

# ZOO

Issue 24

# NEWS

Linton Zoo, Hadstock Road, Linton, Cambridgeshire, England, CB21 4NT



Newsletter of the Linton Zoo Conservation Fund  
Regd. Charity 802633



# Linton Zoo Conservation Park

## 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 the size of Costa Rica 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!



*COLOURFUL GARDENS. Beautiful blossoms provide a stunning display. Summer bedding plants now replace the Spring blooms providing a riot of colour and scent for all to enjoy.*

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 content 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-Knee Tarantulas and Snakes through to Giant Tortoises, Hornbills, Kookaburras, Parrots, Owls and Turacos, Binturong, beautiful Snow Leopard, 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. Thousands of 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.

*The Hartmann's mountain zebra enjoy their beautiful Spring paddock*



*Don't miss out on all the latest news, stories and of course cute pictures. Just follow the links from our homepage at [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.*

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**

**Cover picture of Tulio our  
Brazilian Tapir calf born 11th April 2015  
Photograph by Garry Chisholm**

# BIRTHS, HATCHINGS, MOVES AND NEWS

## White Collared Lemur



On 21st April a very rare white-collared lemur was born. The only birth in captivity this year! With only 16 of this Critically Endangered species in Europe, every single birth is incredibly important to help safeguard the future of this very special lemur.

*Lemur photos by Simon Trendell*



## Great grey owls



We got the impossible shot! Ok, it may not be the best quality photograph, but this was taken just seconds after the fourth and final great grey owlet came out of the nest box for the first time, mum can be seen at the back left. Minutes later all 4 babies had made their way out into their aviary and have not been seen sitting together since! Great Greys have the largest "facial disc" of any raptor but much of its main body size is deceptive, since this species has fluffy feathers, a long tail and a large head, which obscure a body lighter than that of most other large owls.



## Elephant beetles

Many of you will remember the story that made international headlines back in June 2008 of Billy the Elephant Beetle who travelled all the way to England from Costa Rica via a crate of bananas. We soon found a mate for Billy and now, 7 years on the offspring of Billy and Betty are still going strong.

## Great year for breeding tortoises

We're delighted with our latest Indian star tortoise hatchlings (right). This is a beautiful species which is highly sought after by collectors. The parents were Customs Seizures and came to us as babies themselves, now fully mature and first bred successfully in 2009. Other custom seizure tortoises which recently became parents are our Red-footed tortoises (below right), a vulnerable species from the rain forests of Northern South America.



**Above:** Indian Star hatchling

**Below:** Red footed hatchling

## Native species

We love the native wildlife that have chosen to make our zoo their home. This mallard is affectionately known as 'Tessa' by keepers and can usually be seen on our native wildlife ponds with her ducklings.



# TAPIR CALF - 2nd GENERATION

On Saturday 11th April Tiana gave birth to a healthy male calf after a normal 13-month gestation. We ran a competition on our Facebook page to name our young calf and keepers chose the name Tulio meaning "lively" and "the one who leads".



Our adult pair Thiago and Tiana, are both part of a European Breeding Programme aimed at saving them from extinction. This birth is especially exciting for keepers as it represents a second generation of this family at Linton.



*These four photos are of Tulio just 36 hours old, taken by zoo visitor Garry Chisholm.*

Although tapir have survived for millions of years, living in harmony with nature, their future in the wild is by no means secure. The European breeding programme will provide a safeguard against extinction for these wonderful creatures.



You may be forgiven for thinking that the tapir is some kind of cross between a pig and an elephant but in fact its closest relatives are horses, zebras and rhinos. The colouring is a dark reddish brown but the offspring are covered in a beautiful pattern of white spots and stripes which they will retain until about six months of age; this provides very efficient camouflage in the dappled shade of the forest.



*Tulio loves his cuddles from keepers Mikey and Kirsty pictured here with mum and dad too.*

Mum Tiana was born here in 2010 and dad Thiago is also a local lad being born at Paradise Wildlife Park in Hertfordshire. This little one is the 14th tapir calf to be born here at Linton.

**Left:** Mum Tiana pictured herself here just hours old.

**Right:** Tiana and Thiago enjoying the Spring paddock



# CRACKING NEWS, WE'RE ALL EGGCITED!



*23 hours after the first crack not much progress had been made!*



*1 hour later the chick made it out!*

We are all so excited with another successful breeding of our Southern ground hornbills. The mother doesn't have a very good track record of loving her babies, so when it seemed she had abandoned the nest we decided to remove the eggs to an incubator to give them a better chance.

The first one started to hatch the morning of 28th May 2014. 24 hours after it first popped its beak through the tough egg shell, the chick finally completed hatching. The second egg hatched just 5 days later and it's amazing to see how much the first chick had already grown!



*Just 5 day difference between the two, pictured 8 and 3 days old.*

In the wild only one chick normally survives, the largest one takes priority for all the food presented and the second chick is often eaten by the older sibling.

Native to South Africa numbers in the wild are crashing and a decline of 30-49% is projected over the next three generations. They have many threats which include becoming bushmeat, trade in body parts for traditional medicine and tribal ritual.



**Above right:** The hornbills pictured just over a year old, photograph taken by zoo visitor Lolly Watson.

Southern ground hornbills are one of the few species of bird known to play. Ours have a whale of a time running about with all the dead leaves we've raked up from around the zoo and given to them to investigate.

Big sister Oboe loves gathering the leaves as gifts for her favourite visitors!



## KEEPER EXPERIENCE

For more information please visit our website [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com)

Adult  
age 14+

Children  
age 8-13



£50 from each experience booked will go directly to wildlife conservation projects we support and fund.

## NEW SPECIES ARRIVES AT THE ZOO

Our super cute dwarf mongoose have completed their quarantine and have now moved out onto the zoo. Our lions represent the largest carnivorous African mammal and these are the smallest! Their mischievous antics are definitely commanding a lot of attention from visitors. Mongoose, and their close relations meerkats, are scientifically classed as Herpestidae belonging to the suborder Feliformia, together with the cat, hyena and civet families.



# TRIBUTE TO LINTON ZOO FOUNDER

On 12th December 2014 Leonard George Simmons, cofounder of Linton Zoo, lost his battle with Motor Neurone Disease. Len was born in London in 1936 and his passion for wildlife started at a very early age.



At just 10 years old Len was already breeding fish and selling them to the local pet shop where he worked evenings and weekends. Visiting the local zoo as often as possible it was at this young age that Len developed his dislike for concrete and metal bars to construct enclosures and he planned how environments could be created with greenery, rockwork and open spaces.

Despite all his other successes in life (boxing at The Royal Albert Hall, his band 'The Len Barry Four' appearing on Opportunity Knocks) the thing that stands out the most are his achievements at Linton. Creating environmental enrichment for the animals that live with

us was something that Len excelled at, evidenced by other zoos following his lead, creating environmental enrichments within modern zoos, something of which we are all incredibly proud. Len is dearly missed and will never be forgotten and the work he started will continue through the legacy of the zoo.



*Len in 2004 with daughter Kim and African Lions Riziki and Karla.*

Instead of flowers at the funeral, perennials, shrubs and trees were donated to be planted in a special memorial garden being created for Len within the zoo grounds. Not only will this provide lasting enjoyment for future generations, it will also help create additional habitat for native wildlife species and thus continue the work that Len started here in 1972.

## ALWAYS SOMETHING TO BE DONE . .

We never get a minute to stand still here at Linton, there's always something being done and always something else that needs doing!

Here's just a few examples of what we've been up to recently.



The rebuilding of our native wildlife ponds had to be put on hold over the summer months when the native wildlife began using them as their breeding grounds and nurseries, but soon work will resume.

The new shelter up between the Red kangaroo/red necked wallaby paddock and the zebra paddock is proving to be a great hit with everyone. Viewing windows both sides mean not only do you get to watch them, but they get to watch you too! Heidi, one of our zebra mares loves standing at one window watching down the path to keep an eye on who's coming up to visit!



**Above:** Riziki, African lion. He and his mate Karla both turned 12 in 2015.

Riziki and Karla, our older pair of lions, are getting an upgrade to their bedroom area. There's always several projects on the go, not only for our visitors to enjoy, but very important behind the scenes work too!

Many of our parrot aviaries have received a revamp, with many species not previously seen, moving in from our off-show facilities, like this blue cheeked amazon parrot.



# SOME OF OUR CONSERVATION PARTNERS

## THE SNOW LEOPARD TRUST

Through the National Partnership Programme, zoos get directly involved and make powerful contributions to the highest priority in-situ conservation and research programmes in snow leopard range countries. We're currently raising funds to help purchase vital equipment such as camera traps and weather stations to help monitor the conditions that these magnificent animals face in the wild.



## THAILAND HORNBILL PROJECT

There are two key factors which are threatening hornbill survival in Thailand; the loss of forest area due to illegal logging, and poaching. This project is run by the Hornbill Research Foundation in Bangkok, studying the biology and ecology of Thai hornbills, and running community-based conservation programs. We are sponsoring artificial hornbill nest boxes in the Budo region of Southern Thailand.



## AEECL (Lemur conservation)

We're pleased to be able to again donate to AEECL, working for Madagascar's highly endangered lemurs, through cooperation with the Malagasy people, the AEECL is a charitable organisation run by European Zoos and Universities. Extinctions are happening 1000 times faster than in the past. Our beautiful planet earth has entered the sixth mass extinction phase and lemurs are at most risk!



## THE LION GUARDIANS

Non-literate Maasai warriors are recruited in Southern Kenya to become actively engaged in protecting lions, rather than killing them. We currently pay for the annual salary of 3 Lion Guardians and are just about to start a fourth. Guardian Gisa received an excellence award this year for the Best Role Model and Kisimir is currently in Rwanda at the Akagera National Park helping to train the Park Rangers there on how to track and identify lions.



## ARNIE CAT THE LINTON ZOO FACEBOOK TRIBUTE PAGE



This page was launched on the one year anniversary of the passing of our dear old Arnie cat (died 9th January 2013), little did we know that his story would touch the hearts of so many people all around the world. Through this page we are hoping to generate further funds to support wildlife conservation projects to help keep animals in the wild.

## SPONSORING YOUR FAVOURITE ANIMAL IS EASY!

Collect a sponsorship form from the gatehouse or visit the website [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com) (prices start at just £25 per year). Sponsorships make excellent eco-gifts and our gift packs can often be prepared at quite short notice too. Unlimited admission for one year can be purchased at a discount price, when taken in conjunction with a sponsorship.

## KEEPER'S LITTLE HELPER

For more information please visit our website [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com)

Children age 5-8



£50 from each experience booked will go directly to wildlife conservation projects we support and fund.

# STOP PRESS!!!!

It's always a challenge writing the Zoo News, as soon as you think you've finished you can almost guarantee that something will happen that will involve a re-write. But we have to admit that we really don't mind on this occasion. On the morning of 30th September Safina, our younger lioness, gave birth to a gorgeous pair of twins, a boy and a girl.

Here's a few snapshots for you to enjoy from the first two weeks of their lives.



# KEEPER TALKS AND ACTIVITIES

A selection of some of these exciting keeper talks and activities are planned for the weekends and school holidays. The daily programme is displayed near the entrance.



## Zebra morning snack and keeper talk

See our Hartmann's mountain zebra enjoy their morning feed and hear all about our herd.

**At the Zebra paddock \***

## Furry Friends

Meet some of our smaller furry zoo animals and their keepers. Perfect for a child's first introduction to animals and animal care.

**At the Giant rabbit enclosure \***



## Kangaroo/wallaby feed and keeper talk

Find out all about the kangaroos, wallabies and other marsupials as the red kangaroo and red necked wallabies have their lunch.

**At the kangaroo/wallaby paddock \***

## Tapir feed and keeper talk

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

**At the Tapir paddock \***



## Animal encounters

Meet the keepers with some of the little zoo animals which may include blue-tongued skink, bearded dragons, owls, cockroaches, giant snails, milipedes, Guinea pigs, snakes and stick insects.

Venue varies, check the information board at the entrance. \*



## Big Cat Talk

Learn about the big cats that live with us here at the zoo and hear about the exciting things we are doing to help save and protect these magnificent creatures in the wild!

**At the top lion enclosure near the tiger viewing area \***

## Owl encounter

Come face to face with one of our owls, a fantastic opportunity to get really close and find out about the folk laws surrounding these magical creatures.

**At the owl aviaries \***



\* 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 that the activity you wish to attend will still be taking place. Many of the talks are weather-permitting and times may vary.

**Telephone: 01223 891308 [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com)**

# Yupukari River Turtle Conservation Project

Together with Exmoor Zoo we have adopted our own special turtle conservation and education project in Guyana.

*This is an exciting programme which was initiated by local people and involves the entire village. We know our support and expertise will have a positive impact on not just the turtles, but many of the regions other native species too.*

## Where is Yupukari?



*With so many turtles and tortoises being driven to extinction worldwide, this is a fantastic venture which aims to increase the numbers of river turtles in their natural habitat.*

Whole families take part in the turtle nesting surveys. In 2013 they successfully found and translocated 7 nests with a total of 171 yellow-spotted turtle eggs! These eggs were transported to a mesh-protected 'man-made sandbank' with the same grain-size sand as the sandbanks in the river. The eggs were buried at the same depth at which they were found, to keep the incubation process as natural as possible.



## The Yupukari River



## How we are raising the money

Keepers have come up with the idea, to improve their fund-raising ability, of allowing visitors to get up close and personal with our awesome giants before going behind the scenes to learn how we care for our tortoise herds. Then see how we incubate the eggs and meet some of the latest hatchlings!



Through egg harvesting and the construction of ponds with artificial nesting areas, this programme will provide a safe environment for the hatchlings to grow for the 12 month period the "Head-Start turtles" need, before being released back into the wild.

*Beginning in 2013 the volunteers running the programme have been amazed at how much the local children have already learnt in such a short time. Being able to see eggs collected, watching them hatch and then grow, has completely changed the way they view the turtles.*

*Hot out of their shells the first hatched 2015 Yellow-spotted sidenecked river turtles. Over 200 are expected for this season.*

*Beginning in 2013 the volunteers running the programme have been amazed at how much the local children have already learnt in such a short time. Being able to see eggs collected, watching them hatch and then grow, has completely changed the way they view the turtles.*

## About the Rupununi region

In high-water years, the Amazon, Essequibo, and certain of their tributaries overflow and mix, and many aquatic species meet in the floodplain of the Rupununi River. The Rupununi region of (formerly British) Guyana is mixed savanna, moist forest and mountains — largely pristine, still not fully explored. This geographic nexus has given rise to one the most diverse fish habitats on earth. Guyana is sometimes called a "land of giants:" the largest alligator, ant, anteater, armadillo, eagle, otter, rodent, constricting snake, and spider in the world all make the Rupununi their home.

**To find out more please visit**

**[www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com)**

### PROJECT PARTNERS

#### EXMOOR ZOO

[www.exmoorzoo.co.uk](http://www.exmoorzoo.co.uk)

#### RUPUNUNI LEARNERS

[www.rupununilearners.org](http://www.rupununilearners.org)



# FOCUS ON NATIVE SPECIES

It's not just the exotic species that live around the world that are at risk, many of the species right here in our own back gardens need our help too! A report in 2013 compiled by 25 wildlife organisations showed 60% of UK species in decline. More than one in ten of all the species assessed are under threat of disappearing from our shores altogether.

Once common species like the lesser spotted woodpecker (left), barbastelle bat, sparrows, song thrushes, red squirrel (right), stag beetles and even hedgehogs are vanishing before our eyes. Threats including habitat loss, changes to the way countryside is managed, and climate change, have had a major impact on our wildlife, and they are not going away.

It's not hard to help. We have lots of areas around the zoo where native species have made a home in our plant beds and ponds. Even our exotic animal enclosures are landscaped, not only for the animal they house, but also to encourage other species to move in too. Consider a whole host of wild ideas and features – or just pick one and then sit back, enjoy the view and see who visits!

Instead of a plain and ugly fence have a green, living boundary to bring the riches of flowers, scent, berries, rich autumn colours and wildlife to your garden.

Bees pollinate three-quarters of the world's most important crops, but they're under threat and desperately need our help.

Plant up your garden edges with the golden blooms of marsh marigolds and the lush spikes of purple loosestrife and you'll have nectar stations for insects and beauty to dwell on.



Why not dig a pond? If you introduce a water feature, not just for fish but for newts, dragonflies and pond skaters, you'll also be providing water for many birds and other animals that visit. Make sure the sides aren't too steep so any animals that may fall in have a way to get out!



**Left:** Elephant hawk moth on honeysuckle, the caterpillars love fuchsia **Right:** Smooth newts which we have in our native species pond.

Don't forget nocturnal animals, highly scented plants provide nectar for moths!

There are just 3% of the number of hedgehogs than that of just 50 years ago, they are disappearing from our countryside as fast as tigers are worldwide. Hedgehogs can eat over 100 invertebrates, such as snails and slugs every night, if these have all been poisoned by slug pellets just think about what that could do to the hedgehogs!

## VIP TORTOISE TOURS

Tours at  
\* 2.30pm

JUST £15  
PER PERSON  
(age 5+)

Spaces are  
limited, pre-book  
at the gatehouse  
or call 01223  
891308



All of the money raised from our VIP tours will go directly to wildlife conservation projects we support and fund.



# EXTINCTION IN THE UK



Great white pelican

The world is currently experiencing the sixth mass extinction event, caused largely by human activities that continue to damage and destroy biodiversity across the globe. High extinction rates are typically associated with the most biodiverse regions such as the tropical rainforests, however, it is vital that we do not forget about species that live closer to home.

## NOTABLE EXTINCTIONS YOU MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN EVER LIVED IN THE UK

- Eurasian brown bear - 1000BC
- Arctic lemming - 8000BC
- Grey Wolf - 1680AD
- Eurasian lynx - 400AD
- Woolly mammoth – c. 10,000 BC
- Woolly rhinoceros – c. 10,000 BC
- Cave lion - 10000BC
- Great white pelican - 1000BC



Cave lion

Woolly mammoth

Woolly rhinoceros

This incredible more recent loss of biodiversity has been caused by a range of factors, such as habitat degradation and modification, the intensification of agriculture, pollution and poor land management.



Arctic lemming

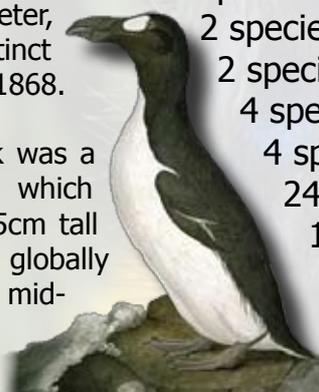
**ENGLAND'S LOST WORLD** - It's so easy to think of species extinction as something that happened decades ago in England, but over 400 species of mammals, birds and plants, have become extinct in England over the past 200 years including;

- 22 species of bee
- 78 species of beetle
- 7 species of bird
- 5 species of butterfly
- 3 species of dragonfly
- 1 species of earwig
- 1 species of fish
- 43 species of fly
- 70 species of fungus
- 7 species of heteropteran bug
- 13 species of lichen
- 4 species of liverwort
- 3 species of mammal
- 2 species of mayfly
- 30 species of moss
- 62 species of moth
- 6 species of sawfly
- 2 species of shrimp
- 2 species of snail
- 4 species of spider



The cap of the *Cortinarius cumatilis* could grow up to 10cm in diameter, it became extinct in England in 1868.

The great auk was a flightless bird which grew up to 85cm tall and became globally extinct in the mid-19th century.



The large tortoiseshell butterfly was widespread in England, but became extinct in 1953 due to Dutch elm disease, which eradicated the main larval food source.



*Hedychrum rutilans* extinct 1899.

Greatermouse-eared bat extinct 1985



The great bustard is one of the heaviest flying animals and became extinct in England in 1833.

The wildcat became extinct in England in the late 1800s and is currently on the brink of extinction in Scotland.



**Dates given are when the species became extinct in England only.**

Growing up to 6.5cm long, the *Rhynchites bacchus* became extinct 1843.



# DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN HELP US...

Much of our work at the zoo is to support field conservation projects to help keep wildlife where it so rightfully belongs, in the wild!

**Fundraising is a big part of that!**

## RAISE MONEY BY SHOPPING

**and it doesn't cost you a penny!**

Register with Easyfundraising when doing your shopping online - it's completely free and we'll receive a donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make! Plus you get loads of fantastic discounts from hundreds of High Street stores - everyone wins!

**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk

Visit their sister site and raise funds each time you search the internet!

**easysearch** powered by  
.org.uk bing Yahoo!



lintonzooconservationfund  
100% positive Feedback

Following

Our ebay shop helps us to raise important funds to

help support our wildlife charity, but we need your help. Anything you would like to donate for us to sell, can be left at the front gatehouse or dropped at our warehouse. Please call first.

**There are many projects not featured in this zoo news we also support, please visit the conservation page on our website for more information.**

Our **RECYCLING ENVELOPES** for ink cartridges, mobile phone etc, are flying out of the zoo. We've now raised nearly £1000 from items returned in our recycling envelopes by you.



Collect your envelopes from the gatehouse.

**Left:** A small selection of the items that can be recycled.

## WE NEED YOUR STAMPS

We've raised hundreds of pounds by the sale of stamps visitors have collected and donated, so please persuade your friends and colleagues to collect stamps for our wildlife appeal. Any stamps can be dropped at the main zoo gate next time you visit.



**Above:** 9 year old Nadia Meftah set out to collect her weight in stamps to donate to our collection  
THANK YOU NADIA!!!

## VOLUNTEERING AT THE ZOO

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 we'd love to hear from you.

*Download an application form from [www.lintonzoo.com](http://www.lintonzoo.com)*



## VIP LEMUR TOURS

**Tours at**  
\* 11.30am  
\* 1.30pm

**JUST £10**  
**PER PERSON**  
(age 2+)

**Spaces are limited, pre-book at the gatehouse or call 01223 891308**



*All of the money raised from our VIP tours will go directly to wildlife conservation projects we support and fund.*

For the latest news and cute pictures faster, follow us on



*Just follow the link from our home page*

[www.lintonzoo.com](http://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 24

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

### OPENING TIMES FOR 2015/16

OCTOBER 2015							NOVEMBER 2015							DECEMBER 2015						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	4							1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31								
26	27	28	29	30	31															

JANUARY 2016							FEBRUARY 2016							MARCH 2016						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							28	29	30	31				

<p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e6e6fa; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> 10.30am to 4.00pm</p> <p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> 10.30am to 5.00pm</p> <p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ff0000; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> CLOSED</p>	<p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #00ffff; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> 10.00am to 5.00pm</p> <p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #00ff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> 10.00am to 6.00pm</p> <p><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #ffa500; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Check website for opening details</p>
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**Last admission always 1 hour before closing time.**

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 that the activity you wish to attend will still be taking place on the day.

Many of the talks are weather permitting and times may vary.

### ADMISSION

All information correct on 01/10/15 (incl. 20% VAT) are:

	Adults	OAP	Child (2-13 years)	Babies under 2 years
Individuals	£9.00	£8.00	£6.50	FREE

### PARTIES

Reduced rates available for groups of 20 or more. Parties must be pre-booked at least one week in advance. Please telephone or visit our website for an information pack.

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

**Telephone: (01223) 891308**

**www.lintonzoo.com**

### 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 by visitors is not allowed, not even with grass or leaves. It is unnecessary, unkind and may lead to injury or death.
- Children under 14 are not allowed to wander unattended. Parents and guardians must not let children out of sight at any time.
- **It is an Environmental Health requirement for everyone to wash their hands** properly before eating and after attending any animal contact session. Facilities can be found at the toilet block and in the reptile house next door to the coffee shop.
- Dogs and pets are not allowed around the Zoo. There is a lane nearby suitable for walking dogs.
- Ball games are restricted to the car park and playing field only.
- Do not cross any of the safety barriers or garden borders.
- 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 2015

Unlimited Admission for one year

1 Adult £35

2 Adults £ 65

(Purchased together)

1 Child £25

1 OAP £ 30

2 OAPs £55

(Purchased together)

FAMILY £100

1 Adult & 3 Children or

2 Adults & 2 Children

Application Forms available from the Zoo Office

Winter Weekend dates apply!

# LINTON ZOO CONSERVATION PARK



◀ Saffron Walden B1051

Cambridge A1307 (A604) & M11 ▶

## MAP REFERENCES

1. Parrots, Macaws	4. Animal House & Spiders	7. Terrapins
2. Hornbills	5. Toucans & Turacos	8. Kookaburras
3. Reptiles	6. Lemur	9. Binturong

### SOUTHERN GROUND HORNBILL

*Bucorvus leadbeateri*



**VULNERABLE**  
 ♀ Oboe  
 Wild numbers are still dropping in Southern and central Africa.

### WHITE COLLARED LEMUR

*Eulemur cinereiceps*



**CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**  
 11 of only 16 individuals in Europe were born here at Linton Zoo.

### AMUR TIGER

*Panthera tigris altaica*



Status in the wild: **ENDANGERED**  
 ♂ Mirko  
 ♀ Katinka  
 The largest of all big cats has fewer than 250 successfully breeding adult Amur Tigers left in the wilds of Eastern Russia.  
 Katinka, born at Linton Zoo April 2006

### AFRICAN LIONS

*Panthera leo*



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 Africa in the last 20 years.  
 Zuri and Safina, our younger pair

### BRAZILIAN TAPIRS

*Tapirus terrestris*



Status in the wild: **VULNERABLE**  
 ♂ Thiago and Tulio  
 ♀ Tiana  
 Rhinoceros and horses are the closest relatives to these South American animals which have remained unchanged for 30 million years.  
 Thiago and his mate Tiana enjoying the beautiful Spring blossoms.

### RED KANGAROO

*Macropus rufus*



Status in the wild: **LEAST CONCERN**  
 ♂ Walter & Bruce  
 ♀ Matilda (Tilly)  
 The only large animal to hop rather than walk or run, a male Kangaroo can leap over 9 metres (30 feet) in one jump!  
 Our Red Kangaroo mob

### HARTMANN'S MOUNTAIN ZEBRA

*Equus hartmannae*



Status in the wild: **VULNERABLE**  
 ♂ Hakim  
 ♀ Goya  
 ♀ Heidi  
 The largest of the Mountain Zebra, the Hartmann's live in the dry, stoney mountain and hill habitats of South-West Africa.  
 Goya, pictured age 19

### ALDABRA GIANT TORTOISE

*Geochelone gigantea*



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.  
 The circle of life!!!

### BLUE THROATED MACAW

*Ara glaucogularis*



**CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**  
 Less than 115 birds are left in the wild our breeding programme is critical to save them

### RADIATED TORTOISE

*Astrochelys radiata*



**CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**  
 ♀ Zimmy  
 Once seen as a symbol of Madagascar, now predicted to become extinct within 45 years.

## 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... anywhere!
	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

LEAST CONCERN    NEAR THREATENED    VULNERABLE    ENDANGERED    CRITICALLY ENDANGERED    EXTINCT IN THE WILD    EXTINCT