



# The Jungle Times

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# Arrivals

## Jessica Shuttleworth

Our final PTY of the year joins us from Oxfordshire. Jess studies Biological Sciences at Cardiff University and is particularly interested in Ecology and Conservation. She has always loved animals since growing up on a pig farm and her love of the outdoors was solidified when trekking through Norway for 3 weeks. She is looking forward to seeing all of Borneo's amazing wildlife before carrying out her own project here at DG.

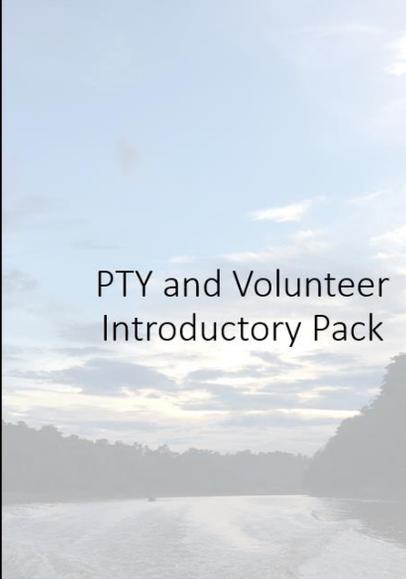


# Visitors



## Sabrina Herold

Sabrina came from Switzerland to visit for 10 days to experience life at DGFC. She took part in many activities including night walks, primate boats, bird boats and tracking our collared tarsiers. Sabrina also helped to create a welcome pack for future PTYs and volunteers at DG to help future students get more of an idea of the centre before they arrive. Thank you Sabrina!



PTY and Volunteer  
Introductory Pack



# Visitors – Cardiff University



## **Professor Andrew Weightman, Dr Alison Weightman, Sarah Evans and Professor Susan Baker**

This month the centre had some visitors from Cardiff University! Professor Andy Weightman from Cardiff School of Biosciences, Sarah Evans, Manager of Cardiff Sustainable Places Research Institute, Professor Susan Baker from Cardiff School of Social Sciences and Dr Alison Weightman visited Borneo this month to attend the ten year anniversary celebration of DGFC. They then visited the centre itself for four days to get a sense of everything going on here. They took part in a range of activities such as bird boats, primate boats, night boats and night walks.

# Departures



## Helen and Penny

We're sad to say goodbye to Helen and Penny. They both assisted the PTY students in plenty of tasks including baiting sun bear camera traps for Miriam's project,

replacing camera traps for flat-headed cats, and processing camera trap data. They also helped with tracking Wira the pangolin and the tarsier couple Como and Kusai. We wish them luck continuing their respective degrees.



## Como

Unfortunately, over the course of Helen and Penny's stay we lost Como's collar signal! After months of hiding from us amongst the leaves like in the picture to the left, she has finally hidden for good!

# Aberystwyth University



A group from Aberystwyth University joined us at DGFC for a 10 day field course lead by Dr Natasha De Vere. Whilst here the group got involved in a number of different activities, including primate, bird and night boats, night walks and early morning canopy viewings. They were incredibly lucky to see some elephants who welcomed them on their first day from across the river and during their stay their luck continued as they were able to spot some of the Kinabatangan's much loved wildlife. In addition to all this excitement the group also took part in their own activities and projects. Whilst focusing on the botanical plots they also visited the reforestation area and made some comparisons between Welsh grass land and tropical forest. They also got involved in setting up a moth sheet and carried out scorpion transects along the main path.

# 10 years of DGFC!



On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of September, DGFC held a two day seminar to celebrate all the amazing work done by the centre over the last 10 years. We were joined by many people who have worked with DG over the years and enjoyed talks from the PhD students, post doc researchers and guest speakers alike. Thank you to the Sabah State Government and especially Sabah Wildlife Department for their continuous support, to Cardiff University and to our partners and sponsors. Here's to the next 10 years!



# State Action Plans



This month the 10-year state action plans (2019-2028) were launched to conserve three endangered species in Sabah, the Sunda clouded leopard, the proboscis monkey and the Bornean banteng. All three species are threatened by habitat loss, poaching and road development. Thank you to Yayasan Sime Darby, who over the past seven years have invested close to RM4 million on research towards conservation of these species. Thank you also to the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment of Sabah, Madam YB Christina Liew, for launching these action plans.

# Science Corner

Survival strategies of a frugivore, the sun bear, in a forest-oil palm landscape: An ex master student from DGFC, Roshan Guharajan, published a new study in Biodiversity and Conservation this month about his work on sun bear's survival strategies in the Kinabatangan. He found that within the small forest fragments of the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary with a major river and oil palm plantations at either side, sun bears selected habitats away from human activity including, plantations, river boat traffic, and buildings. He found that they were rarely active during the day, and that they avoided potential anthropomorphic threats in time and space. They selected large trees to feed and rest, but also ate oil palm fruit in nearby plantations. Therefore he concluded that the small forest fragments within large agricultural landscapes can be important for sun bears.



Guharajan, R. et al. (2018) 'Survival strategies of a frugivore, the sun bear, in a forest-oil palm landscape', *Biodiversity and Conservation*. doi: [10.1007/s10531-018-1619-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-018-1619-6).

# Conservation Corner:



**Common name:**  
Lesser Mouse Deer  
**Scientific name:**  
*Tragulus kanchil*  
**IUCN status:**  
Least concern

## **Description and Ecology:**

The Tragulidae are the world's smallest deer. Borneo has two species, the lesser and the greater mouse deer, told apart by differences in their throat markings. The greater have five white stripes on the throat whilst the lesser have three.

Mouse deers have four chambered ruminant stomachs so can digest leaves, however they feed mainly on fallen fruits. Within the ecosystem they are an important prey species for wild cats.

They communicate using a variety of soft squeaks and whistles. Females lesser mouse deer attract males by drumming vigorously on the ground with their two hind feet together.

# Jungle word search

Can you locate some of our favourite animals?



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

CENTIPEDE  
 MACAQUE  
 STORK  
 BUTTERFLY  
 CIVET  
 ELEPHANT  
 PROBOSCIS  
 HORNBILL  
 ORANGUTAN  
 CROCODILE  
 EAGLE  
 BANTENG  
 PYTHON  
 SUNBEAR  
 PORCUPINE



## 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**

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Sabah

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