Trinidad & Tobago
14 – 27 January 2006

Leaders & Guides:
Keith Grant (The Travelling Naturalist)
Roodal Ramalah & ‘Light’ (Trinidad)
Gladwyn James (Tobago)
Denise, Harold & James (Asa Wright)
Everard Madoo (Caroni Swamp)
Wordsworth Frank (Little Tobago)

Daily Diary:

Saturday 14 January

Arrival

Departure from Heathrow was delayed over an hour due to the late arrival of the incoming flight, and the transatlantic flight slower due to strong head winds. With the prospect of an exceptionally late arrival in Trinidad, BWIA took the decision to forego the planned stop in Barbados and fly direct to Piarco International Airport, Port of Spain. Ok for us but not so for those wanting to get off at Barbados! So with time largely recovered, we met up with Roodal and the lads from Asa Wright with no problems, and were soon arriving at the Centre to be welcomed with a well-deserved rum punch and dinner.

Sunday 15 January

Asa Wright

Bright & sunny though clouding over during pm

As usual, everyone was awake at or soon after 6am, gathering on the veranda as dawn broke. There were numerous fruit-eating bats gathering on the bird feeding tables which, from the photographs, could be Seba’s Short-tailed Bats Carollia perspicillata. The few nectar-feeding bats at the hummingbird feeders must remain unidentified at the moment. As usual, we were soon in the midst of a frenzy of identification as 7 species of hummingbirds and 9 species of tanagers appeared. Violaceous Euphonias were good to see close to, as was a Greyish Saltator. There was a brief view of Red-crowned Ant-tanager on one of the tables. Red-rumped Agoutis vied with Cocoa and Bare-eyed Thrushes for the spilt fruit and bread under the tables. A Blue-crowned Motmot also appeared briefly. Four Channel-billed Toucans were found in the distance and they gradually worked their way closer to us, finally giving us views perched up on a fairly close dead tree.

After breakfast we met up with Roodal, and explored the main drive as far as the road. We soon found an Ochre-bellied Flycatcher and a pair of Black-tailed Tityra. As the sun rose, so did the raptors, including two White Hawks circling above us, then a Common Black-hawk joined several Turkey and Black Vultures. A Zone-tailed Hawk drifted across. All three species of Trogon were seen, with a male Collared Trogon particularly stunning, perching just above the drive. Small birds included Tropical Parula searching the branches and a Northern Waterthrush on the driveway, and butterflies included excellent specimens of Red Anartia, Trinidad Admiral, Sweet-oil, Postman and Cattle-heart. A Cocoa Mort Bleu butterfly was seen by one of us when walking slowly back ahead of the rest of us. Fruiting trees were particularly attractive for Violaceous Euphonias, Bay-headed and Turquoise
Tanagers and Golden-headed Manakins. A Tropical Pewee perching upright on an open twig reminded everyone of flycatchers back home.

We returned at noon for lunch and a short rest before Harold, one of the Centre's guides, took us down the main trail below the Centre. Here we had excellent views of Violaceous Trogon, White-necked Thrushes and, on the way back, two further male Collared Trogons. A Mosaic butterfly low down on a tree trunk, probing for sap with its proboscis, was new for all of us. The Bearded Bellbirds, though vocal, were rather too deep in the forest to be seen, though most of us did get distant telescope views of one during the morning's walk. The White-bearded Manakin lek was deserted, though a lone male was seen briefly nearby. The highlight for all was a superb view of a Common Potoo perched on the end of a bare branch. We returned to the veranda for tea and pastries. Bamboo-page, Silverspot and several Flambeau butterflies were inspecting the flowering shrubs, and there was the usual array of birds at the feeders. We were ready for our rum punch at 6pm, then checklist and dinner, followed by a short 'night walk' partly up the main drive before turning in for a well-earned sleep.

Monday 16 January  
Northern Range & Blanchisseuse

Overcast with low cloud, occasional heavy showers, sunny spell

Having rained overnight, it dried up during breakfast. All the usual array of species were seen at the bird feeders, though especial note must be made of the Golden-olive Woodpecker on a nearby Secropia tree and the Black-tailed Tityra on the Toucan trees further down the valley. We loaded the vehicles and departed at 8.30, heading up the hill for a first stop near the telcomms masts. Here we found a Trinidad Piping-guan sitting out on a bare branch of a roadside tree. What a stunning bird! - allowing all of us to view and photograph this endangered Trinidad endemic for almost twenty minutes before moving out of sight. We then moved on in the vehicle, steadily climbing and with one or two stops, we did a short walk along a trail near the peak of the ridge. A single female Collared Trogan was seen and several others heard and there were nice views of Black-throated Anthrasher and Stripe-breasted Spinetail on the forest floor below the trail. A Plain-brown Woodcreeper appeared briefly twice. As we descended the northern slopes of the ridge, again stopping occasionally to see what was around, we had superb views of an Ornate Hawk-eagle giving his roller-coaster display flight, completely looping the loop several times. We tried for Scaled Antpitta, but only heard calling from a very distant bird.

We eventually arrived at the coast at Blanchisseuse for lunch by the beach. The sun shone briefly, allowing us to walk up to the river mouth. There were White-winged and Southern Rough-wing Swallows here, with several Spotted Sandpipers. A Grey Kingbird was an unexpected bonus, and Carib Grackles were ever-present. We drove a little further upstream, parking by the old bailey bridge. Several Common Black-hawks displayed low over the river, and a single Zone-tailed Hawk flew over the trees as we got off the bus. A Green Kingfisher was seen briefly along the river, and during a short walk upstream, we found an excellent Silvered Antbird. On our return to the bridge, a party of Yellow-rumped Caciques were seen and the two Blue-headed Parrots were still canoodling, perched on their tree. We headed back, stopping several times, for Scaled Pigeon, juice and cakes, and to see what else was around but by now, the rain had set in and we headed for home.

Tuesday 17 January  
Wallerfield Agricultural Centre & Nariva Swamp

Largely overcast, heavy showers late pm

A pair of Golden-olive Woodpeckers again showed well from the veranda before breakfast. A pair of Blue Dacnis also appeared and a very nice male Red-crowned Ant-tanager was seen briefly on the bird table. After breakfast, we loaded up and were away soon after 8.30. Many swifts were hawking low over the Cristophene farm enabling us to
view them from above. Both Band-rumped and Grey-rumped Swifts were identified. We made another stop at the roadside for Trinidad Euphonia, but this quickly lost itself amongst Violaceous Euphonias and Bananquits. A falcon caused yet another stop near Arima, this producing nice views of a Merlin perched on a dead tree. A little way along the main road, we pulled on to the grass verge to view a pair of Pearl Kites.

Numerous butterflies here included Caribbean Buckeye, White Anartia, Great Southern White, Little Yellow and another unidentified sulphur and at least 2 species of skippers.

As we entered the Agricultural Research Centre, we stopped to watch a Great Egret stalking a brood of young Wattled Jacanas. In the end, the adult pair successfully defended their young and the egret moved off. Red-breasted Blackbirds, Pied Water-tyrans, White-headed Marsh-tyrans all vied for our attention. Several Green-rumped Parrotlets showed reasonably well in a roadside tree, and Grassland Yellow-finch (a colonist in recent years from Venezuela) and Ruddy-breasted Seedeeater were watched in the tall grasses of the meadow. We found two Solitary Sandpipers (on opposite sides of the road so they were still solitary!) and several Least Sandpipers in the pools and wet mud near the cattle sheds, and a couple of White-necked Herons.

After a brief rest-stop in town and we were again on the move. We stopped as a Lineated Woodpecker flew over the road, and we realised that it was occupying a nesthole, with the male also on a neighbouring dead palm. We had lunch at Manzanilla but the sea, with red flags flying, was really too rough for anything but a cursory paddle. We slowly worked our way along the coast road, checking the palms and overhead wires for raptors, finding Savannah Hawks, Grey Hawks and Limpkin. We stopped again to view a Yellow-headed Caracara, also finding a fine Black-crested Antshrike. A little further on, a superb male Red Howler Monkey was spotted in trees quite close to the road.

We finally arrived at Nariva Swamp, immediately finding Yellow-chinned Spinetail. Purple Gallinules seemed quite numerous but no sign of the hoped-for Azure Gallinule. Several Striated Herons flew around and perched up in full view, and both Little Blue Heron and Snowy Egret were noted. A pair of Black-bellied Whistling-ducks had a brood of downy ducklings and was accompanied by an older juvenile. Then we spotted a Pinnated Bittern in quite short vegetation only some 30m from the track, and another was accidentally flushed from the roadside ditch nearby. Yellow-hooded Blackbirds appeared in increasing numbers as dusk approached, and we returned to the roadside for rum punch and homemade biscuits. Here, several Yellow-crowned Parrots were sitting up on the Royal Palms and then a pair of Red-bellied Macaws appeared at the far end. We headed for home for dinner and checklist.

Wednesday 18 January

La Laja Road and Northern Ridge

Wet, wet, wet!

With low cloud and occasional heavy drizzle, birding from the veranda was quite quiet. After breakfast, we headed for La Laja Road. The Grey-rumped Swifts were still hawking low over the Cristophene farm and as we turned on to La Laja Road, we had good views of a Rufous-browed Peppershrike. Further up the road, we found the nest hole of Grey-throated Leaffosser, then a nice mixed flock of species including White-shouldered Tanagers, Golden-crowned Warbler, Golden-fronted Greenlet and Long-billed Gnatwren. Walking on, a Grey-throated Leaffosser finally showed well. We returned downhill to the vehicles and then back to Asa Wright for lunch.

Rain really set in during the afternoon, and we had a rather damp walk along the 'ridge' trail. Once the weather lifted a little, another mixed flock produced two fine Hepatic...
Tanager females and another Long-billed Gnatwren. We returned to the vehicles, stopping briefly on the roadside for excellent views of Cocoa Woodcreepers, before returning to the centre for tea and pastries. Both Great and Barred Antshrikes showed themselves under the feeding tables.

Thursday 19 January

Aripo/Arena lowlands

Heavy rain overnight but sunny & warm by daybreak.

With very heavy rain and strong winds overnight, the weather had cleared by dawn. We had an early breakfast and were away in the vehicles by 6.30am. Our first stop was on the Aripo Road, overlooking a wet area of fields with long reeds and grasses. A Southern Beardless Tyrannulet showed well along the roadside, but the Masked Yellowthroat, though singing and calling, did not! We moved on to the old airfield at Wallerfield. Here, Bran-coloured Flycatcher eventually showed itself for everyone, with Ruby-topaz Hummingbird, White-winged Becard and Yellow-breasted Flycatcher also being noted. A White Hawk drifted overhead and at the stand of Moriche Palms, parties of Fork-tailed Palm-swifts were swooping down inspecting the hanging dead fronds. This is where they nest and roost. We tried several locations for Masked Yellowthroat, and our persistence was amply rewarded when we eventually found a stunning male after lunch on the road back towards Arena. We also caught up with several other species which, although on the list already, had eluded various people. These included Lineated Woodpecker and Red-browed Peppershrike. A Little Cuckoo also turned up.

We returned to the Centre at 1.30pm for cold drinks, coffee and a rest, though not necessarily in that order, ready to gather again around 4pm to go spot-lighting. Returning to the stand of Moriche Palms, we quickly re-found the palm-swifts, then four Red-bellied Macaws flew in, landing on a palm and promptly disappearing amongst the huge fronds, though careful searching revealed a couple of birds still visible. Whilst watching these, both Streaked Xenops and a couple of Sulphury Flycatchers were found. Further macaws flew in whilst we were eating our dinner, after which the light faded rapidly and we drove out on to the old runways. Pauraque soon started calling and we spot-lit a couple. Attempts to find Tropical Screech Owl failed to elicit any response from a number of locations, though as we drove to each, we spot-lit several White-tailed Nightjars along the grassy edges of the runways. Our last location, near the old control tower, finally produced a stunning Tropical Screech Owl, sitting out on a bare branch right in front of us. Back to the Centre for a well earned night's sleep.

Friday 20 January

Asa Wright

Sunny & hot.

We spent the day at the Centre, gathering on the veranda before breakfast as usual. Harold, one of the resident guides, took us down to Dunstan’s Cave. Red-crowned Anttanagers showed well along the trail, and on the return walk, we found a stunning Morpho butterfly. In twos and threes, we moved quietly into the entrance of the 'cave' and Harold carefully used his torch to highlight several Oilbirds sitting quietly on ledges. One or two were even visible through a telescope from outside the entrance. What a fascinating bird! We then returned slowly up the trail, some turning off and deciding to explore the 'Bellbird Trail’. Along here, we were sometimes seemingly surrounded by Bearded Bellbird calls, each bird vying with its neighbour. We found it very difficult to actually see a bird, but our perseverance was rewarded eventually, with excellent views of a calling male, sitting out on a bare perch and allowing everyone to view through the telescope. After lunch, we relaxed on the veranda or wandered the paths and trails near the house. One of the Golden-olive Woodpeckers was watched cleaning out a nest hole. Green Hermit and Blue-chinned Sapphire were both seen by some, whilst others recorded Ochre-bellied Flycatcher and Tropical Pewee from the veranda. A Short-
tailed Hawk drifted past accompanied by Common Black-hawk. Superb Bamboo-page (not Malachite as originally identified) and Flambeau butterflies checked each flower for nectar, and Polydamus Swallowtail and The 89 butterfly were also seen, if not photographed. A further walk after tea produced White-necked Thrushes and another superb Morpho butterfly.

Saturday 21 January  
Waterloo & Caroni Swamp

Hot and sunny, occasional showers

Both Great and Barred Antshrikes showed well under the veranda before breakfast, and Tropical Pewee and Blue Dacnis were also seen. After breakfast, we headed south, stopping firstly on the side of the main road to overlook the Trincity Water Treatment Pools. Common Moorhen, Purple Gallinule and a Large-billed Tern were noted, as were Great Egret, Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret and Great Blue Heron. A quick lesson to differentiate Snowy Egret from first-year Little Blue Heron followed, and a discussion on id’ing a Great Blue Heron from a head and shoulders view only. This latter point was clinched when the bird in question eventually took off. We then drove south down the west coast to Waterloo. As soon as we arrived, an Osprey flew over carrying a large fish. The tide was still high but dropping quickly and we found good numbers of Laughing Gulls, Royal and Large-billed Terns and the American race of Whimbrel (colloquially called Hudsonian Whimbrel). A small flock of Turnstone included one with a green leg flag and a US metal ring. On the distant mud flats, good numbers of egrets and herons had collected, together with a small number of Greater Yellowlegs. We had nice views of Tricolored Heron which landed in the bay closer to us, and a single Black Skimmer did what it does best and performed well for us. We moved on to a second nearby area of mud flats to find Willets, several hundred Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers, and small numbers of Black Skimmers roosting on the edge of the mangroves. There were good photo-opportunities of a Willet and a flock of Southern Lapwing. A small number of Yellow-hooded Blackbirds were seen briefly on the edge of the mangroves.

We then headed back to Caroni Swamp, for lunch at the visitor centre. A lone Bicolored Conebill appeared on the edge of the mangroves and actually foraged in the grassy areas before moving back into the trees. A Short-tailed Hawk glided over just as we had loaded into the bus. We drove back to the bridge over the main road to overview the ricefields, which produced no less than seven Ospreys in view at once and a Long-winged Harrier quartering quite close to the road. We then gathered at the quayside and loaded into the flat-bottomed boat for our trip into the mangrove swamp. A large Cook’s Tree-boa was curled up on a branch overhanging the channel. Then two further Bicolored Conebills were found. Stunningly coloured Scarlet Ibis were disturbed from the mangroves as we passed, giving us a taster of what was to come. Then in an open lagoon, we found Grey and Semipalmated Plovers, Greater Yellowlegs and various herons including our first Yellow-crowned Night-heron. A distant flock of small duck were probably Blue-winged Teal. After a brief detour to view two Potoos at roost high in the mangroves, we moored up to savour our rum punch and cakes, and to await the arrival of the roosting flight of herons, egrets and ibis. With many Tricolored Herons, Little Blue Herons and Snowy Egrets streaming past us just above the water, and roughly 1,500 Scarlet Ibis flying over the treetops to roost on the island opposite us, this made a spectacular end to our stay on Trinidad.

Sunday 22 January  
Asa Wright

Heavy rain overnight, clearing soon after dawn.

All the usual species were present at the veranda, with brief views of Southern Beardless Tyrannulet searching the outer branches of the nearby Trembler tree. After
breakfast, just before boarding the vehicles, a Giant Cowbird was found in one of the Flame Trees.

Fly to Tobago

Sunny & warm with occasional shower, wind increasing overnight.

The flight to Tobago was on time and we met up with Gladwyn James immediately outside the airport terminal just before midday. With our bags heading in a second vehicle direct to Blue Waters, Gladwyn took us to visit firstly the Crown Point Water Treatment Pools. With special access inside the fence, we found good numbers of Black-bellied Whistling-ducks and White-checked Pintails, and a single Blue-winged Teal. Both Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs afforded a nice comparison with each other, as did a solitary Solitary and several Spotted Sandpipers. Amongst the Snowy and Cattle Egrets, a single Little Egret was being quite pugnacious. A Grey Hawk circled overhead and a Yellow-headed Caracara flew past. A Belted Kingfisher was flushed from the nearby trees by passing people and again as we drove past, checking out the water-filled ditches. In the waterlogged fields and ditches, Greater Yellowlegs, Whimbrel and Spotted Sandpipers were all present. After a quick stop at a supermarket for water, we drove the short distance to Grafton to eat our sandwiches, whilst watching Rufous-vented Chachalacas virtually wandering around our feet as if they were chickens. A brief walk down one of the trails produced a whole series of new and/or interesting birds - Barred Antshrikes at last showed well, Fuscous and Brown-crested Flycatchers were new species, and perhaps best of all, first a female then two male Blue-backed Manakins. On the return walk, two nest-holes of Red-crowned Woodpeckers were discovered, both with female birds looking out. We then drove to view the Hilton pool, with its many Anhingas and Whistling-ducks, and most unusually for Tobago, a single Neotropical Cormorant. Time was getting on and we drove on along the south coast to BlueWaters, arriving soon after 5.30pm, a little later than planned due to a tyre blow-out.

Monday 23 January

King’s Bay trail & Blue Waters

Generally overcast & very windy

We were woken by a Chachalaca cacophony! We had organised a slightly earlier breakfast for 7.30 to try to be away by 8 - in the event it was nearer 8.30. Our first stop at the river near the old water wheel produced both Little Blue Heron and Green Heron. A Ruby-topaz Hummingbird searched the pink flowers of the creepers and a Yellow-bellied Elaenia showed briefly. We then drove on through Speyside to park at the lookout. We walked a trail overlooking King's Bay, luckily sheltered from an increasing easterly wind on the leeward side of the ridge. Every stop seem to produce nice views of something - many Rufous-tailed Jacamars provided lots of photo opportunities, Ruby-topaz Hummingbirds, White-tailed Jacobin, and both Red-crowned and Red-rumped Woodpeckers, the former seen well several times and the latter just a fly-by. A Great Black-hawk drifted overhead from King's Bay and, a little later, both Grey Hawk and Broad-winged Hawk circled overhead. We had brief views of an Olivaceous Woodcreepers and a lovely male Blue-backed Manakin showed well for a short period. Two very dull Yellow-breasted Elaenias caused much discussion and there were several very close Orange-winged Parrots in the trees as White-fringed Antwrens skulked below. We returned downhill, driving back to the hotel for lunch.

After a siesta, we walked up to the old cannon and explored the trail cut into the hillside above the hotel. Despite the wind, we found Ruby-topaz Hummingbirds, further Jacamars, Scrub Greenlet, Chivi Vireo, Yellow-bellied Elaenia and good numbers of Black-faced Grassquits. We could see good numbers of Red-billed Tropicbirds flying around Little Tobago Is. in the distance. An immature Great Black-hawk flew over, and as we retraced our steps, good numbers of Frigatebirds drifted over, presumably heading for St Giles Is. to roost overnight. Two who had opted to stay around the hotel grounds for the afternoon were lucky enough to spot a Green Turtle in the sea just off the jetty.
Tuesday 24 January

Fierce storm overnight, onshore gale & heavy rain on & off all day.

The planned boat trip to Little Tobago was postponed due to the bad weather and we spent most of the day in and around the hotel, though people did explore on their own during the brief spells of vaguely improved conditions. There were three Green Turtles off the jetty during the day. Early on, an Osprey was seen carrying a large Pipefish. Brown Booby was noted several times and a most intrepid couple managed a walk over the hill and right along the seafront at Speyside. Four species of herons & egrets were noted at the river mouth near the old water wheel, together with Yellow-bellied Elaenia and White-fringed Antwren. A planned show of photographs from Martin was cancelled as we couldn't get the camera-TV cable connector to work.

Wednesday 25 January

Still wet, though occasional dry spells.

We had an early breakfast and were in the vehicle by 8:15am. A brief stop halfway up the Bloody Bay road produced Giant Cowbird, White-necked Jacobin and Red-legged Honeycreepers. We then continued and, via a brief comfort stop, prepared ourselves to explore the Gilpin Trace. The rain started in earnest at this point, and we took it steady along the rather flooded pathway. We had prolonged views of a very wet Motmot and brief views of Blue-backed Manakin and White-tailed Sabrewing. Conditions were atrocious as we descended the trail, but cleared briefly just as we found a Sabrewing nest, with the adult in attendance - excellent views and photographs revealed it with some strands of nesting material. A little way further on, two males were found, one hovering just a few feet from us as it inspected what we were doing. After a brief look at the waterfall, we retraced our steps, finding a second nest, again within the overhanging fronds of a bamboo. The weather again cleared briefly as we reached a clearing created by a fallen tree, allowing us excellent views of a pair of Jacamars, a Stripe-breasted Spinetail worked its way up the fallen trunk giving us all very nice clear views and a Golden-olive Woodpecker appeared. A pair of Fuscous Flycatchers was also seen here. As the rain started again in earnest, we headed straight for the vehicle.

As we drove towards the lookout, a lovely male Collared Trogon was sitting quietly beside the road. We had lunch at the lookout, not that we could see much through the low cloud(!), then drove down towards Bloody Bay, stopping again during a brief dry spell. Here, there were further excellent views of Blue-backed Manakin, Jacamars and an Ochre-bellied Flycatcher. At Bloody Bay itself, the river was very turbid so no sign of the hoped-for Green Kingfisher, but there were Shiny and Giant Cowbirds on the football field and several Spotted Sandpipers. We then headed for home, stopping again during a clear spell, partway down the Roxborough side of the Main Ridge, finding an excellent Cocoa Woodcreeper. As the rain started again, we drove on with our next stop at the old waterwheel at Speyside, again during a clear spell. We had an excellent half hour here, watching Ruby-topaz Hummingbirds, a pair of Green Kingfishers, three species of herons and Northern Waterthrush.

Thursday 26 January

Sunshine – hooray; going home – boo!

A lovely morning and we duly met up on the jetty at 9am. Whilst waiting for the boatmen, we saw a single Osprey overhead, followed by two Yellow-headed Caracaras mobbing a Great Black-hawk, and two Broad-winged Hawks flew along the ridge above the hotel. Frank took us across to Little Tobago Island, landing fairly easily on the rough jetty. We slowly climbed the steps and trail to the old house, finding Yellow-
bellied Elaenia on the way and a Brown-crested Flycatcher preening in some low bamboo. We climbed to the first lookout, given us our first close glimpse of Red-billed Tropicbirds and the piratic behaviour of the Magnificent Frigatebirds. We moved on, then started to descend down a fairly rough track towards the cliff top. Before we knew it, we were surrounded by Tropicbird nests, some with youngsters, others with adults, giving us wonderful photo opportunities as we moved carefully and slowly to avoid causing any disturbance. Further on, we came across a shallow nest hole with Audubon's Shearwater on an egg. Further down, almost at the cliff edge, we looked over to view a pair of Brown Boobies. Our final stop was to climb back to a decked area, overlooking the bay with St Giles Island in the distance. Several Red-footed Boobies were seen, both brown and white plumage forms. We returned to the hotel at noon in time for lunch, a final shower & change into travel clothes and Gladwyn picked us up on time to take us to the airport.

We checked our bags right through to Heathrow, taking a Tobago Express flight back to Piarco, to pick up the BWIA flight to London, stopping briefly at Barbados en route.

**Friday 27 January**

**Arrival at Heathrow**

**SPECIES LISTS:**

The various species lists below use the following references:

**Birds:** We use the suggested worldwide English names and systematic order as found in *World Bird Species Checklist: with alternate English & scientific names* (Wells, M.G., 1998).  
Also: *A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad & Tobago* (ffrench, Richard, 1995).  
**Amphibians and Reptiles:** *Amphibians and Reptiles of Trinidad & Tobago* (Murphy, John C.)  
**Butterflies:** *Butterflies of the Caribbean and Florida* (Stiling, P., 1999).  
Butterflies & other insects of the Eastern Caribbean (Stiling, P.D., 1986)  
*A Field Guide to the Butterflies of the West Indies* (Riley, Norman., 1975)

**BIRDS:**

Little Tinamou: Heard Asa Wright on 20th.

Least Grebe: 2 Hilton Pool on 22nd.

Audubon's Shearwater: 1 on nest with egg in shallow burrow Little Tobago on 26th.

Red-billed Tropicbird: Noted on 2 days with many in the distance over Little Tobago on 23rd, excellent views on Little Tobago including several nests and young on 26th.

Red-footed Booby: Several Little Tobago on 26th.

Brown Booby: Noted on 3 days at Blanchisseuse on 16th, several across Blue Waters Bay on 24th, Little Tobago on 26th.

Anhinga / American Darter: Noted on 3 days with 3 Caroni Swamp on 21st, many Hilton Pool on 22nd & again as we passed on 26th.

Oliveaceous/Neotropical Cormorant: Noted on 2 days with 4 Waterloo on 21st, 1 Hilton Pool on 22nd.

Brown Pelican: Noted each day on the coast.

Magnificent Frigatebird: Noted each day on the coast.

Great Blue Heron: Noted on 3 days, with singles at Manzanilla on 17th, Trincity Treatment Pools & Caroni Swamp on 21st, Hilton Pool on 22nd.

Cocoi/White-necked Heron: Noted on 2 days with 2 Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, 1 Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Cattle Egret: Noted on 7 days.

Great [White] Egret: Noted on 3 days, at Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, then several on
Tricolored Heron: Noted on 2 days with at least 400 Caroni Swamp on 21st, several on 22nd.

Little Blue Heron: Noted on 7 days, at Nariva Swamp on 17th, Caroni Swamp on 21st, then Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, and Speyside on 23rd - 26th.

Snowy Egret: Noted on 4 days with Nariva Swamp on 17th, c2000 Caroni Swamp on 21st, Tobago on 22nd, 1 Speyside on 24th.

Little Egret: 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.

Striated Heron: Noted on 3 days at Nariva Swamp on 17th, Aripo Rd on 19th, 2 Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Green Heron: Noted on 4 days with 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools 1 Hilton Pool on 22nd, 1 Speyside on 23rd, Speyside on 25th, Tobago on 26th.

Yellow-crowned Night-heron: Noted on 4 days with 4 Caroni Swamp on 21st, several Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, 2 Speyside on 24th, 1 Blue Waters 2 Speyside on 25th.

Pinnated Bittern: 2 Nariva Swamp on 17th.

Scarlet Ibis: At least 1400 Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Black-bellied Whistling-duck: Noted on 2 days with a pair with brood Nariva Swamp on 17th, many Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.

White-cheeked Pintail: Many at Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.

Blue-winged Teal: Noted on 2 days with c40 Caroni Swamp on 21st, 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.

Turkey Vulture: Noted each day on Trinidad.

[American] Black Vulture: Noted most days on Trinidad.

Osprey: Noted on 5 days with at least 7 Caroni Swamp & rice fields & 2 Waterloo on 21st, 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, 1 Kings Bay Trail & another Blue Waters on 23rd, 1 with large Pipefish at Blue Waters on 24th, Blue Waters on 26th.

Pearl Kite: Noted on 2 days with 3 on 17th, 1 on 19th.

Long-winged Harrier: 1 Caroni Swamp on 21st.

White Hawk: Noted on 4 days with 2 Asa Wright on 15th, La Laja Road on 18th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Asa Wright on 20th.

Common Black-hawk: Noted on 7 days with 2 Asa Wright on 15th, Blanchisseuse on 16th, Arena Valley on 17th, La Laja Road on 18th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Asa Wright on 20th, Asa Wright on 22nd.

Great Black-hawk: Noted on 2 days with 1 Kings Bay Trail 1 Blue Waters on 23rd, Blue Waters mobbed by 2 Caracaras on 26th.

Savannah Hawk: Noted on 2 days with 6 at Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, & again on 19th as we passed.

Grey Hawk: Noted on 4 days with 4 Nariva Swamp on 17th, 2 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, 1 Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, 1 Speyside on 25th.

Broad-winged Hawk: Noted on 4 days with Blanchisseuse on 16th, Asa Wright on 19th, 1 Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, 2 Blue Waters on 26th.

Short-tailed Hawk: Noted on 2 days at Asa Wright on 20th, Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Zone-tailed Hawk: Noted on 2 days at Asa Wright on 15th, Blanchisseuse on 16th.

Ornate Hawk-eagle: 1 displaying over the Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th.

Yellow-headed Caracara: Noted on 4 days at Blanchisseuse on 16th, 3 at various locations on 17th, 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools 1 Blue Waters on 22nd, 2 mobbing Great Black-hawk over Blue Waters on 26th.

Merlin: 1 Arena on 17th.

Peregrine Falcon: Noted on 3 days with 1 Nariva Swamp on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, 1 Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Rufous-vented Chachalaca: Noted each day on Tobago, at Grafton & Blue Waters.
Common Piping-Guan: One showed really well near the Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th.
Limpkin: 3 Nariva Swamp on 17th.
Common Moorhen: Noted on 2 days with 2 Trincity Treatment Pools on 21st, several Crown Point Treatment Pools & Hilton Pool on 22nd.
[American] Purple Gallinule: Noted on 2 days with many Nariva Swamp on 17th, 1 Trincity Treatment Pools on 21st.
Wattled Jacana: Noted on 3 days, at Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, 1 Trincity Treatment Pools on 21st, several Crown Point Treatment Pools & Hilton Pool on 22nd.
Southern Lapwing: Noted on 5 days with several on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, at least 20 Waterloo on 21st, 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, 2 Bloody Bay on 25th.
Grey/Black-bellied Plover: 4 Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Semipalmated Plover: At least 10 Waterloo on 21st.
[Hudsonian] Whimbrel: Noted on 2 days with Waterloo on 21st, several Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.
Greater Yellowlegs: Noted on 2 days with at least 8 Waterloo on 21st, several Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.
Lesser Yellowlegs: Several Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.
Solitary Sandpiper: Noted on 2 days with 2 Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, 1 Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd.
Spotted Sandpiper: Noted on 7 days, at Blanchisseuse on 16th, 1 Manzanilla on 17th, at least 10 on 21st, several Tobago on 22nd, 1 Speyside 1 Blue Waters on 23rd, 1 Speyside on 24th, several Speyside Bloody Bay on 25th.
Willet: Several on 21st.
Ruddy Turnstone: Noted on 5 days with 20 at Waterloo on 21st, up to 34 at Blue Waters.
Semipalmated Sandpiper: Mixed flock of this species & Western Sandpiper at Waterloo on 21st.
Western Sandpiper: See above comment under Semipalmated Sandpiper.
Least Sandpiper: 4 Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th.
Laughing Gull: Good numbers at Waterloo on 21st.
Large-billed Tern: 1 Trincity Treatment Pools & c12 Waterloo on 21st.
Royal Tern: Noted on 2 days with c20 Waterloo on 21st, 7 on Tobago en route Blue Waters on 26th.
Black Skimmer: c10 at Waterloo on 21st.
Sealed Pigeon: Noted on 4 days, seen Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, heard on 18th & 19th, seen Asa Wright on 20th.
Pale-vented Pigeon: Noted each day on Tobago.
Eared Dove: Noted on 3 days with 1 Caroni Swamp on 21st, several at Crown Point on 22nd & 26th.
Common Ground-dove: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Ruddy Ground-dove: Noted each day at Asa Wright, plus other localities on Trinidad.
White-tipped Dove: Noted on 6 days, at Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, then each day on Tobago.
Grey-fronted Dove: Noted most days at Asa Wright.
Red-bellied Macaw: Noted on 2 days with 2 Nariva Swamp on 17th, 8 Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Green-rumped Parrotlet: Noted on 2 days with 4 Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th, c20 Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Lilac-tailed Parrotlet: Several Asa Wright on 15th.
Blue-headed Parrot: Noted on 4 days, at Blanchisseuse on 16th, Asa Wright on 18th, at least 5 Asa Wright on 20th, 2 Asa Wright on 22nd.
Yellow-crowned [Amazon] Parrot: 3 Nariva Swamp on 17th.
Orange-winged [Amazon] Parrot: Noted each day on both islands.
Smooth-billed Ani: Noted on 8 days, both islands.
Striped Cuckoo: Noted on 2 days with one seen Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, heard Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Little Cuckoo: 1 Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Tropical Screech-owl: 1 Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Spectacled Owl: Heard Asa Wright on 22nd.
Ferruginous Pygmy-owl: Heard each night at Asa Wright, seen at last at Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Oilbird: Asa Wright on 20th.
Common/Grey Potoo: Noted on 2 days with 1 roosting Asa Wright on 15th, 2 Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Common Pauraque: At least 3 Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
White-tailed Nightjar: At least 8 Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
White-collared Swift: Asa Wright on 15th.
Band-rumped Swift: Arena Valley on 17th.
Grey-rumped Swift: Noted most days Asa Wright, also Blanchisseuse on 16th.
Short-tailed Swift: Noted on 7 days, at Blanchisseuse on 16th, Nariva Swamp on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, then many over Tobago on 22nd, several low over Speyside on 23rd, Main Ridge on 25th, Speyside on 26th.
Fork-tailed Palm-swift: Noted on 2 days, at Blanchisseuse on 16th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Rufous-breasted Hermit: Noted most days at Asa Wright, also La Laja Road on 18th.
Green Hermit: Noted on 3 days at Asa Wright, 15th, 16th, & 20th.
Little Hermit: 1 Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th.
White-tailed Sabrewing: At least 4 including 2 nests, Gilpin Trace, on 25th.
White-necked Jacobin: Noted most days on both islands.
Black-throated Mango: Noted on 9 days, most days at Asa Wright, Blanchisseuse on 16th, Caroni Swamp on 21st, then Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Blue Waters on 24th.
Ruby-topaz Hummingbird: Noted on 5 days, at Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Caroni Swamp on 21st, Grafton on 22nd, Kings Bay Trail & Blue Waters on 23rd, Speyside & Main Ridge on 25th.
Tufted Coquette: Noted most days at Asa Wright.
Blue-chinned Sapphire: Noted on 4 days at Asa Wright, 17th - 20th.
White-chested Emerald: Noted each day at Asa Wright, also Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Copper-rumped Hummingbird: Noted most days on both islands.
White-tailed Trogon: Noted on 4 days at Asa Wright, 15th & 18th - 20th.
Collared Trogon: Noted on 3 days, at Asa Wright on 15th, Blanchisseuse on 16th, Main Ridge on 25th.
Violaceous Trogon: Noted on 2 days at Asa Wright, on 15th & 20th.
Belted Kingfisher: Noted on 2 days with singles at Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd & Blue Waters on 23rd.
Green Kingfisher: Noted on 2 days with 1 Blanchisseuse on 16th, 2 Speyside on 25th.
Blue-crowned Motmot: Noted each day at Asa Wright, then also at Grafton on 22nd, Main Ridge on 25th.
Rufous-tailed Jacamar: Noted on 3 days with calls heard in several places on 17th, then at least a dozen Kings Bay Trail & Blue Waters on 23rd, Main Ridge on 25th.
Channel-billed Toucan: Up to 4 noted on 4 days at Asa Wright, 15th - 18th.
Red-crowned Woodpecker: Noted on 3 days with 2 in nest-holes Grafton on 22nd, close views Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Blue Waters on 26th.

Red-rumped Woodpecker: 1 briefly Kings Bay Trail on 23rd.

Golden-olive Woodpecker: Noted each day at Asa Wright, & Main Ridge on 25th.

Lineated Woodpecker: Noted on 2 days with a pair on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Plain-brown Woodcreeper: Noted on 2 days, Blanchisseuse on 16th, La Laja Rd on 18th.

Olivaceous Woodcreeper: 1 briefly Kings Bay Trail on 23rd.

Cocoa Woodcreeper: Noted on 4 days, heard calling Asa Wright on 15th, seen Asa Wright on 18th & 20th, Main Ridge on 25th.

Pale-breasted Spinetail: Nariva Swamp on 17th.

Stripe-breasted Spinetail: Noted on 2 days, Blanchisseuse on 16th, Main Ridge on 25th.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail: Noted on 2 days with Nariva Swamp on 17th, heard Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Grey-throated Leaflitterer: La Laja Road on 18th.

Streaked Xenops: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Great Antshrike: Noted most days at Asa Wright.

Black-crested Antshrike: Noted on 2 days with a pair on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Barred Antshrike: Noted most days at Asa Wright, then at Grafton on 22nd, 3 Kings Bay Trail & 1 Blue Waters on 23rd, Main Ridge on 25th.

Plain Antvireo: Seen briefly Main Ridge on 25th.

White-flanked Antwren: Noted on 2 days; La Laja Road on 18th, Asa Wright on 20th.

White-fringed Antwren: Noted on 3 days; Grafton on 22nd, Kings Bay Trail & Blue Waters on 23rd, Speyside on 24th.

Silvered Antbird: Blanchisseuse on 16th.

White-bellied Antbird: A pair Asa Wright on 15th.

Black-faced Antthrush: Blanchisseuse on 16th.

Sealed Antpitta: Heard distantly Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet: Noted on 2 days; Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Asa Wright on 22nd.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia: Noted on 7 days; Blanchisseuse on 16th, Nariva Swamp on 17th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Caroni Swamp on 21st, 2 Kings Bay Trail & 1 Blue Waters on 23rd, Speyside on 24th, Little Tobago on 26th.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher: Noted on 5 days; Asa Wright on 15th, 16th & 20th, Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Main Ridge on 25th.

Slaty-capped Flycatcher: La Laja Road on 18th.

Yellow-breasted Flycatcher: Noted on 3 days; Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, 2 Grafton on 22nd, 1 Kings Bay Trail on 23rd.

Bran-coloured Flycatcher: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Euler’s Flycatcher: La Laja Road on 18th.

Tropical Pewee: Noted on 5 days at Asa Wright.

Fuscous Flycatcher: Noted on 2 days with 2 at Grafton on 22nd, 2 Main Ridge on 25th.

Pied Water-tyrant: Noted on 2 days; Wallerfield Agricultural Centre & Nariva Swamp on 17th, Caroni Swamp & Waterloo on 21st.

White-headed Marsh-tyrant: Noted on 2 days; Wallerfield Agricultural Centre & Nariva Swamp on 17th, Waterloo & Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher: Blanchisseuse on 16th.
Venezuelan Flycatcher: Heard distantly Main Ridge on 25th.
Brown-crested Flycatcher: Noted on 3 days with 2 Grafton on 22nd, 1 Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Little Tobago on 26th.
Great Kiskadee: Noted each day on Trinidad.
Boat-billed Flycatcher: Noted on 6 days on Trinidad, mostly at Asa Wright.
Streaked Flycatcher: Noted on 2 days at Asa Wright; calls heard 15th, bird seen 18th.
Sulphury Flycatcher: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Tropical Kingbird: Noted most days.
Grey Kingbird: Noted on 6 days; Blanchisseuse on 16th, Waterloo on 21st, Tobago en route on 22nd & 23rd, Speyside on 24th, Main Ridge on 25th.
White-winged Becard: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
Black-tailed Tityra: Noted on 3 days with a pair Asa Wright on 15th, seen again 16th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.
White-bearded Manakin: Noted on 6 days on Trinidad.
Blue-backed Manakin: Noted on 3 days on Tobago; with 2m 1f Grafton on 22nd, 1m Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, 1m Main Ridge on 25th.
Golden-headed Manakin: Noted on 4 days on Trinidad; Asa Wright on 15th, Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, La Laja Road on 18th, Asa Wright on 20th.
Bearded Bellbird: Noted on 5 days; Asa Wright on 15th, heard Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, heard on 18th, at least 5 calling 1 seen Asa Wright on 20th, heard Asa Wright on 22nd.
White-winged Swallow: Noted on 6 days, generally over water on both islands.
Grey-breasted Martin: Noted on 3 days; on 16th, 17th, & 19th.
Caribbean Martin: Many at Crown Point Treatment Pools & Hilton Pool on 22nd.
Southern Rough-winged Swallow: Noted on 7 days; both islands.
Barn Swallow: Several Hilton Pool on 22nd.
Rufous-breasted Wren: Noted on 4 days; often heard; Asa Wright on 15th & 17th, La Laja Road on 18th, Main Ridge on 25th.
House Wren: Noted most days.
Tropical Mockingbird: Noted each day.
Cocoa Thrush: Noted each day at Asa Wright, also Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th.
Bare-eyed Thrush: Noted most days.
White-necked Thrush: Noted on 6 days at Asa Wright, Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, Main Ridge on 25th.
Long-billed Gnatwren: Noted on 3 days; Asa Wright on 15th & 20th, La Laja Rd on 18th.
Grassland Yellow-fin奇: Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th.
Blue-black Grassquit: Noted on 3 days; on 17th, 19th, & 22nd.
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater: A pair, Wallerfield Agricultural Centre on 17th.
Black-faced Grassquit: Noted each day on Tobago.
Greyish Saltator: Noted each day at Asa Wright, also Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th, Waller-field Savannah on 19th.
White-shouldered Tanager: Noted on 2 days; La Laja Road on 18th, Asa Wright on 20th.
White-lined Tanager: Noted each day at Asa Wright and other localities on Trinidad, also on Tobago on 22nd & 25th.
Red-crowned Ant-tanager: Noted on 5 days at Asa Wright; 15th - 17th, 20th, & 22nd.
Hepatic Tanager: 2 females seen, Blanchisseuse Rd, on 18th.
Silver-beaked Tanager: Noted each day at Asa Wright & other localities on Trinidad.
Blue-grey Tanager: Noted each day on both islands.
Palm Tanager: Noted each day on both islands.

Trinidad Euphonia: 1 briefly, Arena Valley, on 17th.

Violeaceous Euphonia: Noted each day at Asa Wright & other localities on Trinidad.

Turquoise Tanager: Noted on 5 days on Trinidad.

Speckled Tanager: Noted on 2 days along Blanchisseuse Rd on 16th & 18th.

Bay-headed Tanager: Noted on 6 days at Asa Wright & other localities on Trinidad.

Blue Dacnis: Noted on 4 days at Asa Wright.

Green Honeycreeper: Noted each day at Asa Wright & other localities on Trinidad.

Purple Honeycreeper: Noted each day at Asa Wright & other localities on Trinidad.

Red-legged Honeycreeper: Noted on 2 days on Tobago; Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Main Ridge on 25th.

Bicoloured Conebill: At least 3 Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Bananaquit: Noted each day.

Tropical Parula: Asa Wright on 15th.

Yellow Warbler: Noted on 3 days; 2 Nariva Swamp on 17th, Kings Bay Trail on 23rd, Speyside on 24th.

American Redstart: Noted on 2 days with several on 18th, Main Ridge on 25th.

Northern Waterthrush: Noted most days on both islands.

Masked Yellowthroat: Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Golden-crowned Warbler: La Laja Road on 18th.

Rufous-browed Peppershrike: Noted on 7 days, often heard, some seen, various localities on Trinidad.

Chivi Vireo: Kings Bay Trail & Blue Waters on 23rd.

Golden-fronted Greenlet: Noted on 3 days; heard Asa Wright on 15th, seen well La Laja Road on 18th, Wallerfield Savannah on 19th.

Scrub Greenlet: Noted on 2 days; heard Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, heard Kings Bay Trail & seen briefly Blue Waters on 23rd.

Crested Oropendola: Noted each day on both islands.

Yellow-rumped Cacique: Noted on 3 days; Blanchisseuse on 16th, Manzanilla on 17th, Wallerfield on 19th.

Yellow Oriole: Noted on 7 days; usually at Asa Wright, also Nariva Swamp on 17th.

Yellow-hooded Blackbird: Noted on 2 days; Nariva Swamp on 17th, Waterloo on 21st.

Red-breasted Blackbird: Noted on 3 days; Wallerfield Agricultural Centre & Nariva Swamp on 17th, Wallerfield on 19th, Caroni Swamp on 21st.

Carib Grackle: Noted on 7 days at various localities on both islands.

Shiny Cowbird: Noted on 9 days; both islands.

Giant Cowbird: Noted on 2 days with 1 Asa Wright on 22nd, 3 Bloody Bay on 25th.

MAMMALS:

Red-tailed Squirrel: Noted on 3 days; Asa Wright on 21st, Blue Waters on 23rd & 24th.

Red-rumped Agouti: Noted each day at Asa Wright.

Guyanan Red Howler Monkey: A male close by Nariva Swamp on 17th.

Gtr White-lined [Sac-winged] Bat: Day-flying bats noted on 2 days, at Blanchisseuse on 16th, La Laja Road on 18th, were assumed to be this species.

Seba’s Short-tailed [Fruit-]Bat: Photographs of the fruit-eating bats at the feeding tables at Asa Wright would indicate this species.
AMPHIBIANS:
Marine/Cane Toad: Noted on 4 days; Asa Wright on 19th, Crown Point Treatment Pools on 22nd, Speyside on 24th & 25th.

REPTILES:
Spectacled Cayman: Caroni Swamp on 21st.
[Pacific] Green Turtle: Noted on 2 days off the Blue Waters jetty; 1 on 23rd, 3 on 24th.
Cook's Tree Boa: Noted on 6 days with a small individual roosting regularly in a shrub near reception at Asa Wright, and a larger specimen in overhanging mangroves at Caroni Swamp on 21st.
Gecko species: Noted at Asa Wright.
Golden Tegu: Noted each day at Asa Wright.
Whiptail Lizard: Noted on 2 days with Wallerfield Savannah on 19th, Grafton on 22nd.

BUTTERFLIES:
Tropical Chequered Skipper
Common White Skipper
Long-tailed Skipper
Polydamus Swallowtail
Cattle Heart
Spear-winged Cattle-heart
Florida White
Great Southern White
Giant Brimstone
Apricot Sulphur
Cloudless Sulphur
Little Yellow
Blue Transparent
Sweet-oil
The Tiger
Monarch
Large Tiger
Silverking
Mosaic
Trinidad Admiral
The 89
Caribbean Buckeye
White Anartia / White Peacock
Red Anartia
Red Rim
Bamboo-page
Flambeau
Silverspot
Doris
Small Blue Grecian
Postman
Crimson-patched Longwing
Cocoa Mort Bleu
Common Morpho

DAMSELFIES & DRAGONFLIES:
Argia oculata
Acanthagrion kenneedi
Despite unseasonably wet and windy weather, we were quite lucky to avoid most of the rain-storms, and there were still plenty of highlights. We must start with the mind-blowing array of hummingbirds and tanagers at the feeding station before breakfast at Asa Wright on the first morning, and then carry on from there! The Trinidad Piping-guan was a ‘lifer’ for me, and an exceptionally good view of an endangered Trinidad endemic. Red Howler Monkey is not often seen so I was particularly pleased with that, and as for the Pinnated Bittern, not just one very close and in full view, but flushing a second bird from the roadside ditch, well, what can I say? The large numbers of herons and egrets, together with the stunning colour of Scarlet Ibis, flying in to roost at Caroni Swamp stand out on our last evening on Trinidad. Then on Tobago, the lovely male Blue-backed Manakins and the White-tailed Sabrewing that came to within a couple of metres of us to inspect us, and that most impressive view from the lookouts on Little Tobago Island and us standing surrounded within touching distance by Red-billed Tropicbirds and their chicks all vie for our attention.

I’m sure everyone will have different memories of this excellent trip. Well done to all of you who made this trip the success it was, and particular thanks to Keith White for identifying some of the dragonflies for us.

I do hope to see you all on another trip, sometime in the not-too-distant future.

Keith Grant, February 2006
White-tailed Sabrewing at nest, Tobago

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