



The Jungle Times

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Arrivals

Michelle Nordkvist

Michelle is a Biology student from Uppsala University in Sweden, and will be collecting data for her masters thesis here at DGFC until December. Michelle's project investigates human disturbance along the Kinabatangan River in relation to crocodile movement and abundance.

Agnès Villa

Agnès is a Forestry student from Nancy University in France. She is a volunteer, staying until the beginning of January. Agnès is researching into how trees are growing in different forest types over the years and will be working on the botanical plots situated around DGFC.



Goodbyes

Hannah Emde

Hannah has been a volunteer here at DGFC for just over a month. During her stay Hannah took particular interest in all of the veterinary aspects of life in the rainforest, assisting in the collaring of both a clouded leopard and Malay civet. Hannah now returns to Germany to continue with her veterinary degree there. We wish you all the luck for the future Hannah!



Sepilok 50th Anniversary!

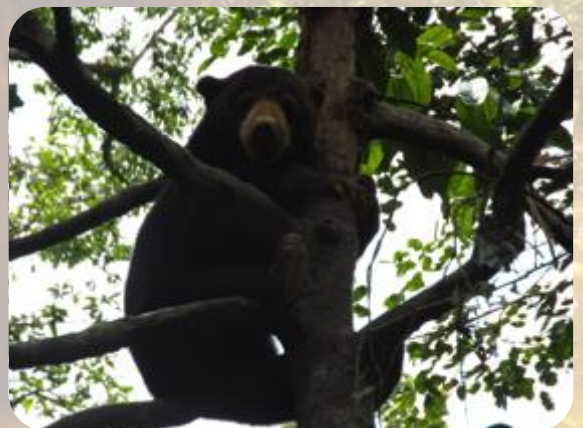
The 9th October 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SOURC). The centre is home to around 60-80 orangutans which have free roam around the reserve, and the nursery currently cares for around 25 young orphans. The centre is well known for its work in the rehabilitation of rescued orangutans and in increasing awareness worldwide of the conservation effort needed for orangutans.



In mark of this special occasion DGFC's manager Baharudin Resake and assistant manager Danica Stark, along with the four professional training year students (Roxy, Aimee, Kirsty and Rhys), attended the celebrations.



The event also marked the official opening of the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) at Sepilok to the public. The centre aims to improve education and awareness of sun bears on a global scale as well as conserve this wonderful species for the future.



Banteng Team Update!

The Banteng team is well underway setting up three new forest reserves for this year as part of the state-wide survey funded by the Sime Darby Foundation. Their first expedition to Kuamut Forest Reserve looked promising as they followed banteng tracks to find dung (fresh enough for sampling!) and signs of a banteng resting site. After visiting their other two forest reserves they returned to Kuamut a month later to find that their cameras had captured pictures of banteng! As well as pictures field assistants Roslee and Siti startled a male banteng at the apparent banteng resting site as they were checking the camera. The team also managed to collect more dung samples for genetic analysis by PhD Penny Gardner.



With the set up in Kuamut almost finished they're hoping to return to check all of the cameras next month and hopefully find more signs and camera trap images of banteng. Katie and Molly have started their projects with Katie hoping to look at group demography and Molly hoping to look at hunting.



UWCSEA Field Courses

This month a total of 40 students from UWCSEA (United World College South East Asia) joined us here at DGFC in the form of two field courses running from 11th-17th and 19th-25th October. During their stay the students took part in a series of activities provided by DGFC which included surveys on both primates and on the recently discovered spider species *Crassignatha danaugirangensis*. Both surveys allowed the students to understand more about the ecology of such animals.



They learnt how to set-up camera traps as well as analyse the photos obtained. Wildlife captured on the students cameras included wild boars, Malay badgers, macaques, an eagle and a rare storm stork.

Students experienced radio tracking to discover the location of animal VHF collars, allowing them to learn more about the technique widely used by many researchers to track and locate their collared animals.



UWCSEA Field Courses

The field course also took part in a river cleaning activity in which they collected as much rubbish as possible from the river. Overall both field courses combined collected a total of 455.5kg of rubbish! This rubbish was then sorted by the students.



Students spent one morning tree planting, helping in the effort to re-plant and create a new forest corridor. Between them the students worked as a team to plant around 300 new trees.



Tarsier Collared!

On the 18th October a juvenile tarsier was collared by the team here at DGFC. The small individual, who is thought to be a male, weighed in at only 90g. The movements of this tarsier will be followed and recorded as part of the on-going nocturnal primate project which is overseen by Danica Stark. Roxanne Everitt also hopes to use the movements of this small individual as part of her PTY project this year.



Droning!



Throughout this month Luke Evans, one of our PhD students researching crocodile nest spatial arrangement and the influence of anthropogenic factors in nest site selection, took to the skies with Keeyen Pang and Ryan Pang in order to locate crocodile nesting sites .

Using the drone they were able to acquire detailed digital images of the Kinabatangan River between Sungai Pin and Batangan, covering a rough area of 40km.

After a total of 17 flight missions, the images were stitched together using Pix4D software. The drone also collected data on digital elevation.



Nurzhafarina Othman in Sri Lanka

Our Elephant Conservation Officer and PhD student, Nurzhafarina Othman, and Eddie Ahmad from HUTAN-KOCP visited Sri Lanka this month to visit different projects areas such as Tissamaharama, Trincomalee and Galgamuwa. During this nine-day trip they worked with world-renowned elephant specialist, Dr Pruthu Fernando, and his wife, Jenny Pastorini, learning about implemented measures to deal with human-elephant conflicts and the kind of electric fences used.

Permanent electric fences are mostly erected to protect human settlements while non-permanent electric fences were erected only during cultivating or harvesting season, making sure that elephants can still use the area while the land is not cultivated.



This was for sure a great opportunity for both Farina and Eddie giving them the chance to visit two national parks; Kaudulla NP and Weheragala Reservoir which are occupied not only by elephants but also by other wildlife and many species of birds.



They are looking forward to working closely with CCR in the future.

Nurzhafarina's newly found knowledge will be implemented in the Kinabatangan!

Other news...

Rhythms of Rimba (ROR) Wildlife Festival! (3-4 October 2014)

The Rhythms of Rimba (ROR) Wildlife Festival was the first wildlife-focused festival in Borneo, organized in Sandakan by local non-profit Future Alam Borneo (FAB), featuring various performances from singers, musicians and art performers. NGOs exhibitions and presentations were from Danau Girang Field Centre, Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, HUTAN-KOCP, WWF, Land Empowerment Animals People (LEAP), Reef Guardian and the Sugud Islands Marine Conservation Area (SIMCA), Dr Lindsay Porter (St Andrews University) and Elisa Panjang (Pangolin Researcher).



Conservation Corner:

Common name:
Gilded Tube-nosed Bat

Scientific name:
Murina rozendaali

IUCN status:
Vulnerable



Description and Ecology:

The gilded tube-nosed bat (*Murina rozendaali*) is a species of vesper bat, family: Vespertilionidae. It is found only in Malaysian Peninsula and three or four localities in Sabah, Borneo. This species is low-flying, over streams within lowland dipterocarp forest. Presumably it is a foliage rooster, not known to live in caves.

Threats:

This species prevalence is thought to have declined by at least 30% in the last 15 years. Habitat loss due to logging, agriculture, oil palm plantations and forest fires pose a major threat to this species.

Conservation:

No specific conservation measures are known to be in place for the gilded tube-nosed bat. However, Krau Wildlife Reserve in Malaysia offers resident species populations some protection. Additionally, a number of conservation organisations, such as WWF, are working to conserve forests in the regions inhabited by this elusive bat.

Match the Malay!

1

2

3



A

B

C

Monyet
Bangkatan

Kucing
Hutan

Teledu

Jungle Fact of the Month

Some snakes are able to fly through the forest canopy by carrying out a 'mid-air dance'

Photos of the Month!



Photos taken by Aimee Holborow, Roxanne Everitt & 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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Sabah

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