

MORE BABIES

In the past 12 years at the park we have only had two birth control accidents and it is possible that there are a couple more to come. We are now putting all the females onto IUD's to prevent unwanted pregnancies. The stories below show that while they were not planned the new arrivals are nonetheless loved by chimpanzees and humans alike.

Cherri and Seamus By Dave Simmonds

On the 2nd March Monkey World was blessed with a new arrival or rather Cherri was. At around 6.00 am Cherri gave birth to a healthy baby boy whom we named Seamus. We knew that Cherri was pregnant but we did not know when she was due.

Most of the female chimpanzees at Monkey World have a contraceptive implant which is like a small plastic tube. It goes just under the skin, between the shoulder blades, lasts 2-3 years and serves the same purpose as the pill. Unfortunately because chimpanzees are gregarious animals, they live in large social groups, and spend a lot of time grooming each other it became clear that a couple of our females had removed their birth control and had gotten pregnant. On the whole we do not want the females to get pregnant as there are still many other chimpanzees we would like to rescue.

As I mentioned earlier, we knew that Cherri was pregnant but did not know the parturition date. When the baby arrived, Rodney was interested but only sat close and glanced up occasionally. Gypsy and Semach wanted to play the "poke" game, which is to poke the new boy to try and get a reaction and the smell of him. Everyone else wanted to smell him.

It was decided that for the time being Cherri and Seamus should be removed from the group as the others were becoming far too excited especially Gypsy and Semach. It would give both mother and son some quality time together, to bond, and for Cherri to rest after a long morning.

Cherri made a very large nicely shaped nest and sat in the middle of it. Her first problem on becoming a new Mum was which way to hold the baby up! It may seem perfectly natural to us but on and off for the first few days Cherri was content to hold Seamus with his legs in the air and to nearly sit on his head. At 10.15 am he was noted to have his first suckle which lasted 15 seconds. During his first day he would have 3 other feeds which would get progressively longer and stronger.

After the reaction from the youngsters we decided that instead of putting Cherri and Seamus in the group we would slowly introduce the group back to Cherri and Seamus. We gave them another 2 days together then introduced Mona. Mona was really good and stayed with Cherri and Seamus for the next few days. After a few days Mona and Cherri were both grooming the little lad.

Next was Simon. He was very good until feeding time when he just got too excited and had to be removed. Rodney was introduced and was amazing, a dominant male playing with Cherri and so gentle in touching and smelling Seamus. He spent all day with them but needed to go back in with the main group to keep order. Rodney liked Cherri and the new arrival and did not want to go back to the others. On March 17th we tried Gypsy and at the same time, as it was a nice day, we decided to let them outside. Being outside was great for Mum and Seamus but Gypsy was nothing but a nuisance and so he went back to the main group.

It was on the same day, March 29th, that Cherri began to show a lack of interest in Seamus by putting him down and only picking him up when he started crying. We were concerned about how much milk Seamus was getting and with Cherri wandering off it was not helping matters. Seamus was very small and after a couple of weeks he still was not progressing. We were concerned for his welfare so we called in the vet, Mike Nathan to check Seamus. As it turned out he clearly was not getting enough milk from Cherri and was severely dehydrated. The choice was a difficult one, but we were sure that Seamus would not have survived long-term with his mother. It was decided Jeremy would take over hand rearing little Seamus.

Sing-a-long with Seamus By Jeremy Keeling

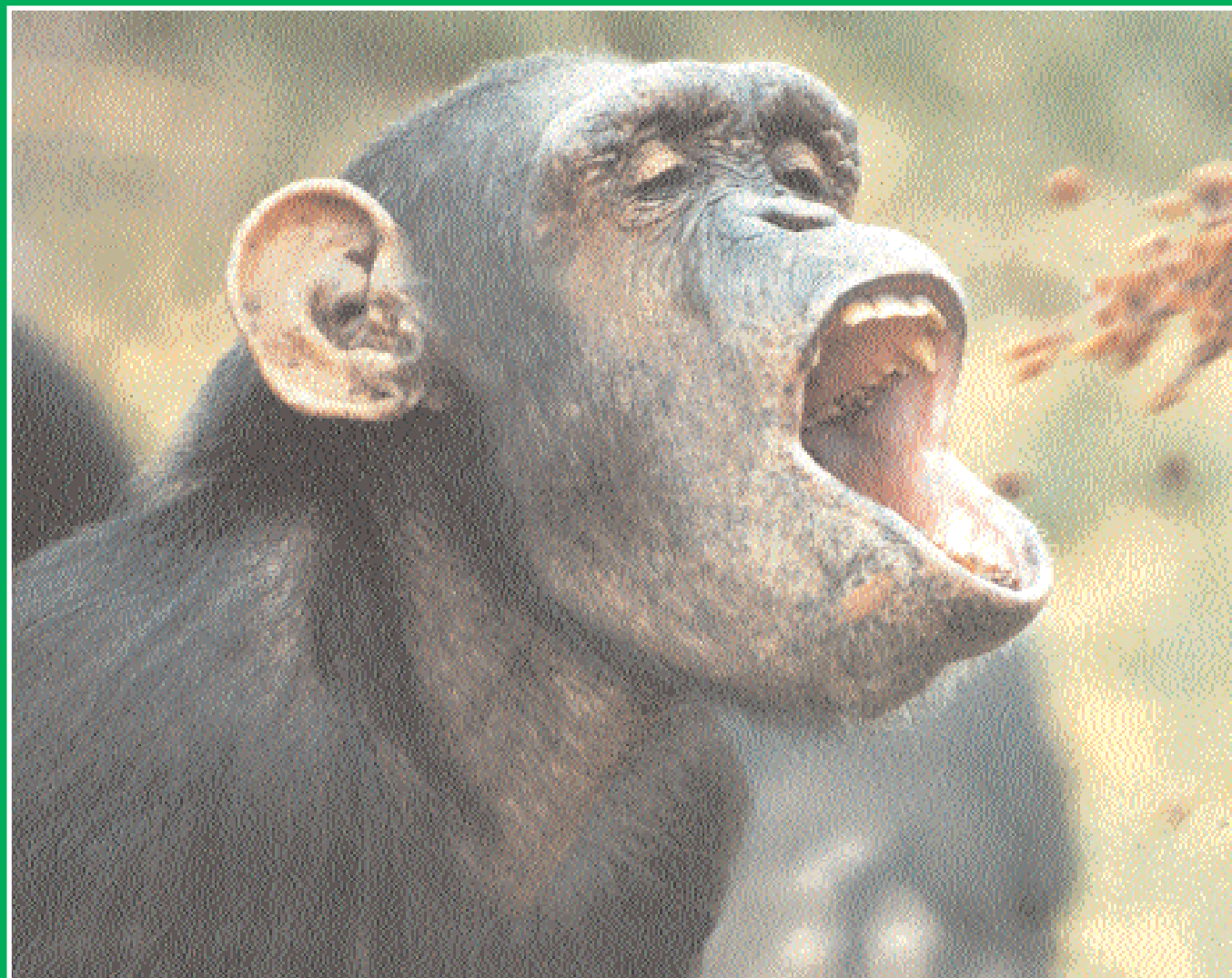
Dave has started Seamus's saga so I will take over from when he came to live with me. Because of Cherri's low milk quantity, coupled with her desire to set Seamus down while she went off to play with her chums, it was decided that he should be hand reared.

So far, Seamus has proved to be a very self-contained young man. He rarely grizzles, cries or demands anything and this is very unusual for baby chimps. He has the ability to amuse himself for hours with simple toys.

By now I bet you are wondering why the "Sing-a-long with Seamus" title to my article? Well, one day when Rolf Harris came along to Monkey World he came over to see the baby chimp. Whilst there was a lull in the conversation. Rolf started to sing a song (about Effin n' eiffin of all things). Initially Seamus gave him that old-fashioned chimp look but within seconds it changed to a lusty singsong between them both! It was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, no less the performing artists themselves. I believe the response was so good that Seamus' contribution is to be included in Rolf's latest recording.

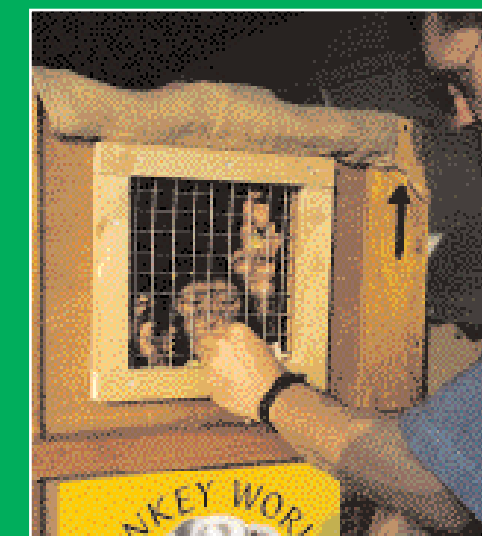
Seamus has moved into his own play room in the Orangutan house during the day, though he still comes home with me in the evenings to spend the night and have a late and early feed, 10.00 PM and 6.00 am. Currently he is sampling solid foods; he is not over keen on the jars of puree, preferring a whole banana to chew on. This pleases me as I have a theory that if you have to liquefy food then the baby is not ready for it yet. Some days he is more interested than others. Though he is progressing, the whole solid food thing, as with many others, will happen when Seamus is good and ready.

Please Help Us To Rescue More



From Dubai to Dorset

On 6 July Jim and Alison Cronin returned from Dubai having rescued another baby chimpanzee. Her name is Honey and her story is very unique. Like many of our other chimps, Honey was taken from her mother in the wild and smuggled out of Africa. She ended up being sent to Dubai, United Arab Emirates where the Government confiscated her. The Crown Prince gave Honey to his teenage daughter to care for. The baby chimp was



given every thing the Royal Family could offer; two nannies, her own apartment in the Palace grounds, and a complete wardrobe.

Honey was doted upon, but as she grew more confident and strong the sad story that we hear all too many times came true. As a chimpanzee she wanted and needed to run, climb, and most importantly, Honey needed the companionship of other chimpanzees, this the Royal Family could not give her. As time went on Honey became aggressive and started to bite the people who were caring for her. On walks in the Palace grounds she would climb a tree and refuse to come down and during the summer, it was so hot that Honey had to stay indoors where it was cool. It became clear that something must be done for the baby chimp.

It was at about this time that fate intervened and Dr. Jane Goodall was in Dubai giving lectures to women's institutes on the behaviour and needs of chimpanzees. The women were surprised to learn that chimpanzees live in family groups just as humans do and they were shocked to learn that the cute babies that they sometimes saw in markets were orphans of a barbaric trade. In order to get babies like Honey out of Africa, entire families will have to be killed in order to tear the infant away from its mother. Like us chimpanzees are intensely protective of their family members. Word got out and the Sheikh knew she had to do something for her baby chimp.

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APE RESCUE CHRONICLE

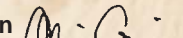
Letter from the Editor

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Over the past few months Jim and I have been very busy rescuing more primates. We started in Somerset, went on to Greece, then Dubai, and finally to Manchester. All the trips went well and you can read more about them in this issue. The two chimpanzees we went to see in Greece will hopefully come to the park in the autumn so you will have to wait until the winter edition to hear more about them.

There has been a lot of construction going on in the park for the monkeys and apes as well as for our visitors. We have built a new enclosure for two of our recent arrivals, Arthur and Sinbad, and the climbing frames inside of the chimp enclosures have been expanded. For the public there is a new undercover picnic shelter and we have opened the Laurie Parkin Education Centre. This Centre is in memory of a great friend who shared our concerns for the welfare and conservation of primates around the world. Many thanks go to all of those who helped to get the Centre up and running. Our web site is also under construction at the moment. You can see it at www.monkeyworld.org and any comments will be gratefully received.

For any schools that are planning to visit, the Monkey World Discovery Pack is available now. It has been designed around the National Curriculum and has worksheets to complete at the park as well as at school. We have received a great number of donations and gifts for the chimps, they include vitamins, fruit and vegetables, bread, ropes, and browse.

Alison Cronin 

Honey (right) with her adopted sister Eveline



There are many ways which you can help Monkey World to rescue and rehabilitate more primates. All donations go into a 100% fund which means that every penny goes to the primates; NO ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE REMOVED.

Our negotiations with both the Turkish authorities and the Dutch laboratory are continuing in order to secure a safe future for more chimpanzees. If you are on holiday this summer (especially in Turkey) and see any one using a monkey or ape as a photographer's prop or otherwise, write down the location, the colour and size of the monkey and any other details. If possible a candid photograph will help us to convince authorities to do something about it. Any bit of information could be valuable in stopping the illegal trade in primates.

You can help by adopting a monkey or ape and you will receive a year's pass to the park, a photo of your primate, a certificate, and the Ape Rescue Chronicle three times per year.

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, or bread. The primates also need vitamins such as cod liver oil and vitamin C. We can also use thick rope and heavy-duty dog toys.

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

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She wanted Honey to go somewhere where she would have a secure future and be given a family again. Outside of Africa there is only one place that specialises in rehabilitating chimpanzees back into natural living groups. Monkey World was contacted and the International diplomacy began. Within 48 hours the Department of the Environment had issued permits for the VIP Honey.

Jim and Alison along with veterinarian Dr John Lewis flew to Dubai to collect and return with Honey. Her first evening at the park was a quiet one, resting after her long journey, but she was very interested in the new neighbours. Along side of her were Sally and the four babies which were rescued from a laboratory earlier in the year. The very next morning Honey was introduced to Sally and her adopted baby Eveline. Without hesitation, Honey and Eveline welcomed each other with a big hug but Honey was not so sure of Sally. Sally was desperate to hold and inspect the new arrival but Honey would not stand for it. She was quick and Sally could not get her hands on her. The three of them got to know each other for a couple of hours before it was decided that Honey could do with a break. On day three we let the new trio outside and Honey and Eveline played for hours running around and climbing. The first break through came after 4 days when Honey was running past and Sally grabbed her by the head and started grooming her. Honey froze and gave in to Sally's attention. Over the following week we introduced Joline, Valerie, and Marjoline to the others. They are all getting along well and Honey has proved to be a real bright spark, getting all the others interested in playing and socialising together. Perhaps most importantly Honey has a family again.

Apes Communicating With Apes

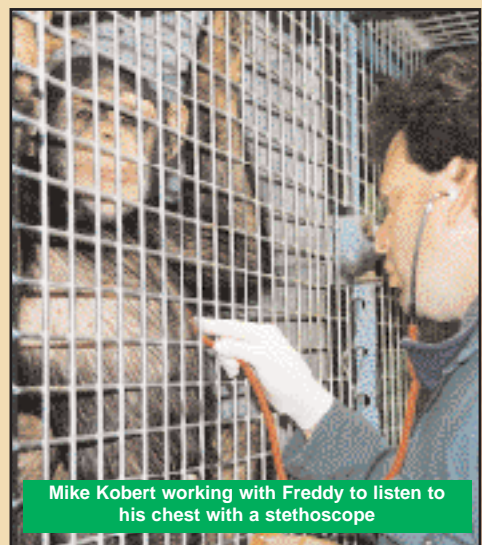
By Mike Kobert, San Diego Wild Animal Park

Many new and exciting events have been taking place behind the scenes at Monkey World. These events were aimed to have a profound and lasting effect not only on the primates housed at Monkey World, but also for the keepers who care for them.

I first learned about Monkey World while at a conference in Florida on how to improve the lives of captive animals. I was fascinated by the rehabilitation work Monkey World does and the ways they house and provide care to their primates. I had been working with three species of great apes, Western Lowland Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*), Sumatran and Bornean Orangutan (*Pongo abelii* and *Pongo pygmaeus*) and Bonobo (*Pan paniscus*) at San Diego Wild Animal Park and was very interested in learning more about Common Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*). The Cronins felt that the techniques I had been using in the daily management of the apes in San Diego might have a place in the day to day routines at Monkey World. After many late night discussions, Jim and Alison invited me to their facility so that I could instruct their keeping staff in the finer points of operant conditioning and help train some of the primates behaviours that would benefit them in their day to day care.

At this point you must be wondering, what is "Operant Conditioning"? The answer, which may sound simple, is very complex. It can be a better way of working with animals by making them partners with their keeping staff in their daily care. The use of operant conditioning, or positive reinforcement training, is nothing new in the primate world. It's evolution at the San Diego Zoo came about as a non-invasive method of collecting medical information and samples.

Historically, this information had been gathered annually by means of chemical immobilisation, using powerful narcotic drugs to render the animal motionless as samples were safely taken. These narcotic procedures were a way of obtaining large amounts of valuable data from an otherwise unwilling participant.



Mike Kobert working with Freddy to listen to his chest with a stethoscope

For the animals, and keepers, this technique was a source of great stress and anxiety. If each faction were to achieve their goals, providing the best complete care for the animals, a new strategy was definitely needed. By teaching different behaviours to the animals that were specifically associated with medical exams, the veterinary staff would be able to secure the data they were after and the animals' stress would be reduced. Operant conditioning, or training, became the logical answer. Its use would satisfy the needs of all three concerned groups, the vets, the keepers, and the animals. The veterinarians could continue to evaluate each animal's overall condition without having to dart them. Keepers and animals alike would not have to endure the stress, anxiety, and pain associated with chemical immobilisation. Of course this type of training is also a great benefit when animals are sick or injured. Rather than having to dart them from the start, they can be called over and the vets can listen to their chests, take a nasal swab, inspect an arm or a foot, or even give a small injection of antibiotics.

So how is this all done? There are many ways in which this type of training can be carried out. My approach is to lay down very simple ground rules with the animals: every time you hear the sound of the clicker, you are going to get something that you like. This "something" often turned out to be a food item but it could have easily been a scratch or a drink of juice. This is the basis for teaching many of the elaborate behaviours that would be needed to accomplish many of the medical aspects of the animal's

care. Once established, the bridge (clicker) can be used to teach the animal any variety of behaviours from opening their mouth to check their teeth, to sitting sideways and presenting their ear for the keeper to insert a tympanic (ear) thermometer to take their temperature.

The training sessions occur throughout the day for different individuals. A specific individual is called over and they (the monkey or the ape) have the choice to participate or not. If they come over and sit in front of the keeper, the first step has been achieved. The clicker is pressed, they get a big praise like "Good boy Freddy!" and then they get the reward of a drink of juice. Next step was to ask for them to put their fingers or toes through the mesh. This is a common

behaviour that the chimps all do so an easy one to get started on. The same reward process is followed when they get it right and then the keepers move on to asking for either the right or the left fingers specifically. The verbal commands are coupled with hand signals so that all lines of communication between the keepers and the chimps are perfectly clear. It is a long, slow process but both the keepers and the animals enjoy their communication. Indeed the programme has been so successful that the chimps are all vying for the individual attention and the special drink. For example, while training Simon and Hananya, Tikko would regularly push in and try to copy what the others were doing. Without working with him specifically, Tikko started learning many of the behaviours just by watching the others.

During my time at Monkey World, I worked with many of the primates. I found them all to be very engaging and wonderful characters to work with. Freddy, Pacito, Simon and Hananya were all very quick studies and eager students. Freddy and Pacito each learned over thirty different behaviours in less than thirty days! This was unprecedented in my experience and is a tribute to the dedication and enormous interest of the keeping staff to make their communication with the chimps a success. At present the keeper staff is diligently training a wide variety of primates a vast array of behaviours, each geared to make all veterinary care more efficient and less stressful for the primates.

checked the conditions upstairs where Sinbad was allowed to go. There was a hole in the roof where rain and birds came in, the floor was knee deep in rubbish, there were broken windows, and the place was filled with bird, rat, and monkey faeces. **Another Hell Hole perfectly legal in Great Britain today.**

We brought Sinbad to Monkey World and he is now living with Arthur in a large house with an outside enclosure. They are getting on well and appear to be happy to have the companionship of their own kind at long last. It turns out that Sinbad was on the suspect list

that we sent to the Government on April Fools Day and they did nothing. For four months the Government knew that there could be animal cruelty occurring in many different places and they did not do anything about it. When asked, the politicians say that there are different laws for pet shops than for private homes but Arthur and Sinbad do not care they just suffer. The cruelty must stop. There are hundreds more just like Arthur and Sinbad in Britain and we want the Government to put an end to the suffering now. Please help us with our campaign.

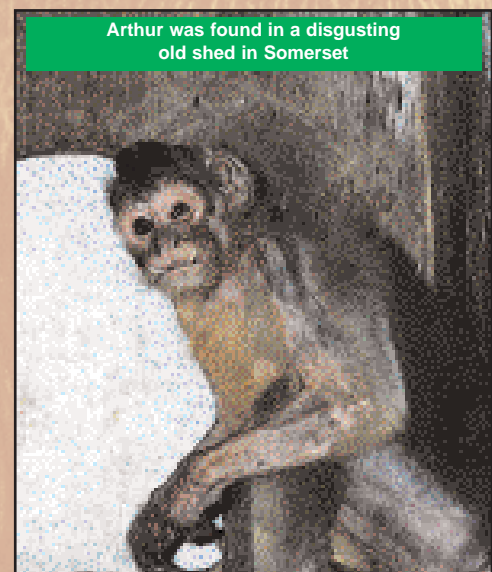
The Tragic Tales of Arthur and Sinbad: How the British Government Let Them Down

The tale began in March when we received a call from Guy Harrison of the RSPCA, Somerset. An elderly gentleman who had been keeping a solitary Capuchin monkey in a garden shed had passed away and Monkey World was requested to rehome the sad monkey. As it turned out, Guy had been aware of Arthur for many years and had persistently asked the local council to confiscate him as the conditions where Arthur was kept were inappropriate, cruel and his condition was deteriorating rapidly. Guy's pleas fell on deaf ears.

On March 27th Jim and Alison went with Guy to see Arthur in his "home". Deep in his own excrement, Arthur had ceased to bear any resemblance to a capuchin monkey. His nails were overgrown and pointed upward, his teeth were like tusks pointing out of his face, and Arthur was almost entirely bald. He had lived in the open shed for approximately 35 years with little heat and had been fed on a totally inappropriate diet of raw eggs and bread and what ever insects he could catch. The cage was disgusting and worst of all it was, and is, legal to keep monkeys like this in Great Britain today! His tiny shed had to be broken into before sad Arthur could be caught and transported to Monkey World.

The tale gets better. GMTV came and did a live interview about Arthur's story during which the Government representative from

the Department of the Environment said that he was shocked and that he was heading straight back to the office to insure such



Arthur was found in a disgusting old shed in Somerset



Sinbad had a small cage at the back of a pet shop and was allowed to climb through a room of rubbish and animal faeces

cruelty never happened again. We received many calls following the GMTV coverage and many were reports of primates being kept in similar conditions around the UK. The list was typed up and sent to the Government on April 1st... nothing was done.

Then next call came on July 16th from an RSPCA inspector, Fiona Moore, in Manchester. Another capuchin monkey was found in a pet shop outside of Manchester. His name was Sinbad and his circumstances were even worse than Arthur's! For 16 years the local council had approved for Sinbad to live in a small cage (21" x 82" x 144'), with no access to water, in solitary confinement, in the back of the shop. Sinbad also had access to the floor above the shop through a hole in the ceiling. Once Sinbad was caught and prepared for his journey to Monkey World we



Arthur & Sinbad now have a good home together at Monkey World. Sadly there are many more abused primates in Britain today.



To Help Stop the Cruelty:

- Let us know if you know of any primates being kept in poor conditions. They need indoor and outdoor enclosures and the companionship of their own kind.
- Please write to Mr Michael Meachel, Minister of the Environment, Eland House, Bressendon Place, London, SW1E 5DU and let us know what response you get. Tell him:
 - You object that primates are allowed to be kept in pet shops or in private homes.
 - That the laws must change so that all primates have the same welfare laws as those in wildlife parks.
 - Following Trudy, Arthur, and Sinbad's stories it is a disgrace that he has done nothing to ensure the welfare of monkeys in Britain.
 - What is he doing about the others on the list that Monkey World has provided?
 - Insist on answers and keep writing or phoning until you get one.



Olympia has a baby girl
By Lee Butler

On 8 May 1999 we had a surprise arrival in Paddy's Group. Olympia, a quiet loner, had given birth to a strong healthy infant.

This was quite a shock for Olympia with no past experience of observing motherhood but also just as big a shock for the rest of the group. Athena, Cathy and Grisby stayed close to Olympia, looking at the infant and following her around. Olympia appeared to take all this in her stride, protecting her little girl. Olympia had been rescued from a Greek Circus so we decided to name the infant after a Greek Goddess, Hebe, the Cup Bearer in Olympus.

On the 2nd day of Hebe's life, Paddy displayed a protective and persistent nature. He followed Olympia around screaming and wanting to touch his young charge. Jimmy, the Beta male, and the most dominant females, Cindy and Beth, seemed to get restless from Paddy's activity and showed their dominance towards Olympia by clouting her as they passed. Luckily Cathy stepped in for Olympia and calmed the situation down by sitting with her. Over the following days, Olympia slowly rose in status, now they were all eager friends who wanted to groom Olympia. Kay, another young female, wanted to hold Hebe, but was pushed away. However, Olympia's new status went a little to her head and she chased Bixa, a high-ranking female outside, with the backup of Paddy. Over the weeks the group has slowly settled down with their new member.

Hebe's development is good, suckling well, grunting and hooting loud, as she clings to Olympia's stomach. Only on day 21 did Olympia stop providing constant support for Hebe. At week 6, Olympia and Hebe were doing well, with Olympia taking great care as she climbs the newly refurbished tall climbing frames. Most of the time Olympia prefers to stay close to the ground holding on to little Hebe tightly.



Sally Carefully grooms Honey.