



The Jungle Times

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Independent Newsletter of Danau Girang Field Centre, Established 2008

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The Masters come to rule...

This month we welcome the arrival of volunteers Luke and Sarah from Cardiff University, they will be spending the following 6 months at DG to carry out their masters projects. Sarah will be looking at the diversity of frogs in over 70 different sites along the area of the Kinabatangan and comparing different habitats. Assisting Sarah for the first few days of her project was herpetologist Graeme Gillespie, who previous position was as Director of Conservation for Zoos Victoria.



Luke, on the other hand, will be looking at one of our most enigmatic animals, the salt water crocodile. He will be carrying out a survey along a 100km stretch of the Kinabatangan, recording crocodile density and estimate body sizes, as well as analysing their surrounding habitat.



Picture by Luke Evans

Stark strikes again

Primatologist Danica Stark has carried out an extensive primate survey along the Kinabatangan river bank, focusing primarily on proboscis monkeys and their group compositions. The survey has been successful, finding 6 of the 8 diurnal primates species that exist along the Kinabatangan, including orangutans, red leaf and silver leaf monkeys and numerous proboscis monkey groups. We look forward to the results of the survey, and hope it is another step further towards the conservation of the primate populations in the Kinabatangan.



Map from Google Earth showing the survey area along the Kinabatangan River from the limestone cliffs in the East, and more than 87km along the river past Kg Batu Putih in the West.

Meet the staff of DGFC; Mark the Manager.



From left to right; Mark, Benoit, Hasna, Murni, Samsir, Saroto and Budin. Children; Ridzwan, Aldie, Eka.

Mr Mark Rampangajouw joined DGFC in November 2010. Before working here, he has built up a great deal of skills, which include being an Honorary Wildlife Warden since 2008, being one of only 5 certified glassblowers in Sabah, being interested in woodworking and guitar building, but perhaps the most relevant to being the manager here has been his time working in logistics for dive companies, film crews, and most recently, for the newly formed Wildlife Rescue Unit.

His plan for DGFC is to get the facility up and running more efficiently for the research and field courses so that more can be done to contribute to the conservation and wildlife management in the area.

He wants DGFC to be widely known for people to come and visit and to do research, by being proactive about getting the centre known and maintaining a good reputation in collaboration with the Sabah Wildlife Department.

This months guess who; Animal appendages

Last Issue's Guess the animal eyes; long tailed macaque, western tarsier, buffy fish owl, lesser mouse deer, reticulated python, forest gecko, bearded pig, bay cat, pig tailed macaque and long tailed, elephant, green tree lizard, tree shrew, proboscis monkey.



Photo Album



Clockwise from top left; Western tarsier in Lot 7, surprised long tailed macaque, harlequin frog in the leaf litter, juvenile babbler on a palm frond, salt water crocodile in motion, 4 lined frog in a plantation.



Danau Girang Field Centre

Danau Girang Field Centre was opened in July 2008. It is located in the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary, Sabah, Malaysia.

Danau Girang is owned by the Sabah Wildlife Department and supported by Cardiff University. Its purpose is to further scientific research with the aim of contributing to long-term conservation projects in the area, and develop a better understanding of our environment and the living things we share it with.

Danau Girang Field Centre

Lot 6
The Jungle
Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary
Sabah

Email:
danaugirangfieldcentre@yahoo.com

*Editors: Rob Colgan and Rodi Tenquist-Clarke
(Colganr@cf.ac.uk and
tenquistclarker@cf.ac.uk)*

Director of Publication: Benoit Goossens



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