



# The Jungle Times

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Independent Newsletter of Danau Girang Field Centre, Established 2008

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

**2 and 3 – Crocodile release**

**4 and 5 – Schools visit to learn about wetlands**

**6 – DGFC staff learn First Aid**

**7 – PTY has her 21st**

**7 – Do you know your carnivores...**

**8 – Photo album**



Crocodile release on pages 2 and 3...



Wetland visit on pages 4 and 5...



First aid training on page 6...



Birthday celebration on page 7...



# 11ft crocodile released opposite DGFC

On the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> March, Australian film crew with presenter and crocodile expert Matt Wright, arrived outside the jetty of DG to release an 11ft crocodile into the Kinabatangan river. The crocodile had to be relocated from its previous home due to the area being near villages and having a potentially dangerous high density of crocodiles.



To the excitement of the staff and volunteers of DG, they were invited to watch the entire process of the release. During the event, Matt Wright took interviews with our manager Mark and master student Luke Evans, who himself is studying crocodiles and so benefited greatly from the event. While some members of DG chose to watch from afar,







the bravest of our staff were able to get fully involved in the carrying of this huge reptile from the boat onto the mud bank of the river. The strength of this crocodile was evident when it took at least five men to pull the animal out of the boat.

Nevertheless, the croc was safely released from its restraints and, despite its initial reluctance, eventually was encouraged into the waters of its new home.



The event of this crocodile release, along with many other wildlife events done by the team, is due to be shown on the National Geographic channel in the programme 'Bush Pilot Rescue'.



# Asian Wetland School Network Exchange Programme visits Danau Girang

On 18 March 2011, around 50 students from the Asian Wetland School Network spent the morning learning about oxbow lake systems and the wildlife associated with them at Danau Girang. The group included a variety of all aged students from Malaysia, South Korea, China, Bangladesh, Thailand and Japan.



Students were split into 4 small groups led by the volunteers at Danau Girang. Each group got to learn about the type of research that takes place here at DG and the importance of the conservation of the wildlife that is studied.





The first group was presented with lectures on the ecology of the salt water crocodile, followed by the formation of Ox bow lakes and primate ecology, led by Luke Evans and Danica Stark respectively. The last two groups consisted of an introduction to camera trapping as a method of research led by Rodi Tenquist-Clarke and Rob Colgan and a tutorial in frog identification, by Sarah Scriven.



This was the 3rd annual event of the Asian Wetland School Network, developed to educate students on the importance of the wetlands and their conservation in Asia.



Many of the students showed great enthusiasm in learning about the conservation work down at DG, and hopefully future presentations such as these will heighten awareness and encourage young people to choose a future in conservation.



# Fisrt Aid course for DGFC staff

The organisation Fieldskills Sdn Bhd arrived at DG at the end of March to provide the staff of DG with a professional first aid course specific for work in the jungle. The course took a period of 3 days; the first two days consisting of the basics of first aid including care for the stings, bites, cuts and bone breaks. These were demonstrated via lectures and hands on tutorials inside. The last day, the staff were able to put their knowledge to use by taking part in various scenarios representing 'rescue missions' outside in the forest.



At the end of the three day course, the staff had to complete a final written test, which, impressively, all staff members passed first time. We give our congratulations to DG staff for their success and hard work, and to field skills for their excellent teaching.

# Birthday Celebration!



PTY student Rodi celebrated her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday this month, with a surprise feast of pizza, tiramisu cake and ice cream!



## *Do you know your Bornean carnivores?*

The largest Bornean Carnivore, in the Felidae family:

The smallest of its genus found in the world:

The carnivore most commonly found in groups of more than two:

The animal that is in the same family as the mongooses:

The carnivore that is commonly detected by its strong odour:





# Photo album



Clockwise from top left; Orangutan mother and baby above the path, dragonfly in a plantation, leopard cat posing (by S. Scriven), Vladimir (our resident hornbill) returns, 4 lined frog trying to hide, beautiful big moon view from the forest...



*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.*

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