

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



We have been incredibly busy over the past few months!! Preparing for the largest rescue operation in our history kept everyone focused over winter and spring. But the hard work and dedication has paid off and all 94 capuchin monkeys at Monkey World are fit and living more natural lives. It is amazing to see how active and happy they look. For their incredible assistance in making the impossible, possible, I want to send my sincere thanks to everyone in the **Chilean Air Force**. In particular, we are indebted to the **General of Area Brigade A, Sr. Hugo Tilly Ebensperger, Colonel of Logistic Commando Sr.Manuel Zúñiga**, and the **Members of the Flight FACH N°993. Captain Mauricio Hermosilla and his crew, Alex Schaufler, Carlos**

This has been a difficult year for so many people who have lost loved ones. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of **John Clark, Jean Dolamore, Kenneth Pepperell, Joan Bedingfield, Jacqueline Annower, Joyce Jarrousse, Roy Spender, Daphne Hoskins, Pauline Shepherd, Carole Jefferys, Mary Lemon, Catherine Jory, Sue Curtis, Emma Gatley, E Sorrell, Betty Moore, Sophia Cullen, George Lawrence, Ronald Lee, Thomas Gilbert, Maureen Radigan, George Read, Kathleen Hall, Peggy Barker, Alfred Harrison, Ray Edwards, Mary Robinson, Cheryl Ardern, Linda Cooper, Ernest Robins, Helen Murray, Carol Patrick, Roy Scutchings, Derek Clayson, Richard Gabriel, Harold Williams, T Hagger, Arthur Mackney, Dave Willmott, Hazel Owen, Sylvia Cowling, and Richie Reynolds**. They will be greatly missed.

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, Charity No.1115350)** 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. We are also continuing our efforts to raise money for a **digital x-ray machine** for our hospital and we are trying to find a large (10ft span or more) **poly-tunnel or green house**. We want to start propagating climbing plants and herbs for the monkeys and apes but have no place to get the seedlings going. Please help us to help them.

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, bread, strands of garlic, or chewable Vit. C tablets (lower dose i.e. 60 mg). We are in particular need of cod-liver oil and evening primrose oil capsules.

Tabilo, Alex Mejias, Rodrigo Carreño, Carlos Pacheco, Alfredo Albornoz, Julio Salazar, Jose Mora, Arnaldo Ortiz, Hector Flores, Nolberto Romo, Vladimir Lopez, were very helpful and went out of their way to help me and Jeremy make the long flight as comfortable as possible for all the monkeys. We hope that some day they will all come and visit and see how well the monkeys are doing – the ones they helped rescue. The **ground crew at Bournemouth Airport** also deserve a special mention for assisting us in this most unusual job. They made sure that Monkey World had as many staff on the tarmac as needed and that all of our quarantine vehicles were well positioned and ready to go when the Hercules landed. **The Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)** also assisted and handled all the paperwork so that we could land at Bournemouth to keep the travelling time to a minimum for the welfare of the monkeys.

Over the past few months many people have helped with our rescue and rehabilitation work by donating goods such as herbs, flowering plants, fruit, vegetables, nuts, dried fruit, seeds, garlic, honey, bread, vitamins, dog biscuits, blankets, sheets, towels, hessian sacks, ropes, large cardboard tubes, baskets, un-used stamps, supermarket vouchers, and hand made cards to be sold in the shop. We also receive many excellent photos that adoptive parents and/or visitors take at the park and send to us to use. We have gratefully received several donations and some have raised money by organising collection tins, boot sales, dress down days at work, and sponsored cycle rides or silences. All of your donations are put to use – thank you so much.

Alison Cronin

At the end of last year we broke ground on our **Endangered Primate Rescue Centre in Cat Tien National Park, Vietnam**. It is a small rescue, rehabilitation, and release centre on a 63ha. island at the entrance to Cat Tien National Park in Southern Vietnam. This centre is the first insitu project for Monkey World – that is to say a project in the habitat where the primates come from. It is our hope that the centre will provide the Vietnamese authorities with a place that they can take confiscated golden-cheeked gibbons and black-shanked douc langurs where they can be treated and assessed for release back into the wild. Some gibbons have already been confiscated and are now in holding cages waiting for their new homes on the island to be ready! We expect that the centre will be ready to open the first week in July. So much has already happened in 2008, the rest of the year promises to be an exciting time for Monkey World!



Any type of melon is also 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.



APE RESCUE CHRONICLE



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Monkey World's Largest Rescue Ever



On January 21st Alison Cronin and Jeremy Keeling travelled to Santiago Chile on Monkey World's largest rescue operation in 20 years. For the last 20 years more than 80 capuchin monkeys have been kept in a bio-medical laboratory at a University in the centre of the city. The monkeys were kept in solitary confinement, in small cages (less than 1m square) that were suspended off a wall in 5 long corridors.

Monkey World had been planning this rescue for more than a year and when the day finally arrived the team were forced to transport all 88 monkeys at once as the lab had issued an ultimatum – take as many monkeys as you can and the remainder would be put down. It was an impossible task to choose which individuals should come to the park and which should be left to meet their fate. The biggest problem to overcome; where would 88 anti-social monkeys go when they first arrived at Monkey World?!

Alison and Jeremy had to move quickly and with the support of the entire Monkey World team a new building was constructed in place of one of the old capuchin houses. "The Lodge" was specially designed to meet the needs of the individual and potentially crazy monkeys that may also arrive with an array of physical disabilities. A large playroom, in front of 20 individual back bedrooms, linked by a maze of connecting tunnels would give the individual monkeys the best chance of rehabilitation. The building went up quickly and then the team turned their attentions to modifying the old donkey barns to make a large playroom connected to 10 bedrooms and two large outdoor enclosures. That made housing for three groups possible but would the 88 monkeys, plus the four already at the park, come together in ONLY 3 groups?! We were concerned so one last enclosure was prepared – one of the playrooms and enclosures in the Macaque Rehabilitation Centre where only three geriatric stump-tailed macaques resided. Koko, Gerald, and Roland are very sedate old-timers so their move to the remaining old capuchin house was a good decision. The team now had four large areas prepared for the lab monkeys.

The next stumbling block was how does one transport so many monkeys across the globe? It was a difficult one as none of the airlines were able to provide the amount of space we required in

a cargo hold for all of the boxes. For weeks the team searched the globe for any company or organisation that could help and finally at the last minute we were all saved by the extraordinary assistance of the Chilean Air Force who agreed to fly all of us from Santiago to Bournemouth on a Hercules transporter! Special permission to land at Bournemouth Airport was granted by the British government, for the welfare of the monkeys, and that was it – all systems go!

On Tuesday, January 29th we landed in Dorset all 88 monkeys healthy and accounted for. It was an incredibly long journey from the time we started boxing up the monkeys ready for travel, moving all the boxes from the lab to airport in Santiago, loading them safely onto the plane on secured pallets, flight from Santiago to Las Palmas with a stop in Brazil for refuelling, rest stop in Las Palmas and then the flight onto Bournemouth. At the local airport the ground crew were brilliant, everyone helping and doing their best to make the long journey as comfortable for the monkeys as possible. With too many quarantine vehicles on the tarmac waiting to unload the precious cargo, we were on the final leg to Monkey World.



Monkey World emptied the lab of its 88 test monkeys



The Chilean Air Force transported the primates to England



Dr Alison Cronin and Jeremy Keeling get to know the 88 monkeys they were rescuing



Some of the 88 monkeys lived in the lab for 20 years



The 88 capuchins travelled well



Dr Alison Cronin, Jeremy Keeling and the 88 monkeys were transported by the Chilean Air Force in a Hercules

The Ladies

by Claudia Perryman

Out of the 88 capuchin monkeys rescued from the laboratory, 66 of them were female, and of the 66, 29 of the ladies had been caught in the wild from Argentina, Brazil, or Peru. It was a daunting task to undertake but our mission was to rehabilitate the 66, along with two of our own ladies, Terri and Phoebe, from the UK pet trade.



Elvira, Elisa and Emily



Dot and Lizzy



In the sun



Jill and Debbie

The ladies ranged in age from 2-26 years so we were hopeful that the older ladies would take the younger individuals under their 'wings' while at the same time keeping the middle-aged ladies under control. On the first morning after their long journey, 53 females were taken to the new Capuchin Lodge. We decided the best way to approach the introductions was to let as many out into the new playroom, as possible, in one go before any cliques started. Several of the smaller cages were put into the large playroom and the doors opened allowing them to leave the cages for the first time ever. Some of the females came out slowly and seemed overwhelmed, while others seemed more confident. One young female, Digit, was reluctant to leave the only home she had known, even shouting at anyone who tried to enter her space, but she finally became brave and came out. The next day the remaining females were introduced to the group at the Lodge. Initially everyone was just running round but within a few days the first friendships started to form.

Two individuals yet to join this group were Terri, the ex-pet that had been a resident at monkey world since 2001 and Phoebe, a wild born individual who was also kept as a pet in the UK. Often individuals from the pet trade have severe physiological problems, but thankfully both Terri and Phoebe went happily and



Sooty

confidently into the group. It did not take long before they were walking, running and climbing around their new enclosure.

The capuchins immediately appeared content with their new surroundings and perhaps just relieved to be out of the small cages. Over the next few days certain individuals were displaying their dominance, such as Sooty giving threatening gestures and calls while blonde Debbie charged around shouting at everyone. The social hierarchy was

already forming. Now that all 68 ladies were together in one house, the next stage was working out who was who! At the lab all the capuchins were given tattoos on the inside of their thighs so using clicker training we asked the monkeys to present their tattoo for confirmation and in exchange they got a small food reward. Once we got to know their characters and faces the Primate Care Staff started naming the 66 new ladies. For example, the very blonde female became known as Debbie (as in the band "Blonde") and a dark individual with a huge black crest was christened Amy (as in Amy Winehouse).

After a week or so the females were given access to an outdoor enclosure at the Lodge with branches, platforms, and rubber hoses.

We hoped to stimulate many natural behaviours in the more natural environment but perhaps more important was the fact that these wild animals were able to experience fresh air, wind, rain and sun for the first time in their lives. Simple enrichment items such as plastic bottles and cardboard boxes with treats inside were given, and it did not take long for the monkeys to figure out the new feeding activities. Puzzle feeders have also been fixed in the enclosure to challenge the naturally clever capuchins and of course they are all getting onions, garlic, and chilli that stimulate natural fur rubbing behaviours.

The super group of 68 stayed together as one group while at the new Capuchin Lodge, but when it became clear that the 22 males were also going to all live together we decided to swap the two groups so the ladies had more space at the 'Macaque Rehabilitation Centre' (see 'Cappy Swap'). Once the ladies were given two large playrooms, two outside enclosures, and 20 bedrooms they decided to make divisions themselves. In one playroom all the girls had dark hair while in the other playroom there was a dominance of brown individuals. We were surprised that monkeys, who lived in solitary confinement almost all of their lives, were so able to recognise and be drawn to others of their own sub-species. Perhaps we shouldn't have been surprised however, as we too could see the differences: the dark ladies being much tougher and forming gangs more easily. Similarly the darker capuchins seem to have a stronger culture for onion and chilli 'fur rubbing'. So in four months we have managed the impossible – 68 anti-social female capuchins all living in two social groups and developing more natural behaviours every day. It is great to see.



Chilli

Four months have passed since the capuchins arrived, and sitting watching them in the sun now it is easy to forget the initial sleepless nights and worries.

At first they amazed us at their agility, and social suave. First impressions, they seemed less damaged (physically and mentally) than capuchins we had rescued from the UK pet trade. They were not afraid of heights and there was no hesitation about moving around on fine twigs - tasks that can take some pet capuchins years to overcome in our experience. Perhaps being deprived of so much in the laboratory meant that their natural behaviours were not distorted, so when released they all behaved in a much more natural way than their pet trade colleagues.

The ladies seemed to move throughout their new house and enclosure well, but then we noticed the same faces looking out of certain bedrooms over and over again. Cecilia, Veronica, and Hetti had not moved from the bedroom they were initially released into. Laura had made it into the tunnel inside the house,



Extra feeding

but was not leaving. It became a waiting game, making sure we met their needs in their chosen space until the door opened in their minds. One by one we would suddenly see them elsewhere, they were becoming free. Everyone except Veronica. Even with Jeremy gently encouraging her, she fiercely resisted moving into the next room. She continued to pace round the one room, round and round. She happily stopped her repetitive behaviour for a drink or treat from the Primate Care Staff, but as soon as the attention stopped she started again, a result of the years of solitary confinement in a small cage. One evening we saw Veronica in the same room, but she was walking club footed, we were concerned that she had seriously damaged her ankles. Watching a bit longer we saw that

The Ups & Downs

by Marina Kenyon

both ankles were the same and even her wrists were bent and she was walking on her forearms. Femke, the vet, checked her over and could only put her odd gait down to sore soles on her hands and feet. Veronica palms were not toughened by a life of wandering freely, but thin and soft from living in the small indoor cage. We gave her a little pain relief and the next morning to our relief she was walking normally again. Over the next few weeks we had many individuals with sore feet, carrying a limb, or sometimes we found small cuts, but usually just sore skin and joints from all the increased activity and exploring.



Food preparation

The extra space and resulting exercise lead to weight loss for most individuals. Many of the capuchins arrived on the tubby side, but we soon noticed that the weight was falling off. We started on a feeding mission – more carbohydrates and proteins. The amount of food the 94 capuchins were eating was a lot, but to guarantee everyone got their fill, we made sure that too much food was provided in order to ensure that even the quietest individuals had ample access to food. Scarlet, one of the dark females lost a lot of weight and quite a bit of hair. As the social hierarchy began to develop, there was lots of grooming and lots of hair was being removed. Now we had skinny, hairless capuchins to worry about! Each day we kept to our mission, until it finally became apparent that all the extra feeding was working, the weight loss had stopped, and some were starting to put weight back on. The hair will take a little longer to put right but with the new outdoor lifestyle their hair is coming in thick and silky - phew!

Cappy Move

by Jeremy Keeling

Our original worries and expectations of our capuchin adventures very soon proved to be much easier and less traumatic than expected. The sheer numbers and unknown physiological wellbeing of our new guests lead us to be ready for WWII! In fact our lives were made allot easier by more passive reactions than we could have hoped for.

The girls had all been placed in the lodge, but we expected the group to splinter and individuals to move off into smaller groups. The boys were placed in the much larger stump-tailed macaque house, as we thought they would need more space in order to get along together. But, the females in the lodge were buzzing! Everywhere you looked there were capuchins,

meaning there was nowhere for someone to sit quietly. We realised with the larger group of 68 ladies that our group of 25 males were more suited to The Lodge and the girls to the much larger stump-tailed macaque house... so yes, we had it the wrong way round!

We knew it would be best if all animals were moved on one day to keep new friendships intact. So... we did it!!!! An early start and careful planning lead to a very smooth operation of boxing and moving 93 people to different homes (only 93 as TJ did not need to move). Pickford's would have been proud! Our mission was a complete success and our "cappies" seem more than contented with the results.



Jeremy meets one of the boys



The New Boys in Town

by Hannah George

Of the 88 capuchins, 22 were male. The first stage of the introductions was to take the seven youngsters and a handful of the older, quieter boys to their new home in the Macaque Rehabilitation Centre.

I remember Ercio, formally known as 123, he seemed so scared hiding in the bottom of his cage. He has now become a tearaway, running amuck within everyone in the group. The youngsters, Fabion, Franco, Philippe, Onslow, Ercio, Donny and William went together without a hitch with their playful non-aggressive temperament. The first group of adult males was Gorilon, Garbonzo, Diez and Sunny. At 30 years old, Gorilon has become the boss. He has a gentle heart, has greeted all new arrivals kindly, and is excellent with the kids.

The adult introductions progressed so well that we felt comfortable bringing four more individuals into the house: Reg, Boyce, Ringo and Bruce. Again their interactions with each other were positive and non confrontational, with nine adult males together and seven youngsters together, over a two day period we felt on the third day we should let the two groups join. We suspected the youngsters would add a playful distraction to the adult male's activities, and this was the case. Witnessing these animals interact with each other for the first time is something that I will never forget. There were moments of complete confusion, nervousness and joy as the rough and tumble bachelor attitudes developed.



With seven more lab boys to go and of course not forgetting our existing residents, Tom, TJ and Gizmo, plus our new arrival Caesar (ex pet), we were feeling confident to continue the progression of the group. First to be added to the mix were Shaun, Norman, Joey and Winslow, followed by Ralph and our very own Tom, who was nervous at first but has always shown a passive friendly attitude to the others. Finally, the last leg of new arrivals, Marlow, Archie, Caesar, and Gizmo, made our bachelor capuchin group complete, except for TJ. He appeared to find it difficult socialising with young ones, and whenever he was able to get along side of Tom, he would lash out at any of the lab monkeys that passed.

Although not without incident, the group is getting along well, alliances have been made and broken, friendships cemented. TJ has now happily taken up residence with the ladies, and only a small handful of individuals have yet to comprehend the space that is on offer, as they limit themselves to confined spaces indoors at the Lodge. Each day we can see improvements and steps being taken forward in their new lives together.

Tom, TJ & Gizmo

by Hannah George



TJ has always been a strong character, and during the introductions with the new boys, this became even more apparent.

TJ continued to have behavioural issues with several of the youngsters, especially when he was at Tom's side,

so we decided to pause for a rethink and a break for the monkeys. It was during this time that the big move of house for the capuchins was happening. The idea that maybe TJ would like to live with the girls, and the girls might like to live with TJ occurred. A few days later TJ was happily living with the ladies. He has made many new friends and seems to always have a different lady at his side. Tom and Gizmo are beginning to settle in with

their new housemates too. Tom, as we all suspected, took it in his stride (while eating). With his relaxed attitude to life Tom has had many grooming sessions with new members of the group and is happy with the new busy goings on, although sometimes looks mentally exhausted from the increased complexity of life. Gizmo, being a more complex and delicate chap, has taken a little longer. We have all paid close attention to his interaction within the group making sure he had the time and space he needs. Slowly but surly Gizmo is befriending individuals such as Onslow and Ralph, with chasing play sessions around cardboard boxes to long sunny grooming sessions on the ledge.



Tom and Shaun

In the Wild



Wild distribution of Capuchin monkeys

Capuchins in the wild have one of the widest distributions of any new world primate through Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia the Guiana's and Brazil, to Southern Paraguay and Northern Argentina, living in primary and secondary rainforests to semi-deciduous lowland and montane habitats.

In the wild capuchins are threatened by habitat loss, with large areas of forest lost to ranches, or broken up into fragments, which animals can not travel between or escape hunting. Capuchins are also hunted for meat. Indigenous people, especially if they live far from rivers and are unable to fish, hunt monkeys for an important source of protein, with infants taken as pets, locally and for the international pet trade, which unfortunately still includes the UK. Capuchins have also been taken from the wild to be experimented on in laboratories for immunology, reproductive biology, neuroscience and pharmacological studies. Capuchins, living up to 40 years, can spend all this time in solitary confinement.

Capuchins have evolved to live in the wild, not confined in captivity. They have largest relative brain size of any new world monkey, and in some measures have a larger relative brain size than the great apes. They are the only non-ape primate to be a habitual tool user; for example using sticks as probes and rocks as anvils to access otherwise unobtainable foods. The larger brains are partly a response to capuchins being highly social, living in large and complex group. In the wild capuchins live in multi-male multi-female groups ranging from 4-40 individuals.

The need for primates and especially capuchins to have companions is very strong, despite the risks involved in group formation and the integration of individuals into groups; studies have shown that when two capuchins meet, the need for a friend takes precedence over gaining access to food, even when hungry. Females tend to spend there whole life within the same group, developing strong female bonds, while males or even a band of males emigrate from their natal group as early as 2 years of age, and join a new group.

Capuchins do not have clear linear dominance hierarchies like that found in macaques; the alpha individual is clear but numbers 2, 3, 4, & 5 are always changing. To deal with constantly changing group dynamics, complex behaviours have developed, enabling them to reconcile very quickly after a squabble. With well-developed facial muscles, capuchins have very expressive faces. A wide variety of body postures convey an array of messages. Head tilting, holding one hand close to the chest-changing side to side is often for appeasement or reassurance. Raising the eyebrows is friendship behaviour, while eyebrow flash, the eyebrows rising up and down quickly is aggressive. Another way capuchins communicate is through calls. A travelling, foraging group of capuchins in nature call almost constantly, with trilling, twittering, peeping and cooing sounds; over 30 acoustically different calls have been found in one species of capuchin alone.

Wild capuchin food is dominated by fruits, with seeds, nectar from flowers, juicy pith from palm fronds, leaves, bark, insects, small birds, squirrels, and coati included in the diet. Recent reports from the wild have found capuchins to capture young porcupines, but this may be more mischievous play rather than food gathering. Some of their prey requires processing before eating, for example capuchins partially pluck birds before consuming them and males practice teamwork in hunting. Overall capuchins specialise in finding and extracting hidden and embedded insects e.g., larvae of beetles, scorpions, centipedes, millipedes, stick insects and grasshoppers. They place their ear to a branch, and tap with a finger while listening, if an embedded insect or frog moves in response, the monkeys then break off the branch and bite it open.

The number of species and subspecies in capuchins is still much debated, due to a high natural variability found within the same species, even within the same group. It is generally considered to include eight species, found in two groups. The "tufted" group containing five species: all of these have tufts on the top of their head, though their size, shape and colour can vary considerably with age, sex and geographic origin. The second group is "untufted" containing 3 species.

PARK UPDATE



Zoey's baby, Kim

Golden-cheeked Gibbons

Zoey gave birth on the 31st March to a healthy baby girl and although a little too relaxed at the start she is now a very caring mother. Within 2 weeks of being born Jake was allowed close and able to touch and play with his first infant who has been named Kim.

Stump-tailed macaques and lemurs

Roland, Koko and Gerald have moved into a new house, the old capuchin house, with new companions. Four female ring-tailed lemurs, Tibet, Kirindy, Fennel, and Rudy have joined them and the two very different species are happy living together but ignoring each other.

Orang-utans

Amy is expecting another infant as part of the European breeding programme for Bornean orang-utans (EEP) and is due in October.

Woolly Monkeys

Bueno's group is rapidly expanding. Yarima has successfully given birth to her second infant, Inca, a little female born on March 21st.



Yarima and Inca

She is an experienced mother and thus is very relaxed with her second baby. The group has been moved to the new Barn Enclosure, with a great outside area that is closer to Levar's woolly monkey group. The two groups now call back and forth to each other. There have been two other additions to the group including five-year-old Lena the daughter of Levar who has come of age and was ready to leave her natal group and Paulo,

now over 6 months old. He has joined Bueno's group full-time and is proving to be a very confident little fellow. Xingu is especially fond of him and always wants to play.

Hananya's Community

At seven-years-old Ben and Pip were ready to graduate from the nursery group. They have moved in to Hananya's group and are well on their way to living with the whole of the group.

