



# The Jungle Times

Independent newsletter of:



Est. 2008

Issue: 114

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# Arrivals

## Steve

Steve is a Masters student studying Primate Parasitology at UMS in collaboration with Kyoto University in Japan. He arrived at DG in early October to collect primate faecal samples for two months. He aims to find out the diversity and distribution as well as potential impacts on human health.



## Sam

Sam arrived late October to volunteer for two months here at DGFC. He has a degree in Zoology from the University of Leeds. Previously he has been living and working in Australia. Before arriving at DG he visited the tip of Borneo and then volunteered for WWF-Malaysia in Kota Kinabalu, where he was working on a new platform called the 'Wildlife Atlas of Sabah'.

# Visitors

**Keeyen Pang** (drone Pilot), **Chris Tan** (Scubazoo cameraman) and **Georgie Ward** (BBC producer) visited DGFC for three days to film Masters student **Maz**. Maz is developing a way of doing primate censusing using thermal imaging and drones. The filming was for a BBC production called 'Islands'.



## **Sheri Horiszny**

The Deputy Director of Oregon Zoo was at DGFC for two nights visiting our projects. Here she is helping to set civet traps for our live trapping with the aim to collar civets to see if and how civets use plantations.



# UWCSEA Field course



At the beginning of the month we were joined by students from UWCSEA, an international school in Singapore. The students took part in lots of fun activities such as mushroom hunts, millipede walks, butterfly catching, river cleaning and more! The group was split into four groups and led by one of the PTY students, with each activity having a point scoring system. Well done to the winning team – group C! The students also made a video presentation of their time here. We had a range of themes, from attitudes towards reptiles in different areas of the world, to the importance of hornbills, as well as some students describing the impact that being at DGFC had on them individually. Well done to all the groups for being so enthusiastic, for such great presentations and for keeping the PTY students on their toes!

# Pangolin news

This month Elisa, our resident pangolin researcher, met with the Minister for Tourism, Culture and Environment; Sabah Wildlife Department; and Sabah Forestry Department regarding an exciting new opportunity for the future of Pangolins in Sabah. The meeting was held to discuss a proposal for a Pangolin sanctuary and research institute. The institute will focus primarily on the goal of educating about this elusive species, with secondary goals of housing rescued individuals and conducting research on wild and captive individuals.

Peter Chan, an American citizen from Malaysia, has proposed this idea and is generously willing to provide the initial seed fund to start up this exciting project. He is passionate about conserving this species and wants to encourage Sabahans to be the stewards to ensure the survival of the pangolin.

The official proposal is to be submitted at the end of November, so stay tuned for more news!



Also in October the team travelled to Sepilok to collect a rescued Pangolin for tagging. Tuah, an adult male pangolin, was brought back to DG for releasing. He was released on the 21<sup>st</sup> October and has since been making his way upriver! He will be tracked as part of Elisa's PhD and has seemingly adjusted well to life in his new home.



This is with great sadness that DG family is announcing the passing of Dr Diana Angeles Ramirez Saldivar. She was our sister and our friend.

She was a friend of Milena Salgado Lynn, and arrived in Sabah eight years ago, in August 2010 to work with the Wildlife Rescue Unit. During those eight years she gave everything to her job with WRU and worked tirelessly to support some of DGFC's projects, collaring elephants, clouded leopards, proboscis monkeys, crocodiles. While working... full time to rescue and protect Sabah's wildlife, she was also doing her Master degree at University Malaysia Sabah on proboscis monkeys' health. We do not know a more passionate and dedicated wildlife conservationist in Sabah than Diana! She fought many battles for the well-being of wildlife and captive animals in Sabah. Sabah must honour her contribution. She inspired many of us and she will always be remembered, she will always be in our hearts and we will continue her fight. Diana, we miss you!

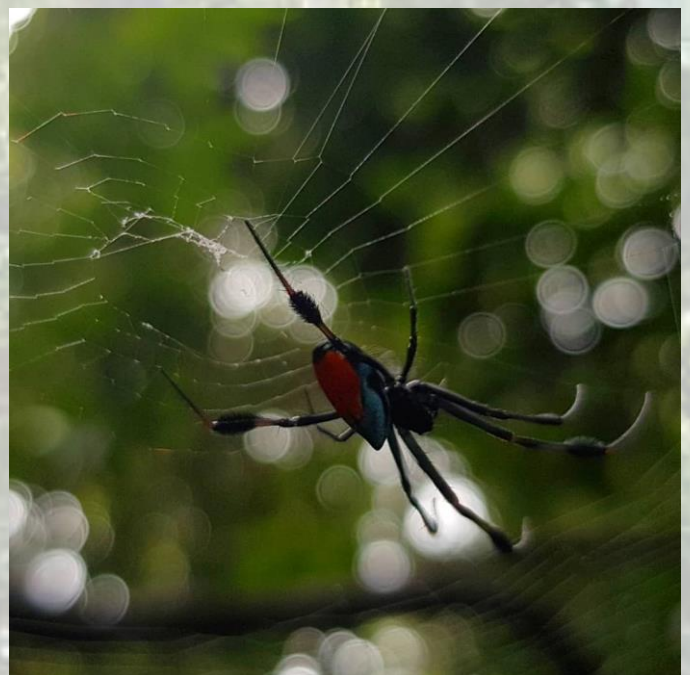
# Conservation Corner

## *Opadometa sarawakensis*

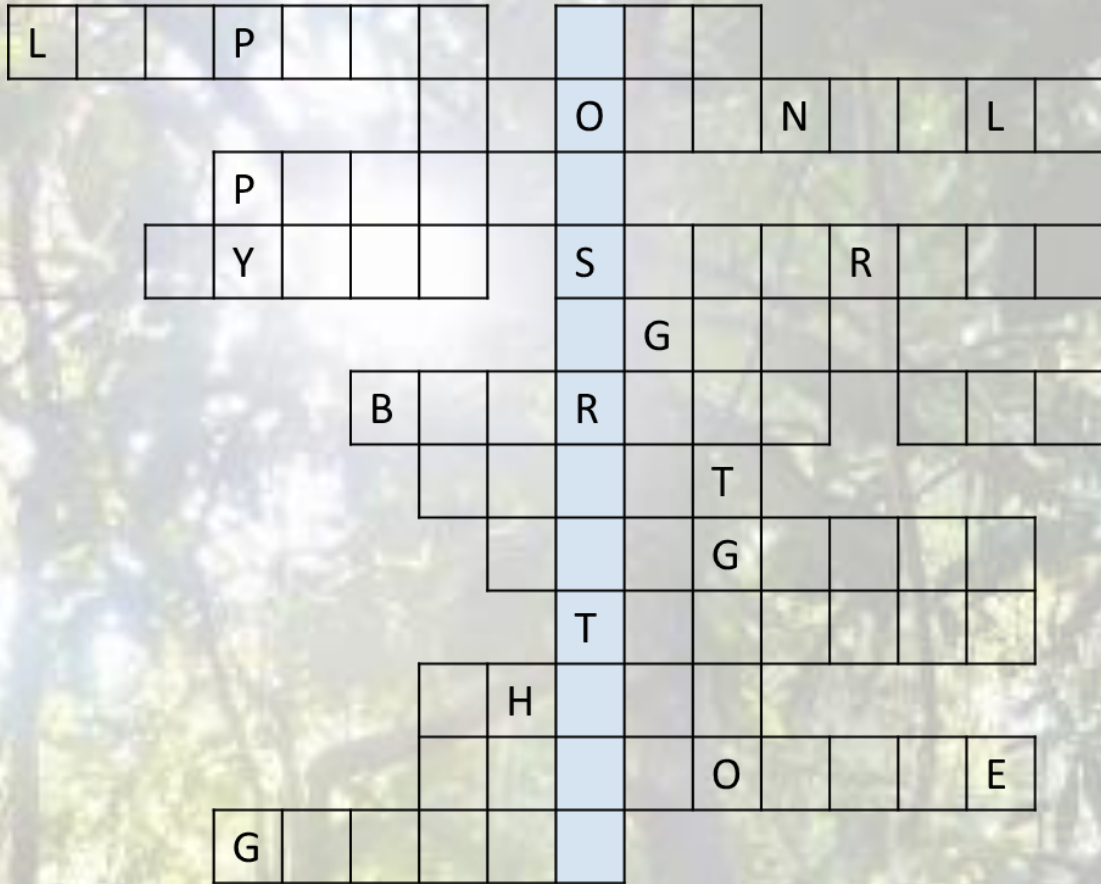


*Opadometa* is a genus of spider within the family of long jawed orb weavers (Tetragnathidae), it contains 4 species all originating in Asia. The species *sarawakensis* is localized in Borneo and Brunei. In 2014 the species taxonomic reference entry was made and in 2018 the first male was described by a group of lecturers and students from Leiden University on a field course at DGFC. The male has just as a striking appearance as the female (pictured), its colouring is a blend of orange, grey, black and silver.

The *sarawakensis* female is about twice the length of the male and much heavier. Long jawed orb weavers, first described in 1866 produce webs that are orb shaped with 12-20 anchoring spokes radiating from the centre. Like most spiders they feed on insects. They're often found on horizontal or vertical webs near water. Without conservation of forest like that around DGFC, species like this would never be discovered, some of which could be useful medicinally or in other ways.



# Danau Girang Fun Games



1. One of five Bornean cat species
2. Long beaked bird
3. Longest reptile
4. Small rodent (very cute)
5. Long necked bird
6. Needs a shave
7. Cat-like, dog-like, ferret-like, nocturnal mammal
8. Only mammal with scales
9. Fully carnivorous primate
10. Extinct, sadly
11. Man eater
12. Loud primate



## 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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