



Crested Satinbird (Chris Kehoe)

BEST OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

30 August – 11 September 2018

LEADER: CHRIS KEHOE

Our recent Best of Papua New Guinea tour produced a wonderful selection of birds as we visited varied habitats in the eastern and western lowlands and the highlands of the central interior. Birds-of-paradise were naturally a key focus and we saw a total of 16 species with particular highlights including spectacular displays by Raggiana and Greater Birds-of-paradise, a pole dancing Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise, glittering Superb Birds-of-paradise, the very snazzy King Bird-of-paradise, the amazing King-of-Saxony Bird-of-paradise with its antennae waving in the breeze and the equally remarkable Ribbon-tailed Astrapia, a male of which with full tail almost trumped the displaying Greater Birds-of-paradise as Bird of the Trips. There were many other notable species of course, including members of each of New Guinea's endemic families including the dapper Crested Berrypecker and eye-wateringly vivid Crested Satinbird, several spectacular Fruit Doves, a sleepy Barred Owlet-Nightjar, Amazing Sclater's Crowned Pigeons and the bizarre Palm Cockatoo just some of the numerous highlights.

Our tour began with a visit to Varirata NP from our base in Port Moresby. Fruiting trees and dead snags in the picnic area at Varirata proved productive with a good selection of Fruit Doves including Orange-bellied, Dwarf and Beautiful along with several Red-cheeked Parrots, Boyer's and Barred Cuckooshrikes and Hooded Pitohuis. Our first Raggiana Birds-of-paradise were much appreciated while smaller birds included Tawny-breasted, Plain and Mimic Honeyeaters, Black Berrypeckers and Red-capped Flowerpeckers and a Pacific Baza flew over. Along the adjacent Treehouse Trail we enjoyed fine views of a dazzling Brown-headed Paradise Kingfisher and a Pygmy Eagle was overhead during our box lunch break. A walk along the Viewpoint Trail gave us a fabulous Barred Owllet-nightjar peeping out of its roost hole. Also seen along the trails were several Black Cicadabirds, a Frilled Monarch and Crinkle-collared Manucodes. On our return to Port Moresby we diverted to the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) grounds where open parkland with lakes attract many wetland birds. Plumed and Wandering Whistling Ducks, Grey Teals and Comb-crested Jacanas were at the lakes where Pied Herons and Nankeen Night Herons showed well along with many other species. In the trees we found a skittish Orange-fronted Fruit Dove and a fabulous Papuan Frogmouth, along with Fawn-breasted Bowerbirds and a Black-backed Butcherbird to round off our first day in fine style.



Barred Owllet-nightjar (Chris Kehoe)

An early return to Varirata the next morning gave us views of three Large-tailed Nightjars in the bus headlights before we made our way to the Raggiana Bird-of-paradise display area where several birds gathered and put on a spectacular show. Many of yesterday's species were seen once more but notable additions, either at the picnic area or along the trails, included a Pheasant Pigeon for some, several Pink-spotted Fruit Doves, a Wompoo Fruit Dove, Zoe's Imperial Pigeon, Yellow-billed Kingfisher, Blyth's Hornbills, Yellow-bellied and Fairy Gerygones, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Hooded Butcherbird, Stout-billed Cuckooshrike, Spot-winged Monarch and a Growling Riflebird, a species much easier to hear than see. In the afternoon we concentrated on the savana habitat beyond the park gate where Coconut Lorikeets and Black-capped Lories, Forest Kingfisher, Streak-headed and White-throated Honeyeaters all showed well and we eventually tracked down the extremely localised White-bellied Whistler while an unexpected bonus was two roosting Barking Owls.



Raggiana Bird-of-paradise (Chris Kehoe)

An early flight the next morning delivered us to Mount Hagen, capital of the Central Highlands Province, where we boarded a bus and drove up to Rondon Ridge for a two-night stay. Either side of lunch we birded in the lodge grounds and along some of the trails until heavy and persistent rain set in, seeing, amongst others, Mountain Swiftlets, Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Doves, Mountain and Red-collared Myzomelas, Ornate and Yellow-browed Melidectes, Common Smoky Honeyeaters, Fan-tailed Berrypeckers, Papuan White-eyes, Black and Friendly Fantails and Island Leaf Warblers, though the highlight was probably our first Princess Stephanie's *Astrapia*.

There were no takers for a strenuous hike up to the ridge above the lodge the next day so we concentrated on lower areas with a particular emphasis on various fruiting trees as the sun shone brightly. This strategy was very well rewarded when one of the first birds we saw was a superb female Blue Bird-of-paradise that sat up on a bare snag then appeared at several of the fruiting trees. Nearby we enjoyed wonderful views of a male Superb Bird-of-paradise flaunting its iridescent breast shield, one of four seen today, plus several Princess Stephanie's *Astrapias* along with Black-throated Robin and a brief Mottled Berryhunter, now regarded as belonging to a monotypic family. At the lodge a Long-tailed Honey Buzzard flew by amongst the many Black Kites and Mountain Swiftlets while many of the species seen yesterday such as Fan-tailed Berrypecker and Ornate Melidectes reappeared along with our first Brown-breasted Gerygones. On the trails we came across several Buff-faced Scrubwrens and both Sclater's and Regent Whistlers plus a Slaty Robin before heavy rain set in once more and continued all afternoon apart from a brief pause during which several smart White-shouldered Fairywrens were found below the lodge and showed very well.



Red-collared Myzomela (Chris Kehoe)

A final few hours at Rondon the next morning gave us repeat views of several choice species including the female Blue Bird-of-paradise while the journey via Mt. Hagen to Kumul Lodge was enlivened by a Papuan Harrier for some. Once at Kumul we wasted no time making our way to the veranda overlooking the lodge's wonderful and rightly famous birdtable. New birds came thick and fast with particular highlights being Ribbon-tailed Astrapias, including an outrageously long-tailed male, Brown Sicklebills, Brehm's Tiger Parrots and Belford's Melidectes, all of which were to be regular sights in the coming days. After lunch we continued birding in the lodge grounds where many more fabulous birds were found including Grey-streaked Honeyeaters, Island Thrushes, Large Scrubwren, White-winged Robins, two Crested Satinbirds (including an astonishing vivid male), fabulous Crested Berrypeckers, a couple of Rufous-naped Bellbirds and smart Mountain Firetails.

We made an early start the next morning and arrived at Mumur, a forested site at a lower elevation than Kumul, around dawn and, after a short walk, took up positions at a clearing overlooking a wooded hillside. The star attraction here is the remarkable King of Saxony Bird-of-paradise and we eventually secured some excellent scope views of an extravagantly antennaed male plus a much less dramatic female. There was much else to occupy us here too with a pair of Loria's Satinbirds showing well in some fruiting trees, several Plum-faced and Orange-billed Lorikeets in a flowering tree and a couple of fleeting Papuan Lorikeets. Rufous-backed Honeyeaters and both Black-shouldered and Black-bellied Cuckooshrikes were added to our list and we went on to also see our first, though rather brief Blue-capped Ifrit, a Regent Whistler (new for some), a surprise Ashy Robin and our only Dimorphic Fantail. Although Brown Sicklebills were frequently present at Kumul all the birds there were females so a stunning male at Mumur was much appreciated and was regularly heard giving its machinegun-like call. As we returned towards Kumul for lunch a Long-tailed Shrike was on roadside wires. We spent the rest of the day in the grounds of the lodge, including along some of the trails there were many previously seen species, including the male Crested Satinbird, were supplemented by a fine Black-breasted Boatbill, a couple of Canary Flyrobins, both Mountain and Papuan Scrubwrens and further Large Scrubwrens,



'Eastern' Crested Berrypecker and Brown Sickbill (Chris Kehoe)

The next morning we drove a short distance down the Minamba Valley to a point where we could watch a group of fruiting trees on a hillside. These trees had been attractive to Birds-of-paradise recently and sure enough we soon had the first of several Superb Birds-of-paradise in the scope. Our main target though was

Magnificent Bird-of-paradise and we went on to have views of both a female and a more glamorous male in the scopes as a large group of locals gathered to observe our curious antics. Also seen before we returned to Kumul was a brief Little Shrikethrush. Around the lodge we spent the rest of the day in pursuit of a few remaining targets and eventually connected with a single Lesser Melampitta and a surprise Archbold's Bowerbird as well as enjoying repeat encounters with many of the areas star attractions including a lovely male Regent Whistler and a pair of Black-breasted Boatbills.

Another pre-dawn start saw us driving further down the Minamba Valley to a forest fragment where Lesser Bird-of-paradise occurs. After taking up our positions at a viewing area we quickly located a calling male Lesser but low cloud soon obscured it from view. Eventually though, the mist cleared and we went on to enjoy a series of good views of this striking bird. A Brush Cuckoo and a couple of Mountain Honeyeaters and Hooded Mannikins were also seen here along with other bits and pieces. Stops on our return journey towards Kumul gave us a Pygmy Eagle, several Torrent Flyrobins and a Black-headed Whistler at a river crossing while Yellow-breasted Bowerbirds were the highlight at a second stop. Apart from a fleeting Bronze Ground Dove for some, nothing new was seen either side of lunch at Kumul though many favourites showed well again before we returned to Mumar in pursuit of something new. Our plan came to fruition when we coaxed a calling Wattled Ploughbill into view to complete the list of endemic bird families while further highlights included a skittish Lesser Melampitta, a pair of Blue-capped Ifrits and a small party of Blue-faced Parrotfinches.



Regent Whistler (Chris Kehoe)

It was time to move on early the next morning and after returning to Mt. Hagen airport, where up to three Papuan Harriers and a couple of Australasian Pipits were on view, we caught an on-time flight to Kiunga, close to the border with West Papua and in the hot and humid lowlands. After lunch we drove north to the famous Km.17 trail where we spent the rest of the day. A Rufous-bellied Kookaburra was added to our list before we reached a site for King Bird-of-paradise and were soon enjoying wonderful scope views of a male sitting high in his favourite tree and flaunting his remarkable snail-like tail projections. Greater Birds-of-paradise were calling loudly and we eventually made our way to a small clearing from which a bare treetop was visible through

a gap in the canopy. After a little while the first of several males showed up and we went on to witness a truly spectacular and memorable display as up to six males vied for the attention of several females.



King Bird of Paradise (Chris Kehoe)

At first light the next morning we were aboard a boat and heading upstream on the mighty Fly River towards Kwatu Camp for an overnight stay. The outward journey is often very productive and today was no exception. Collared Imperial Pigeons perched conspicuously on dead snags as we passed and White-bellied Sea Eagle, Channel-billed Cuckoos, Yellowish-streaked Lorys, Grey Crows and Pacific Koels were seen before we passed through a short channel and joined the narrower Elevala River. Glossy-mantled Manucodes and Eclectus Parrots regularly flew by, with a couple perching nicely, and the first of several Shining Flycatchers was seen. Yellow-faced Mynas were frequently seen and occasionally joined in the treetops by striking Golden Mynas. The action continued with a Long-tailed Honey Buzzard, Variable and Grey-headed Goshawks and several Blyth's Hornbills but these were all outdone by our first stunning Palm Cockatoos. A couple of female Flame Bowerbirds showed briefly but very high water levels meant several of the trails near Kwatu were submerged and inaccessible, though compensation came when a stunning Sclater's Crowned Pigeon appeared in streamside trees and showed very well indeed shortly before we reached our rustic lodgings. During a lunch break at the lodge we scanned the bare treetops seeing several Orange-bellied and a couple of Dwarf Fruit Doves and our first Golden Cuckooshrike. We returned to the boat and explored various channels and stopped for a while at Watama Camp where several trees were fruiting. Our rewards this afternoon being several more Sclater's Crowned Pigeons, a few Zoe's and Pinon Imperial Pigeons, three striking Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeons, dozens of fruit doves of four species, Large, Double-eyed and Orange-breasted Fig Parrots, Trumpet Manucode, Yellow-bellied Longbill and up to 10 Yellow-eyed Starlings amongst the numerous Metallic Starlings. Later in the evening it began to rain so we retreated to Kwatu where the wet weather continued long into the night scuppering plans to look for nightbirds, though after such a productive day we could hardly complain.



Blyth's Hornbill (Chris Kehoe)

The rain finally eased off just before dawn and our breakfast was interrupted by the appearance of a male Twelve-wired Bird of Paradise on its dancing pole opposite the camp. It wasn't particularly close but as the light improved we had fine scope views and could clearly see its strange wires. Happy with this we boarded the boat and set off to Watama Camp, seeing a couple more Sclater's Crowned Pigeons along the way. In the clearing around the camp we found many birds that were attracted to the fruiting trees including Great Cuckoo-Dove, four species of Fruit Doves and various Lorikeets, Fig Parrots, Cuckooshrikes and others. Further highlights in the general area included a Long-billed Cuckoo, spectacular Golden Monarchs, Yellow-billed Kingfisher and Rufous-bellied Kookaburra before we eventually ventured along the trail behind the camp where a busy flock of Papuan Babblers moved through the canopy while Black Berrypeckers, Spot-winged and Frilled Monarchs were also seen. After lunch back at Kwatu we commenced the return journey to Kiunga. In the heat of the afternoon birdlife was inevitably more subdued than on the outward journey but we saw a Pacific Baza and several other previously seen species before reaching town and our cosy guesthouse where hot showers and laundry for our muddy clothes were much appreciated.

Early the next morning we made a short visit to Boystown Road near Kiunga where, from a raised hillock, we scanned across the forest canopy. Two Flame Bowerbirds showed briefly in flight here along with a Long-billed Honeyeater, several Grey-headed Cuckooshrikes, a Crinkle-collared Manucode and others before it was time to return to Kiunga Airport to await our flight to Port Moresby. After a punctual flight we were back in the capital by mid-afternoon and later visited the campus of the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) once more. The species mix was inevitably similar to our previous visit though we enjoyed greatly improved views of Orange-fronted Fruit Doves and also saw many Fawn-breasted Bowerbirds, Australasian Figbirds and Rufous-banded Honeyeaters plus our first Torresian Imperial Pigeons along with a fine array of waterbirds and the ever-popular Papuan Frogmouth.



Pied Heron (Chris Kehoe)

With very inclement weather further inland we opted to return to PAU for a couple of hours before the tour ended later in the morning. Final views of Papuan Frogmouths were savoured and we added Green Pygmy Goose, Singing Starling, Bar-shouldered Dove, Whistling Kite and Buff-banded Rail to our list. In an area of newly constructed ricefields near PAU we were surprised to see Common Greenshank and Wood Sandpiper along with several Masked Lapwings and Raja Shelducks before returning to our lodge for some final packing and departure to the airport.

Bird of the Trip

- 1 - Greater Bird-of-paradise
- 2 – Ribbon-tailed Astrapia
- 3 = King of Saxony Bird-of-paradise
- 3 = Sclater's Crowned Pigeon
- 3 = Crested Satinbird



Ribbon-tailed Astrapia (Chris Kehoe)



Greater Bird-of-paradise (Chris Kehoe)

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). IOC World Bird Names. This list is updated several times annually and is available at.

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

BIRDS

Total number of bird species recorded: 229

Plumed Whistling Duck ◊ *Dendrocygna eytoni* Up to 20 at PAU.

Wandering Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata* About 15 at PAU.

Raja Shelduck ◊ (White-headed S) *Radjah radjah* About eight at and around PAU.

Green Pygmy Goose ◊ *Nettapus pulchellus* One at PAU.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa* Over 100 at PAU.

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis* About 10 at PAU.

Black-billed Brushturkey ◊ (Yellow-legged B) *Talegalla fuscirostris* (H) Heard at Varirata and near Kiunga.

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca* About eight at PAU.

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis* One at PAU.

Nankeen Night Heron (Rufous N H) *Nycticorax caledonicus* A couple at PAU.

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus* Small numbers in the lowlands.

Great Egret (Eastern G E) *Ardea [alba] modesta* One at PAU and several near Kiunga.

Intermediate Egret ◊ *Ardea intermedia* Noted at PAU and near Kiunga.

Pied Heron ◊ *Egretta picata* About 10 at PAU.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* A couple at PAU.

Little Pied Cormorant *Microcarbo melanoleucos* A handful at PAU and near Kwatu camp.

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* Numerous at PAU.
Pacific Baza (Crested Hawk) *Aviceda subcristata* Noted on four dates at Varirata and near Kiunga.
Long-tailed Honey Buzzard ◊ (L-t Buzzard) *Henicopernis longicauda* Singles at Rondon and near Kwatu.
Pygmy Eagle *Hieraaetus weiskei* Singles at Varirata and in the Minamba Valley.



Plumed and Wandering Whistling Ducks, Little Black Cormorants and Pacific Black Duck (Chris Kehoe)

Variable Goshawk *Accipiter hiogaster* Three near Kiunga.
Grey-headed Goshawk ◊ *Accipiter poliocephalus* Three near Kiunga.
Papuan Harrier ◊ (Swamp H) *Circus spilothorax* Four in total near Mt. Hagen, mostly at the airport.
Black Kite *Milvus migrans* Several in the highlands.
Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus* A couple at PAU.
Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* Widespread in small numbers.
White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* Two near Kiunga.
Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis* Two at PAU.
Australasian Swamphen *Porphyrio melanotus* Several at PAU.
Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa* Several at PAU.
Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles* About 20 at and around PAU.
Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* Two at PAU.
Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea* About 10 at PAU.
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* Ones and twos near Kiunga and PAU.
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* Two near PAU.
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* One near PAU.
Rock Dove (introduced) *Columba livia* A handful in towns.
Amboyna Cuckoo-Dove ◊ *Macropygia amboinensis* Small numbers on five dates.
Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Dove ◊ (Black-billed C-D) *Macropygia nigrirostris* A few in the highlands.
Great Cuckoo-Dove ◊ (Long-tailed C-D) *Reinwardtoena reinwardti* Good views near Kwatu, another at Varirata.
Stephan's Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps stephani* One near Kiunga.
Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida* A couple at PAU.

Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis* A couple at PAU.
 Bronze Ground Dove ◊ *Alopecoenas beccarii* One at Kumul.
 Pheasant Pigeon ◊ *Otidiphaps nobilis* (NL) One at PAU.
 Sclater's Crowned Pigeon ◊ *Goura sclateri* About eight near Kwatu camp, some great views.
 Wompoo Fruit Dove ◊ (Magnificent F D) *Ptilinopus magnificus* Two at Varirata.



Amboyna Cuckoo Dove and Beautiful Fruit Dove (Chris Kehoe)

Pink-spotted Fruit Dove ◊ *Ptilinopus perlatus* Several in the lowlands after the first at Varirata.
 Orange-fronted Fruit Dove ◊ *Ptilinopus aurantiifrons* Five at PAU.
 Beautiful Fruit Dove ◊ *Ptilinopus pulchellus* A handful at Varirata and near Kwatu.
 Orange-bellied Fruit Dove ◊ *Ptilinopus iozonus* Numerous near Kiunga and several at Varirata.
 Dwarf Fruit Dove ◊ *Ptilinopus nainus* Several near Kiunga and two at Varirata.
 Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula rufigaster* Great views of five near Kwatu camp.
 Pinon's Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula pinon* Four near Kiunga.
 Collared Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula mullerii* About 20 near Kiunga.
 Zoe's Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula zoeae* About 10 near Kiunga and one at Varirata.
 Torresian Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula spilorrhoea* A handful at PAU.
 Papuan Mountain Pigeon ◊ *Gymnophaps albertisii* Small numbers on seven dates.
 Ivory-billed Coucal ◊ (Greater Black C) *Centropus menbeki* (H) Heard near Kiunga.
 Black-billed Coucal ◊ (Lesser Black C) *Centropus bernsteini* (H) Heard near Kiunga.
 Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus* One near Varirata.
 Pacific Koel *Eudynamys orientalis* About six near Kiunga.
 Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae* Ten along the rivers near Kiunga.
 Long-billed Cuckoo ◊ *Chrysococcyx megarhynchus* Great views of one near Kwatu Camp.
 Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis* (H) Heard near Kumul.
 Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus* A handful, mainly near Kiunga.
 Barking Owl *Ninox connivens* Two at roost near Varirata.
 Papuan Boobook *Ninox theomacha* (H) Heard distantly from Kwatu Camp.
 Papuan Frogmouth ◊ *Podargus papuensis* One at PAU on each visit.
 Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* Three in the headlights at Varirata.
 Barred Owlet-Nightjar ◊ *Aegotheles bennettii* One in its roost hole at Varirata.

Glossy Swiftlet *Collocalia esculenta* Widespread.
Mountain Swiftlet ◊ *Aerodramus hirundinaceus* Numerous in the highlands.
Uniform Swiftlet *Aerodramus vanikorensis* Numerous in the lowlands.
Papuan Spine-tailed Swift ◊ (P Spinetail, P Needle-tail) *Mearnsia novaeguineae* Several near Kiunga.
Oriental Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis* Numerous near Kiunga, a couple elsewhere.
Hook-billed Kingfisher ◊ *Melidora macrorrhina* (H) Heard near Kiunga.
Brown-headed Paradise Kingfisher ◊ *Tanysiptera danae* One at Varirata.
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra ◊ *Dacelo gaudichaud* Good views of three near Kiunga.
Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii* A couple near Varirata.
Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus* A couple in the lowlands.
Yellow-billed Kingfisher ◊ (Lesser Y-b K) *Syma torotoro* Good views at Varirata and near Kiunga.



Brehm's Tiger Parrot (Chris Kehoe)

Mountain Kingfisher ◊ (M Yellow-billed K) *Syma megarhyncha* (H) Heard near Kumul.
Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus* Widespread in small numbers.
Blyth's Hornbill ◊ (Papuan H) *Rhyticeros plicatus* Several near Kiunga and a couple at Varirata.
Palm Cockatoo ◊ *Probosciger aterrimus* About 10 near Kiunga.
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* Several near Kiunga and two at Varirata.
Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot ◊ *Micropsitta keiensis* Three briefly near Kwatu Camp.
Eclectus Parrot ◊ *Eclectus roratus* Several at Varirata and near Kiunga.
Red-cheeked Parrot *Geoffroyus geoffroyi* Numerous at Varirata and near Kiunga.
Brehm's Tiger Parrot ◊ *Psittacella brehmii* Several at Kumul.
Plum-faced Lorikeet ◊ (Whiskered L) *Oreopsittacus arfaki* Ten at Mumur.
Red-flanked Lorikeet ◊ *Chamosyna placentis* Numerous near Kiunga.
Papuan Lorikeet ◊ *Chamosyna papou* Three near Kumul.
Orange-billed Lorikeet ◊ *Neopsittacus pullicauda* A handful near Kumul.
Black-capped Lory ◊ (Western B-c L) *Lorius lory* Several near Kiunga and a few at Varirata.
Yellowish-streaked Lory ◊ (Yellow-s L, Greater S L) *Chalcopsitta scintillata* Several near Kiunga.
Coconut Lorikeet ◊ *Trichoglossus haematodus* Noted on five dates, mainly near Port Moresby.
Large Fig Parrot ◊ (Yellow-naped F P) *Psittaculirostris desmarestii* Three near Kiunga.
Orange-breasted Fig Parrot ◊ (Dusky-cheeked F P) *Cyclopsitta gullemitertii* Numerous near Kiunga.

Double-eyed Fig Parrot ◊ (Red-faced F P) *Cyclopsitta diophthalma* Numerous near Kiunga.
Archbold's Bowerbird ◊ *Archboldia papuensis* One at Kumul.
Flame Bowerbird ◊ *Sericulus ardens* Four females near Kiunga.
Yellow-breasted Bowerbird ◊ (Lauterbach's B) *Chlamydera lauterbachii* A couple in the Minamba Valley.
Fawn-breasted Bowerbird ◊ *Chlamydera cerviniventris* Several at PAU.
White-shouldered Fairywren ◊ *Malurus alboscapulatus* Noted at Rondon and near Kumul.
Papuan Black Myzomela ◊ (Black M) *Myzomela nigrita* Two at Varirata.



Grey-streaked Honeyeater and Belford's Melidectes (Chris Kehoe)

Mountain Myzomela ◊ (Elfin M, M Red-headed M) *Myzomela adolphinae* Several in the highlands.
Red-collared Myzomela ◊ *Myzomela rosenbergii* Several in the highlands.
Green-backed Honeyeater ◊ *Glycichaera fallax* Two at Varirata.
Rufous-backed Honeyeater ◊ *Ptiloprora guisei* A few near Kumul.



Common Smoky Honeyeater (Chris Kehoe)

Grey-streaked Honeyeater ◊ (Black-backed H) *Ptiloprora perstriata* Several at Kumul.
Plain Honeyeater ◊ *Pycnopygius ixoides* A handful at Varirata.
Streak-headed Honeyeater ◊ *Pycnopygius stictocephalus* One seen and a couple heard at Varirata.
Tawny-breasted Honeyeater ◊ *Xanthotis flaviventer* Several at Varirata.
New Guinea Friarbird ◊ *Philemon novaeguineae* Widespread encounters in the lowlands.
White-throated Honeyeater ◊ *Melithreptus albogularis* A couple near Varirata.
Long-billed Honeyeater ◊ *Melilestes megarhynchus* One near Kiunga.
Common Smoky Honeyeater ◊ *Melipotes fumigatus* Numerous in the highlands.
Rufous-banded Honeyeater ◊ *Conopophila albogularis* Several at PAU.
Obscure Honeyeater ◊ *Caligavis obscura* (H) Heard near Kiunga.
Yellow-browed Melidectes ◊ *Melidectes rufocrissalis* Several at Rondon.
Belford's Melidectes ◊ *Melidectes belfordi* Numerous at Kumul.
Ornate Melidectes ◊ (Cinnamon-breasted M) *Melidectes torquatus* Small numbers in the highlands.
Mountain Honeyeater ◊ (M Meliphaga, Hill Forest H) *Meliphaga orientalis* A couple in the Minamba Valley.



Mimic Honeyeater (Chris Kehoe)

Mimic Honeyeater ◊ (M Meliphaga, Mimetic M) *Meliphaga analoga* Several at Varirata, a couple near Kiunga.
Rusty Mouse-Warbler ◊ (Lowland M-w) *Crateroscelis murina* (H) Heard at Varirata.
Mountain Mouse-Warbler ◊ *Crateroscelis robusta* A few at Kumul.
Papuan Scrubwren ◊ *Sericornis papuensis* A couple at Kumul.
Large Scrubwren ◊ *Sericornis nouhuysi* Several at Kumul.
Buff-faced Scrubwren ◊ *Sericornis perspicillatus* Six at Rondon.
Brown-breasted Gerygone ◊ (Treefern G) *Gerygone ruficollis* A few at Rondon.
Large-billed Gerygone *Gerygone magnirostris* (H) Heard near Kwatu camp.
Yellow-bellied Gerygone ◊ *Gerygone chrysogaster* One seen and others heard at Varirata.
Green-backed Gerygone ◊ *Gerygone chloronota* (H) Heard at Varirata and near Kiunga.
Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa* Two at Varirata.
Papuan Babbler ◊ (Rufous B, NG B) *Garritornis isidorei* Six near Kwatu camp.

Loria's Satinbird ◊ *Cnemophilus loriae* A pair at Mumur.
 Crested Satinbird ◊ (C Bird-of-paradise) *Cnemophilus macgregorii* Two, including a stunning male, at Kumul.
 Black Berrypecker ◊ *Melanocharis nigra* A handful at Varirata and near Kwatu camp.
 Fan-tailed Berrypecker ◊ *Melanocharis versteri* A handful in the highlands.
 Yellow-bellied Longbill ◊ (Green-crowned L) *Toxorhamphus novaeguineae* Three near Kwatu camp.
 Crested Berrypecker ◊ *Paramythia montium* A couple most days at Kumul.
 Yellow-breasted Boatbill ◊ *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer* One at Varirata.
 Black-breasted Boatbill ◊ *Machaerirhynchus nigripectus* Three at Kumul.
 White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus* A handful in the lowlands.
 Black-backed Butcherbird ◊ *Cracticus mentalis* Two at PAU.



Frilled Monarch (Chris Kehoe)

Hooded Butcherbird ◊ *Cracticus cassicus* Small numbers in the lowlands.
 Mottled Berryhunter ◊ *Rhagologus leucostigma* One at Rondon.
 Black-faced Cuckooshrike *Coracina novaehollandiae* A handful in the lowlands.
 Stout-billed Cuckooshrike ◊ *Coracina caeruleogrisea* Two at Varirata.
 Barred Cuckooshrike ◊ (Yellow-eyed C) *Coracina lineata* A couple at Varirata.
 Boyer's Cuckooshrike ◊ *Coracina boyeri* Several at Varirata and near Kiunga.
 Black-shouldered Cicadabird ◊ *Coracina incerta* Two at Mumur.
 Grey-headed Cuckooshrike ◊ (G-h Cicadabird) *Coracina schisticeps* Up to 10 near Kiunga.
 Black Cicadabird ◊ (B Cuckooshrike, NG C) *Coracina melas* Several at Varirata.
 Black-bellied Cuckooshrike ◊ (B-b Cicadabird) *Coracina montana* One at Mumur.
 Golden Cuckooshrike ◊ *Campochaera sloetii* Three near Kiunga.
 Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela* Small numbers in the lowlands.
 Wattled Ploughbill ◊ *Eulacestoma nigropectus* A female at Mumur.
 Rufous-naped Bellbird ◊ (R-n Whistler) *Aleadryas rufinucha* A handful at Kumul.
 Black Pitohui ◊ *Melanorectes nigrescens* (H) Heard at Rondon.
 Brown-backed Whistler ◊ *Pachycephala modesta* A handful at Kumul.
 Grey Whistler *Pachycephala simplex* Two at Varirata.

Sclater's Whistler ◇ *Pachycephala soror* Two at Rondon.
Regent Whistler ◇ *Pachycephala schlegelii* A handful in the highlands.
Black-headed Whistler ◇ *Pachycephala monacha* One in the Minamba Valley.
White-bellied Whistler ◇ *Pachycephala leucogastra* One near Varirata.
White-bellied Pitohui ◇ *Pseudorectes incertus* (H) Heard near Kwatu camp.
Little Shrikethrush (Rufous S) *Colluricincla megarhyncha* One near Kumul.
Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach* One near Kumul.



Greater Bird-of-paradise (Chris Kehoe)

Australasian Figbird *Sphecotheres vieilloti* Several at PAU on each visit.
Hooded Pitohui ◇ *Pitohui dichrous* Several at Varirata.
Brown Oriole ◇ *Oriolus szalayi* Several at Varirata and PAU.
Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus* Small numbers in the lowlands.
Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys* Widespread in the lowlands in particular.
Black Fantail ◇ *Rhipidura atra* Three at Rondon.
Friendly Fantail ◇ *Rhipidura albolimbata* Several in the highlands.

Dimorphic Fantail ◊ *Rhipidura brachyrhyncha* One at Mumur.
Spot-winged Monarch ◊ *Symposiachrus guttula* One at Varirata.
Golden Monarch ◊ *Carterornis chrysomela* Two near Kwatu camp.
Frilled Monarch ◊ *Arses telescopthalmus* A handful at Varirata.
Shining Flycatcher (Common S F) *Myiagra alecto* A few near Kwatu camp.
Grey Crow ◊ (Bare-eyed C) *Corvus tristis* Eight near Kiunga.
Torresian Crow *Corvus orru* Small numbers near Port Moresby.
Lesser Melampitta ◊ *Melampitta lugubris* Singles at Kumul and Mumur.
Blue-capped Ifrit ◊ (B-c Ifrita) *Ifrita kowaldi* Ones and twos at Kumul and Mumur.
Glossy-mantled Manucode ◊ (Glossy M) *Manucodia ater* Several along the rivers near Kiunga.
Crinkle-collared Manucode ◊ *Manucodia chalybatus* A couple at Varirata and near Kiunga.
Trumpet Manucode ◊ *Phonygammus keraudrenii* Two near Kwatu camp.
Ribbon-tailed Astrapia ◊ *Astrapia mayeri* Up to eight, including a fantastic adult male, at Kumul.
Princess Stephanie's Astrapia ◊ *Astrapia stephaniae* A few at Rondon and Mumur.
King of Saxony Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Pteridophora alberti* A handful, including an amazing male, at Mumur.
Superb Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Lophorina superba* Great views at Rondon and below Kumul, some fine males.
Magnificent Riflebird ◊ *Ptiloris magnificus* (H) Heard near Kiunga.
Growling Riflebird ◊ (Eastern R) *Ptiloris intercedens* One seen and others heard at Varirata.



Red-capped Flowerpecker (Chris Kehoe)

Brown Sickbill ◊ *Epimachus meyeri* Great views of females at Kumul and a male at Mumur.
Magnificent Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Diphyllodes magnificus* Two near Kumul.
King Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Cicinnurus regius* A fantastic male at Km 17.
Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Seleucidis melanoleucus* Two near Kwatu Camp including a dancing male.
Greater Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Paradisaea apoda* Fantastic display seen at Km. 17.
Raggiana Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Paradisaea raggiana* Common at Varirata, where seen displaying, a few near Kiunga.
Lesser Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Paradisaea minor* A male in the Minamba Valley.
Blue Bird-of-paradise ◊ *Paradisaea rudolphi* A female at Rondon on two dates.
Ashy Robin ◊ (Black-capped R) *Heteromyias albispecularis* One at Mumur.
Black-throated Robin ◊ *Poecilodyras albonotata* One at Rondon.

White-winged Robin ◊ *Peneothello sigillata* Several at Kumul.
Slaty Robin ◊ (Blue-grey R) *Peneothello cyanus* One at Rondon.
Torrent Flyrobin ◊ (T Flycatcher, River F) *Monachella muelleriana* A handful in the Minamba Valley.
Canary Flyrobin ◊ (Papuan Flycatcher, Montane F) *Microeca papuana* A couple at Kumul.
Lemon-bellied Flyrobin ◊ (L-b Flycatcher) *Microeca flavigaster* Three near Varirata.
Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica* Widespread in small numbers.



Mountain Firetail (Chris Kehoe)

Island Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus maforensis* Several at Rondon.
Black-fronted White-eye ◊ *Zosterops minor* A few at Varirata
Papuan White-eye ◊ *Zosterops novaeguineae* Numerous at Rondon, a few below Kumul.
Metallic Starling (Shining S) *Aplonis metallica* Common near Kiunga and Port Moresby.
Yellow-eyed Starling ◊ *Aplonis mystacea* At least 10 near Kwatu camp.
Singing Starling ◊ *Aplonis cantoroides* One at PAU.
Yellow-faced Myna ◊ *Mino dumontii* Numerous in the lowlands, especially around Kiunga.
Golden Myna ◊ *Mino anais* Up to 20 near Kwatu camp.
Island Thrush *Turdus poliocephalus* A handful at Kumul.
Pied Bush Chat (P Chat) *Saxicola caprata* A few in the highlands.
Red-capped Flowerpecker ◊ *Dicaeum geelvinkianum* Widespread in small numbers.
Black Sunbird ◊ *Leptocoma Aspasia* A few near Kiunga.
House Sparrow (introduced) *Passer domesticus* A few in towns.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow (introduced) *Passer montanus* Several in towns.
Mountain Firetail ◊ *Oreostruthus fuliginosus* At least three at Kumul
Blue-faced Parrotfinch *Erythrura trichroa* Three at Mumur.
Grey-headed Mannikin ◊ *Lonchura caniceps* Up to 20 at PAU.
Hooded Mannikin ◊ *Lonchura spectabilis* Two in the Minamba Valley.

Australian Pipit *Anthus australis* Two at Mt. Hagen airport.

MAMMALS

Number of species recorded on the tour: 2

Speckled Dasyure (Long-clawed Marsupial Mouse) *Neophascogale lorentzii* One at Kumul.

Agile Wallaby *Macropus agilis* Three at Varirata.



At Km. 17 (Chris Kehoe)



Port Moresby from Varirata (Chris Kehoe)