

LINTON

*Zoological
Gardens*

www.lintonzoo.com

ZOO

NEWS

Spring/Summer 2010 Issue 19



Cover picture: Katinka, Amur tigress
taken by Chris Humphries on our
April 23rd Photography Day.
Further information on page 6

Newsletter of the Linton Zoo Conservation Fund
Regd. Charity 802633 Linton Zoo, Hadstock Road,
Linton, Cambridgeshire, 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.



PERCY THE ROYAL PYTHON GETS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS DURING A PHOTOGRAPHY DAY. Royal's are the smallest of the African pythons growing up to 6 feet long, they are the most widely sold snake in the pet trade. Royal pythons are one of the reptiles you may meet during our animal encounters.

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

WALTER, THE RED KANGAROO



Above and Right: Walter, pictured in September 2009.

Our latest arrival is 'Walter' a Red kangaroo, *Macropus rufus*. Walter has come to us from Belgium where his mother rejected him and he had to be removed for hand-rearing to ensure his survival. Walter will soon be joined by some females, where he will grow to be the dominant male of his new family. Red kangaroos are the largest of all kangaroo species and therefore marsupials. Native to Australia they can grow up to 1.6m tall and adult males can jump further than 9m.



Rejected by his mother, Walter had to be removed for hand-rearing.

CLOUDED LEOPARDS



A pair of Clouded leopards, *Neofelis nebulosa*, have recently joined us from The Santiago Rare Leopard Project, the male 'Fluff' and female 'Indi' have settled in very well with us here. The scientific name of the genus, *Neofelis*, originates from neo, which means "new", and *felis*, which means "small cat", so it literally means new kind of small cat. This species of cat has, proportionately, the longest canine teeth - 2 inches, (about the same as a tiger's) of any living feline.

OWL CHICKS

Our owls are doing us proud yet again this year with Brown wood owl chicks, Chaco owl chicks and of course the favourites Snowy owls. With owlets in the enclosures they must be given as much peace and quiet as possible so keepers only disturb them for the shortest amount of time possible each day.

Female Snowy owl with owlet, the youngsters start off grey, then gradually moult out to become white like the males or white with black flecks like the females.



BOUNCING BABIES

By the end of the 1800s the Parma wallaby was believed to be extinct, a handful of animals were then found on a small island near New Zealand in 1965. It is from these few animals that the entire current population of Parma wallabies descends. Our wallabies are going from strength to strength with the first of this years joeys already out of the pouch.



BUG MANIA

BILLY THE SUPER BIG STOWAWAY BUG - PART 2



Kieran meets Billy the Elephant beetle.

You may remember the story that made national news back in June 2008 of Billy the Elephant beetle, who found his way to us from Costa Rica, over 5500 miles, via a crate of bananas. We were delighted when we found him a mate and the pair started mating as soon as they were introduced. In September 2008, 22 larvae at various different stages of development were found in the vivarium substrate. Over the last 18 months these larvae have been slowly growing and some of have already turned into cocoons, where they will develop into beetles, beginning the next stage of this fascinating creatures life.



Elephant beetle larvae in an adult's hand.

Since the arrival of Billy some of the staff members have developed quite an obsession with all things creepy crawly, you may say we have 'got the bug'. We have now built up a nice collection of minibeasts which can often be seen during our animal encounters.

INTRODUCING.....

The Atlas beetle can lift and carry weights more than 850 times it's own body mass. That's the equivalent of an average human picking up and carrying a bus.



The Giraffe stag beetle is the world's largest saw-tooth stag beetle with long and sharp jaws. It is strong and rough natured, but the large jaws are sometimes beyond its own control.



The Goliath bird eating spider rarely eats birds but prefers snacking on crickets, mice and frogs. The largest spider in the world, the Goliath can grow up to 30cm in diameter, that's as big as a large dinner plate!



The Hercules beetle is the most famous and largest of the rhinoceros beetles with males growing up to 17cm long, most of which are horns as they can grow longer than the body itself.



NATIONAL INSECT WEEK 21st-27th June 2010.

Linton and other BIAZA member zoos across the country host "Discover Diversity" events to raise awareness of insects and related creatures as part of the International Year of Biodiversity. Visit www.lintonzoo.com for info.

Beetles go to war! Animals have always been used in warfare in numerous ways. Dolphins detecting mines, wasp nests being catapulted and plague infected fleas being released to name but a few. The latest comes in the form of a remote controlled beetle. Large beetles, like Billy above, are being implanted with neural stimulators which deliver an electric pulse, via a computer, when it is wished for the beetle to turn left or right. It is thought this could be used for search and rescue or weapons guidance. Research is still being carried out as to the effect this will have on the beetles.

Diaperodes gigantea stick insect females grow to an astounding 15cm, the males are smaller and brown.



UNUSUAL USE FOR PORCUPINE QUILLS



Henry, one of our African Crested Porcupines.

By Deborah Rohan, one of our regular supporters.

Lately I've been viewing the Great crested porcupines at Linton Zoo with more than usual affection. As we know, their long, sharp quills are easily detached, and quite ornamental, elegantly banded in cream and chocolate. For some years the zookeepers have been putting them aside for a few, very specialist customers, mainly jewellers. I've discovered another professional use for them: a paper conservator in Suffolk uses one for repairing paper and books, especially for smoothing down creases inside the hollow of the spine. As a former conservator for Cambridgeshire Record Office, I purchased a few to try them out.

I gave them a good soapy wash first, remembering that porcupines don't shower. When lightly shaped with emery paper, the 'skin' end of the quill is rounded and just the right texture to uncrease and smooth damp paper. Being nearly weightless, it's easy to manipulate. The shaft of the quill is faintly ribbed, so that it's easy to hold securely, and they come in several lengths. In fact, it might be a good idea to shorten and sand off the sharp end of the quill: it's a formidable bodkin with real piercing power, and requires as much care to use as a scalpel. A fresh quill can slide through paper, cloth, leather and fingers with ease.

A few of my colleagues had already heard about porcupine quills as tools, but none had obtained any, so I distributed the rest of my quills to conservators and bookbinders from Cambridge to Edinburgh. Linton's porcupines may not be welcome in record offices, but their quills certainly are. As a postscript, conservators at the Sedgwick Museum have found a quill useful for burnishing down labels, and better than a wooden point for lifting resin from fossil bones without scratching. The porcupines may have found another customer!



KEEPER'S LITTLE HELPER age 5-8 Childrens' first introduction to professional animal care!



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, as this is a real "mucky hands" experience!

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

Package also includes: All day entry to the zoo, disposable camera, goody bag, certificate of participation, annual sponsorship of a wallaby or giant tortoise and donation to wild animal conservation projects.



Emily learns about Guinea pig health checks with Patricia and Jake.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US!

We are always being asked by visitors what they can do to help us with the work we do. In today's climate charitable donations are not as frequent as they once were and we have noticed the knock on effect of this for our conservation fund. Donating to the conservation fund is a way of directly supporting one of the numerous ex-situ conservation projects we are working with protecting animals in the wild. If you would like to support our work, but are unable to donate money, below is a list of other items that would be an enormous help to us here at Linton Zoo.

BLANKETS, TOWELS & BEDDING - OUTDOOR PLAY EQUIPMENT

It's not only humans who like to snuggle up nice and warm during those cold winter nights, who knows, your old bathroom towel could next be used in the bedroom of our Cotton-top tamarins.

- Maybe yours kids have grown up or you just need a clear out of garden bits and bobs, our Secret Garden Children's Play Area for the Under 5's could always do with extra equipment.



Hand-reared African lion cub Zara snuggles up on her favourite blanket.



Newly hatched stick insect less than 1cm long.

STAMPS - It may not seem like much, but as they say every little helps. By donating your used stamps to us we can raise extra income for our Conservation Fund, any stamps you collect can be dropped off at our gatehouse on your next visit.

NET CURTAINS - If your old net curtains are past their best we have numerous species of invertebrates who need a constant supply of fresh air but are just that little bit too small to be kept in their tanks by the normal lids, net curtains are just the ticket!

PHOTOGRAPHY DAYS in conjunction with Colin Edwards Photography

Our first Photography day on April 23rd was a roaring success, the feedback we have received has been fantastic and several of the delegates have already booked onto future dates. The participants gained exclusive access to some of our animals including owls, lemurs, reptiles and the after hours feeding of the big cats was, for many, the highlight of the day.



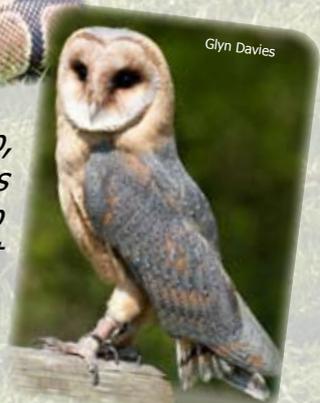
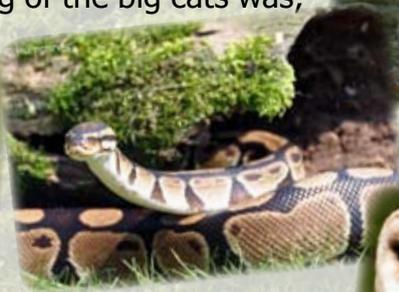
C. Humphries



Glyn Davies



C. Humphries



Glyn Davies

"It was great to be part of a small group, but still get one on one treatment! It was an entire day of picking up tips that help me push forward with my photography. It was also great to hear Colin's knowledge of the animals as well as photography"

Chris Humphries, participant 23.04.10

Our 2010 dates can be seen at www.lintonzoo.com

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

Wordsearch

Can you find the words below in the grid?

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

CROWNED LEMUR RED RUFFED LEMUR
 MONGOOSE LEMUR WHITE COLLARED LEMUR
 SAMBIRANO LESSER BAMBOO LEMUR

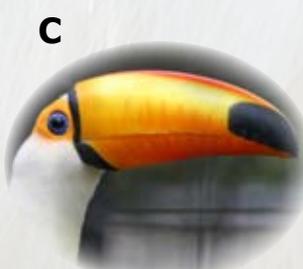
Group names

We all know some of the more regular group names for animals like a 'herd' of cows or a 'flock' of sheep, some animals have more than one group name associated with them, but can you match up these lesser known group names with the correct animal?

ANIMAL	GROUP NAME
Butterfly	Prickle
Camel	Bundle
Frog	Crash
Giraffe	Dazzle
Porcupine	Flock
Rhinoceros	Rabble
Tiger	Streak
Zebra	Tower

When I grow up I'm going to be...

Baby birds are not always the cutest of animals, but as in the story of the Ugly Duckling they often grow up into beautiful birds. Can you match the babies with the adults they will grow in to?



Southern Ground Hornbill

Barn owl

Toco toucan

Great grey owl

Blue Throated Macaw



What am I?

Can you work out what's shown in this picture?

ANSWERS: Group names: Butterfly - Prickle, Camel - Bundle, Frog - Crash, Giraffe - Dazzle, Porcupine - Flock, Rhinoceros - Rabble, Tiger - Streak, Zebra - Tower. What am I? Porcupine from behind. When I grow up: 1-B, 2-A, 3-D, 4-E, 5-C

KEEPER TALKS AND ACTIVITIES

A selection of some of these exciting keeper talks and activities are 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



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*



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 free flying which is a thrilling experience as the owls swoop low over your head and meet 'Dodger', the comical Cara cara.

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.



Ayesha, one of our Great grey owl, wows visitors by soaring low over their heads.

Southern ground hornbill keeper talk



Meet Oboe, the first successfully hand reared Southern ground hornbill in Europe. Learn all about this wonderful species from Africa and what we are doing to support projects in the wild.

Not daily, usually at 1.30pm* at Oboe's enclosure

Creature Feature animal encounter

Meet the keepers with some of the little zoo animals which may include Geckos, Bearded dragons, Owls, Giant snails, Guinea pigs, Snakes and Stick insects.

***Times vary, check notice board at zoo entrance on arrival**



Above: Cosmo the European dark breasted barn owl makes a new friend. Left: Max meets a Philippine beauty stick insect.

Mr Robinson, one of our great supporters meets Bertie the Bearded dragon and Jake the Guinea pig.

'Make It' days

New for this year we will be running a series of make it days. Join Mikey to make a selection of wildlife habitats out of unwanted household items.

***Times vary, check notice board at zoo entrance on arrival**

Pictures show what you could make out of a few simple household items.



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.

Snakes, bugs and little beasties

A very popular and interactive talk, geared to all ages, aiming to give you a much better understanding of some of the little creatures which are generally misunderstood and often disliked. Find out about, and meet, some of our little zoo animals which may include; Snakes, Lizards, Tarantula spiders, Stick insects, Cockroaches, Giant millipedes and Giant snails.

**Usually at 2.30pm 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.

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.

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

UNUSUAL SOFT TOY REQUESTS

One of the lesser known animals we have living with us here is the Binturong, *Arctictis binturong*, also known as the Bear cat. The binturong is neither a bear nor a cat and the real meaning of the original name has been lost, as the local language that gave it that name is now extinct.



Moya, our female Binturong.

As one of our more unusual animals we were often asked by visitors if we had a Binturong soft toy, we searched far and wide but could not find one anywhere. So we commissioned and designed one in conjunction with a local soft toy producer and importer Dowman Imports Ltd. of Earith, Huntingdon and couldn't be happier with our new custom made soft toy.

Binturongs are originally from South east Asia, although deforestation is decreasing numbers in the wild. Living to around 20 years old they are primarily a fruit eater but will occasionally eat eggs, small rodents and birds. The Binturong can make chuckling sounds when it is happy, utter a high-pitched wail if annoyed and can become vicious if cornered. It can rotate its hind legs backwards so that its claws still have a grip when climbing down a tree head first.



The first ever person in the world to have a Binturong soft toy - lucky Lewis Tassell!

RENOVATION & BUILDING

The Reptile house has had a radical makeover with new cabinets for some of the reptiles and a brand new roof making the whole place feel bright and airy. It also allows us to display some of our larger reptiles including our Carpet pythons currently measuring around 6 feet. Some of the reptiles you may be able to see include: Boa constrictors, Corn snakes, Royal pythons, Bearded dragons, Geckos and various amphibians.



Our Reptile house receives a new roof, lick of paint and we have also upgraded accommodation for some of the animals.

Repairs, renewals and modernisation of animal accommodation is a constant process! The Toucans and Turacos are about to be moved to a beautifully upgraded facility where we hope the birds will settle and breed.



Always something to do on the maintenance department!

KIDS BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Spend your special day with us here at the zoo!

Included in the main package:

- Up to ten children aged from 2 to 13 years old
- Two or three supervising adults
- Picnic lunch box with squash (tea/coffee for adults)
- Goody bags for boys or girls
- Free use of the bouncy castle (weather, height restrictions and availability permitting)
- All day admission to the zoo (during normal opening hours)



A Meet the Keeper session is also included where you can get up-close and personal with either:

Package A - THE REPTILES or Package B - THE LEMURS



Birthday cakes & other upgrades available.



For more information please contact the zoo office on Tel: 01223 891308 or visit www.lintonzoo.com

THE LEMURS OF MADAGASCAR

Since rising to fame as the 'dancing monkeys' in the film Madagascar, Lemurs have become extremely popular over the last few years. All species are found only on the small island of Madagascar and a few surrounding islands where they have been introduced. Little is known about some of the species, although deforestation is threatening the survival of them all. The map below shows just how small each species territory is and how vulnerable this makes them, demonstrating the need for organised breeding programmes to protect their future.

CROWNED LEMUR
Eulemur coronatus



VULNERABLE

RED RUFFED LEMUR
Variegata rubra



ENDANGERED
SAMBIRANO LESSER BAMBOO LEMUR
Hapalemur occidentalis



VULNERABLE

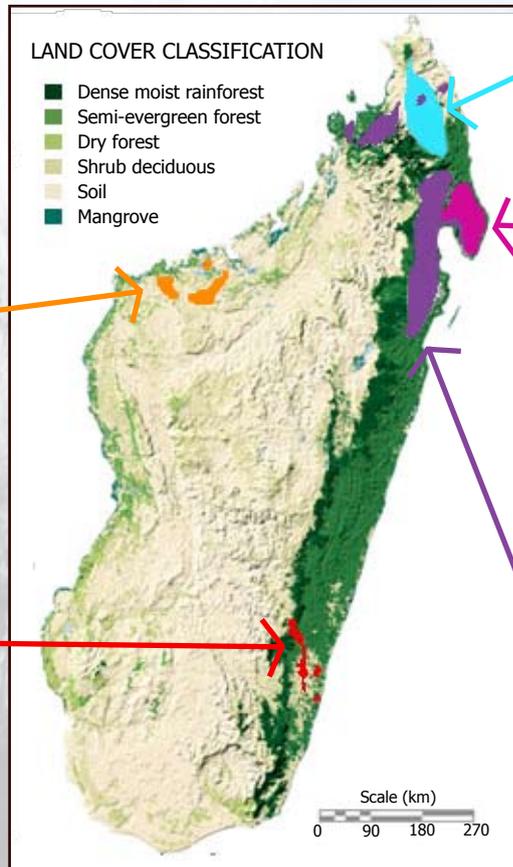


*"Thrilling experience,
very informative"*
Ben, age 10

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.

MADAGASCAR



MONGOOSE LEMUR
Eulemur mongoz



VULNERABLE

WHITE-COLLARED LEMUR
Eulemur cinereiceps



ENDANGERED

**COME & MEET THE
LEMURS AT OUR
KEEPER
EXPERIENCES**
age 8 to adult

Available for both adults and 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.

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



BIG CAT & LARGE MAMMAL EXPERIENCE

A 2 HOUR THRILLING AND EDUCATIONAL VISIT

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.

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!

Left: Tracy meets our Amur tigers. Above right: Gill meets Goya, one of our Hartmann's mountain zebra.



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.

Vouchers are available for any of our keeper experiences to give as a gift and are valid for up to twelve months from date of purchase.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE ZOO.

Work experience with the animals -

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 will include some 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 then please apply.



David is assisted by the Red ruffed lemurs while cleaning out their enclosure.

Volunteering in other departments -

we are always looking for experienced volunteers to help with our maintenance and gardening work. It takes a lot of work to keep our enclosures properly maintained and the gardens with many specialist exotic plants need equal care and attention. If you feel you have the skills needed and would like to volunteer your time we'd love to hear from you.

Telephone: 01223 891308 or visit our website www.lintonzoo.com

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, Birthdays and other special occasions, gift packs can often 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 range from £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 19

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

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.



Always a favourite, children meet Becky the Barn owl.

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.



Children from Kimbolton School meet Pebbles, the young Giant Sulcata tortoise.

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

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 at least 1 week 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
28/03/10	28/05/10	10.00am	5pm
29/05/10	06/09/10	10.00am	6pm
07/09/10	31/10/10	10.00am	5pm
01/11/10	Easter 2011	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)

*

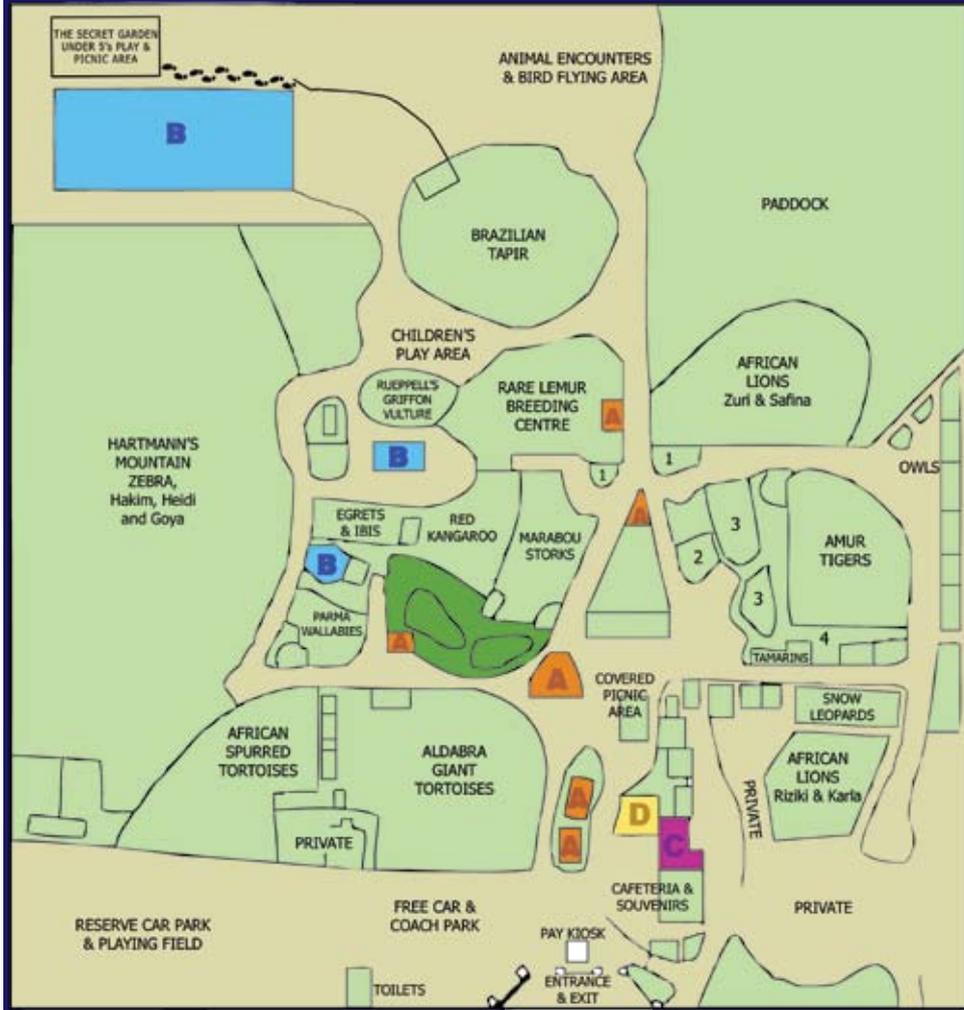
FAMILY £90

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. Reptiles | 3. Leopards |
| D. Binturong House & Spiders | 4. Lemurs |

SOUTHERN GROUND HORNBILL <i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	
	LEAST CONCERN ♀ Oboe Wild numbers are still dropping in Southern and central Africa.

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON VULTURE <i>Gyps rueppellii</i>	
	NEAR THREATENED ♀ Ziggy Flying up to a record 37,000ft, numbers in Africa are dropping.

BLUE THROATED MACAW <i>Ara glaucogularis</i>	
	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED ♂ Diego ♀ Julieta Around 250 birds are left in the wild.

GREY NECKED CROWNED CRANE <i>Balearica regulorum</i>	
	VULNERABLE ♂ Charles ♀ Camilla Upgraded to vulnerable due to habitat loss in Central/Eastern Africa.

CONSERVATION STATUS

The conservation status of a species is an indicator of the likelihood of that species remaining extant (still existing) either in the present day or the near future.

EXTINCT	Extinct	No individuals remaining
	Extinct in the Wild	Known only to survive in captivity
THREATENED	Critically Endangered	Extremely high risk of extinction in the wild
	Endangered	Very high risk of extinction in the wild
	Vulnerable	High risk of extinction in the wild
AT LOWER RISK	Near Threatened	Likely to become endangered in the near future
	Least Concern	Does not qualify for a more at risk category

AMUR TIGER

Panthera tigris altaica



Katinka, born at Linton Zoo April 2006

Status in the wild:
ENDANGERED

♂ Mirko
♀ 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

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.