

## Sinai Peninsula, Egypt 19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> December 2004

**Participants: Alex Lees, Lynsey Smith**

Owing to the vagaries of geo-politics, Lynsey & I enjoyed a terrorism-subsidized holiday to Sinai for £220 apiece, all in. This is a well-worn route, so this report is more a vehicle for the photos.... Incidentally snorkelling off RM was better than birding.

Itinerary:

19/12/05

LHR-Taba-Nuweiba (1)

20/12/05

Nuweiba

21/12/05

St. Katherine's Monastery & environs (2)

22/12/05

Nuweiba

23/12/05

Ras Mohammed National Park (3)

24/12/05

Nuweiba-Taba-LHR

### *Systematic list*

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata* (3)

**Chukar** *Alectoris chukar* (2)

**Sand Partridge** *Ammoperdix heyi* (2)

**Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis* (1)

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* (3)

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striatus* (1)

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* (1)

**Western Reef Heron** *Egretta gularis* (1)

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea* (1,3)

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* (3)

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus* (1,3)

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* (1,2,3)

**Eurasian Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus* (3)

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula* (1,3)

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus* (1,3)

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii* (1)

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola* (3)

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta* (1)

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina* (1,3)

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* (3)

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* (1,3)

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus* (1,3)

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* (1,3)

**Sooty Gull** *Larus hemprichii* (3)

**White-eyed Gull** *Larus leucophthalmus* (3)

**Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus* (3)

**Slender-billed Gull** *Larus genei* (3)

**Pontic Gull** *Larus cachinnans* (1,3)

**Heuglin's Gull** *Larus heuglini* (3)

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* (3)

**Greater Crested Tern** *Sterna bergii* (3)

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia* (1,2,3)  
**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* (1,2,3)  
**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* (1,2,3)  
**White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis* (1) First for Sinai.  
**Bar-tailed Lark** *Ammomanes cincturus* (3)  
**Desert Lark** *Ammomanes deserti* (2)  
**Greater Hoopoe Lark** *Alaemon alaudipes* (1,2,3)  
**Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* (1,2,3)  
**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus* (1)  
**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba* (1,2,3)  
**White-spectacled Bulbul** *Pycnonotus xanthopygos* (1,2,3)  
**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica* (1)  
**Blackstart** *Cercomela melanura* (2)  
**Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maura* (1,3)  
**Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* (1,3)  
**Eastern Mourning Wheatear** *Oenanthe lugens* (1,2,3)  
**Hooded Wheatear** *Oenanthe monacha* (1,2,3)  
**White-crowned Wheatear** *Oenanthe leucopyga* (2)  
**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius* (1)  
**Scrub Warbler** *Scotocerca inquieta* (2)  
**Sardinian Warbler** *Sylvia melanocephala* (1,2,3)  
**Asian Desert Warbler** *Sylvia nana* (3)  
**Northern Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita* (1,2,3)  
**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* (3)  
**Brown-necked Raven** *Corvus ruficollis* (1,3)  
**Fan-tailed Raven** *Corvus rhipidurus* (2)  
**Tristram's Starling** *Onychognathus tristramii* (2)  
**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* (1,2,3)  
**European Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris* (1)  
**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* (1)  
**Common Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina* (1)  
**Sinai Rosefinch** *Carpodacus synoicus* (2)



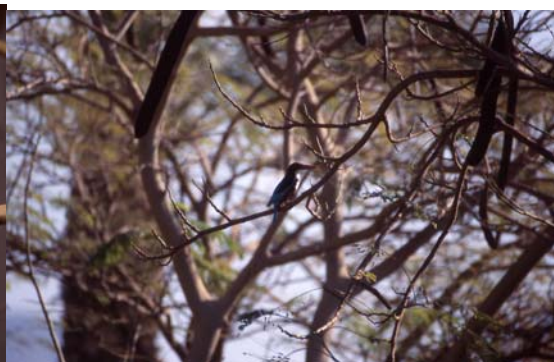
**Chukars** *Alectoris chukar* and **Sand Partridge** *Ammoperdix heyi* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



**Western Reef Heron** *Egretta gularis* Nuweiba, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



**Striated Heron** *Butorides striatus* and **Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii* Nuweiba, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* and **White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis* Nuweiba 24<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright A.Lees).



**Desert Lark** *Ammomanes deserti* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).



**Greater Hoopoe Lark** *Alaemon alaudipes* Nuweiba, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).



**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus* and **Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica* Nuweiba 24<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).



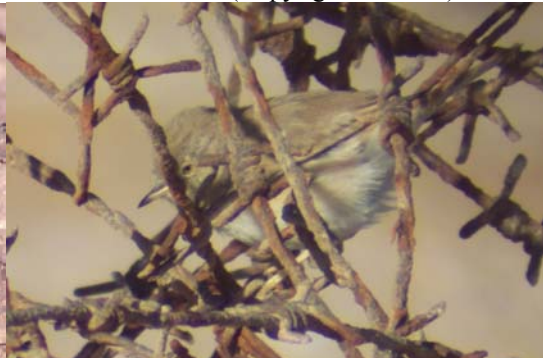
**Blackstart** *Cercomela melanura* and **Eastern Mourning Wheatear** *Oenanthe lugens* Nuweiba, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2004 (Copyright, L. Smith).



**White-crowned Wheatear** *Oenanthe leucopyga heyi* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 and **Desert Wheatear** *Oenanthe deserti* Ras Mohammed National Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).



**Hooded Wheatear** *Oenanthe monacha* Nuweiba, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



**Scrub Warbler** *Scotocerca inquieta* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees) and **Asian Desert Warbler** *Sylvia nana* Ras Mohammed National Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



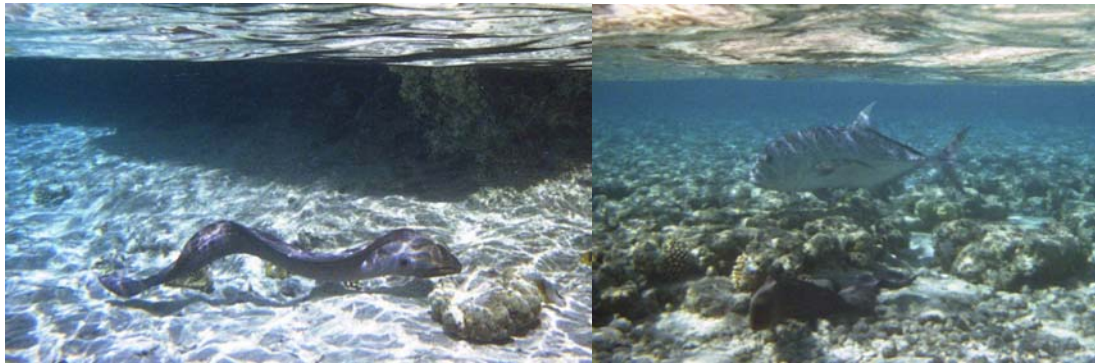
**Tristram's Starling** *Onychognathus tristramii* and **Sinai Rosefinch** *Carpodacus synoicus* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith & A. Lees).



**Sinai Rosefinches** *Carpodacus synoicus* Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).



Coral Reef at Ras Mohammed National Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



**Giant Moray** *Gymnothorax javanicus* at Ras Mohammed National Park, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 (Copyright L. Smith).



Saint Katherine's Protectorate, 21st December 2004 (Copyright A. Lees).