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EXCLUSIVE OFFERS! Monkey World Adoptive Parents receive a free night when booking one or more nights – including Full English Breakfast, Leisure Club & Free WIFI! Guests who are not Adoptive Parents receive free tickets to Monkey World when staying one or more nights! See www.thespringfield.co.uk/monkey-world-offers for details.
The last few months on the small monkey section have been as busy as ever, not only caring for current residents, but also welcoming 4 more! For the last couple of years cotton-topped tamarin, Uncas, has lived with other species of primate since his mate Alice passed away. Relationships with our saki monkey Jethro or with common marmosets worked for a while, but it remained clear that what Uncas really needed was the companionship of his own kind. So the search began and with Uncas being an old boy we wanted to try and get a friend for him that was similar in age. It took several months before we were contacted by Tropical World in Leeds. They had an elderly male cotton-top that had also lost his partner and it seemed perfect. Two old boys that could enjoy their retirement years together.

The new tamarin, we named Hawkeye, arrived on 12th February and we put him in the room next to Uncas to settle in. They were able to see each other and straight away there was interest from both. The introductions started the next morning. Initially they seemed a little nervous of each other, but it didn’t take long for Uncas to pluck up the courage to go and say hello. Hawkeye took a little longer to relax but they are getting on really well together and bed down together in the same nest box every night.

New arrival Hawkeye
Uncas & Hawkeye are getting on really well together

The day after Hawkeye arrived we received two more emergency new arrivals, male common marmosets Ronnie and Reggie (aka the Kray brothers). Unfortunately they were part of the UK primate pet trade and a few days before Alison received a very distressed phone call from Ronnie and Reggies owner. The four marmosets she owned had started fighting and she didn’t know how to deal with them or what to do.

Ronnie and Reggie are twin brothers that had been living with their older siblings; Tom, a male, and Jerry, a female, and their parents. Unfortunately both parents had recently died, which had caused the males to start fighting to gain dominance in order to pair bond with their sister Jerry. Reggie had become the main aggressor with Ronnie being his main target. With no option at the owner’s house, Alison went to assess the situation and brought Ronnie and Reggie back to the park. When they arrived they were in good health and, even though they had been fighting, there were no injuries on either. They were both extremely nervous, so were housed in the hospital to calm down and enable us to monitor them and carry out faecal tests.

A few days later, once they seemed more relaxed and we knew they were clear of any parasites, we moved them into the rooms in the small monkey kitchen, as we really did not have space for them while we were building the new small monkey building. The Kray brothers have settled in well with Ronnie being the more confident around Primate Care Staff, taking food from us the day after he arrived. Reggie, who was the main aggressor, is more reserved than his brother, but is getting more confident each day. They both eat really well and love spending time outside. There is no doubt that Ronnie and Reggie’s owner loved them, but without good knowledge of their behaviour, the correct social grouping, and facilities to change as the animals’ needs changed, she was unable to care for them properly.

The Kray brothers lived in a purpose-built house along with their twin brother and sister
Reggie & Ronnie the common marmosets

Even while we were building the new small monkey house for more individuals from the UK pet trade we had a long waiting list of marmosets that needed new homes. Top of the list was Mickey, a common marmoset from the pet trade in Bristol. He was being kept at an RSPCA dog and cat shelter, but needed a more appropriate home with companionship of his own kind. On April 9th, we were finally able to collect Mickey and he was the first arrival into our new small monkey house. Mickey is a lovely chap who seems to take everything in his stride. He has suffered from rickets as a result of not being fed correctly when he was part of the pet trade and, as a result, the bones in his hips and pelvis are bent and fused so his mobility is not very good. To help him get around we have put up extra branches so it is easier for him to walk and climb as he is not like healthy marmosets that like to run and jump. Introductions to others have gone well and he is now living with males Comet, Lionel, and Lenny.

Watch this space as we still have more marmosets that want/need homes with us and we will be having new arrivals in the coming weeks. Sadly the British pet trade is a serious welfare problem for the majority of monkeys living in people’s homes today.

MONKEY LIFE

By Susan Tunstall, Primate Planet Productions

Monkey Life Series 8 - we have started editing the latest series which we are very excited about. With over a year’s worth of filming this series is going to be the most action-packed one yet! We will have completed the programmes by the end of the summer so not much longer for you to wait.

Monkey Life series 1 – 4 on Pick TV - the programmes have been getting an amazing response from Pick viewers. If you have been enjoying watching them, why not let Pick know by posting a message on their Facebook page or Twitter account (@Pick_TV). If you would prefer to write you can write to Sky customer services at their Isleworth office.

Filming at the park - we have been privileged to film not one but two orphan baby orang-utans arriving at the park; Bulu Mata and Rieke. We are filming them regularly so that we can show you their progress. They are so beautiful and incredible to film. In the last few weeks as the weather has improved we have been filming all the chimpanzees and orang-utan groups and have some lovely updates. This week we have been filming the gibbons enjoying the sun and it is especially nice to see Fox and Ella getting on so well.

Monkey Life series 1 – 7 are now available to own on DVD; visit the Monkey World online gift shop to purchase yours for only £20 per series.

For information or questions related to the Monkey Life TV series, please contact info@primatoplanet.tv.

Fox and Ella are getting along well
In August last year, Monkey World became home to our first ever slow loris, Kan'bulo, after authorities in the Maldives confiscated her as part of a drugs raid. Kan'bulo arrived to us originally named ‘Kalo’, meaning ‘buddy’ in Maldivian and was believed to be male. After DNA analysis, it was revealed that Kalo was in fact female and so her name changed to ‘Kan'bulo’, the female version of ‘Kalo’. Unfortunately DNA could not identify her species and, therefore, we could only identify her as Bengal slow loris (Nycticebus bengalensis), through visual descriptions.

It didn’t take long for Kan'bulo (nick-named ‘Bu’) to settle in and she seemed pleased to have much more space than the tiny birdcage that she previously lived in. Her physical condition improved very quickly with a good diet and appropriate environment. Bu grew a tremendous dense coat and her prominent markings emerged, which would help further with her species identification. Before long we also saw her true character develop. Glimmers of playfulness were seen and her desire to explore everything new kept us on our feet to create new and interesting ways to feed and provide a stimulating environment for her, especially while she lived on her own. Intriguingly, we noticed that Bu seemed to enjoy the rope toys that were hung in her enclosure. She wrestled and played with them, something that had not been noted in this species before. Kan'bulo loved live insects, so we provided plenty of straw balls that contained locusts that would gradually creep out into her enclosures. In the wild, lorises eat a lot of exudates, or tree sap, so we used gum arabic put into holes we drilled in logs to replicate and stimulate this natural behaviour.

Kan'bulo was cared for by the Maldivian Police before Monkey World came to take her. After 4 months’ quarantine at Monkey World, Kan'bulo was ready to meet Doris and move to her new home.

A potential home for Kan'bulo was found with another female loris called Doris at Shaldon Wildlife Trust. General consensus from the little information we had was that two females would not get on well together, but we were willing to try this pairing in order to give Kan'bulo the companionship that she deserved. It was decided to try the introductions at Monkey World, as we had 4 bedrooms connected by tunnels for the two ladies to move around while meeting each other. If successful, the pair would return to Shaldon.

Doris arrived at Monkey World on February 15th and the whole team was on tenterhooks as the slides were opened between the ladies the following day. Doris was understandably nervous in an unfamiliar place, but Bu was keen to check out her new roommate. She was cautious, using her incredible sense of smell to consider the new arrival from a distance. Soon she was approaching Doris, making sure she had a good grip on a sturdy branch for arrival from a distance. Soon she was approaching Doris, making sure she had a good grip on a sturdy branch for a quick draw back if necessary. Doris curled herself into a tight ball, unsure of the situation, but Bu was persistent and it didn’t take long before she got close enough to re-use Doris. Raising her head, Doris started to groom Kan'bulo. Unfortunately, the moment was spoilt when Doris sneezed - perhaps Kan'bulo tasted a bit funny - and a wary Kan'bulo retreated.

Over the next few days, things progressed well and by the second day of introductions they were together full time. Close observations, by eye and CCTV, showed the pair’s budding relationship. Most interaction was initiated by Bu, but Doris seemed happy to join in with grooming sessions. Time and time again, Kan'bulo’s playful spirit surfaced. Doris was disinterested for the most part, but she could only refuse for so long. We were over the moon to see the two of them playing for the first time. Both hung upside down jostling and play biting each other for minutes on end. Suddenly it became clear that we knew even less about this species than we thought, but we were excited that these two females had found a remarkable friendship. As they spent more time interacting, we decided it was time for the pair to return to Shaldon where they would share a purpose-built enclosure. We were sad to see Kan'bulo leave us, but knew it was the best for her. So we bid a sad farewell to our nocturnal friend and they made the return journey on February 22nd. Kan'bulo settled in quickly and it was lovely to see her in a different environment where she now had to think about where to find her food.

Kan'bulo and Doris continue to share a close relationship. Doris is now more than happy to show her playful side when she is not devouring food. Everyone involved has seen Kan'bulo come so far and now enjoying life the way she should - healthy and with companionship and stimulation. I think I speak for the whole team when I say that the outcome is far beyond anything I could have anticipated or hoped for and this is why Monkey World exists - to give as many primates as possible their lives back again.

Kan'bulo is fit and strong now.
By Kate Diver

Over the last 5 months two Sumatran orang-utans (Pongo abelii) named Bulu-Mata (Bulu for short) and Rieke joined our orang-utan family. Monkey World is home to the European crèche for orphaned orang-utans, which means that any babies born in zoos, where their mothers are unable or do not care for their babies, are sent to the park so that they can grow up with others of their own kind from the start. Bulu and Rieke will soon join our orang-utan nursery group where our four females, Kai, Jin, Silvestre and Awan, will take him up to the mesh to meet the other orang-utans as they are all very interested in new faces. We introduced some baby rice and a selection of fruit and vegetable purees to his diet at this time, as he had started chewing everything in sight! When walking between the orang-utan nursery and the house on site where he spends the nights, Bulu took full advantage of the cool wind to soothe his gums. He would open his mouth wide and stick out his tongue.

Bulu-Mata

On December 9th Bulu arrived at Monkey World from Budapest Zoo in Hungary. He was 96 days old and weighed just 3kg. Sadly Bulu’s mother died a week after his birth from gastrointestinal problems, so the keepers at Budapest began hand-rearing the baby. The tiny infant was transported with his keepers by car to Monkey World. Shortly after his arrival we introduced Bulu to Hsiao-quai to see if she would adopt the baby. Having adopted baby Awan we were hopeful that Hsiao-quai might also want to scoop up little Bulu. She was still feeding 2½-year-old Awan so that she could feed Bulu if she decided to hold and carry him. We were all very hopeful that Bulu would have another chance of having an orang-utan mum.

While Hsiao-quai showed lots of interest in Bulu, touching him, smelling him and responding to his squeaky vocalisations, she did not pick him up. We tried regular meetings between Hsiao-quai and Bulu, often with Awan joining in, but it was clear that while she liked the new baby she was not going to take him on full time. That job was going to be left to Primate Care Staff – specifically a team of 4 people so that Bulu feels confident and secure, but doesn’t bond with just one keeper. This was important as he required around the clock care, which can be exhausting, and we needed to make sure that we had a small dedicated team in the event of illness, as it could be dangerous to the baby if his carer got a cold or flu.

Rieke

By the time Bulu was 14 weeks old and weighed 3.5kg, Hsiao-quai and Oshino will provide mother figures for the youngsters while they will have companionship and be great playmates with Kai, Jin, Silvestre and Awan. In the wild, baby orang-utans stay with the mums for up to 7 years and during this time they learn everything they need to know for their adult life. For the babies’ development and wellbeing, it is vital that these babies grow up having contact with other orang-utans as early as possible.

At 14 weeks old Bulu Mata (meaning eyelash in Indonesian) was unable to focus on people or objects around him or sit up unsupported. To strengthen his muscles Budapest Zoo designed a jacket covered in strips of orange blanket. When wearing the jacket, Bulu could hold on with amazing strength, with little or no support, as he would have done with his mother. We prepared two areas for the baby, one in the orang-utan crèche so that during the day he could see and be seen by the other members of the group and the other at a house on-site that he was taken to every night. Both areas were filled with colourful ropes and toys. His strength and co-ordination increased rapidly.

Budapest Zoo had initial struggles finding a milk formula that Bulu could digest and that he liked. It turned out that he is cow’s milk intolerant and therefore cannot take normal human baby formulas. He needed special prescription milk for babies with allergies. When we took over his care he was being fed, up to 60mls, on demand every 2 to 3 hours, around the clock! This meant lots of sleepless nights. One of the other challenges of hand-rearing apes can be keeping them as active as they would be on their mothers as a side effect of reduced movement can be constipation and digestive problems. Bulu has some constipation issues and this is something we combat by letting him cling to us when he is being “carried” and encouraging him to climb and use his muscles as much as possible.

At week 17, Bulu was feeding much better and on a 4-hourly schedule. He weighed 3.5kg and had filled out considerably. He was much more active than before the previous month and able to pull himself up onto ropes and hoses in his playroom. By week 20 he was able to use both hands and feet to climb. Week 24 he started sleeping through the night consistently and could sit upright unsupported. We introduced some baby rice and a selection of fruit and vegetable purees to his diet at this time, as he had started chewing everything in sight! When walking between the orang-utan nursery and the house on site where he spends the nights, Bulu took full advantage of the cool wind to soothe his gums. He would open his mouth wide and stick out his tongue.

By week 32 Bulu’s first teeth appeared first the lower incisors then a couple of weeks later he cut his upper front teeth. Bulu has steadily gained weight and confidence and now, at more than 35 weeks old, he’s over 9kg. He loves banana, but doesn’t appear to be a fan of carrot.

He is able to climb all the way up to the mesh on his playroom roof and loves to wrestle with us and his toys. He is a fun little character with a laid-back nature, and nothing seems to worry him. We regularly take him up to the mesh to meet the other orang-utans as they are all very interested in him. In particular, Hsiao-quai and Silvestre put their hands out to touch and stroke Bulu.

Hsiao-quai’s Awan were interested in Bulu Mata

On February 23rd baby Rieke arrived from Germany to join Bulu. Rieke was born on January 12th at Zoo Berlin where she was rejected by her inexperienced mother. Rieke’s birth had been very long and distressing for her mother and the baby was left abandoned on a platform when the keepers found her. Unfortunately her mother showed no interest in caring for Rieke even after several attempts by the zoo to reunite mother and daughter. At just 6 weeks old, weighing only 2.7kg, she was a tiny baby. She could hardly hold her head up and had limited co-ordination at her very young age. She would go slightly cross-eyed every time she tried to focus on anything too close.
Rieke’s first days at the park were spent being introduced to Bulu and adjusting to her new surroundings. The Zoo Berlin keepers stayed with us for a few days while Rieke got used to the team that would be taking over her care here at Monkey World. Straight away we could see that Rieke was going to be much more demanding than Bulu. She was very vocal and made it clear when she needed or wanted something. By 8 weeks old Rieke had control of her head and even began to turn herself around when lying on her back. As in all babies she had a strong startle reflex so any sudden noise would make her jump.

To start Rieke was taking 50 - 90ml baby milk every 3-4 hours. She loved her food! However, we noticed after some feeds she would bring a bit of milk back up, sometimes through her nose. Even though it was only a small amount, it was still a concern as she might inhale the milk and run the risk of developing pneumonia at such a young age. Unlike human babies that often regurgitate following a milk feed, it wasn’t something we had seen with any of the other apes reared at Monkey World. In Rieke’s case, it is likely that the muscular valve at the entrance to her stomach is slightly under developed causing a backflow of milk after feeding. With lots of attention to her feeding position, a slow increase in the volume of milk per feed and some paediatric antacid to help soothe the reflux, she is more comfortable following feed time and the regurgitating is much reduced.

By week 10 Rieke was over 3kg and had started to roll over. She was putting everything into her mouth to examine it and her co-ordination and movements continued to develop fast. She quickly starting reaching out towards Bulu and held onto his hair while he was moving around their playroom. Now, at over 15-weeks-old, she is very strong, pulling herself up using both hands and feet. She is consistently and happily taking over 80ml at each feed and her most recent weight was 3.5kg!

THE FUTURE

The age gap between Bulu and Rieke was initially problematic, as Rieke was much less mobile than Bulu. Bulu wanted to play and wrestle with Rieke, but he was too big and strong for her. We supervised the babies playtime to make sure that Bulu didn’t hurt Rieke or sit on her by accident! The babies still sleep separately, but they share a playroom during the day with the option to divide when someone is napping. They are interacting more and more and can be quite gentle towards each other now. If Rieke continues to develop at the rate she is, with her focus and determination it won’t be long before she is not only a match for Bulu, but takes charge of their relationship!

The future looks good for these two, especially as they will have each other for support when integrating into the nursery group. As I write, we are beginning construction of a new play area for the babies inside of the orang-utan nursery playroom. They will have a safe area, that is not as high as the 20m playroom, where we will be able to let individuals from the nursery group into them for play sessions. This gradual integration into the group will make the transition from human care to an orang-utan family more gradual and gentle, and you and our guests at the park will finally be able to see our beautiful new arrivals! In the coming weeks they will both be sleeping through the night and can then stay full time in their part of the orang-utan nursery.

When Bulu and Rieke are able to climb confidently and safely at height we will introduce them to the whole group in the house. It will be a wonderful time to see the two orphans re-join a family of their own kind. In our experience with all the other orphans we have cared for, this will happen when the babies are approximately 1-year-old. Their future is bright with an adopted family of orang-utans waiting for them. This is what our orang-utan nursery is all about.

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SOME MORE INFORMATION!
3-Month Field Survey of Cat Loc – Documenting Numbers of Golden-Cheeked Gibbons & Pygmy Loris

By Ryan Keers

A very important part of releasing endangered primates back into the wild is to conduct a census of the animals that are already living in the area. Such data is critical so we know that we are not disturbing or upsetting primates, and other wildlife that already occupy the area, when we release rehabilitated primates. It is not easy work and our daily routine involved getting up at 4am and walking to the first listening post before sunrise, assembling my hammock, and waiting for gibbons to start their morning song. Mr Binh and Mr Thuan, the two other researchers, who are also Kiem Lam (forest rangers), would then move on to the second and third listening posts. From each post, based on compass bearing and distance of calls, we could triangulate the location of the gibbon families. Data collected showed the majority of the listening plots contained two families of gibbons. After the gibbons stopped calling we hiked back to camp for coffee and breakfast, writing up notes, washing, and then relaxing until early evening, when we would head out again looking for nocturnal pygmy loris that are very tricky to locate. We would travel on trails for 2km or more, while scanning all levels of the forest with red light torches. We were hoping to find their distinctive large red eyes shining back at us. We inevitably had a few false calls with c pivots or the odd owl, but eventually we would find one and, if lucky, a second pygmy loris in each transect. These beautiful, small primates are still used for traditional medicine and the pet trade. One night while walking our transect, we encountered two hunters. After a chase through the dark forest, Mr Binh lost them, but collected a bag they had dropped. The bag had a pygmy loris inside, but sadly it had been shot so there was nothing we could do for this individual.

After three days in one plot it was time to move on to the next, so we packed up camp and made the next journey. Some plots using radio signals from the collar we put on her prior to her release. After two weeks working with the rescued primates on Dao Tien, it was my turn to join the tracking team and start collecting more detailed behavioural data of our little lady. Half an hour before darkness sets in, we settle ourselves close by her sleep spot and wait. Upon waking, the first hour of watching Uli is just terrific. She’s a very healthy, active pygmy loris, who seemed to know straight off how to move easily and swiftly through the bamboo and trees. She doesn’t hang around, giving us tantalizing glimpses of foraging and activity before moving easily on and disappearing from sight.

Uli appears confident and comfortable in her territory, and seems to be one content little loris. An added bonus when monitoring Uli is that on some nights, as the light falls, a troop of black-shanked douc monkeys come to rest and end their day above us. The forests of Cat Tien National Park are very special and nature at its best!

Pygmy Loris at Their Best!

By Vicky Oglivie

Uli the pygmy loris was released in December, with Mr Khang checking on her daily sleep spots using radio signals from the collar we put on her prior to her release. After two weeks working with the rescued primates on Dao Tien, it was my turn to join the tracking team and start collecting more detailed behavioural data of our little lady.

Half an hour before darkness sets in, we settle ourselves close by her sleep spot and wait. Upon waking, the first hour of watching Uli is just terrific. She’s a very healthy, active pygmy loris, who seemed to know straight off how to move easily and swiftly through the bamboo and trees. She doesn’t hang around, giving us tantalizing glimpses of foraging and activity before moving easily on and disappearing from sight.

Uli appears confident and comfortable in her territory, and seems to be one content little loris. An added bonus when monitoring Uli is that on some nights, as the light falls, a troop of black-shanked douc monkeys come to rest and end their day above us. The forests of Cat Tien National Park are very special and nature at its best!
It’s been an exciting time over the past few months on the woolly monkey section, with the birth of two babies. On December 10th Piquita, in Oaska’s group gave birth to a healthy baby boy that we named Lucas. We chose this name, as he is Levar’s son as Piquita fell pregnant before we changed the groups around last summer. Piquita is a fantastic, laid back mum and takes it all in her stride, and both are continuing to do extremely well. Lucas is an adventurous individual, who didn’t take long to start trying to climb off mums back and explore his new surroundings. Now he can often be seen tackling all the climbing equipment in the playroom on his own and getting to grips with his balance. Piquita, along with Ayla, Piquita’s previous daughter, are always close by keeping an eye on Lucas’ newfound freedom. Dominant male, Oaska, has again let us see his softer side with babies and lets baby Lucas climb all over him having big snuffling sessions. Meanwhile youngster Xavi thinks it’s fantastic to have a new playmate in the group and is always eager to get Lucas joining in a play session. With the two of them giggling away, they seem set to become firm friends.

In Chippy’s group we also welcomed the arrival of Pacaya’s baby girl, Oriana, who was born on 26th December. Oriana’s father was Oaska as he got mum, Pacaya, pregnant before the group changes last summer. Pacaya has also proved to be an excellent and very caring mum, and both are doing well. Pacaya started off being very protective of her little girl, keeping her very close, and not wanting her to leave her back. However, as time has gone on and Oriana has grown, Pacaya has become much more relaxed and has settled well into motherhood. As long as mum stays still long enough, Oriana is slowly starting to adventure out into her new surroundings and explore all it has to offer. She even tries to steal mum’s food at dinnertime if she is quick enough! On nice sunny days, Pacaya often lies on her back in the outside enclosure sunbathing whilst Oriana finds it great fun to play and dangle on top of her, testing the strength of all her tiny limbs. The rest of Chippy’s group have all welcomed the new arrival with each of them going over to give the baby a snuffle from time to time. With Oriana progressing so well, it won’t be long before she is joining in with all the fun and play sessions in her family group.

Levar’s group includes older female Quapa, but otherwise it is the beginning of a bachelor group. Quapa is an older female who has never had any babies of her own, but she does seem to like the younger boys in the group and takes charge of everyone and everything! Levar takes it in his stride and now has a constant shadow in Bueno Jr who is growing up fast. Enzo joins in with Quapa when it comes to taking charge, while Mani is a quieter, more shy individual.
We have been busy over the past few months building a 2nd small monkey complex (house with 14 bedrooms and 7 outside enclosures) for victims of the British pet trade. You may recall that we recycled and refurbished our old orang-utan nursery building 3 years ago and sadly it was filled with primates in need from the pet trade within 8 weeks. We decided to build one more as we had such a long waiting list of small monkeys in need. The new complex is beautiful and specially designed for the rehabilitation of pet trade monkeys. While we are very happy to be able to give such a wonderful home to 15 - 30 monkeys (depending on the group sizes) it is still very sad that this need exists in Britain today!

Sally and her group are also very happy with their new playroom and bedrooms! It was a big job to gut and update the end Pavilion but as Sally’s group matures, and possibly expands in future, it was important that they have several bedrooms so that we can manage them and more importantly they can choose if they want to be together or in different areas. It gives them more choice and control over their own lives which is a good thing. And the large new playroom has good viewing windows so that Sally, Lulu, Brian, Rodders & Ash can all meet and greet you when you visit the park.

Finally we have started work on refurbishing the Bachelor Boys and Paddy’s enclosure fences. This is a big job. We are starting on the Bachelors’ enclosure first and in order that they are not kept inside too long we have made a special tunnel connecting the boys to Paddy’s enclosure. For the past few weeks the two groups of chimpanzees have been taking turns to go outside and it is working well. The 1st day the boys went out into Paddy’s enclosure, it was very interesting to see how the very tough and boisterous boys quickly turned into a meek group of scaredy-cats!

On behalf of our rescued primates, thank you for all your support! It makes all of this work possible.

We know that we have supporters all over the world, from the UK right through to Columbia, Pakistan, Israel and Peru to name just a few! But knowing you are out there is not enough! We want to meet you, no matter “where in the world” you are.

I am pleased, therefore, to announce a brand new fundraising scheme, and this time absolutely everyone can get involved, no matter “where in the world” you are! This scheme really will enable us to span the world with supporters. To participate, simply purchase a Monkey World flag at a cost of £20.00 (incl P & P). Once you have received your flag and welcome pack, simply take a picture of yourself with your flag in a location of your choice - it could be your local town or city, a favourite location, beauty spot or place of interest, on a beach, in a jungle, or maybe even from the top of the Empire State Building? Provide us with a few additional details as per the information sheet provided and then either send or upload your picture to us and we will add it to our “where in the world” map, which can be found on the main Monkey World website www.monkeyworld.org. Supporters will then be able to (virtually) meet other supporters from across the globe.

I’m sure you will be amazed at how many Monkey World supporters there are in the same town, city or location as you. Once signed up for this scheme, you can take as many pictures as you want with your Monkey World flag from as many different, unique and unusual locations as you like. This scheme really will pave the way for a whole army of Monkey World ambassadors, located across the world. You never know, one day we may need some assistance or be on a rescue mission in a town near you!!

To order your flag or for further information, please email us at fundraising@monkeyworld.org or call us on 01929 401018.

We are really looking forward to meeting you all!!

By Shelley Fletcher
After almost a year of planning, the day finally dawned when we would be embarking on our very first expedition! 12 supporters and 4 staff made their way to Fort William and took part in what can only be described as an exhausting, but exhilarating adventure!

The team from Lochaber Guides certainly put us through our paces. With the summit of Ben Nevis under a couple of metres of snow, thunder and lightning forecast, and the possibility of avalanches, we were informed that for us it would be unclimbable. It was devastating news, but we were told not to worry, our guides Dave and Craig had an epic and incredibly challenging ‘Plan B’! After a warm-up day hiking to Steall Falls and the Nevis Gorge, and a very cold night under canvas, we were given the details of our new challenge: Meall an t-Suidhe.

Whilst not as high as Ben Nevis, it was not without its challenges and, after being described by our guides as 10 times harder, 10 times rockier and 10 times steeper than what we had tackled the day before, it was clearly not going to be a walk in the park. Reaching the summit of Meall an t-Suidhe would involve not only taking a route that experienced guides do their very best to avoid, but the team would also be tackling the legendary ‘heart attack hill’! Our guides Dave and Craig were absolutely determined that the expedition team were going to earn every penny of the sponsorship money raised - and they weren’t joking!

Over the course of the three days, we camped, walked, hiked, crossed rope bridges, explored waterfalls, and experienced literally everything the weather could throw at us! Completely exhausted, but jubilant, our expedition team members have now returned home with memories to last a lifetime. To our supporters, we really can’t thank you enough for your sponsorship, support and encouragement. Together we have raised over £12,000 for primate welfare and conservation and experienced what can only be described as an epic adventure! We are all looking forward to the next one! Full gallery of images available at www.jimcroninmemorialfund.org
In the last Letter From the Editor I hinted about a new orange arrival. Little did I know that the one tiny Sumatran orang-utan orphan would turn into two new arrivals within a month! The babies are gorgeous and doing really well thanks to the dedicated team of Primates Care Staff at the park for the babies around the clock. Soon you will all be able to see them in the Orang-utan Nursery as our Building and Maintenance Team NEVER stop. We have continued to repair, expand, develop, and build new houses and facilities for our rescued monkeys, and apes and making room for more from the British pet trade. Without your support it would not be possible. The new marmoset house and enclosures are now complete and we have begun to bring marmosets in from our waiting list as well as some emergency arrivals. I have mentioned it several times now, but following the recent elections it is a good time to take our petition to Number 10 so we will be making plans in the coming weeks. Please keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter sites to know when to join us at Downing Street!

Our Amazon Wish List and Shoe Box Appeal have continued to be a great help with items that we would not usually purchase ourselves. It is great to see that so many of you have been so thoughtful and generous. In particular we would like to thank the A H Lynall Foundation, Verwood Pet Shop, and Windess Window Cleaning for their generous donations. Barclays Bank Poole for their charities fund donation, Healthspans for a vitamin donation, the Phillips Avent Team for a wonderful donation of baby care products, Andrew James Pet Feeders for donating automatic, tree top feeders for our gibbons in Dorset and Vietnam, Nature’s Best for a large consignment of Omega seed mix which the monkeys and apes love, and “tea cosy” Gill O’Dell for a huge donation. Our supporters have all worked very hard raising funds by getting donations instead of presents or flowers, donating new cuddly toys for our Santa’s Grotto, donating wayleave cheques, sales of bric-a-brac, sales of hand-made bags, and the girls of 9L at Luckley House School held a cake sale. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!

Many friends and supporters have lost loved ones over the past few months. Our thoughts are with the families of Lyn Jones, Andrew Ward, Ian Carr, Judy Rix, and Elsie Martin.

David Butcher, Pamela Trevelion, Marion Whitehead, May Bellamy, Joyce Davies, Jackie Hewitt, Pamela Cull, Patricia Taylor, Hylda Windle, Daisy Greatbanks, Thomas Jones, Tina Atwood, Jean Martin, Sylvia Taylor, David Butcher, Pamela Trevelion, Marion Whitehead, May Bellamy, Joyce Davies, Jackie Hewitt, Pamela Cull, Barbara Kesler, Victor Grimwood, Joan Apastolides, Miss Botting, Mrs Jennings, Edwin Edgar, Michael Shapter, Lyn Jones, Andrew Ward, Ian Carr, Judy Rix, and Elsie Martin. They will all be greatly missed.

We are now editing Monkey Life Series 8 so keep in touch on our websites and social media to know when it will premiere. There is never a dull moment at the park so it will be an action-packed series. We had a very special visitor to the park recently. Dr Oliver Sacks, neurobiologist and author, has long had an interest in primate behaviour and has been a hero of mine for a very long time. You may know him as the author of Awakenings. It was an honour to show him around the park.

There are many ways in which you can help us 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 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.1115350, 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:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Primate Shopping List</th>
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<tr>
<td>Food Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Pomegranates</td>
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<td>- Big Dog Toys</td>
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<td>- Smill/Medium Baskets</td>
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<td>- Feeding Bows</td>
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<td>- Blankets &amp; Towels</td>
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<td>- Cranberries</td>
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<td>- Red or Black Fire Hose</td>
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<td>- Vegetables</td>
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<td>- Oregano</td>
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<td>- Cod Liver Oil Capsules</td>
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<td>- Pure Baby Rice</td>
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<td>- Primrose Oil Capsules</td>
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<td>- 60mg Chewable Vitamin C</td>
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<td>- Baby Oil</td>
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We have an Amazon Wish List that has all kinds of different items that we need on a daily basis for our monkeys and apes. 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 a monthly report from the Rescue Chronicle three times per year. Establish a legacy for the long-term welfare of the primates and be remembered in the park.

We are continuing to rescue more monkeys and apes that will need our full care and attention for many years to come. Please help with their on-going care by joining our Primate Adoption Scheme for yourself, your family, colleagues, and friends. We also have an On-line Shop (www.monkeyworld.org/Monkey-World-Online-Gift-Shop) & Gift Catalogue full of monkey memorabilia and ape accessories for anyone who loves primates.

Oliver Sacks and I

with baby orang-utans

Sally & her group loved the mixed seed donation!