



# UTTARAKHAND

## Spring Bird Festival

Bulletin - II | November 2015

### Ten New Species Added to the PAWALGARH CHECKLIST!

– Rajiv Bhartari, APCCF-Environment

The 2nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival was successfully conducted by the Uttarakhand Forest Department at Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve from 4th to 8th February 2015.

Birdwatching at Pawalgarh, Sitabani and Kyari was the highlight of the Bird Festival. Seasoned birders and beginners, school children, members of the local community, forest staff from across Uttarakhand and many others showed great enthusiasm on the birding trails and everyone wholeheartedly agreed that the birdwatching was rewarding. Birdwatching was conducted at eight different forest trails, and over the four days, 800 people went birdwatching not only from Uttarakhand, but also Punjab, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Karnataka, Delhi, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and a few foreigners. The birdwatching was conducted by seasoned guides from various parts of Garhwal and Kumaon including those from rural communities. The Checklist of Birds of

Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve released at the Inaugural Ceremony of the 2nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival contains a list of 352 bird species. Not only were 210 bird species from this list were seen at the Bird Festival, but another 10 new species were observed taking the list of birds at Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve to 365 species. Lesser Fish Eagle, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Brown Dipper, Taiga Flycatcher, Ashy-throated Warbler and Nepal Wren Babbler were just some of the new additions to the list.

At Kaladhungi, 450 school children from 36 local schools and 5 outstation schools from Gwalior, Dehradun, Nanital and Kashipur were taken for birdwatching along 3 forest trails. In addition to local schools from the landscape, children from 4 communities Gujjar, Macchwara, Sapera and Kanjar also participated. Differently abled children were also taken birdwatching. In addition, Jim Corbett Heritage Walks at Kaladhungi were hugely popular. About 215 students went on Jim Corbett Heritage Walk. Two of these walks were conducted by Padma Shri Tom Alter. Tom Alter conducted book reading sessions from Jim Corbett's books at Pawalgarh and Kaladhungi.

The performance by globally renowned Padma Vibhushan Dr Sonal Mansingh and her troupe "Akashgami" mesmerized the audience and reminded about morals that are both timeless and universal in appeal. The performance was very well received by visitors to the Bird Festival as well as by forest staff and villagers. It helped in attracting rural folk to the Bird Festival and greatly helped in raising the profile of the event. A rural tourism and craft mela was conducted at Chunakhan over all the four days. Numerous other workshops such as photography, bird identification and conservation, bird in arts enthralled visitors to the Festival.

The Bird Festival was sponsored by MoEFCC, CAMPA, UFDC, UTDB, NABARD, and UGVs. Fourteen organizations supported the event – Titli Trust, Corbett Gram Vikas Samiti, Rainbow Friends of Nature & Environment, WWF, NSI, Himal Prakriti, Gangotri, ONGC, GBPIHED, Welham Boy's School, Kalpavriksh and Waste Warriors.

The next Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival will be organized at Asan Conservation Reserve from 11th to 14th February 2016. This will help to achieve the aim of making Uttarakhand a major birding destination, and through this, enhancing both bird conservation and local community livelihoods.



Pawalgarh landscape

Kalkashan Naseem



Ashy-throated Warbler

Subhoranjan Sen



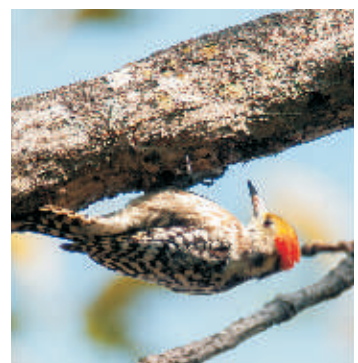
Nepal Wren Babbler

Gunjan Arora



Hooded Pitta

Rajesh Panwar



Yellow-fronted Woodpecker

Subhoranjan Sen

#### Inside this issue...

Ten New Species Added to the PAWALGARH CHECKLIST! .....	01
The Tigers Tell His Tales .....	02
Pawalgarh Prakrati Prahari.....	02
पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी .....	03
Pawalgarh's Dazzling Butterflies.....	04
What's Cooking with Kumaoni Cuisine?.....	05
Walking Down Memory Lane at Chhoti Haldwani .....	06
Publications-PAWALGARH Bird Festival.....	06
Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve : Festival Report Out.....	07
Chhoti Haldwani Centenary Festival, Kaladhungi.....	08
Doon Valley Spring Bird Festival.....	08

# The TIGER Tell His TALES – Tom Alter



Just imagine, a family of tigers, with grandparents and grandchildren, somewhere in the jungle near Kaladungi, settling down for the night after a good meal, and the oldest male growling to get everyone’s attention, and then telling tales he had heard as a cub of a man called Corbett who walked the jungles like a tiger, growled like a tiger, loved the land like a tiger, was as fearless as a tiger, as noble, as wise – and – wonder of wonders – he stopped hunting us just for sport, just for the thrill, and even set up a vast park – just for us – where we still live in peace and comfort.

And – this the senior growls with deep emotion – his grandfather had actually seen Corbett, had seen his footprints, had sensed his presence. The young cubs drift off to sleep, but they nod their heads in mutual wonder – wonder at how a man could actually be love them, think like them, respect them, and give up hunting of them – a man!

As I read stories of Corbett to schoolchildren near Pawalgarh and Kaladungi, these were the thoughts that swirled in my heart and mind – as we read together of the Boar River, with it flowing so close by – as we read together of the Kaladungi jungle, while actually deep within it – as we felt Corbett’s passion in the easy flow of his words, it was as if nothing has changed, as if Corbett would still arise in his Kaladungi bungalow, wish Maggie good-morning, have a cup of tea, and head off with Robin into his beloved jungle.

And then when we walked together past the old hunting lodge, past the still praying mandir, down towards the glade, forded the Boar river, and eased ourselves through the one-mile jungle, Corbett was showing us the way – guiding us, teaching us, sharing with us – and when we came upon a group of artisans on the banks of the Boar, carving gourds out of wood with the most rudimentary of equipment, using the power of the river to run their tools, Corbett leaned against a tree on the higher bank, smoked his *bidi*, sipped his tea, nodded in approval, and then melted away into the evening, into time itself.



Tigress at Baur River, Kaladhungi | Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve - Camera Trap Image

Corbett writes with such humour and human understanding about ghosts, and *churails*, and girls’ skirts rising in the water around them as they dip to bath, to the calls of birds and animals, to the shades of the leaves of his favourite trees, to the frailty of both nature and man, to the need to preserve what is beautiful and truth in both animals and humans – he is not a single-minded *shikari*, hunting to fulfill his ego and his pride – he was – and is – a naturalist who loved his ‘school’, his jungle, as he loved the man within himself.

Thanks to the vision of Rajiv Bhartari – and others – I have been sharing the Corbett stories with the people of

Kaladungi, Ramnagar, Dhikala, Delhi, Dehra Dun, Mussoorie – for the past almost ten years – tourists, schoolchildren, forest guards, forest administrators – even the distant tiger, listening in – it has been an honour, and this year at Pawalgarh was especially wonderful, because in just three days we could touch so many people, from Ministers to the mundane – could share Corbett with his very people.

May I continue to be blessed – and may the tales of Corbett always ring out through the evening like temple bells, like the cries of the jungle – like our very own voices.

## PAWALGARH Prakrati Prahari... -Soaring on the Wings of an Idea

– Sanjay Sondhi



Sandani Gaja | Sanjay Sondhi

Rainbow Friends of Nature training PPP youth

My first visit to Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve (PCR) in 2014 left me enthralled. Here I was in the very landscape that Jim Corbett walked, on foot! Unlike Corbett Tiger Reserve, where most areas are visited in a vehicle or elephant back, the attraction of Pawalgarh was that I could walk in this marvelous, bio-diverse landscape. At the same time, I observed that there were no guides, no regulations, and pretty much tourists did as they pleased in the Conservation Reserve. In addition, the sight of tourists sitting glumly in jeeps meant that their experience at Pawalgarh, too, left a lot to be desired. Despite the success of the 2 nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival in February 2015, the niggling thought remained; could not we make Pawalgarh a model destination for the forest department, tourists and the local community, a win-win for all stakeholders?

Thus was born the Pawalgarh Ecotourism Development Project. With ONGC CSR agreeing to fund this and with Bachi Singh Bisht and Rajesh Bhat of Rainbow Friends of Nature and Environment coming on board as partners, we were all set to begin work in March 2015 with support and encouragement from the Ramnagar Forest Divisions and the Ecotourism Wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department.

Six months down the line, I am astounded by the progress made! Pawalgarh Prakriti Prahari (PPP), the youth group formed at PCR is up and running, in fact soaring. The excitement is palpable; now sixty members strong, the youth actively participate in the nature guide-training program. The speed at which milestones are being achieved (see box on next page) and new goals are being set are leaving us breathless!



**Come, walk in the Forests of Pawalgarh**

Pawalgarh Eco-tourism Development Project (2015-17)

The people of Pawalgarh welcome you to experience nature's treasures. Go birdwatching at Kyari, visit the temple at Sitabani, experience home stays at Mankanthpur and revel in Pawalgarh's floral and faunal diversity.

A participative community initiative to develop eco-tourism at Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve:

- Creating awareness of its rich biodiversity and conservation
- Skill development of local youth as Nature Guides
- Promoting local homestays
- Promoting local organic produce and cuisine
- Marketing Pawalgarh as an eco-tourist destination

Pawalgarh was the site of the 2nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival in Feb 2015.

To experience Pawalgarh with a nature guide contact Pawalgarh Prakriti Pahari : + 91 00000 00000

Proposed Signage at Pawalgarh

## KEY MILESTONES

- **Apr 2015:** Starter nature guide training course at Chunakhan
- **May 2015:** Pawalgarh Prakriti Pahari is born
- **June 2015:** First butterfly survey at Pawalgarh
- **July 2015 onwards:** Rainbow Friends of Nature begin fortnightly field training sessions for PPP nature guides
- **July 2015:** PPP logo gets finalized; conceptualized by Manohar Singh Manral
- **August 2015:** Clean Parthenium Day. Clean Corbett Day. PPP does its bit for conservation.
- **August 2015:** PPP membership grows to 60 people! Members join from many villages-Pawalgarh, Mankanthpur, Chhoi, Gaibua, Kotabagh and Kyari.
- **September 2015:** Target date for launch of nature guides for Pawalgarh set with DFO, Ramnagar as December 2015.
- **September 2015:** Refresher nature guides training course conducted by Rainbow Friends of Nature.
- **October 2015:** Theory & practical tests conducted to select nature guides for PCR.
- **November 2015:** Pawalgarh butterfly brochure and bulletin ready.

Registered guides will be appointed soon. These guides will ensure a quality experience for tourists. Discussions are on for developing rural homestays, promoting local cuisine in a shop in PCR, registering PPP as a society and conservation programs by the Forest Department receives loads of support from PPP. Hope soars; PPP itself is readying to take to wing. A great experience for tourists; ethical guiding; rural homestays; local cuisine; support for conservation action...will all this and more happen? Time will tell, but the first baby steps of PPP are a beacon of hope.



## पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी

उम्मीदों की उड़ान

-मनोहर सिंह मनराल

पवलगढ़ कन्जरवेशन रिजर्व के आस-पास के ग्रामीणों को राज्य गठन के पहले से ही ये आशा रही कि उत्तराखण्ड राज्य निर्माण के पश्चात वनों के अस्तित्व से वे लाभान्वित होंगे, और वनों के संरक्षण के लिए वे हमेशा गंभीर रहे, इसी कारण से स्थानीय लोगों ने ईको-पर्यटन को अपनी आजीविका के रूप में अपनाने का प्रयास किया, अधिकांश लोगों को मन है कि पर्यावरण से छेड़छाड़ के बगैर स्थानीय लोगों की आर्थिक स्थिति सुदृढ़ करने हेतु यदि ईको-पर्यटन को अपनाया जाय तो वन-संरक्षण के प्रति लोगों की सोच और भी प्रबल होगी, एक अन्तराल के उपरान्त इस सोच को और बल मिला जब ४ से ८ फरवरी २०१५ तक पवलगढ़ में “स्प्रिंग बर्ड फेस्टिवल” का आयोजन किया गया, इससे देश-विदेश में पवलगढ़ को नई पहचान मिली। यह आयोजन श्री राजीव भर्तरी; निदेशक

ईको-टूरिज्म, सुश्री कहकशां नसीम; डी.एफ.ओ. रामनगर वन प्रभाग, श्री संजय सोंढ़ी व श्रीमति अंचल सोंढ़ी, तितली ट्रस्ट के संयुक्त प्रयास से स्थानीय लोगों के सपनों को कार्यान्वित करने की दिशा में एक ठोस पहल था।

दि. २६.०५.२०१५ को “पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी” नामक संस्था का गठन किया गया और सभी के विचारों की सहमति से इसके नियम बनाये गये। श्री मनोहर सिंह मनराल-पर्यावरण हितैषी ने इसका प्रतीक चिन्ह डिजाइन किया जिसे “तितली ट्रस्ट” द्वारा अंतिम रूप दिया गया, प्रत्येक १५ दिनों में “प्रकृति प्रहरी” विभिन्न स्थानों पर पर्यावरण से संबंधित कार्यशालाओं का आयोजन करते हैं, जिन्हें रेन्नों क्लब के जाने माने नेचुरलिस्ट श्री बची सिंह बिस्ट व श्री राजेश भट्ट के मार्गदर्शन में सम्पन्न किया

जाता है। “पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी” के सदस्य स्थानीय क्रिया-कलापों में तो बढ़-चढ़ कर भाग लेते ही हैं, साथ ही देश-विदेश में पर्यावरण से संबन्धित सभी घोषित महत्वपूर्ण दिवसों पर कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से ग्रामीणों में जागरूकता लाने का सतत प्रयास करते हैं, “प्रकृति प्रहरी” के नियम व कार्यों से प्रेरित होकर सदस्यों की संख्या निरन्तर बढ़ रही है, अधिकांश सदस्य “होम स्टे” पर्यटन सफारी, नेचर गाइड तथा अन्य गतिविधियों से भागीदारी करते हैं, इस क्षेत्र में अपनी योग्यता के अनुरूप सभी के लिए कार्य-चयन की भरपूर संभावनायें हैं, “पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी” के पर्यावरण के क्षेत्र में समर्पित भागीदारी के कारण डब्लू. डब्लू. एफ, कार्बेट फाउंडेशन जैसे कई एन.जी.ओ. “पवलगढ़ प्रकृति प्रहरी” के क्रमबद्ध निरन्तर व उत्साह से भरपूर विस्तार से वह दिन दूर नहीं जब के सभी संरक्षित क्षेत्रों में “पवलगढ़ कन्जरवेशन रिजर्व” पहले मॉडल के रूप में स्थापित होगा, और मानव-वन्यजीव के आपसी संघर्ष को कम करने में सहायक सिद्ध होगा।

# PAWALGARH'S Dazzling Butterflies

– Sanjay Sondhi



Haathigaliyar Waterhole of Pawalgarh | Kabkashan Nassem

Standing at the Pawalgarh Forest Rest House, I gawked at the activity around me. The Forest Rest House’s compound buzzed with butterflies in flight. I did not know where to look, so great was the butterfly diversity and numbers. This experience, repeated itself over the next three days! It was the hot month of May and I was at the Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve for a survey of its butterfly and moth fauna, the first in what I hope will be a multi-year, multi season study. Just the first survey, during which we recorded close to a hundred butterfly species, and twice as many moth species, convinced me about Pawalgarh’s terrific lepidopteran diversity.



Copper Flash *Rapala pheretima* | Sanjay Sondhi



Giant Redeye *Gangara thyrasis* | Sanjay Sondhi

Here are some of the butterfly “specials” at Pawalgarh....

- Spot Swordtail *Graphium nomius*...Most commonly seen on the wing in April and May. On hot summer days, many individuals can be seen mud-puddling together at moist spots.
- Copper Flash *Rapala pheretima*...Seen occasionally at Pawalgarh. First reported from Uttarakhand by Smetacek (1995) from Bhimtal and Kaladhungi in Nainital District extending its range westwards to Kumaon.
- Redspot *Zesius chrysomallus*... Can be spotted near its larval food plant (Guava). First reported from Uttarakhand by Singh (2005) from Dehradun. No published record from Kumaon but I saw it at the Khichdi River banks in Pawalgarh in June 2015.
- Spangled Plushblue *Flos asoka*...This pretty butterfly was first reported from Uttarakhand by Singh (2003), though Smetacek (2001) first reported in from Kumaon in 2011. Seen occasionally at Pawalgarh.
- One-Spot Grass Yellow *Eurema andersoni*...This species can be seen mud-puddling at the river banks in company of other grass yellows. Though seen occasionally in Garhwal and Kumaon, there have been no published records of this butterfly from Uttarakhand in more than a hundred years!
- Giant Redeye *Gangara thyrasis*...The Giant Redeye has been reported from Nepal in the east and from Kangra in Himachal Pradesh in the west. There were no records of this species from Uttarakhand until I spotted an individual feeding on a Costus flower at Pawalgarh in August 2015. I only had a visual sighting of the butterfly, and could not get photographic evidence.

Is your appetite whetted yet? If not, head for Pawalgarh for a butterflying session, and I can assure you that the butterfly diversity will only pique your interest further!



Redspot *Zesius chrysomallus* | Kalesh Sadasivan



One-Spot Grass Yellow *Eurema andersoni* | Sanjay Sondhi



Spangled Plushblue *Flos asoka* | Sanjay Sondhi

# What's Cooking with Kumaoni Cuisine?

– Kahkashan Naseem (DFO Ramnagar)

Kumaon is the eastern region of Uttarakhand. Most of the cities here were settled in the medieval period of Indian history. The silk route connecting India with China and Tibet greatly influenced Kumaoni traditions and cuisine. During the Mughal period, a large influx of warrior clans also migrated to Kumaon from Rajasthan and even Maharashtra, again influencing its cuisine. During British rule, the Kumaon region was developed as summer capital of Northern Provinces resulting in hill stations such as Ranikhet and Nainital. The British and western influence in cuisine specially bakery items is very visible.

Kumaoni cuisine is mostly vegetarian. The lush green forests of Kumaon have a great influence on the cuisine as most of the ingredients come directly from the forests or very near to their wild relatives, specially condiments. Vegetables usually made from farm fresh vegetables and leaves contain much fiber and highly recommended mineral nutrients, larger uptake of the fibers and mineral to control the cholesterol, blood pressure and other related diseases and disorders. Pulses are also highly rich in proteins, which are easily digestible and very tasty. Their additives enhance the taste of the food so much that there is no need of heavy oil and ghee to make the food tasty. Various recipes of pulses like “*Bhatt*”, “*Gahat*”, “*Urad*”, “*Kali Masoor*” and “*Rajma*” are prevalent in the main course which are very spicy and taste-bud tickling. Vegetables are made tasty by addition of condiments like “*bhangeera*” and “*ajwain*” Rice is usually hard-boiled. The local variant of the Basmati rice is also grown which is very aromatic but its grains are smaller. The decoction of various pulses mixed and the hard-boiled rice makes the famous recipe called “*Ras Bhaat*” which is highly nutritional and tasty. “*Saag*” or “*Hari sabji*” is made from wild Stinging nettle (*Bichhoo ghaas*), *Chauli* (Amaranthus), and mustard leaves. Chutneys and pickles have a special place in the cuisine. The famous “*Bhangeeray ki chutney*” is made from the seeds of cannabis. These are only a few examples of lip-smacking Kumaoni cuisine!

With the advent of packaged and junk foods in modern times, Kumaoni cuisine has slipped into the shadows. At the 2nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival, which was held at Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve in February 2015, an effort was made by the Uttarakhand Forest Department to revive Kumaoni cuisine. Women Self Help Groups from villages around



Kahkashan Naseem, DFO Ramnagar tasting some local food at the festival

Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve were asked to prepare and to sell local cuisine at the festival. Women-folk from Pawalgarh, Mankanthpur, Chhoi and Gaibua were very enthusiastic, but needed some hand holding. Support was sought by the Divisional Forest Office of the Ramnagar Forest Division from Rainbow Friends of Nature, a non-profit local NGO, for the motivation, preparation and management of the local Self Help Groups. After several meetings, the menu was decided based on what cuisine would appeal to the tourists.

During the Bird Festival, these humble ladies got a stall provided by the UKFD to sell their recipes of Kumaoni cuisine. The already shy and not-so-confident ladies were made to face the outside world! The double whammy was that they had to compete with the stalls of Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam and Institute of Hotel Management who are seasoned players in the field of cuisine and hospitality. Though hesitant to begin with, the women soon confidently took to the floor. The taste, quality, freshness and low calorie Kumaoni food was very popular. Their food items such as *Mandawa ki roti*, *Hari sabzi*, *Papita ki chutney*, *Moong vada* became a hit at the Festival and demand outstripped supply! The women made a profit of Rs. 40,000/- during the festival and were very grateful to the UKFD for providing them with this opportunity. We hope this small step for the women of Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve may become a giant leap in the future, and we get loads of tasty Kumaoni cuisine to eat!



Come; get a taste of local **KUMAONI CUISINE**  
Chhoti Haldwani Centenary Festival, Kaladhungi  
(25-27 December 2015)



Local women preparing Kumaoni food

# Walking Down Memory Lane at CHHOTI HALDWANI

-by Anjali Bhartari Ravi (Heritage Interpreter& Consultant)

The 2nd Uttarakhand Bird Festival at Pawalgarh, was notable for many interesting activities...but my favourite was the series of heritage walks I got to curate for the festival. Almost 700 students and adults participated in groups of 40 to 70 both in the morning and evening. With the book 'Walking with Corbett' as a resource material for our walks in Chhoti Haldwani, we prepared to showcase the village where the legendary conservationist Jim Corbett lived. Assisting us in the festival were some of the first members of the community who had trained as nature guides in 2003, and who still continue to conduct these popular walks, carrying forward the legacy of Jim Corbett.

School children from nearby places like Ramnagar, Dhela and Nainital and others from further away like Dehradun and Gwalior enjoyed the walk down memory lane. No matter how near or far they came from, the experience was the same; one of awe and amazement; of being able to walk in the forest and be told that this was once a hunting ground for the young Corbett. Corbett, who took his first lessons of shooting here and shot a leopard at the age of 7! It was an experience to walk along the canal which is an engineering marvel; to see the guzzling water in one part and suddenly seeing it disappear at other.



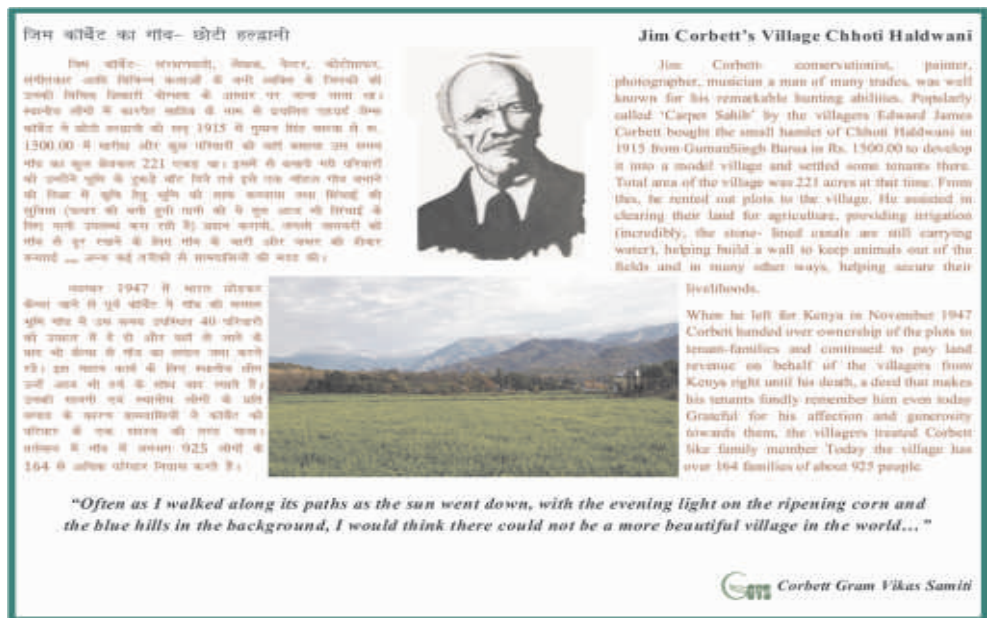
Anjali Ravi and Tom Alter walk people down memory lane

Chhoti Haldwani, Jim Corbett's village, was central to all activities. Once dinner was over it was time to walk in the dark on the small village *batiya* (village track) watching the moon which was in its full glory during those days and waiting to hear animal calls from the surrounding jungles. The children were up early, every morning, enjoying the fresh air and photographing birds.

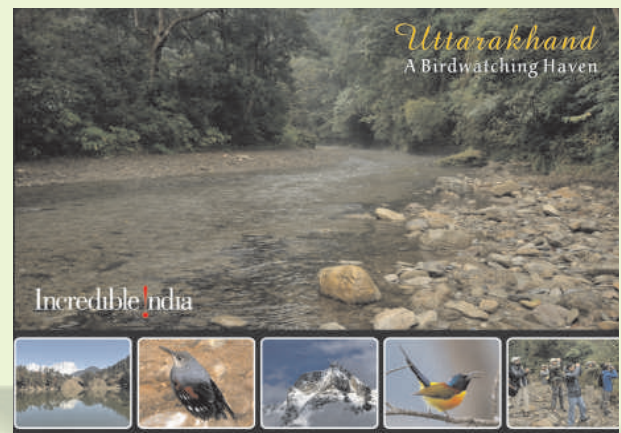
The after-dinner film on Corbett's legacy was a great audio visual delight, helping to put things in perspective of an era they have not seen. The film has scenes from the films Jim Corbett made in 1935 of the landscape and its wildlife. It also gave them a glimpses of the Corbett National Park, the India's first National Park.

The sumptuous food, the jungle walks, walking along the flowing water of the canal, the quaint village, the *chaupal*, film and a healthy dose of Jim Corbett was an enriching experience for the students. The book readings in the evening by Tom Alter added a wonderful flavour to the festival, keeping everyone spellbound and wanting more every night.

I enjoyed every bit of it though it was taxing to handle a group of 70 people for every heritage walk. The village guides trained by us from the community were a great help. In spite of having been exposed to 15 years of tourism, the village folk still remain grounded and are truly taking the legacy of Jim Corbett forward.



## Publications-PAWALGARH Bird Festival



Uttarakhand A Birding Haven



Uttarakhand Bird Call CD 200 species



Pawalgarh Bird Checklist

# PAWALGARH Conservation Reserve

## 2nd Uttarakhand Spring Bird Festival (4-8 February, 2015)



Dance Performance by Padma Vibhushan Dr. Sonal Mansingh



Honorable Dinesh Agarwal, Forest Minister being felicitated by Rajiv Bhartari, CCF Ecotourism



Release of the Bird Songs of Uttarakhand CD and the Pawalgarh Bird Checklist



Stall by participants from Garo Hills, Meghalaya at the Exhibition



Consultative workshop on ecotourism chaired by A K Dutta, PCCF Wildlife



Bikram Grewal being felicitated by D V S Khati, CWLW



Walking with Corbett being released  
Padma Shri Tom Alter & Shri Ranbeer Singh, PS Forests



A K Dutta, PCCF Wildlife, Samir Sinha, Director CTR  
& D V S Khati, CWLW at book release



Honorable Dinesh Agarwal, Uttarakhand Forest Minister  
admires bird photographs



Sejal Worah, WWF-India conducting the consultative  
workshop on ecotourism



Tourists Birdwatching at Dabka River, Pawalgarh

# CHHOTI HALDWANI

## Centenary Festival, Kaladhungi

25-27 December 2015

Jim Corbett purchased Chhoti Haldwani village in 1915 and tried to develop a model Kumaoni village. His efforts to develop agriculture are described in his book "My India". The Festival will commemorate 100 years of Chhoti Haldwani's establishment by Jim Corbett and the effort of Corbett Gram Vikas Samiti to conserve this legacy.

**Venue:** The Chhoti Haldwani Centenary Festival will be organized inside the village. Selected activities will be organized in the Jim Corbett Museum and at the Forest Rest House Kaladhungi.

**Programme & Activities:** The Chhoti Haldwani Centenary Festival 2015 will be inaugurated on Friday 25th December and culminate on Sunday 27th December 2015. The Festival will include several activities - guided bird watching, butterfly walks, Jim Corbett heritage walks. In addition, there will be stalls for local cuisine, local produce & handicrafts, book reading, film shows and cultural performances.

**Registration:** There will be prior registration with a charge of Rs 1,500/- for guided Birdwatching, and Heritage Walks on a first-come, first-served basis for limited seats. Register yourself at [www.corbettvillage.in](http://www.corbettvillage.in).

**Boarding:** Limited accommodation is available at CGVS homestays. Additional accommodation available in the landscape is mentioned here.

<http://www.uttarakhandbirdfestival.in/accommodation/>

**Local cuisine:** Food stalls serving local cuisine will be set up by members of the local community. A restaurant (Eetu) run by the local community already exists at Kaladhungi.

### Further Information and Contact:

Corbett Gram Vikas Samiti, Jim Corbett's Heritage Village  
Chhoti Haldwani, Kaladhungi-Nainital (UK)

**Ph. No.:** +91-5924-242723,

**Mob.:** +91-9411324204, +91-8938087939, +91-9012308933

**Email:** [admin@corbettvillage.in](mailto:admin@corbettvillage.in) **web:** [www.corbettvillage.in](http://www.corbettvillage.in)

**Facebook:** Jim Corbett Heritage Village

## Chhoti Haldwani

### CENTENARY FESTIVAL, KALADHUNGI

25-27 December, 2015

---


CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JIM CORBETT'S VILLAGE





Guided Birdwatching and Nature Walks at Kaladhungi and Pawalgarh.  
Heritage Walks at Kaladhungi and Chhoti Haldwani.  
Experience the Joys of Homestays at Chhoti Haldwani, Pawalgarh and Kyari.

**Often as I walked along its path as the sun went down, with the evening light on the ripening corn and the blue hills in the background, I would think that there could not be a more beautiful village in the world** - Maggie Corbett

*Along with :*

- Sale of Local Produce
- Local cuisine
- Film Shows
- Book Readings
- Cultural performances
- Exhibition on Jim Corbett- the person and his immense contribution to conservation
- Exhibition on The Journey of Chhoti Haldwani- a novel community based tourism initiative & a lot more



[www.facebook.com/UttarakhandBirding](http://www.facebook.com/UttarakhandBirding)

# DOON VALLEY Spring Bird Festival

## UNITING BIRDS, BIRDWATCHERS AND COMMUNITIES



**Location:** The III<sup>rd</sup> USBF will be held at Asan Conservation Reserve with Forest Research Institute, Thano Reserved Forest, Maldevta and Rajpur as satellite sites for birdwatching.

**Programmes & Activities:** Guided Birdwatching, Bird Tours, Heritage Walks, Rural Exhibition, Bird Photography, And lots more.

**Partners:** The event will be organised by the Uttarakhand Forest Department in partnership with NGO's (Titli Trust, Nature Science Initiative, BNHS, Kalpavriksh, Waste Warriors), Wildlife Institute of India, Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam, Wildlife Institute of India, Institute of Hotel Management and other individuals and bird tour operators.

For more information about these festivals, contact

Office of the CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS ECOTOURISM

Tel/Fax : +91-135-2669227 | Email : [ccf\\_ecotourismua@rediffmail.com](mailto:ccf_ecotourismua@rediffmail.com)

Raman Kumar : [cyornis@gmail.com](mailto:cyornis@gmail.com)

Sanjay Sondhi : [sanjay.sondhi1@gmail.com](mailto:sanjay.sondhi1@gmail.com)

Suniti Bhushan Datta : [databengalensis@gmail.com](mailto:databengalensis@gmail.com),

[www.facebook.com/uttarakhandbirding](http://www.facebook.com/uttarakhandbirding), [www.uttarakhandbirdfestival.in](http://www.uttarakhandbirdfestival.in)

### Contacts at Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve

- Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Ramnagar | tel : +91 5947-251362
  - Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve | tel : +91 93685 96683
- Tourists wanting to visit Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve can contact
- Pawalgarh Prakrati Prahari | tel : +91 9458923898



This Bulletin has been published by Ramnagar Forest Division, UKFD for distribution and awareness with support from Ecotourism Wing, Uttarakhand Forest Department, Pawalgarh Prakrati Prahari and Titli Trust.

Editors: Sanjay Sondhi and Rajiv Bhartari. Printed by Print Vision, Dehradun November 2015/2000