



# The Jungle Times

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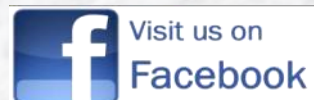
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## Welcome:

*This is our first issue of  
'The Jungle Times'  
for the year.*

*We hope it's interesting  
and enjoyable!*

*Grace & Helen*



# New PTYs...

This month saw the arrival of our two new PTY's from Cardiff University. Grace Dibden and Helen Cadwallader will be helping out at DGFC for the next year. Additionally carrying out their own projects as part of their undergraduate degrees.



**Grace Hannah Dibden,  
BSc Zoology:**

"...I am so happy to have been given the opportunity to live and work in the rain forest for a year! So far I have loved every minute of being at DG. The field course was great and I'm so excited about all the amazing experiences me and Helen will have in the next 12 months! Thanks to Josie and Alice for showing us the ins and outs of being PTY students before they left..."



**Helen Cadwallader,  
BSc Ecology:**

"...After spending just 2 weeks here I can't believe how lucky we are to be able to spend a full year at DG. Whilst I'm here I'll be carrying out a project on carnivores. I'm really looking forward to helping with lots of different projects as well as seeing as much interesting wildlife as possible and improving my photography..."

# Arrivals...



## **Iswari Nallisamy:**

A Malaysian volunteer from Cornell University staying at DG for a month. She has come to gain field experience and will primarily be helping Jenny with the small mammal trapping.

## **Nadege Giroux:**

Another volunteer here at DG for the next 4 weeks. She will be assisting Danica mostly with the primate work at DG.



## **Rudi Delvaux:**

Rudi is a wildlife photographer who has visited DGFC twice before. He has returned for 3 months to carry out his master on amphibian diversity in epiphytes.

# Visitors this month...

**Professor Peter Wimberger (University of Puget Sound):** Peter came to DG for 2 days to check out the field centre before a possible field course next year.

**Sime Darby film crew:** Visited DG for a single night to film the proboscis monkey project which they contribute funding to.

**Jess Hughes and James Shipton:** Cardiff graduates on their travels round Asia for 3 months popped into DG for 5 days after missing out on the field course as undergraduates.

# Cardiff Field Course

A group of 20 students came to DGFC from Cardiff University at the start of the month for a 2 week field course. Simon Amos from 'Fieldskills' gave a one-day forest safety course. The first week was spent in small groups learning a range of forest skills, including:

- ❖ Primate surveying.
- ❖ Entomology.
- ❖ Botanic plots.
- ❖ Frog surveying.
- ❖ Nocturnal primate tracking.
- ❖ Bird mist netting.
- ❖ Crocodile surveying.
- ❖ Small mammal trapping.



In the second week of their stay the students split into groups and designed a range of different 5-day projects, for example:

- ❖ Is social grooming in long-tailed macaques asymmetric?
- ❖ The effect of habitat on the dynamics of millipede populations.



Here's what some of the Cardiff University students said about their stay at DGFC:

"Fantastic, loved every minute, just wish I could stay longer" – George Davis



"Had a wonderful time at DGFC, everyone was so friendly & kind. Provided me with the most amazing two weeks, truly unforgettable! Thank you so much!" – Zoë Baker



"Thank you for an unforgettable two weeks. Had the most amazing time, could happily live in the jungle forever." - Grace Foulds

# HJB Charitable Trust scholarships

HJB Charitable Trust was set up in 2001, supporting research into conservation and providing scholarships, bursaries and grants to students travelling from the UK & Wales for educational purposes. In 2010, the HJB Charitable Trust agreed to fund two £1,500 travel scholarships over a period of three years (2011, 2012 & 2013) for Cardiff University students who will attend the School's Tropical Biodiversity Assessment Field Course in Sabah.

For this year's Cardiff field trip, Zoe Baker and Frederick Harvey Williams were successful in their applications.



"Friends of the Danau Girang Field Centre, New York" agreed to award Grace Dibden £450 towards the costs of the field course.



# Visit to Tabin Wildlife Reserve

Ben, Mark, Alice and Camila travelled to Tabin Wildlife Reserve on the 5<sup>th</sup> in the hope of catching one or two male elephants that have been roaming around SWD HQ and BORA's facilities.



The goal was to set up satellite collars on these males in order to follow their movements in the reserve. Unfortunately, we did not manage to catch any individual. We took the opportunity to visit the facilities of Borneo Rhino Alliance (BORA) and see Tam, the Sumatran rhino, in his forested enclosure. A once in a lifetime experience!



# Goodbye Josie & Alice



Everyone at DG was sad to see the remaining two PTY students leave on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Both are returning to Cardiff in September for one more year to complete their BSc Zoology degrees. Good luck from everyone at DGFC!

Josie: "I cannot believe a year in the rainforest is over, I have seen awesome things, met amazing people and had the most incredible experiences. Thank you everyone who has made this year unforgettable, DGFC...I'll be back!"

Alice: "It has been an amazing experience and I have enjoyed every second of it. I can't believe the opportunities I have had and the things I have seen; elephants, a crocodile collaring, a rhino (to name just a few!) and of course tracking tarsiers and a slow loris!! It was made even better by the people I met throughout the year, I hope I can come back one day. Thank you everyone, thank you DGFC!"

Josie & Alice have been a great asset to the team this year and we hope they return soon!



# Selamat Datang to Cornwall College!

This month a group of five students in various stages of their degrees and three lecturers from Cornwall College arrived at DG for the third year in a row.



During their stay the group did a range of activities including; frog surveys, small mammal trapping, primate surveys, bird surveys, camera trapping and studied aquatic ecosystems. They also had day trips out to Gomantong caves, Sandakan and Sepilok Orang-utan rehabilitation centre. Between the group there was a large diversity of animals seen, even seeing elephants toward the end of the trip!

Take a look at the Cornwall College photo album on the next page to see what they got up to. We hope everyone enjoyed their stay and we look forward to seeing the Cornwall students return next year!

# Cornwall College photo album



# What happens when macaques watch you set out a butterfly trap...

Students from Cornwall College field course thought they'd set up a butterfly trap in the hope of catching and studying some butterflies, but DG's resident macaques had a different idea...



# Goodbye to...

**Stephanie Hing:** MSc in Conservation Science at Imperial College, London. Steph compared the endoparasites in Bornean elephants living in Kinabatangan and those living in Tabin.

**Meaghan Harris:** During her two month stay Meg continued with our camera trapping. She returns to Miami University to complete her Zoology degree. Good luck and see you in January!

**Carole Penpoul:** After four months working on the botanic plots at DG Carole returns to AgroParisTech to finish her Master in Forestry.

**Camila Goossens:** During her 2 month internship, Camila was studying endoparasites in proboscis monkey fecal samples. On her return she will enter her third year of veterinary science.

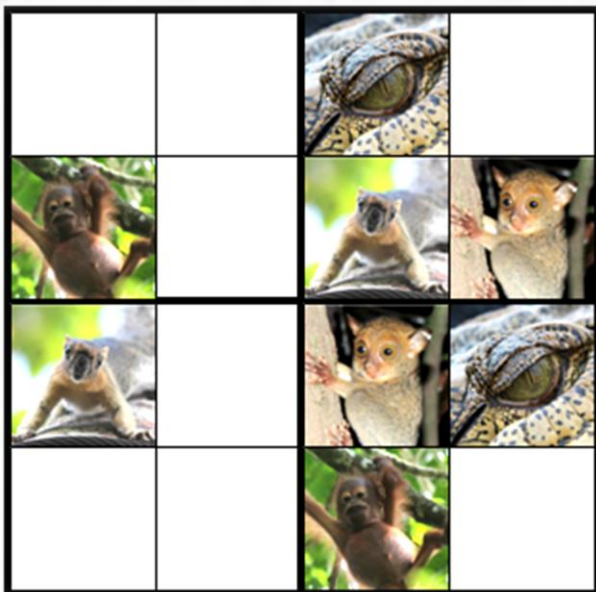
## Jungle Sudoku!

A jungle twist on the classic Sudoku cube. Your task is to fill in the blank squares.

There's only one rule... All 4 animals must appear once and only once in each row, column & box (bold lined).

Animals this month:

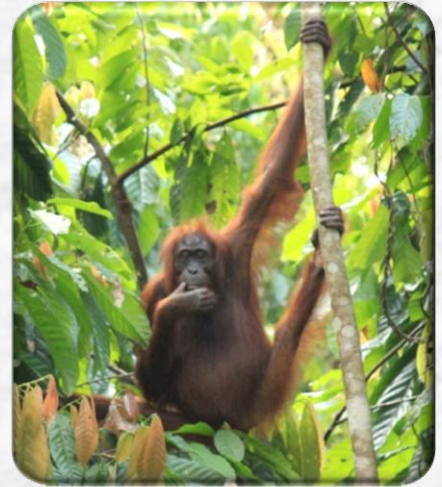
- ❖ Giant squirrel (Josie Jackson)
- ❖ Baby Orang-utan (Josie Jackson)
- ❖ Western tarsier (Camila Goossens)
- ❖ Crocodile eye (Josie Jackson)



# Conservation Corner:

## Orang-utan

Scientific name: *Pongo pygmaeus*  
 ICUN status: Endangered (IUCN red list)  
 Wild population trend: Decreasing



The Bornean Orang-utan is endemic to Borneo, found only in Sabah, Sarawak and Kalimantan. These large, diurnal apes are found mostly in lowland forest especially in flood-prone and peat swamp forests as these provide larger fruit crops.

### **Threats:**

- ❖ The conversion of forest to agriculture (especially oil palm plantations) has resulted in a 37% loss of habitat in Sabah since 1950.
- ❖ Fires in drought years have increased fragmentation of habitat, resulting in overcrowding.
- ❖ Human activities such as; hunting for bush meat, the pet trade and use in traditional medicines have reduced population size.

### **Conservation:**

Orang-utans are protected by law in both Indonesia and Malaysia. They are also listed on the CITES appendix 1.

A new Orangutan Action Plan for Sabah was launched in January 2012 by the Sabah Wildlife Department, and DGFC is involved in the implementation of that action plan.

# Pics of the Month!



Photos left to right: Alice and Doyo weighing Como the tarsier after removing her radio collar; small-toothed palm civet (Rudi Delvaux); Orang-utan & baby (Adam Seward); Butterfly (Grace Foulds); DGFC group photo; Josie playing 'pin the tail on the tarsier'; King Cobra (Rudi Delvaux); view from the Kinabatangan river (Grace Foulds); early start on the Cardiff field course; lantern bug outside the main building (Sam Stafford); Western tarsier (Adam Seward);

## 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**

Lot 6  
The Jungle  
Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary  
Sabah

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