Letter From the Editor

Over the winter we have all been preparing for Monkey World’s 10th anniversary season. The visitor’s Centre has been expanded and re-decorated to include a conservatory, a new cafeteria, and an modernised shop. On the animal side, we built the Nursery Nine an entirely new climbing frame with a 30ft tower, a wading pool, and rope bridges. A new siamang gibbon house has also been built and a pair of gibbons will be with us by Easter.

I had hoped to include the articles ‘Malagasy’ and ‘Monkey or Prosimian’ in this issue, but we have not quite completed the new enclosure for the lemurs yet. It will be very exciting to see the lemurs roaming free in the woodland and visitors will be able to walk amongst them. We anticipate that Malagasy will be open by the end of June and the articles will feature in the next issue.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Laurie Parkin at the end of last year. Laurie had worked at Monkey World over the past couple of years as a sound-man, helping to make videos of the chimps. He donated his time for free and his interest and care for the animals, and their cause, was clear to us all. In his memory, Laurie’s life long friend and partner, Joe Phillips, has launched the Laurie Parkin Education Centre fund in order to build a multimedia centre at Monkey World (see ‘Appeals and Completions’). Laurie will be greatly missed by us all.

Lastly, many thanks go to all our supporters. We have received donations of vitamins and financial help with our appeals. Sadly there are still many more chimps that need our help. We are hoping that our 10th year will be the most productive for ape rescue yet. Please help us to help our closest living relatives.

Alison Cronin, MA
Scientific Director

New Horizons

On the Move!

On Friday, 7 March we moved Paddy’s and Chico’s groups; 14 chimpanzees all at once! It was decided that the best way forward for the two groups was for them to swap enclosures. The reason for the move is a complicated one and it all begins with Rodney, the dominant male in a totally different group. Rodney, who is currently in charge of 15 other chimpanzees, is 28 years old and the four dominant females in his group are now starting to challenge his authority.

If the females were to take over the group, it is likely that the entire social structure would collapse into anarchy. Thus, we decided that as in the wild, the group would be stabilised if a new, stronger male were to take over the group. The most likely candidate for this position was clearly Paddy, who at 17 has always been a very stable, dominant male in charge of a group of eight (see Personal Primates).

We decided the best way forward was to integrate Rodney’s and Paddy’s groups and let the boys sort it out amongst themselves. By putting Paddy’s group into Chico’s old enclosure, they are now in the perfect position to be introduced to Rodney’s group through the “Tunnel of Fun” which thanks to many kind donations, Jeremy Keeling was able to complete. Once Paddy’s group have become familiar with their new surroundings, they will be brought together with the group of 16. The new supergroup will have the run of two, 2 acre enclosures, 3 pavilions, and 16 bedrooms.

There was another benefit to swapping the group’s enclosures. By moving Chico’s group up by the Nursery and Visitor’s Centre, there is now the possibility of introducing the Nursery nine to Chico’s six in the future. The move went exceptionally well and all fourteen are settling in to their new environment. The only chimp who sulked all the next day, refusing to come out into the new enclosure was Chico, but he has since got over his bad mood and is back to his normal, dominant self. Stay tuned for future developments!

When we move chimps they get full medical check ups.

Left: Paddy’s teeth showed no sign of decay. Centre: Beth came to us missing 4 toes from her right foot. This probably happened when she was stolen from her mother in Africa. Right: Heather Foster from Hampshire Constabulary, hand and foot printed a few of the chimps as part of a project.
Finally, the remaining two groups of chimpanzees, Paddy's and the Bachelors.

**Paddy’s Group**

*Paddy* - The dominant male of the group who is an ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate he was born during 1980. ‘Paddy’ is the largest member of the group with silver hair on his back. When he arrived, he contented with his own company and did not get involved with the others. He is now a successful group leader. ‘Paddy’ keeps a close eye on his group making his status known only when absolutely necessary. He often displays to the others by standing his hair on end, charging around, and making as much noise as possible by hitting barrels, platforms, and sometimes other chimps! ‘Paddy’ only resorts to corporal punishment when all else fails.

*Sammy* - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate he was born during 1982. ‘Sammy’ has droopy ears, freckles, and has scars which are due to cigarette burns received by his previous owner when he misbehaved. One of his favourite activities is displaying on a platform; with a great leap, he pounds and stomps his feet. ‘Sammy’ is not very bright however he is a nice natured character and manages to stay out of trouble. He appears to be unaware of any politics within the group. ‘Sammy’ is a likeable member within the group, always managing to have a good time.

*Busta* - A male, ex-circus and beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate he was born during 1980. ‘Busta’ is thin, dark, and lanky. When he first arrived he was quiet, but over the years it has become apparent to us that he has a problem with not being in charge of the group. Because of his size he does not have a chance of competing with Paddy.

*Jimmy* - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate he was born during 1983. ‘Jimmy’ has a very prominent eyebrow; like a caveman! When he first arrived he was the most humanised of the group and wanted to socialise with humans rather than other chimpanzees. He has now integrated within the group and gets on well with the other members.

*Micky* - A male, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. He arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate he was born during 1982. ‘Micky’ is the smallest member of the group and is brownish. When he first arrived he was very shy keeping himself to himself at all times. Now he always stands up for his rights and he has proved to be a self assured character.

*Cindy* - A female, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate she was born during 1979. ‘Cindy’ is brown, has three nipples, and a front tooth missing. When she was used on the beaches she was forced to wear sandals and as a result she had difficulty in walking.

When Monkey World started ten years ago, there were an estimated two hundred chimpanzees working the resorts of southern Spain; now we know of one being used as a photographer’s prop in Malaga.

With Simon and Peggy Templar, Monkey World helped the Spanish Authorities to stop this illegal trade. You can help by letting us know if you ever see any primates being used in this way.

Useful information to assist Monkey World in rescuing a primate would include:-
1. A candid photo of the photographer and chimp or monkey.
2. The registration of the photographer’s car.
3. Details of where and when the chimp or monkey was being used.

Her general health was extremely poor and she suffered from malnutrition. ‘Cindy’s’ rehabilitation was slow so she remained at the Templar’s half-way house for a long time. Now she is a strong, has an outgoing character, and holds the position of dominant female.

*Zoe* - A female ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate she was born during 1983. ‘Zoe’ has a wrinkly face and often sucks on her cheeks. The sucking motions may be a result of being taken from her mother at such a young age. When she first arrived she was active, outgoing, and appeared to be very bright. As she has matured her personality has changed into an ordinary, laid back character who does not seem to be particularly bright.

*Beth* - A female, ex-beach chimpanzee from Spain. She arrived at the park on 13/07/87 and we estimate she was born during 1982. ‘Beth’ has hair loss on her arms, pointy ears, and toes missing on her right foot. She arrived at the half-way house in a poor state; the injuries on her foot probably a result of being captured by a snare or shot. Her wounds were infected and she was suffering from malnutrition. When ‘Beth’ arrived she was in the worst physical and mental condition, compared to the others. She is the lowest ranking individual in the group but this does not stop her from enjoying life and having fun with the others.
Winter Chimps
by Dave Simmons

'Sally' plays with a block of ice during the winter.

One of the most asked questions keepers get during the winter is “what to the chimps do when there is snow and ice?”. In short, they love a bit of snow now and again. They listen to it crunch underfoot, they fall in it, play with it, and the chimps have also been seen eating snow.

When we first let the chimps out in the morning after it has snowed, its quite a shocking experience for the animals. It is obviously a surprise to see a pure white enclosure which only the day before was green and overgrown. The smaller members of the group are usually the first out; maybe because they are less scared, but perhaps more likely, because they are “volunteered” into going out first and checking if its safe for the rest of the group. Some of our chimps like to eat snow and ice more than others. Sammy enjoys scraping even a small amount of ground frost together, to form a ball, then eating it as if it were an apple.

The ponds in Chico’s Group froze over this year and some of the group enjoyed skating on top of the ice. Chatta, Peggy and Rocky would run from their large climbing apparatus towards a pond, and on contact with the ice, would try and change direction. Their legs were running but they would not be moving the direction they were facing. That was until they reached the edges, where they could get a grip, and off they would go.

Throughout the summer and winter, the chimps have access to both indoor and outdoor enclosures; the choice is theirs. During winter months the inside enclosures are heated to 20°C and during the summer they are vented to the same.

Rescue Requests

Over the past few months Monkey World - Ape Rescue Centre has been asked to rescue eleven chimpanzees and two monkeys. Currently we are following up on requests, negotiating with foreign governments, and in the end, Monkey World will rescue as many as possible.

Russia -
Two baby chimps smuggled for the illegal pet trade
One baby chimp in a Moscow pet shop

New Zealand -
Two chimps in a circus, Lola who is 32 years old and her infant

Germany -
Three chimps in a zoo

Spain -
One chimp being used a photographer’s prop

Thailand -
Two baby chimps smuggled for the illegal pet trade

Philippines -
Two drill monkeys
Appeals and Completions

The donation money Monkey World receives goes to nothing but the projects specified and primate rescue and rehabilitation work. We operate a 100% fund which means the monkeys and apes benefit from ALL of your support; we take no administrative costs. To date we have appealed for help with the ‘Tunnel of Fun’, the ‘Israel Connection’, ‘Saving Simon’, and ‘Banghi’s Nose’. Last summer we were able to rescue ‘Simon’ and the four Israeli babies and as of the beginning of March, Jeremy Keeling finished the ‘Tunnel of Fun’. We hope that with your help, we will have enough funding to complete Amy and Banghi’s new house this summer.

Monkey World has also started a memorial fund for the Laurie Parkin Education Centre. We have already received many kind donations which will be put toward a centre with a small video theatre, lecture room, multi-media centre, and educational material. Please help us to educate future generations on conservation and welfare of the world’s monkeys and apes.

It is time again for the 2nd Annual Pedal for Primates. Last year the bike ride went extremely well and the sponsorships helped to rescue the Israeli babies. We are now in the planning stages for this year’s ride, on 22 June, and are in need of volunteers to help with the organisation of the event and on the day. We are planning a 25 mile ride and a 50 mile ride for those who really want to PUSH, PANT, and PEDAL for PRIMATES. For more details and entry forms contact the secretary at Monkey World.

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

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, or bread. The primates also need vitamins and minerals such as cod liver oil, primrose oil, and vitamin C.

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

BOB’S BIRTHDAY

On 27 January Bob was three years old. Over the past couple of years he has received a few birthday cards, but this year was exceptional. Packages arrived from all over the country, and at lunch time we organised for Bob to open his presents. He had to be separated from the rest of the group, so that his presents were not stolen, but he did not seem to mind. He got squeaky toys, fruit, dog pulls, balls, cards, a frisbee, vitamins, and a fruit cake. Bob loved all of the colourful and tasty presents and after half an hour we let the others back in to the house. He was instantly mugged, but everyone carried on playing for the rest of the afternoon. A truly successful birthday party!

‘Bob’ checks out all his birthday presents.

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