

ROYAL
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Lichens of Nepal Expedition 2007

A collaborative expedition by UK
Botanists from the Royal Botanic
Garden Edinburgh and Nepali
biologists from the Department of
Plant Resources and the
Department of National Parks and
Wildlife Conservation



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Acknowledgments

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I would also like to give special thanks and credit to my co-writer Dr Lokendra Sharma; His kindness and understanding during my cultural blunders were commendable and I appreciate and acknowledge his support in all our endeavours to raise the profile of Himalayan lichens.

I express my greatest thanks to the following sponsors who very generously supported this expedition and had faith in the project.

Davis Expedition Fund
Cryptogamic Work Group, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Oleg Polunin Memorial Fund
Percy Sladen Memorial Fund
Sibbald Trust
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Expedition Committee, Foreign Field Work Fund
William Steel Trust
British Lichen Society
Private sponsor

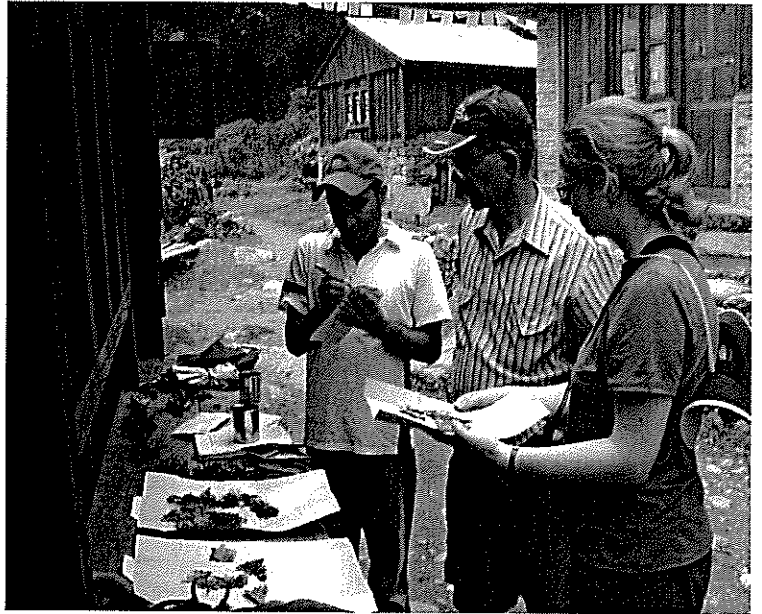
I wish also to say a huge thank you RBGE staff, in particular Dr Mark Watson, for all his help, support, advice, and enthusiasm as well as his Namaste sim card, Dr David Long for his help with funding applications and the provision of collection packets, Dr Colin Pendry for his calming reassurance and assistance while I was in Kathmandu, Prof. Brian Coppins for his backing and Eona Aitken for her friendship and encouragement.

My gratitude to the trekking company 'Nima & Neema Treks (P) Ltd.' is wholehearted. They provided an outstanding service and the most accommodating and exceptionally skilful team of guides / porters.

Last but not least, I commend Gulf airlines for continuing to provide RBGE staff with free excess baggage.

Background

Why is lichen collecting in Nepal so important? Lichenologists estimate that at least 2,000 lichen species should occur in Nepal, yet less than a quarter of this number exist in the current checklist due to the lack of and disparate nature of lichenological exploration and collecting. Over 50 of Nepal's 75 districts still remain unexplored. Many difficulties are faced by Nepali researchers (such as the lack of international botanical journals and type specimens) so few students/scientists feel encouraged to embrace The Global Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) calls to undertake biodiversity inventories and to monitor and conserve biological diversity. My aim was to provide further impetus for the study of the diversity of Nepal's lichens, to improve conservation and encourage publications in local scientific journals.



The last enumeration (Enumeration of the Lichens of Nepal, Dr L.R. Sharma, 1995) reported 465 species from 79 genera known from Nepal. In my development of this document, my literature survey work reveals an increase to 541 species from 143 genera. Sadly lichens have often been collected as afterthoughts or extras and have frequently been collected without sufficient collection details. With so many reports and so few actual specimens, a targeted collection was urgently needed.

Objectives

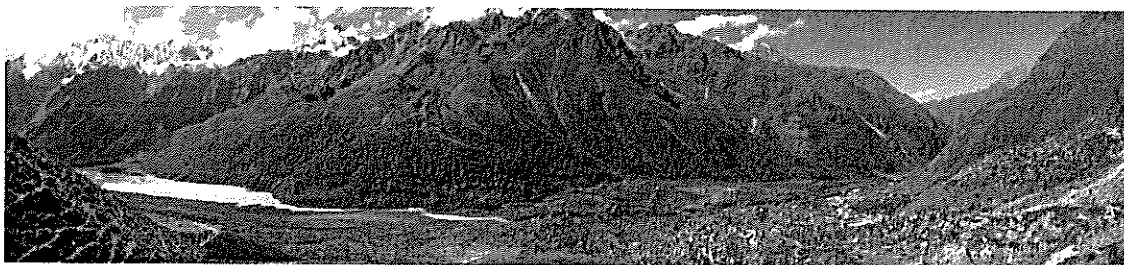
To increase the publication potential from the work already undertaken through the publication of a new annotated checklist of lichens of Nepal (joint with Nepalese counterparts) alongside papers on newly recorded, identified or described lichens for Nepal.

Increase collaborative links and international relations with Nepalese botanists and utilise the shared expertise for widening interest in lichens as being an essential part of Nepal's rich biological diversity.

To develop an understanding of the diversity of form seen in wild populations and help Nepalese botanists identify existing specimens in the Kathmandu herbarium

To expand and conserve the collections of Lichens at the Nepalese National Herbarium at Kathmandu (first set will be deposited there) to benefit future lichenologists.

A full Expedition report



Expedition participants

Ms Louise Olley

Present Position: Assistant Curator of Lichens at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Qualifications:

1995: MSc. *Taxonomy and Biodiversity of Plants*, University of Edinburgh
1993: BSc. (Hons) *Biology*, King's College, University of London 2:2
Scottish Lichen Apprentice (Funded by the British Lichen Society)
Botanical collecting expeditions to Indonesia 1991-Talau Islands & 1993 – Anak Krakatoa

Dr Lokendra Raj Sharma (Liaison Botanist)

Present Position: Director General at the Department of Plant Resources. Thapathali, Kathmandu

Qualifications:

PhD. *Botany (Lichenology)* Tribhuvan University (Nepal)
MSc. *Botany* Tribhuvan University (Nepal)
BSc. *Biology* Tribhuvan University (Nepal)
Author of the Enumeration of the Lichens of Nepal (1995)

Mr Andrew Cross (self-funded)

Present Position: Botanist & Ecological Consultant

Qualifications:

MSc *Vegetation Surveying and Assessment*, University of Reading
BSc (Hons) *Cell and Molecular Biology* King's College, University of London

7 years experience in conducting botanical surveys at Phase I and II levels and monitoring. Experience also includes providing nature conservation advice to clients (private sector, public sector and non-governmental organisations, etc), liaising with government agencies and local authorities, producing mitigation strategies, contributing to ecology chapters for Environmental Statements.

Mr Mohan Joshi (left)

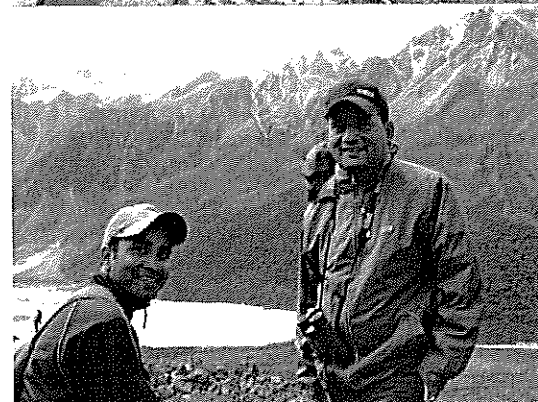
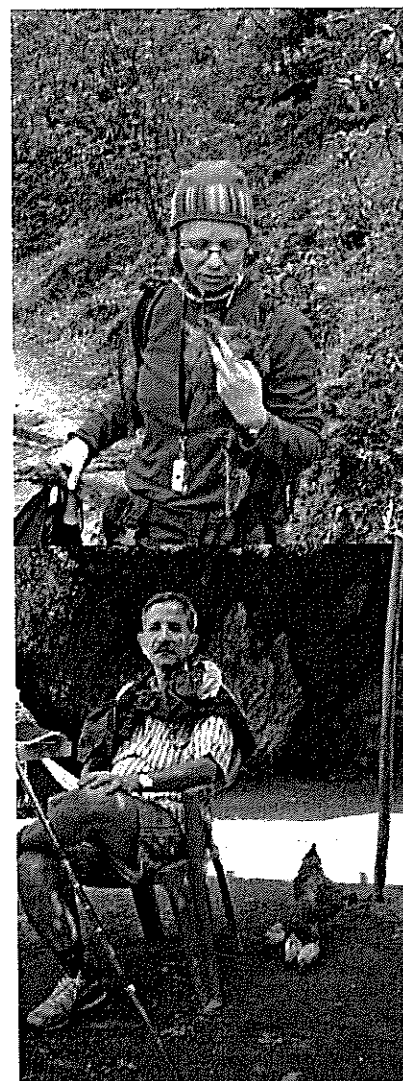
Present position: Cytologist working for the Department of Plant Resources. (Based at Godavari National Botanical Garden).

Qualifications: - BSc.

Mr Binod Regmi (right)

Present position: Assistant Warden of Makalu National Park (formerly Assistant Conservation Officer of Langtang National Park). Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Kathmandu

Qualifications: - BSc



Sukeram Tamang

Present Position: Head Guide at Nima & Neema Trekking



Kumar Katuwal

Head / Assistant Guide at Nima & Neema Trekking



Pembe(in orange T shirt) plus porters

Present Position: Assistant Guide at Nima & Neema Trekking





Planning and Preparation

December 06-February 07

Start writing first funding proposals

March

Start applying for the collection Permit by writing a collection proposal

Participate in navigation course

Start learning basic Nepali / buy language tapes

See GP to organise free vaccinations

April

Learn emergency first aid

Start collecting contact numbers/emergency numbers etc.

Book flight

Create Itinerary and make preliminary trekking arrangements

May

Write thank you letters to those who offered funding

June

Chase up promised funding

July

Vaccinations start (month to 6 weeks before travel or more)

August

Put together clothing, equipment and medical kit

Order Satellite phone

Bring in discs so IT can load programs onto laptop

September –

Monday 03

Organise foreign currency – (cash & travellers cheques in American dollars)

Buy laces for leech leggings

Organise Travel Insurance & go through kit

Chase up geological hammer & chisel

Take back Trekking socks and change size

Write up instructions for people renting the flat while I'm away

Tuesday 04

Visit GP for antibiotics.

Print out provisional permits

Send a thank you email to Gulf Airways for granting the excess baggage

Put duplicate records onto memory stick just in case laptop gets damaged

Add full details for next of kin to the passport

Thursday 06

Finish putting collection labels onto the packets

Friday 07

Pick up Satellite phone and lap top

Start the Argonne (Anti-jet lag) diet/method)

Saturday

Rest

Sunday

Last minute packing

Book Taxi to airport

Lichens of Nepal Expedition 2007

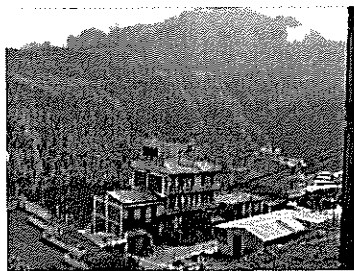
This report provides a summary of the 2007 lichen collecting expedition to Lantang National Park and Shivapuri National Park.

The report lists the survey dates and a brief summary of the main collecting activities on each day. An estimate of the number of packets filled on each day is also listed. Each packet contains one or more specimens and these are currently being examined and identified and the details of each packet will be added to the expedition database. Later, each specimen will be added to the 'Padme' database for inclusion in the Lichen Flora of Nepal.

Preliminary Results:

Approximate No. of packets: 690
Approximate No. of specimens: 1080

Expedition field notes - Langtang and Shivapuri National Park, Nepal



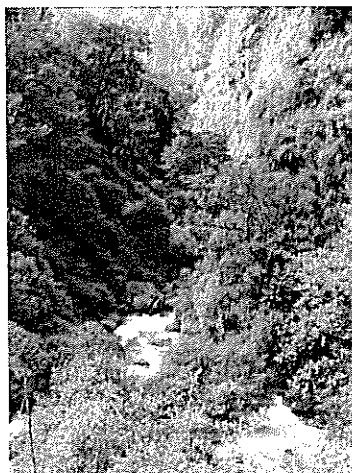
Day 1 - Friday September 14
Travel from Kathmandu to Dunche.
Overnight in Dunche.

No collecting done, though when crossing the landslip area before Dunche I collected 1 specimen of c.f. *Lepraria* from the dry underhang of a rock face alongside the road. Andy collected a *Heterodermia* from low shrubs on the rocks whilst fending off leeches. Lesson Number 1: don't walk through leech territory wearing sandals!

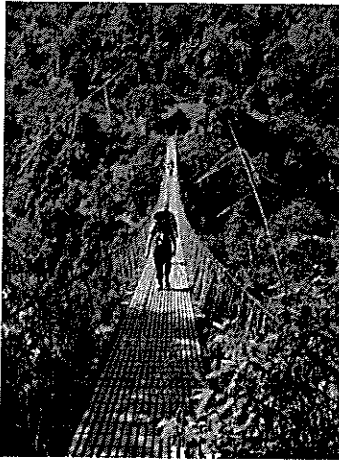


Day 2 - Saturday September 15
No. of Packets: 31
Dunche to Thulo Syabru (arriving well after dark)

We trekked along the road from Dunche to Barku. There was some collecting from the wayside boulders just outside of Dunche (see photo). We collected a few small specimens from a medium-sized *Pinus roxburgii* next to the track, the only time we collected from this species as it doesn't appear to get much higher. The woodlands by the road are transitional between subtropical to lower temperate mixed broad-leaf. Most of the other accessible *P. roxburgii* were small trees and we didn't have time to investigate them.



After Barku (our lunchtime stop) we left the road and joined the trail up to the ridge line and then along a trail to Thulo Syabru. Initially we went up through farmland and open woodland. Some of the Oak stands had the appearance of pasture woodland. Andy found a *Pannaria* on an older *Quercus*. The woodlands above Barku are south-facing and have some potential for lichens. We had to hurry because of the late start and so could not collect.

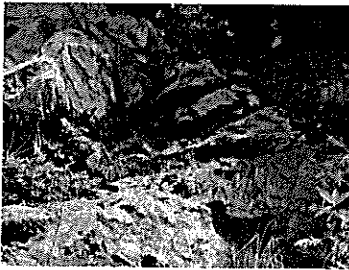


Day 3 - Sunday September 16
 No. of Packets: 60
 Thulo Syabru to Bamboo (arriving early evening)

Collections from trackside trees, in lower temperate mixed broad-leaf trees. Primarily *Quercus semicarpifolia* and *Alnus nepalensis* and also *Acer* sp. Some collection from wayside boulders near Thulo Syabru.

We walked down through farmland (some abandoned), to a bridge across a tributary of Langtang River. The woodland above this bridge (see photo) is strictly protected, as it is a sanctuary for Red Panda and needs a special permit to visit.

On the far side of the bridge, along the valley side with exposed wayside boulders (see photo) and tall cliffs (see photo) we collected specimens from some boulders and exposed soil.

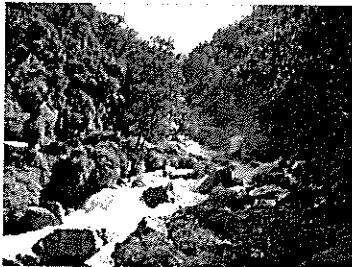


From the junction of this side of the valley we dropped down towards the Langtang River, descending through un-cultivated bamboo woodland on very steep north-facing slopes.

Once down at the river level we trekked along the Langtang trail through lower temperate woodland with *Alnus glutinosa*, *Quercus* sp. *Acer* sp. and a host of other tree species. Some of

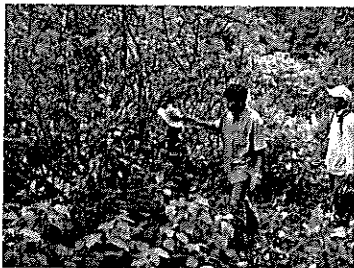
the trees were large and the forest appeared to be relatively undisturbed being some distance away from settlements.

We managed some collecting from this lower temperate woodland including our first *Pyrenula*. Many of the trees had their trunks covered in mosses and liverworts often leaving no room for lichens. The un-grazed woodland was very shaded and humid due to its north facing aspect and being close to the river respectively.



Day 4 Monday September 17
 No. of Packets: 61
 Bamboo to Ghoda Tabela (Ghoratabela)

This was a very long day's walking as we went up over 1200metres. We crossed the river upstream from Bamboo and went along the south facing slope trekking up the main Langtang trail. Woodland on the southern side continued on similar from day 3 with *Alnus*, *Quercus* & *Acer* etc – essentially a lower temperate woodland. Once over the river, the woodland opened out to younger woodland and scrub in places. As we ascended we collected from some wayside boulders and any wayside tree that we had time to explore.



Close to Ghoda Tabela we went through mixed woodland with *Tsuga dumetorum* on the other side of the valley. This type forest is very shaded, dark and humid but there was no time to collect off Hemlock as it was late in the evening (we were told that there would be opportunities to collect off *Tsuga* later but

unfortunately we didn't get the chance). We collected some twig flora species off some scrub on the edge of a clearing (probably an old abandoned field) close to Ghoda Tabela Lodge. Collections also from *Alnus nepalense* and *Viburnum* sp.



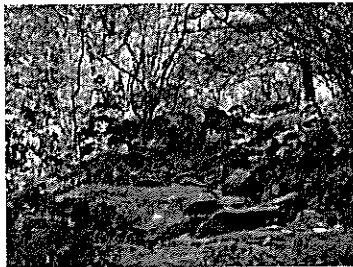
Day 5 - Tuesday September 18
No. of Packets: 60
Day at Ghoda Tabela (Ghoratabela)

Collection from rocky pasture plus trees and shrubs (upper temperate mixed broad-leaf.) around Ghoda Tabela including *Sorbus cuspidata*, *Quercus semecarpifolia*, *Viburnum* sp., *Daphne papyracea* and *Zanthoxylum nepalense*, *Abies* and *Rhododendron* sp.

Morning spent collating collection and writing up packets. Afternoon's collection from trees and shrubs around Ghoda Tabela. This area had been cleared and was used as pasture later on in the year. The photo shows the open scrubby habitat around Ghoda Tabela including cleared areas on the southern side of the river and woodland on the lower sides of the valley (see photo above).

Some of the pastures near Ghoda Tabela were flushed with small streams. We collected from wayside trees (*Quercus*) and scrub species such as *Zanthoxylum nepalense*. By a Buddhist Prayer Wheel we found a large *Sorbus cuspidata* with *Dimerella lutea*? The tree appeared to be capable of supporting the local equivalent of a Lobarion community.

Vast quantities of mosquitoes came out and ended the afternoon's collecting early.



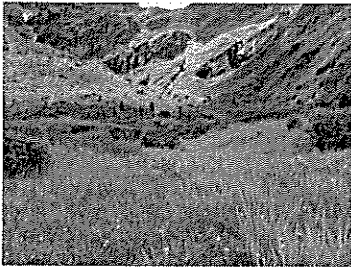
Day 6 - Wednesday September 19
No. of Packets: 48
Ghoda Tabela (Ghoratabela) to Langtang

Collection from trees and shrubs adjacent to track including *Sorbus cuspidata* and *Zanthoxylum nepalense*. Also in open glades in upper temperate mixed broad leaf forest and stones of old settlement.



Soon after leaving Ghoda Tabela we went through a boulder field covered with a thicket of *Zanthoxylum nepalense* – (see photo from within a clearing). This shrub is very spiny and needs to be treated with care! The main stem supported both crustose species (e.g. *Haematomma*) and foliose species (e.g. *Nephroma*, *Umbillicaria*).

The trail continued up through pastures, scrub and patchy woodland on the same side of the valley as the settlements. The north facing slopes are less accessible because of the river and remain wooded – The photo (left) shows the differences between the two sides of Langtang Valley. Langtang Village can be seen faintly in the centre left.

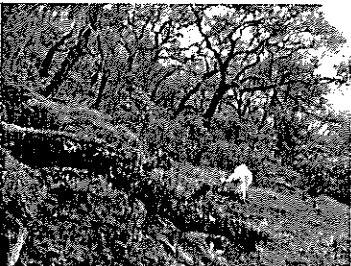


Day 7 - Thursday September 20
No. of Packets: 68
Langtang to Kyangin Gompa

Collection from trees and shrubs south of the Langtang River including from *Larix sp.*

This was the day Binod got lost twice and severely hindered the days collection. We lost time looking for him battling through wet scrub and boulder fields. These lower slopes had been cleared of their woodland and had reverted to scrub and patches of abandoned pasture (Young *Larix sp.* were recolonising these areas). The only good lichen habitat here was the scree slope part way through the boulders although we did find some nice *Peltigera* on the *Rhododendron* heath on the slopes above the bridge.

We also did some collecting on and between boulders in pastures and on soil by the stream. Sadly we didn't have the time to explore the relict mature woodland higher on the slopes or the scree slopes amongst scrub.



Day 8 - Friday September 21
No. of Packets: 39
Kyangin Gompa

I was ill with mild altitude sickness and was forced to stay in bed. Sukeram stayed behind to keep an eye on me and to take me down the valley if I got progressively worse.

Collection by the others was from birch wood south of the river and from some boulders through scrubby pastures on the way back. Species collected from included *Betula utilis*, *Rhododendron campanulatum* and *Sorbus microphylla*.

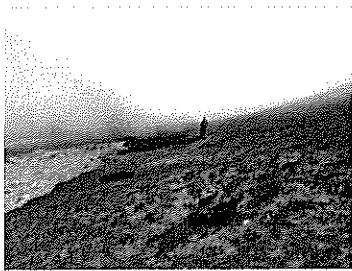
They struggled over to a magnificent birch woodland on the north facing slopes on the southern side of the valley. On the way they also collected specimens from the trackside boulders close to the village.

Old-growth woodland extending almost from the valley floor up to the tree line was by far the most exciting bit of habitat so far on the expedition. The woodland included a mixture of broad-leaved species including *Sorbus microphylla*, *Rhododendron campanulatum* and *Ribes*. *Abies spectabilis* was present (on the ridges) but was very rare. The photo above shows the edge of the wood with an abrupt transition to short *Rhododendron lepidotum* scrub and pasture. The birch had long strands of *Usnea cf. longissima*.

The valley floor and lowest slopes had long been cleared of trees and were now a mixture of pastures and low *Rhododendron* heath (mostly *R. lepidotum*).

The woodland area we entered was the most accessible part from the Langtang Bridge. Once in the wood, we could see large mature *Betula utilis*, some pollarded and lopped, but most interestingly the wood was being grazed. Lichens were everywhere. The first mature birch, with a girth of over two metres took about half an hour to go over.

Andy and the others worked their way upwards into the wood, occasionally coming across huge boulders. After a couple of hours the local guide left saying rain was coming and Lokendra, Mohan and Binod followed immediately. Andy stoically carried on for a while with Kumar and Pemba.



Day 9 - Saturday September 22
No. of Packets: 56
Kyangin Gompa – Kyangin Ri

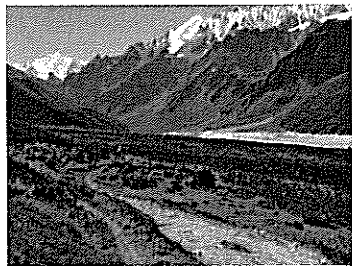
Collection from grassland, scrub and boulders, earth and rock in snow patches, on slopes of Kyangin Ri up to approx 4,600m.
Collection from open grazed Juniper & yak pasture with *Rhododendron* & *Cassiope* / *Juniperus* scrub.

I had recovered well from the previous day's altitude sickness and we all set off for the alpine pastures, struggling up a very steep slope outside the village to get to a ridge at 4,600m. On the way up the habitat was mostly grassland and appeared to have relatively few lichens. Occasional boulders supported lichens and we collected a few.

After a short rest in the thin air, we set off from the ridge aiming to get to a saddle and then drop back into a valley just as the mist came down. Andy saw a relict piece of scrub at c.4,600m just below the ridge on a steep, soft, rather unstable slope. As we had gone far ahead he grabbed as many species as he could from the ground and from a small shrubby *Rhododendron alpinum*?

The valley down was a mixture of grazed low shrub-land with boulders and pastures but near the top we walked through and extraordinary eroded sandscape (see photo above).

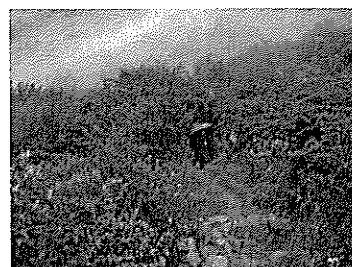
The boulders had good lichens and despite the cold we collected our way back down the valley.



Day 10 September 23
No. of Packets: 41
Kyangin Gompa – Valley floor of Langtang River

Collection from open grazed *Rhododendron* / *Cassiope* / *Juniperus* heath.

We set off up the valley to see what habitat lay beyond the village. We collected in *Rhododendron* scrub and boulders on the valley floor picking up various species of *Cladonia*, *Stereocaulon*, *Umbilicaria* and *Lasallia*. We wanted to cross the river to get to the upper part of the birch wood on the opposite side but after Sukeram volunteered to go out and test the depth of the water we found it would be impossible to cross so we continued up along the northern side adding various *Rhizoplaca*, *Lecanora* and other specimens to our collection. After an hour or so we saw that the habitat was unlikely to improve (similar habitat stretched out for miles – see photo). We were exhausted from the previous day's collecting so finished early to work on the collection. The photograph shows the trail and the glacial river in the distance with part of the the birch wood on the opposite side of the valley.



Day 11 September 24
No. of Packets: 45
Kyangin Gompa to Ghoda Tabela (Rain)

Collection from birch wood south of Langtang River. Species collected from include *Abies spectabilis*, *Betula utilis*, *Rhododendron campanulatum* and *Sorbus microphylla*.

The birch woodland was extremely rich in lichen so we decided to squeeze in a few more hours collecting before heading back down the valley to Ghoda Tabela.

It was a very wet one hour's walk over to the birch wood and we worked our way up an exposed ridge line south of where the others had collected before. We picked out a couple of mature *Abies* amongst the birch on the ridge and aimed straight for them. The woodland was relatively open on the ridge and there was evidence of wood cutting as pollarding.

We followed the trail along the spine of the ridge and collected from open *Rhododendron lepidotum* heath. Thereafter we frantically collected from *Betula utilis* and *Sorbus microphylla*. *Rhododendron campanulatum* was abundant in the understory but not a good host. *Usnea* cf. *longissima* hung down in long trails from the branches on the edge of the wood. We collected many pinhead lichens and foliose species (*Lobaria*, *Nephroma*, *Cavernularia*, *Umbilicaria*) plus *Graphis*, *Gyalecta*, *Ramalina*, and *Lecanora*, as well as many unidentified specimens.



Day 12 September 25
Ghoda Tabela to Thulo Syabru

Very heavy rain all day. Long Trek. No Collecting.

Got into Thulo Syabru after dark.

The photograph shows the river swollen with rain and muddy from a recent landslide.



Day 13 September 26
No. of Packets: 12
Thulo Syabru

Dr Lokendra Sharma leaves expedition to return to Kathmandu.

Collection from *Pinus wallichii* stand west of Thulo Syabru.
Some lichens collected from *Pyrus pashia*.

My legs were too stiff after the previous days walk so Andy, Binod and Mohan headed off to a stand of *P. wallichii* (see photo) on the north facing slope a short walk along the trail from Thulo Syabru leading back to Dunche. The *Pinus* were mostly young trees with a dense *Rhododendron* understory intermixed with other broad-leaved shrubs such as *Pyrus pashia*. One *Pyrus* had a very interesting looking smooth bark lichen flora so they collected as much of it as they could. Specimens collected on this day included several pin heads, *Chrysothrix*, various graphidion species and a crustose species with bright red lecidine fruits.



Day 14 September 27
No. of Packets: 20
Thulo Syabru to Shin Gompa (Chandanbari)

Collection from old-growth *Abies spectabilis* wood along ridge line from Danda Tea Shop.

Icmadophylla, pink pin head, *Pyrenula*, *Sulcaria*, graphidion species and *Chrysothrix*.

We set off and went up the hill to the top of the ridge line. Much of this was through farmland and cleared woodland. We went through a *Quercus* woodland and collected *Baeomyces*, *Sticta*, *Collema*, and *Peltigera*. The woodland had large *Quercus semicarpifolia* with an understory that included several *Acer* species. This woodland gave way to farmland at the top of the

ridge, where we had lunch. We collected from *Sorbus cuspidata* trees left standing in the clearings and pastures below the ridge.

After lunch we set off along the ridgeline and got into *Abies* woodland straight away. The stands near the farmstead had a lot of younger trees but as we got further away the trees got older. We became very excited when I spotted a bright yellow *Sulcaria virens* hanging high from a large old *Abies*. Sukuram heroically climbed the tree and brought down the branch that it was growing on (see photo on back cover).

Some of the trees were huge but as light was fading we had little opportunity to collect. Pin heads feature strongly on *Abies* and we found another pink/purple one! We also collected from huge swathes of a yellow *Chrysothrix*? And found various graphidion species and a *Pyrenula*. Andy and I also found a grey *Sulcaria cf. sulcata* on a low (? *Viburnum*) shrub at the edge of the track.



Day 15 September 28
No. of Packets: 18
Shin Gompa to Laurebina.

Collection of several interesting looking crustose lichens from *Abies spectabilis* wood & lignin on north side of ridge.

We walked up hill through patchy scrub and young woodland all within easy reach of the settlement and we collected a few soil lichen from a muddy/mossy bank. Not far along the trail we went over the top of the ridge line and started trekking along the north facing slope through mature *Abies* woodland. This was a great habitat and worth more collecting attention.

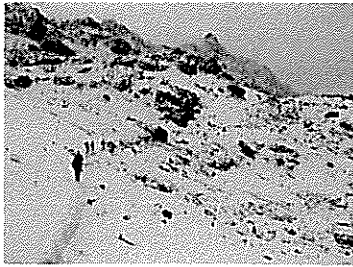
Sadly, heavy rain came in just before lunchtime and we had to stop. We sheltered in a lodge for a long time by a warm stove before moving off to get to the isolated lodge at Laurebina. We were all very wet on arrival but fortunately there was a good stove and we managed to get the lichens partly dry. Some collecting also from *Viburnum erubescens* (possibly a *Dimerella*), *Cotoneaster* and *Berberis*.



Day 16 September 29
Laurebina to Gosainkund.

Very heavy Rain. No Collection.

We headed up to Gosainkund in driving rain and sleet. During the walk we passed many interesting lichens on rocks but the weather prohibited us from stopping for more than a moment. This area would be worth another look with a strong hammer and chisel.



Day 17 September 30
No. of Packets: 2
Gosainkund to Ghopte.

Crossing the Lauribinayak Pass at 4610m. Heavy rain from midday. Little collection.

We spoke about collecting at Gosainkund but given that our clothes were still wet and that rain or snow could return at any moment we decided to push on. We set off early and our porters broke a trail through the snow over the pass.

Once over the pass, the slopes were pretty steep and the woodland near the track didn't seem very old. We collected a few specimens from some older *Juniper* trees but otherwise the day was spent trekking to Ghopte. Only a minute *Umbillica*, a tiny brown foliose sp. and a crustose lichen were collected.



Day 18 October 1
No. of Packets: 43
Ghopte to Mangengoth

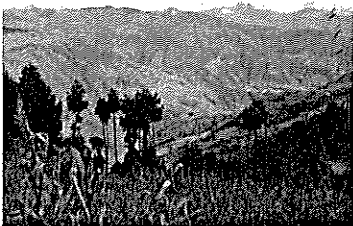
Collection from upper temperate woodland. Species collected from include *Abies spectabilis*, *Rhododendron spp.* and mature *Juniperus squamatus*.

We passed through a *Rhododendron barbatum* stand (see photo) and open mixed woodland. After lunch we went through a *Juniperus squamatus* woodland where we found new lichens not seen before. I found a *Solorina* on soil on a boulder sharing its habitat with an odd thallose liverwort and Andy found what he thought to be our first *Micarea*.



Day 19 October 2
No. of Packets: 30
Mangengoth to Gul Bhanjyang (Gulphu)

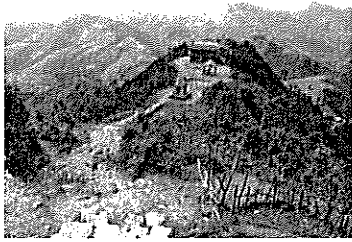
Collection from *Abies spectabilis* and *Rhododendron sp.* on side of ravine south of Mangengoth alongside trail. Collecting from wayside trees (e.g. *Myrica esculanta*) and shrubs (e.g. *Rhododendron* and *Berberis*).



The trail went alongside a gully and mixed woodland which was good for lichens. I collected more *Sulcaria* and took habitat photographs while the others went deeper into the woods where there were great tussocks of *Cladonia*.

We then climbed out of the valley and the trail passed through mature mixed woodland with occasional *Abies*. We managed a fair amount of collecting and Sukuram clambered up yet more trees to reach specimens for me.

As we approached the fringes of the Langtang National Park the scene became more agricultural with woodland shifting to pastures. The slopes at the edge of the park were wooded, steep and with badly eroded gullies. The woodland here was exploited *Quercus semecarpifolia* but we had very little time to collect (though I managed to find a *Caloplaca*). Finally we left the park and descended through farmland (see photo) towards the village of Gul Bhanjyang.



Day 20 October 3
No. of Packets: 9
Gul Bhanjyang to Chisapani

Main collection from soil exposures on gully sides.

An epic walk through farmland from one side of the valley to the other, down and up through terraced fields. Very little time to collect.



Day 21 October 4
No. of Packets: 16
Shivapuri National Park near Chisapani

Collection from young woodland and scrub on circular walk in National Park near Chisapani.

Fairly disturbed habitat. We set off along the vehicle track out of Chisapani. The soil exposures of the cutting supported crustose lichen with black lecidine fruits which we added to our collection. After half an hour or so we left the vehicle track and set off on a foot trail. This trail took us through wetland pastures fringed with scrub (see photo).

Adjacent slopes and drier ground supported scrub and young woodland. The shrub lichen flora was diverse and we collected from different species of shrubs including *Viburnum*, which appeared to support the richest lichen flora and we found *Normandina* on it in two locations.

After lunch the party thinned out along the trail and we collected as best we could from young dense woodland, which on the whole was poor in species. We had to cover a lot of ground to get back to Chisapani via a circular route so the collecting time amounted to little more than a few hours.



Day 22 October 5
No. of Packets: 7
Shivapuri National Park. Chisapani to Sundarijal

Collection from wayside trees, woodland and scrub on track from Chisapani to Sundarijal. Species collected from include *Viburnum* c.f. *erubescens*, *Quercus semecarpifolia* and *Linnea obilifolia*.

We walked out of the field to meet the bus on the fringes of Kathmandu. We were all out of packets but we couldn't resist collecting from a stand of well-lit *Viburnums* amongst pastures in a glade, especially as Andy saw a *Pyrenula* on one of the branches. These initially went into plastic bags.

The trail then went through woodland with some mature trees and we collected from several individuals. One large hollowed out oak on the trail invited exploration and two species were collected from the lignum.

Work in Kathmandu

7 October to 15 October 2007. Work in this period included

- cataloguing the collection
- preservation of soil specimens
- preliminary division of duplicate specimens
- creation of database
- writing preliminary reports
- applying for an export permit
- visiting the botanic garden, herbarium and tissue culture laboratory

We had to contend with working in confined hotel spaces, queuing for the one and only computer with a USB slot for our memory stick and printers in a computer suite in a nearby hotel. We could not link our own laptop to the shared printer in the computer suite so it was quite a palaver. Purchasing quality paper, envelopes, genuine hardware, etc was difficult.

Export permit

29 October – 31

The need for an export permit was a complication we had not anticipated. Prior to arrival no one had mentioned that we would need a separate permit to return with the specimens so our plan to pay a longer visit to the botanic garden was abandoned and we had a race against time (the deadline being our flight home) to produce all the documents required by the DPR.

We were not offered any guide-lines other than a vague indication of content, so our first attempt was rejected and we had to change the application twice before it was acceptable and we handed in the final draft on the day of our flight. An extremely stressful situation which we felt could have been avoided.

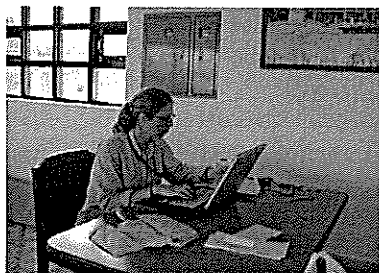
The requirement of an exact list of packet numbers and collection details (on a collection twice the size expected), meant we were forced to spend long hours working on data.

By the end we were mentally and physically exhausted and dreaded the prospect of our carefully packaged specimens being opened, counted and compared to our export permit at the airport. We took tape and string to the airport for repackaging the specimens, just in case.

Division of Specimens

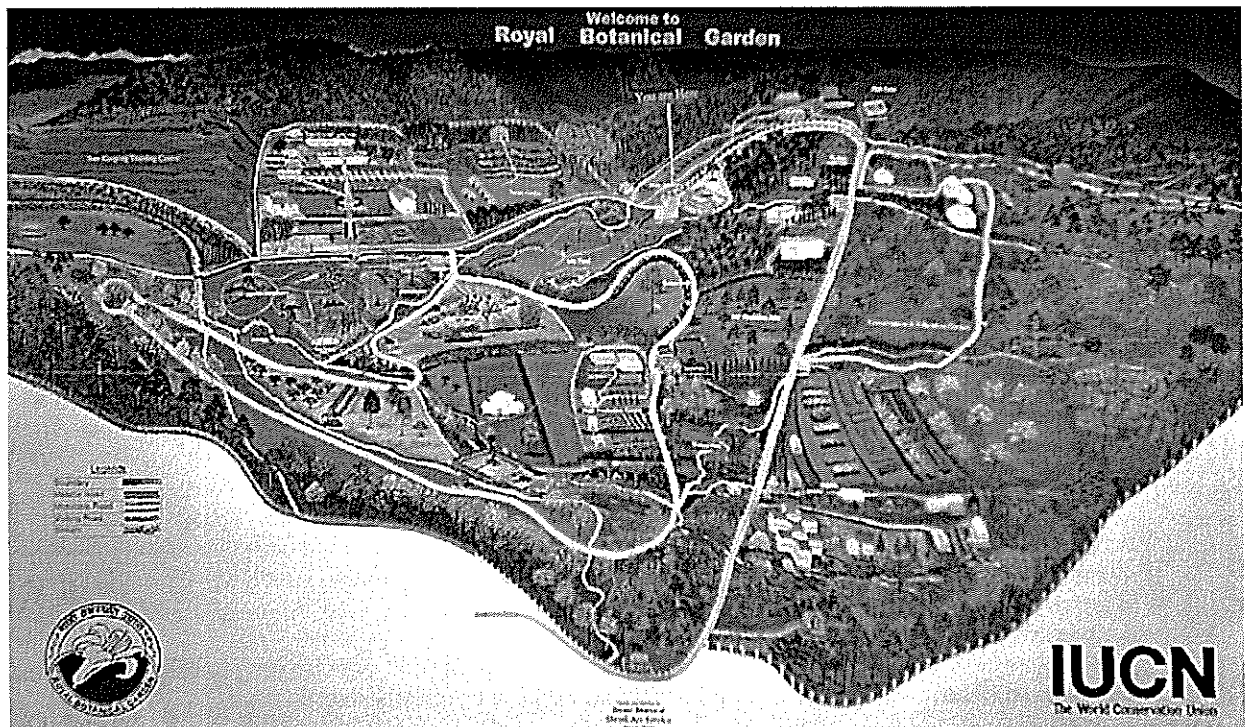
A preliminary division of some of the collection allowed approximately 30 specimens to be deposited at the Department of Plant Resources straight away. Identification of these specimens will be carried out at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and full details forwarded to the DPR.

The remainder of the collection will be identified and divided at the Royal Botanic Garden. Once identified and divided, the top set will be sent back to the DPR and the duplicate, (where division of the specimen is possible), will be retained at RBGE. At all times, information on the collection will be available to the DPR on request.

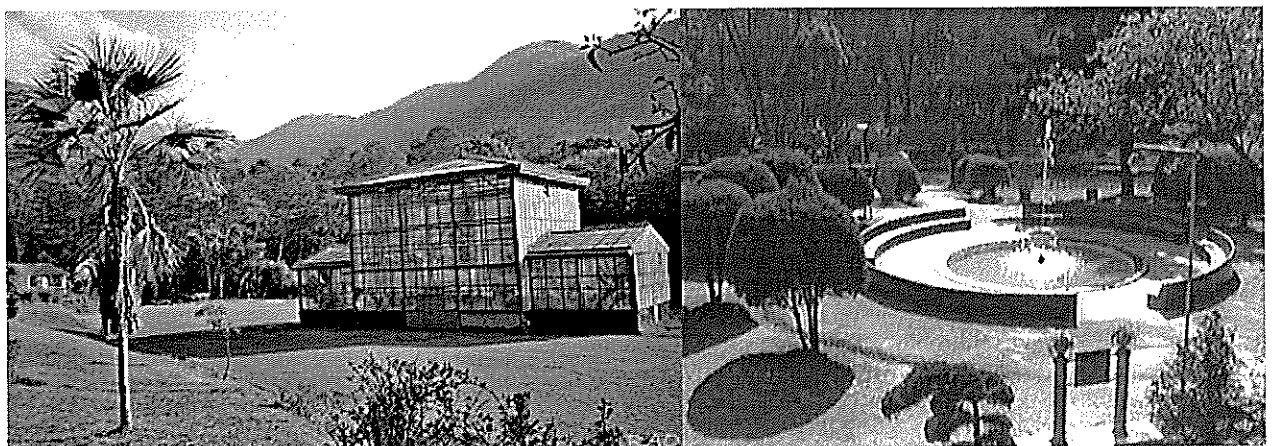


Visit to Godavari Botanic Garden

This was a whistle stop tour of the garden but allowed us to see all aspects from the herbarium and culture labs to the glass houses, education centre and experimental fields of saffron. It was a delight to meet Mr Roy and various other members on the Botanic Garden staff and all were extremely welcoming.



The Royal Botanical Garden is located in the base of Mount Phulchoki (2715m.) at Godawari (1515m.) at the south east corner of Kathmandu valley. This is about an hours drive (in traffic) from the Thamel district. The area of the Garden is 82 hectare and is surrounded by beautiful evergreen forests. The temperature ranges between 20°C and 30°C during summer and -5°C to 20°C during winter.



Finances:

Sources of Funding

Sponsor	amount received	Items funded
Davis Expedition Fund	£1,485	costs towards expedition
Cryptogamic work group	£800	Return air fare Edinburgh – Kathmandu, internal transport, satellite phone / mobile phone, subsistence 2 weeks
Oleg Polunin Memorial Fund	£200	Costs towards expedition
Percy Sladen Trust	£550	Costs towards expedition
Sibbald Trust	£600	Costs towards expedition
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Expedition committee, foreign field work fund	£600	Costs towards expedition
William Steel Fund	£350	Costs towards expedition
British Lichen Society	£400	Costs towards training a Nepali lichenologist
Private sponser	£200	Cost towards expedition
Total	£5,185	

Final costs in Sterling

Expenditure	Predicted	Actual £
Flights (hold -over 20k £27 per kilo, cabin up to 6k)		
Air fare (Booking ref. LJZKIQ)	£750.00	£706.90
Tourism service fee (Airport tax - Kathmandu)		£4.29
Passenger service charge (Airport Tax - Kathmandu)		£8.57
Excess baggage - Gulf airline (4 extra kilos in both directions)	£216.00	£0.00
Airport tips at Kathmandu	£0.00	£3.30
Food at airport		£5.00
Subtotal	£966.00	£728.06
Trekking fees		
Trekking Charge for 3 people (\$50 per day per person - 3 wks)	£1,603.25	£2,038.48
Trekking charge for 1 person (\$35 per day - 3 weeks)	£350.89	£350.89
National Park Trekking permit (\$15 per tourist)	£15.27	£15.27
Transportation Kathmandu-Bharkhu or Syabrubesi	£140.00	£140.00
Transportation Dhunche-Kathmandu	£119.35	£71.61
Guide tips at \$3 per day = £1.40 per day (22 days)	£28.64	£31.00
Porter tips / assistant guide	£9.55	£10.03
Porter tips / porters x 4 (1500 rupoos per porter)	£45.52	£45.52
Guide and porter insurance (4 porters & 1 guide)	£28.00	£0.00
Subtotal	£2,340.47	£2,702.80
Subsistence		

Tibet Guest House (food and lodging)	£280.00	£252.55
Nirvana Garden-Hotel (food and lodging)		£39.38
Food (out with subsistence budget)	£0.00	£175.91
Subtotal	£280.00	£467.84
Medical		
Hepatitis B (£30.40 per jab - 3 required)	£91.20	£91.20
Rabies (£40 per jab 3 required)	£120.00	£120.00
Meningitis ACWY (£37, 1 jab required)	£37.00	£37.00
Dental check	£22.00	£22.00
First aid items	£144.25	£144.25
Subtotal	£414.45	£414.45
Equipment / clothing		
Guide book (lonely planet)	£12.99	£12.99
Nepali phrase book	£4.50	£4.50
Maps (x 3)	£23.44	£23.44
Chisel & hammer	£20.00	£0.00
Collecting knife	£20.00	£10.00
Satellite phone	£56.00	£74.44
3 Kit bags (for storing specimens)	£150.00	£11.38
Money belt	£12.00	£12.00
Rubber bands	£0.97	£0.97
Rucksack holder/storage bag (80 Lt)	£15.00	£15.00
Rucksack (main)	£100.00	£0.00
Shorts, shirt, base layer	£78.00	£78.00
Laundry paper, micro-fibre towel & spectacle cleanser	£16.97	£16.97
Camel pack	£22.00	£22.00
Sleeping bag liner	£30.00	£30.00
Insoles for walking boots	£9.99	£9.99
Travel bath plug	£3.50	£3.50
Sun hat	£15.00	£15.00
Travel clothes line	£3.50	£3.50
Travel toothbrush	£3.00	£1.39
Highlander version of a camel pack (2 Lt)	£6.99	£6.99
Waterproof socks (Personal expense)	£29.99	£29.99
Bum bag (for GPS, note book, lock knife, packets etc.)	£18.99	£18.99
Batteries (40 x AA - duracel plus)	£26.40	£26.40
Leech socks (material + sewing - two pairs)	£39.00	£39.00
Subtotal	£718.23	£466.44
Toiletries/ sun care		
Aftersun for face (No. 7)	£7.50	£7.50
Aftersun milk 200ml (Ambre Solair 200ml)	£5.19	£5.19
Sun block for face spf 50 (No. 7)	£7.50	£7.50
Sun block for lips (Nivea lip sun 4g)	£2.59	£2.59
Sun screen spf 20 (Ambre Solair)	£5.80	£5.80
Wash holdall	£19.00	£19.00
Lip sunscreen	£0.00	£0.82
Aseptigel (Nepal version)	£0.00	£1.02

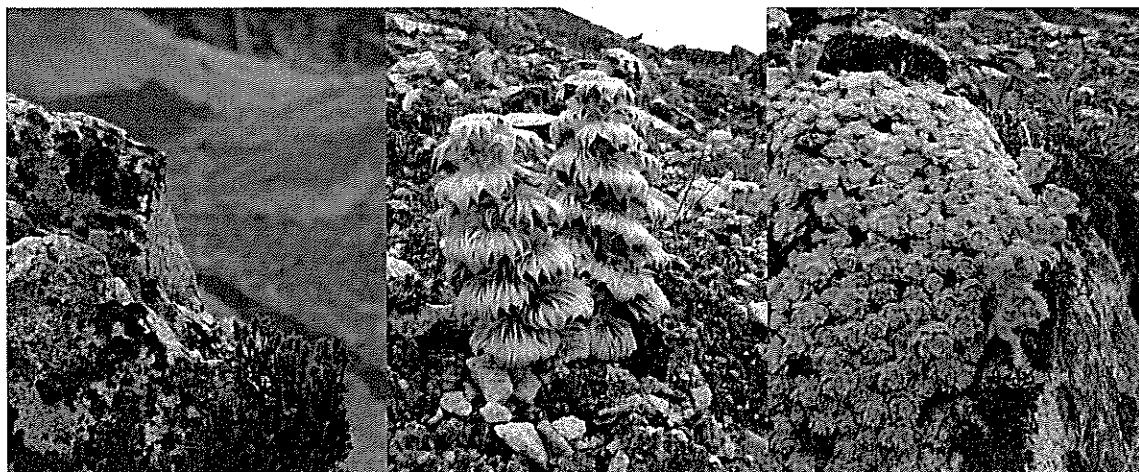
Tissue paper / toiletries	£0.00	£2.62
Rubber bands	£0.97	£0.97
Hygiene gel	£0.98	£0.98
Sanitary goods	£6.15	£6.15
Cleansing wipes (Cariex 15 x4)	£3.92	£3.92
Subtotal	£59.60	£64.06
Pre & post travel costs		
Taxi (specimens from Dunedin Street to Edinburgh airport)	£20.00	£19.10
Taxi (specimens from Paddington to Barnsbury Rd)	£20.00	£17.00
Taxi (specimens from Barnsbury Rd to Kings Cross)	£11.00	£14.00
Train (specimens from Heathrow to Paddington)	£30.00	£31.00
Train + excess baggage (specimens -KC to Edinburgh)	£68.00	£76.50
Visa	£15.00	£14.32
Subtotal	£164.00	£171.92
Other expenses (in Nepal)		
Internet use (plus print-outs)		£1.29
6 DVD's		£3.41
Memory stick - pen drive scandisk (back up for laptop)		£12.90
Laundry		£3.24
Internet for sending emails plus printouts		£1.29
300 Envelopes		£3.68
Unknown (10/11/07 - paid by credit card)		£66.50
Tibet Guest House hotel car		£2.28
Taxi's too and from DPR (no receipts)		£3.03
Phone calls to RBGE		4.99
Phone calls to RBGE		27.80
Phone calls to RBGE		33.76
Water during trekking (3-4 bottle per day)		£50.70
Phone call to dad from the Tibet Guest House		£3.19
Book (Himalayan Adventure Trekking : a checklist for women)		£1.82
Himal Stationery - 300 envelopes & glue		£3.68
Post cards		£0.30
Book (Rum Doodle)		£3.03
Book (Culture Shock)		£3.34
Down jacket		£22.76
Collecting knife		£10.00
Mobile phone calls to RBGE		£27.80
Mobile phone calls to RBGE		£33.76
Nirvana Guest House (food & laundry)		£23.26
Nervana Guest House (lodging)		£39.38
		£387.19
Total	£4,942.75	£5,402.75
Overspend		-£217.75

Flora & Fauna

The trekking route included a wide range of habitats' including rock / boulder scree, dense forest, abandoned pastures, alpine meadow, *Juniper* & Yak pasture, scrub, old settlements, farmland and open woodland to name but a few.

While we had little chance of identifying the many insects we saw, we had an easier time with the abundance of plants still in flower. The list and photo's (from left to right) in this section show a very small sample of the plants we came across.

1. *Bistorta cf. vacciniifolia*
2. *Eriophyton sp.*
3. *Hippolytia cf. gossypina*



Over the page –

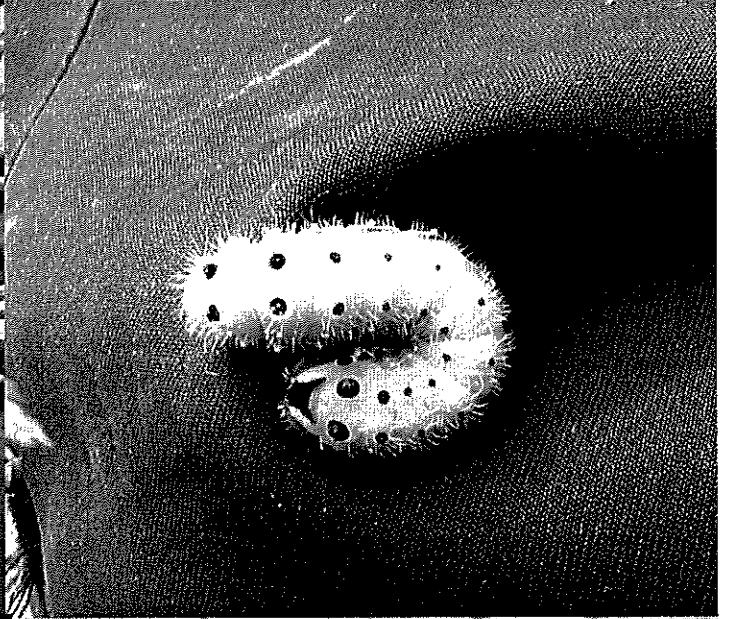
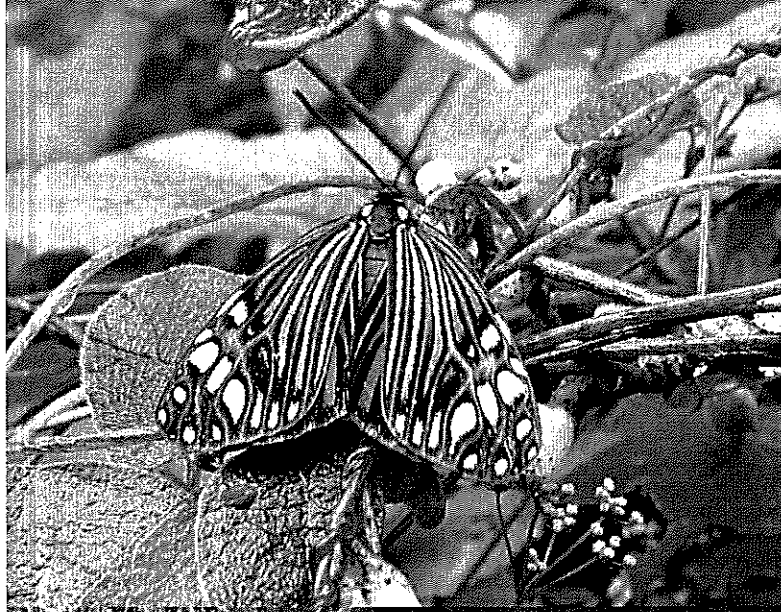
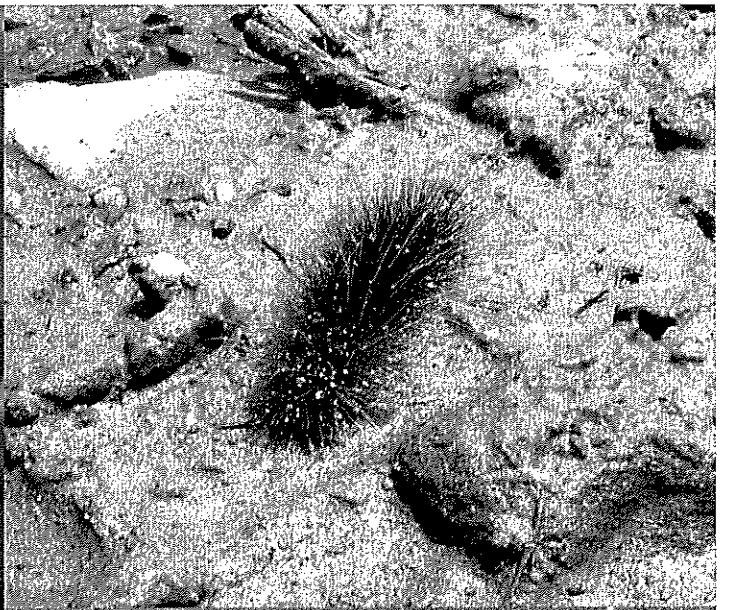
1. Orchid
2. *Persicaria sp.*
3. *Delphinium sp.*
4. ??
5. *Veratrum?*
6. *Primula sp.*
7. *Impatiens sp.*
8. *Spiranthes sp.*
9. *Saussurea cf. uniflora*
10. *Pedicularis sp.*
11. *Aconitum sp.*
12. *Artemisia sp.*
13. *Cotoneaster sp.*
14. *Gentian sp.*

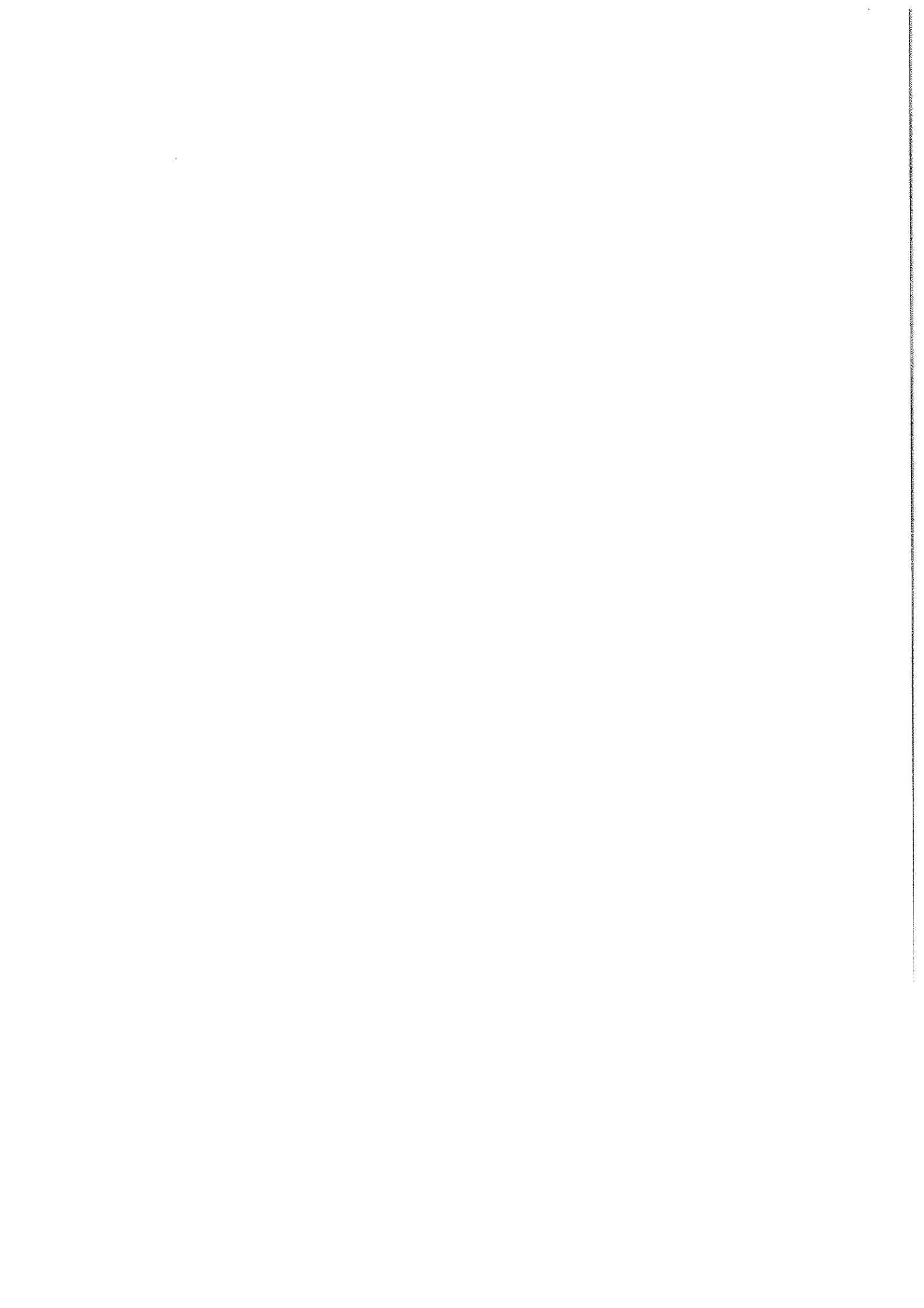
Others seen included, *Anaphalis*, *Camellia*, *Dendrobium*, *Coelogyne*, *Allium*, *Parnossine*, *Silene*, *Umbellifera*, *Leontopodium*, *Aconitum*, *Lathraea*, *Geranium*, *Saxifrage*, *Rhododendron*, *Erigeron*,



5

.





Expedition results

Collection

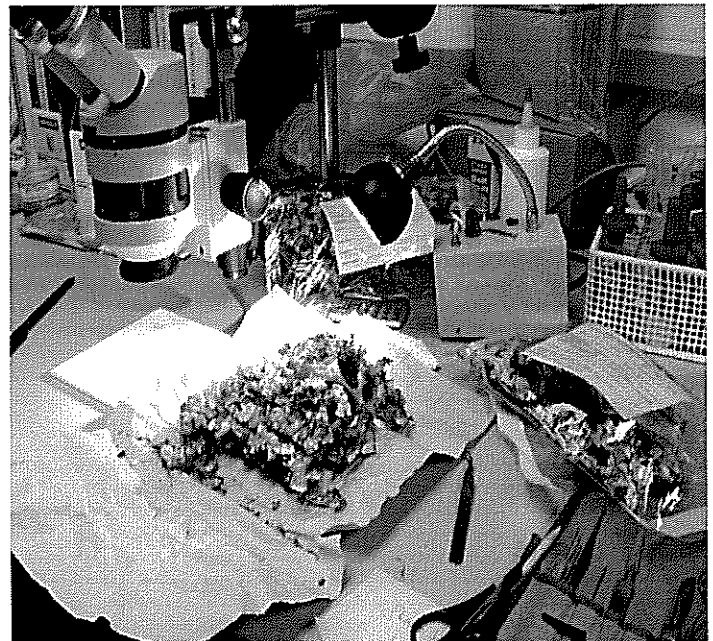
Despite bad weather and the distances covered, the results of the expedition far exceeded expectation for a first visit to Nepal and the number of specimens collected were more than twice that expected.

- 1080 specimens collected
- Photographic record of journey with over 500 habitat photographs
- Preservation of over 40 soil specimens
- Full expedition report



Continuing work

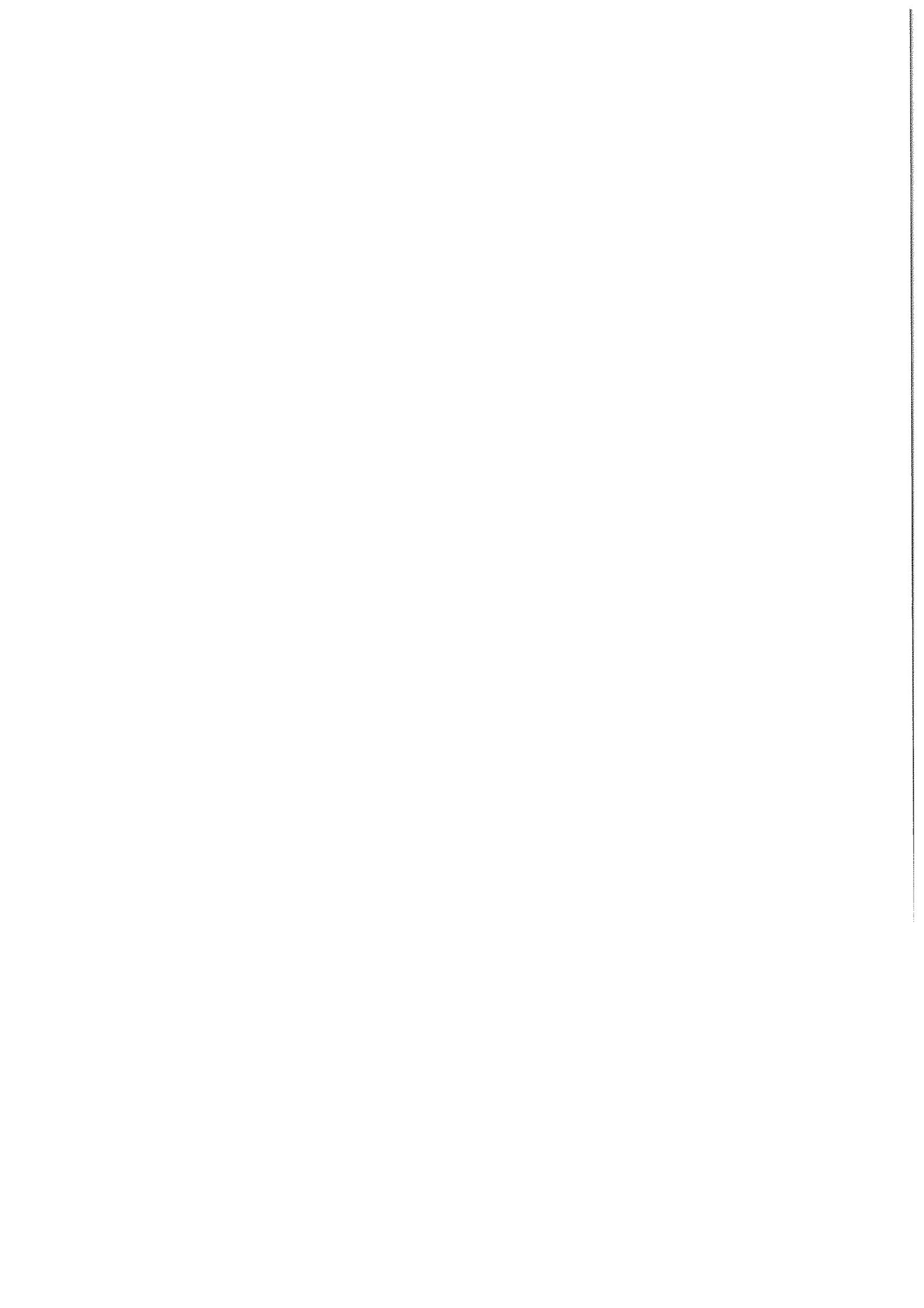
- Joint publication of expedition results in Nepali Journal
- Power point presentation
- Identification of specimens
- Database entry onto 'Excel'
- Return of lichens to Kathmandu (first batch in Feb 08)
- Compilation of the checklist
- Addition of specimens to 'Padme' database for distribution maps



Collaboration

Dr Lokendra Sharma was a delight to work with and was invaluable in helping us with the expedition. His support was much appreciated and we hope that with his help, future visits to targeted habitats based on this report may result in a more complete picture of Nepalese lichens. (From the left are Mrs. Keshari Luxmi Rajkarnikar, Ashok Bhattarae, Mrs. Lajmina Joshi, Dr. L.R. Sharma, Louise Olley)





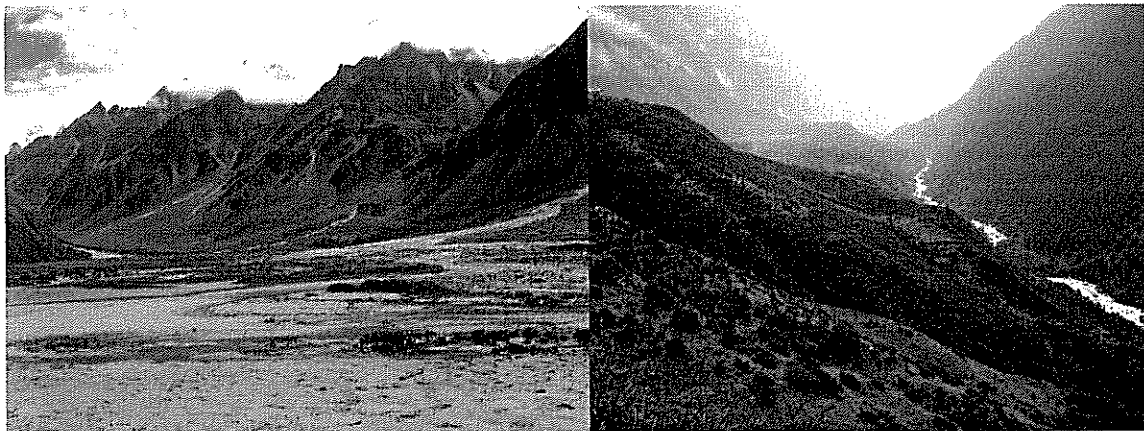
Herbarium

The herbarium at Godavari National Park is a huge asset to Nepal and to the students of Tribivan University. The herbarium has very few microscopes and those present are mainly for permanent staff use, tucked away in private labs and offices. Lajmina Joshi (Chief, Wood Anatomy Section) (Lady in green in photo – see previous page) presented the case for much needed equipment. It is my hope that I may find a source of funding for another microscope to be placed in the herbarium for visitor use.

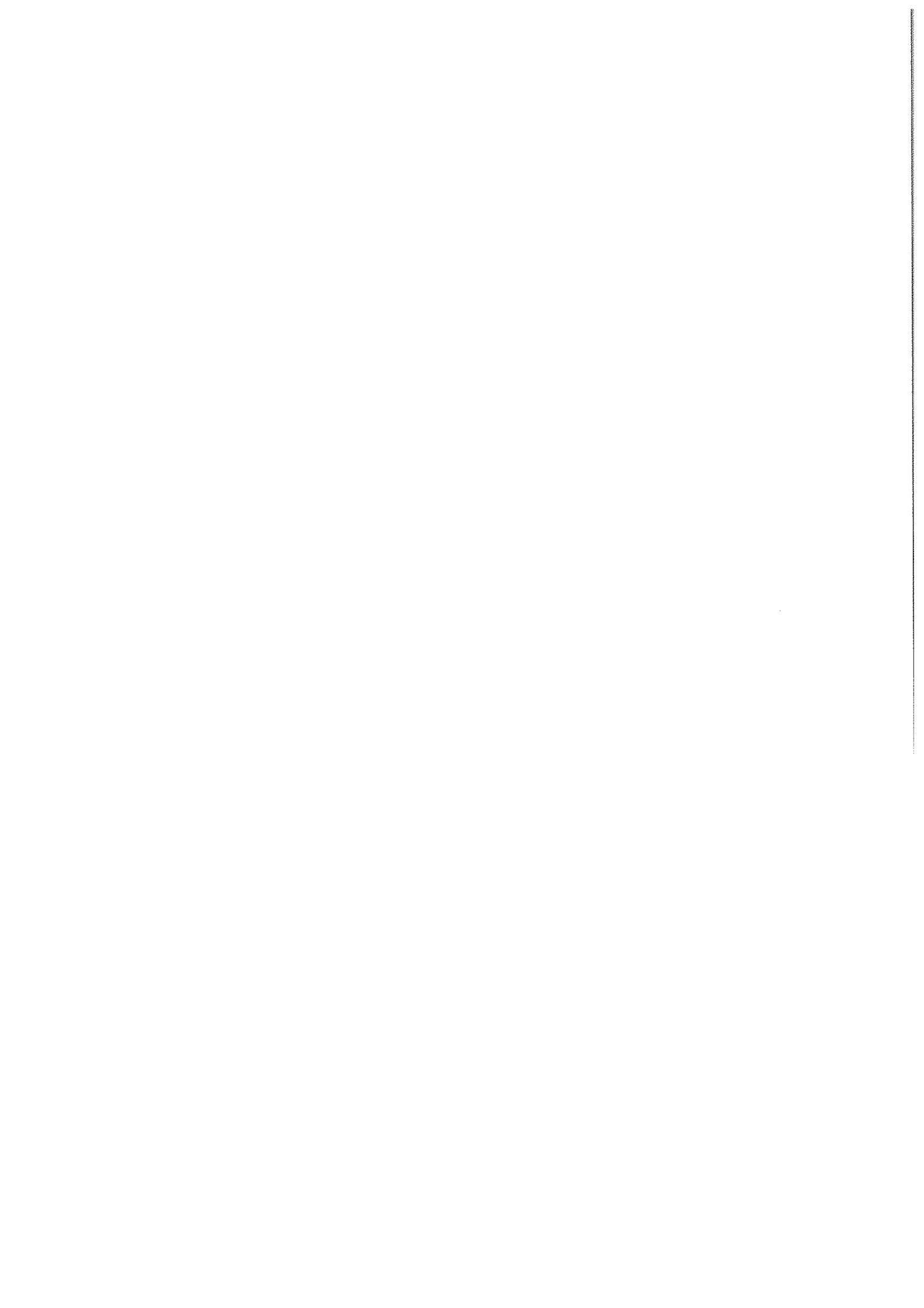


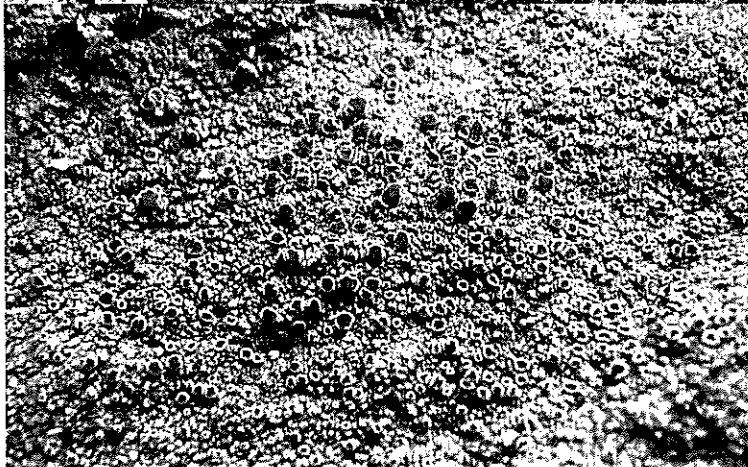
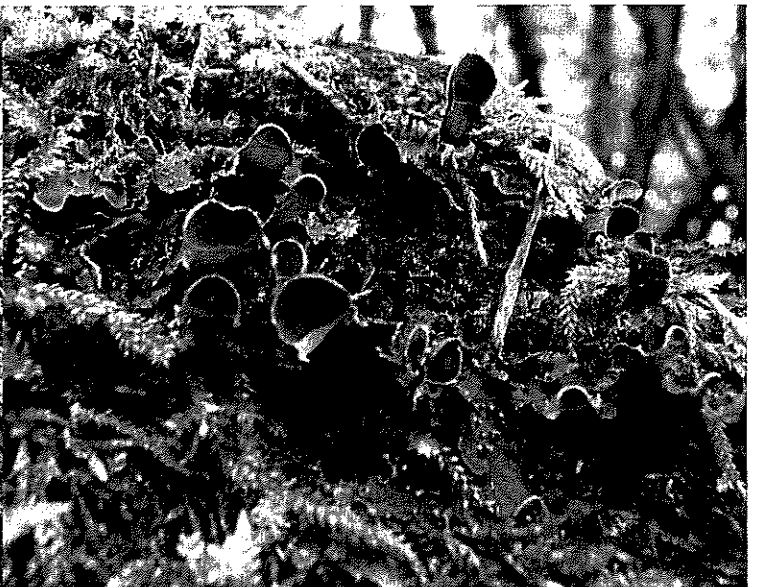
Future Collecting in Nepal

The protection and conservation of the national parks is excellent considering the problems involved and much of the richest habitat remains so because of its inaccessibility rather than its remoteness. The inaccessibility is mainly due to difficult terrain but also due to animal conservation areas. However, our expedition has highlighted areas which are valuable, accessible and which need more attention. It is my hope that in the future our Nepali counter parts will make use of this information for more targeted exploration.

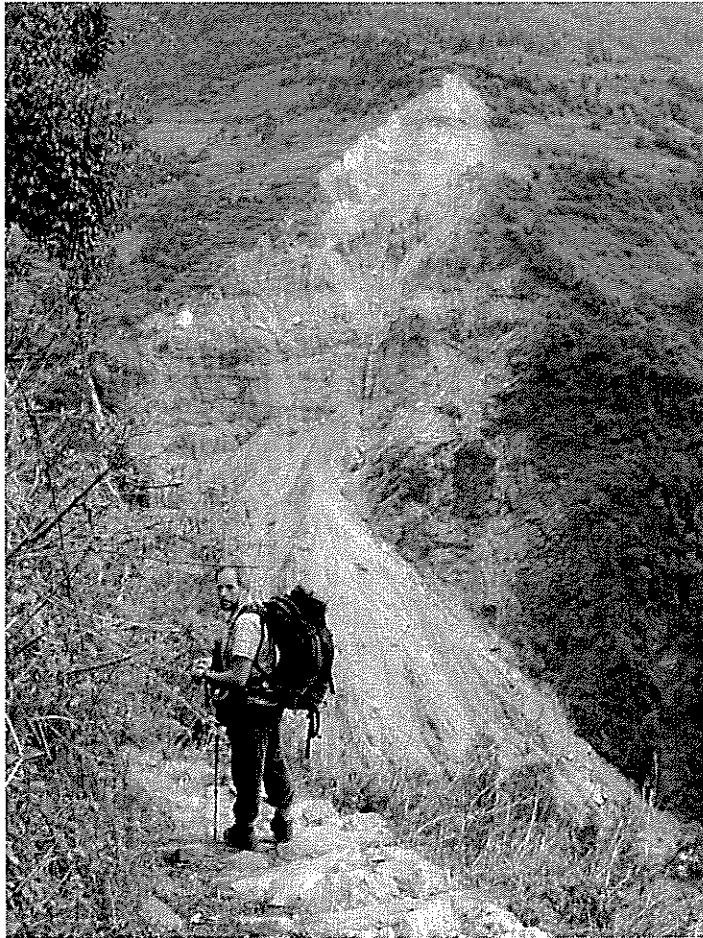


Photographs on next page (left to right) - *Lobaria*, *Nephroma*, *Pleopsidium?* *Lasalia*, Unidentified crustose sp., Unidentified lecanorine sp., *Thamnolia*, Unidentified foliose sp.









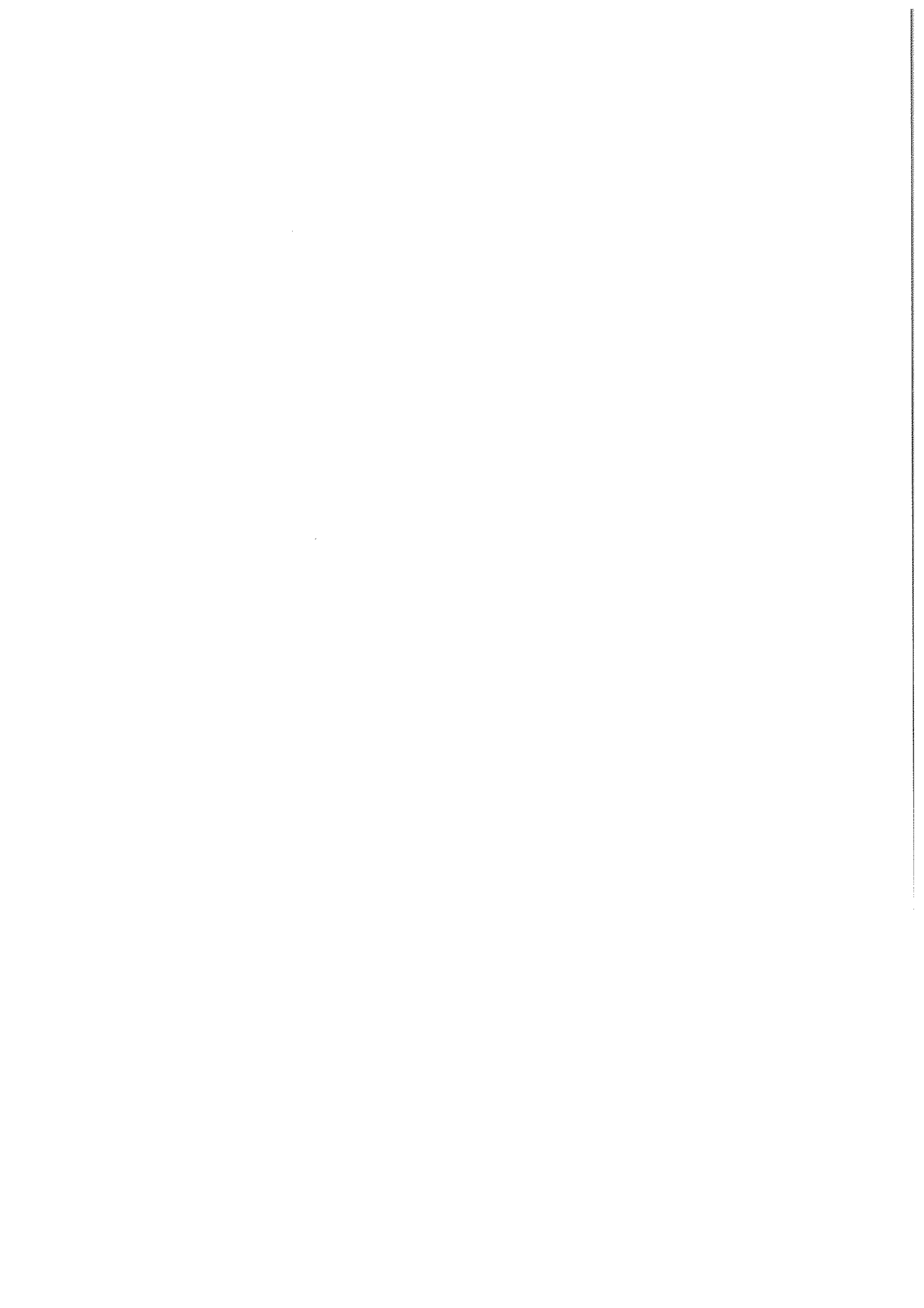
Extracts from personal diary

"When we got off the bus, the sky was clear & I didn't think of putting on the leech socks. I also was under the sad delusion that the weather was going to stay sunny. Of course it immediately started to rain and just as we crossed the first part of the land slide the rain got worse. We quickly donned our water proofs.

All along the trail we were coming across precipitous muddy and rocky land slides, each one seemingly bigger than the last. I wish we had taken some photographs but we didn't because we were so mud-covered and wet, it didn't even cross our minds."

The photographs of the landslides here were taken later. The danger primarily comes from rocks falling from above. The photograph below shows the dusty movement of an active landslide.





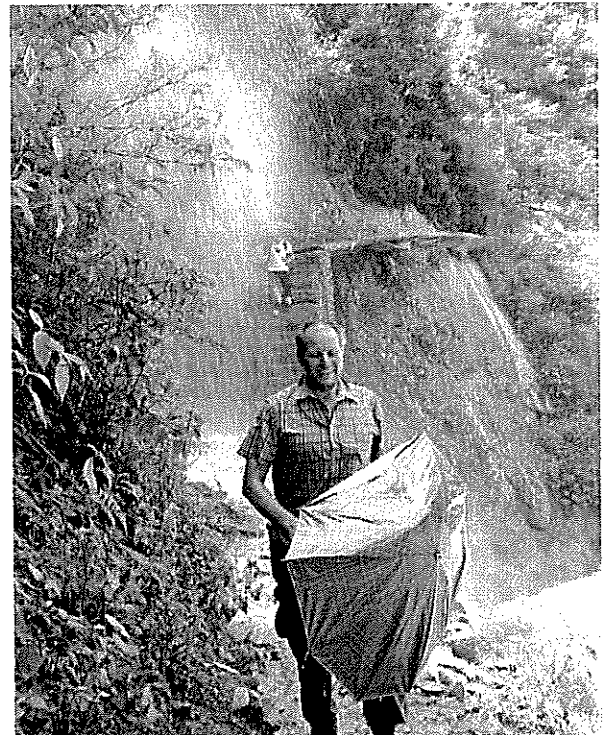
"When it rains the leeches head straight onto the path (when their not hanging off the foliage). The first person is safe from them but with each subsequent walker the pheromones that attract the leeches gets stronger and stronger so everyone tries to be at the front"

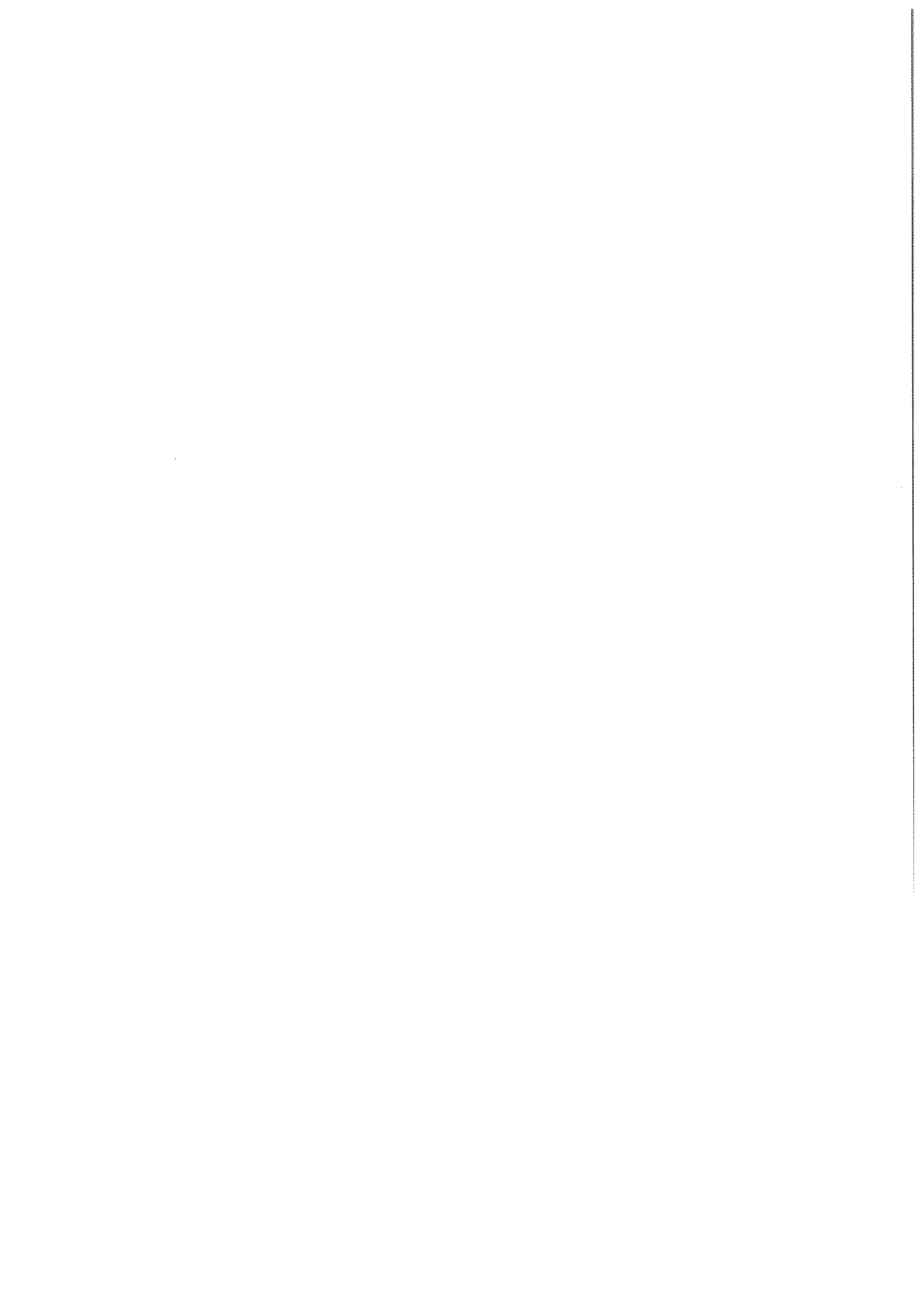
"I stopped to tie my laces and had to flick off 15 tiny leeches almost immediately. They move incredibly fast and are very difficult to handle as they attach straight on to your hands and fingers."

"We were heading down to about 1720m by the Langtang Khola, an enormous and beautiful river with gushing white waters, vast boulders and a path that led across a long suspension bridge and under a waterfall.



Poor Andy was carrying my umbrella and it broke under the pressure of the water, leaving him completely soaked and the rest of us in fits of laughter."







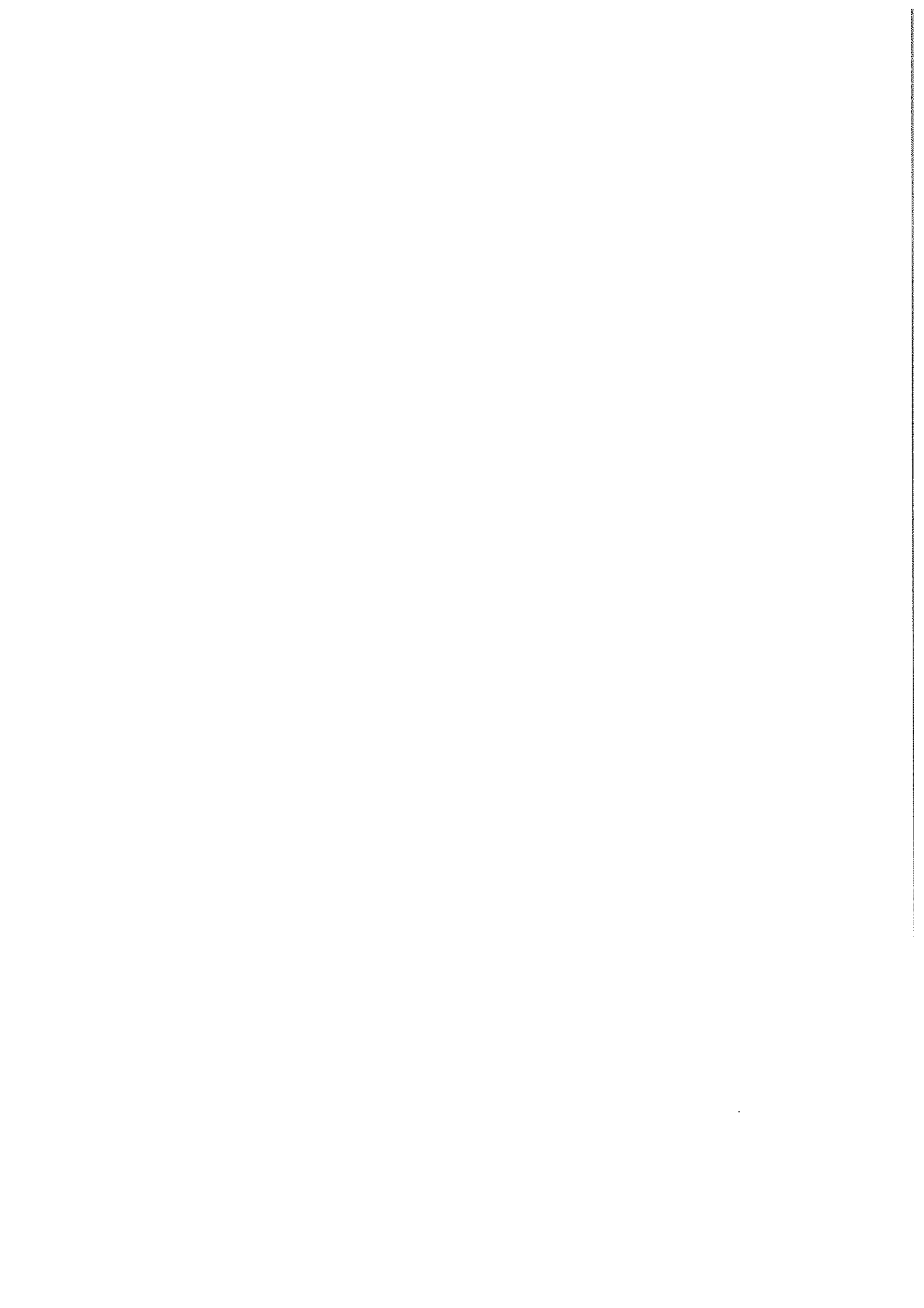
"No let up in rain but we had to get to Gosaikund before dark. Arrived absolutely soaking after having had to give up the broly at the pass for fear of it blowing away – or worse still –taking me with it.

"Vague views through the cloud and mist gave us some idea of our height especially the snow on the peaks. A waterfall roared beneath us. Sadly it was far too cold and wet to admire the scenery."

"We arrived sodden and frozen to the core. The hotel is as cold and damp on the inside as it is on the outside! We all huddled round a poorly working stove but Andy and I got progressively colder and since my woolly hat and socks were sodden I was quite prepared to part with 750 rupees for a Tibetan hat and long socks which are wonderfully warm even if the colours are a bit garish.

The hotel owners got us a blanket and after about two hours and a lovely hot meal we were finally heated through enough to contemplate going to bed. I slept wearing two thermal leggings, a vest, base layer, fleece, a down jacket, woolly hat and socks and fingerless gloves all squished into a damp sleeping bag with two heavy blankets. "





"The day started with a partly clear sky. It had snowed more over night so our poor porters had to blaze the trail. For their extra work, Sukeram treated them all to drinks that evening.

The scenery was amazing until the rain clouds started to form. Sadly most of my snow photos were over exposed because I forgot to use the snow option built into the camera. Luckily Andy got some good ones."

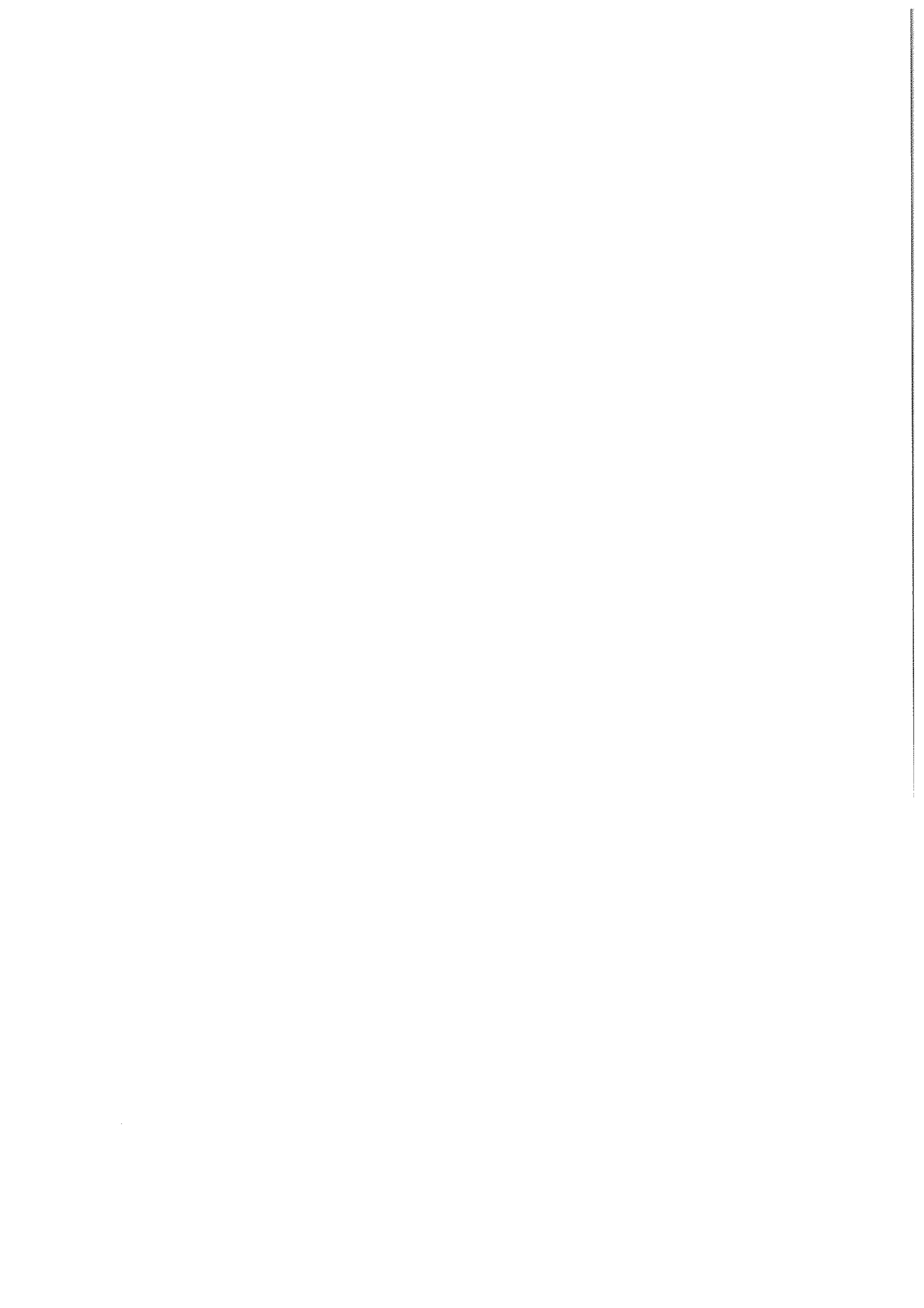


"While the others enjoyed the walk, I struggled with the thin air and thirst. I could not take on liquid because the water I carried was just too cold to drink. (A thermos flask would have been useful). I had taken two 'Paracetamol' for my altitude headache and the feeling of being almost literally on top of the world was quite heady.

Once passed the snow-line, it was wonderfully peaceful, but I wasn't able to fully appreciate it because I could see the cloud forming and wasn't sure if we would get across the pass safely in the fog. It turned out that I needn't have worried because the



pass wasn't dangerous or precipitous (just steep in parts). Sadly the views didn't last and the mist set in. This is our 6th day of wet, cold and partially obscured views."



Medical List

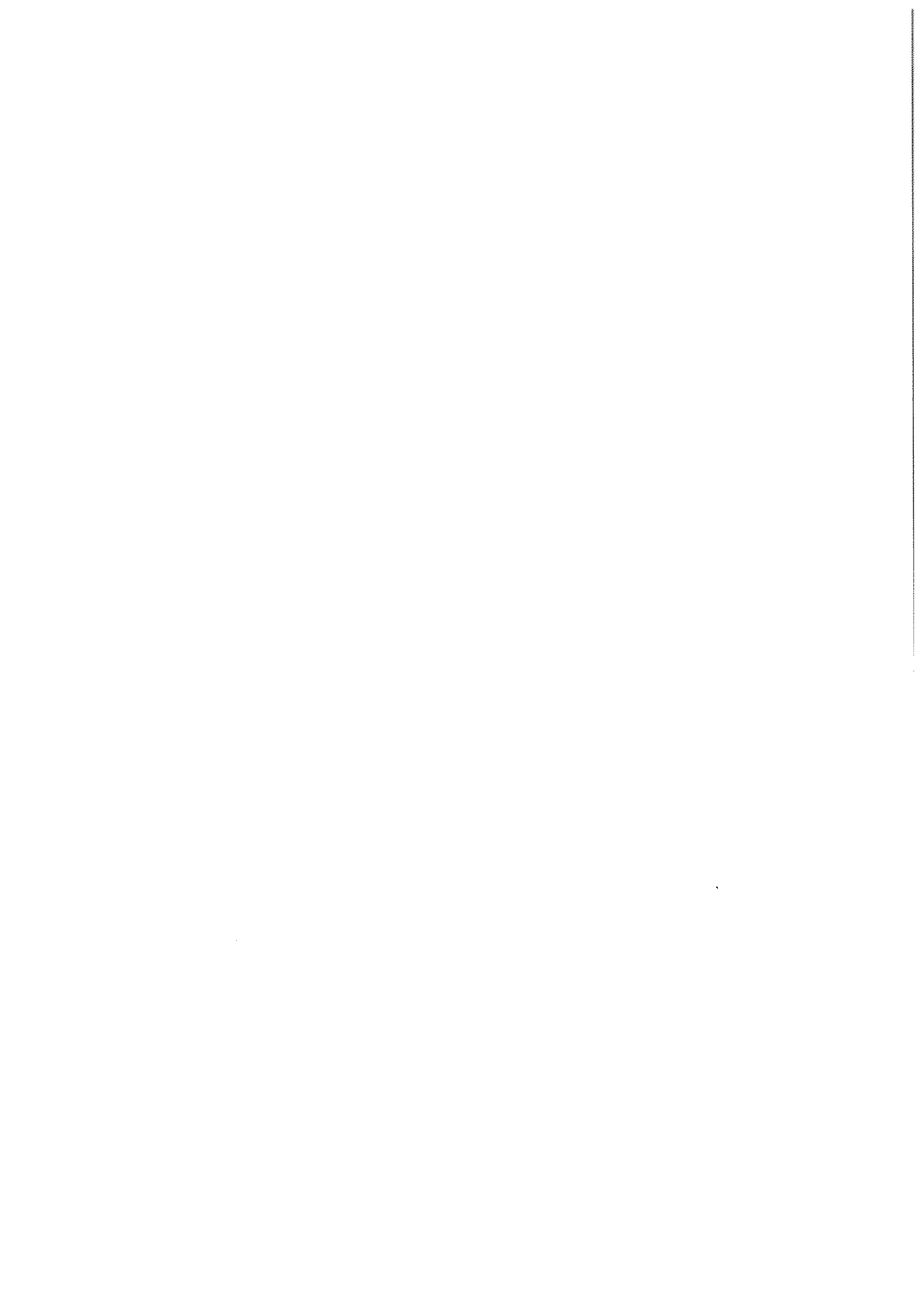
FAK = First aid kit (pre-package)

Chemical name	Trade Name	Action	Quantity
Actifed	Actifed	decongestant	
Anti diarrhoea, Loperamide (2mg capsules)	Imodium		x 6
Anti fungal, Clotrimazole 1% cream	Canisten		
Anti giard, Tinidazole (500mg tablets)	Fasigyn		
Anti vomit, Prochlorperazine (3mg tablets)	Buccastem		
Antibiotic, Cephalexin (500mg)			
Antibiotic, Ciprofloxacin (500mg tablets)	Ciproxin		
Antibiotic, Norfloxacin (400mg tablets)			
Antihistamine cream (Mepyramine Maleate 2%)	Boots B-Sting		
Antihistamine, Chlorpheniramine (4mg tablets)	Piriton		x 30
Antiseptic cream	Boots		x1
Antiseptic gel (100ml - Cuticura)			x1
Antiseptic gel (59ml - Asseptgel)			x2
Antiseptic wipes	Boots		x 10
Autan active stick			x1
Autan body spray 100			
Bandage (Triangular - sling)	FAK		
Bandage, cotton 10cm (x2)	FAK		
Bandage, cotton 7.5cm	FAK		
Bandage, crepe 7.5cm	FAK		
Bandage, elastic 7.5cm x 1m)	Tubigrip (boots)		x1
Chlorine tablets (2 persons at 4 Lt per day for 60 days)			225 x 2
Deep Heat 67g			x1
Dehydration treatment	Diorolyt		x 10
Disposable gloves (latex)	FAK		
Dressing, burns	FAK		
Dressing, large sterile	FAK		
Dressing, medium sterile	FAK		
Eye drops	Boots		x 2
First aid kit (FAK)	Mountain Leader		
Foot spray	Mycol		x 1
Gauze pads 10 x10cm	FAK		
Gauze pads 5 x 5cm	FAK		
Hand cream	Vaseline intensive care		
Hydrocortisone 1% cream		Insect bites	
Jungle formula (75ml)			x1
Metronidazole			
Micropore tape	FAK		
Non woven swabs	FAK		
Pain killer, Asprin	Boots		x16
Pain killer, Codeine + Paracetamol (15mg)	Panadol Extra		x16
Pain killer, Paracetamol (500mg capsules)	Boots		x 16

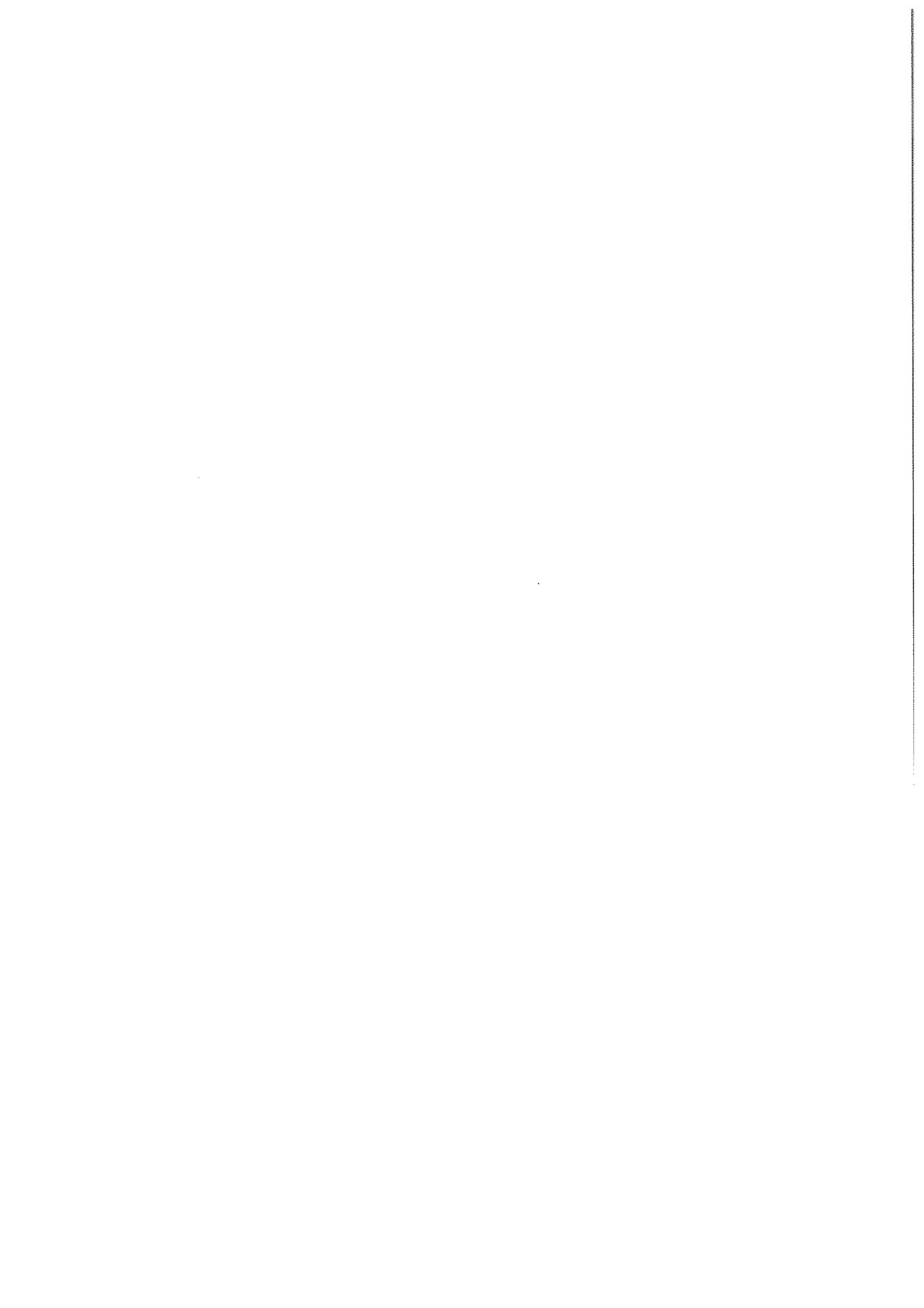
Pantoprazole		Anti acid	
Plasters (blister)	Compeed		
Plasters (blister)	Sorespot		
Plasters (hypoallergenic)	Boots		x20
Prochlorperazine		Dizziness	
Rescusi -aid	FAK		
Safety pins	FAK		
Scissors	FAK		
Senna 20g	Ex-Lax	Laxative	
Sodium sulamide 10% bottle	Boots	Eye drops	x 2 bottles
Steristrips	Boots		
Strepsils	Strepsils	Throat lozenges	
Thermometer	FAK		
Tweezers	FAK		
Vaseline	Boots		
Vit c tablets (Daily & 1000mg)	Boots		x 60
Zink oxide tape	FAK		

Equipment List

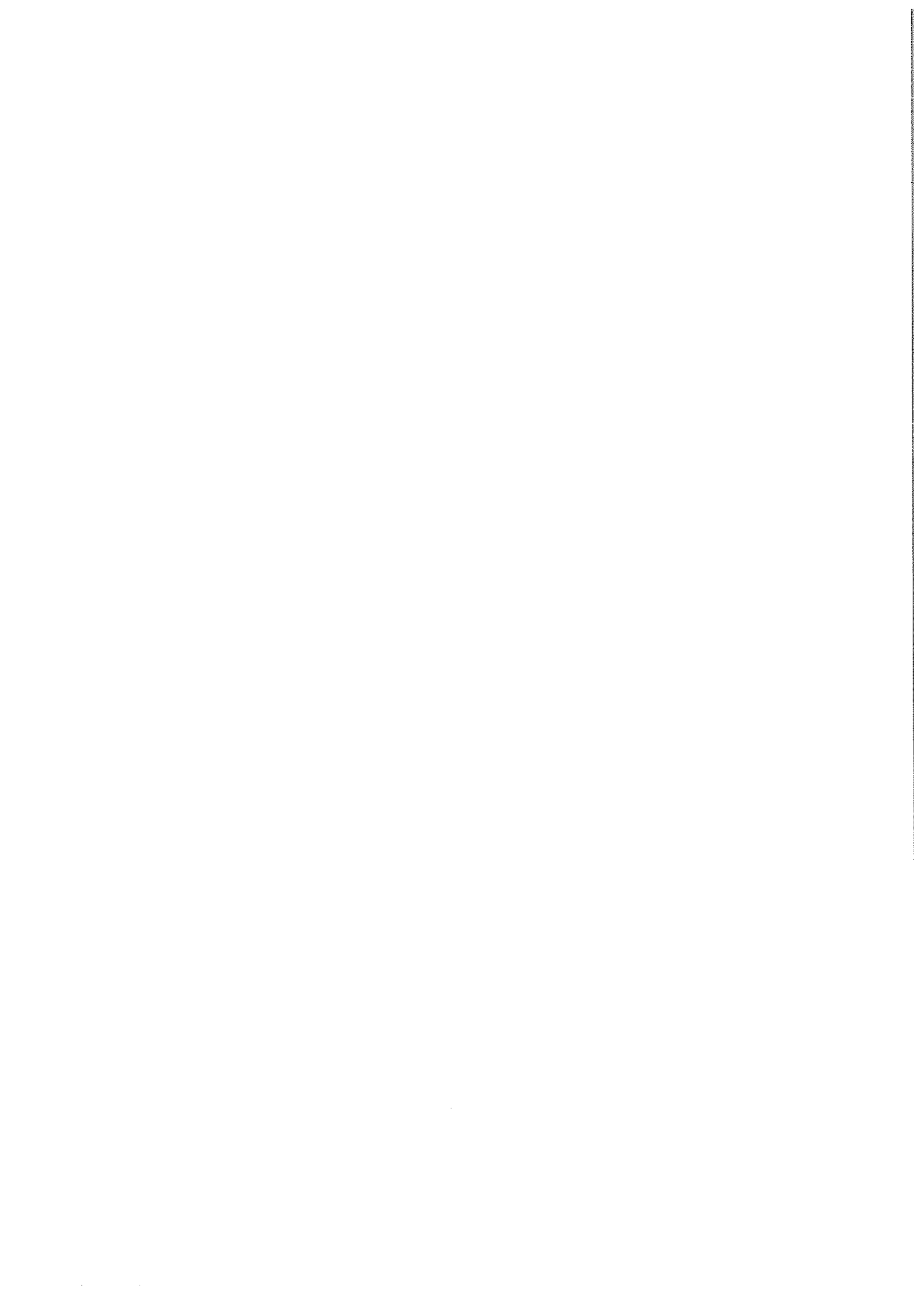
Equipment List
Address book/contact details
Address labels for luggage
After sun cream
Bandana x1
Batteries (AA & AAA)
Belt for trousers
Blotting paper
Book (reading)
Books (journal/diary)
Books (lichens)
Bum bag
Calculator (small, solar)
Camel-pack
Camera (+ case & spare batteries)
Camp shoes (trainers)
Candles
Cash (dollars)
Chisel & hammer
Cleansing wipes
Clothes line
Clothes pegs
Clothes wash
Collecting knife & scabbard
Compass
Cotton buds
Credit and bank card



Dental floss
Deodorant
Diary / journal
Dollars
Down waistcoat / jacket
Drying line
Ear plugs
Electronic copies of database and files
Emergency lists / contact addresses
Eye mask (for international flights)
Face cloth/flannel/sponge x1
Fleece
Gaiters
Gifts
Glasses case / spare glasses
Gloves (2 pairs, fingerless and mitts)
Gore-Tex over-trousers
Gore-Tex shell
GPS
Hair brush/comb
Hand cream
Hand lens
Hand warmers
Head torch (petzel takes 3 batteries)
Insect repellent
Kit bag
Laptop, cables and bag
Leech leggings
Lockable collecting knife
Long sleeved shirt (x1)
Maps (+ guide book)
Matches / lighters
Medical kit (main & personal)
Mirror (small)
Mobile phone
Money belt
Nail brush
Nail file and clippers
Night clothes
padlocks
Pants
Passport (+ visa), passport photos x 8
Passport photocopies x 4
Penknife
Pens / pencils
Phone (mobile)
Phone (satellite)
Pocket tissue packs

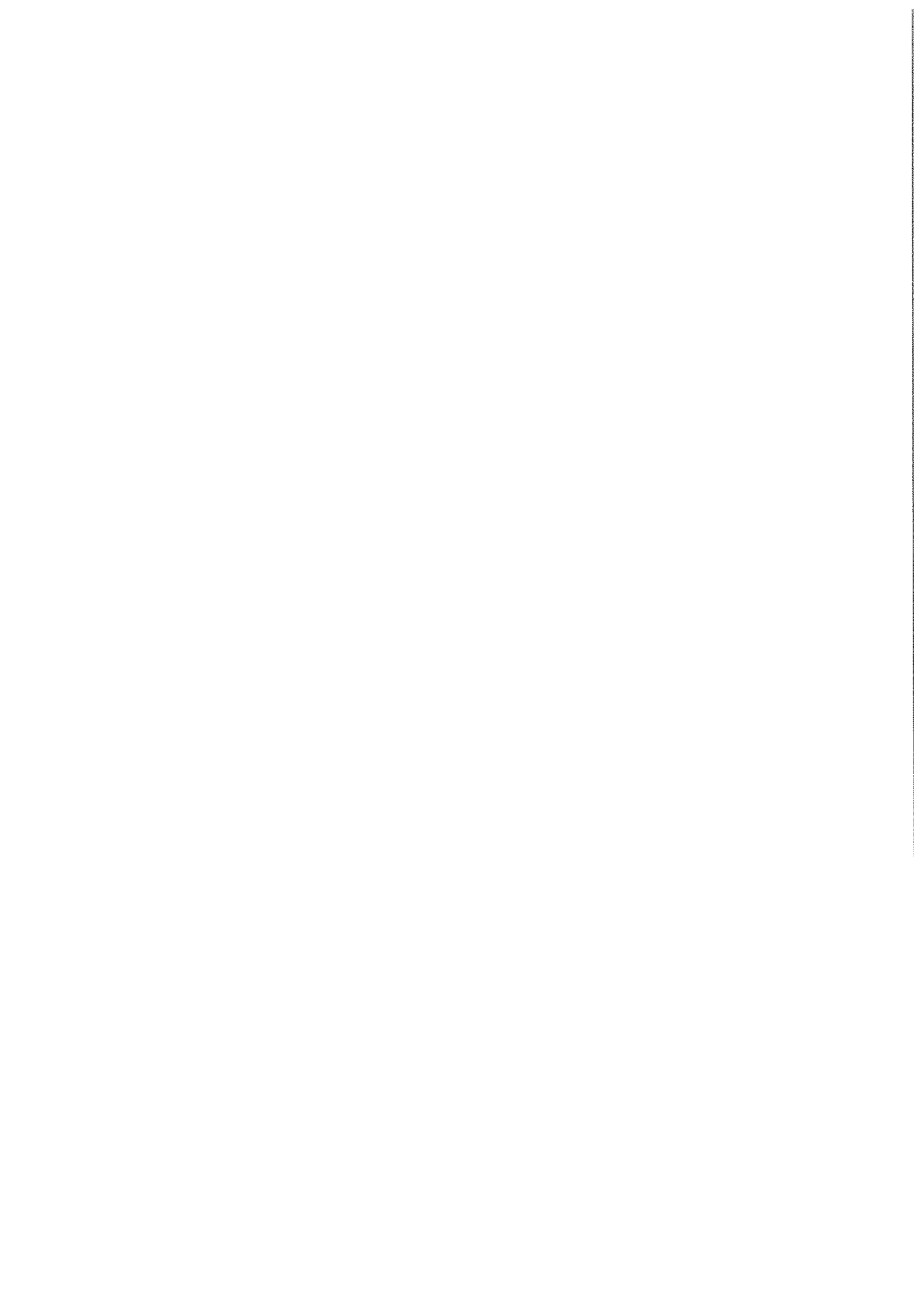


Poly bags (clear)
Reading material
Rubber bands
Rucksacks (day + main)
Rucksack cover or liner
Rucksack holder/storage bag (80 Lt)
Rupees
Sandals
Sanitary wear
Scarf
Secateurs
Sewing kit
Shampoo & conditioner
Sleeping bag
Sleeping bag liner
Soap & soap dish
Socks (liners - at least 5 pairs)
Socks (thick - at least 3 pairs)
Socks (waterproof -1 pair)
Socks for trainers (4-5 pairs)
Spare photocopies of passport
Specimen packets
Sun block for body spf 20
Sun block for face spf 50
Sun block for lips (Nivea 4g)
Sun hat
Sweatshirt / thin jumper
Sweets / comfort food
Swiss Army knife
T shirts x2
Thermal / base layer long sleeved tops (x2)
Thermal bottoms (x1)
Toilet tissue 2 rolls
Tooth paste
Toothbrush (travel kind)
Towel (x 2 microfiber)
Travelers cheques & cash
Trousers (2 pairs- day and evening)
Tupper ware
Umbrella
Universal sink plug
Walking boots
Walking sticks
Warm hat
Wash hold all
Water bottle (Sigg)
Whistle

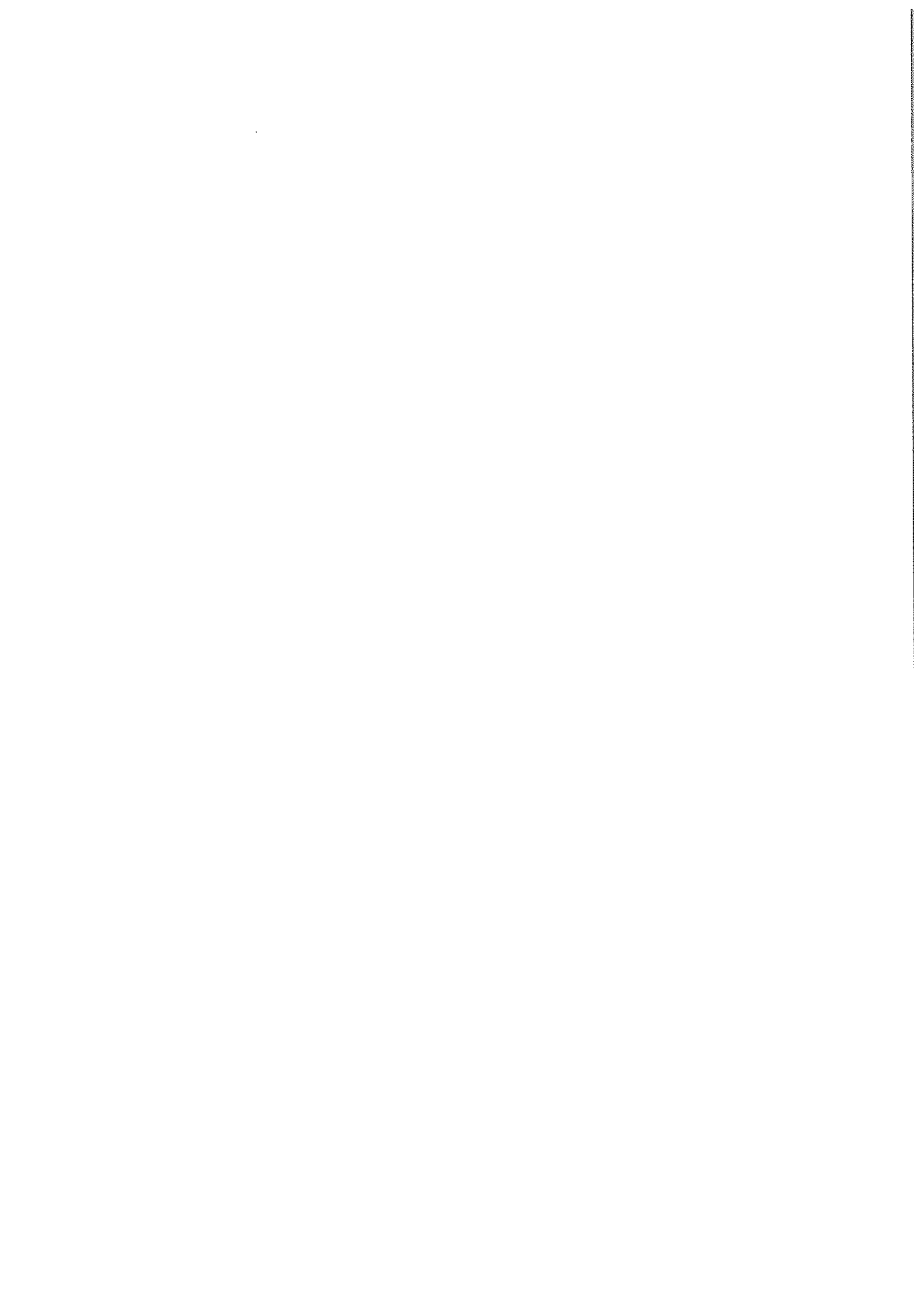


Birds of Nepal (seen by Andy or both of us)

Date	Bird Name		Comment
11-Sep-07	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	Kathmandu. Saw from Tibet Guest House. Best views came later from the rooftop Italian restaurant where they hopped about our feet!
12-Sep-07	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saulais</i>	From room at Tibet Guest House.
12-Sep-07	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	From room at Tibet Guest House
12-Sep-07	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	Around Kathmandu. Watched them from the Guest House.
12-Sep-07	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Tibet Guest House flying around the outdoor restaurant and living amongst the bricks in the wall.
14-Sep-07	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	In pastures with livestock. On road to Dunche.
14-Sep-07	White-throated kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	On wires over paddy fields. On road to Dunche.
14-Sep-07	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	on road to Dunche. Also saw pair on 20 Sept. 07 in fields around Langtang. Also saw them on the way back to Langtang - great view of a bird in front of us on the trail
14-Sep-07	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Seen from bus on way to Dunche.
14-Sep-07	Black Drongo	<i>Dicurus macrocercus</i>	Seen from bus on way to Dunche. Great tail!
15-Sep-07	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	Amongst trees on the edges of fields at the edge of Dunche.
15-Sep-07	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	On balcony of lodge in Dunche.
16-Sep-07	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	Watched one of these hopping about on boulders on the far side of the Langtang river.
16-Sep-07	Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>	Saw some of these at a seepage on a cliff above the bridge we crossed just after leaving Thulo Syabru.
17-Sep-07	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	Saw my first one on the way to Ghoda Tabela.
17-Sep-07	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	Pair of them were hopping about on the boulders by the river when we got to Bamboo.
17-Sep-07	White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>	In mature woodland near Bamboo.
17-Sep-07	Striated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>	In mature <i>Alnus nepalensis</i> mixed woodland on the way to Bamboo. Watched it feeding from some hanging fruits.



17-Sep-07	Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	On trail between Bamboo and Ghoda Tabela
17-Sep-07	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Near Woodlands Lodge near the Langtang River. Feeding near us.
17-Sep-07	Scarlet Finch	<i>Haematospiza sipahi</i>	In scrub just below track, on way from Bamboo to Ghoda Tabela.
19-Sep-07	Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>	In open scrub near Langtang at c.3060m
19-Sep-07	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	Saw flocks of these birds around Langtang and Kyangin Gompa.
19-Sep-07	Spotted Laughing thrush	<i>Garrulax ocellatus</i>	A couple of birds moving through <i>Zanthoxylum</i> / <i>Rhododendron</i> scrub after Ghoda Tabela
19-Sep-07	Yellow-breasted Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis spinoides</i>	In scrub amongst and on the edges of cultivation on approaches to Langtang. Small flocks.
20-Sep-07	Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>	Flock above Langtang
20-Sep-07	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	In fields with boulders outside Langtang village on way to bridge to cross the river
20-Sep-07	Red-headed Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula erythrocarpa</i>	At base of rocky crag between Langtang and Kyangin Gompa. Saw a pair.
21-Sep-07	Yellow-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	Flocks around Kyangin Gompa. Birds mooching around in the village
22-Sep-07	Lammergeir	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	Magnificent views of an adult male soaring around us as we climbed Kyangin Ri.
22-Sep-07	?Mountain Hawk Eagle	<i>Spizaetus nipalensis</i>	Might have seen this bird at the top of Kyangin Ri
22-Sep-07	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	
22-Sep-07	Grandala	<i>Grandala coelicolor</i>	Saw a single male perching on the grass close to the top of Kyangin Ri at 4,500m. Later saw a flock of males and females wheeling around just below, after the Gosainkund Pass.
24-Sep-07	Monal Pheasant	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	Three females in gully just north of Langtang
24-Sep-07	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	On wire in Langtang village.
25-Sep-07	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	On the edge of the undergrowth at Bamboo. The bird was fly-catching from a prominent branch just outside the lodge.
25-Sep-07	Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>	In high Oak wood on trail from Ghoda Tabela to Bamboo.



26-Sep-07	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	Great views of this bird around Thulo Syabru. Saw it around the <i>Pinus wallichii</i> and later in the fields above TS on the way to Shin Gompa
27-Sep-07	Large Niltava	<i>Niltalva grandis</i>	In open forest on the outskirts of Thulo Syabru amongst fields.
27-Sep-07	Grey-crested Tit	<i>Parus dichronus</i>	In old <i>Abies spectabilis</i> woodland on the way to Shin Gompa
29-Sep-07	Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>	Flock by track on trail to Ghopte.
03-Oct-07	Green Pigeon - Yellow footed?	<i>Treron sp.</i>	In ayside scrub in Shivapuri near Chisapani
03-Oct-07	Oriental White- eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	In trees at the top end of the terraces as they were giving way to scrub and woodland on our way to Chisapani.
08-Oct-07	Black-headed Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Sold as caged bird in Kathmandu.

