



# APE RESCUE CHRONICLE



Issue: 36 Summer 2007 £1.00





# monkey life is the buisness

by Louise McCance-Price

**COMING  
SOON!**

**monday-friday  
13<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> august 2007  
6:30pm for 3 weeks**

on

**five**

**Y**es, you've guessed it! The well-loved series, **Monkey Business**, seen on TV by hundreds of thousands of people both in the UK and throughout the world for the last decade, has undergone some exciting changes. Fourteen new programmes on your favourite primates will soon be shown on **Five**, under a new title, **Monkey Life!**

**Monkey Life** is made by Primate Planet Productions in association with Athena Films, and this series marks a new era of bringing the lives of the primates of Monkey World to your television screens in a slightly different way!

Gollum from the Lord of the Rings is back! Well, not exactly Gollum, but we're very pleased to have **Andy Serkis** join the team, giving his voice to all the programmes. As well as a new narrator, we have a famous feature film composer, **Joseph Metcalfe**, creating all the music for the new series. We've used CCTV cameras for never-to-be-seen-before footage from within the enclosures, wild footage to show you how these primates exist in the wild, and each programme has been edited in a different style....so remember to watch **Monkey Life** on **Five**, weekdays from the 13<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August. You're in for a treat!

## **This is Monkey Life....**

Set in Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre in Dorset, UK, **Monkey Life** follows the nail-biting

rescue and rehabilitation stories of some of the most abused and neglected monkeys in the world, and the unwavering hard work of Jim and Alison Cronin in their ongoing mission to stop the illegal smuggling of primates from the wild. Refugees and chimps that were found abused in laboratories, circus tents or as photographers props are rehabilitated here and given the chance to spend the rest of their days being cared for in a more natural environment. Filmed over the course of a year, this highlighted series follows the day-to-day dramas and personalities of these, our closest relatives. From power struggles and dramas, to friendship bonds and new additions to the group, **Monkey Life** follows some of the most beautiful creatures on the planet, and the team who are devoted to working with them.

## **Highlights on this new series of Monkey Life include:**

- Birth of Baby Woolly Monkey Julio who was rejected by his mother and then cared for by Alison Cronin.
- The rescue of Bryan, a Chimp from Mexico.
- Dinda, the latest orang-utan birth at the park.
- The rescue of stump-tailed macaque Koko from Budapest and re-homing of baby orang-utan Joly from Moscow.
- The dramatic rescue of a capuchin monkey family in Wales.

So, don't miss this fantastic run of 14 half hour programmes of **Monkey Life**, to be screened at 6:30pm weekdays on Five from the 13th - 31st August. Please tell your friends and family that the new series is about to begin! We'd love to hear your thoughts on the new series, so write us at Primate Planet Productions Ltd. at the address below, or email [info@primateplanet.tv](mailto:info@primateplanet.tv). **Thanks for watching!**



**Primate  
Planet  
Productions**





# Lingga Makes Six

By Jeremy Keeling



On July 19<sup>th</sup> I set out in the Monkey World van on another trip to collect a young orphaned Orang-utan to join our ever growing group of chaps in our position as the official “Orang-utan Crèche”. This time it was to the Menagerie de Jardin des Plantes in Paris where Lingga, a 2 year old had been rejected by her mother at birth. She was cared for by the zoo’s staff when previous attempts to re-unite her with her mother had failed. I spent 2 days in the zoo getting to know Lingga so that she would feel comfortable with me. I soon realised she is a very positive minded and independent young lady who had clearly not been spoilt by the French keepers.

Our journey back to Monkey World was uneventful and only took 9 hours with various “pit stops” for food and drink for Lingga, who is a serious competitor for my eating ability crown! Once at the park she soon settled in for the night after a period of exercise in her new outside enclosure. Until now she had never been on grass or soil. The following day we introduced Lingga to A-mei, Joly and Dinda. As we expected Joly was jealous of any attention that A-mei showed Lingga but this did not develop into a serious issue.

Lingga and her French keeper Sebastien.



Lingga in her travelling box.



A-Mei meets Lingga.



Hsiao-ning and Aris also came in to meet our new arrival and they too do not appear to have any issues with the newest member of their nursery.

As Lingga is so young and has had a major upheaval in her life we are taking things slowly arranging her social life. Dinda, being youngest of the Monkey World orang-utan crèche, stays with Lingga continually and the others visit at regular intervals until such time as we, and Lingga, are comfortable enough to stay together 24/7. We are only on day 4 of the introductions as I write this article so we expect Lingga’s future to be a bright and lively one in our orangutan nursery.

Jeremy met Lingga in Paris.





# Bart's Arrival

Liam Keohane



Susie and Bart and proud father Paddy on the right.

On July 17th, I was on my way down to Tuan's house to start the morning routine, when I stopped off along the way at Hananya's to have a look at the chimps. Then it was onto Paddy's and the Bachelor group to for a quick hello and check of everyone. On looking into Paddy's Pavilion all seemed normal, some of the chimps were up grooming and others were still sleeping or lying in their nests - nothing out of the ordinary until I looked over to the far right hand corner. I could see Susie very close to Paddy, who was peering down towards her stomach area. Bixa, a high ranking female of the group, was also there and looked as though she was trying to nuzzle her face towards Susie's stomach. Susie seemed concerned, but allowed them to inspect but not touch her belly. It was at that moment I knew she had something special and something we as Primate Care Staff had been expecting – a new baby in the group!

I did not want to put the call out to Jeremy until I had seen the infant for myself. Susie moved to the side of the Pavilion, away from prying eyes and hands, and just then I saw the baby's feet, very small but the light pink colour gave me the go ahead to call in the birth. Jeremy came quickly to make sure all was OK with Mum and her precious new infant. Susie seemed to understand that we were concerned and wanted to see her and the baby a bit closer. She turned slightly, revealing her side, and the small bundle that she cradled firmly. The umbilical cord was still attached and

then we saw the baby move. The infant looked well - strong and healthy as it grasped tightly on to Mum's stomach. This was great news for the Primate Care Staff, although we had little doubt that Susie would do the right thing. While we do not generally breed our chimpanzees at the park, as there are more to rescue, we do allow one or two females to give birth every 4-5 years for the welfare of the community. Susie was one of these females. In chimpanzee society, the babies are loved and cherished by the whole group and it brings them together with a common focus – the care and protection of the baby.

With every pregnancy and birth there are concerns. There are always the 'what if's' but with Susie the concerns were not as great as she had already successfully raised Eddi without any assistance from us. Seeing how she cradled the baby and reacted to it's every move there was little doubt that she would not only protect the delicate baby but that she would ensure that the infant found the nipple and began to feed. After several hours this was confirmed when the baby was seen firmly latched on with a strong suckling reflex. I also managed to see that it was a little boy and after many discussions it was decided to name the latest addition to Paddy's community, Bart. He is a strong and healthy lad and we are pleased that this group of orphans is now functioning as a proper family, caring for their young, and protecting the mother's and infants as they would in the wild.





# AMAZING TRIBUTES TO JIM



At the end of June we had two memorial services in memory of Jim. The first was for family, friends, and close colleagues and the second was for local supporters, friends of the park and adoptive parents. Both days were amazing tributes to Jim both personally and professionally with people coming from around the world.

On June 24th Rev. John Townend, the vicar who married Jim and Alison and blessed and opened 'Charlie's House' (now Hananya's house) gave a moving tribute to Jim's passion and love of life. He was followed by Graham Mack, the radio DJ who along with Jim highlighted the plight of many of our rescued primates over the years. Jim's brother John Cronin gave a thought provoking speech about Jim's early interest in primates and how one individual can make a difference in the world. Finally Minister of Schools and South Dorset MP, Jim Knight presented Alison and John, on Jim's behalf, the award of Member of the British Empire (MBE) for services to animal welfare. The service was finished with a thank you from Alison and a short video tribute showing the early days of the park and some very funny out-takes from the 10 years of filming Monkey Business.

The local open day was the following week and even though it was raining, the park was full of supporters coming to pay their respects. It was a fun day full of activities with bands such as Caroline's Capuchins from Southampton, a face painter, Juggins the clown, raffles, and a blessing from the local vicar. A great day was had by all and Jeremy was even spotted playing guitar with one of the bands!

All monies raised on the open day went to the **Jim Cronin Memorial Fund**, which is currently in the process of becoming a registered charity. We hope to build a state of the art education centre with less-abled facilities and continue to run the charity to provide scholarships for aspiring primatologists. For those of you who were unable to attend either service, there is a memorial area in the oak woodland above the Macaque Rehabilitation Centre where a beautiful bronze sculpture of Jim and Charlie will be displayed. It is an area of natural beauty and a fitting tribute to an amazing man.



Alison with Jim's MBE award.



Rocky Ray Rising talks to Minister of Schools and South Dorset MP, Jim Knight.



Friends, family, and close colleagues.



Sculptor Steve Winterburn.






# Gibbon Moves

by  
Wendy Derham



Peanut and Tien enjoy the trees in their new enclosure.



Zoey grooms her new mate Jake.

**I**t all started when Zoey, one of our female golden-cheeked gibbons, decided that Rafael, her mate, was not the man for her after all! This left us with a dilemma do we leave two gibbons on their own or have a bit of a change around which would involve 7 gibbons moving house and all in one day! This one would take quite a bit of planning!

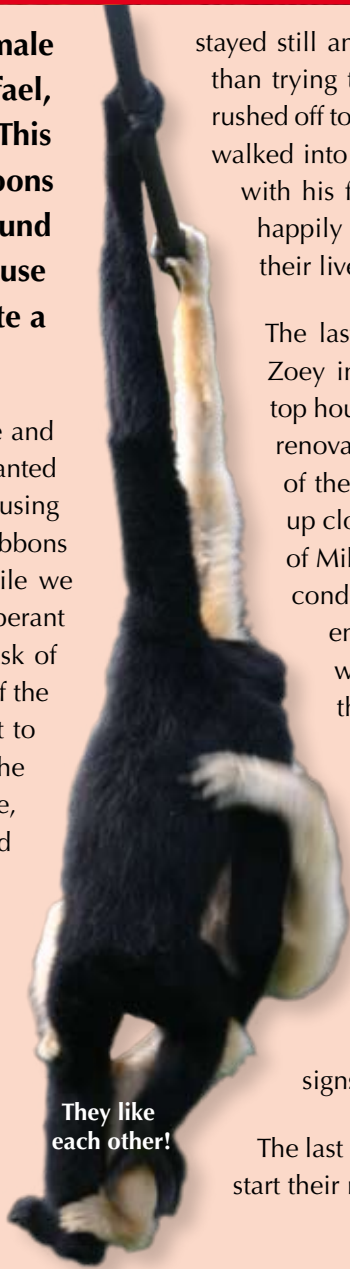
On the morning of the move everything was in place and the complicated plan went something like this:- we wanted to move as many of the gibbons as possible without using any anaesthetic drugs which meant relying on our gibbons to walk into the transport box when we asked. While we have been working with all our gibbons on their operant conditioning (clicker training) tasks, it was a lot to ask of them and we knew it was probable that at least one of the seven would require anaesthesia. Rafael was the first to move from the bottom house to meet female Alex at the main Gibbon Rehabilitation Centre. To all our surprise, he just walked into the box as if it was what he did every day! Zoey was less co-operative, however, and the vet had to play her role but eventually she was moved safely to a temporary house where she would meet her new man, Jake, in the coming days.

The next move was the one everyone was worried about Peanut, Pung-Yo and their little boy Tien. Peanut refused the option of walking into the box so we had to dart her. Our greatest concern was that Tien could get in the way of the dart so it had to be done very carefully. Luckily for all concerned Tien

stayed still and with Peanut asleep he clung onto her rather than trying to get away from us. As Peanut and Tien were rushed off to their new house, Pung-Yo, after a bit of a protest, walked into his box and he was on his way to be re-united with his family in their new home. They now live very happily at the bottom house and are having the time of their lives in the tall oak trees in their huge enclosure.

The last gibbon to move was Jake who went next to Zoey in a temporary house while they waited for the top house, by the entrance, to be completely gutted and renovated. During this time we started the initial stages of their introduction allowing them to see each other up close and personal. At the same time with the help of Mike Bates from San Diego Zoo we started operant conditioning sessions with the pair which would enable us through trust and reward to ask them to walk into the transport boxes. Three weeks later the house was finished and it was time for the last gibbon move. Thanks to a lot of work from all the gibbon team both gibbons walked straight into the boxes without stress or complications. After a short period of time to settle into their new home, and after we were happy that all the signs were good, the doors were opened and the pair given full access to each other. They are now spending their days grooming and playing like only gibbons can. All the early signs are that this is going to be a very happy pair.

The last piece of the puzzle will be when Rafael and Alex start their new lives together...watch this space.



They like each other!



# THE CONSERVATION OF THE GOLDEN-CHEEKED CRESTED GIBBON IN VIETNAM - by Marina Kenyon



The Monkey World team in Cat Tien National Park, Vietnam.



Adult male golden -cheeked gibbon at Da mi.

I studied golden-cheeked crested gibbons (*Nomascus gabriellae*) in Cat Tien National Park (CTNP), Vietnam, from January 2003 to December 2005, for the first stage of Monkey World's long-term conservation programme. CTNP was placed under state protection in 1978, located 150km north of Ho Chi Minh City on the southern edge of the Annamite mountain region. The park covers 79 hectares. Even though the forest is protected, local people still enter the forests to earn a living. Overall gibbon density in the park ranged from 0 to 2.35 groups/km<sup>2</sup> with significant correlations between gibbon density and the distance to the park boundary and the ranger stations. Gibbons are more likely to be found close to the ranger stations, where hunting and disturbance is limited, confirming the importance of forest protection and the need for more!



Male black-shanked douc langur at Bau sau.

In CTNP three intensive study sites were selected based on habitat type: 1. Da mi, head quarters which has good semi-evergreen forest, 2. Bau sau with mixed-evergreen forest, and 3. Ben cau with mixed-bamboo forest, in order to establish how successfully gibbons were surviving in the different forest types. All habitats contained gibbons, thus showing their high degree of adaptability to a wide range of ecosystems. This will allow us to better choose suitable areas in CTNP for gibbon re-population. Home ranges of groups were mapped by plotting observed call locations, in each area, ranging from very small home ranges of 16.72 hectares in the mixed evergreen forests of Bau sau, to 50-60.5 hectares in Da mi and the mixed bamboo forests of Ben cau.

Feeding observations were made, and food availability monitored in each area each month, confirming that these gibbons, like other species, are predominantly frugivorous (fruit eaters). Group size was found to be slightly larger than known from other species such as the lar gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) but lower than white-cheeked gibbons in the north of the country.

In each study site, faecal samples were collected monthly to determine gastro-intestinal parasite loads. The gibbons, especially pregnant females and youngsters at weaning age, living in the more disturbed forest with few large trees, had the highest number of species of parasites. This suggests that overall fitness in disturbed habitats may well be compromised and must be considered when selecting suitable habitat for gibbon re-introduction. Faecal collection has also allowed us to conduct DNA studies in order to confirm relatedness of family groups. With the help of the **German Primate Centre**, faeces, which contain epithelial cells shed from the lining of the intestines, can be analyzed to provide information and confirmation of family lineage. The family groups of golden-cheeked gibbons in CTNP were genetically confirmed to be monogamous in structure, except for one infant, whose father was identified as a lone male instead of the long-term resident male who we would have assumed was the father. This is the first confirmed case of an extra-pair paternity in gibbons. Neighbouring gibbon groups were found to be predominantly brother and sister relations, indicating very short dispersal distances from the natal group.

DNA samples were also collected from captive and/or pet gibbons, including the gibbons at Monkey World and Pingtung Rescue Centre in Taiwan. This work was done in order to identify the region of Vietnam from which they originated. The results revealed 37% of the pet trade gibbons sampled originated from the southern lowland forests, 42% from the southern highlands and only 21% from the northern forest region. Thus, hunting is still occurring in all regions, but most is around the Da Lat plateau. The identification of sub-populations is valuable for captive management, as managing the three sub-populations independently will maintain greater genetic diversity and is likely to be a more viable plan for successful conservation of this beautiful and threatened species of gibbon.





# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

After the difficult time we have all faced following Jim's passing, Jeremy and I had decided that we would try and have a quiet year and not take on too much. However, the monkeys and apes still need our care and assistance 365 days a year and they don't slow down! This summer we have moved ahead with refurbishment of a few of the monkey and ape houses. The bachelor's pavilion has been gutted, the roof replaced, new recycled plastic lumber benches installed, radiators replaced, the floor re-surfaced and waterproofed, the walls decorated and new fire hose hammocks hung. Butch's troop will get their playroom back this next week and we are all very excited to see them back in their new fresh home. We have done essentially the same to the top gibbon house that is near to the entrance of the park. At the same time we took the opportunity to move several of the golden-cheeked gibbons as two of the pairs had been together for several years and have not had any babies (see pg 6). We have also begun work on a new building for a large group of capuchin monkeys that we will be rescuing soon. All and all a not so quiet summer!

For all of you that have been avid viewers of **Monkey Business**, it would have been the 10th anniversary of the series. Meridian TV, who were making the series, have put together 3 programmes celebrating the 10 years and DVDs of these programs will be available soon. A new TV series following the lives of our monkeys and apes will begin on **August 13th** on **Channel Five** called **Monkey Life** (see pg 2). It is an excellent series that documents Jim's and my last rescue missions together and Jim was very excited about the new series. We hope you too will enjoy the new programs.

Since the beginning of the year, many people have helped with our rescue and rehabilitation work by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, bread, garlic, dried fruit, seeds, nuts, rice cakes, vitamins,



baby rice, dog toys, dog biscuits, blankets, sheets, towels, hessian sacks, used work wear, un-used stamps, foreign currency, supermarket vouchers, baskets, plastic bottles, fire hoses, footballs, ropes, hand made cards to sell in the shop, stationary, primate books, and of course excellent photos of our monkeys and apes that they allow us to use. We could not continue our work without the invaluable support of our adoptive parents and all donations are greatly appreciated by the primates. We have also received generous donations and many people keep collection boxes at home or work. Other fund raising activities have included bake sales, raffles, car boot sales, tuck shops, auctions, calendar sales, donations in lieu of presents, pancake/cake stalls, and sponsored activities such as swims, slims, walks, singing competitions and dress down days. In particular we would like to thank the **Middle Wallop Army Air Corp.** for donating cargo nets, **Health Span** for providing vitamins, **Virgin Mobile** for charitable donations, **Healthy Direct** who

donated £1 for every pot of milk thistle they sold, and **Simon Kendal** who completed the Great North Run on behalf of Monkey World. This seems to have been a difficult year for many with the sad loss of many loved ones. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of **Dorothy Hamill, Riet Populiers, Pauline Garner, Rose Cawston, Ivy Seaney, Anne-Mette Theise, Jose Hart, Tracey Garrett, Robin Turnnige, Stephany Pendlebury, Brenda Darling-Nichols, Peter Narborough, Collin Clark, Lillian Haley, Gwendoline Walsh, Hazel Hutchinson, Michael Holmes, and Mrs E Cook.**

The tributes to Jim and his memory continue to arrive at the park. We hope that all of you will join the Monkey World team in keeping his memory and passion alive.

*Alison Cronin*

## 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 - **NO ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE REMOVED**. Monkey World is not a registered charity but we have just established a charity, EAST (the Endangered Asian Species Trust) and we have now applied for charitable status for the Jim Cronin Memorial Fund (JCMF). Please help us to continue our rescue and rehabilitation work and to keep Jim's memory alive.

There are still many more monkeys and apes that we would like to rescue and since the last issue of the ARC we have brought another woolly monkey and orang-utan to the park. We are now finalising plans for the largest rescue mission in our history, the re-homing of many capuchin monkeys. We have received planning permission for their new house and we will be collecting the monkeys very soon. However, one of our greatest needs at present is a digital x-ray machine for our new primate hospital at the park. The building is now complete and we are slowly acquiring the necessary equipment. A digital x-ray will allow us to assess and



treat our monkeys and apes much more quickly and reliably. Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, bread, strands of garlic, or chewable Vit. C tablets (lower dose i.e. 60 mg). Any type of melon is good as all the monkeys and apes love them yet they are not too fattening! Our small monkeys love small to medium sized baskets and they would be good for the squirrel monkeys, capuchins, and marmosets 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 ape, 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.

Monkey World – Ape Rescue Centre, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 6HH, England. Tel. (01929) 462 537 Fax: (01929) 405 414

Email: [apes@monkeyworld.org](mailto:apes@monkeyworld.org) Website: [www.monkeyworld.org](http://www.monkeyworld.org)

Director: Alison Cronin BA, MA, PhD, MBE.

Animal Manager: Jeremy Keeling

Design: David Dancy-Wood and Ben Mason

