



APE RESCUE CHRONICLE



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Tuan Has Arrived!!



國立屏東科技大學保育類野生動物收容中心

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Letter From the Editor

It has been a long and busy winter this year! We have brought in four new faces — the orangutans, Tuan and Hsiao-lan, and the capuchin monkeys, Tom and Jerry. For their generosity and help with the transportation of the orangutans, we wanted to thank **EVA Airlines**. The new arrivals are all settling in well but with the capuchins there is sadly one face missing from the crowd. At 39 years old we finally had to make the decision to put Arthur to sleep as his condition deteriorated. He had tremendous strength of character and he is greatly missed.

We have received help and support from many individuals over the past few months. Donations have come from Christmas auctions/raffles, Christmas cards, collection boxes, donations instead of Christmas or wedding presents, video hire, prize competitions, sponsored silences, spot the ball competitions, and from a pretend sitting room monkey park. Special thanks and congratulations go to **Charlotte Avery** who received a cash prize for passing her 11+ exams. Charlotte donated half of her prize to the monkeys and apes. **The Western Daily Press** decided to adopt Fred, the stump-tail macaque, and raised donations from their readers to help look after all Fred's friends. Both the **Dorset Fire Service** and the **Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service** donated used fire hoses for the apes. We also received many donations of vitamins, heavy-duty dog toys, fruit and nuts, supermarket vouchers, and SMA baby formula. Many people have also sent in generous donations to be put toward the **House of Tuan**, the plans for our new orangutan complex. We also wanted to thank **Jessica Walker**, an adoptive parent, who wrote a letter at school about Monkey World. It was published in The Sentinel, her local paper. For a week we also had the services of **Neil Kermode** and **Debbie Masfield** who helped us with gardening, dismantling fences, and building hammocks for the apes.

Finally, over the winter months we have lost several friends. **Mrs Joan Childs**, **Ms Laura Griffiths**, and **Mr Craig Bramble** all adored the monkeys and apes and will be greatly missed by their families and friends. **Mr Maurice Pascall** was also a regular visitor at the park with his wife **Lorna** and he will be greatly missed. **Roy Grundy**, along with his wife **Lorraine** have helped Monkey World on many occasions and tragically he had a bad fall while enjoying nature in the lake district.

Our thoughts are with their families.

As spring has arrived, we are beginning to redecorate many of the enclosures. In the coming weeks more than 200 telephone poles are being erected to expand the climbing frame in Rodney's enclosure and there are similar plans for Paddy's and Tuan's enclosures. And of course there are more rescues to organise - watch this space!



On 24 January the Monkey World team returned from Taiwan with another two orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus*), one adult male named Tuan and one adolescent female named Hsiao-lan.

You may remember back to 2000 when Jim, Alison, and Jeremy went to Taiwan to collect the first group of orangutans and gibbons from the Pingtung Rescue Centre for Endangered Wild Animals. While at the centre preparing for the transport of the animals, word came in that a large male orangutan had been found wandering loose in the central Taiwanese city of Taichung. As hard as they tried, local authorities had great difficulty in capturing the 82kg giant and two people ended up in hospital. Finally Tuan was subdued and anaesthetised so that he could be loaded into a cage and placed in the back of a van. It was late at night when he finally arrived at the Pingtung Rescue Centre and even though he had received a massive dose of anaesthetic, Tuan was still very agitated and scared. When he was unloaded from the van, Tuan still had enough energy in him to rock the entire van like King Kong!

The next morning, Jeremy went to check up on the centre's latest arrival and found that Tuan was actually a very kind and gentle orangutan that loved human attention. Tuan understood that plastic bags usually contain food and that you can get people's attention by clapping and blowing raspberries. Clearly he had lived in somebody's home and had either got loose or had been set free, as he had grown too big. In any event, nobody claimed ownership of the beautiful orangutan. Jeremy and Tuan formed an instant bond but we would have to wait to bring him back to the park. A year and a half later and Tuan passed all his medical exams,

his worst problem being several broken fingers and toes that have long since healed, so he was ready to come home with us.

We were also finally able to bring back an adolescent female named Hsiao-lan (Hsiao-lan means "little cloud" in Chinese). She had previously been kept in an amusement arcade in Kaoshiung, Taiwan. After Taiwanese authorities confiscated her she was introduced to Lucky and Hsiao-quai at the Pingtung Rescue Centre. Whereas the others passed their first health checks, Hsiao-lan did not but after a year's treatment, she finally got the "all clear" so she too could join our party travelling to Monkey World.



The night before the flight out of Taipei we began the process of getting the orangutans into their travelling boxes. Once both orangutans were loaded into the vans, we set off on the 7 hour journey to Taipei airport. The team arrived in the capital city at approximately 6.30am at which time we had to confirm all the animals' paperwork and travel plans with the Taiwanese authorities. By this time the orangutans were fully conscious and with all the noise in the airport cargo area, Tuan began to rock his box back and forth. We had seen Tuan get agitated in the past when he was transported in a small cage, so we came prepared and offered

Tuan Has Arrived!!

the gentle giant a large drink with a hidden sedative. The drink had the desired effect and within an hour, he was calm and ready for the flight to Britain.

On the plane, EVA Airways was a wonderful help. The plane was a 747 split passenger/cargo plane so we were able to visit Tuan and Hsiao-lan throughout the flight. But once Jeremy went back and said hello to the orangutans he decided that he would keep them company for the duration and set up his pillow and blanket along side of the animal boxes! Eleven hours later we touched down in London and began the paperwork process again. Once all quarantine papers were rubber-stamped the precious cargo was loaded into a quarantine vehicle headed for Dorset.

What most people did not realise was that during the entire time that Jim, Alison, and Jeremy were away, the builders at Monkey World were working like crazy to complete a new house with bedrooms for the orangutans. As the old orangutan house was simply too small to hold two more individuals, we decided to move all of the orangutans to a new enclosure down in the Templer Pavilions (Please see "Changing Rooms"). However, the end Pavilion needed some bedrooms added on so that we would be able to slowly introduce the new orangs to our existing five.

After a few days of settling in, we moved ahead with the introductions. As Amy had experience being with an adult male, we decided to start by putting her with Tuan. It was a little scary for everyone as we thought Tuan had a nice character but nobody knew exactly how he would react to other orangutans. At first sight Amy made her feelings known by roaring at Tuan and throwing anything she had to hand at him. Tuan was not put off and chased Amy back and forth between two bedrooms. Amy, however, was far more agile than Tuan and quickly figured out that she could escape him by climbing into the highest corner and waiting for him to follow. As soon as Tuan made the great effort to get to Amy, she would simply drop to the floor and run through to the next bedroom. After three tries, Tuan was tired and gave up the chase. Ever since, Tuan and Amy seem to have come to an agreement that he can come close but that there will be no touching.



At the same time that Amy met Tuan, we went ahead and reunited the three girls from Pingtung, Hsiao-lan, Lucky, and Hsiao-quai. Everyone presumed that they would get along fine as they had lived

together for a couple of years before they were separated. It was clear that they all recognised each other and Hsiao-quai gave Hsiao-lan a big welcome hug. Lucky on the other hand had decided that she preferred things when Hsiao-lan was not in the way and decided to let her know. Lucky chased her around, pulled her hair, and bit Hsiao-lan in the back. Like all naughty children, we decided it was time for Lucky to have some time out on her own so she was separated from the others. For the next week, Amy spent her days indoors with Tuan and Hsiao-lan had daily visits with Lucky but spent most of her time with RoRo, Gordon, and Hsiao-quai in the Pavilion. By February 8th, we decided to leave Amy with Tuan overnight and to put Lucky back in with all the others.

By February 15th it was clear that Amy and Tuan were going to take their relationship no further. Amy had plucked up enough courage to reach down and touch him from time to time but he was still not allowed to touch her. It was time to bring RoRo into the picture. RoRo had been watching Amy and Tuan together and when it was time to open the slide between them, RoRo was happy to stroll into Tuan's arms! Tuan could not believe his luck and grabbed hold of RoRo before she could escape. They wrestled for a while but Tuan was very gentle and never hurt RoRo. Finally they mated and Tuan let go of RoRo but she did not run away. Over the next few days, RoRo decided that she actually liked being Tuan's number one lady, at which point she began to solicit his attention!

At this point introductions were halted for over a week so that the younger females and Gordon could observe Tuan with RoRo and Amy from a distance. On February 25th we opened the door between Hsiao-lan and the adults. Tuan mated Hsiao-lan and then returned to focus his attention on RoRo. Gordon had been watching all the events and we decided it was time to take the next big step! We let Gordon sit along side of Tuan so that they could touch each other through the mesh. All indications were good – Tuan held Gordon's hand gently and Gordon seemed at ease with the male that was more than 4 times his size. Still we were all very apprehensive about what could happen when they met. When we opened slide we were all stunned to see Gordon swing in front of Tuan, hit him on the head, drop down in front of Tuan, grab his cheek flanges, and then head but him. Tuan was also stunned but loved Gordon's attention. The two of them have been great friends ever since and enjoy playing together. The following day we completed the introductions by opening the door between the Pavilion and bedrooms. The



More British Rescues



introductions went well and all seven orangutans have been living together ever since.

It is great to see all the orangutans living together in a 2-acre enclosure. Tuan has turned out to be the gentle giant that we thought he was and he is great with the women and children. RoRo is still his favourite lady and most mornings you can see him following her around the enclosure. From time to time Hsiao-quai has decided that she wants Tuan's attention and the rest of the ladies are slowly realising just how charming Tuan is.



As our campaign continues to try and get the British Government to change the laws that allow people to keep wild animals as pets, Monkey World has been called upon again to rescue two more individual that have suffered as part of this sad trade. On December 3rd Jim and Alison were called to collect two capuchin monkeys that had been found in a small cage sitting outside with no cover or heat. The two monkeys were in very poor condition and were lucky to be alive.

Once the two monkeys were put into a travelling box, Jim and Alison rushed them back to the park where special cages were prepared for them. As nothing was known about these individuals, it was decided to keep them separate from the other capuchins until tests could be run to see if the newcomers were carrying any parasites. As it turned out both boys were loaded with parasites and required medical treatment for a number of weeks. During this time the keepers got to know the monkeys and affectionately named them Tom and Jerry.



Tom is a large adult male that we estimate was born during 1985. He is extremely overweight and since arriving at the park has been put on a strict diet. His companion, Jerry, is an old boy that we estimate was born during 1977. Jerry is very friendly but has suffered from a bad diet in the past that has left him crippled from nutritional bone disease (rickets). After their treatment, Tom and Jerry were moved into the capuchin house where they have been living with Sinbad and Terri ever since. While Terri is happy to have the new arrivals around, Sinbad is not so sure. He and Tom have been trying to work things out and even though they often play together, they tend to get over excited and it quickly falls apart into a scuffle. So far, neither Tom or Jerry have come away with anything more than a few minor cuts and bruises and we are hopeful that they soon will become close companions.

If you would like to help with our campaign, please write to: **Michael Meacher, Environment Minister, Dept. of the Environment, Eland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DU.** Let him know that the current laws are not good enough and that wild animals are suffering in UK today – just like Trudy, Arthur, Sinbad, Terri, Tom, and Jerry and a number of marmosets that we have had to rescue.



Thai Gibbon Support

by Paul Budgen and Wendy Durham

In October 2001 Monkey World sent one of our keepers, Wendy Durham, to Highland Farm Gibbon Sanctuary (HFGS) in Thailand to work with their keepers and gibbons. Wendy's trip was short but provided valuable insight into ways in which Monkey World could help with gibbon rescue and rehabilitation in future. So, in January 2002 we decided to send out the next Monkey World keeper, Paul Budgen, with enough finances to build HFGS a new enclosure for a pair of gibbons. The following report is an amalgamated diary of Wendy and Paul's work in Thailand.

October 2001. HFGS is a permanent home to 36 gibbons of four different species; lar gibbons, pileated gibbons, golden-cheeked gibbons and white-cheeked gibbons. The sanctuary is located in the north west of Thailand, roughly 44km south of Mae Sot near the Burmese border. The farm covers nearly 40 acres and is owned and run by Bill and Pharanee Deters. Their aim is a simple one, to give sanctuary to any gibbon that is in need. At the sanctuary the gibbons receive medical treatment, they are assessed behaviourally, and then individuals are paired together where they can grow and learn about how to live as a gibbon again.

In October 2001 I (Wendy) spent a week working at HFGS. My first day was spent meeting the gibbons and learning about their backgrounds. All of them shared the same tragic beginning in life. Adult females carrying infants are shot out of the trees and their babies are taken and sold as pets or into the tourist trade. As the gibbons grow they become strong and highly territorial and at adolescence they usually start to bite and become a real danger to their owners. Attempting to keep them docile, owners often try drugging or pulling their teeth and when these tactics fail the gibbons are often drowned. Lucky individuals find a permanent home at HFGS where they are cared for, with understanding, for the rest of their lives.

Just before my arrival HFGS had received a report of two gibbons being kept as pets in the Mae Hong Son province (1000km north of Mae Sot). The town of Bang Ma Pla had one main street with several small shops so the gibbons were not difficult to find. Tied to a tree by a length of rope was a small black lar gibbon named Ooey. She was approximately 3 years old, playful, curious, and extremely friendly. While Pharanee found the owner of the shop, I

was busily taking photographs as Ooey had come down from her perch. It was then that the smaller of the two gibbons, Coffee made his appearance. He was approximately 6-7 months old and clung to Ooey as if she was his mother.

Pharanee showed the owner some photographs of the HFGS and warned her that Ooey would soon become strong, territorial and start to bite her family. She had bought the gibbons from a poacher on the Burmese border for about 800 Baht (about £12) each. Sadly, the owner refused to give the gibbons up as her children were very attached to them and they were still easy to handle. All Pharanee could do for now was to ask if it would be all right to keep in touch and visit from time to time. The owner agreed and she was left with HFGS contact in case she had any problems with the two gibbons.



For the gibbons, I had brought along some worming medication from Monkey World. Each morning the gibbons were given a warm milky drink and this was the obvious way to get the worming medication into them. Most took their medicated drinks happily, unaware that there was a hidden agenda. I also worked with the HFGS staff to do maintenance work on some of the cages to cut and flatten sharp wires that had worked free. We also replaced fallen bamboo and secured ropes and swings. While mine was only a short visit, I was able to help medicate some of the 36 gibbons, repair some cages, and see for myself the sad and illegal gibbon pet trade.

January 2002. Following Wendy's visit, I (Paul) was asked to go to HFGS on behalf of Monkey World, to construct a new enclosure and carry out some renovations on existing enclosures. Designs for the new enclosure were first worked out at Monkey World and I then began to source materials in Mae Sot. Once in Thailand, I discussed with Bill and Pharanee, the proposed enclosure and we chose a site on a hillside near to some existing enclosures. While this was an ideal spot for the enclosure it presented two problems: it was on a slope and one tree would have to be included within the enclosure.



After ordering the materials, I began to carry out some work on existing enclosures with the assistance of HFGS staff. Most importantly we built safety porches on some enclosures to allow daily maintenance by the staff without coming into direct contact with the gibbons. By the end of my first week in Thailand, the materials for the new enclosure began to arrive and the task of building the new enclosure began. 56 galvanised steel tubes for the frame lay in a pile on the ground and we all wondered how they would come together to form a home for a pair of gibbons.

Steady progress was made throughout the next 2 weeks as the enclosure took shape in the yard. Once I was satisfied that the structure was sound, it had to be partially dismantled to be moved to the chosen site and erected on it's legs one metre off the ground, around the tree. With the frame properly sited, the remainder of the construction progressed much more quickly. A small safety porch was erected next to the enclosure and the finishing touches such as fitting it out with sleeping quarters, swings, bamboo poles and a rope ladder were completed at 5.30pm on my last full day at HFGS. The final task of transferring a pair of lar gibbons, called Mama and Noi, was completed on my last morning.

I felt very satisfied with what had been achieved during my brief visit and pay tribute to my team of very enthusiastic staff. In addition to constructing the enclosure, another had been fully renovated, two safety porches had been built, numerous minor repairs had been carried out, forty new food basket brackets were designed and purchased, and all the primates had been given worm treatment - all courtesy of Monkey World. Did I enjoy the experience ... I wouldn't have missed it for the world!



CHANGING ROOMS

On January 8th, Dr John Lewis was called in to the park to help make some major animal moves. As Jim, Alison, and Jeremy were about to head off to Taiwan to collect two more orangutans, we had decided that the old orangutan house and enclosure was going to be too small for 7 individuals. The decision was made to modify the end Pavilion - in order to make it orangutan proof, add on another small building with large bedrooms, and move the orangutans in to a new home.



RoRo. Within a couple of hours, all five orangutans had been moved to their new home.

As the old orangutan enclosure was sitting empty, we began to think about moving the Nursery Group as both Honey and Eveline were developing into quite large teenagers. On February 11th John Lewis arrived at the park again but this time it was Sally and her group that needed to pack their bags. We moved Sally first for two reasons:

if she figured out what the vet was planning she would have become a very difficult target and also it would be reassuring for the others if Sally was already in the new house when they arrived in the strange building. After Sally was moved in, Jeremy collected Seamus in his arms and walked him across to his new home. As predicted, he was very happy to see Sally. Next was Lulu. This was a very important move for her as we had never been able to examine her or give her a health check in the past. Lulu was quickly darted and moved to the new house where John gave her a complete physical examination. Honey,



and finally Eveline, were also moved across and everyone was happy to play and explore in their new home.



The moves have been great for all the apes. The seven orangutans now have a two-acre enclosure to explore and the Nursery group has settled in well to their new, larger enclosure. Even Lulu appears to approve as she is now coming outside every day after months of staying inside their old house. So you may be wondering what is going to happen to the old Nursery enclosure? We do have plans and the new arrivals will hopefully be here in time for the next issue of the Ape Rescue Chronicle!



How You Can Help

There are many ways in which you can help Monkey World – Ape Rescue Centre to rescue and rehabilitate more primates. All donations go into a 100% fund (we are not a registered charity) and...

NO ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE REMOVED.

We are still working to secure a safe future for many more chimpanzees that have been smuggled into Turkey and we are campaigning to get the British Government to stop the exotic pet trade in UK. Tuan has arrived at the park and we would like to build him and all the other orangutans, a new 8-acre complex called The House of Tuan. Please help us to make these dreams come true.

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

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetable, or bread. The primates also need vitamins and minerals such as Cod Liver Oil, Primrose Oil, Vitamin C, and Acidophilus. We can also use thick ropes

and heavy-duty dog toys like the one Semach is playing with in this photo.

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



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