

English name	Species name	Month seen	Status	Source
Paradise-flycatcher	<i>paradisii</i>	Nov		
Yellow-bellied Tit	<i>Parus venustus</i>	1996		Samson So
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Year round	Very common	
Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum concolor</i>	1998		
Buff-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	Sept – Nov	Uncommon	So, 1996; Lock 2000
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>	Sept - Nov	Common	So, 1996; Lock 2000
Fork-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga christinae</i>	Sept - Nov	Common	
Japanese White-eye	<i>Zosterops japonica</i>	Year Round	Very common	
Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	Nov	Common	So, 1996
Black-faced Bunting	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>	Nov	Common	So, 1996
White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	Sept – Nov	Very common	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Year round	Very common	
Black-collared Starling	<i>Sturnus nigricoll</i>	Year round	Very common	
Crested Myna	<i>Acridotheres cristatellus</i>	Year round	Very common	
Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	Sept - Mar	Common	
Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>	Sept - Nov	Rare	So, 1996; Lock 2000
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Sept - Nov	Very common	So, 1996; Lock 2000
Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	Year round	Very common	
Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	Sept	Uncommon	So, 1996
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Nov	Common	
Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	Sept – Nov	Uncommon	So, 2001

## SWIMS tidings....

Another year seems to have come and gone since the last *Porcupine!*, but this does not reflect a lack of activity – rather a rather rapid passing of time! SWIMS, as ever, has been a centre of research activities, including hosting workshops and talks (the most notable being on tidal movements and patterns with the Hong Kong Marine Biological Association); receiving research visitors (from China, Germany, Italy, UK, Korea, Singapore, Russia) and participating in the second year of the highly successful Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Internships, during which students worked with giant pandas, river dolphins and baiji.

This year has also seen a huge increase in visitor numbers and outreach activities, the most ambitious involving 17 King George V school students on work experience, who, together with helpers from other Hong Kong schools and universities in the UK, Canada and of course our own HKU students, helped boost the research and also social activities at SWIMS.

We have also seen an influx of new research students and Post Doctoral fellows. Ex-SWIMS graduate, Dr Ng Wai Chuen, returned in January to coordinate an RGC project on barnacle distribution and genetics, joined by Dr Wai Tak Cheung, who has been working on the trophodynamics of marine communities. The SWIMS research community was further strengthened by the arrival of Dr James True, from James Cook University in Australia. James is a coral biologist and has initiated a system to cultivate and grow local corals. The transfer of Ms Joyce Ng to help establish culture facilities in SWIMS from the Kadoorie Agricultural and Research Centre has further enhanced this development.

Finally, congratulations to Drs Andy Cornish and Benny Chan who left SWIMS for new positions at WWF (HK) and Academia Sinica, Taiwan, respectively. We look forward to collaborating with them in the near future.

Gray A. Williams  
Hon. Director SWIMS