Many of you will be aware of our efforts investigating the illegal wildlife trade in Thailand over the past few years. In 2000 Jim and I began documenting illegal orangutans and chimpanzees that were kept in public safari/wildlife parks throughout the Thailand. Indeed we uncovered what turned out to be 115 smuggled orangutans at Safari World, Bangkok as well as chimpanzees and orangutans kept at other parks. One of the most shocking cases we found was that of Naree, a female chimpanzee that was forced to perform a circus show at Sriracha Tiger Zoo. After being stolen from the wild, smuggled through the Philippines, her canine teeth were brutally knocked out by her trainers so that she could not bite anyone. The remains of the broken teeth became infected and left Naree with a painful, swollen, and infected face. Monkey World asked the Thai authorities if Naree could be released into our care to see if we could contain the infection before it spreads through her skull and into her brain. To date the Thai authorities have been extremely unhelpful and would not even tell us where Naree was being kept following her confiscation from the Tiger Zoo. In the past few weeks Thai authorities have now accepted that 57 of the Safari World orangutans are illegal and should be returned to Indonesia and we hope that they will also consider our offer to help Naree. We have now found out from Wildlife Friends of Thailand (www.wft.org) that Naree is still alive and is being kept at Rachathorn Wildlife Breeding Centre, Kao Prathap Chang, under the supervision of Mahidol University. She lives in a 2m x 12m cage with Safari World orangutans on either side. The photo of Naree here is only a few weeks old and we can see from the swelling between her eyes that the infection is heading up into her skull. We still hope that the Thai authorities will consider her release. Please help Naree by writing to the Thai authorities who are in control of her destiny. Details of where and what will continue your support so we can continue to build a hospital and a new ape complex – both of which Naree will need if we are able to get her to Monkey World!

Joyce Elliott got sponsorship for the Liverpool Santa Dash while Brian Hair completed the Adidas London 1/2 marathon. Well done! Special thanks also should be given to Anthony Shepherd who donated a huge oil painting of Sally and the Boys, FAO GO the Together Trust had a raffle, Poole Hospital gave medical equipment, British Airways donated loads of blankets, Healthy Direct sent in Mike Thistle capsules, and Federal Express donated several cargo nets. We would also like to thank all our adoptive parents and visitors that have sent us copies of photos that they have taken at the park. On a sad note, many people who regularly visited the park or were adoptive parents have passed away. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Thomas Sanctuary, Joyce Pavely, Albert Marchant, Mary Gray, Stella Newshold, Peter Abbotett, Alan Hall, John Barnett, John Webb, Emily Catter, Linda West, Sheila Reynolds, and Patricia Wren. They will all be greatly missed.

In the last issue of the ARC, it was mentioned that in 18 years the value of an adoption pack has NEVER increased and I asked what your opinion was. I received a resounding response from everyone that is happy with a small increase. These changes will take place in the coming months. We hope you will continue your support so we can continue to build a hospital and a new ape complex – both of which Naree will need if we are able to get her to Monkey World!

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 now working on getting Brian, a young chimpanzee that was smuggled from the wild to be a beach photographer’s prop in Cancun, Mexico. While Brian can join our Nursery Group, two other adult females, Coco and Abi, who are also in Mexico, cannot come until we are able to build another nursery house. And we are finally beginning work on a hospital. The plans are finalised and building should take 3 months to finish. All the new buildings will be very costly so please help us to help them.

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, bread, or strands of garlic. Any type of melon is good as all the monkeys and apes love them yet they are not too fattening! Our small monkeys need some small to medium sized baskets that would be good for the squirrel monkeys and capuchins to nest inside but they need to be quite robust. We can also use more sheets, blankets, and towels. The monkeys and apes simply love them and we can never have enough. Heavy-duty dog toys, hessian sacks, un-used stamps, and thick ropes are always used while “feeding balls” or “kong” toys keep the monkeys and apes busy trying to get the hidden treats from inside.

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 apes, a certificate, and the Ape Rescue Chronicle three times per year. Establish a legacy for the long-term welfare of the primates and be remembered in our memorial garden. Help us to help them.

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On March 13th I flew to Moscow Zoo to get acquainted with a tiny baby orangutan named Joly. She was born on July 9th 2005 at Moscow Zoo but her mother sadly did not want to care for the infant. Monkey World had been asked by the European Breeding Programme (EEP) for orangutans to be a centre or crèche for all orphaned babies so when Joly’s mother was not interested, we were contacted to see if there was another place available in our nursery group. This way individuals such as Aris from Switzerland and Joly from Russia can grow up having contact with others of their own kind. This contact is very important for the stable upbringing of babies and the development of normal adults.

Arriving in snow-laden Russia I was taken to the primate house at Moscow Zoo. It is a very large building housing a variety of smaller primates as well as breeding groups of Bornean and Sumatran orangutans. Joly’s mother has never looked after any of her babies but was happy to accept them when they were older – the description sounded a lot like our Amy! They had tried to re-introduce Joly back to her Mum, Dad and 5-year-old brother Zaha. Unfortunately Zaha was extremely jealous and got very rough with Joly, so for her own safety, Joly was removed from the group for hand rearing.

My initial introduction to Joly was in the ape house kitchen where she had a child’s play pen in the centre of the room with two ropes crossing the top of it for her to climb on. She had a keeper with her 24 hours a day and so was very used to humans. Joly’s first reaction to me was to climb straight into her keepers arms and eye me with total suspicion; this was a reaction which lasted until we got back to England where she finally decided I was not that scary after all. After several days of trying to bond with her we left Moscow Zoo at 4.30am on Friday, 17 March.

After many weeks of struggling with bureaucracy, Monkey World was finally given permission to fly Joly back to UK in the passenger cabin of the aeroplane rather than in a box in the cargo hold. As Alison explained to the authorities “would you put your 9 month old baby in a crate in the cargo hold to fly?” I think not! The day before we were due to leave, we finally had permission from everyone including: DEFRA, UK Customs, Quarantine authorities, Immigration, BAA, and Aeroflot. We had some odd looks from other passengers, but not many people really noticed as Joly was well wrapped up in a babygro and a carrying pouch. We were escorted through the queues in both airports and our journey went without incident.

Once back in Dorset we went straight to our orangutan nursery and introduced Joly to Aris and Hsiao-ning. Joly was tired after the journey but was interested in them. A-mei would meet Joly a couple of days later, date but was interested in the newcomer through the mesh. Hsiao-ning sulked for about two days and was really jealous seeing me with another orangutan but soon snapped out of it. Aris just wanted to wrestle with her and Joly up for the game.

After a few weeks of gradual introductions Joly now lives 24/7 with her new adopted family and has settled in much faster than anyone expected. A-mei has been brilliant with her, they sleep together and if Aris gets a little too rough in his play A-mei will come over and gently squeeze between them to protect Joly. In fact it looks like A-mei is taking on the orangutan equivalent of surrogate mum, the job which Sally does so splendidly with our young chimpanzees. Joly is a delightful orang-utan with a lovely nature and takes everything in her stride and is a welcome addition to our orangutan crèche.
On March 16th Kuna, one of our female woolly monkeys, gave birth to a healthy baby boy. Kuna however, is a low ranking female in a group with a dominant male, her elder sister, and her sister’s little girl. This birth was her first and while the delivery seemed to progress without incident, when the Primate Care Staff came in they found that Kuna had abandoned the infant. Usually this means death for the newborn as they will quickly get cold if they are not clinging tightly to their mother’s body. Most births happen in the middle of the night so Care Staff usually do not have a chance to save the infants before they die of exposure. Even though Kuna did not do the right thing following her first birth, the baby’s life was saved by none other than the father, Bueno! When Primate the right thing following her first birth, the baby’s life was before they die of exposure. Even though Kuna did not do this means death for the newborn as they will quickly get cold if they are not clinging tightly to their mother’s body. Most births happen in the middle of the night so get cold if they are not clinging tightly to their mother’s body. Most births happen in the middle of the night soCare Staff usually do not have a chance to save the infants before they die of exposure. Even though Kuna did not do the right thing following her first birth, the baby’s life was saved by none other than the father, Bueno! When Primate Care Staff first found the new baby, he was firmly attached to his father’s belly and Bueno was even wrapping his tail around the infant, keeping the baby very warm.

While we were all impressed with Bueno’s caring actions, it presented a serious problem – he could not feed the baby. We made the decision to anaesthetise both Bueno and the mum, Kuna to see if she would accept the baby if we put the infant back onto her. Everything went to plan until Kuna woke up to find a strong baby clinging tight to the fur on her chest. Immediately she began pulling and fighting with the baby who wanted nothing more than to stay with his warm mother and suckle. Kuna’s intentions were clear so we quickly took the baby off of her. We have tried to hand rear a baby woolly monkey before, but they are very delicate and sensitive and extreme caution must be taken when feeding them so that they do not inhale any of the milk. If this happens infants will soon die of inhalation pneumonia. I volunteered to try caring for the tiny baby as everyone look terrified by the prospect and a ladies’ hands just might be more suited to caring for such a small baby than a man’s.

I took the tiny baby, wrapped in towels, up to office and began what was a serious commitment. He weighed 313g was strong, and very hungry. The first job was to start the baby on 1/2 strength milk so that the infant was rehydrated and we could see how the baby’s stomach and guts were going to react to the baby formula. It was important at this point to make a decision about how I was going to care for him. Should we use an incubator to get him started like with either the chimpanzees or the orangutans or should I do what his mother would have done and just carry him next to my body. We all discussed the options and as the last infant we had to care for ourselves did not thrive in the incubator, we decided on the more natural option. Feeds would be every hour for the first couple of days and given by dropper so that there was less chance of the baby choking on or inhaling the milk. This seemed to work and at the end of his first full day with me he had taken 31.5ml of milk and was passing faeces well.

Over the next week or so there were concerns from time to time but I started talking to the nurses at the Premature Baby Unit at Poole Hospital who were extremely helpful. They care for infants as small as 500g so my baby was almost half that size but the same principles applied. On day 11 the baby became very agitated and while I was checking him over to try and identify the problem he grabbed my finger and bit down – he was teething and the front 4 incisors were starting to push through! At this point I thought that if he is old enough to have teeth, he should have a name… Julio it was.

Julio stayed with me 24/7. I carried him everywhere, ensuring that his heat pad was the perfect temperature, that his milk was mixed just right, that everything was sterilised, and that all his two-hourly feeds were delivered on time. He was hard work! On day 16 Julio was moved onto a small bottle and the quantity of milk he would take immediately increased and already he was reaching out at any food that I might be eating. On day 36 I offered Julio a tiny piece of soft banana (as he had several teeth now) which was quickly sucked down. This was the start of him taking solids and every couple of weeks since then I have introduced a new food item. Currently (day 64) Julio now eats milk, banana, grapes, pear, apple, brown bread, baby rice, and bran flakes. Already he has strong opinions and most definitely does not like papaya, or peas! He is becoming very active now and loves exploring while clinging tightly to my hand or arm with his prehensile tail. Mike Colbourne is also looking after Julio several evenings per week now which is important so that Julio does not become overly attached to just me. We are all so pleased that Julio is doing well and that we could continue what Bueno started more than 60 days ago. From 313g Julio now weighs 600g and we are counting the days until he can be returned to one of the two woolly monkey groups at the park.
Bachelor Boys
By James (Ollie) Harper

On the 28th October 2005 Turkish Çarli (left) and Gypsy (right) moved home from the Nursery at the park. Colourful groups interesting and certainly one of the most numbers 13(!) and this mob is complete, the bachelor group

Now that the introductions are ever witnessed at Monkey World. Bachelor Boys

Boys and their transition into the All have approved of the two new Sammy, Buxom, Freddy, Jestah, Mojo and finally Kyko. This was done step-by-step, pulling one or two individuals out of the mix when the newcomers that he means business! True to form, after an initial display sometimes be a little rough and as the boss has to show any new (and the most important guy to make friends with!!). Butch can friends. Next to join the trio was Butch, the alpha male of the group the most mild mannered, he was the obvious choice to be the first Paco himself had only just joined the bachelor group, and being with Rodders and Ash meeting Ben and Pip. Ash was much more shy than Rodders who was expected as she is a couple of months younger. She sat on me, not wanting to move and watched the proceedings with Rodders and his new friends, absorbing everything but not getting involved. The first big step came from Rodders when he decided to jump onto Ben when no one was expecting it. Because Ben was having such a good time with Rodders, Pip started to get jealous and decided to encourage Ash to go with her. The first step in the baby’s rehabilitation had begun.

Next it was Ash’s turn. I started with Rodders and Ash meeting Ben and Pip. Ash was having so much fun and messing about from morning right up until bedtime, when they both decided that they had found a new best friend. Then everyone together: Rodders, Ash, Ben, Pip, and Seamus. About this time I tried to let Johni in with the rest of the mob but she seemed unnerved by being separated from Sally and Lulu and became untrustworthy and stroppy with the babies. Sally’s reaction was quite different she went in with open arms hoping that one of the babies would come to her. It was Rodders who was bold enough to step forward and give Sally a big hug. Her size was still unnerving to the babies so it was a quick hello but Sally was good with that. Subsequent introductions went well with Sally developing a strong relationship with Rodders but we always new she was more interested in little boys than little girls! The introductions continue daily and both Rodders and Ash are having a great time meeting and getting to know their new family. They have even been brave enough to venture outside, a feat that their older brother and sister have not mastered yet!

Initially I just took Rodders in with Ben and Pip to see what their initial reaction would be. Rodders seem unfazed from the beginning and jumped straight off of me to say hello to the others. He has no fear and indeed seems to love rough and tumble play… and the rougher the better. While Ben and Pip love playing with Rodders they are very respect full of him and if he lets out the slightest squeak they instantly stop what they are doing. Next I wanted to see what Sally’s reaction to the baby would be. As Rodders is older than Ash we decided to start with him. Sally’s initial reaction was deliberately distant. This made her less threatening to the unfamiliar baby and after all, as Rodders did not run into her arms, why should she run into his!!

Then it was Ash’s turn. I started with Rodders and Ash meeting Ben and Pip. Ash was much more shy than Rodders which was expected as she is a couple of months younger. She sat on me, not wanting to move and watched the proceedings with Rodders and his new friends, absorbing everything but not getting involved. The first big step came from Rodders when he decided to jump onto Ben when no one was expecting it. Because Ben was having such a good time with Rodders, Pip started to get jealous and decided to encourage Ash to go with her. The first step in the baby’s rehabilitation had begun.

Next it was time to take the big step of getting Seamus involved. It was either going to be very good or very bad. At first Seamus got too excited and had to be told to calm down. After a couple of meetings like this Seamus decided that the babies were fun and he was quite gentle with them.

Then I tried everyone together: Rodders, Ash, Ben, Pip, and Seamus. About this time I tried to let Johni in with the rest of the mob but she seemed unnerved by being separated from Sally and Lulu and became untrustworthy and stroppy with the babies. Next was Sally again and now that the babies were more chimp friendly, I had hoped that she would take a greater interest in them. This time Sally’s reaction was quite different she went in with open arms hoping that one of the babies would come to her. It was Rodders who was bold enough to step forward and give Sally a big hug. Her size was still unnerving to the babies so it was a quick hello but Sally was good with that. Subsequent introductions went well with Sally developing a strong relationship with Rodders but we always new she was more interested in little boys than little girls! The introductions continue daily and both Rodders and Ash are having a great time meeting and getting to know their new family. They have even been brave enough to venture outside, a feat that their older brother and sister have not mastered yet!

Rodders and Ash Meet the Family
By Jeremy Keeling

Rodders and Ash are now eight months old and even though they are still very small, they are ready to start meeting the rest of the nursery group.