



The Jungle Times

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Arrivals

More PTY's!

On the 13th August the last of the Professional Training Year students for 2014/15 from Cardiff University arrived in Borneo. **Kirsty Franklin** and **Roxanne Everitt** will join the team here at DGFC where they will be based for the next year. They will assist in all of the current ongoing projects here at DG as well as undertaking their own project during the year. They will make swell members of the DGFC family and we look forward to the year ahead.



Volunteers

Clare Harwood

Clare has joined this month as a volunteer for 4 weeks after already travelling around Asia for 3 months. She is due to start at Bristol University this year, set to study pharmacology. Clare is highly enthusiastic about all that the rainforest has to offer and has completely immersed herself in jungle life.

Hannah Emde and Mona Zimmermann

Hannah is a veterinary student from Germany, and will be volunteering here at DGFC until October. Mona is due to begin studying veterinary this October and will stay here at DG for a month.

During their stay Hannah and Mona will assist in all of the projects currently being undertaken, allowing them to deepen their understanding of the wildlife which can be found here.



More Arrivals

Alex Horton

Alex is a PhD student from Cardiff University studying fluvial geomorphology. During his 3-month stay here at DGFC, Alex aims to evaluate the effect of rainforest clearing on the meandering dynamics of the Kinabatangan river.

Tanya Dinova

Tanya has a degree in Natural Sciences and had a job as an environmental educational officer for the state in America. Recently she participated in the Project Dragonfly's field trip to DGFC and was so inspired by the community that has been built here that she decided to quit her job, sell all her belongings and purchase a one way ticket. She will be with us indefinitely and has big plans! Whilst here she will work on her Masters degree.



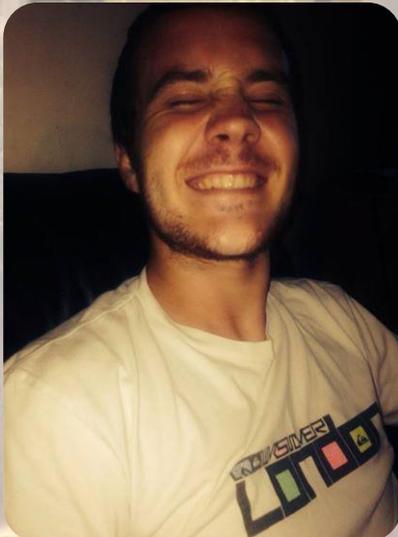
Goodbyes

Bye Sarah & Kieran!

Sadly, early this month DG said goodbye to the last two Professional Training Year students of 2013/14. **Sarah Joscelyne** and **Kieran Love** have been here for a year, assisting in all jungle things as well as completing their own projects.



Sarah studied the diet of the Malay civet during her year at DGFC, working alongside PhD student Meg Harris. She spent many hours sifting through poo to determine what small carnivores were eating. (She also had a lucky pair of socks with meerkats on them!).



Kieran (a.k.a Mr Pig!) chose to study bearded pigs, using both camera traps and sign surveys to study their ecology in the Lower Kinabatangan. The Disney music he constantly had playing is already missed!

You will both be greatly missed by everyone here and we wish you all the luck for the future!

Goodbyes

François Ciavatti

François has been here at DGFC for 6 months as a volunteer assisting with the monitor lizard project. He is now returning to France to begin studying for his Masters there. François was greatly loved by everyone here and his jingles and constant singing will be sorely missed! We hope for more volunteers with such a bubbly and full of life attitude!



Ethan Townsend

Ethan has been a volunteer here for 6 weeks. During his stay he took a particular interest in the studies of the Slow Loris, helping to monitor their movements during the evenings. Ethan will now return to England to complete his last year of college before hopefully starting at university. We wish him the best of luck with his studies and for the future!



Clouded Leopard Trapping

This month has definitely been one for the clouded leopards, with two different females being caught within the same trap just days from each other. Unfortunately the first female was too small to be collared so only measurements and samples were taken. On the 16th August however, another female was trapped and this time was of the correct weight to collar. She was given the title of Female X and the process of release went smoothly. The data collected from the clouded leopards will be used to provide management recommendations.



Image left: Checking the fit of the collar to ensure it is comfortable for the animal.

Image right: Female X at the end of the procedure with her collar successfully in place.



Monitor Lizard Collaring!

This month 6 new lizard collars arrived, and on the 23rd August the first lizard was collared by DGFC. This was closely followed by the second collaring on 27th August.



The first male lizard was named Berani, which means 'courage' in Malay. He weighed 15.0 kilos and had a total length 228cm. The second lizard, named Lumpur, was slightly larger at a total weight of 17.0 kilos. Due to their large sizes, both were suitable for collaring.

These collars (pictured left) will be used by Sergio for his PhD to further the understanding of the movements and activity patterns of these lizards between forest and plantation.

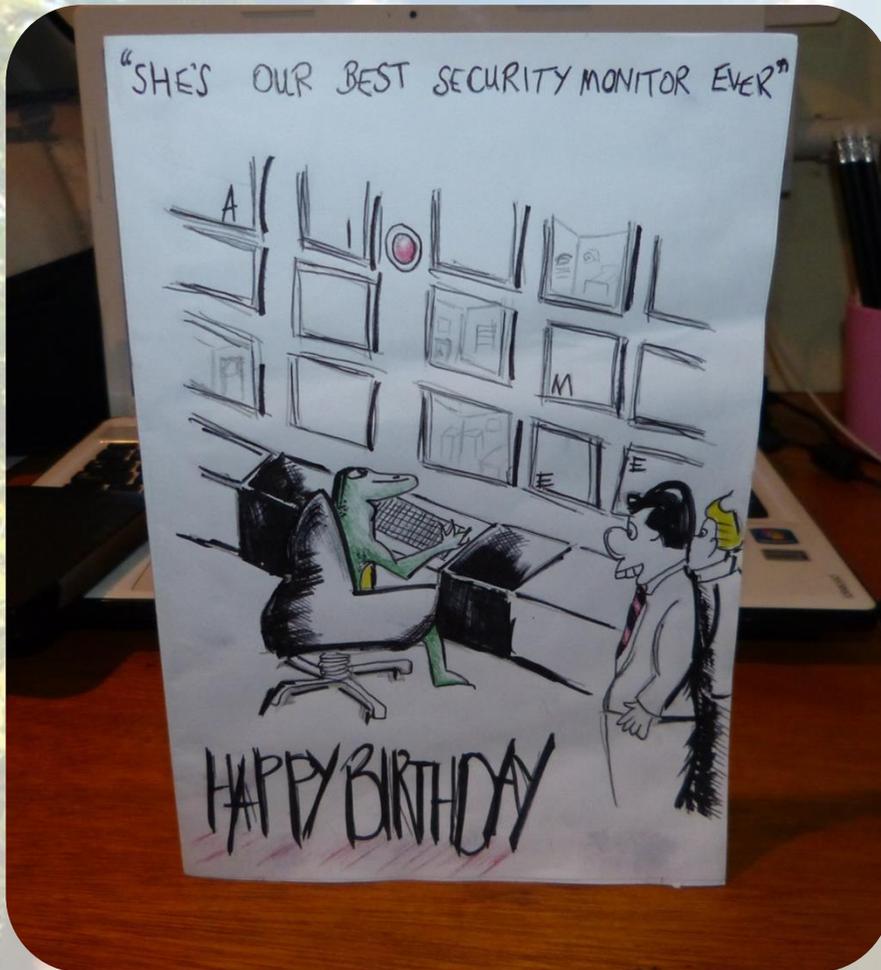
New additions to the fleet!

DG would just like to say a massive thank you to Monica and Doug Harris for the two new boats they donated to the centre. With DG getting a lot busier they are a great help for all the new research going on.

Can't wait for you to come back so we can take you for a ride!



Happy Birthday Aimee



Even though it is only August we have already had our first PTY birthday with Aimee turning 20. The new PTYs were thrown in the deep end with the task of making a cake.

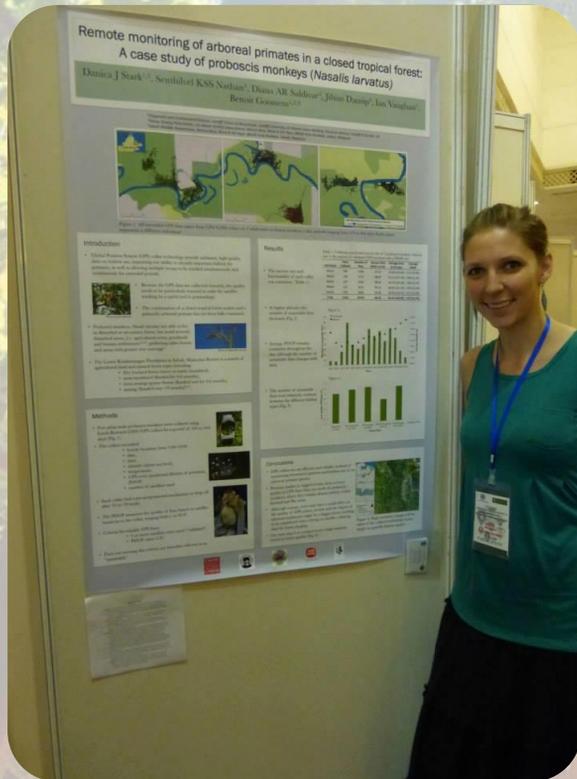
It turned out surprisingly well, however, there was no chocolate powder so compromises were made and the topping was custard instead and the flavouring of the sponge was orange.



Other news...

Elephants are back!

Shortly following their recent visit last month, the elephants were back once more! We were lucky enough to see the group crossing the river close to DGFC.



International Primatological Society Conference 2014

This month hosted the IPS Conference held in Hanoi, Viet Nam. Danica presented a poster based on her proboscis monkey research and Benoit gave a talk on conservation genomics. The Monkeybar team (Milena, Lauren and Angeline) also presented.

Extending the DGFC family

Our field manager, Budin, has recently become engaged to Hasimah Bte Raman. Welcome to the DGFC family, this is such wonderful news and we hope you will be very happy together!



Other news continued...



SCB Asia Conference

Luke, Farina, Gil and Lucy made up the DGFC contingent at SCB Asia Conference in Melaka, Malaysia, 19-22 August 2014.

Pangolin Workshop

Sabah Wildlife Department and Danau Girang Field Centre organised the 1st Pangolin workshop with funding from LUSH cosmetics to improve the conservation efforts aimed at the Pangolin.



New paper: Foraging site recursion by forest elephants. *Elephas maximus borneensis*

New paper on Bornean elephant published in Current Zoology co-authoring members of DGFC, Sabah Wildlife Department, HUTAN, University of Melbourne and University of Wellington. The research was carried out by Megan English, PhD student at University of Wellington.

Conservation Corner:

Common name:
Asian small-clawed otter

Scientific name: *Aonyx cinerea*

IUCN status: Vulnerable



Description and Ecology:

The Asian small-clawed otter, also known as the oriental small-clawed otter is the smallest otter in the world. It has a wide distribution and is found in most of Asia. Mangrove swamps and freshwater wetlands are the main habitat source and they demonstrate a diurnal lifestyle. Their diet includes crabs, other crustaceans and molluscs. Solitary individuals are rare as most members of the population will form groups.



Threats:

- Habitat destruction
- Hunting
- Pollution

Conservation:

- Listed on Appendix II CITES
- SeaWorld breeds this species as part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Species Survival Plan

Match the Malay!

1

Sun bear



A

Biawak

2

Sunda clouded leopard



B

Harimau
Dahan

3

Monitor lizard



C

Beruang

Jungle Fact of the Month

Pangolins do not have teeth!

Photos of the Month!



Photos taken by Aimee Holborow and Kenneth KEUK

Danau Girang Field Centre

*Danau Girang Field Centre was opened in July 2008.
It is located in the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary,
Sabah, Malaysia.*

*Danau Girang is owned by the Sabah Wildlife Department
and supported by Cardiff University. Its purpose is to further
scientific research with the aim of contributing to long-term
conservation projects in the area, and develop a better
understanding of our environment and the living things we
share it with.*

Danau Girang Field Centre

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