

GUYANA - 2013

23rd Nov – 8th Dec 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

- Harpy Eagle
- Festive Amazon
- Capuchinbird
- Crimson Fruitcrow
- White-winged Potoo
- Pompadour Cotinga
- Black-banded Owl
- Ocellated Crake (4)
- Rio Branco Antbird
- Bearded Tachuri
- Black Manakin
- White-plumed Antbird
- Long-tailed Potoo
- Red-fan Parrot
- Rufous-throated Antbird
- Black Spider Monkey
- Giant River Otter
- Tayra
- Sun Parakeet
- Red Siskin
- Rufous Crab-Hawk
- Hoatzin
- White-bellied Piculet
- Purple-breasted Cotinga
- Black-faced Hawk
- Spangled Cotinga
- White Bellbird
- Crested Doradito
- Guianan Puffbird
- Blackish Nightjar
- Todd's Antwren
- Caica Parrot
- Agami Heron
- Green Aracari
- Azure Gallinule
- 2 Jaguars
- Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock
- Blood-coloured Woodpecker
- Orange-breasted Falcon
- N. Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl
- Yellow-billed Jacamar
- Guianan Red Cotinga
- Gray-winged Trumpeter
- Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo
- Hoary-throated Spinetail
- Guianan Toucanet
- White-naped Xenopsaris
- Great Potoo
- Blue-throated Piping Guan
- Black-headed Parrot
- Long-winged Harrier
- Cayenne Jay
- Common Squirrel Monkey
- Brown Capuchin

SUMMARY:

Our second tour to the wonderfully wild country of Guyana was a huge success seeing many of our target species and more importantly seeing them very well. Birding in Guyana is still relatively new and there is so much more to find in the endless tropical jungles and savannah. As wildlife and bird watching tours develop in Guyana we feel very strongly that in order to help encourage and promote wildlife and eco-tourism all companies that visit should be using local guides and local agents. Many companies are not, and this should be addressed and asked when booking a tour to this wonderful country. Your money must go to the right people - the local people in order to help encourage conservation and habitat protection and develop the skills of local guides, and support local lodges and wildlife tourism. On this tour, we enjoyed warm hospitality and were justly rewarded with many good sightings found by our main guide Ron and other guides we used while staying at the best wildlife areas. Fabulous views of Harpy Eagle, Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, Hoatzin, White Bellbird, Crimson Fruitcrow, White-winged and Long-tailed Potoos, lots of Cotingas, Capuchinbirds, close views of Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo, 4 Ocellated Crakes, gorgeous Sun Parakeets, stunning Red Siskin, Crested Doradito, Bearded Tachuri, 5 species of Macaw, and many other super birds and mammals including two magnificent Jaguars.

No trip to Guyana would be complete without seeing the stunning Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock, and once again we were not disappointed.



Georgetown Botanical Gardens - 23rd Nov 2013

With everyone arriving at a very early hour of the morning we had planned for a mornings rest before going out in the afternoon. As expected the excitement of a new country had everyone up and checking for new birds from the balcony of our hotel. After lunch we made our way to the Botanical Gardens and within minutes we were watching a lone **Solitary Sandpiper** in a puddle soon followed by our main target bird a superb female **Blood-coloured Woodpecker**. As we enjoyed excellent views of this bird, a male and a juvenile bird appeared and we were treated to prolonged fabulous looks at all three birds in the same tree together. Moving on, a little a flowering tree held **White-chested Emerald**, and perched in a palm tree were a couple of **Red-shouldered Macaws**. **Gray Kingbirds** were evident alongside **Great Kiskadee**, **Tropical Kingbirds** and **Rusty-margined Flycatchers**. Ron then spotted a **Three-toed Sloth** in a tree, and we got views of **Pied Water-Tyrant**, **Snail Kites**, **Gray Hawk**, a **Yellow Oriole**, **Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet**, and **Southern Beardless Tyrannulet**. Lower down in the grasses were **Yellow-chinned Spinetail** and a male **Wing-banded Seedeater**. **Turquoise Tanagers** showed nicely and we had stunning views of a pair of **Crimson-crested Woodpeckers**. A **Black-collared Hawk** perched over a wetland area and a **Glittering-throated Emerald** was seen feeding on some flowers. As the sun began to set, in came flocks of **Orange-winged Parrots** and three **Festive Amazons**. Flocks of **Snail Kites** were joined by **Short-tailed Swifts**, and we found **Straight-billed Woodcreeper**, **Violaceous Euphonia** and **Common Tody-Flycatcher**. A pair of **Peregrine Falcons** patrolled the area and a lone **Bat Falcon** zipped past. As the light faded we scoped a **Great Horned Owl** - a fitting end to a great first day of birding in Guyana.

Mahaica River / Georgetown Botanical Gardens - 24th Nov

This morning we set off early to visit the Mahaica River. A brief stop near the rice fields produced **Yellow-hooded Blackbirds**, **Wing-banded Seedeater**, a pair of **Barred Antshrikes** and a nice male **Red-breasted Blackbird**. An immature **Great Black Hawk** was seen feeding on a snake, and then Kev spotted a very distant **Hoatzin** sat in the top of a bush. We soon arrived at the small jetty where we boarded our two boats to go on a short trip up the river. It wasn't long before we had fabulous views of several **Hoatzins** sat out in the open on branches overhanging the edge of the river. Here we also had **Spotted Tody-Flycatcher**, **Green-tailed Jacamar**, **White-winged Swallows**, **Green-rumped Parrotlets**, **Black-crested Antshrike**, and great looks at a pair of **White-bellied Piculets**. We made our way to shore



A family group of Blood-coloured Woodpeckers a Guianan specialty got our tour off to a great start



Yellow-chinned Spinetails gave us nice close views in several locations



First of many Hoatzins

and quickly avoided a downpour as we dashed to have a super breakfast at our boatman's house. Afterwards we checked around his garden and found **Pale-breasted Spinetail**, **Savannah Hawk** and a distant and brief **Long-winged Harrier**. Back out on the boats we had a couple of **Little Cuckoos**, more **Hoatzins** and a **Zone-tailed Hawk** perched up in a tree. A **Black-capped Donacobius** showed well as did **Ashy-headed Greenlets**, and some perched **Green-rumped Parrotlets**. Several **Maguari Storks** flew over as did **Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures**. A **Guianan Red Howler Monkey** was seen and an **American Pygmy Kingfisher** flew across the river and disappeared. The boats turned around and on our way back an adult **Great Black Hawk** was seen. Back in the vehicles we made a stop overlooking the coastal mudflats where the scopes produced countless shorebirds which included many **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Black-bellied Plovers**, **Semipalmated Plovers**, **Tri-coloured Herons**, **Little Blue Herons**, **Black Skimmers** and **Scarlet Ibis**. In the bushes we found a couple of **Bicoloured Conebills** and a **Northern Waterthrush**. Further on we checked another area for one of our main target species and eventually we were rewarded with great views of two **Rufous Crab Hawks**. After lunch we re-visited the Georgetown Botanical Gardens again where we started off with two **Festive Amazons** playing in a tree top. Then we had **Yellow-crowned**, **Orange-winged Amazons** and **Red-shoulders Macaws**. Both **Crimson-crested** and **Lineated Woodpeckers** were seen and then a **Cinereous Becard**, as well as **Yellow-bellied Elaenia** and **Common Tody-Flycatcher**, **Black-capped Donacobius**, **Straight-billed Woodcreepers**, **Bat Falcon**, **Peregrine Falcon** and a pair of **Mealy Parrots**.

Kaieteur Falls - Iwokrama 25th Nov

Today we had breakfast and headed to Ogle Airport for our flight to the Kaieteur Falls and then onto Iwokrama River lodge. Unfortunately the weather over Kaieteur was thunder and lightning and we had no chance of getting there safely (when the pilot says it's too dangerous, it's too dangerous!) so after a few hours delay we flew direct to Iwokrama where we arrived early afternoon. At the grass strip airfield some of us saw **Greater Yellow-headed Vulture**, **Black-collared Swallows**, a **Bank Swallow**, and **Blue-and Yellow Macaw**. Once we were at the lodge we settled into our rooms and then scanned the Essequibo River from the veranda of the restaurant. There we saw **Black Skimmer** and **Large-billed Tern** and on the grass were two **Pied Lapwings**. In the surrounding trees were **Giant Cowbirds**, **Silver-beaked Tanagers**, **Blue-headed Parrot**, and **Painted Parakeets**. We birded the grounds and found a flowering tree which held a couple of **Green-tailed Goldenthroats** and a **White-chinned Sapphire**. A **Black-throated Mango** appeared and then a couple of **Moriche Orioles** came into a nearby palm.



What a strange bird but much sought after by everyone in the group



Great looks at this Zone-tailed Hawk while we were on our boat trip



Spotted Tody-Flycatcher

A **Lineated Woodpecker** posed on a dead tree and then we tracked down a singing **Chestnut-bellied Seedeater** in one of the trees on the lawn. In a distant tree a **Venezuelan Red Howler** was seen and in another distant tree we found two **Violaceous Euphonias**. As dusk fell we watched a few **Olive Oropendolas** and **Short-tailed Nighthawks** flying over as well as a **Bat Falcon**. After dinner we had a short boat ride in search of nocturnal species. Several **Black Caiman** were seen and we found a few **Amazon Tree Boa's**. Further searching got us good views of two **Ladder-tailed Nightjars** perched on the ground.

Turtle Mountain Irokrama 26th Nov

Before breakfast we walked just a short distance into the forest to a lekking area of the extraordinary **Capuchinbird**. Their strange cow-like calls drew us to the spot where we enjoyed fabulous views of these birds, calling and displaying. A **Little Chachalaca** was also seen and we found **Caica Parrots**, a difficult **Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant**, good views of **Dusky-throated Antshrike**, and brief **Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper** and a **Grayish Mourner**. At breakfast from the veranda we scoped more **Caica Parrots**. We then made our way down to the dock for our boat journey up river to Turtle Mountain. On the river we found **Black-collared Swallows** perched on the rocks, a couple of **Muscovy Ducks**, and both **Red-and-green** and **Scarlet Macaws** flying around together. A **Ladder-tailed Nightjar** was seen perched in a bush beside the river and as we continued upstream, there were **White-banded Swallows** and both **Amazon** and **Ringed Kingfishers**. Once in the forest we made our way to an open camping area where we found **Pygmy Antwren**, **Dusky-throated Antshrike** and heard **Golden-collared Woodpecker**. We then split the group up as those that wanted to go on the steep climb up to the forested mountain top for the chance of **Orange-breasted Falcon** did, and those that did not want to climb, remained behind. Those staying behind had a relaxed time birding close by the camp. We walked a short way into the forest and soon found a group of **Black Spider Monkeys** which, amazingly, drew Steve's attention to a female **Harpy Eagle** sat nearby just looking down at us. Incredibly, this was the same exact location we had seen the male Harpy a year earlier! It didn't take long for the monkeys to spot the Harpy and they went mad throwing sticks and scolding. The huge bird then flew off and out of sight. We continued into the forest and found a small flock which held **McConnell's Flycatchers**, **Gray Antwren** and **Blue Dacnis**. A **Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo** called but could not be enticed in. A little further on we worked for a long time to secure views of two **Yellow-billed Jacamars** hidden away high in the leafy trees. We then headed back to the camping area and had our picnic lunch. After lunch a



Always nice to see a night bird during the daytime and this Ladder-tailed Nightjar was no exception



The very strange Capuchinbirds performed well at their Lek, and the noise has to be heard to be believed!



This fabulous female harpy Eagle at a spot where we found a male last year!

short walk found us three **Red-necked Woodpeckers**, and a **Black-chinned Antbird**. We got good looks at **Black Nunbird** and by this time the group that had been up the mountain returned. They were very successful with seeing a pair of **Orange-breasted Falcons**, two **Great Jacamars**, **Cinereous Antshrike** and a few other species. When lunch was over we all returned to the boats and set off back to Iwokrama River Lodge. A short rest and coffee break was followed by a walk along the entrance road where we saw a group of **Black-necked Aracaris**, a **Gray Antbird**, **Black-tailed Tityra**, and **Golden-bellied Euphonia**. As dusk fell we called in a pair of **Northern Tawny-bellied Screech-Owls** for superb views ending a great day.

Iwokrama - Atta Rainforest Lodge 27th Nov

After an early breakfast we were ready to leave when a **Red-fan Parrot** was spotted, so we enjoyed views of this and a **Dusky Parrot**. We then drove along the forest road soon stopping for a group of **Black Curassows**. Next up was a perched **Black-faced Hawk** and nearby a **Golden-collared Woodpecker**. A **Black-bellied Cuckoo** flew over and showed briefly. Our next stop was for a perched **Waved Woodpecker** and here a male **Crimson Fruitcrow** flew over and disappeared above the canopy. Further along we stopped for **Guianan Puffbird** and then a female **Crimson Fruitcrow** gave great views feeding in a tree. An **Amazonian White-tailed Trogon** was seen along with many **Swallowing Puffbirds**, **Golden-winged Parakeets**, and a **Ferruginous-backed Antbird**. The next stop was for a perched **White Hawk** and an **Ornate Hawk Eagle** that was flying around. Then we had both **Red-and Green** and **Scarlet Macaws** at their nest holes in the same tree. Along the road we saw nine **Gray-winged Trumpeters** and finally we reached our destination of Atta Lodge. Around the lodge we had **Golden-bellied Euphonia**, and **Guianan Tyrannulet**. After lunch we walked into the forest and soon found a **Tiny-Tyrant Manakin**. Further on an **Army Ant** swarm drew our attention to **White-plumed Antbirds** and calling **Rufous-throated Antbirds**. A **Black-banded Woodcreeper** was seen and then we went to the Canopy Walkway and here we positioned ourselves on platforms 2 and 3. From our elevated perches, we found **Paradise Jacamar**, **Guianan Toucanet**, **Black-eared Fairy**, **Todd's Antwren**, **Lineated Woodcreeper**, **Purple Honeycreepers**, **Guianan Tyrannulet**, a female **Pompadour Cotinga**, **Painted Parakeets**, **Rufous-throated Sapphire** and **White-chinned Sapphire**. We headed back down the trail at dusk and set our scopes on a tall dead tree top. Just before the light faded our target bird a **White-winged Potoo** flew in and landed on the tree top allowing fantastic views of this mythical bird. Excellent!



There were plenty of Black Nunbirds to see throughout the trip



We saw plenty of groups of Black-necked Aracaris!



Guyana is a great place to see party's of Grey-winged Trumpeters

Atta Rainforest Lodge 28th Nov

After early morning breakfast we drove the main road stopping along the way for **Red-fan Parrots**, **Blue-throated Piping Guan**, **Channel-billed Toucan**, **Green Oropendolas**, and **Orange-winged, Mealy and Blue-checked Amazons**. There were a couple of **Jabiru** in a pond, **Black-necked Aracaris** in the trees, and a **Reddish Hermit** whirring past. In the white sand forest area we had a pair of **Guianan Red Cotingas**, followed by good views of **Scale-backed Antbirds**, and then varying views of **Black Manakin**. A **White-fringed Antwren** was seen just before we headed back to the lodge for lunch. Afterwards we went into the forest and found a **Chestnut Woodpecker**, a small flock with **Dusky-throated Antshrikes**, **White-flanked Antwren**, and had good views of **Brown-bellied Antwrens**. A **Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper** appeared as did another **Chestnut Woodpecker**. We then got great looks at two **Ferruginous-backed Antbirds** walking through the leaf litter. A group of **Long-winged Antwrens** showed well followed by a superb **Great Jacamar**. On the track we watched a close group of **Gray-winged Trumpeters** shortly followed by a group of **Cayenne Jays** in the canopy above. Out on the road we found a **Blackish Nightjar** on a day roost. Then there was a female **Pompadour Cotinga** on a tree top and later the same tree top held a male **Purple-breasted Cotinga**. A **Golden-bellied Euphonia** was seen at its nest and a few **Little Chachalacas** were seen. We got better views of **Cayenne Jay** and as darkness fell, two **Black-banded Owls** were seen offering a fitting end to a great day of birding.

Atta - Surama Ecolodge 29th Nov

This morning we spent an hour or so around the lodge to see what came into the open tree tops. A **Guianan Tyrannulet** flitted around in a tangle but was hard to see. Flowering shrubs attracted several **Reddish Hermits** and nearby a **Guianan Warbling Antbird** showed well. A **Spix's Guan** fed in the top of a palm tree, a **Black-eared Fairy** was seen and a family group of **Black Curassows** wandered around the dining area. **Orange-winged, Blue-checked, and Mealy Amazons** all flew over and then it was time to continue our journey into the Guianan wilderness. We drove along the road and our first stop found us **Golden-sided Euphonia**, **Eastern Long-tailed Hermit**, two **Pied Puffbirds**, and a pair of **Piratic Flycatchers** trying to get into **Yellow-rumped Cacique** nests. We also got good looks at **Yellow-throated Flycatcher** and some **Painted Parakeets**. **Red-fan Parrots** and **Red and Green Macaws** were seen, and a group of **Red-rumped Caciques** flew over. Our next stop had us searching the treetops and eventually we had good



These huge Jabirus fed quietly on a small pond beside the road



Black Curassows are regularly seen walking around Atta Lodge grounds



Female Guianan Warbling Antbird

scope views of a bright **White Bellbird** sat on a dead tree top. At least 7 or 8 **Pompadour Cotingas** flew into a fruit tree and then a male **Spangled Cotinga** was seen well in the scopes. As if this wasn't amazing enough, we turned around to see two **Jaguars** crossing the road slowly behind us! They were incredibly close and one cat stopped to look at us briefly before disappearing into the thick cover. Another stop at a **Green Oropendola** nest tree found us **Long-tailed Tyrant, Pied Puffbird, Yellow-tufted Woodpecker**, and flyover **White-collared Swifts**. At one point we walked into the forest and positioned ourselves to watch a stunning male **Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock** which gave superb views. A **South American Snipe** seemed a bit out of place along the road and soon we arrived at Surama Ecolodge. We settled in and after lunch we went out on a walk through the grasslands. Here we saw **Yellow-bellied Elaenias, Blue Dacnis, Brown-throated Parakeets** and a group of **Wedge-capped Capuchin Monkeys**. A bit further on we had **Grassland Sparrow, Short-tailed Swifts, Ochre-colored Flatbill, Yellow-chested Greenlet, and Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet**. An open area produced fly over **Black Caracaras** and a close **Savannah Hawk**. In a section of forest we found two roosting **Great Potoos** that gave fabulous views looking like part of the tree. A **Red-bellied Macaw** flew over and as we got back towards the lodge, a couple of **Least Nighthawks** flew around and a **White-tailed Nightjar** was seen.

Surama Ecolodge 30th Nov

This morning after an early breakfast we set off into the forest on a trail that leads to a Harpy Eagle nest. On the main road we got super views of a **Cream-coloured Woodpecker** and a couple of **Purple-throated Fruitcrows**. In the forest we found a small group of **Rufous-bellied Antwrens**, and then further on Ron spotted a fabulous **Long-tailed Potoo** on a day roost and not anywhere he had previously found it. A great find! We eventually got to the Harpy nest tree and after a thorough search it was obvious that the birds were not around. A flock moving through the canopy included **Blackpoll Warbler, Pink-throated Becard, Yellow-throated Woodpecker, Yellow-margined Flatbill, Lineated Woodcreeper, Great Jacamar** and a stunning **Crimson Fruitcrow**. We then heard a **Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo** call and some clever tactics allowed Steve to lure it in allowing us incredible views as the bird walked straight past us in full view toward Steve. We stood perfectly still and were rewarded with a fabulous sighting of this difficult bird. After several hours of searching and waiting, the Harpy was not seen so we made our way back towards the road and our vehicles. Back at the lodge we had lunch and then a rest before meeting up and walking

Lucky or What!



This was the fabulous pair of Jaguars that crossed the road while we were looking for White Bellbird!



Dark photo of our Long-tailed Potoo

into the grasslands just a few hundred metres from the lodge. **Plain-crested Elaenia** was seen here, as well as **Cayenne Jay** and **Piratic Flycatcher**. As we walked through the grasses, a couple of **Wedge-tailed Grass Finches** flew up but our real prize and reason for walking the grassland was to try and see the mythical and almost impossible **Ocellated Crane**. We heard several of these elusive birds and to our amazement we actually flushed four individual birds, each slowly fluttered over the grass tops very close to us allowing pretty good views. Very pleased with our victory we returned to the lodge seeing both **Lesser** and **Least Nighthawks** along the way.

Surama Ecolodge 1st Dec

After early morning breakfast we set off for a walk toward the Burra Burra River. **Fork-tailed Palm Swifts** flew over the grasslands and **Plain-crested Elaenia** was seen. In the forest, small flocks produced **White-flanked Antwren**, a pair of **Spangled Piculets**, **White-browed Antbird**, **Helmeted Pygmy-tyrant**, and **Blue-chinned Sapphire**. Continuing on, we found **Coraya Wren**, **Amazonian Slaty Antshrike**, **Cinereous Antshrike** and down by the river we had **Painted Tody-Flycatcher**. In the afternoon we birded the Surama Road finding **Spangled Cotinga**, **McConnell's Flycatcher**, **White-crowned Manakin**, **Guianan Tyrannulet** and **Black-spotted Barbet**.

Surama Ecolodge - Karanambu 2nd Dec

We left Surama after an early breakfast and birding along the road stopping for **Orange-backed Troupials**, **Finsch's Euphonia**, **White-naped Xenopsaris**, and **Bran-coloured Flycatcher**, a new bird for Ron. Other stops produced **White-tailed Hawks** and our first **Giant Anteater**. We arrive at our rustic lodge and had nice views of **Red-capped Cardinals** at the feeders and a perched **Pearl Kite**. Later in the afternoon, we went out on the boats. A slow cruise on the river yielded **Black Skimmers**, **Rufescent Tiger Heron**, **Jabiru**, **Green Ibis**, lots of **Ringed** and **Amazon Kingfishers**, brief views of **Agami Heron**, **Sunbittern**, **Gray-necked Wood Rail**, **Crimson-crested Woodpeckers**, **Black and Spectacled Caiman**, **Giant Otters** and **Common Squirrel monkeys**. At dusk, we quietly drifted and enjoyed a rum punch and biscuits while **Band-tailed Nighthawks** flew over the river. On the way back in the dark, we spotlighted **Boat-billed Herons** and several **Green Tree Boas**.

Karanambu - Karassabai 3rd Dec

After an early breakfast we left Karanambu and headed out into the expansive savanna. An **Aplomado Falcon** was seen along the track as we drove out and **Yellowish Pipits**



One of the characterful thatched huts.
Our great accommodation at Surama



A roadside stop found us this White-naped Xenopsaris



This super Black-faced Hawk seen earlier

flew up from the verge. A group of **Crested Bobwhites** was seen and around a small pool we had **Pinnated Bittern**, **White-headed Marsh-Tyrant**, and **White-faced Whistling Duck**. We drove further out and found two **Giant Anteaters** roaming the open grasslands, and then we stopped in an area and searched the scrub finding **Ruddy-breasted Seedeaters**, two **Pinnated Bitterns**, and **Grassland Yellow Finch**. Moving on to a remote area around a wetland eventually found our target bird, the rare and very localised **Crested Doradito**. Other birds in the area included **South American Snipe**, **Yellow-chinned Spinetail**, and **Pale-breasted Spinetail**. **White-tailed Hawks** and **Savannah Hawks** were seen and we ticked **Buff-necked Ibis**. Leaving the savannahs behind us we headed towards the mountains and Karassabai. We arrived around lunchtime and after settling into our accommodation we had a wonderful lunch supplied by some local village ladies. After a short rest we headed into the mountains in search of the very restricted and highly endangered **Sun Parakeet**, a bird that was once at the brink of extinction due to the pet trade. We waited and searched the hillsides for the brilliant yellow birds but to no avail. **Red-and-green Macaws** flew overhead calling loudly and a **Laughing Falcon** showed well.

Karassabai - Lethem 4th Dec

This morning we had an early breakfast and then went back to the mountains we had searched yesterday. Strategically placing ourselves in an area with good views, it didn't take long before the birds were heard as they moved down the valley. A quick repositioning to another area had us watching four beautiful **Sun Parakeets** feeding in some trees lit up by the morning sun. The birds then called and moved a little allowing fantastic scope views of these highly prized birds. We soaked in the views and then looked at a few other birds in the area which included **Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant**, **Laughing Falcon**, and **Common Black Hawk**. On our walk back, we encountered a tree filled with **Hooded Tanagers**, **Chestnut-vented Conebills**, a **Rufous-browed Peppershrike** and **Finsch's Euphonia**. A **Pearl Kite** perched on a nearby tree led us to find its nest that contained two well grown young. We then drove from Karassabai toward Lethem stopping for **Double-striped Thick-knee** along the way. We settled into our ranch accommodation outside of town and walked a track at sunset, enjoying the stars as it got dark and contemplating our last few days in Guyana.

Red Siskin 5th Dec

Today we left at an unearthly time and set off into the savannah in the dark. After travelling on the road for



A few White-headed Marsh-Tyrants were seen in suitable wetland



Savanna Hawks were a familiar sight



Mostly seen in flight this Yellowish Pipit showed well close to the road

several hours crossing several flooded streams and bouncing along the “road” we picked up our good friend and guide Asaph and continued on for breakfast at Dadanawa Ranch. As the sun rose, we saw **Double-striped Thick-knees** among the cattle fields. After breakfast, we continued out into the open savannah to an area known for the mythical **Red Siskin**, our target for the day. We spent hours searching with no joy and had to console ourselves with other birds in the area including **White-tailed Goldenthrout**, **Finsch’s Euphonia**, **Burnished Buff Tanager**, **Plain-crested Elaenia**, **Plumbeous Seedeater**, and **Great Black Hawk**. At one point a **Tayra** was seen walking down a tree trunk. We then moved sites to an area where a trickle of water was flowing out over some rocks. This was attracting small birds to drink and bath and it wasn’t long before two males and a female **Red Siskin** flew in and landed in a bare tree allowing fabulous views of this stunning bird. After a while, the birds flew into a nearby bush and were joined by an immature male. We enjoyed scope views and after a picnic lunch we left the area. Our long journey back to the ranch yielded **White-tailed Hawk**, and **Savannah Hawk**, **Jabiru**, and countless **Fork-tailed Flycatchers**.

Manari Wildlife Lodge 6th Dec

This morning after breakfast we headed out into the savannah towards the Irang River. Traversing the countryside we saw **Jabiru**, **Buff-necked Ibis**, **Cocoi Heron** and a close **Yellowish Pipit**. We reached our destination which was a small patch of dry forest alongside the river which borders Brazil, and here we made our way along a track and into the forest. One of the first birds we saw was the very localised **Hoary-throated Spinetail**, the first of many excellent close sightings as the birds moved along the leafy floor apparently unfazed by our presence. Then, a **Rio Branco Antbird** began to call and it wasn’t long before we enjoyed superb views of two females. A **Flavescent Warbler** showed no concern at our close presence and a **Rufous-tailed Jacamar** posed nicely. A **Pale-legged Hornero** proved elusive but was later seen near its nest and during the rest of the morning we found **Orange-backed Troupial**, a pair of **Black-crested Antshrikes** and a **Streak-headed Woodcreeper**. After success finding of our very restricted target species we once again navigated our way back through the savannah. A stop at one of the reedy pools produced two **Pied-billed Grebes** and an **Azure Gallinule**, while further on, another stop found us a very confiding **Bearded Tachuri**. We then returned to our lodge for lunch and a relaxing afternoon. An evening walk produced nice views of a few birds already previously seen.



A Difficult to get any good photos this was one of 4 stunning Sun Parakeets



This was the immature Red Siskin. I wish I could have photographed the stunning males we saw!



Very localized Rio Branco Antbird - fem

Manari Wildlife Ranch 7th Dec

Our last morning walk around the lodge produced the now regular species such as **Red-bellied Macaws**, **Yellow-crowned Amazons**, **Brown-crested** and **Dusky-capped Flycatchers**, **Rufous-browed Peppershrike**, **Common Tody-Flycatchers**, **Burnished Buff Tanager**, **Short-tailed Swifts** and **Bicoloured Wren**. Later in the day, we packed up and went into town to catch our flight back to Georgetown for the night. At dinner, we reminisced about all of the fabulous birds we had seen and the wonderful memories of our fantastic birding tour in Guyana.

Thanks to everyone who participated and made this such an enjoyable, fun and bird-filled tour. Special thanks to our fabulous guide Ron, who led us to so many special places and birds and his wife Marissa who made our stay in Karassabai so comfortable. Also special thanks to Leon at Atta Lodge a great guide and good friend to all. Also thanks to Kevin Bryan for the in-depth mammal list

Steve & Gina



A nice Rufous-tailed Jacamar to finish off

BIRDLIST FOR GUYANA 2014

A = Number of species recorded on tour B = Number of days out of 15 recorded

C = Highest daily count or comment GSE=Guianan Shield Endemic

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamou major</i>	1	Heard
2	Cinereous Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus cinereus</i>	1	Heard
3	Variiegated Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus variegatus</i>	2	Heard
4	Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>	3	1
5	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	1	1
6	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	4	2
7	Crested Bobwhite	<i>Colinus cristatus</i>	6	20
8	Little Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis motmot</i>	2	5
9	Blue-throated Piping-Guan	<i>Pipile cumanensis</i>	2	2
10	Spix's Guan	<i>Penelope jacquacu</i>	5	1
11	Black Curassow	GSE <i>Crax alector</i>	4	6
12	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps antarcticus</i>	1	2
13	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	2	10
14	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis occidentalis</i>	1	5
15	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	2	2
16	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	3	8
17	Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	1	40
18	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	7	2
19	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	5	10
20	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	7	20
21	Capped Heron	<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>	3	2
22	Cattle Egret	<i>Bululcus ibis</i>	8	12
23	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	1	12
24	Agami Heron	<i>Agami agami</i>	1	1
25	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	8	4

26	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cachlearius cochlearius</i>	1	8
27	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	1	12
28	Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Trigrisoma lineatum</i>	2	1
29	Pinnated Bittern	<i>Botaurus pinnatus</i>	3	3
30	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>	1	10
31	Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	1	6
32	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guaranuna</i>	7	8
33	Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>	4	4
34	Maguari Stork	<i>Ciconia maguari</i>	3	3
35	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	2	1
36	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	1	1
37	Jabiru	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>	6	8
38	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	10	No Count
39	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	6	No Count
40	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	6	10+
41	Greater Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	6	6
42	King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramohus papa</i>	4	2
43	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	7	2
44	Pearl Kite	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	2	3
45	Snail Kite	<i>Rastrhamus sociabilis</i>	6	20
46	Long-winged Harrier	<i>Circus buffoni</i>	1	1
47	Black-faced Hawk	<i>Leucopternis melanops</i>	1	1
48	White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albigollis</i>	1	1
49	Rufous Crab Hawk	<i>Buteogallus aequinoctialis</i>	1	2
50	Common Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	1	2
51	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	6	2
52	Savannah Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	7	4
53	Black-collared Hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>	3	4
54	Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	2	1
55	White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	5	4
56	Gray Hawk (Gray-lined Hawk)	<i>Buteo nitidus nitidus</i>	6	4
57	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	1	1
58	Ornate Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus ornatus</i>	2	1
59	Harpy Eagle	<i>Harpia harpyja</i>	1	1
60	Black Caracara	<i>Daptrius ater</i>	2	3
61	Red-throated Caracara	<i>Lbycter americanus</i>	2	6
62	Northern Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	6	3+
63	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	8	10
64	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	3	2
65	Barred Forest Falcon	<i>Micrastur ruficollis concentricus</i>	1	Heard
66	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>	1	1
67	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	5	3
68	Orange-breasted Falcon	<i>Falco deiroleucus</i>	1	2
69	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	3	2
70	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	4	1
71	Ocellated Crake	<i>Micropygia schamburgkii</i>	2	4
72	Gray-necked Wood Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	1	1
73	Azure Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla flavirostris</i>	1	1
74	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula cachinnans</i>	1	1
75	Gray-winged Trumpeter	<i>Psophia crepitans</i>	3	12

76	Sungrebe	<i>Heliornis fulica</i>	1	1
77	Sunbittern	<i>Eurypyga helias</i>	1	2
78	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1	50
79	Pied Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cayanus</i>	3	2
80	Double-striped Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	2	2
81	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	1	4
82	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	5	8
83	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	9	10
84	South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>	2	1
85	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	1	100
86	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	1	No Count
87	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	2	3
88	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	4	2
89	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>	2	1
90	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	1	1
91	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	3	20
92	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	2	10
93	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	9	No Count
94	Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>	2	1
95	Plumbeous Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas plumbia</i>	1	1
96	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	7	No Count
97	Plain-breasted Ground Dove	<i>Columbina minuta</i>	1	1
98	Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	12	No Count
99	Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	5	8
100	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	7	3
101	Blue-and-yellow Macaw	<i>Ara ararauna</i>	1	1
102	Red-and-green Macaw	<i>Ara chloropterus</i>	8	8
103	Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>	6	3
104	Red-bellied Macaw	<i>Ara manilata</i>	5	4
105	Red-shouldered Macaw	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i>	3	12
106	Sun Parakeet	GSE <i>Aratinga solstitialis</i>	1	4
107	Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>	10	10+
108	Painted Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura picta</i>	4	6+
109	Golden-winged Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris chrysoptera</i>	2	5
110	Green-rumped Parrotlet	<i>Forpus passerinus</i>	2	6
111	Caica Parrot	GSE <i>Pionopsitta caica</i>	2	3
112	Black-headed Parrot	GSE <i>Pionites melanocephalus</i>	1	4
113	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	6	6+
114	Dusky Parrot	<i>Pionus fuscus</i>	2	2
115	Festive Amazon	<i>Amazona festiva</i>	2	3
116	Yellow-crowned Amazon	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	8	8
117	Orange-winged Amazon	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	6	50
118	Mealy Amazon	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	7	4
119	Red-fan Parrot	<i>Deroptryus accipitrinus</i>	3	8
120	Blue-cheeked Amazon	<i>Amazona dufresniana</i>	3	2
121	Hoatzin	<i>Opisthocomus hoazin</i>	1	12
122	Little Cuckoo	<i>Piaya minuta</i>	1	2
123	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	6	3
124	Black-bellied Cuckoo	<i>Piaya melanogaster</i>	1	1
125	Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	1	Heard

126	Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>	1	1
127	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	10	20+
128	Rufous-winged Ground Cuckoo GSE	<i>Neomorphus rufipennis</i>	2	1
129	Tropical Screech Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>	1	Heard
130	Northern Tawny-bellied Screech Owl	<i>Megascops watsonii</i>	2	2
131	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	2	1
132	Black-banded Owl	<i>Ciccaba huhula</i>	1	2
133	Spectacled Owl	<i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>	1	Heard
134	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bugo virginianus</i>	1	1
135	Least Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles pusillus</i>	2	4
136	Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>	2	2
137	Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutpennis</i>	1	2
138	Band-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i>	1	20
139	Nacunda Nighthawk	<i>Podager nacunda</i>	1	2
140	Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>	1	2
141	Long-tailed Potoo	<i>Nyctibius aethereus</i>	1	1
142	White-winged Potoo	<i>Nyctibius leucopterus</i>	1	1
143	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	1	Heard
144	Ladder-tailed Nightjar	<i>Hydropsalis climacocerca</i>	2	2
145	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	3	1
146	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus cayennensis</i>	5	1
147	Blackish Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus nigrescens</i>	1	1
148	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	1	3
149	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	7	10
150	Gray-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris guianensis</i>	2	6
151	Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus spinicaudus</i>	4	2+
152	Fork-tailed Palm Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata</i>	7	6
153	Eastern Long-tailed Hermit	<i>Phaethrnis superciliosus</i>	1	1
154	Reddish Hermit	<i>Phaethronis ruber</i>	4	2
155	Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	3	2
156	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellisugus</i>	1	1
157	Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>	2	1
158	Blue-chinned Sapphire	<i>Chlorestes notata</i>	2	1
159	Rufous-throated Sapphire	<i>Hylocharis sapphirina</i>	1	1
160	White-chinned Sapphire	<i>Hylocharis cyanus</i>	3	1
161	White-tailed Goldenthrout	<i>Polytmus guainumbi</i>	1	1
162	Green-tailed Goldenthrout	<i>Polytmus theresiae</i>	2	2
163	White-chested Emerald	<i>Amazilia chionopectus</i>	2	3
164	Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>	8	2
165	Black-eared Fairy	<i>Heliophryx auritus</i>	2	2
166	Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>	2	1
167	Black-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>	1	1
168	Green-backed Trogon (Amazonian White-tailed)	<i>Trogon viridis viridis</i>	2	1
169	Guianan Trogon (Amazonian Violaceous Trogon)	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	2	1
170	Black-throated Trogon	<i>Trogon rufus</i>	1	1
171	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	4	6
172	American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	1	1
173	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	6	4
174	Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	3	6
175	Paradise Jacamar	<i>Galbula dea</i>	1	1
176	Yellow-billed Jacamar	<i>Galbula albirostris</i>	1	2

177	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	1	2
178	Green-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula galbula</i>	2	2
179	Great Jacamar	<i>Jacamerops aureus</i>	4	2
180	Guianan Puffbird	<i>Notharchus macrorhynchos</i>	3	2
181	Pied Puffbird	<i>Notharchus tectus</i>	1	3
182	Black Nunbird	GSE <i>Monasa atra</i>	5	4
183	Swallow-winged Puffbird	<i>Chelidoptera tenebrosa</i>	8	10
184	Black-spotted Barbet	<i>Capito niger</i>	2	2
185	Guianan Toucanet	GSE <i>Selenidera piperivora</i>	3	2
186	Black-necked Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>	5	20
187	Green Aracari	GSE <i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>	2	4
188	Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>	5	3
189	Toco Toucan	<i>Ramphastos toco</i>	2	5
190	Red-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>	8	2
191	Golden-spangled Piculet	<i>Picumnus exilis</i>	1	3
192	White-bellied Piculet	<i>Picumnus spilogaster</i>	1	2
193	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>	1	1
194	Golden-collared Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis cassini</i>	2	1
195	Blood-coloured Woodpecker	GSE <i>Veniliornis sanguineus</i>	1	3
196	Yellow-throated Woodpecker	<i>Piculus flavigula</i>	1	1
197	Waved Woodpecker	<i>Celeus undatus</i>	1	2
198	Chestnut Woodpecker	<i>Celus elegans</i>	1	2
199	Cream-coloured Woodpecker	<i>Celeus flavus</i>	2	1
200	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	9	2
201	Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>	4	3
202	Red-necked Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus rubicollis</i>	2	3
203	Pale-legged Hornero	<i>Furnarius leucopus</i>	1	2
204	Hoary-throated Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis kollari</i>	1	6
205	Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>	2	1
206	Yellow-chinned Spinetail	<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomeus</i>	6	12
207	White-chinned Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla merula merula</i>	1	1
208	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	2	1
209	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	1	Heard
210	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	2	1
211	Black-banded Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes picumnus</i>	1	1
212	Amazonian Barred Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes certhia</i>	3	1
213	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i>	2	2
214	Buff-throated Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i>	2	1
215	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	1	1
216	Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus pardalotus</i>	3	1
217	Lineated Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes albolineatus</i>	2	1
218	Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>	1	Heard
219	Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>	2	4
220	Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	1	2
221	Mouse-coloured Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus murinus</i>	2	Heard
222	Northern Slaty Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus punctatus</i>	1	2
223	Amazonian Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus amazonicus</i>	1	1
224	Cinereous Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes caesius</i>	2	2
225	Dusky-throated Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes ardesiacus</i>	4	3
226	Pygmy Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula brachyura</i>	1	1

227	Rufous-bellied Antwren	GSE	<i>Myrmotherula guttata</i>	1	3
228	Brown-bellied Antwren	GSE	<i>Myrmotherula gutturalis</i>	1	2
229	White-flanked Antwren		<i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i>	2	2
230	Long-winged Antwren		<i>Myrmotherula longipennis</i>	2	6
231	Gray Antwren		<i>Myrmotherula menetriesii</i>	2	1
232	Todd's Antwren	GSE	<i>Herpsilochmus stictocephalus</i>	2	6
233	White-fringed Antwren (Southern)		<i>Formicivora grisea grisea</i>	3	1
234	Ash-winged Antwren		<i>Terenura spodioptila</i>	1	Heard
235	Gray Antbird		<i>Cercomacra cinerascens</i>	3	1
236	Rio Branco Antbird	GSE	<i>Cercomacra carbonaria</i>	1	4
237	White-browed Antbird		<i>Myrmoborus leucophrys</i>	1	1
238	Black-chinned Antbird		<i>Hypocnemoides melanopogon</i>	2	2
239	Guianan Warbling Antbird		<i>Hypocnemis cantator</i>	2	1
240	Ferruginous-backed Antbird		<i>Myrmeciza ferruginea</i>	3	2
241	White-plumed Antbird		<i>Pithys albifrons</i>	1	1
242	Rufous-throated Antbird	GSE	<i>Gymnopythis rufigula</i>	2	1
243	Scale-backed Antbird		<i>Hylophylax poecilinotus</i>	2	2
244	Rufous-capped Antthrush		<i>Formicarius colma</i>	1	Heard
245	Spotted Antpitta		<i>Hylopezus macularius</i>	2	Heard
246	Thrush-like Antpitta		<i>Myrmothera campanisona</i>	1	Heard
247	McConnell's Flycatcher		<i>Mionectes macconnelli</i>	2	4
248	Spotted Tody-Flycatcher		<i>Todirostrum maculatum</i>	1	3
249	Common Tody-Flycatcher		<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	3	3
250	Painted Tody-Flycatcher	GSE	<i>Todirostrum pictum</i>	1	1
251	Southern Beardless Tyrannulet		<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	1	2
252	White-lored Tyrannulet		<i>Ornithion inerme</i>	1	2
253	Guianan Tyrannulet		<i>Zimmerius acer</i>	2	1
254	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet		<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>	2	1
255	Mouse-coloured tyrannulet		<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>	2	2
256	Forest Elaenia		<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>	1	Heard
257	Yellow-bellied Elaenia		<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	7	3
258	Plain-crested Elaenia		<i>Elaenia cristata</i>	2	1
259	Lesser Elaenia		<i>Elaenia chiriquensis</i>	1	2
260	Amazonian Scrub-Flycatcher		<i>Sublegatus obscurior</i>	1	1
261	Pale-tipped Inezia		<i>Inezia caudata</i>	1	1
262	Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant		<i>Atalotriccus pilaris</i>	3	2
263	Helmeted Pygmy Tyrant		<i>Lophotriccus galeatus</i>	1	1
264	Bearded Tachuri		<i>Polystictus pectoralis</i>	1	1
265	Crested Doradito		<i>Pseudocolopteryx sclateri</i>	1	1
266	Yellow-olive Flycatcher		<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i>	1	1
267	Ochre-lored Flatbill (Yellow-breasted Flycatcher)		<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>	3	1
268	Yellow-margined Flatbill		<i>Tolmomyias assimilis</i>	1	1
269	Bran-coloured Flycatcher		<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>	1	1
270	Vermilion Flycatcher		<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	4	2
271	Pied Water Tyrant		<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	3	4
272	White-headed Marsh Tyrant		<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>	5	2
273	Grayish Mourner		<i>Rhytipterna simplex</i>	1	1
274	Long-tailed Tyrant		<i>Colonia colonus</i>	1	1
275	Bright-rumped Attila		<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	2	Heard
276	Brown-crested Flycatcher		<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	4	3

277	Tropical Kingbird		<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	15	20+
278	Gray Kingbird		<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	3	6
279	Fork-tailed Flycatcher		<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	6	50
280	Piratic Flycatcher		<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	3	2
281	Streaked Flycatcher		<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	2	2
282	Boat-billed Flycatcher		<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>	2	2
283	Great Kiskadee		<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	7	10
284	Rusty-margined Flycatcher		<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	9	8
285	Lesser Kiskadee		<i>Philohydor licotr</i>	4	1
286	Yellow-throated Flycatcher		<i>Conopias parvus</i>	1	1
287	Guianan Red Cotinga		<i>Phoenicircus carnifex</i>	3	2
288	Pompadour Cotinga		<i>Xipholena punicea</i>	3	9
289	Purple-breasted Cotinga		<i>Cotinga cotinga</i>	1	1
290	Spangled Cotinga		<i>Cotinga cayana</i>	2	1
291	White Bellbird		<i>Procnias albus</i>	2	1
292	Screaming Piha		<i>Liopugus vociferans</i>	6	1
293	Capuchinbird	GSE	<i>Perissocephalus tricolor</i>	3	8
294	Purple-throated Fruitcrow		<i>Querula purpurata</i>	1	2
295	Crimson Fruitcrow		<i>Haematoderus militaris</i>	2	2
296	Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock	GSE	<i>Rupicola rupicola</i>	1	1
297	White-crowned Manakin		<i>Dixiphia pipra</i>	1	1
298	Tiny Tyrant-Manakin	GSE	<i>Tyranneutes virescens</i>	2	1
299	Black Manakin		<i>Xenopipo atronitens</i>	1	2
300	Pink-throated Becard		<i>Pachyramphus minor</i>	1	1
301	Cinereous Becard		<i>Pachyramphus rufus</i>	1	4
302	Black-tailed Tityra		<i>Tityra cayana</i>	4	1
303	White-naped Xenopsaris		<i>Xenopsaris albinucha</i>	1	1
304	Rufous-browed Peppershrike		<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	2	1
305	Red-eyed Vireo		<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	2	1
306	Lemon-chested Greenlet		<i>Hylophilus thoracicus</i>	2	1
307	Ashy-headed Greenlet		<i>Hylophilus pectoralis</i>	2	3
308	Cayenne Jay	GSE	<i>Cayanocorax cayanus</i>	3	6
309	White-winged Swallow		<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	4	4
310	Gray-breasted Martin		<i>Progne chalybea</i>	9	50
311	Brown-chested Martin		<i>Progne tapera</i>	3	20
312	Sand Martin (Bank Swallow)		<i>Riparia riparia</i>	2	1
313	White-banded Swallow		<i>Atticora fasciata</i>	1	2
314	Black-collared Swallow	GSE	<i>Atticora melanoleuca</i>	2	8
315	Barn Swallow		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	3	10
316	Southern Rough-winged Swallow		<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	1	2
317	Bicoloured Wren		<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>	5	2
318	House Wren (Southern)		<i>Troglodytes musculus clarus</i>	3	4
319	Coraya Wren		<i>Thryothorus coraya</i>	2	2
320	Black-capped Donacobius		<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	1	3
321	Tropical Gnatcatcher		<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	4	2
322	Long-billed Gnatwren		<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	1	2
323	Yellowish Pipit		<i>Anthus lutescens</i>	4	20
324	Pale-breasted Thrush		<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>	8	4
325	Bare-eyed Thrush		<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>	1	Heard
326	Tropical Mockingbird		<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	8	10

327	Hooded Tanager	<i>Hemosia pileata</i>	4	8
328	Hepatic Tanager (Lowland)	<i>Piranga lutea macconnelli</i>	1	1
329	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	8	15
330	Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	14	6+
331	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	13	4+
332	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	4	4
333	Spotted Tanager	<i>Tangara punctata</i>	1	2
334	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	1	2
335	Burnish-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>	3	6
336	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	5	4
337	Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	6	2
338	Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	1	1
339	Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>	3	3
340	Bicoloured Conebill	<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>	1	2
341	Chestnut-vented Conebill	<i>Conirostrum speciosum</i>	1	2
342	Grassland Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus aurifrons</i>	6	2
343	Grassland Yellow Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	2	1
344	Wedge-tailed Grass Finch	<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	2	2
345	Gray Seedeater	<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>	5	2
346	Plumbeous Seedeater	<i>Sporophila plumbea</i>	2	10
347	Wing-barred Seedeater	<i>Sporophila americana</i>	2	6
348	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	1	1
349	Chestnut-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i>	3	1
350	Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	3	12
351	Chestnut-bellied Seedfinch	<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>	1	1
352	Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>	6	8
353	Red-and-black Grosbeak	<i>Periporphyrus erythromelas</i>	1	Heard
354	Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>	1	3
355	Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	2	1
356	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	3	10
357	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	2	6
358	Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	1	1
359	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	1	1
360	Rose-breasted Chat	<i>Granatellus pelzeini</i>	1	Heard
361	Flavescent Warbler	<i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i>	1	1
362	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	2	2
363	Green Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius viridis</i>	5	12
364	Red-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i>	2	10
365	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	6	20
366	Moriche Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysoccephalus</i>	3	2
367	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	8	6
368	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	<i>Chrysomus icterocephalus</i>	1	8
369	Orange-backed Troupial	<i>Icterus croconotus</i>	5	2
370	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	2	10
371	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	3	50
372	Giant Cowbird	<i>Scaphidura oryzivora</i>	5	10
373	Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>	4	10
374	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	5	2
375	Red Siskin	<i>Carduelis cucullata</i>	1	4
376	Hooded Siskin	<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>	1	Heard

377	Plumbeous Euphonia		<i>Euphonia plumbea</i>	1	1
378	Golden-bellied Euphonia		<i>Euphonia chrysopasta</i>	4	2
379	Violaceous Euphonia		<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	4	3
380	Golden-sided Euphonia		<i>Euphonia cayennensis</i>	2	1
381	Finsch's Euphonia	GSE	<i>Euphonia finschi</i>	4	2
382	White-vented Euphonia		<i>Euphonia minuta</i>	1	1

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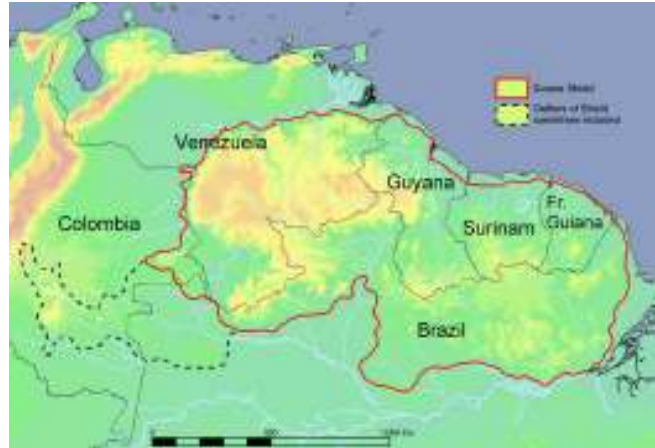
Kevin Bryan
December 2013

A. INTRODUCTION

A.1 The Guinean Shield

Throughout this narrative; reference is made to the Guinean (or Guyanan or Guinain or Guyana or Guianan) Shield; so what is it?

The Shield is a 1.7 billion year-old Precambrian geological formation in north-eastern South America. The figure below gives an indication of coverage.



Source:- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guiana_Shield (Author [Shadowfox](#))

By definition, it is a geo-physical 'region' that has permitted the evolution and maintenance of endemism.

A.2 Note on Sightings

All the sightings in the section below (B. SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS) were made within the core tour - with one exception. On the night of Wed 28 / Thu 29 Nov; Kevin Bryan went on a short night drive with some of the local crew. This consisted of driving to the 'main road', driving along it for a few miles and then stopping to see what 'happened' for a couple of hours. Nothing exceptional happened or was seen. However, what sightings there were recorded in this narrative and designated as 'EXTRA' for the record.

B. SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS

CLASS: MAMMALIA – MAMMALS

Taxonomy

For references and bibliography see Appendix.

Classification and nomenclature is largely based upon Duff and Lawson (2004); itself, based on earlier versions of the major reference work by Wilson and Reader (2005).

The scholarly Emmons and Feer (1997) remains the outstanding (and most practical) guide to the mammals of the region. However, as would be expected, its' taxonomy is now

outdated; although, such is the detail in so compact a volume, that sub-species and other variants are listed for many species.

Duff and Lawson's taxonomy is different from that used in each of Wilson and Mittermeier 2009 and 2011 and Mittermeier et al 2013. However, in the present context, the important differences are few and are indicated where appropriate.

As the Handbook of The Mammals of the World is progressed, and later versions of Wilson and Reader are issued, they are likely to become the default taxonomies for the general reader; for a while!

ORDER: DIDELPHIMORPHIA – American Opossums

A single family order. Along with the Shrew-Opossums (6 species) and the Monito del Monte (1 species) – each of which are in a different order – these are the only marsupials found in the New World.

Family: DIDELPHIDAE – American Opossums

Southern Opossum (Common Opossum) *Didelphis marsupialis*

Similar to the Virginia Opossum (*D. virginiana*) with which it overlaps in Central America and Mexico. Common and widely distributed across north and central South America (east of the Andes), Central America and southern Mexico. A large opossum, which occupies a wide diversity of habitats and feeds on a range of animal (mostly) and plant foods. A singleton, seen at night, by the roadside on Wed 28 / Thu 29 Nov (EXTRA).

ORDER: PILOSA – American Anteaters and Sloths

This order – which is actually quite diverse – is characterised by mammals that have simple teeth or, indeed, no teeth at all. The order Pilosa is extant only in the Americas.

Family: MYRMECOPHAGIDAE - Anteaters

Giant Anteater *Myrmecophaga tridactyla*

Delightfully unmistakable! Seen on several occasions in the savannah areas; although they are not limited to open areas and do occur in rainforest.

Sightings included a female carrying a single young on her back on Tue 3 Dec to numerous singletons at various distances from the vehicles (on Mon 2, Tue 3 Dec and Fri 5 Dec). Considering their highly modified fore-limbs; they move surprisingly fast with a curious loping stilt-like gait. There are no teeth within the extended tubular jaws; which, although not fused, are capable of only very limited movement. Ants are collected and introduced to the body by the tongue; the ants' own formic acid contributing to their own (the ants') digestion within the anteater.

Family: BRADYPOSIDAE – Three-toed Sloths

Pale-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus tridactylus*

One of two sloth species found in Guyana; the other being the Southern Two-toed Sloth (*Choloepus didactylus*).

A sloth's two or three toed-ness, refers only to the fore feet; all sloths have three toes on their hind feet. All three-toed sloths belong to the genus *Bradypus* and all two-toed sloths belong to the genus *Choloepus* (which resides in a different family). Although more similar to each other than any other mammals; the two genera (and families) are actually quite distantly related. Almost a Shield endemic.

Seen in Georgetown Botanical Gardens on the afternoon of Sat 23 Nov; they are both nocturnal and diurnal. The animal was feeding on the fresher leaves in the upper canopy of a very large tree. Although regarded as slow moving; a relatively fast sequence of moves brought the animal first into view and then out of view as it manoeuvred to reach the best leaves on the branch.

Sloth's can occur at high densities and yet be remarkably hard to see!

ORDER: RODENTIA - Rodents

The largest order of mammals.

Family: AGOUTIDAE – Agoutis and Pacas

Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporina*

Like a large, lean, domestic guinea pig with longer legs; the brownish rump providing a slight contrast to the darker body. Weight up to nearly 6Kg. This species has a wide geographical range covering north-central South America. Usually occurring in pairs; they are diurnal feeders that harvest fruits and nuts. They were seen on numerous occasions – mostly running away to seek denser cover. However, at Iwokrama, very good views were had at the margins of the grounds on Tue 26 Nov.

Paca *Cuniculus paca*

A large rodent - up to 15Kg - that is hunted extensively. A large brown agouti-like mammal with white spots. Paca have a huge geographic range covering Central America and north and central South America. A singleton, seen at night, by the roadside on Wed 28 / Thu 29 Nov (EXTRA).

Family: HYDROCHOEIDAE – Capybara

Capybara *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*

The world's largest rodent and the only species in the family. Its' form is familiar to all.

A poor view of a singleton observed from the boat on Mon 2 Dec at Karanambu. It was just after dusk and the animal moved from the riverbank as it was found by torchlight.

ORDER: CARNIVORA - Carnivores

This order has an established but unhelpful name; there are many highly carnivorous mammal species that lie outside of this order and numerous plant eaters within it. Contains all the 'familiar' carnivores.

Family: CANIDAE – Dogs and Foxes

Crab-eating Fox *Cerdocyon thous*

This is the only species of fox found in Guyana. The only other dog-like native mammal is the smaller and very short legged Bush Dog (*Speothos venaticus*) – an animal that looks the least dog-like of any dog.

Its' common name implies both a dietary preference and (by default) a habitat preference. In reality it is a highly adaptable opportunist; it has a huge range across South America, occupies a wide range of habitats and is an omnivorous feeder.

Seen, albeit very briefly, on a number of occasions by some of the group in the savannah areas. However, seen by most of the group on the evening of Fri 29 Nov at Surama on the walk to the dry forest / swamp area.

Family: FELIDAE – Cats

Jaguar *Panthera onca*

Little description required; the largest cat in the Americas and the only very large cat with spots. They are both nocturnal and diurnal. Although they have a huge geographic range (Mexico to Paraguay, Uruguay and northern Argentina (with occasional sightings in the USA)) they are threatened across large swathes of that range.

Some people have seen Jaguar in the Pantanal in Brazil; where the cats often rest on or near riverbanks. Whilst absolutely *nothing* is guaranteed; the probability of seeing a Jaguar in the Pantanal is far higher than the probability of a sighting in Guyana - where the cats do not appear to behave in the same way. In Guyana; Jaguars keep to dense forest and scrub, particularly by day, and it is very difficult to attempt to 'engineer' a potential sighting in the same way as it is in the Pantanal.

On this occasion, two animals were seen – an adult female and an adult male (almost certainly a pair) – at 09:40 on Fri 29 Nov between Atta and Surama. The animals crossed the road where we had stopped to view (very successfully) a White Bell Bird. The smaller female led the crossing followed by the larger and darker male. Photographs taken by Steve Bird revealed the female to have a 'milky' left eye; indicating blindness in that eye.

A fantastic sighting - a big surprise and an immense privilege.

Family: MUSTELIDAE – Otters, Weasels and Badgers

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*

Unmistakable; the 2nd largest species of otter in the world (after the Sea Otter (*Enhydra lutris*)) and, also, the world's 2nd largest Mustelid.

A single animal – adult male – observed from the boat on Mon 2 Dec at Karanambu. This animal tracked our presence and was highly vocal – a factor that, no doubt, ensured that the remainder of the family remained in their holt [den] (the entrances to which were clear to see along the river bank). A diurnal mammal feeding mainly on fish. Many of this particular individuals' teeth were damaged.

These otters are incredibly manoeuvrable in the water and no slouches on land either. Individually and, particularly, in a family group; they can be a fearsome opponent to many potential predators. It's always good to see otters.

Tayra *Eira barbara*

This is the largest terrestrial Mustelid of the region and shows affinities with the Martens of the Old World and North America.

Generally diurnal; they are both terrestrial and arboreal. Seen in dry forest in the savannah area, high-up in a tree, on Thu 5 Dec just before mid-day. Initially facing away, it gave the general appearance of brownish capuchin-like monkey. However, upon turning, its' features became clear as it moved, with ease, along an exposed branch and out of view.

Powerful and adaptable predators they also feed on plant matter as well as small vertebrates (mostly) and invertebrates. For size comparison, they can be up to 7kg; Pine Marten (*Martes martes*) are up to 1.8Kg.

Family: PROCYONIDAE – Raccoons and Allies

Kinkajou *Potos flavus*

Nocturnal and highly arboreal (ably assisted by a prehensile tail). Usually solitary or in pairs. On this occasion - at night, in a large roadside tree on Wed 28 / Thu 29 Nov – there were 3+ animals. Although they will eat invertebrates; they are mainly fruit feeders. It is quite likely that this was a fruiting tree that had attracted a number of animals (EXTRA).

ORDER: CHIROPTERA – Bats

A huge number and diversity of bats were seen in all habitats and in all locations.

This included bats that were actively foraging by day (rather than just re-positioning themselves after disturbance) along the river by the ranch at Lethem at mid-day. However, no roosting bats were found of any species at any stage on the trip.

As for what all these bats were another matter.

The only confirmed sightings were the fishing bats ...

Family: NOCTILIONIDAE – Fishing Bats (Bulldog Bats)

Greater Bulldog Bat (Greater Fishing Bat) *Noctilio leporinus*

They have an attractive chestnut-brown pelage and are one of the largest New World bats. They can be common. They were seen at almost every site over any significant body of water.

It is quite likely that some of the fishing bats observed were:-

Lesser Bulldog Bat (Lesser Fishing Bat) *N. albiventris*

These are only half the size of the Greaters and are relatively less specialised in their echolocation capabilities.

We also saw 'Ghost Bats' (by the jetty at Iwokrama on Mon 25 Nov). There is a genus of Sheath-tailed Bats (Family: Emballonuridae), *Diclidurus* spp. called 'Ghost Bats'. It consists of several species with forms that are predominantly white or whitish. Four species may be found in Guyana – we saw at least one of them.

ORDER: PRIMATES – Primates

In these accounts the more up to date taxonomy within Mittermeier et al (2013) is mostly used.

Family: CEBIDAE – Squirrel Monkeys and Capuchins

Guinean Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri sciureus*

Despite the name, this species is Shield centric rather than a Shield endemic; it is found in an area south of the Amazon.

S. sciureus used to be used for the 'Common Squirrel Monkey' which has now been split into a number of species. Emmons and Feer (1997) show the wide distribution of the 'old' species and Mittermeier et al (2013) provide the distribution maps for the 'new' species.

A small attractive monkey with a particularly long tail (which is not prehensile). Less robust than the capuchin monkeys. Group sizes can be large (>20-30); although, because of the vegetation and movement of the animals, it is often difficult to make out more than five or so – as was the case with us.

See from the boat on Mon 2 Dec at Karanambu.

Guinean Brown Capuchin (Black-capped Capuchin / Brown Capuchin / Brown-tufted Capuchin) *Sapajus apella*

Previously described as *Cebus apella* and, as which, it still appears in many texts.

This species is definitely not limited to the Shield and occurs well south of the Amazon into central Brazil – the name Brown Capuchin is more fitting.

An attractive dark capuchin with lighter hair bordering the face. As with the squirrel monkey, only a few of the group could be seen; although, in this case, the typical group size is much smaller (5-10).

See from the boat on Mon 2 Dec at Karanambu.

Guinean Weeper Capuchin (Weeper Capuchin / Weeping Capuchin / Wedge-capped Capuchin) *Cebus olivaceus*

Pretty much a Shield endemic.

Seen on a number of occasions (Tue 26 Nov at Iwokrama, Fri 29 Nov at Atta, Fri 29 Nov at Surama, Sat 1 Dec at Surama and at a number of locations between sites).

An attractive capuchin that really does have a wedge of dark hair (wedge-point facing forward) on the top of the head – the field guide, Emmons and Feer (1997), still offers the more evocative illustration.

Unlike the squirrel monkeys; the capuchins have smaller semi-prehensile tails.

Family: ATELIDAE – Howlers, Spider Monkeys, Woolly Monkeys and Muriquis

All members of this family have strong prehensile tails.

Guinean Red Howler – *Alouatta macconnelli*

Effectively a Shield endemic.

Emmons and Feer (1997) describe one 'Red' Howler (*A. seniculus*) covering a large swathe of central and N/NW South America. Duff and Lawson (2004) list the Bolivian Red Howler [Monkey] (*A. sara*) and the Venezuelan Red Howler [Monkey] (*A. seniculus*). Mittermeier et al (2013) describe four Red Howlers with *A. seniculus* denoting the now Columbian Red Howler (which extends far beyond Columbia). All of which shows that mammal taxonomy can be just as lively as bird taxonomy!

It's always good to both see and hear howlers; we saw them on several occasions (although never more than one or two) and heard them every day outside of the Georgetown area and the 'pure' savannah areas of the south. We even heard them in the forested savannah margins.

The best sighting was of a singleton on Sun 23 Nov. This was from a boat in the Hoatzin area. A stunning view; the animal, which was fairly low-down, was a bright red-orange.

Red-faced Black Spider Monkey (Guinean Spider Monkey / Red-faced Spider Monkey / Black Spider Monkey) *Ateles paniscus*

Another monkey species with as many common names as there are texts.

This is a Shield endemic; it is also limited within the Shield - it is not found west of the Essequibo river.

An agile and highly mobile species that was seen on two occasions. The first encounter was on Tue 26 Nov when some of the group saw a troop of spider monkeys express their displeasure at a perched Harpy Eagle; what an incredible bonus!

The second sighting occurred during a morning walk in the Surama area on Sun 1 Dec. The tour group followed a trail that took us beneath a troop that was dispersed on either side of the trail. As we moved along the trail, the monkeys were not sure which route to take. This resulted in some good views of the animals moving through the trees.

One particular individual stopped and stared down at us for a prolonged period; it really was like a child's toy monkey that could be purchased 20-30 years ago with thick black fur, a red plastic/rubber moulded face and chimp-like ears. An interesting and amusing encounter!

ORDER: PERISSODACTYLA – Odd-toed Ungulates

Family: EQUIDAE – Horses and Relatives

Domestic Horse *Equus caballus*

A feral herd was seen – at distance – on Thu 5 Dec in the savannah. Upon seeing us they galloped further away.

Descendents of European introductions that, over time, either escaped or were released. No more or less a native in the Americas than are the Grey Squirrel and the Rose-ringed Parakeet in Britain (unfortunately in both cases).

ORDER: ARTIODACTYLA – Even-toed Ungulates

Family: CERVIDAE – Deer

Red Brocket (Red Brocket Deer / Common Red Brocket / Common Red Brocket Deer) – *Mazama gouazoubria*

A solitary species of both diurnal and nocturnal habits. Found in a variety of habitats, including forest edges and gardens, anywhere where the under-story is dense or dense nearby.

The most widespread deer of its type in South America and the largest. The smaller (and greyer) Amazonian Brown Brocket (*M. nemorivaga*) is also found in Guyana.

Two animals seen at night, by the roadside, on Wed 28 / Thu 29 Nov (EXTRA). One of the animals, a significant distance from the other, was a fawn that had been separated from an adult female.

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