LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

With the help of many kind donations, we have been able to remodel all of the chimp enclosures during the past summer and autumn.

The climbing frames in all five chimp enclosures have been rebuilt and expanded. For the barbar macaques we built a large wading pool and rebuilt their climbing frame. We also rebuilt and expanded the pig-tail enclosure and we hope to do the same with the capuchin and vervet enclosures. Most importantly we now need a big push for ‘Banghi’s’ Nose Appeal. Please remember we operate a 100% fund. This means that all of your donation money goes to the project you specify - absolutely no administrative costs are taken out.

The park has also had a face lift. The gardens have been tidied and lots of bulbs, roses, and bushes planted. An observation tower was built which over looks ‘Rodney’s’, ‘Chico’s’, and the barbar macaque enclosures. Pets encounter was also redone so that the animals can get away from the public if they want. Also in the visitors centre we built a small education area which gives information about our rescue and rehabilitation work as well as information about wild chimps and the threats they face.

During the past few months the animals have received many donations. Several people have either sent or brought in vitamins. School kids have organised bake sales, sponsored reads, sponsored silences, and collected money by going door to door educating people of the animal’s plight. A special thank you goes to Sarah Mussell who is the adopted parent of many chimps and regularly organises fund raising events.

Most importantly, we have rescued FIVE baby chimps over the summer. Four from Israel and one from Spain. The Israeli Society for the Abolition of Vivisection helped with some of the transportation costs and most importantly we, and the babies, are indebted to Dr Tamar Ron from the Israeli Nature Reserves Authority who organised and battled for the babies to come to Monkey World.

We are also indebted to Dr Jane Goodall, of the Jane Goodall Institute, and Dr Shirley McGreal, of the International Primate Protection League for their unqualified support and help in bringing the Israeli babies to Monkey World.

Alison Cronin MA
Scientific Director

FIVE RESCUED!!

On 28 August four, male baby chimpanzees (Tikko, Semach, Hananya, and Gypsy) finally made it to Monkey World after a long battle. One month later, on 26 September, another young, male (Simon) arrived at the park from Spain. All five are now in the nursery and settling down nicely.

Three of the Israeli babies. ‘Tikko’, ‘Semach’, and ‘Hananya’, had been smuggled out of Africa to be sold for the illegal pet trade when the Israeli authorities confiscated them from a known animal smuggler. The babies were temporarily housed at the Tisch Family Zoological Gardens, along with ‘Gypsy’ who was born there. Problems arose when an individual, in Israel, who owns and runs a laboratory primate breeding centre, tried to pressure the government to give the babies to him. Thankfully the Nature Reserves Authority realised Monkey World was the best place for the animal’s future.

When they first arrived, we tried to put the Israeli four into ‘Rodney’s’ group. Initially they were introduced to ‘Susie’ who shows a lot of maternal instincts with ‘Athena’. She was wonderful with the new babies, opened her arms to them, and when they got scared, ‘Susie’ simply covered them until they settled down. ‘Cathy’ was then let in with ‘Susie’ and the babies. While ‘Cathy’ was friendly, she got too excited at the prospect of playing with the youngsters and frightened them. When the babies tried to run away, ‘Cathy’ chased them. At that point we decided that it would be best for the babies to spend a year or so in the nursery.

‘Simon’ was rescued from a petrol station in Spain where he was chained to a post. He was then transferred to our halfway house where Simon Templer took good care of him. We were concerned that ‘Simon’ might have difficulty getting on with other chimps since he had been on his own for so long. However, our concerns were unfounded. ‘Simon’ is one of the most astute chimps we have ever had and has figured out that the best way forward is to stay on the right side of ‘Sally’. He spends a lot of his time outside on the climbing frame and is often seen following and grooming ‘Sally’.

The nursery is now a hive of activity and we are happy to say that everyone is getting along fabulously. ‘Arfur’ and ‘Jess’ enjoy playing with the new chimps and even the very spoiled, baby ‘Bob’ seems to have found some new friends, particularly with ‘Semach’. ‘Sally’ has taken the additions in her stride and while she makes it abundantly clear she is the one in charge, she is now the role model for eight baby chimpanzees.

Photos from top to bottom: ‘Five Rescued’ - Semach; Tikko; Gypsy; Hananya and Simon.
IN THE LAST ISSUE THE NURSERY GROUP AND RODNEY’S GROUP WAS COVERED. SINCE THEN WE HAVE RESCUED MORE BABY CHIMPS. IN THIS ISSUE CHICO’S GROUP AND THE NEW ARRIVALS ARE COVERED, LEAVING TWO GROUPS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.

CHICO’S GROUP

‘CHICO’ - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 06/07/91 and we estimate he was born during 1985. ‘Chico’ is the largest, dominant male in the group. He was part of an ongoing court case, as the photographer was not willing to give him up. The court case lasted for five years and during this time he stayed at the half-way house. ‘Chico’ used to make his dominant position clear by bullying, now he has matured and mellowed and has become a good group leader. ‘Chico’ is famous for meeting Anika Rice (BBC TV) in Spain at which time he smeared her lovely lyca suit with his own muck.

‘ROCKY’ - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 05/07/91 and we estimate he was born during 1989. ‘Rocky’ has a boyish face and a round head. While being used on the beaches, he was a valium addict and has now fully recovered. ‘Rocky’ has settled in well and is comfortable with his status in the group. He gets on well with everyone in the group and appears to be very close to ‘Peggy’.

‘MOJO’ - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived on 05/07/91 and we estimate he was born in 1988. ‘Mojo’ has markings like a mask on his face which may be because he originates from a specific region of West Africa. Like ‘Rocky’ he was a valium addict when he first arrived. ‘Mojo’ is a real lad but tends to keep himself out of trouble. He gets on well with the females.

‘MONA’ - A female, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived on 05/07/91 and we estimate she was born during 1983. ‘Mona’ has a very dark face, looks old, and her back is hunched over. She was owned by a drug addict who also made her an addict. On arrival she was in a poor state suffering from malnutrition. She also suffered from a mild form of diabetes which caused her to have cataracts in both her eyes. ‘Mona’s vision is poor and on sunny days she holds her hand up against her face so she can see better. Despite all her problems she has a strong character and is the dominant female. ‘Mona’ is small for her age as a result of her poor treatment in the past. Her previous owner kept her in a small wooden box when she was not being used and ‘Mona’ is now left with the permanent scars of bad hips and a hunched body.

‘CHATTA’ - A female, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived at the park on 06/07/91 and we estimate she was born during 1989. ‘Chatta’ has a pale face, bald forehead, and large lips. She was looked after for a while by a Spanish vet, who implanted her with a microchip so if she were stolen and returned she might be identified. On arrival she was very small so she was hand reared by Jeremy Keeling and fed on her milk that he introduced to the group. ‘Chatta’ gets on well with the others and is very close to ‘Peggy’.

‘PEGGY’ - A female, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived at the park on 06/07/91 and we estimate she was born during 1989. ‘Peggy’ is the smallest in the group, has a dark face, and a torn ear. She is a nervous character and very unsure of herself. Over the years she has gained more confidence, has made friends with ‘Chico’, and is very close with ‘Chatta’. ‘Peggy’ was named after Peggy Templar who ran the half-way house in Barcelona.

Below: ‘Rocky’ second in charge of ‘Chico’s group’
It was a warm, sunny morning, at 10.00 am on 19 July, when walking past ‘Rodney’s’ group I heard warning calls coming from ‘Rodney’ and ‘Charlie’. All of the group, except ‘Rodney’, ‘Charlie’, ‘Susie’ and ‘Cathy’ were up the ‘pole jungle’ looking down at the area just behind the bank where there are two tunnels. I went to investigate, and this is what I witnessed.

‘Rodney’ and ‘Charlie’ were up on the bank shouting warning calls, while ‘Susie’ and ‘Cathy’ were in the grass looking intently at the ground. ‘Susie’ was hitting at an area of long grass with ‘Cathy’ standing close by. The hair was erect on all four, and they looked very impressive. Suddenly ‘Susie’ grabbed something in the tall grass, and without any hesitation picked it up and threw it. It looked like a snake. The way ‘Susie’ had thrown it, she obviously knew exactly what to do. The rest of the group were all puffed up, shouting and waving their arms. ‘Susie’ then went over to where the snake landed and without any hesitation picked it up and threw it again.

At about 10.15 am the two big males were still safety on the bank, out of harms way, still puffed up and calling. ‘Susie’ once again went over to where the snake had landed, stood by it shouting, and then started poking at it. This continued for another two minutes until she was satisfied that it was dead. ‘Susie’ then calmed down, her hair became normal, and she moved away. By this time the calling from the ‘pole jungle’ had stopped and ‘Rodney’ and ‘Charlie’ sat quietly, still up on the hill out of danger’s reach! ‘Cathy’, who had been just a few paces away from ‘Susie’, came over and poked the snake a few times before bending right down to smell it. Satisfied, she went off on her way.

It was not any of the large males or other females who then came over to investigate but instead the two smallest members of the group, ‘Athena’ and ‘Gambo’. ‘Athena’ was first, but both youngsters touched and smelled the carcass. ‘Olympia’, trying to look impressive, swung the poles shouting and charged over with all her hair erect, only to have a look.

It was now 10.30 am and with the excitement over I had to go to prepare the evening feed. Looking back to the enclosure, nearly everyone was off of the poles while ‘Rodney’ and ‘Charlie’ were together at the far end of the enclosure. At 5.30 pm, after everyone had gone to bed inside, I decided to check for what was left of the snake. I wanted to identify the species, expecting it to be either a large slow worm or a grass snake. Searching through the grass in its last known location, I found the snake in question. Although dead, it was in perfect condition and to my surprise, an adder approximately 40 cm long. ‘Rodney’s’ group were checked that night for any swellings which might indicate a snake bite; luckily there were none.

All in all, a very exciting experience for us all with the heroine of the day being ‘Susie’.

MONKEY BUSINESS

Monkeys are classified as Anthropoidea which includes monkeys and apes (see A.R.C. No2). They can be divided into two different groups based upon where they come from. Platyrhine monkeys are from the new world, or South and Central America, and include animals such as squirrel, howler, and spider monkeys.

Catarhine monkeys come from Asia and Africa and include animals such as baboons, macaques, and colobus monkeys. The two groups can be distinguished by their noses and ears! The Platyrhines have sideways opening nostrils while Catarhine nostrils point downwards. When viewed from behind, the Catarhines have ischial callosities, or hard pads of skin on which they sit. The new world monkeys do not have these.

While Monkey World primarily rescues chimpanzees, we have also rescued many monkeys. Currently we have five groups of monkey in the park: barbary macaques, pig-tailed macaques, capuchins, and vervets (we also have three groups of lemurs, but they are prosimians not monkeys). The macaques and vervets are Catarhines and the capuchins are Platyrhine. The pig-tailed macaques were given to us from a laboratory which had planned to put them down, the capuchins were rescued and brought to us by
**CHRISTMAS APPEAL!**

A big effort needs to be made to raise money for 'Banghi's Nose Appeal'. We have developed plans for a new house and enclosure for 'Amy' and 'Banghi' and have cleared the site. We will build along side of the old orang enclosure, near the children's slide. It will include a sun roof style ceiling, multiple dens, humidifier/heater unit, and a large outdoor area with a jetty onto the pond. Now we urgently need your help! Please send all donations to 'Banghi's Nose', at Monkey World. If you would like more information, please write or phone.

Adopt a chimp or monkey for Christmas. It makes an ideal present and the recipient gets a year's pass to the park, a photo of their animal, a certificate, and of course the Ape Rescue Chronicle three times per year. Donate goods and help us to look after the monkeys and apes. The animals love foods such as fruit and vegetables, bread, rusk, and nuts. At this time of year the primates especially need cod liver oil and vitamin C. We are constantly changing and adding to the climbing frames and can always use more rope, cargo nets, wooden poles, steel sheeting, weld mesh, and nuts and bolts.

**NEXT ISSUE....**
The next Ape Rescue Chronicle will be out in Spring 1997, and will include the articles: Personal Primates part 3; Malagasy; and Monkey or Prosimian: What's in a name?