

LINTON

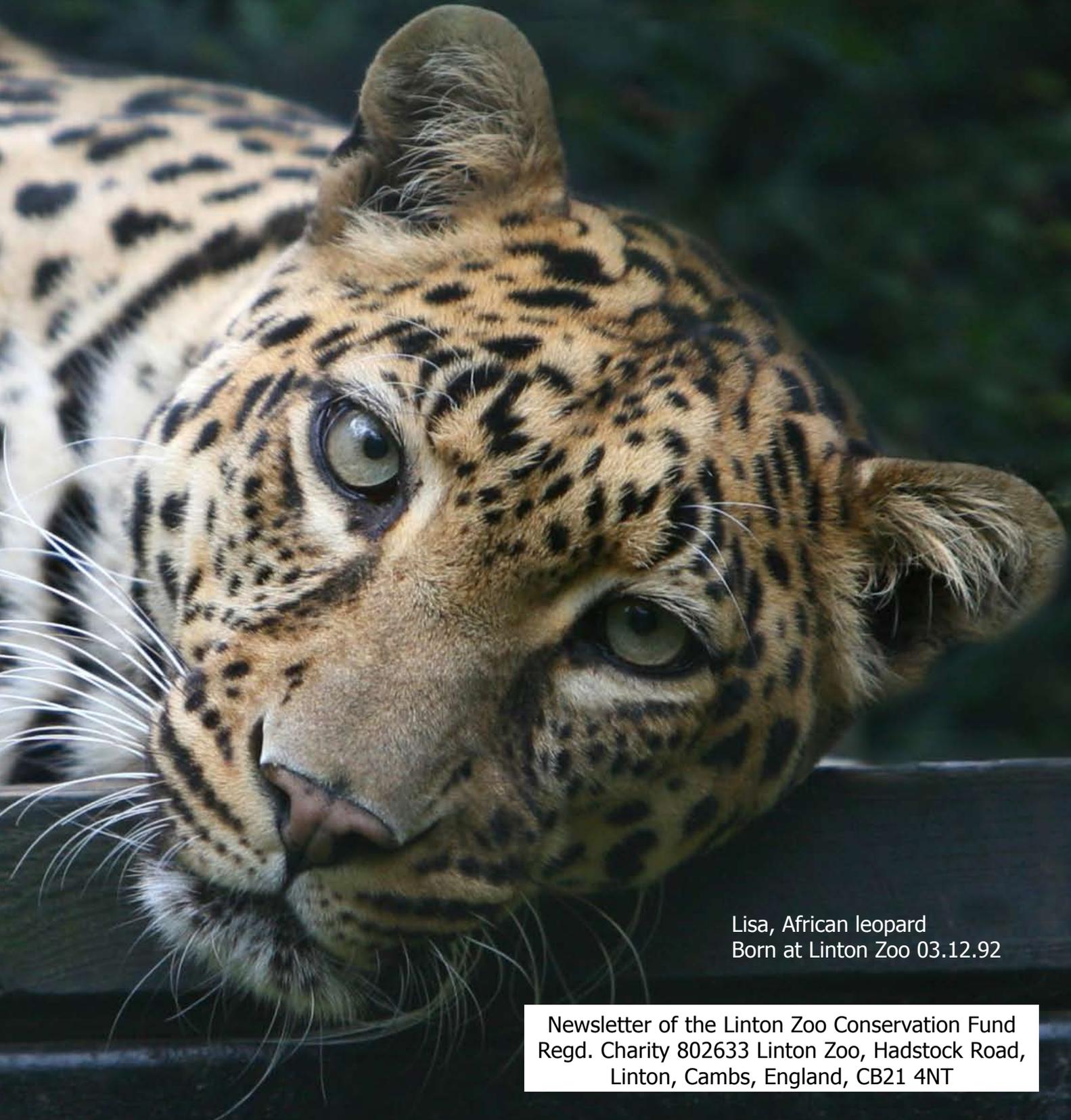
*Zoological
Gardens*

www.lintonzoo.com

ZOO

NEWS

Winter 2009/10 Issue 18



Lisa, African leopard
Born at Linton Zoo 03.12.92

Newsletter of the Linton Zoo Conservation Fund
Regd. Charity 802633 Linton Zoo, Hadstock Road,
Linton, Cambs, England, CB21 4NT

Linton Zoological Gardens

Cambridgeshire's Wildlife Breeding Centre

Linton Zoo has evolved out of our family's love, interest and concern for the wildlife of the world.

IN JANUARY 1972 we moved from Bishop's Stortford, Herts, (where we had a thriving pet shop and zoo suppliers business) to Linton, where we could establish a centre for breeding wildlife. Our large private collection of exotic species and the stock left unsold at our shops when we moved, formed the nucleus of our present day collection.

The ignorance and greed of our own human race has driven many species of wildlife to extinction, mainly through over-hunting and the destruction and alteration of natural habitats. We have always believed that the destruction of natural habitats will continue and the rate of extinction will increase until Man realises his error. Man is destroying the tropical forests at an alarming rate - an area three times the size of Switzerland is lost every year. During the 'great dying' of the dinosaurs the extinction rate was a possible one species per thousand years; today it is estimated at being one species per day, a shameful increase brought about by our own human race.

Unfortunately very few people realise or care what extinction really means - but we do!



SUMMER GARDENS. Beautiful geraniums provide a pretty display. These lovely summer flowers are replaced with colourful and highly scented hyacinths in the spring.

It is obvious that our wonderful wildlife needs all the help it can get, if it is to survive into the future. Captive breeding programmes for as many species as possible, including those not directly under threat at the present time, will ensure a safeguard against extinction. It has always been our aim to create a place where these threatened creatures could be brought to live safely and peacefully and where they could be happy and contented to breed. The site at Linton seemed to be the ideal place.

When we first moved here we were faced with a basic open field, ten and a half acres in size without the trees, shrubs, gardens and enclosures which you see today. We estimated that at least ten years' hard work was needed to transform the site into a successful breeding centre, so we began our endless project of landscaping, planting and building.

We now have a large collection of wildlife ranging from Mexican Red-Kneed tarantulas and snakes through to giant tortoises, hornbills, toucans, parrots, owls and pheasants, beautiful Snow leopards, magnificent Amur tigers, African lions, Hartmann's Mountain Zebra and Brazilian tapir. Each year new species are brought in, many of them being part of an international captive breeding programme, so the collection is constantly on the increase.

From the very early stages we have achieved a good breeding record with some 'firsts' to our credit. The gardens now cover 18 acres and are maturing into a wonderful sight which many people now come especially to see. Over 10,000 bedding plants are put in every year and we have some interesting trees and shrubs which catch the eyes of even the non-botanically minded visitors!

The gardens are important to the animals who live here, helping to create a more natural environment; they also provide a home for many different native species who have discovered our zoo to be a safe place to live and breed.

During the summer, thousands of butterflies also visit the gardens breeding on the wild plants which we leave especially for them. We expect that most of this probably goes unnoticed by the average visitor, but it is an added bonus for us, as it is wonderful and very rewarding to see so many different creatures moving in to live and breed in the safety of the zoo.



Our Mongoose lemurs enjoy sunbathing in the glorious Summer days and curling up using their tails for blankets in the cool Summer evenings. As the studbook holders for all Mongoose lemurs throughout Europe we are tremendously proud of our Mongoose lemur collection. © Colin Edwards

While at the zoo please remember it is our garden which we have devoted to the preservation of wildlife. It is the home of many creatures, some of which probably have young. Please respect it as such. We wish you a pleasant and enjoyable visit.
The Simmons family

BIRTHS, HATCHINGS, MOVES AND NEWS

COTTON-TOP TAMARINS

Following the birth of the tamarin twins in November 2008, we were absolutely delighted to find that Medelin

was once again pregnant and gave birth to these two little gorgeous twins on the 20th August 2009. The older twins have taken fantastically to their role as big brother and sister and regularly help mum and dad out with the raising of the two youngsters. With only an estimated 2000

mature individuals left in the wild and numbers still dropping at an alarming rate, every birth of this Critically Endangered species is incredibly important if we are to save this little monkey from extinction.



2 month old Cotton-top tamarin twin pictured with dad



Cotton-top tamarin twins born 20th August 2009

PANCAKE TORTOISE

On 21st November 2009 we were overjoyed when a little Pancake tortoise hatched. The pancake tortoise may at times appear to be stuck in a gap or crevice in the rock – don't worry, it's not! The shell is very soft and flexible so that it yields under pressure, enabling it to squeeze into crevices at times of danger, it is for this reason that it is sometimes also known as the crevice tortoise.



Pancake tortoise hatching on 21st November 2009

The adults have an average body length of 15 cm yet they will only grow to be about 3 cm tall.

Their unusual size and appearance makes them very desirable pets. The biggest threat to the survival of the pancake tortoise in the wild is the pet trade.



Left: Red-bellied lemur twins born 30.08.09

On the recommendation of the Red-bellied lemur studbook holder Robin, Scarlett and Teddys' 2007 baby has now moved to Tregomeur Zoo in France where he has been paired up with a young female in the hope they will now raise a successful family group of their own.

RED-BELLIED LEMURS

Teddy and Scarlet, the adult Red-bellied lemurs, Gizmo, their son born 19th April 2009, and their twins, born 30th August 2009, have now all moved up to a fantastic new enclosure at Edinburgh Zoo.

MEET COSMO

Cosmo, this gorgeous little bundle of fluff, is a European dark breasted barn owl and is the latest member of our education department. Cosmo was hatched in a private collection in October 2009 and is being hand-reared by keeper Paul Ferguson. Cosmo will form an essential part of our education team and will be visiting schools as part of our Outreach programme and representing European wildlife in our educational talks.



Left: Cosmo, European dark breasted barn owl, 5 weeks old with surrogate father Paul.

BLUE-THROATED MACAWS

We are delighted with these two chicks who hatched in early September. Both are doing incredibly well and we are very proud of the parents Diego and Julieta.

This is one of the rarest birds in the world with only around 250 individuals left in the wilds of Northern Bolivia, with numbers still decreasing.

Right: 3 week old Blue-throated macaw chicks in their nest box



Due to land clearance for cattle ranching the islands of Palm trees where the macaws usually nest are becoming few and far between leaving the Blue-throats competing for nest sites with Blue and Gold macaws, Toucans and large Woodpeckers.

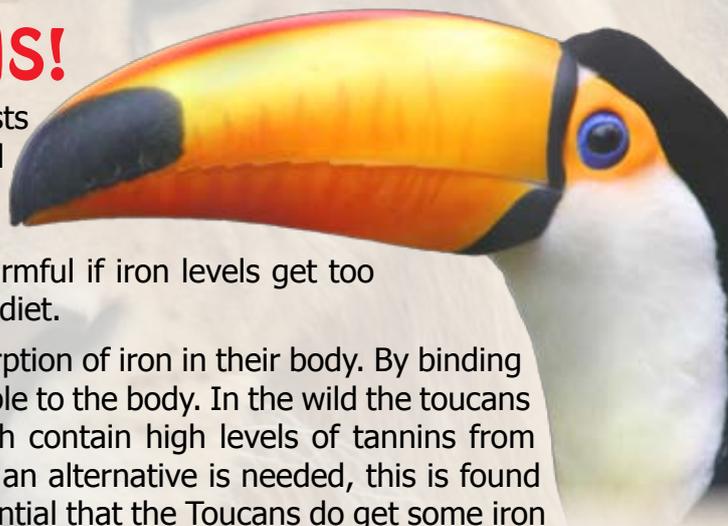
The pet trade has also had a devastating effect on numbers in the wild. Live export from Bolivia was banned in 1984, but illegal export continues

There are fears that inbreeding within an increasingly fragmented population is resulting in reduced fertility of wild birds, so breeding programmes in zoos could be the key their future survival.

TEA FOR TOUCANS!

Toucans, found in the tropical forests of Central America, have an unusual metabolism and are susceptible to a disorder that causes iron to build up in their body, and this can be harmful if iron levels get too high, they therefore require a low iron diet.

Recent studies show that tannins help to reduce the absorption of iron in their body. By binding to nutrients such as iron, the tannins make them unavailable to the body. In the wild the toucans drink from pools of water collected in tree-hollows which contain high levels of tannins from rotten leaves. In captivity these pools do not build up so an alternative is needed, this is found by giving the toucans a nice cup of tea. However it is essential that the Toucans do get some iron in their diet so the tea is not available to the Toucans constantly.



WINDFARM UPDATE

As many of you know, we are one of the closest properties to the proposed development of an 8 turbine windfarm near Linton. We wanted to provide

you an update on the progress we have made. As much as we want to support all efforts to make our planet a better place for the creatures that roam it, we have still received no evidence that shows there will not be an adverse impact on the vital work we do. As we well know animals are impacted by sound and we are very concerned that the sound emitted by the turbines may affect our animals; the RSPB has recognised in a recently completed report, that the noise and the development deters birds from breeding near turbines; unfortunately we do not have the opportunity to move away.

The good news is that both the District Councils (South Cams and Uttlesford) rejected the application but although soundly rebutted by the local communities (Linton Parish Council's survey showed 77 per cent of residents were against the development), the developer has appealed to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, who has convened a Planning Inquiry, which will start on 2nd February 2010.

The SLWF Action Group along with Linton Zoo is now working with the District Councils to fight the developer at the Planning Inquiry. The local community has been raising funds to fight the appeal as we now need to employ expert witnesses and legal representation. If you would like to help us financially, please visit www.stoplintonwindfarm.org.uk and click on the Donations link.



The potential view over our Zebra field if the plan goes ahead.

AFRICAN LIONS UPDATE



7 week old cub

This trio of African lion cubs were born on the 16th May 2009, just in time to squeeze in a very brief mention in our last issue of zoo news. We continue to be tremendously proud of both Safina and Zuri who have proved to be the most attentive and caring parents to the 2 boys and 1 girl.



Dad Zuri with 10 week old cubs



Zuri snuggles with 7 week old cub

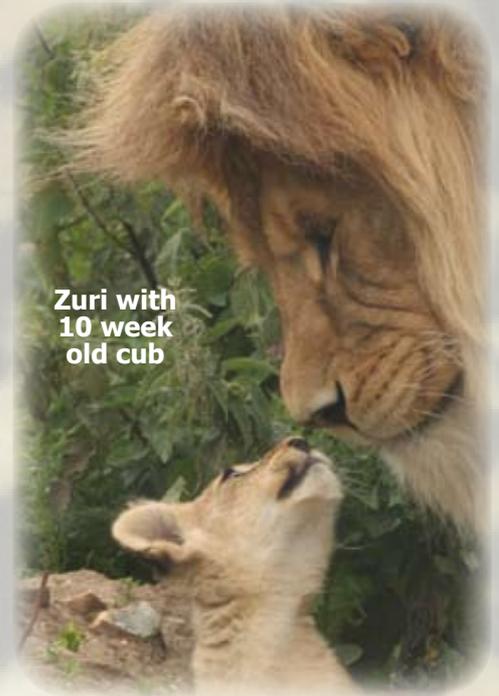
They are a great hit with the visitors and can often be seen bounding around their enclosure chasing anything in sight, whether it be a leaf blowing in the wind or, slightly more risky, the tail of a very large and playful lion.



Mum Safina with 10 week old cub



7 week old cub



Zuri with 10 week old cub

All pictures are courtesy of Colin Edwards
www.colinedwardsphotography.co.uk

BIG SISTER ZARA

Zara, big sister to the cubs, was born almost exactly one year to the day earlier. In the last issue we reported Zara's move to the Ugandan Wildlife Education Centre in Africa, along with Bisa a young lioness from Paradise Wildlife Park in Hertfordshire. We are pleased to be able to tell you that Zara has settled magnificently into her new home together with Bisa.

The lions will be in the care of the Ugandan Wildlife Education Centre (UWEC) based in Entebbe and we hope that future cubs born here will also be able to move out to join their big sister in Uganda as part of a special project organised in conjunction with Paradise Wildlife Park in Hertfordshire.



Zara with best friend Arnie, the Ginger tom when being hand reared at Linton Zoo.

RENOVATION & BUILDING

There is a hive of activity during the winter months (if the weather permits), unable to get on with much during the busier summer months our building team spring into action and you could almost be forgiven for thinking we were in an episode of 60 minute makeover. Not only do the animals need looking after on a daily basis but their enclosures do as well. Some of our enclosures in need of some TLC are currently being renovated, including our Yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrot enclosure.



Above: The Yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrots get an extension and upgrade to their accommodation.



Other enclosures are being pulled down completely making way for new enclosures so we can redevelop whole areas. One major development at the moment is the older Big Cat area down by the Snow leopards. Lisa leopards old enclosure has now come down completely and will be rebuilt with an overhead walkway linking over to where the Hooded vultures are currently, creating a brand new leopard paradise (the vultures will be moved!). This is all part of our programme to continuously upgrade and expand our zoo giving our animals the best homes they can get.

Above and right: Trevor and Paul tearing down our old leopard enclosure making way for our brand new leopard paradise.



FUNDRAISE FOR FREE!



Easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of your favourite stores online including John Lewis, HMV, Argos and over 600 others. Just use the links on the easyfundraising site whenever you shop online and, at no extra cost to you, we'll receive a free donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make. It's completely free to register so how can you say no! In fact, many retailers offer discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' exclusive to easyfundraising. If you shop online anyway then why not raise valuable extra funds for us by using this fantastic scheme. All you need to do is visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/lzcf> and when you register select the Linton Zoo Conservation Fund as the organisation you wish to support.

Set <http://lzcf.easysearch.org.uk> as your default search engine and by making just 10 searches a day instead of Google or any other search engine, you can raise around £20 a year for us, again at no extra cost to yourselves. Easy search is a 'super' search engine that combines the strengths of several search providers together - Yahoo!, MSN Windows Live Search, Ask.com and many more.

ECOGIFTS AT LINTON ZOO

This year why not treat your loved ones to one of our fantastic ecogifts. With an ecogift from Linton Zoo you reduce your carbon footprint whilst giving that special someone an extra special treat. Choose from a single day pass valid for 6 months for £7.50 or the whole family can have unlimited admission for a whole year from just £90. Animal sponsorships, photography days and keeper experiences all make fantastic presents too, we can provide you with a gift package to present to your special person!

GIFT VOUCHER
Free entry to Linton Zoo
for 1 year

ONLINE GIFT SHOP

We're pleased to announce the opening of our new online gift shop. Here you will find a lot of favourites from our onsite gift shop and many many more too!



Visit us at www.lintonzoo.com/giftshop

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

Wordsearch

Can you find the words below in the grid?

P	Y	T	H	O	N	T	U	N	L
A	O	K	O	W	E	Z	U	R	I
R	I	R	L	R	J	O	F	R	O
R	E	R	C	I	T	L	O	E	N
O	U	F	S	U	L	O	W	L	V
T	O	T	G	L	P	T	I	A	O
C	I	U	A	E	P	I	P	S	I
O	R	G	S	M	D	E	N	T	E
S	L	D	E	U	I	D	P	E	U
T	A	P	I	R	D	A	O	B	T

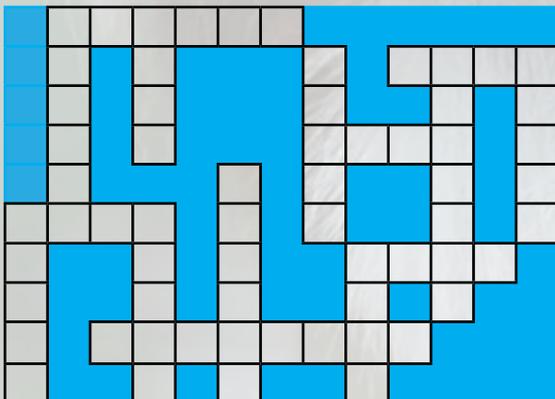
- | | | |
|-----------|--------|----------|
| LEMUR | LION | PARROT |
| PORCUPINE | PYTHON | OWL |
| TAPIR | TIGER | TORTOISE |

Also hidden in the wordsearch is the name of one of our big cats, can you find out who it is?

Answer: _____

Word fit

We give each of our animals a name. Can you fit the names, listed below, into the white squares on the grid?



4 letters Goya Isla Lisa Odin Oboe Moya	5 letters Angel Akisa Megan Lhamo	6 letters Riziki Rumble Talata	7 letters Shannon 8 letters Centurio
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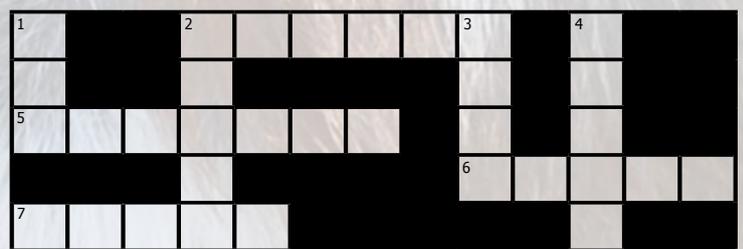
Spot the difference!



Can you spot the 8 differences between these two pictures of Katinka our young Amur tigress?



Crossword



Clues Across

- Aquatic tortoise
- Rosette winning cat
- Limbleless reptile
- A horse in striped pyjamas

Clues Down

- Nocturnal bird
- Rainforest mammal with a long nose
- '2 Across' lays these
- Scarlet or Blue & Gold

Mixed up boxes

Rearrange the letters to find out what's inside.



KEEPER TALKS AND ACTIVITIES

We have an exciting programme of keeper talks and activities planned for the weekends and school holidays.



Lemur feed and keeper talk

Find out all about the lemurs and other creatures from Madagascar as the lemurs have their breakfast.

At the Rare Lemur breeding Centre* usually at 11.30am

Free flying birds and owl encounter

A chance to get very close to some of our owls and other birds. In better weather you may see Odin and Ayesha, our pair of Great Grey owls flying free and meet Dodger the comical Cara cara. Sometimes hawks and falcons may also be flown free.

Wonderful photographic opportunities!

Usually at 12.30pm*

Not during the winter but check the information board at the entrance. Birds flown will vary depending on the time of year and weather.



Tapir feed and keeper talk

A chance to find out more about these large rainforest creatures when our Brazilian Tapir family have their lunch.



Usually at 12 noon at the Tapir paddock*



Tiger conservation talk

At the beginning of the 1900's, there were around 100,000 tigers. Today we have less than 5,000. Find out why and what we are doing to help save these magnificent creatures at the Tiger Conservation Talk, at the tiger enclosure.

**Usually at 2pm*
at the top of the
tiger enclosure**



Above: Ben Abbott shows young zoo visitors custom seizure tiger and zebra skins at our tiger conservation talk.

Southern Ground Hornbill keeper talk

Learn all about this wonderful species from Africa and meet Oboe, the first successfully hand reared Southern Ground Hornbill in Europe.

Not daily, usually at 12.30*



Snakes, bugs and little beasties

This is a very popular and interactive talk. Geared to all ages, it aims to give you a much better understanding of some of the little creatures which are generally misunderstood and often disliked. You can find out about, and meet, some of our little zoo animals including;

snakes, lizards, tarantula spiders, stick insects, cockroaches, giant millipedes and giant snails.

Usually at 2.30 pm at the covered picnic area*. (Not usually mid-winter).



* We reserve the right to cancel or alter any of the advertised programme.

If you are visiting to specifically attend any of our scheduled talks please check before you visit to confirm the activity you wish to attend will still be taking place. Many of the talks are weather permitting and times may vary.

The daily programme is displayed near the entrance.

Telephone: 01223 891308 www.lintonzoo.com

SCHOOL VISITS

No one can deny the enormous value of practical sessions and hands-on teaching and that learning is generally much more fun outside of the classroom!

Knowledge is more easily retained when taught in this way and where better to have lessons than the stimulating, yet tranquil, environment of the zoo. Children have the opportunity of seeing, smelling, hearing and even touching real live animals.

To enhance their visit, keepers present a short interactive and hands-on session 'Fur, feathers, scales and dinosaurs' designed to bring to life various National Curriculum science lessons. The boys and girls have been thrilled to see and touch some exciting creatures from around the world such as Percy the Royal Python, Boris the Bearded dragon, Becky our beautiful Barn Owl, a couple of more familiar guinea pigs and also a fossil dinosaur egg, linking the past with the present. The short talk helps children recognise the difference between birds, mammals and reptiles and highlights the meaning of extinction and endangered species and the need to care for our precious world. The talks can be tailored to suit any age or subject requirement; our staff are happy to discuss with teachers any ideas different from those we offer.

Please contact the zoo office on 01223 891308 10.30am to 4pm any day or visit www.lintonzoo.com for more information.



School children meet Percy the Royal Python



Earith School taking a close look at a fossil Hadrosaur dinosaur egg, which is least 65 million years old!



A firm favourite with the children, Boris the Bearded dragon.

OUTREACH - BRINGING THE ZOO TO YOU

There is no doubt that children develop a special interest in the creatures we share the world with when they are given the opportunity to see them close-at-hand, or even to be able to touch them! The way in which children are introduced to our fellow creatures may reflect their attitude towards them later on in life.



The Zoo Outreach programme brings the zoo into the classroom! Our education team visits schools, clubs and homes with a variety of smaller animals such as invertebrate species, reptiles, small mammals and birds which give us endless scope to teach a range of science, history, geography, art and maths related subjects at your school, playgroup or birthday party.



We have a series of specially constructed talks which are designed to make learning fun, interactive, memorable and very hands-on.

STAFF TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Current activities

We are very keen here to provide continuous staff training, currently some staff are undertaking a wide range of qualifications including: food hygiene certificates, NVQ's in customer services and IT, Diploma's in animal care and, in order to ensure our education department keeps up to date, a course on the General Principles of Teaching.

Education committee

We are also setting up a teaching committee to ensure that we are keeping up to date with the current curriculum. The committee will be made up from various members of the community, if you are interested in joining our committee please contact the zoo office on 01223 891309.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Our work experience placement scheme here at the zoo runs throughout the year, however we are unable to take on anyone under the age of 16, even for voluntary work.

All work experience placement applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of a 6 week, full time block (5 days a week, which may include weekends and Bank Holidays), after this initial training period it may be possible to change to 1 or more days a week if required.

Work experience placements are much sought after so we cannot guarantee a place, but if you feel you are able to make this commitment and you would like to apply then please contact us on 01223 891308 or visit the vacancies tab on our website and download an application form.
www.lintonzoo.com

Left: David is assisted by the Red ruffed lemurs while cleaning out their enclosure.
Right: Patricia helps sort through the daily fruit & veg

Congratulations Patricia!

A big congratulations goes to Patricia Chaves who has not only successfully completed her National Diploma in Animal Management but also won the award for 'All Round Best Student'. We are tremendously proud of all the hard work Patricia has done over the last 2 years and are thrilled that she has now joined us as a fully fledged member of our keeper team.



Patricia Chaves with her award.



Sarah takes care of some of our smaller zoo animals.



KEEPER EXPERIENCES age 8 to adult

Available for adults or children, this is a unique way of getting much closer to some of your favourite zoo animals. Our keeper experiences are proving very popular as gifts for Birthday, Christmas and Anniversaries.



"Thrilling experience, very informative"
Ben, age 10



"An education adventure, fantastic!!!"
Olivia, age 9



Package also includes:

- All day entry to the zoo
- Disposable camera
- Goody bag
- Certificate of participation
- Annual sponsorship of a lemur
- Donation to wild animal conservation projects.



KEEPER'S LITTLE HELPER age 5-8

Childrens' first introduction to professional animal care!



Above: Emily learns about Guinea pig health checks. Below: Lewis meets our Giant continental rabbits and chickens.

This 1 ½ hour session with one of our zoo keepers will give young children a chance to get hands-on experience with a variety of small zoo animals which may include giant rabbits, chickens, guinea pigs, wallabies and giant tortoises, finishing with a behind the scenes tour of the Rare Lemur Breeding Centre and a chance to meet and hand feed the fantastic lemur families.

The "Keepers Little Helper" session is especially good for children thinking about getting a pet, this is a real "mucky hands" experience! Keepers will give pet advice if requested.

Otherwise, just let your children immerse themselves in a truly thrilling experience!



Bethany Mills meets one of our Giant Aldabra Tortoises

Package also includes:

- All day entry to the zoo
- Disposable camera
- Goody bag
- Certificate of participation
- Annual sponsorship of a wallaby or giant tortoise
- Donation to wild animal conservation projects.

BIG CAT & LARGE MAMMAL EXPERIENCE

A 2 HOUR THRILLING AND EDUCATIONAL VISIT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!

- Get close as a whisker to some of our big cats,
- help the keepers clean out a big cat house,
- and there may be a chance to hand feed a lion or tiger.

This is primarily a big cat experience but you may also get the chance to feed and meet the Brazilian tapir, help with the zebra and have a behind the scenes tour of our rare lemur breeding centre.

Unlike most big cat experiences this one includes annual sponsorship of your favourite big cat with the chance to renew after 12 months, and we will stay in touch throughout the year sending news stories and update.



Package also includes:

- All day entry to the zoo
- Disposable camera
- Certificate of participation
- Annual sponsorship of a big cat
- Donation to wild animal conservation projects.

All of our keeper experiences are perfect as a Birthday or Christmas present or even just a very special treat for a very special person!

Vouchers are available to give as a gift and are valid for up to twelve months.

PHOTOGRAPHY DAYS

in conjunction with Colin Edwards Photography

This day is ideal for people with a basic knowledge of their cameras and an interest in animal photography, this is also ideal for those who wish to learn more about using their cameras in this type of environment. Draft programme includes time with the Owls, Lemurs, Lions, Leopards, Tigers, refreshments, questions and an after closing Tiger feed.



2010 DATES

23rd April, 19th June, 19th Sept



Group size will be a maximum of 10 photographers and tutoring will be by professional photographer, Colin Edwards.
www.colinedwardsphotography.co.uk

Register your interest by emailing us at lintonzoo@hotmail.co.uk

THE SPECIES SUPPORT SCHEME

THE SPECIES SUPPORT SCHEME...

Allows you to play an active part in helping us towards our aims which are:

1. Conservation and preservation of wildlife through captive breeding programmes.
2. Education, to promote a better understanding of the environment and the creatures with whom we share the world.

How Sponsorship Helps...

At Linton Zoo we rely entirely on admission fees at the gate to support the work here. We do not receive help from the government, local authority or any other source as many people imagine. Visitors to the zoo may not realise how much money is needed to build and maintain the enclosures the animals live in or how much money is needed for feed bills each year!

The Species Support Scheme (formerly the Adoptions Scheme) enables you to contribute directly to the conservation of species and help us with our aims. By paying a small percentage of the yearly feeding costs of your chosen animal, it enables us to use the extra finance that we have coming through the gate for future developments at the zoo; to enhance our breeding programmes and maintain our high standard.



SPONSORING AN ANIMAL.

Sponsoring your favourite animal is easy! Collect a form from the gate or visit the website www.lintonzoo.com (Prices start at £25 per year).

Rumble, our charismatic Red-Ruffed Lemur is now our most sponsored animal, closely followed by his mum Ruby and then Akama, one of our young White-collared lemurs.

Sponsorships make excellent eco gifts for Christmas and special occasions, gift packs can usually be prepared at quite short notice too.

Unlimited admission for one year can be purchased at a discount price only when taken in conjunction with a sponsorship at the same address.

Who Can Sponsor?

Sponsorships can be taken out by individuals, families, clubs or societies. A sponsorship of a particularly liked animal is a good idea as an unusual birthday present. Maybe it would be a good educational point for a Brownie or Scout group to aim towards raising money for a certain animal's keep?

How does the Scheme Work?

A sponsorship runs for one year, after which it may be renewed. This includes:

1. Your plaque on the enclosure.
2. Your own certificate of sponsorship.
3. Membership of the Friends of Linton Zoo - including newsletters, bulletins and e-news when produced with interesting information about births, hatchings, new arrivals, developments and special events.

Exclusive Sponsorship

Each animal may be sponsored by more than one person, but exclusive sponsorship is available, (the fee is four times the usual sponsorship). Fees for commercial companies or advertising are negotiable on request. Sponsorships run for one year from receipt of payment. Prices start at £25 per year for a tarantula spider up to £100 for a big cat. Contact the Zoo Office for a form or print one off from our website www.lintonzoo.com

FRIENDS OF LINTON ZOO

If you would like to keep in touch with what's going on here at Linton Zoo, join the 'Friends'! Membership for one year is automatic with any donations of £10 or more (£12 or more overseas). You will receive newsletters, bulletins and e-news when produced keeping you informed of; births, new arrivals and other exciting zoo developments and also of special events.

**To join, simply complete the form below, or a photocopy, and hand it in at the gate house or send it to:
The Secretary, Friends of Linton Zoo, Hadstock Road, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4NT together with your donation.**

Issue 18

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Dr _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Age if under 14 years _____

I enclose a donation of _____ (please do not send cash in the post)

CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO 'LINTON ZOO CONSERVATION FUND'

Please write your cheque guarantee card number on the reverse of the cheque. Thank you.

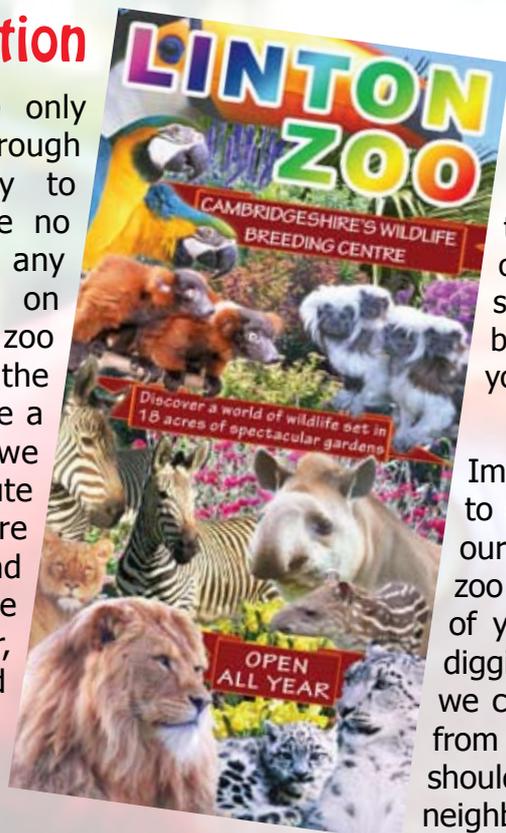
We thank you for your donation. You are assured that all money received will assist the programmes we operate to help rare and endangered species of wildlife and to help promote a better understanding of them.

The Linton Zoo Conservation Fund is a registered charity, number 802633

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Leaflet distribution

Here at Linton Zoo the only income we have is through admission fees, contrary to popular belief we receive no government funding of any kind, we rely entirely on attracting visitors to the zoo to enable us to continue the work we do. We now have a brand new zoo leaflet and we need your help to distribute it, if you know somewhere with a leaflet display stand or just an area where we could pop up a poster, please let us know and we'll send some out to you.



We need your stamps!

As always we are collecting your stamps, thank you to everyone who has collected stamps for our Conservation Fund and a big thank you goes to Onstream Communications of Bartlow, Cambs for their continuous stream of stamps. Any stamps collected can be dropped off at the main gate next time you visit.

ZOO POO!

Improve your garden and make a contribution to our Conservation Fund at the same time, our Zebra and Tapir manure is on sale at the zoo entrance for £1 per bag. And for those of you who don't want your neighbours cat digging up your prize winning rose garden we can supply you with a bag of straw taken from our lions bedrooms, the smell of which should scare off even the bravest cat in the neighbourhood.

LOCATION:

Easy to find and well sign posted! 10 miles South-east of Cambridge on B1052 just off A1307 (M11 junction 9 northbound or junction 10 southbound). Ample free parking for cars and coaches. Nearest Rail Station is Cambridge, take Stagecoach 13 to Linton Police Station stop - the zoo is a 5 to 10 minute walk.

PARTIES

Reduced rates available for groups of 20 or more. Parties must be prebooked in advance. Please telephone for an information pack.

CONTACT

For bookings and further information:
Linton Zoo, Cambridgeshire's Wildlife Breeding Centre, Hadstock Road, Linton, Cambridgeshire, CB21 4NT

Telephone/Fax:(01223) 891308

www.lintonzoo.com

OPENING TIMES

From	To	Open	Close
02.11.09	28.03.09	10.30am	4pm
29.03.09	22.05.09	10.00am	5pm
23.05.09	06.09.09	10.00am	6pm
07.09.09	01.11.09	10.00am	5pm
02.11.09	Easter 2010	10.30am	4pm

We are open every day except Christmas.
Last admission 1 hour before closing time.

ADMISSION

Prices until 31/12/10 (incl. VAT) are:

	Adults	OAP	Child (2-13 years)
Individuals	£7.50	£7.00	£5.00

PLEASE OBSERVE THE PARK RULES:



- All animals and birds can and may bite or peck. Do not put your hands near anything.
- Please walk quietly around the Zoo, do not run or shout.
- Feeding of animals is not allowed. It is unnecessary and unkind.
- Children under 14 are not allowed to wander unattended. Parents and guardians please do not let children get out of your sight at any time.
- Dogs and pets are not allowed around the Zoo. There is a lane nearby suitable for walking dogs.
- Kite flying is not allowed; the bright colours and noise can be very disturbing to the animals.
- Ball games are restricted to the car park and playing field only.
- Do not cross any of the safety barriers.
- Children must be supervised when using any play equipment.

THESE PARK RULES ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF VISITORS AND ANIMALS ALIKE - THANK YOU

First Aid is available from the entrance gate.

SEASON TICKETS 2010

Unlimited Admission for one year

1 Adult £30

2 Adults £ 55

(Purchased together)

*

1 Child £20

*

1 OAP £ 25

2 OAPs £45

(Purchased together)

*

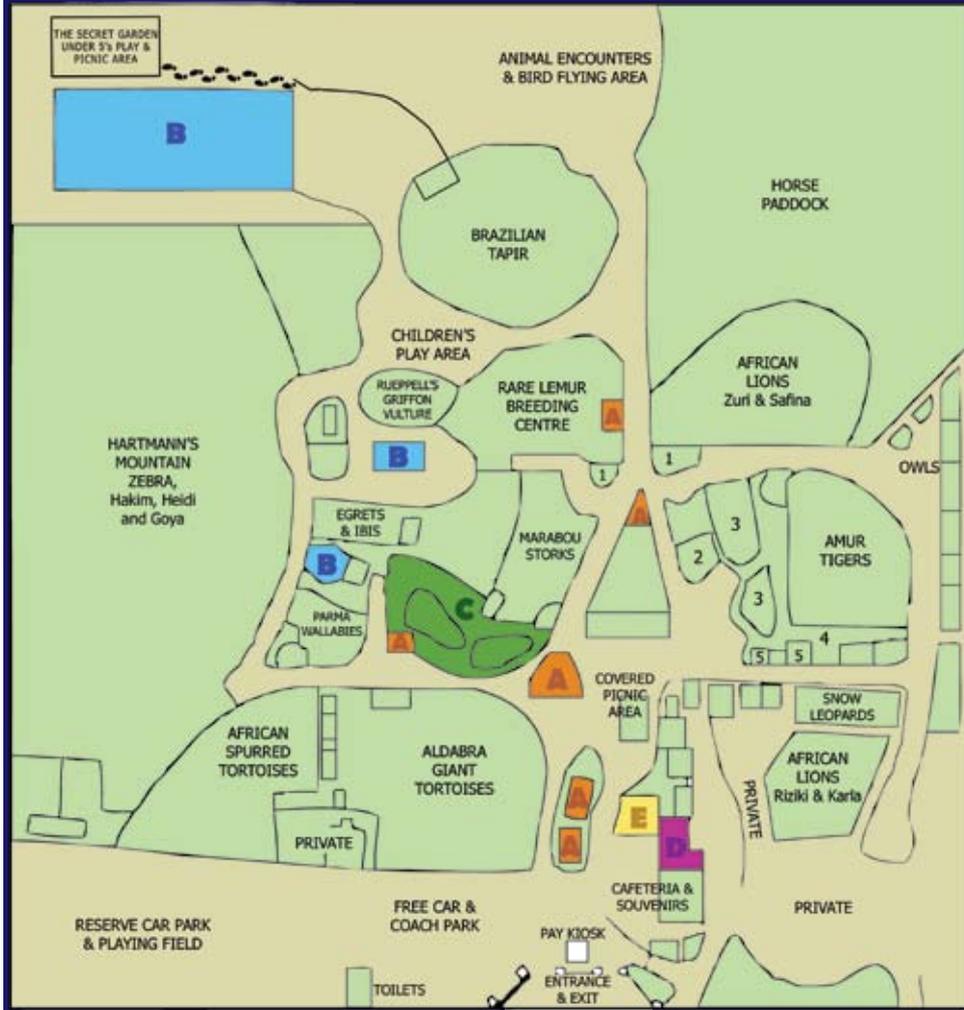
FAMILY £90

1 Adult & 3 Children or

2 Adults & 2 Children

Application Forms are available from the Zoo Office

LINTON ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS



Saffron Walden B1051

Cambridge A1307 (A604) & M11

MAP REFERENCES

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| A. Parrots, Macaws, Cockatoos | 1. Terrapins |
| B. Hornbills | 2. Porcupines |
| C. African Crowned Cranes | 3. Leopards |
| D. Reptiles | 4. Lemurs |
| E. Binturong House & Spiders | 5. Tamarins |

TOCO TOUCAN

Ramphastos toco



LEAST CONCERN

♂ Rico
♀ Carmen

Numbers are declining in Central & Eastern South America.

BLUE THROATED MACAW

Ara glaucogularis



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

♂ Diego
♀ Julieta

Around 250 birds are left in the wild.

SOUTHERN GROUND HORNBILL

Bucorvus leadbeateri



LEAST CONCERN

♀ Oboe

Wild numbers are still dropping in Southern and central Africa.

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON VULTURE

Gyps rueppellii



NEAR THREATENED

♀ Ziggy

Flying up to a record 37,000ft, numbers are dropping in Central Africa.

GREY NECKED CROWNED CRANE

Balearica regulorum



VULNERABLE

♂ Charles
♀ Camilla

Upgraded to vulnerable due to habitat loss in Central/Eastern Africa.

GREAT GREY OWL

Strix nebulosa



LEAST CONCERN

♂ Odin
♀ Ayesha

Population is stable in the Northern hemisphere.

AMUR TIGER

Panthera tigris altaica



Katinka, born at Linton Zoo April 2006

Status in the wild:
ENDANGERED

♂ Mirko
♀ Deja
♀ Katinka

The largest of all big cats has less than 250 successfully breeding adult Amur tigers left in the wilds of Eastern Russia.

AFRICAN LIONS

Panthera leo



Zuri, hand-reared at Linton Zoo

Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Zuri
♀ Safina
♂ Riziki
♀ Karla

Approximately 30% of the wild lion population has been wiped out from its native Sub-Saharan African in the last 20 years.

SNOW LEOPARDS

Panthera uncia



Lhamo, pictured 2 years old

Status in the wild:
ENDANGERED

♂ Centurio
♀ Lhamo

Their stocky bodies, thick fur and large paws help them survive in the cold, snowy climates of the Mountain ranges of Central Asia.

BRAZILIAN TAPIR

Tapirus terrestris



Mum Tanya with daughter Yarah

Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Shannon
♀ Tanya
♀ Yarah

Rhinos and horses are the closest relatives to these South American animals which have remained unchanged for 30 million years.

HARTMANN'S MOUNTAIN ZEBRA

Equus hartmannae



Left to right: Harkim, Goya and Heidi

Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Harkim
♀ Goya
♀ Heidi

The largest of the Mountain zebra the Hartmann's live in the dry, stoney mountain and hill habitats of South-West Africa.

ALDABRA GIANT TORTOISE

Geochelone gigantea



Teddy, pictured March 2003

Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Teddy and
♀ Jude many
♀ Norma more!

Living over 150 years and growing to 150kg these tortoises live in the Aldabra Atoll, a group of islands in the Indian Ocean.