

THE TRAVELLING NATURALIST

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TRINDAD & TOBAGO The Asa Wright Experience 9 – 21 February 2017

TOUR REPORT

Leader: John Muddeman

This was a truly wonderful tropical trip. As an introduction to Neotropical and Caribbean birdlife it was about as good as one can get, with some remarkable differences between the two main islands providing food for thought as well as extra diversity. It was also a wonderful introduction to Neotropical and Caribbean wildlife and habitats too, with a fantastic variety of butterflies, dragonflies, moths and trees and flowers on land, not forgetting to mention the wonderful coral reefs just offshore and readily accessible for the slightly more intrepid who want to bathe in the warm coastal waters. And we enjoyed it all, from the luxuriant vegetation in the mountainous Trinidadian rainforest to the relaxing environments of the comfortable beach hotel on Tobago.

Tour highlights were largely the birds, including the wonderful potoo, the strange oilbirds, elegant tropicbirds, the exquisite white-tailed nightjar roosting at point-blank range on Little Tobago, the scarce chestnut woodpecker, the quaint ferruginous pygmy-owls, noisy and smartly plumaged barred antshrikes, the extraordinary spectacle of the roosting scarlet ibis, the gaudy manakins, ever-fascinating and exquisite hummingbirds, including in particular the white-necked jacobin and above all colourful ruby topaz. Moreover, the peculiar and very noisy bearded bellbird, a couple of superb grey-lined hawk, and of course, not forgetting an amazing hunting peregrine. The night birding excursion was also highlighted, along with just the wide array of habitats and sites visited, such as the coast and islands close to Blue Waters Inn.

Day 1: Thursday 9 February 2017

Fly to Trinidad and Tobago

Warm and breezy on arrival at Piarco airport, with scattered showers in the north range

Morning flight from London Gatwick to Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, then by bus to the Asa Wright Nature Centre. Stepping out of the airport on Trinidad into rather warmer conditions after a relatively chilly flight, including an hour-long stopover on St Lucia, where fortunately we didn't have to disembark, was very pleasant!

Our local guide for the week, Dave Ramlal was waiting for us after we exited customs and went off to bring the minibus round. Having seen few odd birds from the plane on the runway at St Lucia, including a grackle, snowy egret, Caribbean martin and western cattle egret, we enjoyed the antics of some noisy palm tanagers and great kiskadees on the terminal building, together with a couple of fleeting white-winged swallows in the surroundings, plus important numbers of Carib grackles flying past en route to a mass roost somewhere nearby. The drive through the surprisingly built-up lowlands of Trinidad was quite twisting, though again we had a little distraction including from a roost of black vultures in roadside trees as we passed, though the poor winding road leading up the Arima Valley was made largely in the dark.

We arrived to a very warm welcome at Asa Wright, picked up our keys, headed straight to the rooms to drop off the bags and then almost immediately back down for dinner, which was already underway. Since it was already after 11 p.m. UK time, this was none too soon, but with a delicious rum punch to raise a toast over an equally tasty meal, we were off to a flying start! Once over, it was bedtime, and we headed off for a sound night's sleep following a long travel day.

Day 2: Friday 10 February 2017

Verandah, Bellbird Trail, AWNC access road and verandah

A cloudy start with heavy showers at dawn and over breakfast, but then largely dry afterwards and fining up mid afternoon onwards

With our body clocks of course still not attuned to local time, it was easy to get up 'early', and we met on the verandah just before 6 a.m. as planned, though actually a few minutes too early for coffee. We soon sorted that though by switching on the machine ourselves! With rapidly increasing light, the first noises from the surrounding seasonal rainforest started, including singing ferruginous pygmy owl, calling great kiskadee and screeching orange-winged parrots. The view down the valley showed how it was nearly all still seasonal rainforest, with the lights of Arima way below finally giving way to the verdant greens of the leafy canopy interspersed with oranges and reds of the flowering Immortelle (or flame tree) flowers.

The next 90 minutes were almost a test of nerves though, with more, and more and yet more birds pouring in to the bushes and trees in front and down to the various nectar and fruit feeders! With such numbers, it was particularly difficult to know where to start, but male white-necked jacobins and the exquisite and tiny tufted coquettes were quickly noted amongst the hummingbirds, and green and purple honeycreepers, silver-beaked, palm and white-lined tanagers, restless Violaceous Euphonias and just as mobile tropical mockingbirds were all quite quickly added. Male black-throated mango and the more cleanly marked white-chested emeralds were teased out, along with the first copper-rumped hummingbird.

Other birds on the tables included spectacled and cocoa thrushes, plus the ubiquitous bananaquits, while underneath, a few absurdly tame red-rumped agouties boldly came out to feed on fallen scraps, a far cry from the behaviour of their cousins hunted in the adjacent forest! A couple of ochre-bellied flycatchers flitted in one tremble tree, though a pair of calling barred antshrikes commanded more attention. Our first male white-bearded manakin and for lucky Nigel, a golden-headed manakin also showed up before the breakfast bell finally sounded and we could put our by now rumbling stomachs to rest.

Another quick look after breakfast produced nothing new, but this was soon remedied by Dave, who guided us for the short walk down the Bellbird Trail. Indeed, we'd hardly gone anywhere when he diverted off and started whistling at a pair of white-bellied antbirds calling from thick scrub nearby. A red-tailed

squirrel distracted us briefly before we resumed the task and one antbird finally showed in the shadows, though was tricky to see. A pair of white hawks circling overhead was our first raptor species, quickly followed by the second when a calling black hawk-eagle passing overhead was pointed out, though it was high and soon drifted away.

Lots of little squeaks from high up in a fruiting ficus were our first bay-headed and turquoise tanagers, though we soon started to wonder if having a physio at the centre wouldn't be a bad idea to sort out aching necks from craning to look so high up! A golden-olive woodpecker gave great scope views, while a different white-bellied antbird shortly ahead didn't need it, unusually feeding happily out in the open for a change!

Another male white-bearded manakin sat close to the ground nearby at the famous lek site, before speeding off across the trail, so we quickly moved on as the sun lit up the forest, to track down a calling bearded bellbird. Gram for gram it's proportionately the noisiest bird on the planet, and its incredible "clang" call resonated around the forest. A look inside its black mouth as it calls, with beak wide open and rubbery wattles quivering below, is a peculiar sight, but the scope once again proved to be of great value in helping everyone to see it through some small windows in the foliage. Plus for an American group adjacent to us too.

The party broke up a little more as we returned, but with a grey-lined hawk circling over the buildings, our first passing turkey vultures, brief rufous-breasted hermit feeding on blackstick flowers and a flighty great antshrike for Nigel, we were certainly kept busy. Of course, the sun was moving a few butterflies and even dragonflies around as well, though it was mostly the abundant little trackside Hermes satyrs that we saw most easily. Dave eventually bade us farewell for the rest of the day, though most stayed on the balcony until our 12 midday lunch, with a brief squirrel cuckoo of most note seen as a result.

A break was taken after lunch, then we met again at 2 p.m. and headed down the access road to see what we could find for ourselves in the forest. It was a little quieter in the afternoon sun, but was still not too hot, and our second and then third Guianan trogons for the day were great birds, along with a pair of common black hawks overhead, plus a green kingfisher flashing past up a stream. Two golden-fronted greenlets beside the main road showed well for most, but it was almost the butterflies that stole the show, despite there not really being many around, especially when a huge false giant swallowtail drifted low around for a while before finally resting in full view on some low bamboo leaves. Red anartias, a hanno blue, an elusive hairstreak, plus our first heliconiid butterfly - a red postman -, a large sulphur or two and a fine orange mapwing perching perfectly for photos were all enjoyed.

There was still some time to spare before dinner, and we concentrated on the hummingbirds in particular, adding green and rufous-breasted hermits – including discovering the remarkable nest of the latter spun onto the hanging light chain inside the building! – and blue-chinned sapphire at the feeders to the burgeoning list. Fifty nine birds species recorded was a good total after a terrific first day.

Day 3: Saturday 11 February 2017

Blanchisseuse Road including radio mast + Brasso Seco for lunch

Mild, windy, and largely cloudy, including some heavy showers

Dodging several very heavy showers during the course of the day, though not always very successfully, we started off in fine weather in lovely old forest as worked our way up from AWNC. At our very first stop, and almost immediately, a large dark bird disappearing into the forest was a brief Trinidad piping-guan, though the view for just Nigel and Bob was tantalisingly brief. Several birds soon came to light here, including calling collared and green-backed trogons, both of which we subsequently saw, a couple of blue dacnis and red-legged honeycreepers way up in a flowering flame tree, and the first of a few golden-olive woodpeckers for the day. We also heard the first of a few grey-fronted doves calling from deep in the forest, while the last bird was a superb channel-billed toucan which flew across before landing and hopping about high in the crown of a nutmeg tree. Just back past the bus a cocoa woodcreeper put in a bit of an appearance, though these were the only ones for the whole day.

We detoured up along the access 'road' of the communications tower, though it generally seemed very quiet, especially as thick cloud suddenly closed overhead and rain threatened. I failed to find any 'bugs' of interest by the lights, but Dave returned from chatting to the security guard with an extraordinary male Goliath beetle in his hand and a female climbing up his shirt!!! Seeing the male lift a stone up into the air before tossing it off to one side reminded us perfectly of TV footage we'd seen on of males fighting, and was simply fascinating to watch. A few flowers here included our first star flowers, while at a small pass nearby, a few epiphytic orchids in bloom outside a house provided a fine sight. A stunning pair of lineated woodpeckers here were a treat too, one being dive-bombed by an irate hummingbird as it sat near the top of a high stump.

Turning off towards Brasso Seco meant we dodged into the rain, but a little flurry of activity just after one heavy shower saw the first of numerous quaint ruddy ground-doves feeding on the roadside next to a shiny cowbird, while in a nearby treetop, single palm and blue-grey tanagers sat alongside a piratic flycatcher and red-legged honeycreeper. A gorgeous male American redstart underneath was a great bonus too. 'Just in case', we took lunch under cover at a bar, though it was only just as we were finishing that the rain started again! However, the local Carib grackles and our first views of a Neotropical house wren pair set the birdwatching off again. Just down the road a northern waterthrush fed in a roadside drainage channel, bobbing its tail as it went, while Bob came up trumps, quite quickly finding a singing striped cuckoo which looked great in the scope.

A couple of high, passing magnificent frigatebirds seemed out of place over the forest, but not so the regular black plus a few turkey vultures (from here on referred to as BVs and TVs), with other raptors including excellent views of circling and perched grey-lined hawk, plus several flying common black hawks and a 'wafting' zone-tailed hawk imitating the TVs!

Just a few of the hoped for birds continued to elude us, but again, two more additions came quickly in the form of a fine pair of rufous-breasted wrens and a tropical pewee. Another stop produced a couple of pinky-red red-crowned ant tanagers and as we watched, two stunning speckled tanagers suddenly popped into full view immediately in front, before dashing off just as quickly. Somewhere here too, the light finally improved enough for us to be certain of the ID of the numerous grey-rumped swifts that we'd noted in flocks over the forest in different locations.

The sun came out, and it heralded a further change in bird activity, with a stunning rufous-tailed jacamar sallying out over the road just ahead at high speed after spotting an interesting insect.

Our furthest stop was near a small cluster of houses, where two blue-headed parrots on the wires brought us to a sudden halt and then nearby, a large yellow-rumped cacique colony present in a few pines kept us entertained. Walking to the car just round the corner, it was a remarkable change from most of the day to want to get into the shade and out of the hot sun, though our afternoon rum punch plus generous portions of cake helped, and a stunning tropical parula looking at us inquisitively from almost overhead as well. It was not all over though, as with a bit of whistling, we also brought a calling ferruginous pygmy-owl out towards the forest edge. Could we find it though?! It wasn't until we were variously looking either at or for a pair of black-tailed tityras which came in to investigate what was going on, that Wendy suddenly spotted it out in the open, almost directly above us. An excellent find.

Starting back, the 'weather' started again, though we had time to stop and listen to a couple of calling stripe-breasted spinetails, but it was a masterstroke to play a snatch of red-rumped woodpecker call on hearing a woodpecker tapping nearby, and after a merry run-around we had great views of this lovely small species.

Once again after dinner the option of a night walk was given, though only I decided to participate. A shame, as I found three red-naped and one clouded snake. All harmless and the only snakes I'd seen until now in four visits to Asa Wright.

Day 4: Sunday 12 February 2017

Arima Valley, Aripo Savannah, Manzanilla each, Nariva Swamp, Wallerfield

Wet and windy start AWNC, but dry for rest of day, clearing to sunny and quite hot on coast. Windy

Our pre-breakfast gathering on the verandah was a little more subdued than normal, now that we were more familiar with the local birds, though special sightings included a gorgeous golden-headed manakin and a brief long-billed starthroat for Bob.

Our first stop was in tall open forest beside the road. A calling yellow-olive flatbill caught Dave's attention immediately, though it suddenly disappeared. However, small birds were gathering thick and fast overhead in response to whistling pygmy-owl call, including a restless long-billed gnatwren and a couple of golden-fronted greenlets, though a nearby streaked xenops led us on a bit of a chase until finally stopping for all to see, and not before two yellow-olive flatbills sat out in full view too. A couple of rufous-browed peppershrikes then pushed in the act, putting in a much-wanted appearance as well to round off a very rewarding stop.

The drive down took us quickly onto the rather disturbed lowlands, where smooth-billed ani began to make themselves very visible, and chunky grey-breasted martins too. A large flock of Neotropical palm swifts fed in a frenzy over forest to one side as we passed and Nigel noticed a male yellow-hooded blackbird in a meadow, the rest of us catching up on the latter after lunch.

With a little time to spare, we stopped in forest near the coastal strip, trying for a couple of the special birds here. Two forest elaenias were quickly noted, though only Nigel managed to get on an ochre-ored flatbill before it zipped off into the forest. It was hot in the sun though, and not surprisingly, birds seemed reluctant to show themselves, even if I was short on time for taking a few snaps of the butterflies present. We stopped to take lunch at a picnic table on the windy Manzanilla Beach, with magnificent frigatebirds cruising effortlessly past overhead and plenty of brown pelicans fishing over the sea. The subsequent drive along through the coconut groves produced a couple of perched grey-lined hawks, three or four savannah hawks and a common black hawk or two, plus a lovely female red-crested woodpecker, looking for all the world like "Woody Woodpecker" with her crown feathers bent forward over her face by the strong wind.

We continued along the coastal road on the seaward side to the large Nariva Swamp, making a couple of stops to look into the impressive mangrove stands. A superb and very confiding black-crested antshrike put in a very welcome appearance, especially after one which had refused to appear at the forested site earlier in the morning, and patience further rewarded us with a couple of pairs of 'discrete' bicoloured conebills, and two much more colourful American pygmy kingfishers. Two brown-crested lycatchers rounded off the suite of new species of the mangroves here.

Turning off inland through nearby wet fields proved productive too, with great and western cattle egrets, plus our first striated herons in flight right near the start. A few wattled jacanas were in most of the larger wet channels, a group of southern lapwings loafed off one side and smaller birds included a couple of grey kingbirds on the wires as well as a lovely pair of yellow-chinned spinetails which popped up into long grass to take a look at us. Three or four dapper pied water-tyrants and a couple of equally smart white-headed marsh-tyrants were excellent additions. A movement in one field even revealed a large green iguana looking very nervous as it tried to move away from a few large trees, but got left rather out in the open in the middle of a double line of recently planted watermelons on a raised mud bed! The area was rewarding for raptors too, with a lovely pale morph long-winged harrier wafting over the fields, then a pair of yellow-headed caracaras as we left, plus two more pairs on the road ahead, plus a western osprey perched high on a dead tree off to one side as we returned through the coconut stand.

We returned as quickly as possible towards Wallerfield, despite the often frustratingly slow Sunday afternoon traffic for David, entering the site past hundreds of resting black vultures, plus a fine perched common black hawk. The quite large American field guides group were already at the site as we arrived,

though the large numbers of wonderfully noisy red-bellied macaws present in some tall moriche palms nearby seemed to ignore us, though remarkably remained very largely out of sight. A particularly potent rum punch and piece of cake helped to calm any nerves we may have had, though the real finale was the fantastic discovery by Wendy of a small group of exquisitely patterned common tent-making bats roosting under a green and tented palm leaf.

Day 5: Monday 13 February 2017

AWNC Oilbird trail, AWNC, 4 pm onwards Wallerfield

A fine and still start, with occasional breeze and drizzle early afternoon, but fine in the lowlands

Just about all the usual early morning suspects were at the feeders before breakfast, though a channel-billed toucan popped up onto the Bearded Bellbird canopy down the valley for a while, and a long-billed starthroat put in a typically very brief appearance at the hummingbird feeders.

In order to minimise disturbance to the famous oilbird colony, we teamed up with another four visitors and after a quick explanatory talk under the fruiting tree at the start of the trail, headed down with a member of staff along the quite steep path. At least it was much drier than the day before and not difficult to negotiate. A brief cocoa woodcreeper on the way down was scant reward, while a bright-rumped attila calling in the same valley as Dunston Cave (really a very narrow gorge) typically failed to show, though made noise.

It was a little trickier than usual getting everyone down to the viewing platform given the telescope present, but the improved views as a result were well worth the effort of having carried it down. Several of these surprisingly large peculiar birds were sitting in full view on a rather messy ledge, while the noise they also uttered on two occasions, clearly audible above the little stream, was also most peculiar (having given rise in the past to local names in S America such as little devils or devil birds). A few more could also be seen further in, sat on ledges on the rock walls and peering back at us, giving terrific views.

The walk back was also greatly enlivened when a small group of birds came through, including white-flanked antwren, a pair of red-crowned ant tanager, another cocoa woodcreeper, a stripe-breasted spinetail and even a flighty rufous-breasted wren for one or two. It was further greatly enlivened when our local found a tiny baby fer-de-lance snake coiled up on an arching root among fern fronds, giving a superb opportunity to observe and photograph this otherwise potentially dangerous species at close range. In addition, as if this wasn't enough, back up at the fruiting ficus, golden-crowned and white-bearded manakins and turquoise and bay-headed tanagers mixed with commoner species in a fine show. When a pair of gorgeous green-backed trogons flew in to join the fray though, we hit a purple patch, rounded off when two grey-lined hawks circled high over and a superb double-toothed kite pitched in and sat a dead branch in full view above us. Not bad for just 2 hours!

We started back towards the main building, but despite waiting unsuccessfully for some time to look for possible little hermit visiting the flowers, the significant numbers of people around, swelled by day visitors, meant we soon called it a day and went for a coffee. Dave popped in to say hello, helping us to refind a superb squirrel cuckoo in the big tree off the balcony and also mentioned that the hermits could be seen at the flowers beside the reception. So we tried there, drawing a blank again, but at least a gorgeous gold rim swallowtail provided a little distraction for the interested.

We spent the rest of the time before midday lunch either watching off the balcony or wandering around outside the rooms, with a yellow oriole pair building a nest in a bush being of particular note. I also noted how the sunnier weather had pulled out a better variety of small butterflies too, with a couple of brown skippers, including a blurry-striped longtail new for this trip.

Another walk was taken straight after lunch to try and make good use to the sunshine, with Nigel and I going up to the bird blind, though this wasn't nearly as interesting for birds as we'd hoped, despite a couple of chasing male great antshrikes on our return. The butterflies were good though, including a couple of

gorgeous tiny hairstreaks and two completely different skippers, the white-striped *Vettius marcus* and the 'funky' tanned blue skipper. Drizzle eventually forced us back a little early though.

We met on the verandah at 4 pm and headed off down to Wallerfield. A dead yellow-bellied puffing snake on the old runways was a sad sight, but still interesting to see. We returned to the same spot as before, noting Red-bellied Macaws up in the palms again, while two Sulphury Flycatchers, another Moriche Palm specialist, sat quietly allowing good views too. Of course, we couldn't avoid looking at those tent-making bats again, this time finding a packed group of 7 or 8 together, while a male Red-legged Honeycreeper sat in the flycatcher tree for a few minutes and a male Ruby Topaz hummingbird fed at some clumps of wild flowers briefly on the forest edge.

After enjoying the spectacle of the massing macaws, especially as they all spooked and flew around for a while producing a terrific din, tropical screech owls started calling as dusk fell, then we started with the first of multiple sightings of fantastic male pauraque 'cartwheeling' in flight at close range. After a short drive, we also enjoyed at least three white-tailed nightjars flying moth-like over and beside us, and to round off, a superb surprise common potoo adorning a post as it sat waiting for food to fly past.

Day 6: Tuesday 14 February 2017

Morning: Blanchisseuse Road, Aripo, Aripo Savannah area, Wallerfield

Afternoon: Half the group took an optional trip down to the Tamana Bat Caves, the rest stayed at AWNC

A lovely crystal clear day with a relatively fresh feel to it, though an intense sun

Leaving early to beat the heat a bit didn't quite work out completely to plan, since we picked up a puncture during our first stop in the forest on the way down. However, with another streaked xenops, plus our first plain-breasted spinetail and a gorgeous chestnut woodpecker already under our belts by then, we were certainly not complaining. Being as we parked at the end of stretch overlooking Cristophene vineyards, it also allowed terrific views out across the valley, and consequently gave us ample time to find a distant pair of white hawks circling on the opposite side of the valley and a red-legged honeycreeper amongst other small birds in the canopy below us.

After a very quick visit to a tyre repair centre, we popped round the corner and to a scruffy little side patch amongst some houses. Just seconds after we arrived, a masked yellowthroat sang, then flew past before reappearing in the roadside vegetation giving great views. A couple of largish flycatchers in the small trees were our first yellow-bellied elaenias, while below them a lovely pair of bran-coloured flycatchers (much prettier than their name suggests!), also nipped up from the grass and sat giving us great views in some low bare twigs.

We headed off again past the now inaccessible Aripo Livestock Station, though a careful u-turn was required when a fine male red-breasted blackbird was spotted sitting in a small bush just over the fence. It even came closer into the trees on the wide verge, with another further out in a small bush was singing as well.

Another short drive took us quickly to another 'stake-out', this time to watch a stunning pair of diminutive pearl kites at the nest, with mating also observed, while in a tree right overhead, some sharp twittering revealed a few tiny green-rumped parrotlets that were also present. Parrots are special, but the first pair were actually resting while clinging vertically head down on the side of a large bough! A small Asian mongoose also rushed across the road ahead at one point, before unexpectedly reappearing later, but at least Bob got a view before it shot off into the tall grass for good.

Time was running away, so we headed back to Wallerfield again in the hope of finding 'the' oriole, though our luck was out. A few noisy red-bellied macaws greeted us again, a male red-legged honeycreeper again provided a splash of colour, but otherwise it was rather quiet. Until Wendy almost trod on a roosting male pauraque under some trees that was, though once flushed it was nervous and quickly cartwheeled off again through the scrub and went deep into the bushes.

Back just after 11 a.m. meant we had a little time in the very sunny conditions around Asa Wright. I wandered off to see if there was more butterfly and dragonfly activity, especially towards the open patch of cleared stream, and was immediately well rewarded with great views of rubyspot and a couple of *Argia* damselflies, plus non-stopping dragonflies. In addition, two stunning butterflies also made their appearances, with a Cambridge blue (a massive hairstreak with shining sky blue upperwings) and a fabulously colourful 89 butterfly (Cramer's 88 to give it its proper name) finally settling and allowing a reasonable approach. Back at the main building, the birds from the balcony were still good, including a ruby topaz male again.

With the male members of the party wanting to try to witness one of the island's famous bat caves, but the ladies wanting a rest, we went our separate ways at 2:30 pm, with Dave driving us along a route through central Trinidad, finally climbing along a very potholed track through lovely forest. Indeed, just one stop here revealed a wealth of birds in a tremendous mixed flock, including a pair of green-backed trogons, male American redstart, a very late blackpoll warbler, a pair of blue dacnis, a streaked xenops, a forest elaenia and, best of all, a superb male white-winged becard.

Parking safely near some houses we immediately spotted a couple of Guianan red howler monkeys in a large bamboo patch, though it was only later that we heard their incredible raucous calls. The ten minute walk up the inclined road was unfortunately more than enough for Bob, with the thought of another 20 minutes up quite a steep forest path too much for him, but a couple of high flying plumbeous kites were well worth the effort. Indeed, he returned to the vehicle to wait for us, hearing two and seeing one male white-tailed nightjar in the process, just before dusk fell.

Nigel and I slowly worked our way up the mountainside behind Dave, not without some effort in the humid heat, but after 20 minutes reached the first opening to the cave complex. In fact, we could smell it some way before seeing it! Being shortly after 5 pm there was still lots of light, and no bats of course, but this was the main exit to the galleries below. Some 50 metres up the slope there was another much larger opening, with a rough route leading down into it over the prop roots of a huge tree, and once carefully negotiated, here there were bats. Hundreds of them in fact, of several species, either flying around the cavern in front, or variously lined-up under the roof or back wall. The bat guano formed quite a thick soft layer here, and was very attractive to some significant cockroaches on the ground, with plenty more in the rear part of the same cave, where there were far more bats. After a couple of pictures we left them in peace, not really imagining how there could be some million and a half individuals roosting below in the second and third galleries present under the metamorphosed limestone hill...

Back outside in the light, we had to wait for a while before they started appearing, so after washing hands and taking a drink, we had a light snack of biscuits too. It wasn't long before the first individuals started appearing in the entrance, spiralling up before finally spilling out over the top and flying off low down the slope through the thick forest. And then more, and more and more, until finally it was difficult to see the rear of the cave wall as a stream of bats poured out and down the slope past us. Indeed, it seemed peculiar to walk across this living stream without once being hit by anything, even though a few hit nearby leaves as they avoided us.

Peak activity just seemed to pass when the light was clearly disappearing for good and just 30 minutes after it having commenced, we started down by torchlight so as not to be left out all night. But it had been a remarkable experience! By sheer chance, one of the photos even shows one, if not two albino bats exiting the cave, which Dave had mentioned are present in very small number.

Back at Asa Wright, Mary and Wendy had had a very different afternoon, going for a refreshing dip in the chilly waters of the natural swimming pool before taking a look from the verandah, and even, after dinner, taking a night walk with local guide Barry, where we met them as we returned. We had seen a Trinidad

chevron tarantula on the security gate as we arrived back, whereas they had seen a variety of nocturnal minibeasts including Trinidad mountain crabs and even a ferruginous pygmy owl.

Day 7: Wednesday 15 February 2017

Waterloo area, Orange Valley, Carlibay (lunch) & Caroni Swamp

Cloud almost all day and very warm and humid

Leaving at the normal time, we headed out for almost two hours to reach the area of coast near Waterloo. This has shallow tidal coastal mudflats and forms the wintering grounds for a wealth of waders (of the shorebird and heron varieties) and our first stop produced a host of new species for the tour from the very first moment. These ranged from the mixed flocks of tiny semipalmated and western sandpipers, up in size through semipalmated plovers and a spotted sandpiper, through a few red knot and grey plovers, up again to a lesser and several greater yellowlegs, culminating with plentiful willet and a couple of Hudsonian whimbrels. A small group of black-necked stilts formed the icing on the cake, and these were just the shorebirds¹

Abundant little blue and a few tricoloured herons were scattered across the exposed flats, while several large flocks of birds roosting on or near the shoreline included almost 100 black skimmers (and few took off to illustrate their extraordinary feeding behaviour), hundreds of laughing gulls, plenty of brown pelicans and a few passing Neotropic cormorants. At least two western ospreys were also present, though the only fish we could see were a few four-eyed fish between some fishing boats. After also adding distant single great blue heron and a stunning adult 'day-glow' scarlet ibis, we moved on to find a decent rest stop, then diverted to a nearby road running through the mangrove edge to numerous fishing boats. OK, so it was a filthy site, with rubbish piled up by the tide along the roadside, but the birds didn't really seem to care! A couple of black-crested antshrikes appeared noisily, plus a briefly confiding bicoloured conebill, a pair of yellow-bellied elaenias kept us pondering about tyrant flycatchers again, while a very noisy period ensued when a pair of grey-necked wood rails starting yelling from deep in cover, followed by a pair of mangrove rails! The latter were finally seen by some as silhouettes walking through the small prop roots emerging from the mud, though the former simply refused to show.

Lunch was taken at a covered table by a small park at Carlibay. A lovely clean site and, once we'd finished, with some good birds too. A ringed kingfisher flew past along a channel in the adjacent forest, but far better views were obtained of a pair of stunning ferruginous pygmy owls low overhead in a leafy tree. We were also just leaving when a flock of gorgeous saffron finches suddenly appeared as hoped, including a male sitting in some bare twigs alongside an equally gaudy pair of yellow orioles.

We made the short transfer north to the Caroni Swamp at a slow pace. Not so much due to the traffic, but mainly as we stopped for a wonderfully reviving coffee at the first proper coffee shop we'd seen. We paused beside the mangrove before the boat trip. A male green-throated mango watched through the scope somehow enticed in and mated with a female, while a straight-billed woodcreeper on the edge of a channel was even briefly teased by Dave's green laser light while a very brief masked cardinal paused just enough for Nigel to take a look.

We started the gentle cruise out towards our final mooring area, passing along an amazing tunnel of tall mangroves on their sometimes incredible prop roots. Two superb Ruschenberg's tree boas were densely coiled close together out over the main channel, then an amazingly 'buried' but superb boat-billed heron was found by Dave roosting secretively in a mangrove. A few spotted sandpipers flew along the channels, while another great spot by Dave was a lovely group of proboscis bats vertically lined-up down the trunk of a tall mangrove and not looking too pleased at our presence! The enormous majority of the birds were, of course, the masses of snowy egrets, tricoloured herons and principally, the almost unbelievable 'day glow' scarlet ibis adults coming in to roost on a mangrove island, with some 5000 estimated to be present! Moored up on the opposite side of the lagoon, with rum punch in hand, was a great way to round off the day!

That said, even the notable volume of traffic on the way back paid off, with incredibly, two adult common (or sometimes called black- faced) opossums on the Asa Wright entrance road within 50 metres of each other as we progressed.

Day 8: Thursday 16 February 2017

Flight to Tobago, then Bon Accord Pools, Grafton Estate, Marionette Grand Pool, Blue Waters Inn

Largely fine and sunny, with plenty of broken cloud Tobago where thankfully it was rather breezy as it was very warm and humid

We were up early having packed late the night before, and despite Bob going down to the bank of flowers again to look for that last hermit, came back for our early breakfast late and empty handed. Oh well! We decided to go back down to the flowers for just one last look and connected almost immediately with a gorgeous feeding little hermit. Bob and Nigel went further down to the ficus tree once again, not only connecting with a pair of Guianan trogons, but also a pair of great antshrikes, and finally everyone saw them.

The trip to the airport wasn't uneventful either, with Dave suddenly pulling over on the airport entrance road and, as we reversed onto a bridge to look down a deep channel, so a decent spectacled caiman half ran and half swam off up a side-stream from where seconds later a superb adult cocoi heron stalked out in full view. We certainly hadn't actually expected a single new bird before leaving Trinidad, but three so far! The airport even held a couple of surprises, with a fine four-spotted sailor butterfly photographed perched on the outside of the terminal as we enjoyed a decent cup of coffee inside, and then in the waiting area, very much to our surprise, an aplomado falcon flew past across the edge of the runway, perched in some trees for a few minutes and then cruised off again. Sadly, Bob hadn't come into the waiting area by this stage and was also on the wrong side of the aircraft as we taxied out to the main runway, also missing a superb juvenile northern crested caracara stalking about on the grass as we accelerated for take-off. A new bird an hour as Nigel noted!

After the short flight to Tobago, we walked out to be greeted by local guide Gladwyn James, only to discover that we should have brought our picnic lunch with us. Well, no problem as we dropped into a local resort and ordered a varied assortment of local dishes for a relaxed sit-down lunch in the shade. Carib grackles and even a couple of eared doves were noted in the grounds, along with an anole lizard under the roof covering.

Our first main stop was beside some mangroves, with a few Caribbean martins flying overhead, but very little else, so after battling with a few mosquitoes (and losing in my case) we moved on the short distance to the Bon Accord water treatment plant pools. The locals have decided to start to charge for entry, so we stood outside the fence (first on the bus given the extra height, and then outside) and quickly notched up a variety of new species. A few anhingas, a couple of least grebes, and amusingly for us, the rarest bird of the trip, a grey heron. The nearby great blue and little blue herons and western cattle egrets made for interesting comparisons. The next pool, largely covered by water hyacinth held a significant number of wattled jacanas, though the common gallinules (our moorhen equivalent, though sounding very different) and three lovely sora rails creeping about on the floating mat were welcome additions.

We crept along some nearby roads afterwards, with the high tide meaning many ditches held water and waders present often up the banks and in the shade of the trees. Various greater and lesser yellowlegs, several times side by side provided a terrific comparison, while a couple of solitary sandpipers pretended to be more spotted, though sat still and gave terrific close views. Our first green heron ahead was more flighty, along with single great and snowy egrets and tricoloured heron.

With time running on we headed next to the Grafton estate. It was early afternoon and before feeding time, but we still enjoyed a good walk round. As we arrived a couple of rufous-vented chachalacas, the official bird of Tobago, flapped up into the trees, a superb Trinidad motmot sat out on a branch in front at

eye level in full view (proving just how much commoner they are on Tobago than Trinidad), then a terrific mangrove cuckoo called from the tree overhead, complete with large katydid in its beak. No sooner had this moved on than we were then distracted yet again, this time by a calling female red-crowned woodpecker, with its mate appearing shortly afterwards. Hmm. The new species per hour rate was being shattered!

During a short walk along a rather unkempt trail, Gladwyn teased out a few more birds, including a nesting rufous-breasted hermit, yellow-bellied elaenia, two ochre-ored flatbills, cocoa woodcreeper and a very furtive northern white-fringed antwren. Trailing slightly behind the group I also noticed an electron pixie... Yes, this is the real name for a pretty, little blue-striped black butterfly with red spots. Another motmot and a calling rufous-tailed jacamar almost rounded off the birds along the trail, though a scrub greenlet also appeared, though sitting up against the sun in tall bamboo was not helpful for seeing it well.

We returned and then made the short journey to look over the main pool on the Magdalena Grand Hotel grounds. This seemed basically empty at first, though plenty of anhingas, a couple of Neotropic cormorants, a small flock of western cattle egrets and single tricoloured heron, great and snowy egrets were noted feeding around the edge. A large peregrine falcon then cruised over, and stooped at speed in a shallow dive low across the lake, suddenly rising just before reaching the eyes of a spectacled caiman floating out in the open water. The falcon then proceeded to circle around multiple times, sometimes even passing amongst and through the trees to spook the anhingas and cormorants present, even causing three of the former to take urgent evasive action by folding their wings in flight and dropping in ungainly fashion with a tremendous splash into the water. A flying western cattle egret also only just escaped its intentions, though even a few treetops adjacent to the lake lost a few crown leaves as it appeared to take out its frustration on them, lashing out its talons as it passed.

An adult black-crowned night heron peered out from dense vines on a small island where a huge colourful green iguana was also resting in the sun, though with the time advancing, we finally called it a day and started the 90-minute transfer along the Atlantic coast to the far corner of the island. Another peregrine was noted on the way, plus a few brown pelicans, but little else of note was seen except for the views, including of Goat Island and Little Tobago beyond it as we reached the Speyside area.

Checking in was easy and we were soon in our sea-view rooms. There was even enough light for me to go for a gentle swim along the shore and enjoy the warm and very salty water of the bay, despite a stiff onshore breeze. Dinner on the verandah with the sea lapping on the beach just yards way was a very pleasant affair, with a wide variety of meat and especially fish and seafood dishes on offer making it a difficult choice...

Day 9: Friday 17 February 2017

Morning BWI, Little Tobago excursion; afternoon relax

A stiff onshore breeze and good swell at sea; mostly sunny morning, with variable cloud afternoon; very warm and humid

The early risers, apart from hearing the din of the chachalacas and loudly singing mockingbird from 5 am onwards, also enjoyed watching an adult yellow-crowned night heron feeding on crabs on the beach. The flock of nine 'resident' ruddy turnstones also wandered up my steps to be fed by hand.

We met at 9 am to finalise details of our pre-arranged boat trip, but talking to our boat guide a little beforehand, he said we'd be leaving at 1030. So, we took the short walk up to the entrance gate and along the first part of the Starwood Trace, just beyond. A noisy red-crowned woodpecker and a pair of apparently nest-building yellow-bellied elaenias were noted as we walked through the hotel compound, while only a short way up the trace, a few scrub greenlets, barred antshrikes, furtive brown-crested flycatchers and also a tricky to see fuscous flycatcher were noted, plus a couple of gorgeous Trinidad motmots and metallic plumaged rufous-tailed jacamars.

We finally left a few minutes late and after stalling near Little Tobago to let some large breakers in, followed in on flat water and carefully approached the concrete jetty. The walk was taken at an easy pace up the quite steep path, with a few stops to talk about the remarkable history of the island and its former inhabitants, including the introduced birds of paradise. A few native plants and animals, including a rare ocellated gecko and coal snake (AKA Trinidad racer) were noted en route up, though birds were very few in number until we reached the main lookout, where we could see out to the north and east over the Caribbean. Here, elegant red-billed tropicbirds were playing in the currents rising up the cliffs and red-footed and brown boobies nesting on the trees on the cliffs below. We watched out for some time, unsuccessfully hoping to pick out the adult white-tailed tropicbird which puts in sporadic appearances, but did manage to see a couple of attacks on the tropicbirds by marauding magnificent frigatebirds, their piratical nature really coming to the fore as they bore down in surprisingly fast and agile flight on their hapless victims. OK, so they were only wanting to get the tropicbirds to regurgitate their prey, but the lack of tail feathers on several adults illustrated how 'persuasive' the frigatebirds can be.

The quicker return was punctuated to look at a tricky "Chivi" vireo plus an extraordinary male white-tailed nightjar that was roosting on the side of the path at about shoulder height, just metres from where we'd all trooped up, and indeed most of us down past it, without seeing it.

Boarding the boat was actually trickier than the landing, with the even lower tide making the wave action worse. We took a slow cruise back over Angel Reef, with a diversity of corals and seabed life, including plenty of fish, a hawksbill turtle and even a couple of comb jellyfish floating past.

The rest of the day was spent resting around the hotel, including a swim or two, siesta or three and even the odd walk. All this was much enjoyed following the morning's excursion, which given the heat, humidity and climb, had tired us more than we had appreciated.

Day 10: Saturday 18 February 2017

Pre-breakfast BWI, morning Starwood Trace and Speyside; afternoon BWI

A rather clear and fine, hot and sunny morning; clouding over from early afternoon and even rain; broken cloud rest of day. Breezy morning, dropping to stiller in evening.

After noting the usual common suspects at BWI first thing, we also picked up a few more just on the walk up to the gate including a pair of yellow-bellied elaenias and a calling red-crowned woodpecker amongst them.

Turning up the Starwood Trace along the good dirt road through scrub it was clear that it was going to be hot from the start. Numerous butterflies were already on the wing, from large gold rim swallowtails and apricot sulphurs, down to the abundant diminutive hanno's and Cassius blues, plus at least seven species of skipper from the aptly named whirlabout to large blurry-striped longtail, plus a variety of yellows from the dinky venusta yellow, through a lime green species to cloudless sulphur, with false nymphidium and Caribbean buckeye noted for variety too. The heat was great for the numerous small green ameiva lizards as well.

It was hard to keep up with the birds as well though, partly as they were tending to keep deep in the bushes and in partial shade at least. Noisy scrub greenlets (AKA Tobagan chiffchaffs) were common, as were black-fronted grassquits along the first part of the walk. More difficult were various flycatchers, including ochre-lore latbill, brown-crested flycatcher and even a confusing Tropical kingbird, while a couple of northern white-fringed antwrens gave most the slip, though not so some of the many barred antshrikes. Overhead, tremendous numbers of magnificent frigatebirds poured over in an almost continuous stream from the south-west, heading basically towards their huge nesting colony on St Giles Island. A single peregrine also put in a brief appearance.

We walked as far as to look down into the beautiful blue waters and extensive reef a little offshore of the lovely Belmont Bay, even spotting a small hawksbill turtle idling on the surface for a moment before it suddenly dived sharply down and disappeared.

It may have been a hot walk back, but three of us also decided to detour down to the old mill area at Speyside to see if there was anything different. An immature yellow-headed Caracara flying off from some rubbish was good reward, and with a spotted sandpiper on the beach and a pair of southern lapwings on some grass, the variety was rapidly increasing. A grey kingbird flew onto nearby wires, some green-rumped parrotlets squeaked from nearby trees, a little blue heron fed in a river and a fine adult green heron flew off some vines down to the river. A good variety.

It was very hot though, so I wandered down to the river's edge and into the shade to look at the lovely dragonlet and twinstot dragonflies present. However, this clearly didn't appear to be an adequate activity according to the two military personal who were passing in an unmarked pickup though, who almost screeched to a halt on seeing me and then asked Nigel and Bob twice, what was I doing. "Photographing dragonflies" appears to be so unlikely as an excuse for dubious activities, that after needing repetition, they then wound the window up and drove off without a word.

We took a cold drink at midday before lunch, hearing how the American party had been successful up in the Main Ridge forest that morning, and looked forward to our excursion there the following day.

The afternoon, including during a wet interval with some quite heavy rain was taking up resting, plus a little seawatching from the hotel first, then later for Nigel and myself from by the cannons at the entrance gate. Many red-footed boobies and plenty of brown boobies were passing just beyond Little Tobago, and until an hour before sunset, lots of red-billed tropicbirds were wheeling over and around Goat Island, before suddenly they all disappeared... A large flock of magnificent frigatebirds to the right were part of a feeding frenzy offshore, with some large terns, presumably royal terns, also noted. Our final additions were a merlin, which powered up to enormous height before suddenly going into repeated aerial chases of some Caribbean martins we'd never have seen otherwise.

Day 11: Sunday 19 February 2017

Main Ridge including Gilpin Trace; afternoon BWI

A partly cloudy start, with a heavy rain shower mid morning, then clearing to a hot fine afternoon; breezy

It was a little quiet on the first part of the drive up into the remarkable Main Ridge forest reserve, which was first established in 1764, indeed being the first national reserve in the Western Hemisphere. But, then we hit something of a purple patch at a 'quick' stop. A Venezuelan flycatcher on twigs beside the road was the first of two, though almost no sooner had we got out than a small chunky black bird flying off was the first of around 20 sightings of blue-backed manakins during the day, and with lots more heard. A male collared trogon sat quietly high up, single cocoa woodcreeper and golden-olive woodpecker appeared, and our first Trinidad motmot of several appeared too. A furtive red-eyed "Chivi" vireo slipped away above us through dense foliage. Not a bad little stop!

Further up we paused again to see a little more of the same, but with a 3,000 passenger cruise ship having docked that morning at the main harbour, we feared a massive influx of visitors and so rapidly continued up to the small visitors centre on the top of the ridge where we had a comfort stop and also ate our box breakfast sandwiches with views out over the Caribbean side.

We were soon back down at the start of the Gilpin Trace to commence a couple of hours walk in superb rainforest. Calling single olivaceous woodcreeper and grey-throated leaf-tosser were close to the track entrance, but refused to show. The first of several male and a few female black-backed manakins were calling, and finally gave good views, though a close displaying male unfortunately spooked before we could watch its quivering dance at close range. Gladwyn was also proud to show us a selection of hummingbird nests, including that of our first white-tailed sabrewing, and the nests and adults of rufous-breasted hermit,

white-necked jacobin, copper-rumped hummingbird and also a pair of stripe-throated spinetails present. A few more sabrewings were seen as we progressed, one coming down to bathe in the stream below us, its tail flashing in the dark forest floor.

After a 'false start' our second yellow-legged thrush was a gorgeous singing bird, and certainly not just a 'funky blackbird'. A few white-necked thrushes were present too, while excellent views of a fine fuscous flycatcher suggested it was breeding nearby and a typically furtive rufous-breasted wren was enjoyed briefly as well.

We stopped just before the trail started to descend, enjoying three lesser white-lined bats hanging under a large leaf and a fine trail of leaf-cutter ants that were busy recycling the forest. We waited a little here before commencing our return as a heavy shower descended, this even passing through the canopy. It soon passed over however, giving way to largely clear and sunny weather for the rest of the day.

We popped back up to the visitor's centre for a quick and unsuccessful look for raptors, though a few birds passing overhead were grey-rumped swifts, plus had an overview of the island using a rough model present combined with Gladwyn's accompanying chat. A few more Trinidad motmots and a female collared trogon were on the roadside as we returned, but other birds were all but absent and we returned just in time for lunch at 1 p.m.

A relaxing afternoon on the beach or in the hotel was enjoyed by all. Given the near-absence of visible seabirds compared to the previous afternoon, we desisted from trying a short watch again.

Having decided to check-in for our return flight online between ordering our food and receiving it, we enjoyed a great final meal and we all got seats we more or less wanted.

Day 12: Monday 20 February 2017

King's Bay Trace, BWI for lunch, transfer to airport via Bon Accord pools, flight to UK via Antigua

Cloud, but otherwise warm and fine with good breeze locally

Due to a clash with another group the day before, Gladwyn returned to pick us up at 8 a.m. today, taking us the short distance round to the start of the King's Bay Trace. Though we really didn't expect to pick up much new, one or two birds were still a possibility, and it was an easy option given that we needed to be back for final packing before 12, and out of the rooms by 1 pm.

Little was visible at first, though even on our own we picked up the first two of three fuscous flycatchers for the morning, and the first blue-black and black-faced grassquits. The first individuals of that stunning pair of species, Trinidad motmot and rufous-tailed jacamar both quickly appeared, followed by several others of each during the walk, while further birds of particular note included red-legged honeycreepers, barred antshrikes, rufous-breasted wren, ochre-lobed flatbill and ochre-bellied and brown-crested flycatchers. Nigel spotted a giant cowbird flying over, which both Gladwyn and I missed as we were talking about butterflies, though another (or the same) later confirmed the identity and added another new species to our finally tally. Regular scans of the skies also finally revealed a pair of much wanted great black hawks, way better than the one the previous day, which we'd only heard calling over the Main Ridge forest, and especially as we were all present today.

A cocoa woodcreeper was again seen at close range, while other tree creepers included at least four red-rumped woodpeckers and a pair of red-crowned at a nest hole, apparently guarding it from a pair or two of diminutive green-rumped parrotlets! Another nest we watched for a little while was of a rufous-breasted hermit, while the bird was constructing it, and it was amazing to see an adult bringing in spiders' webs, which it then used to bind the top of the tiny hanging cup to the hanging leaflet by flying round and round it in perfect circles at speed. Quite extraordinary!

There were a few butterflies present, including numerous satyrs, and towards the end, as the sun came out and the temperature rose, abundant and very red red anartias. A couple of tiny handkerchief and gold rim swallowtails, plus another of the extraordinary black, blue, lime green and white, white-tailed page moths floated past. A pity I'd misunderstood Gladwyn's accent when he said "Look, mot", thinking it was a motmot over Nigel's head, as it took off just as I glimpsed it was hanging in full view.

We were soon back at the viewpoint, complete with crafts stall, where a few simple purchases of engraved coconut and calabash handicrafts were made, before returning in good time to the hotel for a shower, change and final pack before exiting our rooms at 1 pm. Our once again very tasty final lunch was taken on the bar balcony as usual.

The end of our final typically relaxed lunch saw us rush out as whistling raptors flew over, these being two broad-winged hawks, with another also noted on the journey towards the airport, and two western ospreys en route as well! In fact, with time to kill before the flight, Gladwyn agreed to take us on a short detour round the roads beside the Bon Accord pools again. Once again this was very rewarding, with greater and lesser yellowlegs, solitary and spotted sandpipers, green, tricoloured and little blue herons along the channels, and on the pools, a fine extra assemblage, including great blue and grey heron, lots of wattled jacanas and common gallinules, a least grebe, male belted kingfisher, three sora rails again, and a superb adult purple gallinule. Just minutes from the airport and we'd seen another new species! Nevertheless, this still wasn't the end, with a narrow channel ahead also harbouring our first duck of the trip, with three gorgeous white-cheeked pintails feeding in the shadows as a finale to the tour.

Check-in was a breeze, the tiny international terminal lounge (with just two gates) just right, housing a snack stall, crafts shop, minimal duty free shops and clean loos. We bought various snacks, presents and bottles for our return, killed further time filling out a small questionnaire being handed out and rounded off with the final call over, taking us perfectly up to boarding time. The largely empty plane left spot on time, and then after refuelling in Antigua, where it filled with passengers, left early for Gatwick even arriving a little early.

Species Lists

Note that the bird names and list follow the taxonomy and names used by F. Gill and M. Wright. 2008 (updated 2016), *Birds of the World: Recommended English Names*. Princeton University Press. This differs significantly in order, but only slightly in the common and scientific names used when compared to most field guides currently in use.

I also wish to thank Dr Matthew J.W. Cock for his immense help in the ID of all the butterflies and moths photographed.

BIRDS - AVES

GEESE, SWANS & DUCKS - Anatidae

White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis* : 3 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS, GUANS - Cracidae

Rufous-vented Chachalaca *Ortalis ruficauda* : 6+ various sites on 16Feb lots Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, plenty Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, lots various sites on 19Feb, lots Blue Waters Inn+ on 20Feb.

Trinidad Piping Guan *Pipile pipile* : 1 briefly in flight Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.

GREBES - Podicipedidae

Least Grebe *Tachybaptus dominicus* : 2-3 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

TROPICBIRDS - Phaethontidae

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus* : Lots Little Tobago on 17Feb, lots Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, a few Goat Island on 19Feb, plenty Goat Island+ on 20Feb.

IBISES & SPOONBILLS - Threskiornithidae

Scarlet Ibis *Eudocimus ruber* : 4-5000 coming to roost Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

HERONS & BITTERNS - Ardeidae

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius* : 1 Caroni Swamp was an amazing find on 15Feb.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* : 1 adult Magdalena Hotel Pool on 16Feb.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron *Nyctanassa violacea* : (1 adult en route) on 16Feb, 1 adult Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 1 adult Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, 1 adult Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb, 1 adult + 1 juvenile Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Green Heron *Butorides virescens* : 1 Bon Accord on 16Feb, 1 adult Speyside on 18Feb, 2 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* : 5 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* : Plenty from our incoming plane (!) in the Caroni swamp on 9Feb, 20+ Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 6+ en route on 14Feb, plenty various sites on 15Feb, lots various sites on 16Feb, 5-6 en route on 19Feb, lots en route on 20Feb.

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* : 1 Waterloo area on 15Feb, 1 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Cocoi/White-necked Heron *Ardea cocoi* : 1 Trinidad airport on 16Feb.

Great [White] Egret *Ardea alba* : 4 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 6+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, several Bon Accord Pools+ on 16Feb, 5 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor* : Abundant on coast + Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, several Bon Accord Pools+ on 16Feb, 3 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* : Abundant on coast + Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, a couple Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 adult Speyside on 18Feb, 4 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* : 1 St Lucia airport on 9Feb, Abundant on coast + Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, a few Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* : 1 immature Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 immature Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

PELICANS - Pelecanidae

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* : Plenty Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, abundant on coast Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, several en route on 16Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, a few Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb a few Blue Waters Inn on 20Feb.

FRIGATEBIRDS - Fregatidae

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 30+ Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, (4 Asa Wright Nature Centre) on 13Feb, several Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, plenty various sites on 16Feb, abundant Blue Waters Inn + Little Tobago on 17Feb, abundant Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, abundant Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb, hundreds Blue Waters Inn on 20Feb.

GANNETS & BOOBIES - Sulidae

Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* : 25 Little Tobago on 17Feb, lots Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, plenty offshore Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb.

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* : 15 Little Tobago+ on 17Feb, plenty Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, several Goat Island on 19Feb, several off Blue Waters Inn on 20Feb.

CORMORANTS - Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic/Olivaceous Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus (=olivaceus)* : 10+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, 2 Magdalena Hotel Pool on 16Feb.

ANHINGAS / DARTERS - Anhingidae

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* : 15 various sites on 16Feb.

NEW WORLD VULTURES - Cathartidae

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* : Plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, few Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, abundant various sites on 12Feb, plenty various sites on 13Feb, lots various sites on 14Feb, several various sites on 15Feb, plenty en route on 16Feb.

[American] Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* : Plenty en route on 9Feb, plenty Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, abundant various sites on 12Feb, abundant various sites on 13Feb, abundant various sites on 14Feb, abundant various sites on 15Feb, lots en route on 16Feb.

OSPREYS - Pandionidae

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* : 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 5+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 1 Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 2 en route on 20Feb.

KITES, HAWKS & EAGLES - Accipitridae

Pearl Kite *Gampsonyx swainsonii* : Pair Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb.

Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus* : 1 adult Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Long-winged Harrier *Circus buffoni* : 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* : 2 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

White Hawk *Leucopternis albicollis* : 3 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, pair Arima Valley on 14Feb.

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* : 7 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, several Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 4 various sites on 12Feb, 1+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1+ Arima Valley on 14Feb.

Savannah Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis* : 4 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, (1 Aripo en route) on 13Feb, 1-2 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 1 en route on 15Feb.

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* : Heard Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, pair Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Grey-lined Hawk *Buteo nitidus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 3+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 2 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus* : 2 Little Tobago on 17Feb, 1 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 2 Blue Waters Inn + 1 en route on 20Feb.

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 1 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb.

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS - Rallidae

- Mangrove Rail** *Rallus longirostris* : 2 seen by half the group and heard by all Orange Valley on 15Feb.
Grey-necked Wood Rail *Aramides cajaneus* : 2 calling very loudly heard by all Orange Valley on 15Feb.
Sora *Porzana carolina* : 3 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 3 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
[American] Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica* : 1 adult Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* : 15+ Bon Accord Pools on 16th, lots Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

STILTS & AVOCETS - Recurvirostridae

- Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus* : 5 Waterloo area + lots in a roadside pool Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

PLOVERS & LAPWINGS - Charadriidae

- Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis* : 18 various sites on 12Feb, 3+ Wallerfield on 13Feb, plenty Waterloo area+ on 15Feb, 2+ Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 2 Speyside on 18Feb, plenty Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
Grey/Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* : 3+ Waterloo area on 15Feb.
Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus* : 8+ Waterloo area on 15Feb.

JACANAS - Jacanidae

- Wattled Jacana** *Jacana jacana* : 10 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 7-8 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb & plenty there on 20Feb.

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES & allies - Scolopacidae

- [Hudsonian] Whimbrel** *Numenius [phaeopus] hudsonicus* : 2 Waterloo area on 15Feb, 1 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb.
Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* : 8+ Waterloo area on 15Feb, 6+ Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 5+ Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* : 1 Waterloo area on 15Feb, 3 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb & 4 there on 20Feb.
Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria* : 2 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 3 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* : 40+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.
Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* : 6+ Waterloo area + Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 9 Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 Speyside on 18Feb, 3 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* : 12+ Orange Valley on 15, 7-9 Blue Waters Inn daily 16-20Feb.
Red Knot *Calidris canutus* : 6+ Waterloo area on 15Feb.
Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* : 30+ Waterloo area on 15Feb.
Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri* : 10+ Waterloo area on 15Feb.

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS - Laridae

- Black Skimmer** *Rynchops niger* : 95 Waterloo area on 15Feb.
Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla* : 300+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.
Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* : 4 Waterloo area on 15Feb.
Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* : 19 Waterloo area on 15Feb.

PIGEONS & DOVES - Columbidae

- Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia* : Lots various sites on 12Feb, a few en route on 13Feb, plenty en route on 14Feb, several various sites on 15Feb, a few en route on 16Feb.
Scaly-naped Pigeon *Patagioenas squamosa* : Heard Little Tobago on 17Feb.
Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 3+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb..
Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis* : 1 Carlibay on 15Feb, lots Tobago on 16Feb, a few Little Tobago on 17Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, plenty various sites on 19Feb, lots various sites on 20Feb.
Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti* : 25+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, plenty Nariva Swamp+ on 12Feb, several en route on 13Feb, plenty Aripo Savannah area+ on 14Feb, abundant various sites on 15Feb, plenty Tobago on 16Feb, several en route on 19Feb, lots various sites on 20Feb.
White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* : 1 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 16Feb, several Little Tobago+ on 17Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, several various sites on 19Feb.

Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla* : Heard Blanchisseuse Road on 11th, heard Aripo Savannah area on 12th, heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, heard Arima Valley on 14Feb.

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* : 1 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 3 Tobago on 16Feb, plenty en route on 19Feb, lots Bon Accord Pools+ on 20Feb.

CUCKOOS - Cuculidae

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* : 30+ various sites on 12Feb, few Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 7+ Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 6+ en route on 16Feb, 12+ en route on 20Feb.

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* : 1 Brasso Seco on 11Feb.

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Mangrove Cuckoo : 1 Grafton on 16Feb.

OWLS - Strigidae

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba* : 3+ sadly only heard Wallerfield on 13Feb.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11th, heard Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 2 Carlibay on 15Feb.

OILBIRD - Steatornithidae

Oilbird *Steatornis caripensis* : 4+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

POTOOS - Nyctibiidae

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus* : 1 Wallerfield on 13Feb.

NIGHTJARS - Caprimulgidae

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* : 6+ Wallerfield on 13Feb, 1 male Wallerfield on 14Feb.

White-tailed Nightjar *Hydrosalis cayennensis* : 2+ Wallerfield on 13Feb, 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb, 1 male Little Tobago on 17Feb.

SWIFTS - Apodidae

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris* : Plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, lots Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, plenty Main Ridge on 19Feb, plenty Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura* : Plenty Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, several Little Tobago on 17Feb, c. 10 Speyside on 18Feb, several Main Ridge on 19Feb, a few Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Neotropical Palm Swift *Tachornis squamata* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty en route on 12Feb, 7+ Wallerfield on 13Feb, 4+ Wallerfield on 14Feb, 1 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

HUMMINGBIRDS - Trochilidae

Rufous-breasted Hermit *Glaucis hirsutus* : Several Asa Wright Nature Centre daily 10-13Feb, 1 Grafton on 16Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, several Gilpin Trace+ on 19Feb, a few Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre one to several daily 10-16Feb.

Little Hermit *Phaethornis longuemareus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb.

White-tailed Sabrewing *Campylopterus curvipennis* : 10 sightings Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* : Particularly common at Asa Wright Nature Centre with 30+ daily 10-16Feb, plus 1 on nest Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 2 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Green-throated Mango *Anthracothorax viridigula* : A pair mating Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis* : Common in variable number at Asa Wright Nature Centre daily 10th-16Feb, & at Blue Waters Inn a 'pair' on 18Feb, 1 male on 19th & a pair on 20Feb.

Ruby-topaz Hummingbird *Chrysolampis mosquitos* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre + 1 Wallerfield on 13Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 1 male Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb & 18Feb, and pair Blue Waters Inn on 20Feb

Tufted Coquette *Lophornis ornatus* : 3-5+ daily Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10-16Feb

Blue-chinned Sapphire *Chlorestes notatus* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre a few daily 10-15Feb.

White-chested Emerald *Amazilia brevirostris* : Plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10-16Feb, and plenty more at various sites on 12-14Feb

Copper-rumped Hummingbird *Amazilia tobaci* : Lots Asa Wright Nature Centre and elsewhere Trinidad daily 10-16Feb, plus several Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb, plenty various sites on 19Feb, lots various sites on 20Feb.

Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris* : 1 male Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb, 1 there on 12Feb, 2 there on 13Feb and 14Feb, plus 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb.

TROGONS - Trogonidae

Green-backed Trogon *Trogon viridis* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, a lovely pair Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, a pair Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

Guianan Trogon *Trogon violaceus* : 3 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, heard Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, heard Arima Valley on 12Feb, heard Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb, pair Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb.

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, male + female Main Ridge on 19Feb.

KINGFISHERS - Alcedinidae

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* : 2 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* : 1 very briefly Carlibay on 15Feb.

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon* : 1 male Blue Waters Inn on 17, 18 and 19Feb,, 1 male Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

MOTMOTS - Momotidae

Trinidad Motmot *Momotus bahamensis* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 seen there on 14 Feb, 2 Grafton on 16Feb, 3-4 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, heard there on 18Feb, 4 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 6+ Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

JACAMARS - Galbulidae

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, heard Wallerfield on 13Feb, heard Grafton on 16Feb, 4 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 6 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 12+ Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

TOUCANS - Ramphastidae

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

WOODPECKERS - Picidae

Red-crowned Woodpecker *Melanerpes rubricapillus* : Pair Grafton on 16Feb, 1 + heard Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, pair Blue Waters Inn + 1 Starwood Trace + 2 Speyside on 18Feb, pair Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Red-rumped Woodpecker *Veniliornis kirkii* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 4 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 3 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 14Feb, 1 Main Ridge + 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans* : 1 Arima Valley on 14th.

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* : Pair Blanchisseuse Road on 11th.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos* : 1 female Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, heard Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

FALCONS & allies - Falconidae

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima* : 6 Nariva Swamp + 2 Wallerfield on 12Feb, 1 juvenile Blue Waters Inn+ on 18Feb.

N Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* : 1 juvenile Port of Spain airport on 16Feb.

Merlin *Falco columbarius* : 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 2 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, 1 Main Ridge on 19Feb.

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis* : 1 Piarco Airport, Port of Spain on 16Feb.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* : 3 Tobago on 16Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 1 Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

PARROTS & allies - Psittacidae

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb

Orange-winged Amazon [Parrot] *Amazona amazonica* : 15+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 40+ various sites on 11Feb, plenty various sites on 12Feb, plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre + 2 Wallerfield on 13Feb, abundant various sites on 14Feb, plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb, several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb, several Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 2 Starwood Trace on 18Feb, plenty Main Ridge on 19Feb, lots Kings Bay Trace+ on 20Feb.

Green-rumped Parrotlet *Forpus passerinus* : 4 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 5+ Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, 2 Grafton on 16Feb, 6+ Speyside on 18Feb, 2-3 en route on 19Feb, 3-4 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilata* : 50+ Wallerfield on 12Feb, c. 200 Wallerfield on 13th, 4+ Wallerfield on 14Feb.

OVENBIRDS - Furnariidae

Stripe-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis cinnamomea* : 1 + heard Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 2 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb

Pale-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albescens* : 1 Arima Valley on 14Feb.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* : Pair Nariva Swamp on 12Feb..

Grey-throated Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus albigularis* : Heard Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 12Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb, 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus* : 1 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

Cocoa Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1 Grafton on 16Feb, 1 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

ANTBIRDS - Thamnophilidae

Great Antshrike *Taraba major* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 2 males Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, pair Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb.

Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus canadensis* : 1 male Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, a pair Orange Valley on 15Feb..

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 1 male + several females on 10Feb, 1-2 pairs 11Feb, 1 female there + 1 male Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb, 1 male there on 15 & 16Feb 1 male Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 5+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 2 pairs Main Ridge + Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 6+ Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Plain Antvireo *Dysithamnus mentalis* : Pair Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 male Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris* : 2 pairs Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 pair there on 13Feb.

Northern White-fringed Antwren *Formicivora intermedia* : 1 female Grafton on 16Feb, 1 male Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 1 female Starwood Trace + 1 male Speyside on 18Feb, 3+ Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

White-bellied Antbird *Myrmeciza longipes* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

ANTTHRUSHES - Formicariidae

Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10th, heard there on 13Feb.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS - Tyrannidae

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* : 2 Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster* : 2 Aripo on 14Feb, 2 Orange Valley on 15Feb, 1 Grafton on 16Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn + 1-2 Little Tobago on 17Feb, 2 Blue Waters Inn + 2 Speyside on 18Feb, 2 Main Ridge + 2 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, a few Kings Bay Trace+ on 20Feb.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb, 2 Arima Valley on 14Feb.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus* : 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb & 1-2 there daily 12-15Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 2 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Bran-colored Flycatcher *Myiophobus fasciatus* : Pair Arima on 14Feb.

Yellow-olive Flatbill *Tolmomyias sulphureus* : 2 Arima Valley on 12Feb.

- Ochre-ored Flatbill** *Tolmomyias flaviventris* : 1 Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, 2 Grafton on 16Feb, 2 Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Fuscous Flycatcher** *Cnemotriccus fuscatus* : 1 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 3 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Tropical Pewee** *Contopus cinereus* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1+ Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.
- Pied Waterloo area Tyrant** *Fluvicola pica* : 4 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.
- White-headed Marsh Tyrant** *Arundinicola leucocephala* : 2 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 1 en route on 15Feb.
- Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus* : 2 Brasso Seco + Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.
- Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* : 2+ Piarco airport on 9Feb, several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty Brasso Seco+ on 11Feb, lots various sites daily 12-15Feb, several en route on 16Feb, a few Blue Waters Inn+ on 17Feb.
- Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.
- Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.
- Sulphury Flycatcher** *Tyrannopsis sulphurea* : 2 Wallerfield on 13Feb.
- Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty various sites on 11, 12, 14h, 15 and 16Feb, 1+ Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, several Starwood Trace + Speyside on 18Feb, plenty various sites on 19 & 20Feb.
- Grey Kingbird** *Tyrannus dominicensis* : 2 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 1 Speyside on 18Feb, 1 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 1 en route on 20Feb.
- Venezuelan Flycatcher** *Myiarchus venezuelensis* : 2 Main Ridge on 19Feb.
- Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus* : 2 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 5+ Little Tobago on 17Feb, several Starwood Trace+ on 18Feb, 2 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

COTINGAS - Cotingidae

- Bearded Bellbird** *Procnias averano* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 2 males + others heard on 10Feb, 1 on 11Feb, heard on 12Feb, 1 daily 13-15Feb, and heard there on 16Feb.

MANAKINS - Pipridae

- Blue-backed Manakin** *Chiroxiphia pareola* : 10 + heard Main Ridge+ on 19Feb, heard Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- White-bearded Manakin** *Manacus manacus* : 4 males Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 5+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb.
- Golden-headed Manakin** *Ceratopipra erythrocephala* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 1 on 10Feb, 1 on 12Feb, 2+ 13Feb, 1 on 14Feb, a few on 15Feb & 10+ on 16Feb, plus 2+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb.

TITYRAS & BECARDS - Tityridae

- Black-tailed Tityra** *Tityra cayana* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road + 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb, pair Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.
- White-winged Becard** *Pachyramphus polychopterus* : 1 male Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

VIREOS & GREENLETS - Vireonidae

- Rufous-browed Peppershrike** *Cyclarhis gujanensis* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, heard Brasso Seco on 11Feb, 2 Arima Valley on 12Feb, heard Arima Valley on 14Feb.
- Red-eyed [Chivi] Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus chivi* : 1 Little Tobago on 17Feb, 1 + heard Main Ridge on 19Feb, heard Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Golden-fronted Greenlet** *Hylophilus aurantiifrons* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 2+ Arima Valley on 12Feb.
- Scrub Greenlet** *Hylophilus flavipes* : 1 + heard Grafton on 16Feb, 2 Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, plenty Starwood Trace on 18Feb, a few Main Ridge on 19Feb, several Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

SWALLOWS & MARTINS - Hirundinidae

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* : Several Piarco airport+ on 9Feb, 2 en route on 12Feb, 1 Wallerfield on 13Feb & 2 there on 14Feb, several various sites on 15 & 16Feb, 1 Tobago Airport on 20Feb.

Caribbean Martin *Progne dominicensis* : Several Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 2 Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, 2 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* : 8+ Brasso Seco+ on 11Feb, plenty MB+ on 12Feb, plenty Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb, plenty various sites on 15Feb, 10+ en route on 16Feb.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* : 2 Brasso Seco on 11Feb, several various sites on 12Feb, 2+ en route on 13Feb, 3+ Arima Valley on 14Feb, a few Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* : 2+ Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

WRENS - Troglodytidae

Rufous-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius rutilus* : Pair Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, heard Arima Valley on 14Feb, heard Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, several Brasso Seco+ on 11Feb, heard various sites on 12Feb, 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, a few various sites on 14Feb, a few various sites on 15Feb, 1 Grafton on 16Feb, heard Little Tobago on 17Feb, heard Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

GNATCATCHERS - Polioptilidae

Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus* : 1 Arima Valley on 12Feb.

MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS - Mimidae

Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* : 1 Piarco airport on 9th, several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty various sites daily 11-16Feb, lots Blue Waters Inn 17 & 18Feb, plus lots various sites 18-20Feb.

THRUSHES - Turdidae

Yellow-legged Thrush *Turdus flavipes* : 6 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb..

Cocoa Thrush *Turdus fumigatus* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre one to a few daily 10th-16Feb, and several at various Trinidad sites on 11Feb.

Spectacled Thrush *Turdus nudigenis* : Two to 7+ daily Asa Wright Nature Centre 10-14Feb, several various sites on 11Feb, 1 Orange Valley on 15Feb, 1 Grafton on 16Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn + 1 Little Tobago on 17Feb, 1+ Starwood Trace + 1 Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, 1 en route + 2 Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb, 1 Speyside on 20Feb.

White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre heard on 10Feb, plus singles 11, 12 & 16Feb, plus 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 3 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

FINCHES & allies - Fringillidae

Violaceous Euphonia *Euphonia violacea* : Abundant Asa Wright Nature Centre and elsewhere in forests on Trinidad on 10-16Feb.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS - Parulidae

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis* : 1 Brasso Seco + 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Arima Valley + 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 2+ heard Caroni Swamp on 15Feb, heard Bon Accord Pools on 16Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 19Feb.

Masked Yellowthroat *Geothlypis aequinoctialis* : 1 Aripo on 14Feb.

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla* : 1 male Brasso Seco on 11Feb, 1 female Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb, 1 male Orange Valley on 15Feb, 1 female Main Ridge on 19Feb.

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitaiayumi* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 2 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

Blackpoll Warbler *Setophaga striata* : 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

Mangrove Warbler *Dendroica petechia* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

NEW WORLD ORIOLES & BLACKBIRDS - Icteridae

Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris* : 2 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 1 Waterloo area on 15Feb.

- Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus* : Apart from plenty daily Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10-16Feb, and lots at other Trinidad sites on 11, 12, 14 & 15Feb, 2 Little Tobago on 17Feb, a few Starwood Trace+ on 18th, lots Main Ridge on 19Feb, several Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Yellow-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus cela* : Abundant Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, lots Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, several en route on both 14 & 15Feb
- Yellow Oriole** *Icterus nigrogularis* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 1-2 of a nest-building pair daily from 10Feb, plus 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb and 2 Carlibay on 15Feb.
- Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivorus* : 2 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis* : Pair Brasso Seco on 11Feb, 1 en route on 15Feb, 3 Speyside on 18Feb, 1 en route on 19Feb, 6 Speyside on 20Feb.
- Carib Grackle** *Quiscalus lugubris* : 150+ Piarco airport on 9Feb, 3-4 Brasso Seco on 11Feb, plenty to abundant various sites on 12, 14, 15, 16Feb, a few en route on 19Feb, plenty en route on 20Feb.
- Yellow-hooded Blackbird** *Chrysomus icterocephalus* : 1 en route + 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 4+ Orange Valley on 15Feb.

BANANAQUIT - Coerebidae

- Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola* : Abundant Trinidad just about everywhere daily 10-16Feb, lots Blue Waters Inn+ on 17 & 18Feb, lots various sites on 19Feb & lots including eating sugar at table BWI on 20Feb.

TANAGERS, NEW WORLD FINCHES & allies - Thraupidae

- Masked Cardinal** *Paroaria nigrogenis* : 1 briefly Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.
- White-lined Tanager** *Tachyphonus rufus* : Common to abundant in Trinidad forests including Asa Wright Nature Centre daily on 10-16Feb, 2+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 8+ Main Ridge on 19Feb, a few Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Silver-beaked Tanager** *Ramphocelus carbo* : 12+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, a few various sites on 11Feb and on 12Feb, plus a few Asa Wright Nature Centre and various other sites 13-16Feb.
- Blue-grey Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus* : Common: plenty in Trinidad forests, including Asa Wright Nature Centre daily 10-16Feb, plenty Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, plenty Starwood Trace+ on 18Feb, lots various sites on 19Feb, lots Kings Bay Trace+ on 20Feb.
- Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum* : Abundant Trinidad and seen daily 10-16Feb, plus several Piarco airport+ on 9Feb, and plenty Blue Waters Inn+ on 17Feb, various sites on 19Feb, and various sites on 20Feb.
- Turquoise Tanager** *Tangara mexicana* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 6+ on 10Feb, 2+ on 11Feb, 1 on 12Feb, 2+ on 13Feb, 6+ on 14Feb, plus 4-5 various sites on 11Feb.
- Speckled Tanager** *Tangara guttata* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.
- Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola* : 12+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 7+ various sites on 11Feb, 2 Arima Valley on 12Feb, 5+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, plenty various sites on 14Feb, several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 16Feb.
- Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana* : 2 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, pair Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.
- Purple Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes caeruleus* : Abundant all forested sites on Trinidad daily from 10-16Feb.
- Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus* : 4 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1 male Wallerfield on 13Feb, 2+ Arima Valley on 14Feb, 1 en route on 15Feb, 1 Main Ridge on 19Feb, 3 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza* : Common all forested sites on Trinidad daily from 10-16Feb
- Bicolored Conebill** *Conirostrum bicolor* : 4 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 1+ Orange Valley + 1 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.
- Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* : About 10 Carlibay on 15Feb
- Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina* : 4+ Brasso Seco+ on 11Feb, plenty Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, few Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb, 1 male Grafton on 16Feb, few Blue Waters Inn on 17Feb, 7-8 Starwood Trace on 18, several en route on 19Feb, lots Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.
- Black-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris bicolor* : 2 males + 2+ females Starwood Trace on 18Feb, plenty Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS & allies - Cardinalidae

- Red-crowned Ant Tanager** *Habia rubica* : Pair Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, pair Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb..

MAMMALS - MAMMALIA

AMERICAN OPOSSUMS - Order: DIDELPHIMORPHIA

Common Opossum *Didelphis marsupialis* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb..

SQUIRRELS - Sciuridae

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis* : Singles Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10 and 11Feb, 1 Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb, 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

AGOUTIS & PACAS - Agoutidae

Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporina* : Plenty Asa Wright Nature Centre daily 10-16Feb, plus 1 Wallerfield on 13Feb, singles Blue Waters Inn on 16, 17 & 19Feb, plus 1 Speyside on 18Feb..

SPINY RATS & allies - Echimyidae

Trinidad Spiny Rat *Dasyprocta leporina* : 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

MONGOOSEES - Herpestidae

Small Asian Mongoose *Herpestes javanicus* : 1 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb.

SHEATH-TAILED BATS - Emballonuridae

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso* : c. 10 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

Greater White-lined [Sac-winged] Bat *Saccopteryx bilineata* : Several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, several Arima Valley on 12Feb, a few Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, plenty there and other sites on 14Feb, 4 roosting Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb.

Lesser White-lined [Sac-winged] Bat *Saccopteryx leptura* : 3 roosting under leaf Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

NEW WORLD LEAF-NOSED BATS - Phyllostomidae

Common Tent-making Bat *Uroderma bilobatum* : 4+ Wallerfield on 12Feb and 7+ there on 13Feb.

NEW WORLD MONKEYS - Atelidae

Guianan Red Howler Monkey *Alouatta macconnelli* : 2 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

REPTILES - REPTILIA

Sea Turtles - Cheloniidae

Hawksbill Turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata* : 1 Angel Reef on 17Feb, 1 Starwood Trace + 1 Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb.

Anoles - Polychrotidae

Richard's Anole *Anolis richardii* : Several Grafton on 16Feb.

Neotropical Ground Lizards - Tropiduridae

Caribbean Treerunner *Plica caribaena* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Geckos - Gekkonidae

Variagated Gecko *Gonatodes ceciliae* : 1 female Brasso Seco on 11Feb.

Ocellated Gecko *Gonatodes ocellatus* : 1 male Little Tobago on 17Feb.

Neotropical House Gecko *Hemidactylus mabouia* : Plenty nightly at Asa Wright Nature Centre on 9-15Feb.

Tegus & Whiptails - Teiidae

Common Ameiva *Ameiva ameiva* : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 1 female Grafton on 16Feb, lots Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana* : 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, 1 Magdalena Hotel Pool on 16Feb.

Beach or Striped Runner / Foot-shaker *Cnemidophorus lemniscatus* : 2 Little Tobago on 17Feb.

'Venezuelan' Tegu *Tupinambis cryptus* : At Asa Wright Nature Centre 2 on 10Feb, 1 on 11Feb, 4+ on 13Feb, 3+ on 14Feb.

Boas - Boidae

Ruschenberger's Tree Boa *Corallus ruschenbergeri* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre + 2 Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.

Colubrid or "Harmless(!)" Snakes - Colubridae

Neotropical Racer *Mastigodryas boddaerti* : 1 Little Tobago on 17Feb.

Vipers, Pitvipers & Rattlesnakes - Viperidae

Fer-de-Lance *Bothrops asper* : 1 baby Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Dipsadid Snakes - Dipsadidae

Red-collared Snake *Ninia atrata* : 3 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb, and 1 there on 13Feb.

Clouded Snake *Sibon nebulata* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb.

Alligators & Caimans - Alligatoridae

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus* : 1 Port of Spain airport + 2 Magdalena Hotel Pool on 16Feb.

AMPHIBIANS - AMPHIBIA

Typical Toads - Bufonidae

Marine/Cane Toad *Rhinella marina* : 1 Tamana Bat caves on 14Feb.

Cryptic Forest Frogs - Aromobatidae

Trinidad Stream Frog *Mannophryne trinitatis* : 1 + tadpoles Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 + lots of tadpoles Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, lots heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 12-14Feb.

Tree Frogs - Hylidae

Gladiator Frog / Rusty Tree Frog *Hypsiboas boans* : Heard Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10 & 11Feb.

BUTTERFLIES - LEPIDOPTERA

Swordtails, Birdwings, Swallowtails & Festoons - subf: Parnassiinae

Polydamas Swallowtail / Gold Rim *Battus polydamas* : 1-2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 3+ Starwood Trace on 17Feb, 10+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 2+ Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

False Giant swallowtail *Heraclides homothoas* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Grizzled & Spreadwing Skippers - subf: Pyrginae

Blurry-striped Longtail *Chioides catillus catillus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 3+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

"long-tailed" Skipper *Urbanus teleus or tanna* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 2+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Plain Longtail *Urbanus simplicius* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 1 Starwood Trace on 18Feb, 1 Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.

Skipper sp *Astrartes alardus alardus* : 1 Lower Manzanilla on 12Feb.

Skipper sp *Autochton zarex* : 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.

Royal Firetip *Mysorius barcastus alta* : 1 Little Tobago on 17Feb

Skipper sp *Celaenorrhinus eligius eligius or similis bifurcus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Tanned Blue Skipper *Quadrus lugubris ophia* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Dusted Spurwing *Antigonus erosus* : 1 Lower Manzanilla on 12Feb.

Orcus Chequered Skipper *Pyrgus orcus* : 2 Waterloo area on 15Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Skipper sp *Carystus fantasos* : 1 Grafton on 16Feb.

Skipper sp *Synapte malitiosa pericles* : 1 Starwood Trace on 17Feb.

Skipper sp *Callimormus saturnus* : 1 Grafton on 16Feb.

Skipper sp *Cymaenes tripunctus theogenis* : 1 Starwood Trace on 17Feb.

Skipper sp *Lerema ancillaris* : 1 Starwood Trace on 17Feb.

Skipper sp *Vettius marcus marcus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Skipper sp *Hylephila phyleus phyleus* : 1 Aripo Savannah area on 14Feb.

Whirlabout *Polites vibex praeceps* : 1 Grafton on 16th, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb..

WHITES, YELLOWS & SULPHURS - Pieridae

Apricot Sulphur *Phoebis argante* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Cloudless Sulphur / Common Yellow *Phoebis sennae* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb

Venusta Yellow *Pyrisitia venusta* : 1 Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb, 2+ Aripo on 14Feb, 3+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Great Southern White *Ascia monuste* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

METALMARKS - Riodinidae

Electron Pixie *Melanis electron* : 1 Grafton on 16Feb.

Orange-tipped Underleaf *Lymnas xarifa* : A mating pair Wallerfield on 13Feb

Chrysus Sarota *Sarota chrysus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Azanoides Nymphidium *Nymphidium azanoides* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Calyce Metalmark / False Nymphidium *Synargis calyce* : 2+ Starwood Trace on 17Feb, several Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

HAIRSTREAKS, COPPERS & BLUES - Lycaenidae

Cambridge Blue *Pseudolycaena marsyas* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Gold-bordered Hairstreak *Rekoa palegon* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 1 Starwood Trace on 17Feb, 3+ Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Aetolus Stripe *Arawacus aetolus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

Hairstreak sp. *Kisutam syllis* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Hairstreak sp *Calycopis origo* or *?bactra* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Cassius Blue *Leptotes cassius* : 2+ Aripo on 14Feb, abundant Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Hanno Blue *Hemiargus hanno* : plenty Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Monarchs & allies - subf: Danaini

Monarch *Danaus plexippus* : 1 Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb, 3+ Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.

Clearwings - subf: Ithomiini

Sweet Oil / Polymnia Tigerwing *Mechanitis polymnia* : 1 Orange Valley on 15Feb.

Agnosia Clearwing / Blue Transparent *Ithomia agnosia pellucida* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1 Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.

Rare Blue Transparent *Greta andromica trifenestra* : 1 Brasso Seco on 11Feb.

Morphos - Morphini

Common Morpho *Morpho helenor insularis* : 1 Manzanilla Beach on 12Feb.

Owls - Brassolini

Cocoa Mort Bleu *Caligo teucer* : 1 Orange Valley on 15Feb.

Browns, Ringlets & Satyrs - subf: Satyrini

Penelope Satyr *Cissia penelope* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Hermes Satyr *Hermeuptychia hermes* : Common Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Libye Satyr *Magneuptychia newtoni* or *libye* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 12Feb.

Two-banded/Hesione Satyr *Pareuptychia ocirrhoe* : Several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10 & 14Feb.

Renata Satyr *Ypthimoides renata* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Tropical Brushfoots - subf: Biblidinae

Common Mestra / Grey Handkerchief *Mestra hersilia hersilia* : Lots Grafton Estate on 16Feb, plenty Starwood Trace on 18Feb.

Four Spotted Sailor *Dynamine postverta* : 1 Port of Spain airport on 16Feb.

Cramer's 88 / 89 butterfly *Diaethria clymena aurelia* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

Vanessids & smaller Fritillaries - subf: Nymphalinae

Orange Mapwing / Small Brown Shoemaker *Hypanartia lethe lethe* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Red Anartia / Princesa Roja *Anartia amathea* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 9Feb, Common Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty MRR on 19Feb, lots Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

White Peacock *Anartia jatrophae* : Several Bon Accord Pools on 20Feb.

Mangrove Buckeye *Junonia genoveva* : Common Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.

Little Soldier / Bordered Patch *Chlosyne lacinia saundersi* : Lots Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

The Handkerchief *Janatella leucodesma* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb, 2 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Admirals & Gliders - subf: Limenitinae

Smooth Banded/ Trinidad Sister *Adelpha cytherea insularis* : 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 2+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.

Iphiclus Sister *Adelpha iphiclus iphiclus* : 1 dead Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb.

Larger Fritillaries & Heliconians - subf: Heliconiinae

Gulf Fritillary *Agraulis vanillae vanillae* : Several Waterloo area+ on 15Feb.

Red/Small Postman / Crimson-patched Longwing *Heliconius erato adana* : 1+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, 1+ Blanchisseuse Road on 11Feb, 1+ Grafton on 16Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb.

Longwing sp *Heliconius ethilla ethilla* : 1 Orange Valley on 15Feb.

Sara Longwing / Small Blue Grecian *Heliconius sara williami* : 1 Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.

MOTHS - LEPIDOPTERA

HAWK-MOTHS - SPHINGIDAE

Arctiidae Moth sp *Calonotos craneae* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb.

Arctiidae Moth sp *Cosmosoma rubriscapulae* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

Arctiidae Moth sp *Histioea cepheus* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb.

Castniidae moth sp *Telchin licus insularis* : 2+ Lower Manzanilla on 12Feb, 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Crambidae Moth sp *Liopasia ochracealis* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

Erebidae Moth sp *Agaraea semivitrea* : 1 Brasso Seco on 11Feb.

Erebidae Moth sp *Ctenucha andrei* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb.

Erebidae Moth sp *Letis herilia* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 11Feb.

Geometridae 'Emerald' Moth sp *Phrudocentra pupillata* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb.

Noctuidae Moth sp *Hemicephalis paulina* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 13Feb.

Notodontidae Moth sp *Hapigia alexiae* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb

Oxyteninae 'Dead Leaf' Moth sp *Homoeopteryx malecena prona* : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 12Feb.

Green-banded Urania *Urania leilus* : 2 Main Ridge road on 19Feb, 1 Kings Bay Trace on Last day.

Hummingbird Hawkmoth sp. *Aellopos clavipes* : 1 Starwood Trace on 17Feb.

DAMSELFLIES & DRAGONFLIES - ODONATA

DEMOISELLES - Calopterygidae

River Rubyspot *Hetaerina caja* : Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

BLUE-TAILED & RED DAMSELFLIES - Coenagrionidae

Bluepoint Dancer *Argia oculata* : A few Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10, 13 & 14Feb

Dancer sp. *Argia orichalcea* : A few Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.

Rambur's Forktail *Ischnura ramburii* : A few Speyside on 18Feb

CHASERS, SKIMMERS & DARTERS - Libellulidae

- Blue-fronted Setwing** *Dythemis multipunctata* : 2+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.
Setwing sp. *Dythemis* sp. : 1+ Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb
Flame-tailed Pondhawk *Erythemis peruviana* : 1+ Nariva Swamp on 12Feb.
Great Pondhawk *Erythemis vesiculosa* : Several Magdalena Hotel Pool on 16Feb.
Band-winged Dragonlet *Erythrodiplax umbrata* : Abundant Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, abundant Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.
Dasher sp. *Micrathyria* sp. : 1 sp Speyside on 18Feb.
Carmine Skimmer *Orthemis discolor* : A few males, e.g. Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb & Speyside on 18Feb.

OTHER SELECTED TAXA - .

- Leaf-cutter Ant** *Atta cephalotes* : Noted daily Asa Wright Nature Centre on 10Feb, plenty Gilpin Trace on 19Feb, lots Kings Bay Trace on 20Feb
Hercules Beetle *Dynastes hercules* : Pair Blanchisseuse Road (mast) on 11Feb.
Trinidad Chevron *Psalmopoeus cambridgei* : 1-2 nightly Asa Wright Nature Centre grounds on 10-15Feb.
Tropical Wolf Spider *Phoneutria* sp. : 2 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.
Trinidad Mountain Crab *Pseudotelphusa garmani* : Several Asa Wright Nature Centre on 14Feb.
Blue Crab *Cardisoma guanhumi* : Several, possibly this species Blue Waters Inn on 17 & 18Feb.
Atlantic Ghost Crab *Ocyrode quadrata* : 2+ Blue Waters Inn on 18Feb.
Fiddler Crab sp. *Uca* sp. : Abundant on coast on 15Feb.
Mangrove Tree Crab *Aratus pisonii* : Several Nariva Swamp on 12Feb, abundant Caroni Swamp on 15Feb.
Giant cryptic forest cricket ?? : 1 Asa Wright Nature Centre on 15Feb.
Green Click Beetle ?? : 2 Starwood Trace on 18Feb.
Comb Jellyfish ?? : 2 Angel Reef on 17Feb.
Trapdoor Spider ?? : Several doors to burrows Gilpin Trace on 19Feb.