

NO 7 - Winter 1997 APE RESCUE CHRONICLE

The Magazine of Monkey World, Dorset, England

Letter From the Editor

This past summer was one of our busiest ever, with many new animals arriving, new buildings going up, and filming a seven part television series with Meridian and Tigress productions. The final edits are just being made and the series is due to go out at the end of February.

In August a group of five woolly monkeys arrived at the park. This group is one of the rarest in the world and were sent to Monkey World because we have been so successful at rescuing and rehabilitating baby woolly monkeys who were smuggled from the wild. The group came to us from **Apenheul Zoo** in Holland where they are recognised as the world's leading experts in the care and breeding of woolly monkeys. We are happy to be able to work in partnership with Apenheul. In July we opened our new Malagasy habitat. All of our ring-tailed lemurs and one group of ruffed lemurs have moved into the large forested area at the end of the woodland walk. It is the first of its kind in Britain and it is simply spectacular. The public are allowed to walk through the lemurs enclosure as long as there is no feeding or touching the animals.

At the request of the Catalan Government in Spain, we rescued another chimpanzee. He was kept in appalling conditions at a private house in Barcelona when the Generalitat contacted Monkey World. Once again, because of your support, Monkey World has been able to assist foreign governments in stopping the illegal trade and abuse of primates in captivity. This rescue operation would not have been possible without the assistance of **Barcelona Zoo**, the **Generalitat**, and **British Airways**.

While Jim Cronin and I were in Spain we also went to Malaga to follow up on sightings of what we believe to be the *last* beach chimp. Thanks to many reports from our supporters we know who the photographers are, we have photos of them working the chimp, and we know their car registration number. We are collecting more evidence and will hopefully be able to rescue the chimp this next summer.

We would also like to thank **McDonald's** in Bournemouth, and in particular Dave Williamson, who has given Monkey World food vouchers to sell. All proceeds are going toward the new orangutan house. We also received a very kind donation of T-shirts and money from the **HELP** organisation in Congo. The Directors decided that the money should come to Monkey World as many of the chimps we have rescued are the ones they missed in Africa. The black and white T-shirts, with the **HELP** logo, are now available in the shop. The pig-tail monkeys received a very kind donation, from an individual who wishes to remain anonymous, to redo the

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Me Llamo Pacito!

On 7 November Jim and Alison Cronin returned from Spain having rescued another chimpanzee. His name is Pacito, he is seven years old, and he has spent his entire life living in an actor's garden shed. Jim was contacted during the summer by the Generalitat, part of the Catalan Government, and asked if Monkey World could rescue another chimpanzee.



Above: Pacito as we found him in a shed, with a chain around his neck.

The Catalan authorities had been tipped off about the conditions in which the animal was being kept. First Mr Josep Ballús and Mr Ricard Casanovas, of the Generalitat went to see the chimpanzee. The man claimed that he had papers saying that the chimp was legal and that it was captive born. While they did not believe that the papers were real they put pressure on the man to give up his chimp based upon the conditions in which he was keeping the ape. The actor was easily convinced especially as Pacito was growing up, becoming difficult, and starting to get aggressive with him. Sadly, this is a story that we hear all too often when people try to keep primates as pets.

With the assistance of Maria Theresa Abello of Barcelona Zoo the paperwork was organised and we were ready to collect Pacito. When we arrived at the house, we were shocked to see the conditions in which Pacito had lived for many years. His home was a small concrete shed, 2m x 2m, and he was chained around his neck to a metal grate in a small window. We were told that in the winter when it got cold, that the window was boarded over, leaving Pacito in darkness with

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Above: Pacito and Charlie get along well inside a pavilion.

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no view of the outside world. While his owners had been feeding him well, Pacito had no muscle tone and did not know how to walk properly, let alone climb. We were also surprised to discover that he did not know how to eat an unpeeled banana. The sounds that Pacito made bore very little resemblance to chimpanzee vocalisations. Pacito was given an anaesthetic dart by the Barcelona Zoo vet, Jesus Fernandez. We removed the chain from around his neck, and did a thorough veterinary check before loading Pacito into a crate. He was given a long lasting sedative to make his journey back to Dorset a bit easier.

As they have done many times, with many chimpanzees before, British Airways sponsored Pacito's journey in a 767 BA Cargo jet. Their staff were wonderful and let us check on Pacito before and after the flight. For all this we are indebted to Mr Kevin Westknot and Mr Jamie Roach who made the rescue possible for us and more pleasant for Pacito. He travelled well and the very next morning we introduced Pacito to Charlie who had been on his own for a while (see *When Paddy Met Rodney*)

Amazingly Pacito took very little notice of Charlie when they first met. Charlie on the other hand, went through his complete repertoire of displays and games including favourites such as the 'slap bottom', 'blue paper roll', and 'footsy' games. Pacito did not understand Charlie's game invitations and tried to keep a low profile. But this simply was not good enough. Charlie pursued his new roommate and broke the ice by poking him in the stomach and patting him on the head. The introduction was very relaxed and after a couple of days we began to see Pacito attempting a male chimp display, initiating his own games with Charlie, and making more natural chimp calls. The one problem Pacito has not overcome yet is that he eats very slowly and delicately. While he is finishing his first apple, Charlie has either taken possession of or eaten all of their food. This aspect of chimpanzee etiquette should not take very long to master. While Pacito still has a lot to learn about being a chimpanzee, he is rehabilitating very quickly and Charlie is helping him along the path to recovery.

We will keep you posted.

On June 24th we put the 'Tunnel of Fun' into action and began the long process of introducing Paddy's group of seven to Rodney's group of sixteen. This was the largest introduction of chimpanzees Monkey World has ever undertaken. Prior to the introduction, Rodney's group of sixteen, ranging in age from 5 - 35, occupied a two acre, natural paddock with access to two gymnasium sized indoor play areas and ten individual bedrooms. The eldest male, Rodney, who had an alliance with another adult male, Charlie, dominated this group. Together they governed a group of four dominant adult females, nine subadults (two males and seven females), and one young female.

When Paddy Met Rodney

All sixteen were unrelated, having been rescued from beach photographers in Spain, a laboratory in France, a Greek circus, and an UK zoo closure. Paddy's group of seven occupied a two acre enclosure and one indoor play area with three bedrooms. Paddy was the dominant male and is approximately 18 years old. The rest of the group, three males and three fe-

through the 'Tunnel of Fun' the newly formed group will be able to come together and separate into distinct sub-groups as is documented in the wild.

The initial introduction took a period of two days, and we started by introducing Paddy and his dominant female, Cindy, to Rodney, Charlie, and one of their dominant females, Grisby inside on

1. Clin and Cherri;
 2. Susie and Lola;
 3. Beth, Micky, and Zoe;
 4. Busta and Jimmy; and finally all the others
 5. Paco, Gamba, Athena, Olympia, Kay, Peppa, Cathy, Evie, and Bixa.
- With all the introductions, there was screaming and a bit of fighting, however, there were no seri-



Above: Paddy with his new recruits

males, is of a similar age, and all were unrelated and rescued from beach photographers in Spain.

The introduction was undertaken for two main reasons. First, Rodney's authority was being challenged by the dominant group of females, it appeared that soon he would be deposed, and there were not other candidates to fill his position; we believed that Rodney would abdicate without much of a fight and that Paddy would take over the new group of twenty three. Secondly, in terms of welfare/occupational therapy, by bringing the groups together,

of the pavilions. We were totally surprised by the results. The awesome sight of Paddy did not frighten Rodney for a minute, in fact, it was Paddy who was scared to death. He climbed up into the top of the pavilion and started screaming as Rodney and Charlie ran around displaying. There were a few punch ups but everything soon settled down and we decided to leave the group of five overnight.

The next morning, we brought all the rest of the chimps together by the end of the day. This was done in five steps:

ous injuries. In fact, many of the subadult chimps started playing with their new friends. For the next couple of weeks, the chimps were allowed to go where ever they wanted within the entire complex. Paddy remained in his pavilion and enclosure and Rodney on his side; the line was clearly drawn and the two males simply ignored each other. Over the first couple of days it became clear that the females and youngsters from Rodney's group were making a choice, almost every one had moved into Paddy's area. Rodney was clearly dismayed by this as he could see and hear the

Woolly Monkeys

On 18 August five woolly monkeys arrived at the park: Kismo, the dominant male, born in 1986; Branco, a young male, born in 1994; Xuzy, the largest female, born in 1972; Tsjika, a female born in 1988 and her daughter Milagra, born in 1995. They are a very sensitive species of monkey and have special dietary requirements, husbandry routines, and housing needs. Prior to their arrival, we sent our Head Keeper, Mike Colbourne, to Apenheul Zoo to work with the five woollys before they were sent to Dorset. This was important as their husbandry routines are specialised and Apenheul thought it best for Mike and the monkeys to get to know each other before the big move.

We also had to build the monkeys a new house and enclosure fence. They are now in the old ring-tailed lemur enclosure. Their new house has a sunroof, four back bedrooms and a large play area which can be viewed by the public. In the outdoor enclosure we have strung up many ropes through the trees and have built special herb gardens for the monkeys to pick their own herbs. We built them their own kitchen so that the keepers can manage the monkeys specialised diet of vegetables, pulses, nuts, home-made oat cakes and blended drinks. There is also a viewing window into the kitchen so that visitors can watch the dedication and care that this species requires. This group of monkey was sent to Monkey World because of our past

success at rescuing and rehabilitating woolly monkey babies who were smuggled into Spain and England. Their names are Siri, who is now living at Twycross Zoo and Polly who is currently living at Apenheul Zoo. Once Polly is old enough, Apenheul is planning on sending her back to us to join our group of five.



Above: Mike Colbourne feeding Kismo a special drink

BUILDING, BUILDING, BUILDING...

Over the summer we have expanded, designed and built many new enclosures. The ring-tailed and ruffed lemurs have a new home in the forest called Malagasy. It is approximately one acre of evergreen and deciduous forest. Inside, visitors are kept to a path and the animals roam free. There are six small houses inside Malagasy, all with heaters and cat flaps so that the lemurs can take shelter during the winter. For our new arrivals, the woolly monkeys, we have designed and built a unique house and fence around a large stand of conifer trees. Their house is so nice that we have difficulty getting some of them to go outside!

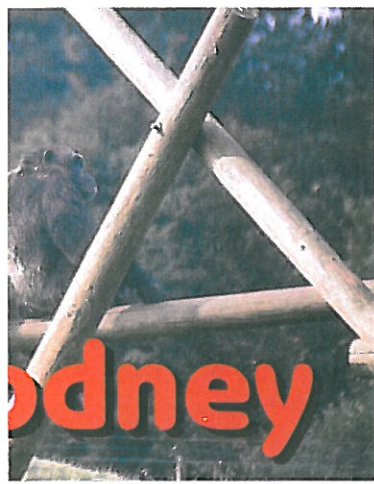
We have also been remodelling the pig-tails house and enclosure. The inside cage work has all been redone, we are putting in sky lights, better climbing frames and shelves. In the outdoor enclosure we are building a waterfall and pool for the macaques to play in. The work on this enclosure was made possible by an anonymous donor.

As fast as we can, a new house for the orangutans is on its way up. We expect Amy to give birth at the end of December and the new building will serve as a birthing den. Visitors will be able to see inside the large play area with sky

lights, ropes, and shelves. but this is only the beginning of a larger orangutan complex that we have in mind.

Finally, we have been expanding the bachelor group's (Butch, Kyko, Rocky, Freddy, Sammy, Jestah, and Buxom) enclosure and it is magnificent. Not only do they have double the space, but we have also built extensive climbing frames complete with cargo nets (from an anonymous donor) and 50 tons of boulders. We will be making a path so that visitors can see the boisterous boys.

Banghi uses a stick to get inside a coconut



Above: Finally Rodney is seen grooming Paddy

parties next door. The only ones to stick by Rodney were his old faithfuls, Charlie, Evie, and Bixa. Finally Rodney could not stand it any longer and on 1 July he and Charlie went through to Paddy's enclosure. There was an instant confrontation and while Rodney made a quick exit, Charlie was cornered and got a small cut on his leg. Over the next couple of weeks, it was quiet again and the females and youngsters continued to move back and forth between the two areas. Then on 12 July, Paddy made his move into Rodney's territory and while there was a lot of chasing about Paddy clearly had taken charge.

On the morning of 2 August we found Charlie sitting inside the back dens with a serious cut on the inside of his right palm. Our local veterinarian, Mike Nathan, made an emergency call out and decided that Charlie's middle finger would have to be removed. At this point we had to make some serious decisions. It seemed clear that while Paddy and Rodney had come to some sort of agreement, Charlie and his boisterous displays (executed in a world of his own) were neither going to be understood or tolerated by the new leader, Paddy. We decided it would be best for the stability of the group, and in particular for Charlie to separate him from the group.

By the beginning of September Rodney was seen grooming Paddy and it was clear that while Paddy had taken over the group, Rodney had formed an alliance with him. To date all is going well with our new super group who now have two, two acre enclosures, three pavilions, and ten bedrooms. This is the largest captive chimpanzee complex in the world.



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How You Can Help

There are many ways which you can help Monkey World to rescue more chimpanzees and rehabilitate the animals we have already rescued. All donation money goes into a 100% fund which means that every penny goes to the animals; NO administrative costs are removed. At present Monkey World has been requested to rescue twenty nine chimpanzees in different countries; twelve in Belgium, seven in Germany, six in Poland, two in Russia, one in Oman, and one in Spain. We desperately need your help to assist these animals, after all it was your support which helped us to rescue Pacito. At the park we have been using donations to improve and build the animals' enclosures. The next big project which is underway is the new orangutan house. 'Banghi's Nose' appeal is helping to raise funding for the house. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Monkey World also started the **Laurie Parkin Education Centre Appeal**. We are hoping to raise enough funding and support to build a multi-media centre with a lecture theatre and educational material. While we have receive several kind offers of expertise and funding, we are in need of more help. Please let us know if you can help in any way. You can help by **adopting a monkey or ape** and you will receive a year's pass to the park, a photo of the monkey or ape, a certificate, and the Ape Rescue Chronicle three times per year.

Donate goods such as fruit, vegetables, or bread. The primates also need vitamins and minerals such as cod liver oil, primrose oil, and **vitamin C**. At this time of year cod liver oil is needed as everyone's skin is dry from the cold, wet weather and central heating. Thick diameter rope is always at a premium in the park, so help the monkeys and apes to get arboreal by donating any spare ropes you may have.

Establish a legacy for the long-term welfare of the animals and be remembered in our memorial garden.

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Letter From the Editor

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inside of their house, make a sunroof, and build a waterfall in their outdoor enclosure. Once again, Lorraine Grundy rescued us from computer chaos. Some of the renewal letters were being omitted, so we apologise for those who received theirs a bit late. You may notice a change at the end of this ARC, Pat Grove has retired and she will be greatly missed by all of us. Over the years Pat has ensured that *everything* in the park ran smoothly. While we expect to see her at Monkey World from time to time, it will never be quite the same.

A heart felt thank you goes to all adopted parents and supporters. Without your help we would not be able to continue our rescue and rehabilitation work. Over the past few months, many of the chimps have received birthday presents of fruit, vegetables, toys and vitamins. They are all greatly appreciated. During the next three months Olympia, Athena, Jestah, Buxom and Bob all have birthdays coming up. Some adoptive parents have raised sponsorship money by organising a 24 hours fast, cookie sales, and a parachute jump.

Your support is invaluable.

**Thank you and
Merry Christmas**



Left: Ring-tailed lemurs in Malagasy, their new home.