

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

In this issue we take a closer look at our ongoing campaign to end the trade in pet primates in the UK and how The Monkey Sanctuary Trust is involved in shaping the latest developments in animal welfare law. We catch up with Joey, another new arrival at the Sanctuary in Cornwall, and update you on how your adopted monkeys are doing.

We were proud to be in the news with our award-winning Treetop café and to attend the Charity Champion Awards at Westminster, when our local MP was short-listed. We also have ideas to help you help monkeys and the environment by doing your bit for recycling and much, much more.

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Mister Monkey is a recent victim of the UK pet trade

On the campaign trail

Rachel Hevesi, one of the Trust's active campaigners, updates us on progress to ban the primate pet trade

Since it was founded in 1964, The Monkey Sanctuary Trust has been promoting the conservation and welfare of primates. The Trust stepped up its campaign to end the primate pet trade in 2001, when the Government announced its intention to bring the Animal Welfare Bill (AWB) to Parliament. During the public consultation stage of the Bill we took the opportunity to inform MPs about the poor welfare suffered by so many of the 3000 privately owned primates currently being kept in the UK.

Back in the sixties, primate mortality rates in captivity were very high. There were no regulations or restrictions on international trade, so it was easy to replace animals when they died. Tens of thousands of primates were shipped to the USA and Europe every year. In 1976 the UK became a signatory to CITES (Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species) and the numbers of primates being imported from wild habitats for the pet and zoo trade was dramatically reduced.

The Monkey Sanctuary Trust is a unique educational and environmental charity dedicated to:

- Promoting the welfare, conservation and survival of primates.
- Working to end the primate trade and abuse of primates in captivity.
- Conserving natural habitats through education and sustainable living.
- Operating a sanctuary to care for victims of the UK primate pet trade.

For a while, the numbers of monkeys being kept as pets appeared to fall. Visitors to the Monkey Sanctuary would relate stories of pets brought to this country by service personnel and merchant seaman, or how Harrods had once boasted that they could source any animal from any part of the world. We thought that CITES had relegated these anecdotes to events in history.

But then we noticed that we were receiving more calls from people asking for help with their pet primates. Today it is easy to find adverts in trade magazines. Monkeys are sold by official licensed breeders and private individuals based in the UK. All too often the trade is perpetuated by the ignorance of the purchasers. Unfortunately, people have the surplus income available to buy a new pet, but not the education or understanding of why primates, which are wild animals, cannot be domesticated and should not be kept as pets.

When the Animal Welfare Bill was proposed, primate welfare was not on the agenda. With the help of our local MP, Colin Breed, we lobbied MPs and drafted an Early Day Motion calling for an end to the primate pet trade. The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) joined forces with us and in 2006 they produced a report, "Born to be Wild – Primates are not Pets". The Trust contributed a chapter to the report, as did Trust patron and United Nations Environment Programme Ambassador, Ian Redmond. By April 2007, when the Bill became law as the Animal Welfare Act, the Government had recognized that "primates do not make suitable pets", but still stopped short of banning them. As part of the Act, The Monkey Sanctuary Trust was invited to join a working group, chaired by Defra, with the purpose of creating a Code of Practice for the private keeping of primates. This Code is still work in progress: Defra had suggested that we could have things finalized by April 2008, but there are now doubts about whether it will have completed all its legal stages before April 2009.

Although we are pleased to participate in the creation of the Code, we believe that, on its own, it will not be sufficient to protect primate welfare; people will still be able to buy primates and it is questionable to what extent the Code will be enforceable. Therefore, we will continue to lobby for tighter restrictions, with help from the RSPCA and Monkey World.

The Animal Welfare Act, for the first time, introduces a welfare offence, which means that the RSPCA can take action when an animal is likely to suffer, rather than waiting until suffering has already occurred. A person who is responsible for an animal must ensure that the following needs are met:

1. A suitable environment,
2. Food and water,
3. To be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns,
4. To be housed with, or apart from, other animals, and
5. To be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease.

Local Authorities are responsible for enforcing the Animal Welfare Act and identifying welfare offences in their area. We have written to all of them, offering our expertise and advice concerning primates and the new law.

While the AWA was being drawn up, two other pieces of legislation were being reviewed:



Colin Breed MP and Norman Baker MP with MST staff delivering our petition

Despite evidence of the ability of the smallest primates to inflict nasty injuries and protest from several animal welfare organizations, the Government decided that a long list of animals, including several species of primates, should be removed from the Dangerous Wild Animals Act (DWAA) schedule and therefore no longer require a licence. Sadly, this delisting was heralded by the Press as the Government endorsing the keeping of exotic animals. In the days following the media coverage, the Trust received a greater number of calls from people asking how they could buy a monkey. The DWAA is the only way of monitoring pet primate welfare, although it is a flawed method: It is likely that 80% of owners that should have a licence do not bother to get one. The Government says that the new AWA will provide protection for the de-listed primates. We believe that, at the very least, the de-scheduling, should have been coordinated with the publication of the Primate Code of Practice.

A second disappointment this year came with the Government's refusal to accept that the UK primate pet trade has an effect on conservation in native range states. The Trust has evidence from non-governmental organisations that the legality of the trade in the UK encourages their illegal trade, even if the majority of monkeys never leave their country of origin. Sometimes they do get to the UK. The stories of Joey and Kodak (see case histories opposite) illustrate just how easily this happens:



Claire Robinson, RSPCA, with Gill Maltby of The Monkey Sanctuary Trust at Westminster

Case History

Name: Joey
Cebus apella

Born: Suriname

CITES laws failed to protect him, despite Government advice that permits should not be issued for the pet trade and that it requires applications for permits to include evidence that the importer's accommodation is suitably-equipped to protect and care for the specimen. Joey's permit specifies that he was imported for "Personal use". He was kept in a London flat in a cage the size of a wardrobe. He suffers from bone disease and deformities due to lack of sunlight and poor diet.

Dangerous Wild Animals Act failed to protect him. Camden Council issued a licence to Joey's owner. She apparently claimed that they advised on the size of the cage, which was no more than 1.5'x4'x6'. The DWA must be renewed every year and requires an annual vet inspection. Joey's licence was never renewed and so he was lost in the system. (You can read about the devastating consequences on page six).

Case History

Name: Kodak
Cebus apella

Born: Guyana

Failed by CITES law. Permits were issued for Kodak and 11 other capuchins to travel to Greece for "Personal use". Kodak was kept by a camera shop owner as a pet. He was eventually handed over to Stichting Aap, the main rescue facility in Europe. Aap have asked the Trust to take Kodak. He is now in quarantine and due to arrive at the Sanctuary in June. No trace can be found of the other capuchins.

2007 ended with recognition by ministers of the work of Colin Breed MP, when we nominated him for a Charity Champions Award (read more on page five).

The campaign continues into 2008 and the future: We will continue to negotiate with Defra, to push for a decent Code of Practice. We will carry on making our regular appearances at the All Party Group for Animal Welfare in Westminster.

The recent change of cabinet means that we must organize more meetings with new ministers. We are very keen to build on cooperation with other animal welfare organizations. We meet regularly and pool resources and experience to push for better animal welfare. It is also time to look to the Welsh Assembly for the opportunity to create separate legislation and we must investigate our chances at the EU Parliament to control the widespread trade there.

We are grateful to all our adopters and donors for your ongoing support. If you would like to make a donation to help us in our efforts, please use the donation form at the back of this newsletter. And please help us keep up the pressure on the Government to have pet monkeys made illegal in the UK: Write a letter to your local MP asking them to write to Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs. See 'Primates as Pets: the Facts' on the Campaign page of our website for ideas to put in your letter.

TV

If you watch TV in the South West, keep a lookout for Joey's story and The Monkey Sanctuary Trust on the BBC's 'Inside Out' programme on April 18th at 7.30pm.

The Miraculous Monkey Club

11 year old Kelly Cooke (from Croydon and Selsdon, Surrey) got in touch with us at the end of last year to tell us about 'The Miraculous Monkey Club'. Kelly recently founded the club to help raise money for monkeys in need. We asked Kelly what inspired her to start the club and here is what she had to say:

"I have always had a passion for monkeys. For my 11th birthday I got a monkey annual which had information on starting a club. I then thought of all the poor monkeys living and dying in a short period of time. We are still trying to get members for our campaign and it is going successfully, so we have not yet had time to do any money-raising. Next week we are having a huge sale of clothes and toys and hoping it will raise us enough money to save monkeys!"

If you have an idea which could help raise funds or awareness for The Monkey Sanctuary Trust then please do get in touch. We will be happy to supply leaflets, collecting boxes and other materials to make your event a success. For further fundraising ideas check out our website at www.monkeysanctuary.org/howyoucanhelp.

Adoption Update featuring:

Peppy



Peppy with Gary who will be sadly missed

Peppy has had a difficult time recently. He has lost his best friend, Gary, who died suddenly in December. Newer Peppy adopters might not know the story of their friendship, but they have been inseparable for over five years and losing this long-term companion is a blow. Peppy and Gary were the 2nd and 3rd capuchins to be rescued by the Monkey Sanctuary Trust, arriving about 6 months apart. They instantly formed a strong bond despite their different histories and backgrounds. Peppy had been living alone in a garden shed for 7 years, but Gary was rescued by the RSPCA after a tip-off to raid a house. Gary was found in a box, next to another monkey in a box who was dead. Many other animals were found, all cases of severe neglect. We will never know the horrors that these animals went through. Their owner was sectioned under the Mental Health Act shortly after their discovery. By the time he arrived here, Gary was a nervous and anxious character. We had only a rough idea of his age - between 20 and 25 years old - but knew nothing else about him. Despite his anxieties about humans, Gary was a sociable monkey and he and Peppy quickly formed the basis of our first stable social group of rescued ex-pet capuchins. Peppy was always slightly dominant over Gary, but they played together, slept together, hunted together and showed themselves to be a powerful united front. When Coco and Chanel (also weeper capuchins) arrived in 2003 they instantly adopted Chanel to the group and, somewhat begrudgingly, allowed Coco in too.

Gary and Peppy lived together all the time for over 5 years. Their friendship showed us the power of the real relationships these monkeys require. Their backgrounds as pets for human pleasure denied them this, and wounded them physically and mentally. The last years of Gary's life gave him a chance to quietly groom a girlfriend, sprawl out on a beam in the sunshine, honk with pleasure at a handful of mealworms to be eaten, and curl up with his best friend in a warm bunk at night. Peppy is missing him, but his amazing social skills are already helping him readjust. He is still firm friends with Chanel, and he is enjoying the company of Mister Monkey who has begun to spend much of his time with them.

And how are the rest of your adopted monkeys faring?

Social stability has treated **Frosty** well and he continues to thrive as king of the black-cap group. Surrounded at all times by adoring females he is always busy in one way or another. It is always obvious when Frosty is coming - his huge stature and accompanying posse could make an imposing gang for the lower status members of the group, but Frosty isn't interested in causing trouble so life is generally peaceful for all.

Always ready to charm the human visitor **Mickey** tries her best to make friends, but as a low status member of her monkey group she sometimes struggles. Although this can sometimes look harsh to our anthropomorphizing human eyes, it is natural for monkeys to have strict dominance hierarchies, and Mickey knows her place and importantly, how to get what she wants.

Esperanzo is doing well at the Centre for the Rescue and Rehabilitation of Primates in Penaflo, Chile (formerly known as Siglo XXI). He is temporarily parted from his regular capuchin cage-mates to live next to Juny, a spider monkey suffering from a kidney complaint. Juny finds having gentle Esperanzo nearby a great comfort. Esperanzo himself is in good health. He still drinks milk every day to get extra protein and calcium, and enjoys eating his favourite leaves (albahaca, or basil) and vine leaves, and fruits (bananas and chirimoya, or custard apple) despite his lack of teeth!

No longer the baby of the colony, **Oliver** was four in January. He is growing long and strong - with huge hands and feet. As well as his increasing physical strength he is socially very adept with all the woolly monkeys in the group having a close relationship with him.





Treetop Café is Tops!



Monkey Sanctuary Café wins prestigious food award.

In Newsletter 18, we told you a little bit about The Treetop Café at The Monkey Sanctuary, near Looe. The café serves delicious, freshly-made vegetarian lunches, cakes, drinks and cream teas from locally-sourced, ethical ingredients during our open season from Easter until October. In November 2007, in recognition of the choice and quality of its service and menu, the Treetop Café was awarded The Vegetarian Society's Award for Best Visitor Attraction. This achievement was recognized in newspapers and food magazines, gaining valuable publicity for the café and the Sanctuary.

Annette Pinner, Chief Executive of The Vegetarian Society, travelled from their headquarters in Cheshire to Cornwall, to present café managers Nicky Garner and Brooke Aldrich with the elegant glass award. The Treetop Café beat off competition from The Eden Project and Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales to take this coveted nationwide award.

The Monkey Sanctuary is visited by thousands of people every year, during our open season. Many visitors return again and again to see us and the monkeys. Others come every day of their holiday simply to eat at our Treetop Café, one of the best lunch-stops around!

The café will be open again, along with The Monkey Sanctuary, in the new season from Sunday March 16th. See www.monkeysanctuary.org and www.vegsoc.org/awards for more details.

Reclaim it for Monkeys and Gorillas

If your New Year's Resolution was to recycle more, then let us help you:

Have you upgraded your phone recently? Did you know that new mobile phones use coltan, a mineral that is mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo? Mining coltan is directly threatening the survival of the eastern lowland gorilla, so why not recycle your old handset and help reduce the impact on primates? You can also recycle printer cartridges, helping you to clean up the office.

The Monkey Sanctuary Trust has teamed up with Reclaim It, who give us a donation for each item you recycle. We can supply you with free collection boxes or envelopes with a special code which means what you recycle becomes income for The Monkey Sanctuary Trust.

Old Inkjet printer cartridges can also be recycled in the same envelopes. Email us at pippa_cann@monkeysanctuary.org, or send an SAE for your envelopes. Boxes are approx. 1m² and more suitable for offices. What could be easier?

Our Charity Champion

Colin Breed MP Shortlisted for Charity Champion Awards



Rachel Hevesi from The Monkey Sanctuary Trust with Colin Breed and wife at the awards ceremony

When The Monkey Sanctuary Trust started its campaign to end the primate pet trade, the issue was not on the parliamentary agenda. Our local MP, Colin Breed, has given us invaluable support throughout, helping the Trust bring the plight of primates as pets to the attention of

MPs and Government. Colin was nominated by the Trust for the 2007 Dods/Epoltix Award for Animal Welfare Champion. Epoltix is a politics website which aims to improve communication between MPs and the electorate, policymakers and policy influencers. Other award categories included Environment, Disability and Health Champions.

Colin was shortlisted in a group of three, from scores of submissions. The Trust was delighted that Colin was recognized in this way.

The final Animal Welfare Award went to Ben Bradshaw for his work to protect whales at the International Whaling Commission. However, as Craig Hoy of ePolitix.com said, 'All the nominees are worthy of the title Charity Champion and we congratulate those who impressed our judges to make it to this final stage.' The Trust will continue to campaign for tighter regulation and protection for primates.

Rachel Hevesi of The Monkey Sanctuary Trust attended the awards evening at Westminster, hosted by Esther Rantzen.



Our latest arrival

Joey's Story

Joey arrived at The Monkey Sanctuary Trust on the 30th August 2007. His story is one of the saddest of all our rescued monkeys. Joey was taken from his native rainforest home in South America at only 3 months old, after his mother was shot. Joey's owner brought him to the UK from Surinam, where he lived on the 3rd floor of her London home for the next 10 years.



Joey lived in a 3ft x 4ft x 6ft cage (pictured); he never went outside, never felt the sun on his face. His only company was a soft polar bear toy and a large television which was left on 24 hours a day. Joey's

owner made frequent visits to South America, leaving Joey on his own for months at a time. A friend would visit Joey for 2 hours a day to clean his cage and feed him, but for the other 22 hours a day, Joey was left completely on his own.

Joey's owner found herself in serious financial trouble and in November 2006, she left the house and never returned. The house was re-possessed in August 2007. Realizing he was unable to care for Joey himself, the friend who had been visiting Joey contacted us. We needed to move swiftly as the bailiffs were already emptying the house and Joey could have been sold again as a pet. We travelled to London immediately and Joey arrived at The Sanctuary in Cornwall 2 days later.

Joey had a thorough health check at our vets on the way to The Sanctuary; staff and vets were saddened and shocked by

what they found. X-rays showed an anatomically abnormal body with a curved spine (scoliosis), bowed arms and legs, very low bone density, a misshapen pelvis and both hips completely out of their sockets. Joey's bones never formed properly because of the lack of vitamin D3 (naturally obtained through sunlight).

When Joey arrived at The Sanctuary he displayed severe stereotypical behaviour and rocked back and forth, seemingly completely oblivious to the world around him. Staff at the sanctuary feared that Joey was too far gone mentally to be reached, and that he may never change or improve. Two days passed and Joey started to listen to the calls of the other monkeys around him. He slowly started to respond to sanctuary staff and then, much to everyone's amazement, Joey stopped rocking and, on a particularly sunny day, he stepped outside for the first time. There were a few tears in the keepers' eyes. Joey's reactions to the world around him were that of surprise and great curiosity; every rustle of the leaves, every bird that called, Joey would listen with interest, trying to make sense of the new sensations he was experiencing. Since Joey first stepped outside he has done nothing but amaze us. Joey is so full of love and friendship despite his terrible background. He is a truly inspirational character and he steals the hearts of all those that meet him. Joey has started making friends with the other monkeys; he loves to share his food, is always ready for a game and grins happily when running around his specially adapted new home. Joey can't move around like the other monkeys, he dribbles frequently and tires easily, but he held onto his spirit in those long 10 years and with the help of The Monkey Sanctuary Trust, he is finally able to live the life he has always deserved.

Wish List

We are ALWAYS in need of various items, large and small for use around the territory, house and grounds. It could be anything from a sanctuary vehicle to ropes for enclosures to kitchen equipment and bedding for volunteers. Items we are currently in need of include:

- workshop power tools;
- wellies;
- sacks of mixed nuts;
- lap top computer;
- overhead projector screen;
- digital camera;
- CD player;
- floor paint; white emulsion paint;
- black gloss paint;
- large cork pin-boards;
- heavy duty vacuum cleaner;
- desktop photocopier;
- laserjet printer;

If you think you might be able to donate any of the above items, or if you have something which you think we might need (however obscure!), please call us on 01503 262532 or email us at: gill_maltby@monkeysanctuary.org. Thank you.

Events

16th March - Monkey Sanctuary opens to the public for the new season.

Sunday 23rd March – Easter Sunday Fun-Day! – today there will be delicious chocolate hidden within our grounds for you to find and enjoy! You can also learn how to make a beautiful willow plant support for your garden with local willow expert Amanda (charge for materials).

Sunday 4th May – Marine Conservation Day – talks and workshops with Abigail Crosby from Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

Saturday 31st May – Adopters' Day (INVITE ONLY) – always an enjoyable day for staff and Adopters; talks, tours, snacks, raffle, jazz on the lawn (and hopefully no rain!)

31st May to 1st June - Bristol Vegan Fayre. The largest Vegan event in the UK; with cruelty-free vegan stalls, delicious food, live music and workshops, 2008 promises to be another fantastic event!

Saturday 21st June – Carnglaze Caverns Concert – back for a 2nd year! Let us boogie our socks off to help raise funds for the monkeys (see www.carnglaze.com for ticket information).

Sunday 27th July – Willow Sculpting – Learn how to make beautiful willow sculptures with our local willow expert Amanda (charge for materials).

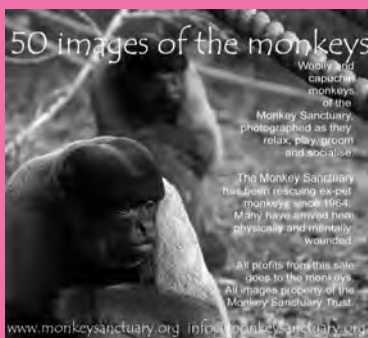
Thursday 31st July – Recycle Fun-Day – come and learn about ways to transform your waste and help to save the planet! Hosted by local recycling gurus Lorna and June.

Sunday 10th August – Batty Bat Day – discover all about the fascinating world of bats through talks and workshops with Gemma Waters, our friendly bat expert.

Sunday 24th August – Marine Conservation Day – talks and workshops with Abigail Crosby from Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

Thursday 28th August – Recycle Fun-Day – come and learn about ways to transform your waste and help to save the planet! Hosted by local recycling gurus Lorna and June.

Monkey Pictures



You can now buy a CD of 50 great images of the monkeys at our Sanctuary in Looe. Anyone who has visited us will know how difficult it is to take good photos of the monkeys through the mesh, but these

pictures look right through. Send a cheque or PO for just £5.00 (incl. p&p) to Pippa Cann at our usual address. All profits go directly to the Trust

Monkey Poe-Tree

Thank you to everyone who sent in their lovely monkey poems, we enjoyed reading them all. Our monkey Poe-Tree is looking a lot less empty now, with lots of monkey poems hanging from its branches. As more and more poems are written the tree will grow and grow. If you fancy having your poem on the Monkey Sanctuary Poe-Tree, send it to the Education Team here at the Monkey Sanctuary Trust.

Monkey business is the name,
Saving monkeys is our aim,
Caring people lend a hand
To look after this happy band.

Safe in their sanctuary by the sea,
Monkeys swing from tree to tree,
Playing, screeching, scolding too
Just the way wild monkeys do.

If you love monkeys the way I do
My little poem is just for you.
Support this cause however you can,
Because every little helps in the long term plan.

Zoe. Age 12

In a forest, in a tree,
There's a monkey swinging free.
Hanging by his hands and feet,
Looking for a treat to eat.
Ripe bananas grow nearby,
So they caught the monkey's eye.
Monkey grabs one and starts to peel,
Now he's got a monkey meal.

Mollie. Age 9½

I love monkeys
They are my friends
I love monkeys
I LOVE THEM!

Lucy. Age 4

Two Haikus but can you guess who they have adopted?

She eats the sweetcorn
She has yellow hair and big eyes
And Amber loves her

Amber. Age 3

Swinging in the trees
You can reach much more food
And hang upside down

Anthony. Age 7.



From all the staff and monkeys at The Monkey Sanctuary Trust, a huge thank you to:



Dickies UK Ltd for 20 coveralls, beautifully embroidered with The Monkey Sanctuary Trust logo. We have been looking for new coveralls for some time (we wear them when cleaning out the monkey enclosures) and we are incredibly grateful that such a top quality protective work wear company continues to support us;

Liskeard businesses: Barnecutt's Bakery, Blakes Bakery, Co-op Supermarket, W M Morrisons Supermarket and Somerfield Stores Ltd, for donating mince pies and mulled wine to make our Christmas Open Day a huge success;

Somerfield Stores Ltd, Liskeard for ongoing support with free fruit and veg for the monkeys;

The Baldowski family for donating a phone/fax, a DVD player and numerous raffle prizes;

Caroline Thorn of The Company of Animals, Chertsey, for donating kongs (enrichment toys) to be filled with monkey treats;

Looe Bay Holiday Park for delicious Christmas fruit for the monkeys (with special thanks to Dennis).

I want to help The Monkey Sanctuary Trust protect primates.

I'd like to make a donation of £ _____

Cheque/PO payable to 'The Monkey Sanctuary Trust'

Please debit my credit/debit card

(I am sorry we cannot accept American Express or Diners' card).

Card No: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ Valid From: ____ / ____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

Three digit security no: ____ Issue number (Switch & Maestro only) ____

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Alternatively, to donate online, please go to www.monkeysanctuary.org.

If you are a UK taxpayer and tick the box below, we can reclaim the tax on any donations you make. That means an extra 28p to the Trust for every £1 you donate – at no extra cost to you!

I am a UK taxpayer and I want The Monkey Sanctuary Trust to treat all donations I made from 6 April 2004 (until I notify you otherwise) as Gift Aid donations.

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