Scarlet minivet	B, D, R, T.	
Long-tailed minivet	K, D, B, S, LH, GT, SG, SB.	
Striated bulbul	R.	
White-cheeked bulbul	T, D, B, S, SB, F, T.	
Red-vented bulbul	K, R, Y.	
Black bulbul	K, D, B, S, BL, SB.	
Brown dipper	BL, LH, L, KY, SB.	
Cufous-breasted accentor	KY, La.	
Indian blue chat	B, S, LH, GT, BL.	
Red-flanked bluetail	SG.	
Golden-buff robin	SG.	
White-browed tit	K, T.	
Blue-fronted redstart	GT, L, K, SG, La.	
Rufous redstart	T, BL, LH, GT, L, SB, B, D.	
Common storckow	B, S, SB, R.	
Grey bushchat	R, T.	
White-capped riverchat	T, D, B, S, SG, SB, R.	
Blue-capped rock thrush	T, D, B, S, BL, LH, GT, L, KY, SB, R, T.	
Chestnut-collared rock-thrush	D, SG, R.	
Blue whistling thrush	BL, SB.	
Plain-backed mountain-thrush	K, D, B, S, BL, LH, GT, L, KY, SB, R, T.	
Long-billed thrush	BL.	
Sied ground thrush	LH.	
Ticket's thrush	D, R.	
White-collared blackbird	S.	
Little forktail	GT, SG, La, R.	
Spotted forktail	R.	
Chestnut-crowned warbler	B, LH.	
Grey-headed warbler	LH, GT.	
Green-headed bush warbler	D, SG.	
White printia	D, B, S, SB, R.	
Common tailorbird	K, R.	
Golden-spectacled warbler	BL, LH, GT, S, SB, R.	
Grey-headed warbler	S, BL, LH, SG, B, D, R.	
Chestnut-crowned warbler	BL.	
Blyth's crowned warbler	K, S, LH, GT, SG, SB.	
Greenish warbler	B, S, LH, GT, SG, SB.	
Large-billed leaf warbler	LH, GT.	
Orange-barrred leaf warbler	SG, La.	
Grey-faced leaf warbler	LH.	
Pallas's warbler	LH, GT, SG.	
Ticket's warbler	L, KY.	
Blue breast	SG.	Heard only.
Rufous-bellied niltava	BL, LH.	
Blue-throated flycatcher	K.	
Verditer flycatcher	B, S, R.	
Sooty flycatcher	LH, GT, SG.	
Brown flycatcher	R.	
Ultramine flycatcher	S.	
Orange-gorgetted flycatcher	S, BL, LH, GT, R.	
Grey-headed flycatcher	S, B.	
Yellow-bellied flycatcher	LH, GT, SG.	

Location. Notes.

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Greater scaly-breasted wren-babbler GT.
Black-throated parrotbill LH.
White-throated laughing thrush D.
White-bellied laughing thrush K.
Striated laughing thrush BL.
Variegated laughing thrush L, K, SG, La.
Streaked laughing thrush S, LH, GT, L, KY, SG, S, D, B.
Scaly laughing thrush BL.
Black-faced laughing thrush S, LH, GT, SG.
Chestnut-crowned laughing thrush S.
Chestnut-tailed minia GT, R.
White-browed fulveta La.
Capped ribia B, S, R, LH, GT, SG, SB.
Crowned yuhina LH, GT.
Stripe-throated yuhina LH.
Rufous-vented yuhina LH.
Red-headed tit D, S.
Brown-breasted tit GT, SG.
Rufous-vented black tit GT, SG, La.
Coal tit LH, GT, SG.
Green-backed tit D, B, S, D, R, H.
Black-lored tit K, D.
Black-bellied nuthatch LH, S, SG.
Black-throated nuthatch K, T.
Rusty-flanked treecreeper GT.
Mrs Goulds sunbird S.
Green-tailed sunbird S, LH, GT, SG.
Silver-tailed sunbird La.
Buff-bellied flowerpecker S, BL, LH, B, D, R.
Oriental white-eye K, R, T.
Long-tailed shrike T, D, R.
Grey-backed shrike L, KY, GT, S.
Grey drongo T, R.
Chestnut drongo D, B, S.
Bronzed drongo S.
Eurasian jay S, SG.
Yellow-billed blue magpie GT, LH, S.
White-billed blue magpie K.
Rufous treepie R.
Grey treepie K, R.
Eurasian nutcracker D, LH, SG, S.
Alpine chough L, KY.
Black-billed chough L, KY.
Jungle crow K, T.
Spot-winged sparrow K, T, B, D, S, L, K, T, S, SG, S, R.
White-headed myna T.
Chestnut myna R/T.
Brahminy myna R/T.
House sparrow R/T.
Tree sparrow K, R.
Himalayan monal parakeet T, D, B, S, SG, S.
Blue-tit rosefinch D, S.
White-browed rosefinch S, L/K.
White-browed rosefinch L/K, La.

Location.

Scrub-wren finch
Red-headed bullfinch
Collared grosbeak
Spot-winged grosbeak
White-winged grosbeak
Orange-winged tanager

La.
SB, La.
SB, La.
SB
SB, La.
D, R, T.

Roost views

Larger Mammals.

Common langur
Yellow-throated warbler
Indian muntjac
Goral
Himalayan tahr
Orange-bellied squirrel
Flying squirrel
Himalayan red shrew

LA, S, R.
SB, R.
S.
SB.
BT.
D, R, T.
BT.
LH, BT, L, K.

Paul Jepson. 25.5.69.