

The primary purpose of our visit was trekking and there was insufficient time to allow much for birdwatching. As a result many 'common' birds were missed, especially in forest areas. The Dumre-Manang trail passes through some good evergreen broadleaf forest below Bagarchap which would be well worthwhile investigating in detail. The daily walks suggested by Armington (1980, *Trekking in the Himalayas*) leave little free time, thus anyone planning on doing the Dumre-Manang-Jomosom-Pokhara trek, which Armington gives as 19 days, should allow about 30 if they want a reasonable amount of birding. Armington recommends one day at Manang for altitude acclimatization - we needed two and even then found the walk to 'base camp' rather hard going, but some people spent no time in Manang and still got over the pass. The walk over Thorong La was not hard going - just a slow steady climb - but had there been much more snow crampons would have been needed. We did not have any porters.

Birds were identified using Flemming *et al.* 1979, *Birds of Nepal*; King *et al.* 1975, *A field guide to the birds of South-east Asia*; Ali 1977, *Birds of the Eastern Himalayas*. A list of birds seen is given in the attached table - further notes are given for those species marked with a X. Heights are taken from 'Latest Trekking Map. Pokhara to Jomosom, Manang' published 1980 by Mandala Trekking Maps.

### Itinerary

- 60 Nov 1,2,3,4,5. Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Gokarna, Godaveri, Tokha Hospital)
- 39 Nov 6. Dumre-Tuture
- 34 Nov 7. -Philesangu 670m
- 39 Nov 8. -Khudi 790m
- 39 Nov 9. -Bondanda 1310m
- 39 Nov 10. Bondanda (sick day) 1310m
- 39 Nov 11. -Chanje 1410m
- 39 Nov 12. -Bagarchap 2160m
- 39 Nov 13. Bagarchap (heavy rain at Bagarchap most of the day, snow higher up)
- 39 Nov 14. -Chame 2650m
- 39 Nov 15. -Pisang 3000m
- 39 Nov 16. -Manang 3700m
- 39 Nov 17,18. Manang (river valley, glacial lake, Gunsang)
- 39 Nov 19. -Thorong La 'base camp', 4400m (14400ft)
- 39 Nov 20. -Muktinanth, over Thorong La
- 39 Nov 21. Muktinath
- 39 Nov 22. - Jomosom
- 39 Nov 23. - Kalopani
- 39 Nov 24. -Tatopani
- 39 Nov 25. Tatopani
- 39 Nov 26. -Ghorapani
- 39 Nov 27. -Birethanti
- 39 Nov 28. -Naudanda
- 39 Nov 29. -Pokhara
- 39 Nov 30, Dec 1,2. Pokhara

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(1981)

NOTES ON SPECIES

Podiceps cristatus

Phewa Lake, one seen from shore 1 Dec., 6 from boat 2 Dec.

Podiceps nigricollis

Phewa Lake, three from boat 2 Dec.

Ciconia nigra

8 near Tibetan Camp

Tadorna ferruginea

Bagarchap, four flew up the valley going West in the evening. Muktinath, one flew North in morning.

Anas crecca

Phewa Lake, 23 from boat 2 Dec.

Anas platyrhynchos

Phewa Lake, 12 from boat 2 Dec.

Anas strepera

16 on small, partly frozen lake slightly down the valley from Pisang, c9500ft - a new altitude record?

Aythya ferrina

One female on lake near Pisang. One female Phewa Lake 2 Dec.

Aythya nyroca

Male in partial eclipse plumage Rani Pokhari, Kathmandu 1 Nov. An Aythya duck observed on Phewa Lake on 2 Dec was similar to this species but had conspicuous white patches on either side of the face at the base of the bill, similar to a female A. marila. White undertail coverts very conspicuous as the bird tended to hold the tail high out of the water, as is fairly common in A. baeri. It was shy and could not be approached very closely in the boat, thus eye and bill colours not noted. Aberrant A. nyroca or hybrid?

Aythya fuligula

One male on lake near Pisang.

Nettapus coromandelianus

One on Rani Pokhari, Kathmandu 1 Nov.

Milvus migrans

All birds closely observed in Kathmandu had yellow legs and appeared to be M.m. govinda. Birds at Pokhara included both M.m. govinda and M.m. lineatus (blue legs) - Melville in prep.

Accipiter sp.

One Bagarchap probably A. gentilis but seen very briefly.

Gyps himalayensis

? at Bondanda seen high up on side of valley and so not a new low altitude record. A sub-adult near Bagarchap seen carrying nesting material.

Gallinago

Pyrrhocorax graculus

A flock of about 60 (P. graculus, not young P. pyrrhocorax) below Chame c7700ft - a new low altitude record? There had been a severe blizzard on 13 Nov with heavy snow down to just above Bagarchap and presumably the birds had moved down as a result.

Pseudopodoces humilis

One bird apparently of this species seen in juniper scrub above Manang c13500ft on 17 Nov. It was seen for about 15 seconds after the sun had gone off the valley - a small fawn coloured bird with a long decurved bill which appeared to be pale, whitish sides to tail in flight. (Goodwin, Crows of the World, notes that juveniles have paler bills than adults). Although the bird was only seen briefly there would appear to be no possibility of confusion with any other species.

Corvus macrorhynchos

Large numbers in the lower rhododendron forest feeding on black berries, rather like Ivy (Hedera).

Certhia himalayana

One near Jharkot c12000ft. Greyish white underparts and very marked barring on tail. Observed down to c30ft feeding on tree in bright sun. A new altitude record?, and only just in the Kali Gandaki "Valley".

Serinus pusillus

One (probably two) in thorn scrub above Manang 17 Nov. First record east of the Kali Gandaki?

D.S.M. + V.J.H.

Fulica atra

One Rani Pokhari, Kathmandu 1 Nov.

BIRDS SEEN IN NEPAL NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1981

NOV 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>																																X			
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>																																X			
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	/																																		
<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	/																																		
<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	/																																		
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	/																																		
<i>Ciconia nigra</i>																																X			
<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>							/																												
<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>												X																				X			
<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	X																																		
<i>Anas strepera</i>																X																			
<i>Anas crecca</i>																																			
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>																																			
<i>Aythya ferina</i>																X																			
<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	X																																		
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>																X																			
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	/						/	/	/																										
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>																																			
<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>																	/						/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>																																			
<i>Gyps indicus</i>																																			
<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>										X	X	/					/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>																																			
<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>																																			
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>																																			
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>																																			
<i>Accipiter sp.</i>	/																																		
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	/																																		
<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	/						/																												
<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	/																																		
<i>Aquila rapax</i>																																			
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>																																			
<i>Falco chichquera</i>	/																																		
<i>Tetraoallus tibetanus</i>																																			
<i>Alectoris chukar</i>																																			
<i>Arborophila rufogularis</i>																																			
<i>Lophura leucomelana</i>																																			
<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>																																			
<i>Fulica atra</i>	X																																		
<i>Holopterus chuancai</i>																																			
<i>Holopterus indicus</i>																																			
<i>Gallinago</i>																																			

? hd

52 NW 30 99 95 38 30  
 1-5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

	1-5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	/																										/
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		/				/		/					/	/					/								/
<i>Columba livia</i>	/					/							/	/						/							/
<i>Columba rupestris</i>												/	/	/						/							/
<i>Columba leuconota</i>														/													/
<i>Psittacula himalayana</i>							/																				/
<i>Athene brama</i>																											/
<i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>							/																				/
<i>Apus affinis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/																			/
<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/																			/
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				/	/	/		/																			/
<i>Ceryle lugubris</i>				/	/	/		/																/			/
<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/																			/
<i>Megalaima virens</i>	/																										/
<i>Megalaima asiaticus</i>	/						hd																				/
<i>Megalaima haemacophala</i>																											/
<i>Dendrocopos</i>																					/						/
<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>																											/
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>					/																						/
<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	/																										/
<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>									/												/						/
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>																											/
<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>																											/
<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	/																										/
<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>	/																										/
<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>										/											/						/
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>										/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Prunella strophiatea</i>																					/						/
<i>Prunella flavescens</i>																					/						/
<i>Prunella rubeculoides</i>																					/						/
<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/
<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/		/													/						/

Species	1-5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<i>Phoenicurus erythronotus</i>												/														
<i>Phoenicurus caeruleocephalus</i>												/														
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>													/					/	/							
<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>												/														
<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>												/	/	/					/	/						
<i>Phoenicurus erythrogaster</i>												/	/	/				/	/							
<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Myiophoneus caeruleus</i> <i>ruficollis</i> +	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Turdus ruficollis atrogularis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Cettia brunneifrons</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Orthotomus sutoris</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Seicercus burkii</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Seicercus xanthoschistes</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Leptopoeete sophiae</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Miltava macgrigoriae</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Stathyris pyrrhops</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Garrulax ocellatus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Ateruthius flaviscapis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Minda strigula</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Minda ignotincta</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Yuhina gularis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
<i>Parus dichrous</i>	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/

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