

Bird Report: West Timor & Bali, 6-21 Feb 2011

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6th We arrived in Bali during the afternoon and stayed at the Hotel Yani which was a typical cheaper end hotel. Just around the corner was the road to the port, along which we birded for the afternoon as the tide went out finding: Grey Heron, Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Little Egret, Striated Heron, Javan Pond Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Grey Plover, Eurasian Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew, Whimbrel, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Grey-tailed Tattler, Marsh Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Little Tern, Great Crested Tern, Rock Dove, Island Collared-Dove, Spotted Dove, Cave Swiftlet, Small Blue Kingfisher, Pacific Swallow, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Large-billed Crow, Pied Fantail, Golden-bellied Gerygone, Ashy Tailorbird, Javan Myna, Olive-backed Sunbird, Scaly-breasted Munia and White-headed Munia.

7th We birded the road to the port again that morning adding: Greater Sandplover, Lesser Sandplover, Curlew Sandpiper, Terek Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, Collared Kingfisher and Bar-winged Prinia. We flew to Timor and made our way to Soe by bus. Staying at the Bahagia Dua Hotel, this was probably the best in town and was quite acceptable with hot water showers. There was no air-conditioning or a fan but they were not required as it was quite cool, being at a higher elevation.

8th We arranged for two *ojeks* (motorcycles) to pick us up at 5am to take us to Gunung Mutis, arriving there shortly after dawn. The ride was not a hairy as I thought it was going to be, but the road from Kapan to Fatumnasi is still virtually impassable for anything else, and we still had to walk up some of the rougher bits. The birding was slow but steady through the park-like atmosphere. As the afternoon wore on the clouds came down and the birding became impossible. We met up with the famous Mateos Anin on our way down, and were astonished to find that his home stay is still in operation. The old building has been damaged by wind, but it is still possible to stay next to his house in a 'shed'. Ph 085239890563. So we arranged to spend the next night there, and got more *ojeks* to Kapan and then a *Bemo* (a small minibus, usually with painfully loud music crashing into your body) back to Soe. The birds: Savannah Nightjar, Peregrine Falcon, Olive-headed Lorikeet, Feral Pigeon, Oriental Cuckoo, Glossy Swiftlet, Pygmy Wren-babbler, Chestnut-backed Thrush, Island Thrush, Pied Chat, White-bellied Chat, Timor Leaf-Warbler, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Golden Whistler, Grey Wagtail, Plain Gerygone, Mountain White-eye, Timor Blue Flycatcher, Northern Fantail, Arafura Fantail, Yellow-eared Honeyeater.

9th Rained most of the night and early morning, so slept in and headed up to Fatumnasi once it had stopped. Met up with Absalom, Mateos' son in law, who took us over a nearby valley and ridge in the morning and after lunch we wound our way beside the main track towards Gunung Mutis. The birds: Short-toed Eagle, Olive-shouldered Parrot, Boobook Owl, Scaly-breasted Munia, Spotted Kestrel, Metallic Pigeon, Sunda Bush-Warbler, White-shouldered Triller, added to yesterday's list. Of note was the total lack of Iris Lorikeets, they were neither seen nor heard during our time on Gunung Mutis.

10th I was horribly sick during the night, but managed to drag myself up the hill, and was rewarded with Tricoloured Parrot-Finch which was my only new bird for the day though we did see Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo and Large-billed Crow as well. In the afternoon we had a social call in Kefamenanu, a rather long but not unpleasant *ojek* ride away, and spent the night there.

11th Caught the bus to Camplong and had no problems getting a room at the nunnery [there](#), Wisma Oe Mat Honis. Upon request they even cheerfully supplied a fan, which I guiltily realized later was probably taken from one of their rooms. Some of the nuns spoke a little English which would prove helpful later. I stayed there for a week costing me Rp540, 000 including meals which were toned down in spiciness for me, and most were quite yummy. We headed off into the forest in the afternoon adding Wallacean Drongo, Timor Figbird, Island Monarch, Streak-breasted Honeyeater, Black-chested Honeyeater, Flame-breasted Sunbird, Red-chested Flowerpecker and Ashy-bellied White-eye.

12th Got two *ojeks* down to Bipolo at 5am, arriving just after good light, and birded the road past the town and into the rice paddies where we copped a soaking from a passing storm, which soon cleared, then back through the town and back out through different rice paddies to the fish ponds, we were still adding birds as we started to lose light in the late afternoon, with our legs wearing out and shoulders broken from carrying a scope around all day we accepted a lift from the enemy (a duck and pelican (!) shooter) to Oelmasi junction and a *bemo* back to Camplong. The birds: Little Black Cormorant, Great Egret, Gull-billed Tern, White-faced Heron, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Black Kite, Chinese Goshawk, Brown Goshawk, Wandering Whistling-Duck, Sunda Teal, Pacific Black Duck, Red-capped Plover, Common Greenshank, Common Sandpiper, Far Eastern Curlew, Spotted Turtle-Dove, Barred Dove, Black-backed Fruit-Dove, Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon, Yellow-crested Cockatoo, Red-cheeked Parrot, Gould's Bronze-Cuckoo, Collared Kingfisher, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Rainbow Bee-eater, Pacific Swallow, Tree Martin, Yellow Wagtail, Clamorous Reed-Warbler, Golden-headed Cisticola, Broad-billed Flycatcher, Long-tailed Shrike, Short-tailed Starling, Timor Friarbird, Indonesian Honeyeater, Red Avadavat, Zebra Finch, Timor Sparrow, Black-faced Munia and Five-coloured Munia.

13th More rain cleared by early morning so out to the forest at Camplong we went. Adding Elegant Pitta, Wallacean Cuckoo-shrike, Russet Bush-Warbler and hearing Emerald Dove (heard) and Buff-banded Thicketbird. Smathi headed off to work in Kupang, and I went back to the forest to cop an afternoon soaking and getting a fleeting glimpse of a Timor Stubtail.

14th Found an emergent fruiting fig tree and spent a few hours watching the procession of birds through it, a further exploration through the myriad of forest tracks netted a few more birds: Timor Black Pigeon, Spectacled Monarch, and actually managed to surprise a Buff-banded Thicketbird out in the open.

15th Went down to Bipolo early and wandered around the tracks next to the road, checking out any fruiting figs I could find, by 8.30am the sun was ferocious and the birds went very quiet, I wandered around until mid morning, finding nothing new I went back to Camplong. Before the birds went quiet I added Orange-sided Thrush, and Brown Quail, and got a wonderful look at a Timor Stubtail singing on a low branch beside a trickle of water, and heard a Timor Friarbird. A bird of note that was missing from our list in Timor was the Marigold Lorikeet; it was neither seen nor heard during our stay in Timor.

16th I extended my reach today and went for a long walk past the usual trails and where the forest starts to thin out I found Bar-breasted Flycatcher on a limestone scree slope, Sooty-headed Bulbul out on top, and Spot-breasted Dark-eye closer to the main area, I also got a look at the local Pheasant Coucal, which I wasn't expecting to see in the Camplong forests.

17th Proved to be a fruitless search in a different area again which wasn't nearly as good as the main area, so it seems that the area of good birding is really quite limited to a few hundred square metres up the hill around the village near Camplong.

18th Caught the bus in to Kupang and an *ojek* to the airport, met up with Smathi, and flew to Bali. Met our arranged driver and drove to the north coast to stay at the Aneka Bagus Hotel, a mid-range hotel in Pemuteran with a deep discount for off-season, making it quite affordable. The room was spacious and well appointed with amenities and mosquitos, the staff friendly and helpful.

19th We hired a car without driver for the day and headed off to Bali Barat NP. We eventually met up with an official park guide named Nono to show us around. Taking us up a hillside in the morning and out to Gilimanuk in the afternoon. So to our Bali list we added Woolly-necked Stork, Crested Serpent-Eagle, Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Yellow-throated Hanging-Parrot, Savannah Nightjar, Grey-rumped Treeswift, Rufous-backed Kingfisher, Javan Kingfisher, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Coppersmith Barbet, Lineated Barbet (heard), Laced Woodpecker, Barn Swallow, White-shouldered Triller, Common Iora, Sooty-headed Bulbul, White-breasted Woodswallow, Long-tailed Shrike, Javan Myna and Streaked Weaver.

20th We had a driver meet us early to take us to the boat and Nono, and thus out to the northern coast of the park where we landed and walked a short distance to the Bali Myna cage and up the hill a few hundred metres to a dilapidated unclimbable tower. Come mid-morning we retraced our steps, and were back at the hotel by lunch. The new birds: White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Japanese Sparrowhawk, Oriental Honey-Buzzard, Black-thighed Falconet, Green Junglefowl (heard), Beach Thick-knee, Zebra Dove, Lesser Coucal (heard), Edible-nest Swiftlet, Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker, Sunda Woodpecker, Striated Swallow, Malayan Cuckoo-shrike, Small Minivet, Black Drongo, Bali Myna, Black-winged Starling. Nono was good value, knowing his calls and where to find the birds, he spoke reasonable English, nono_friendsofnature@hotmail.com or ph 08179722923. We found a BBQ fish place a short walk from the hotel, and had the best

meal for the trip. The afternoon and evening were spent lazing by the pool etc. like your everyday tourists.

21st We went back with the same driver (Nyoman Ludru 081916451600) who for no extra charge let us spend 3 hours around the Bedugul Botanical Gardens in the middle of the island, here we added White-breasted Waterhen, Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon, Scarlet Minivet, Grey-cheeked Bulbul, Ashy Drongo, Greater-racquet-tailed Drongo, Black-naped Oriole, Great Tit, Little Pied Flycatcher, Short-tailed Starling, Blood-breasted Flowerpecker, Mountain White-eye, Javan Grey-throated White-eye and Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike, by the lake near the Gardens we found Striated Grassbird. That night we flew home.

Little Black Cormorant: Small flock at fish ponds Bipolo
Grey Heron: few birds sighted Bali
Purple Heron: one bird Denpasar
Great Egret: one bird Bipolo, one bird Denpasar
Little Egret: one bird Denpasar
Cattle Egret: common around coast of Bali
Striated Heron: few birds Denpasar
Javan Pond Heron: common Denpasar
Woolly-necked Stork: one bird Bali Barat
Sunda Teal: few birds Bipolo
Pacific Black Duck: few birds Bipolo
Wandering Whistling Duck: few birds Bipolo
Oriental Honey-Buzzard: three birds Bali Barat
Short-toed Eagle: few birds around Timor
Japanese Sparrowhawk: one bird Bali Barat
Chinese Goshawk: one bird Bipolo
Crested Serpent-Eagle: one bird Bali Barat
Black-thighed Falconet: one bird Bali Barat
Spotted Kestrel: two Gunung Mutis
Peregrine Falcon: one bird Gunung Mutis
Brown Quail: one bird Bipolo
Green Junglefowl: one bird calling Bali Barat
White-breasted Waterhen: one bird Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Grey Plover: one bird Denpasar
Red-capped Plover: few birds Bipolo
Lesser Sandplover: quite a few birds Denpasar
Greater Sandplover: one bird Denpasar
Eurasian Curlew: quite a few birds Denpasar
Far Eastern Curlew: quite a few birds Denpasar, one bird Bipolo
Black-tailed Godwit: few at Denpasar
Bar-tailed Godwit: few at Denpasar
Marsh Sandpiper: few at Denpasar and Bipolo
Common Greenshank: few at Denpasar and Bipolo
Terek Sandpiper: a few birds Denpasar

Common Sandpiper: seen regularly around water throughout trip
Curlew Sandpiper: few at Denpasar
Beach Thick-knee: four birds Bali Barat
Gull-billed Tern: few at Bipolo
Little Tern: few at Denpasar
Great Crested Tern: few around Bali
Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon: few birds Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Pink-necked Green Pigeon: quite a few birds Bali Barat
Rock Pigeon: regularly seen in low numbers
Timor Black Pigeon: heard often Camplong, seen briefly at Gunung Mutis
Island Collared Dove: few birds Bali and Timor
Spotted Dove: regularly seen
Zebra Dove: few birds Bali Barat area
Barred Dove: one bird Bipolo
Emerald Dove: heard a few times Camplong
Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon: three birds Bipolo
Black-backed Fruit-Dove: few Birds Bipolo and Camplong
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove: few birds Bipolo and Camplong
Yellow-throated Hanging-Parrot: few birds Bali Barat and Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Olive-headed Lorikeet: common at higher elevations of Gunung Mutis
Yellow-Crested Cockatoo: lone bird at Bipolo
Red-cheeked Parrot: one flight of five birds Bipolo
Olive-shouldered Parrot: two birds Gunung Mutis
Oriental Cuckoo: very common Gunung Mutis only
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo: one bird Gunung Mutis
Gould's Bronze-Cuckoo: few birds Bipolo
Pheasant Coucal: one bird Camplong
Lesser Coucal: few birds Bipolo and Bali Barat
Southern Boobook: one bird Gunung Mutis
Savannah Nightjar: seen Gilimanuk, and near Soe, heard Denpasar
Glossy/Cave Swiftlet: common Timor and Bali
Edible-nest Swiftlet: sparse around Bali Barat
Grey-rumped Treeswift: few birds around Bali Barat
Small Blue Kingfisher: one bird Bali Barat, few at Denpasar
Rufous-backed Kingfisher: one bird Bali Barat
Javan Kingfisher: one bird Bali Barat
Collared Kingfisher: common Bali Barat area
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater: quite a few birds Bali Barat
Blue-tailed Bee-eater: quite common, Bali and Bipolo
Rainbow Bee-eater: few at Camplong and Bipolo
Lineated Barbet: heard often Bali Barat, not seen
Coppersmith Barbet: quite common Bali Barat, only seen twice
Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker: one seen Bali Barat
Sunda Woodpecker: one seen Bali Barat
Laced Woodpecker: one seen Bali Barat
Elegant Pitta: quite common Camplong, less so Bipolo

Barn Swallow: one bird Bali Barat
Pacific Swallow: few birds Bipolo and Bali
Tree Martin: quite a few birds at fish ponds Bipolo
Yellow Wagtail: common Bipolo rice fields
Grey Wagtail: one bird Gunung Mutis
Wallacean Cuckoo-shrike: one bird Camplong
Malayan Cuckoo-shrike: one pair Bali Barat
Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike: one pair Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Small Minivet: one pair Bali Barat
Scarlet Minivet: two small groups Bedugul Botanic Gardens
White-shouldered Triller: pair at Gunung Mutis, few birds Bali Barat
Common Iora: quite common Bali Barat
Sooty-headed Bulbul: few birds higher up Camplong, few birds Bali Barat
Yellow-vented Bulbul: common throughout trip Bali
Grey-cheeked Bulbul: few birds Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Black Drongo: few birds Bali Barat
Ashy Drongo: few birds Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Wallacean Drongo: one bird seen Camplong
Black-naped Oriole: two birds Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Timor Figbird: common Bipolo less so Camplong
Large-billed Crow: seen only occasionally throughout trip
Great Tit: few birds Bali Barat and Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Pygmy Wren-Babbler: one bird Gunung Mutis
Pied Bushchat: very common Timor
White-bellied Chat: few birds Camplong and Bipolo
Chestnut-backed Thrush: few birds Gunung Mutis
Orange-sided Thrush: few birds Camplong and Bipolo
Island Thrush: few birds Gunung Mutis
Golden-bellied Gerygone: one bird Denpasar, common Bali Barat
Plain Gerygone: quite common Camplong, less so Gunung Mutis and Bipolo
Sunda Bush-Warbler: few birds Gunung Mutis and Camplong
Russet Bush-Warbler: few birds Camplong never seen well
Clamorous Reed-Warbler: one bird heard Bipolo
Buff-banded Thicketbird: few birds Camplong
Golden-headed Cisticola: few birds Bipolo
Timor Leaf-Warbler: few birds Gunung Mutis
Timor Stubtail: quite common Camplong, less so Bipolo
Striated Grassbird: pair seen by lake near Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Ashy Tailorbird: few birds Denpasar
Bar-winged Prinia: few birds Bali Barat and around Bali
Snowy-browed Flycatcher: few birds Gunung Mutis
Little Pied-flycatcher: pair Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Timor Blue Flycatcher: seen irregularly Camplong and Gunung Mutis
Island Monarch: few birds Camplong
Spectacled Monarch: less common than Island Monarch Camplong
Broad-billed Flycatcher: one bird Bipolo

Pied Fantail: few birds Bali
Northern Fantail: common in Timor
Arafura Fantail: quite a few birds Gunung Mutis, less in Camplong
Fawn-breasted Whistler: reasonably common in forests Timor
Golden Whistler: few birds Gunung Mutis
Long-tailed Shrike: quite common Bali less so Timor
White-breasted Woodswallow: quite common Bali Barat
Short-tailed Starling: few birds Bipolo and Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Black-winged Starling: four birds Bali Barat
Bali Myna: three birds seen in the area around cage release site only, Bali Barat
Javan Myna: one bird seen Bali Barat
Timor Friarbird: one bird seen Bipolo
Helmeted Friarbird: quite common Gunung Mutis, less so Camplong and Bipolo
Streak-breasted Honeyeater: quite common Camplong
Indonesian Honeyeater: one bird seen Bipolo
Yellow-eared Honeyeater: few birds Gunung Mutis, less in Camplong
Black-chested Honeyeater: very few birds Camplong
Olive-backed Sunbird: quite common Bali
Flame-breasted Sunbird: very few birds Camplong and Bipolo
Blood-breasted Flowerpecker: quite common Bali Botanic Gardens, one bird Gunung Mutis
Red-chested Flowerpecker: few birds Camplong
Mountain White-eye: few birds Gunung Mutis and Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Ashy-bellied White-eye: common Camplong, less so Bipolo
Javan Grey-throated White-eye: two birds Bedugul Botanic Gardens
Spot-breasted Dark-eye: two birds Camplong
Eurasian Tree Sparrow: regularly seen Timor and Bali
Red Avadavat: common in rice fields Bipolo
Zebra Finch: common Bipolo
Tricoloured Parrot-Finch: two birds Gunung Mutis
Black-faced Munia: few birds in village Bipolo
Scaly-breasted Munia: common throughout trip
Five-coloured Munia: common in rice fields Bipolo
White-headed Munia: few birds Denpasar
Pale-headed Munia: small flock in Kupang
Streaked Weaver: nesting near Hotel in Pemuteran, Bali
Timor Sparrow: 50-60 birds rice fields Bipolo, also a few seen in Raknamo