



Jungle Times

Independent Newsletter of Danau Girang Field Centre, Est. 2008



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*Photo of the Month Credit:
Camera Trap*

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What's Going On?



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This month the team based at DG hosted the KK team for our AGM. This is an opportunity for everyone part of the DG family to get together for some team building activities over a few days. We enjoyed several team games on the Saturday morning and in the evening everyone came together to cook some amazing food including Malaysian, Korean, Mexican and a very British crumble for desert. We also watched the Oscar winner film Parasite. It was a very fun weekend and a pleasure to host! This year our group t shirts had the Regrow Borneo logo on to celebrate the launch, and the fact that we have already achieved the annual fundraising target in just a few months!

What's Going On?



SUN BEAR SIGN SURVEY

Recently Tee Thye Lim and Chiew Lin May invited Miriam, Maca, Samsir and Koko to the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) at Sepilok, to teach and update them on the components of a sun bear sign survey. After a day of learning at the sanctuary they all came back to DG to carry out an initial sun bear sign survey in the forest surrounding DG. This involved interviewing locals to find out what animals they see in the surrounding forest and whether there is a known sun bear in that area. They then went out into the forest themselves and walked transects to search for claw marks on the trees... which was very positive indeed and shows signs of recent sun bear activity! The next step is to run a camera trapping project in these areas and scout for potential traps sites, this has the overall aim of collaring a wild resident sun bear to gain a better understanding of their spatial ecology.

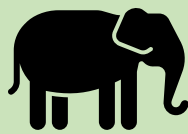


Visitor Fact File



WILLIAM JONES-WARNER

Will is a former Cardiff University student who will be starting his PhD at the London school of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine soon. As a Cardiff University alumnus, he learned about DGFC while still doing his undergraduate, but never got around to visit until this year. He is currently doing fieldwork in the Philippines and thought to come to the centre to have a better idea of what research projects are been carried out. His PhD will be looking at blood parasites but he was keen to apply this to the bigger picture and wondered what diseases we had here. As he is based in the lab often to collect data he was interested in seeing how we work in the field trapping, collaring and tracking animal data to analyse their movement as it's a very different style of science. His favourite activity was setting up traps for civet collaring and his least favourite thing was the mosquito bites! His next stop will be Danum Valley.



PTY Departure



KIRSTY LEACH

After six months at Danau Girang Field Centre Kirsty has completed her year in industry as part of her Zoology undergraduate degree at Swansea University. Kirsty will be greatly missed along with her beautiful art and yoga skills which we all appreciated after a long day in the field. Over Kirsty's time here she fine tuned her spotting and identifying skills especially on night walks, she had a keen eye for frogs in particular. Aside from helping with the PhD field work, she helped Miriam analyse videos from the hornbill nest boxes, and also did some work with camera trapping in restoration plots looking at mammal diversity. Her highlight of her time here was seeing the bearded pigs who live around the field centre, and watching macaques playing on the river bank whilst on the boat. We wish her the best of luck with her future studies and research!



Arrival



LAUREN GILHOOLY

Lauren is joining DG as our Social Science Officer, she will also be helping to supervise volunteers and students that come to DG. She is from Bowmanville, Canada, but has been working in Sepilok for the past few years on her PhD. This involved studying the interactions between macaques and tourists, she would spend time in the field following a group of macaques round to collect behaviour and feeding data, and also interview visitors on their experience of the animals. She has actually already done some work for DG back in 2014, but she was based in Kudat looking at long tailed macaques, so she is glad this time to be able to go out on the forest trails around here and just enjoy walking and not having to think about data! She is also looking forward to getting on board with Regrow Borneo and talking to locals about their view on this project. We are really excited to have her here!



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 Departments 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.

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