For those of you saying 'I do’ Monkey World style, we have teamed up with the park to provide the perfect setting for your evening wedding reception.

Springfield is set in six acres of beautiful landscaped gardens at the foot of the Purbeck Hills.

The ideal place to relax and unwind and perfectly situated for exploring our World Heritage Coastline, Kimmeridge and Lulworth Cove. At Springfield we have combined the atmosphere of a country house with all the facilities of a modern hotel to create an establishment that credits the beautiful Dorset countryside that it serves.

We also boast a Leisure Centre, with a newly refurbished Gym, Heated Indoor Pool as well as a Heated Outdoor Pool which is open during Summer months.

www.thespringfield.co.uk.
In the middle of January, I was contacted by the RSPCA to find out if Monkey World could help by re-homing two pairs of adult common marmosets that had been ordered to be confiscated after their previous owners had been convicted on cruelty charges at Dudley Magistrates Court. The couple had bred one of the pairs of marmosets and sold a crippled 4 month old baby via a newspaper advert. The baby was in terrible condition with bent/broken limbs and a shattered pelvis as a result of not getting any sunlight and not being fed the appropriate diet – the baby was crippled with rickets. The infant had to be put down.

The problem was that Monkey World was already home to 12 other common marmosets and as they live in tight knit family groups, it is not possible to add others to existing groups. All of our marmoset accommodation was full with others that we have rescued from the UK pet trade or from laboratories. It was a real problem for the RSPCA as the marmosets needed to be moved immediately but there was nowhere for them to go to receive the professional specialised care that they required.

Following a chat with our Primate Care Staff and Maintenance Team, we decided that we could prepare some temporary cages for the two pairs of marmosets that would meet their needs and be better than the dark garden sheds where they currently lived. We told RSPCA that we could care for the marmosets in the short-term and we could discuss their long-term care and future.

On January 23rd Jeremy and I headed off to Stourbridge to collect the 4 marmosets – Bubble & Squeak and Gismo & Lucky. The trip went smoothly and it was a pretty easy job to catch the marmosets in the small sheds. The two pairs have settled well at the park. They are getting the essential nutrition that they need and have new homes that are warm and full of branches and nest baskets.

In terms of the future... we have already started recycling the old orang-utan nursery cabin to be refitted for many pairs of marmosets! Watch this space.

By Alison Cronin

**The STourbridge Four**

We need YOUR help!

**Petition Against the UK Primate Pet Trade**

For many years Monkey World has been rescuing monkeys from the LEGAL pet trade in Britain. These unfortunate monkeys come to us often in terrible physical and mental condition having been kept in tiny, indoor cages, in solitary confinement. Some of the worst conditions we have ever rescued primates from have been in the UK. This trade is legal however, as long as the monkeys are born in captivity breeders are able to sell the offspring at high prices asking up to £1300 for a marmoset, £2700 for a squirrel monkey and up to £4000 for a capuchin monkey.

Sadly there is little in the way of legislation protecting the welfare of these wild animals. Breeders often sell monkeys, telling unknowing buyers that the animals do not have any special needs and that they will only live for a couple of years. Both statements are untrue but without any legal standards of care the monkeys are left to suffer in terrible conditions. You may remember Betty-Boo, the marmoset who lived in a birdcage for years in a Southampton sitting room, Gismo the capuchin that lived in an Ipswich garden shed and due to the poor conditions amputated part of his own tail. More recently we have rescued Samantha and Fidget the squirrel monkeys from a caravan and a garden centre while Uncas and Alice the cotton-top tamarins were bounced from owner to owner in a birdcage. These monkeys were all LEGALLY approved pet monkeys in the UK.

We are asking all our visitors and supporters again, to sign a petition telling the government that this is a terrible trade, causing suffering to hundreds of captive monkeys, and that you do not support the current legislation. The petition states:

“I would like to state my opposition to the legal trade in primates as pets in Great Britain today. We believe that it is the responsibility of the government to ensure that any captive monkeys receive a standard of care that meets their behavioural and physical needs regards of whether they are kept in private homes or pet shops. We are asking the British Government to issue guidance to local authorities, responsible for granting licences for these exotic pets, to use the same standard of duty of care as they would for primates kept in zoos or wildlife parks (the Zoo Licensing Act). If a monkey is deserving of a certain standard of care in a zoo or wildlife park, by definition it is deserving of the same standard of care in a private home or pet shop. We would like our concerns addressed by the Government and Select Committee immediately.”

Please help by signing our petition and getting in touch if you are able to help with collecting more signatures. Information is available on our website and we are happy to send out copies to any of you who can help. You can also approach your MP to see if they will sign the petition and help to stop the legalised cruelty in Britain today!

We are hopeful that your opinions will matter and changes will be made to the laws that govern the keeping of primates as pets in Britain. We will keep you posted.
You would think, with the regular arrival of babies in our three groups of woolly monkeys, that the primate care staff are no longer surprised when it is time to welcome another new arrival. However, Piquita giving birth at the start of this year was a surprise to us all.

Piquita has always been a very relaxed mum and allowed her previous baby Ayla to become independent fairly quickly. Being the daughter of the dominant male and female, she was secure in her position as the princess of the group. All that changed however, on the morning of January 16th when Primate Care Staff arrived and found Piquita had given birth overnight. Woolly monkey mums usually wean their offspring at 1½ to 2 years old and then become sexually receptive to the male again. Their gestation period is approximately 7 months. However, Ayla was a month shy of 2 years old when the baby arrived. This means Piquita conceived when Ayla was just over a year old. It is very difficult to tell when the woolly monkeys are pregnant as conventional pregnancy tests don’t work so we rely on monitoring their weight, seeing changes in the shape and size of their belly, and noticing changes in the expectant mum or other group members’ behaviour. Piquita, and the whole of Levar’s troop, kept this new baby a secret!

After getting over the shock of finding a perfectly healthy baby boy with Piquita, we turned our attention to Ayla to make sure she was coping with the dramatic change in her family circumstances. It quickly became clear that Ayla was no longer the princess of the group and she has had to adapt quickly to not having as much attention from Mum. She has been told off several times for being a bit too curious about her new baby brother and yanking his tail! A new arrival is something Ayla has never experienced before and she has made it clear she doesn’t like it! Branco has tried to reassure Ayla, but really all she wants is her mother to herself. As the baby gets older, Ayla will learn that she has gained a fantastic new playmate and the experience of watching her Mum raise her sibling will stand her in good stead when it is her time to have her own babies. And of course, for the Primate Care Staff, this experience has taught us to always expect the unexpected when it comes to these fantastic monkeys!

Peanut is growing up fast and has started to stray from mum and explore his surroundings. He has also started to pick up and eat small pieces of solid food after months of closely observing what Peanut eats. Tia Nang has been a very attentive big sister, grooming Teo and watching how mum looks after him. As Peanut is occupied with a new baby, both Tia Nang and Tien have been spending more time with their father Pung-Yo, playing and wrestling in the trees. Tien is fast approaching adulthood and has started singing a full male song.

**Our Newest Arrivals!**

Peanut in the trees with baby Teo

**Peanut Becomes a Mother of Three**

Teo is growing up fast and has started to stray from mum and explore his surroundings. He has also started to pick up and eat small pieces of solid food after months of closely observing what Peanut eats. Tia Nang has been a very attentive big sister, grooming Teo and watching how mum looks after him. As Peanut is occupied with a new baby, both Tia Nang and Tien have been spending more time with their father Pung-Yo, playing and wrestling in the trees. Tien is fast approaching adulthood and has started singing a full male song.

**Piquita Has a New Little Boy**

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**Visit the Monkey World Gift Shop, call us on 01929 401004 or go to www.monkeyworld.org for details or to order**
Six months post-release update on our two gibbon families

In August 2011 we released our first gibbons back to continuous forest. Since the initial rescue of the gibbons in 2008, they had health checks, learnt gibbon social behaviour; both pairs had an infant, and finally they learned to live in the trees. The final phase of their rehabilitation was free in continuous forest, finding their own food, staying away from noisy macaques, and starting to defend their territory where they will live for the rest of their lives.

Very few gibbons have been released back into the wild and if they survive is often not known. To make sure we could monitor our gibbon’s progress, and help them if necessary, both adult males, Da and Lee Lee, were fitted with GPS collars. Our in-field monitoring team, led by Mr Binh, made regular checks on the two families. From day one it became clear that gibbons are fairly timid, not necessarily travelling far but staying close to the release site. At the site we provided food up high on a feeding pulley. This type of ‘soft release’ gently pushes the gibbons to move off and search for food in their own time.

The two gibbon families had slightly different backgrounds that influenced their reaction to the wild. Lee Lee had been taken from the wild as an infant. We estimated he was 22 years old. His mate Merry, on the other hand, was very wild as she had been hunted illegally as an adult. We estimated she was 10 years old. Merry had had a full wild education, but when rescued, we found she had a paralysed leg and thus had to be cared for on Dao Tien until physically fit. Throughout their rehabilitation Merry led the way and Lee Lee happily trailed after her. The key to the pair’s survival was if Lee Lee would be able to keep up with Merry. With infant Noel the family unit was strong so we hoped that in this final phase Lee Lee would make it. Beyond all our expectations he stuck with his lady and travelled distances a wild gibbon would. Unlike Merry, who from the start managed to feed 100% on forest food, Lee Lee needed the daily food provisions to supplement his own foraging of leaves and fruit. In the first weeks the pair, where covering an area up to 100 hectares which was expected in an area of young regenerating forest. Merry was doing everything right leading her family back into the wild.

The situation for the second family, which included Da, Lat and Ngoan, was very different. The adults were both taken from the wild as infants and thus had no knowledge of how to survive. Following their release they stuck to the release cage, not travelling more than 50 metres away. Without daily provisioning the young family would not have survived. Lat was lactating for her young son Ngoan, so we did not want to push them too hard. We had to wait for the fruiting season and hope that the lure of wild fruits would tempt them away from the release area. Six months on and both gibbon families were travelling like wild gibbons, especially the infant Ngoan, travelling independently and leaping like a wild born infant. The food provided was being reduced and as the fruiting season approaches it will be the final seasonal lesson for our rehabilitated gibbons.

Then we had some devastating news - Lee Lee had died. He was doing well when one morning the team found him high up in a tree, sitting still, with the radio beacon sounding off. With secondary issues such as ‘coal miners lung’, the years of being held at a petrol station next to a generator had left him with an internal legacy that he could not forget and we could not make right for him. Although the team are devastated we all know that Lee Lee had finally made it back to the forest and left his son and partner free. Comfort is taken knowing that if we had left Lee Lee in captivity he still would have passed away. He had the opportunity to wake up in the highest trees in the forest. Sadly Thuy An has had her canine teeth broken in preparation for entering the pet trade, which means she is unfit for release. Sylvia and Son appear healthy though and we plan to release them back into the forest when the rains return in August. With wild loris populations decimated in Vietnam it is frightening that so many are still being hunted, putting this species at high risk of local extinction. The pet trade and traditional medicine are the biggest drivers for this illegal trade. In the next few months we will be conducting more wild surveys of pygmy loris and have students conducting interviews in local villages to the National Park to gain greater understanding of the illegal demand for loris in Southern Vietnam.

Pygmy lorises still abused for the illegal pet trade in Vietnam

During the last months we have rescued three more pygmy lorises from the illegal trade, two females, Thuy An and Sylvia, and a young male Son. All three were illegally hunted from the forest. Sadly Thuy An has had her canine teeth broken in preparation for entering the pet trade, which means she is unfit for release. Sylvia and Son appear healthy though and we plan to release them back into the forest when the rains return in August. With wild lorises populations decimated in Vietnam it is frightening that so many are still being hunted, putting this species at high risk of local extinction. The pet trade and traditional medicine are the biggest drivers for this illegal trade. In the next few months we will be conducting more wild surveys of pygmy loris and have students conducting interviews in local villages to the National Park to gain greater understanding of the illegal demand for loris in Southern Vietnam.

Three years on Thanh the black-shanked douc has won over his ladies

Thanh and Chinh were rescued from Suoi Tien Amusement Park in 2009 and were released onto Dao Tien. The dous, however, have been difficult to monitor over the years, especially as the adult female Chinh disappears as soon as she hears anything remotely human. This is an excellent response although it has meant we have never managed to get a photograph of the dous, until now! Chinh and Thanh were joined by a female, and her youngster, in 2010 and the four have become a small stable group. The key to this group is the coming of age of the young male Thanh. Thanh was released as an adolescent, following the older female. With an estimated weight of over 10kg, Thanh is now reaching full size. He has a magnificent pot belly, is commanding respect from his small group of ladies, and now behaves like a wild male douc, who, if found in the forest, alarm calls to the others. Thanh’s protective behaviour means that we are privileged to see him on a regular basis.

We believe that Chinh is now pregnant and the group will go from strength to strength as wild douc monkeys. Recently Monkey World keeper Sadie worked at Dao Tien and was lucky enough while out patrolling in the forest to see Thanh up close!
On January 19th we were busy in the Monkey World hospital. Primate Care Staff had noticed that Oaska, the woolly monkey, and Gismo, the capuchin, both had swellings on their faces that were flaring up from time to time. We have seen this condition with other monkeys and apes before when they had broken or rotten teeth. Dr John Lewis came to the park to work with our veterinarian, Mike Nathan, as the suspect teeth were both canines and their removal could take some time. Both monkeys did very well under anaesthetic and rotten canine teeth were removed from both Oaska and Gismo.

Bachelor Boys climbing frame was in desperate need of upgrading

Alex did a wonderful job, and you’ll be able to see her news reporting clip on the Animal Planet Magazine Website and the Monkey World website in the coming weeks.

Monkey Life Should Be On A Screen Near You!

Monkyle Life – Series 1, 2, 3 and 5 on Animal Planet
Our co-production partner, Animal Planet continues to delight audiences with Monkey Life throughout their worldwide territories.

Monkyle Life – Series 4 and 5 on Channel Five
Monkey Life will be shown late Summer of 2012 in the UK and Ireland. We will let you know exact dates and times closer to the time.

Monkyle Life – Series 4 on Nat Geo WILD
Series 4 will be shown on Nat Geo WILD again in April 2012. For up to date schedules, please check the broadcasters’ TV listings. We will post dates on the Monkey World website as they become available and we will keep you up to date with news on the Official Monkey Life Facebook page.

Monkey Life – Series 2 is still available free of charge on VOD service www.hulu.com

Monkey Life – Series 4 on DVD – coming soon!

For information or questions related to the Monkey Life TV series, please contact info@primateplanet.tv.
Kai is one of the luckiest young male orang-utans that I know. He had a good start in life, being reared by his own mother and playing with other adult orang-utans. He also spent his early years with Gordon as a role model. However, Gordon and Kai could not remain in the same group forever, so the decision was made to move Kai to the Orang-utan Crèche. The big day came on the 10th January 2012 and the move went smoothly with Kai willingly entering a transport crate for the short journey.

Primate Care Staff were anxious about how Kai would cope with being separated from Hsiao-Quai but from the start he didn't seem to miss his mum at all! Kai got stuck into the more active pace at the nursery, playing and mating with each of the three young females in the first week!

Kai seemed drawn to Oshine from the very first introduction and went over to her straight away. Oshine was not so sure as this was the first time she had met an adolescent male orang-utan but we soon caught her watching Kai out of the corner of her eye and realised that she was secretly as keen! Their relationship has come on in leaps and bounds and they are often seen playing together or even sharing a hammock for a midday nap.

\[\text{Kai and Oshine's relationship is blossoming!}\]

Kai now lives with Hsiao-ning (left), who proudly shows off her new canine teeth that are coming in, and Silvestre (right).

Kai in the outside enclosure

Forming a friendship has been no easy task for Sissy-Jo and Mica. Mica, had never lived with other Patas monkeys and was keen to make friends but Sissy-Jo does not share the same eagerness. Sissy-Jo is somewhat self-centred and is often seen with her nose stuck up in the air! Sissy-Jo is generally accepting of Mica, who loves to groom her face. It is a great way to solidify any primate relationship, but when Sissy-Jo wants time alone she is not shy to tell Mica she's had enough. Sissy-Jo and Mica do appear to appreciate each other’s company and happily forage together for insects. Each has been able to help the other with Sissy-Jo becoming more confident while Mica spends increasing time on the high beams outside. Inseparable is not a word I would use to describe their friendship, but it has been lovely to see their relationship blossom over the past few months. I believe it will continue to grow and Primate Care Staff wait for the day when Sissy-Jo reciprocates and grooms Mica!

Tau has continued to progress in leaps and bounds over winter. We decided to focus on building up Tau’s condition and confidence, rather than pushing ahead with introductions to other capuchins while the weather was poor. The result has been positive with Tau gaining more strength and being able to move around the enclosures with ease. Tau has also gained social skills and has befriended one of our more elderly males, Archie. They are often seen grooming one another and more recently playing together, a good result for a monkey that came to Monkey World with no capuchin social etiquette! The group of 9 lads in Tau’s group have developed a healthy respect for him and know that he will stick up for himself if tested. Because of his growing confidence he has become quite dominant within the small group, however these are the friendlier lads at the lodge so it is hard to predict how he will fare when faced with the entire group.

Tau has reached another milestone recently by going out into the forest enclosure for the first time! Primate Care Staff were not sure whether he would want to venture out initially considering he spent his whole life before Monkey World indoors. But Tau displayed the same bravado as in previous new experiences, strolling out immediately to explore his new surroundings. Another concern was whether Tau would want to come back inside as he is a keen forager with an insatiable thirst for insects. Our fears were unfounded and he followed his friend Archie into the playroom before it got too cold. Tau has continued to go out in the forest on the warmer winter days and we look forward to continuing introductions in the spring where he has three more boys to meet.

\[\text{The Patas Pair}\]

\[\text{Tau is gaining strength and good social skills}\]

\[\text{Tau's First Day in the Forest}\]

\[\text{Our Slovenian Friends Are Settling In Well}\]
**Fundraising & Events**

**SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2012: THE JIM CRONIN MEMORIAL FUND GALA DINNER, DANCE & CHARITY AUCTION AT POOLE LIGHTHOUSE THEATRE**

In aid of the Jim Cronin Memorial Fund, reg. charity number 1126939.

With only a couple of weeks to go now before the Jim Cronin Memorial Gala Dinner, Dance and Charity Auction, it is all systems go! Those joining us for this very special event will be in for a treat, we have a fantastic evening lined up for you! A champagne reception with music provided by Switch Saxophone Quartet will be followed by a delicious three course dinner. There will also be presentations from the Monkey World team and an exclusive opportunity to watch previously unseen footage of the first gibbons being released back to the wild from our rescue centre in Vietnam, Dao Tien – check out www.go-east.org. The fantastic Graham Mack, will once again be our auctioneer and we have some exclusive auction items, park experiences and prize draw items up for grabs.

As if that’s not enough, there will also be dancing to the fantastic group “The Imaginations” (www.theimaginations.co.uk) it really does promise to be a night to remember and I’m so pleased that so many of you will be joining us for this event, I know that Jim would be very proud of everything that we have achieved and we plan to pay tribute to the man who started it all!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated items for the Charity Auction and, in particular, special thanks must go to Purbeck Ice Cream (www.purbeckicecream.co.uk) for very kindly sponsoring this event. The support for this year’s Gala Dinner has been incredible.

We still have a few tickets left for this event, so if you would like to join us, do please contact us on 01929 401018 or email us on fundraising@jimcroninememorialfund.org. A selection of the auction and prize draw items are available to view on www.jimcroninememorialfund.org.

See below for just some of the amazing auction prizes that will be available on the night!

**VIP Tour of Purbeck Ice Cream!**

**VIP Tour of Monkey World with Dr Alison Cronin!**

**A Day in the Life of the Park Manager!**

**165FT BUNGEE JUMP AT MONKEY WORLD!**

**Calling all those brave supporters of the park who would like to join us and take their very own “Giant Leap for Ape Kind”!**

Sunday 16th September 2012 will mark the second Jim Cronin Memorial Fund Bungee Jump and Monkey World will once again host this event in aid of the Jim Cronin Memorial Fund (registered charity number 1126939).

Those brave enough to jump for Jim will need to raise £75 each in sponsorship. It’s an opportunity to get your family, friends and work colleagues involved in the park and those who jump will also get the most spectacular view of the park prior to making their very own “Giant Leap for Ape Kind”. If you would rather keep your feet firmly on the ground, then you can still get involved by sponsoring Alison and coming along on the day to support everyone brave enough to bungee. To sponsor Alison online, please go to www.justgiving.com/Alison-Cronin-GiantLeap.

I am also pleased to announce that we plan to keep you entertained in the run up to the very first brave bungee jumper. Not only do we have fantastic local band, the Brass Monkeys, providing the music again, but we also have a very special treat in store for you – we have teamed up with Maverick Slacklines who will be putting on a demonstration and workshop for you. These guys really are something else. Don’t worry if you don’t know what slacklining is, you soon will! Check out YouTube and search for “Maverick Slacklines”.

So join us at the park on the 16th of September. Take your very own ‘Giant Leap’ or come down and support those brave enough to bungee. Have a go at slacklining. “Can you walk like a gibbon?” we really do have something for everyone. We will be taking bookings for this event from May 1st, so for more information or to book your place please call us on 01929 401018 or email fundraising@jimcroninememorialfund.org.

**Movie Night at Monkey World!**

Wednesday 11th July will see the park host a very special event in association with and supported by The Purbeck Film Festival. An opportunity to join us and watch the film “Project Nim” produced by Red Box Films and directed by James Marsh, director of the award-winning film ‘Man on Wire’.

It is thought-provoking and yes, at times upsetting, but what it will give you is an incredible insight into one example as to why using chimpanzees in this way is wrong. This film shows how truly incredible, intelligent and forgiving chimpanzees are, and we were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to meet Bob Ingersoll last year when he visited the park. Bob was one of the good guys in Nim’s life and, in watching the film, we all get to share the very special moment when Bob is re-united with Nim.

There is no charge to attend our movie night, but tickets must be booked in advance as space is limited. The film will start promptly at 8pm, snacks and refreshments will be available to purchase on the night.

To book your place please contact us on admin@monkeyworld.org or call us on 01929 401018.

**Purbeck Film Festival**

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We can hardly believe it’s almost 25 years since the first 9 chimpanzees arrived, it goes without saying that we plan to celebrate in style and details have now been finalised for what promises to be a spectacular event.

Join us for “Party in the Park” on the 14th of July. A traditional circus big top will be the setting for this very special event and we have a fantastic evening lined up for you. Arrival is from 7pm with the evening’s entertainment kicking off promptly at 7.30pm.

We have live music from two fantastic local bands, Thunderslug, check out their cover of the Beatles classic, Day Tripper on http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gPal2Pm5K5I and the SAS Duo with their very own “Musical Tribute to the Blue Brothers”.

Our very good friends at Wessex FM will be providing the disco, there will be presentations from the Monkey World team, a fantastic prize draw with some exclusive prizes up for grabs as well as an incredible display and entertainment from the amazing UK African Acrobats, and if that’s not enough, I still have one or two surprises up my sleeve, with so much to pack in you really won’t want to miss a second of it.

Of course, no anniversary party would be complete without a cake, and there really was only one company who could make us the kind of cake befitting a celebration such as this, I’m so pleased to confirm that our anniversary cake will be made by the amazing team at Choccywoccydoodah. I’m really looking forward to seeing what they come up with.

This event is scheduled to finish at around 12.30am. An arrival drink and delicious fish & chip supper (vegetarian option available) is included in the ticket price. A pay bar will be in operation throughout the evening. Tickets are selling fast for this event, so book your place now!! This really does promise to be a night to remember! Tickets are priced at £20.00 per person for adoptive parents, or £40.00 per person for non-adoptive parents. (Please let us know if you have any special dietary requests - Please note: fish & chips will not be cooked in palm oil.)

We very much look forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary with you, our supporters, we really could not continue with our rescue and rehabilitation work without your help and we really are, very grateful for your support.
We have kept very busy this winter with updating and refurbishing many of our houses and enclosures. The weather has been on our side so the maintenance works have moved from one job to another at a rapid rate!

Over the past few months many people have helped with our rescue and rehabilitation work by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, nuts, dried fruit, seeds, garlic, bread, peanut butter, honey, jam, vitamins, hessian sacks, baskets, heavy dog toys, fire hose, un-used stamps, biscuits and mince pies for the Primate Care Staff, supermarket vouchers, medical supplies, and hand made cards to be sold in the shop. We also have received more excellent photos that adoptive parents and visitors have taken at the park. Over the winter we ran short of bedding for the monkeys and apes. We purchase wood wool for the apes to use as nesting material but they still like to use fleecy blankets, pillowcases, towels, socks, old clothing, and curtains. We have also been getting donations from the Charities Aid Foundation, Give as You Earn scheme and Coin International.

We have received several donations and some have raised money by organising collection tins, staff collections, plant stalls, a knitted goods stall, boot sales, dress down days at work, donations instead of birthday, wedding, or Christmas presents, carol singing, and sponsored bike rides. All of your donations are put to use – thank you so much. In particular we would like to thank Remploy for several loads of hessian sacks, Sue Calendar for donating a poly tunnel and nutritional supplements, Mr Harris of Fleet News who donated an interview fee, the children of West Moors Middle School for a fundraiser, Paul from Hang About Baskets for the hanging baskets of flowers donated to the park, the trustees of The Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation, Verwood Pet Shop who continue to collect donations for the monkeys and apes, the Rembrandt Hotel, Weymouth, Royal Chase Hotel, Shaftsbury, and children of Cranborne Middle School for many bags of blankets and bedding, and both Wessex FM and Fire Radio for supporting our Blanket Drive and bringing us loads of bedding that their listeners donated to the monkeys and apes.

So many people have lost loved ones. Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Barbara Waddleton, Michael Carlton, Beatrice Foley, Lesley Lees, Sue Bickley, Denise Richardson, Brian Neale, Rebekah Smiele, Ella Gunton, Phil Lovell, Margaret McGowan, Patricia Rabbitt, Violet Olley and Karen Mayhead. They will be greatly missed.

In this extra special year, Monkey World was honoured to receive the Dorset Business Award for Tourism. The judges were particularly impressed with our disabled facilities, access to the park, educational efforts, and value for money that we provide our guests. For those of you who love your dogs (as much as monkeys and apes!) I wanted to let you know about a dog competition that I have been asked to judge. The German Shepherd Rescue Online Dog Show is open to all breeds and there are many classes to enter. Please go to the Facebook competition page at: www.facebook.com/groups/200932801979396/ or get further information by emailing info@german shepherdrescue.co.uk. I look forward to seeing your dogs and helping rescue others who are in need.

It is hard to believe but Monkey World is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year! There are loads of events planned and we hope that you will be able to come celebrate with us, remember Jim and his dream, and join our efforts to stop the smuggling and abuse of monkey and apes around the world.

There are many ways in which you can help us to rescue and rehabilitate more apes and monkeys. All donations go into a 100% fund. No administrative costs are removed. Monkey World is not a registered charity but we have established the Jim Cronin Memorial Fund for Primate Conservation and Welfare, UK Registered Charity, No.1126939 and the Endangered Asian Species Trust, UK Registered Charity No.1113550, which supports endangered primate rescue and rehabilitation in Asia.

Without your help our rescue and rehabilitation work would not be possible. If you are on holiday and see a monkey or ape being used, abused, or neglected, please let us know. Take down all the details and try to get a photo – we follow up on as many reports as possible.

Help by donating goods such as fruit, vegetables, bread, or strands of garlic. We are in particular need of evening primrose oil capsules and 50mg chewable vitamin C tablets. Any type of melon is also good as all the monkeys and apes love them yet they are not too fattening for the monkeys. They love mastic fruits but due to the cost they are not part of our regular fruit and veg order. Our small monkeys like small to medium sized baskets. They are 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. We are running low on “feeding balls”, “kong” toys, and heavy duty rope dog toys. They keep the monkeys and apes busy trying to get the hidden treats from inside and we also use the rope balls as part of the climbing structure for the monkeys.

You can help by adopting a monkey or ape and you will receive a gift voucher to buy a photo of your monkey or ape, a certificate, and the Ape Keeper of Monkey World signs the certificate every year. Establish a legacy for the long-term welfare of the primates and be remembered in the park.

Thank you for your continued support. It is appreciated and helps others to remain aware that wildlife is under threat and we can all do something to make a difference.

Alison & Shelley