

ZOO

Issue 28

NEWS

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



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 leopards, magnificent Amur tiger, 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 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 2 month old Brazilian tapir, born at Linton Zoo 30th January 2020.

PERSISTING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

Well, as we all sat around opening presents and enjoying Christmas dinner, who would have thought that within just a few weeks the world would be turned upside down. Whilst we are not taking anything away from the many businesses, families and individuals who have suffered through this difficult time, this is our story of how the coronavirus, COVID-19 has affected us.

Winter is always a difficult time for us, with the cold and wet weather we are only open at weekends, to allow our avid zoo supporters the opportunity to keep visiting their favourite animals all year round.

Whilst visitor numbers fall, electricity bills rise as the need for increased heating for many of our animals is needed. Not to mention all the additional bedding, vitamin and mineral supplements to combat lack of daylight and many other things to ensure we can give the animals the best care we can possibly give them.

We all, animals included, look forward to the Easter holidays when we can welcome back our visitors every day of the week. Financially this is a very important time for us too, it's the start of the busy season and the first real opportunity to give the bank balance the lift it needs after a quiet Winter period.



To say things didn't quite go to plan this year is an understatement!

The Easter holidays, followed by the May Bank Holidays and May half term, leading into the busy school visiting season, really do kick off the season for outdoor zoological collections, such as ourselves. If the weather is nice then it really can be the busiest time of the year. Funds collected during this time, not only help us catch up after the Winter period, but allows us to continue with our maintenance and development programme.

Aside from the day to day costs of feeding and cleaning all of the animals we are honoured to have in our care, the cost of maintaining the grounds, the animals enclosures and the landscaping within them, is huge.

The gardens have all been looking especially stunning this year. So much work goes into looking after the plants around the grounds, but this year no-one got to see the stunning Spring blooms.



We may be closed but that does not mean that the work stops!

The support we have been shown from our visitors has been overwhelming. It's impossible for us to say thank you to every single person



Otherwise, it was business as usual.

Animals still need feeding, cleaning and treating when ill etc. Our wonderful and dedicated zoo keepers, vets and other essential zoo staff have done a fantastic job looking after the animals in our care.



who has made a contribution, but whether you have donated via Paypal, or been shopping on our Amazon wishlist, or even gone shopping and dropped food at the gate.

Thank you!



Please know that we are extremely grateful for your support!

BIRTHS, HATCHINGS, MOVES & NEWS

CELEBRATING OUR BRAZILIAN TAPIRS SUCCESS

On 30th January our Brazilian tapirs Thiago and Tiana became parents again when Tiana gave birth to a super cute baby boy. Tiana, born here herself in 2010 is, as always, the perfect mother. Our tapirs are part of a European Breeding Programme aimed at saving them from extinction.

© Nicky Heywood



Tapir calves have a striking coat of pale spots and stripes on a reddish-brown background which would provide a very efficient camouflage in the dappled shade of the forest. This is moulted out after about a year but the youngster may stay with its mother for up to 2 years.



Zoo supporters were able to put forward their name suggestions for the newest member of our tapir family. Over 600 names were suggested via our Facebook page alone, so choosing a name was not an easy task.

After much deliberation keepers agreed that he should be named Takoda, meaning friend to everyone, suggested by Leah Edwards Clark, thank you Leah!



Takoda joins mum Tiana, dad Thiago and big brothers Thomaz and Tito.

BYE BYE BABY BINTYS

Just before lock-down began our two binturong cubs, born here in April 2019, made the trip across the country as part of the European breeding programme, to their new home at Folly Farm Zoo, Pembrokeshire.



We're delighted to hear that they have settled in very well and have already captured the hearts of their new keepers who have named the two girls Pop and Corn, as the smell of a binturong is often compared to that of hot buttery popcorn!



LAUGHING KOOKABURRA CHICKS

On 18th April this year the first of two laughing kookaburra chicks made its way out of the nest box, the day after the second one emerged.



© Kev Stubbings

Mum, Tirrike which means joy and dad Kinta meaning laughter are both extremely good parents. After hatching the chicks stay in the nest box for around 5 weeks before fledging.



© John Ray

In many of the old Tarzan movies, the jungle sounds were often added using recordings of the laughing kookaburra call, an Australian bird! The laughing kookaburra is the largest member of the Kingfisher family.

FLASH & MARVINE HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!

Marvine, our charismatic and extremely popular white cheeked turaco, and her mate Flash have successfully hatched another two chicks, that we think should be called turacettes!

Learning from their mum the two youngsters love meeting visitors just as much as Marvine. It's nearly impossible to walk past their aviary without stopping to say hello.

Baby turacos have tiny claws on the ends of their wings that allow them to cling to twigs near the nest.



© Helen Claire Wright

CHRISTMAS HATCHLING



We're delighted with this little one who hatched on 23rd December just in time for Christmas.

When fully grown, at around 6-8 years old, it will reach a size of around 30-35cm from head to tail and weighing up to 3.5kg.

The Critically Endangered elongated tortoise is the most common tortoise shipped to the Chinese food markets from Vietnam. Other threats include the pet trade and habitat destruction.

ANIMAL INFO AND VISITORS PICTURES



© Lisa Mills

SNOW LEOPARD *Panthera uncia*

The snow leopard's beauty greatly attributes to its decline; the pelt (fur coat) of a snow leopard commands a very high price in the fur market. Its bones are also now being used in Chinese medicine as a substitute for tiger's bones which are now not as readily available.



© Anita Hutchings

HAMERKOP *Scopus umbretta*

Hamerkops build a haystack-like stick nest nearly 2 metres across in a tree. To deter predators the entrance to the nest is at the bottom. The nest could comprise of 10,000 sticks and is strong enough to support a man.

© Bill Hutchings



MARABOU STORK

Leptoptilus crumenifer

This is one of the largest flying birds in the world with wingspans reaching nearly 3 metres. Common over much of the range they are listed as endangered in South Africa.



© Kev Stubbings

SINALOAN MILKSNAKE

Lampropeltis triangulum sinaloae

© Tomek Rutowski



Due to the similar coloration Sinaloan milksnakes are often killed after being mistaken for the highly venomous coral snake.

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON VULTURE

Gyps rueppellii

Record breakers for avian flight at 37,000ft!

© Mick Baxter



RED KANGAROO *Macropus rufus*

The red kangaroo is the largest marsupial and the largest Australian mammal, with some males standing at two metres tall, and weighing around 85 kilograms. Kangaroos are adept swimmers, and often flee into waterways if threatened.

© Mark Ellis



LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

Little egrets are usually solitary except when roosting in trees or flying to roost. They feed chiefly by walking through water and snapping at prey, or by running and agitating the water with their feet to disturb prey.

© Kev Stubbings



CROWNED LEMUR *Eulemur coronatus*

Crowned lemurs are extremely trusting and show little fear of man in the wild, to the extent that the natives can get close enough to kill them with sticks. Recently crowned lemurs have been seriously exploited for Bush meat.

© Mick Baxter



AFRICAN LIONS *Panthera leo*

Riziki and Karla, both born in 2003, came here as cubs. Now at 17 years old they are still very much in love and you will often see them laying together sleeping with an arm (leg) around each other.

© Mick Baxter



VICTORIA CROWNED PIGEON *Goura Victoria*



© Hannah Stuart

Native to the islands of Indonesia the Victoria crowned pigeon is the largest member of the pigeon family now the Dodo is extinct.

STRIATED CARACARA *Phalcoboenus australis*

© Oliver Boutell



The southern-most overall breeding of any bird of prey in the world. The population in the Falklands is estimated at 500 breeding pairs.

KEEPER'S LITTLE HELPER

For more
information please
visit our website
www.lintonzoo.com

Children
age 5- 8



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

What can we say about Zuri, other than he's one heck of a handsome lion. He'll be celebrating his 14th birthday in July 2020.



© James Welch



© Vincent Rose Photography

So many visitors sent in photos of Katinka our Amur tigress it was impossible to choose just one and who doesn't like looking at pictures of tigers, so here's a selection of our favourites.



© Nicky Marshall

Katinka was born here at Linton Zoo in April 2006 as part of the European Breeding Programme.

The Amur tiger was previously known as the Siberian tiger, sadly they are now only found in the small Amur region of Siberia so have been renamed to reflect this.



© Lyndsey Anne Challis

The Amur tiger is the largest of the 5 remaining sub-species of tiger. Originally there were 9 sub-species, 3 of these (Javan, Bali and Caspian tigers) are now extinct and 1 is thought to be extinct in the wild.



© Karl Banks

In the 1930s the wild population fell to as low as 20–30 individuals, thanks to conservation efforts there are now an estimated 400 to 500 Amur tigers living in the wild in their native Russian habitat, still a dangerously low number.

Despite this the Amur tiger is currently classified as Endangered, rather than Critically Endangered, as although numbers are so low, the population is now classed as stable.



© Diane Warner

The dual threats of illegal poaching and habitat destruction still takes its toll on the population size. Different body parts of a tiger can be worth a lot of money, £1,300 per kilo for bones on the black market and £10,000 for a skin is a whole years' salary.



© Steve Brown



© Lyndsey Anne Challis

Tigers are generally a solitary cat and each individual will have its own territory.

JUST ANOTHER AMAZON PARROT - NOT TO US!

Amazon parrot is the common name for a parrot of the genus *Amazona*. These are medium-sized parrots native to the New World ranging from South America to Mexico and the Caribbean. There are over 37 *Amazona* species and we are lucky enough to have nine different species here with us at Linton.

Lilac-crowned amazon

Amazona finschi

Size: 32-34cm **Weight:** 315-330g

Also known as the Finsch's Amazon. This parrot doesn't reproduce freely in captivity, meaning it would be difficult to maintain a healthy captive population to potentially return to the wild.

ENDANGERED ↓

Yellow shouldered amazon

Amazona barbadensis

Size: 32-34cm **Weight:** 250-275g

On the islands of Bonaire and Margarita, tourist and associated developments are destroying its habitat, the principal breeding, roosting and feeding sites are threatened.

VULNERABLE ?

Blue cheeked amazon

Amazona dufresniana dufresniana

Size: 33-35cm **Weight:** 480-600g

In what is already quite a coastal range they often move even closer to the coast for July and August. Not much else is known about this secretive species.

NEAR THREATENED ↓

Southern festive amazon

Amazona festiva

Size: 33-35cm **Weight:** 365-375g

Rarely far from water, their preferred habitat is the high tree canopies of Várzea forests - a seasonal floodplain which is flooded by nutrient rich, high sediment water making it very fertile.

NEAR THREATENED ↓

Tres Marie amazon

Amazona tresmariae

Size: 37-39cm **Weight:** 580-650g

Maria Madre, the largest of the islands, was used as a prison until early 2019. This meant there was a low footfall of human traffic, great for the parrot and other native species.

LEAST CONCERN ↓

Ecuador amazon

Amazona lilacina

Size: 33-35cm **Weight:** 240-255g

Known to be one of the rarest birds in the world with fewer than 600 individuals left in the wild. Population size has declined by up to 60% in the last two decades.

ENDANGERED ↓

Red lored amazon

Amazona autumnalis autumnalis

Size: 33-35cm **Weight:** 375-430g

Currently they're not considered endangered but this species is still in decline due to illegal hunting and trapping for the pet trade.

This species is known to have a naughty streak!

LEAST CONCERN ↓

Southern mealy amazon

Amazona farinosa

Size: 37-39cm **Weight:** 705-765g

Maybe not the most colourful but it is among the largest of the amazon parrots. Named after the whitish tinge at the back of the neck as if it had been covered in a layer of flour "meal".

NEAR THREATENED ↓

Blue fronted amazon

Amazona aestiva

Size: 35-37cm **Weight:** 375-450g

Despite it being a somewhat temperamental species it is one of the most popular species in the pet trade due to its striking coloration and talking ability. Unlike most other *Amazona* parrots, its beak is mostly black.

NEAR THREATENED ↓

Human interaction is highly detrimental to many different species of Amazon parrots. Habitat destruction is one of the most pressing dangers to these birds.

MAP SHOWS
CENTRAL
AND SOUTH
AMERICA

Amazon parrots are long lived birds with an average life span of 40-50 years depending on the exact species. Although some have been recorded living well over 80 years!

Almost a third of the world's parrot species are under threat of extinction.

They are highly intelligent birds and have the capacity to learn a large vocabulary, sadly this makes them targets for the pet trade and they are still being hunted and taken illegally from the wild.

Please note: Sizes given are average for that species. Length is measured from top of head to tip of tail.

SHELL SHOCKINGLY ENDANGERED

Tortoises and turtles have thrived for 220 million years but now they're in trouble and many species are likely to become extinct within the next few decades without concerted conservation action. They are some of the world's most endangered vertebrates and half of their species are threatened with extinction. The main threats are being unsustainably collected from the wild for food, traditional medicinal beliefs and the pet trade. Equally their habitats are being destroyed. Climate change also has a big effect; a rise in the sea level will impact sea turtle nesting beaches and the temperature of the sand in which the eggs are laid will often determine the sex of the hatchlings. Typically warmer temperatures produce more females, therefore less genetic diversity.



A tortoise foot



A turtle foot

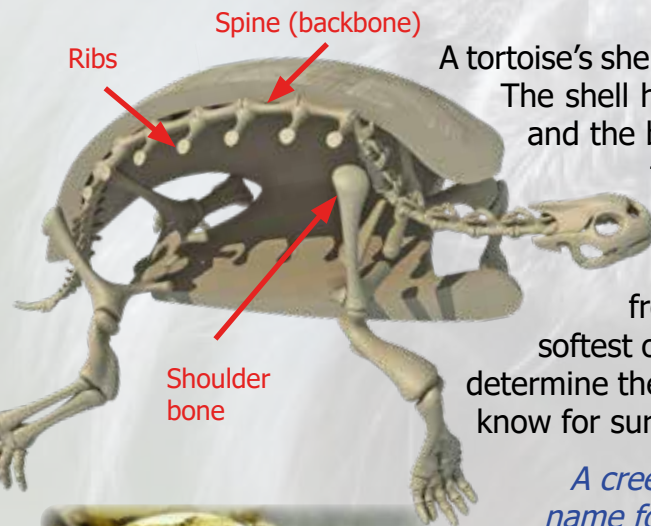
A tortoise is a turtle, but a turtle isn't a tortoise!

A tortoise is primarily a land animal, while turtles mainly live in the sea (of course, there are always a few exceptions to the rule). Turtles have flippers or webbed feet with long claws, and their shells are usually flatter and more streamlined. Tortoises generally have stubby, elephant-like feet. Confusingly in America all are known as turtles!

UNDERNEATH THE SHELL

A tortoise's shell is made up of 60 different bones all connected to each other. The shell has three main parts: the top carapace, the bottom plastron, and the bridge that fuses these pieces together. Within the shell each tortoise has ribs, shoulders and a spine.

The scales on the carapace are called scutes and are made of keratin, the same protein our hair and nails are made from. Shells have nerve endings, so tortoises can feel even the softest of touches. The growth rings around scutes can be counted to determine the approximate age of wild tortoises, but the only way you can know for sure how old a tortoise is, is if you were there when it hatched!



A creep is the name for a group of tortoises!

Tortoises drink water through their noses.

A newly hatched tortoise is called a hatchling.



Sulcata giant tortoise hatching at Linton Zoo in 2013. Sulcata are the third largest species of tortoise.



TORTOISE ON ITS BACK

Male tortoises like to fight each other by attempting to flip their rivals onto their backs. Males try to get the attention of females for mating by ramming their shells, which can also lead to the female being flipped onto her back. Tortoises are generally very good at flipping themselves back over, they right themselves by pushing their snout against the ground.

TURTLE DISASTER!

Unbelievably in China and other Asian countries, you can still buy live tortoises and turtles who are encased in a souvenir keyring. They swim inside a herbal solution and live for 1-3 months.



TO INFINITY AND BEYOND!

A pair of tortoises had been further into space than any human being back in 1968. They went around the Moon in Zond 5 (the first spacecraft to successfully circle the Moon and return safely to Earth), both tortoises survived the mission.



HAS HISTORY TORTOISE NOTHING?

Two of the ten species of tortoise we have here at Linton, the pancake tortoise - native to Tanzania and Kenya and the radiated tortoise - native to Madagascar, are classed as Critically Endangered and are ranked in the top 50 rarest Testudines in the world. When classifying species "Testudines" is the order to which all tortoises, turtles and terrapins belong.



Pancake tortoise

Pancake tortoises (*Malacochersus tornieri*), as well as many other species, are still being illegally collected from the wild, being 'laundered' through alleged captive breeding facilities.

The radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*) was once believed to be the world's most numerous tortoise, it has suffered more than a 65% reduction in its native range and its populations continue to be decimated by overexploitation.



Radiated tortoise



Elongated tortoise

The elongated tortoise (*Indotestudo elongata*), another of our Critically Endangered species, has declined across its range by at least 80% in the last 90 years (three generations) for habitat loss reasons alone.

Without help the future of tortoises, turtles and terrapins around the globe looks bleak. We are keen members of the Turtle Survival Alliance Europe (TSA Europe) who, alongside similar organisations and European zoos, work towards the conservation of species by:

- restoring populations in the wild where possible;
- securing species in captivity through assurance colonies;
- building the capacity to restore, secure and conserve species within their range country.

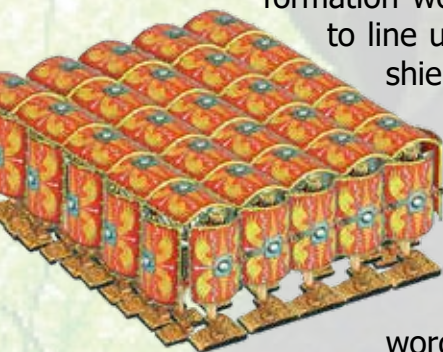
Our elongated tortoises were custom seizures in 1998 and have been breeding here since 2007.



Elongated tortoise hatching at Linton.

MILITARY INSPIRATION

The ancient Roman military made use of a formation inspired by tortoises. The testudo formation would require soldiers to line up in rows with their shields held in front of or above them.



The shields would then look like a shell that covered the whole unit. Testudo is the Latin word for tortoise.

SIZE REALLY IS EVERYTHING!

Tortoises reach sexual maturity with size, not age. Males tend to have longer tails with a curved underside of the shell (plastron) for mating purposes.

VIP TORTOISE TOURS

Tours at
* 2.30pm

JUST £15
PER PERSON
(age 5+)

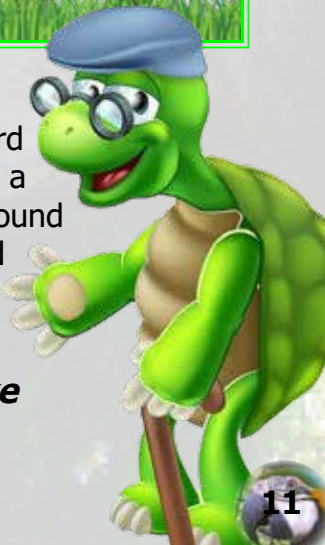
Spaces are
limited, pre-book
at the gatehouse
or call 01223
891308



JUST WHO IS THE OLDEST EVER TORTOISE?

There is some debate over the oldest ever recorded tortoise, the Guinness World Record holder is Tui Malila, a radiated tortoise who lived to at least 188 years old. Jonathan, a Seychelles giant tortoise is currently known as the oldest living tortoise, hatching around 1832 making him 188 years old today. But Adwaita, an Aldabran giant tortoise had his shell carbon dated to around the year 1750, making him an estimated 255 years old when he died in an Indian zoo in 2006.

For more information and links to conservation organisations like TSA Europe please visit our website www.lintonzoo.com/links



NATIVE TREES AROUND THE ZOO

ENGLISH OAK

Quercus robur

SIZE: 40 m

The UK's most common tree.

COMMON HAWTHORN

Crataegus monogyna

SIZE: 15 m

Often the first leaves to appear in springtime.

SILVER BIRCH

Betula pendula

SIZE: 30 m

Pretty, pale - a symbol of purity, also known as "lady of the woods".

HORNBEAM

Carpinus betulus

SIZE: 30 m

It keeps its leaves all year round, providing shelter, roosting, nesting and foraging for birds and small mammals.

SMALL LEAVED LIME

Tilia cordata

SIZE: 40 m

It has sweet smelling summer flowers that attract a huge number of insects looking for nectar, especially bees.

SCOTS PINE

Pinus sylvestris

SIZE: 35 m

Our only native pine tree.

DID YOU KNOW?

The iconic horse chestnut (conker) tree, along with the sycamore and walnut trees, are not actually native to the UK.

CAN YOU MATCH THE LEAF TO THE RIGHT TREE?

1



2



3



4



TREE

LEAF

SCOTS PINE

LIME

HAWTHORN

OAK

BRITAIN'S WIDEST TREE

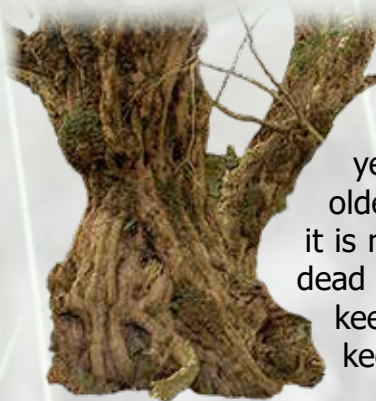
The Bowthorpe Oak in Lincolnshire is a true beast and with a circumference of over 13.3 metres (43ft) it is the girthiest tree in Europe.



Note the chicken for scale!

BRITAIN'S OLDEST TREE

A European yew (known as the Fortingall yew) is Britain's oldest tree and is thought to be between 3000 and 5000 years old, making it one of the oldest living things in Europe. Sadly it is not in good health and could be dead in fifty years because tourists keep ripping off its branches and keeping them as souvenirs.



BRITAIN'S TALLEST (NATIVE) TREE

In 2015 a beech tree in West Sussex was declared the tallest native tree in Britain. Measuring a staggering 44m (144ft) tall, the record breaking tree is thought to be almost 200 years old.



BRITAIN'S TALLEST (NON-NATIVE) TREE

There are a number of non-native species, such as the Douglas Fir (native to Western North America) and the Eucalyptus grandis (native to Eastern Australia) that grow well over 60 metres and are particularly abundant in Scotland.



OVER HALF OF EUROPE'S ENDEMIC TREES FACE EXTINCTION

It's easy when thinking about endangered species to only consider those of a furry or feathery kind, but it's not just animals that are at risk. The newly published IUCNs (International Union for Conservation of Nature) European Red List of Trees evaluated the conservation status of all 454 tree species native to the continent, and found that 42% are regionally threatened with extinction.

Among Europe's endemic trees – those that don't exist anywhere else on earth – 58% were found to be threatened, and 15% (66 species) assessed as Critically Endangered, or one step away from going extinct.

Invasive and problematic native species are the largest threat to European trees. These include pests and diseases but also invasive plants introduced by humans which compete with native tree saplings.

The iconic horse-chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) has been assessed as *Vulnerable* due to the damage done by the leaf-miner moth (*Cameraria ohridella*) an invasive species that has infested Europe.

Despite the importance of trees, many species are threatened by over-exploitation and habitat destruction, as well as by pests, diseases, drought and their interaction with global climate change.

The common ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) is a keystone species of European temperate forests. Through its entire natural range including Russia and south-west Asia it is currently threatened by ash dieback. A disease spread by wind, making it extremely difficult to reduce or prevent spread of the disease. The entire population is at risk of further disease outbreaks.

LOOKING FORWARDS

The situation is dire for many overlooked, undervalued species that form the backbone of Europe's ecosystems and contribute to a healthy planet.

Trees are essential for life on earth, and European trees in all their diversity are a source of food and shelter for countless animal species such as birds, insects and tree dwelling mammals, and play a key economic role.

We are committed to our pledge of planting as many trees as possible, if you would like to help we have saplings of many different species which have grown on from our trees, that are in need of new homes. We have already donated lots to local schools and parks, wishing to encourage their students and visitor to look out for nature and plant for the future! If you would like to request a sapling to take home please let us know.

KEEPER EXPERIENCE

Adult age 14+ For more information please visit our website www.lintonzoo.com Children age 8-13



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

A BIG THANK YOU TO LOCAL BUSINESSES!

We would like to extend our thanks to Tesco Bar Hill, Sainsburys Haverhill, Homebase Saffron Walden, the Dog and Duck in Linton (no not alcohol for the keepers!) and all the other local business and organisations that have shown their support through this difficult time.

THANK YOU ALL!



Bananas donated by Sainsburys in Haverhill.



ABOVE - Some amazing golden bamboo donated by Homebase in Saffron Walden. LEFT - Fantastic fruit selection donated by Tesco at Bar Hill.



People have been so generous donating, not just food for the animals, but items from our Amazon wishlist - thank you! Here's some of the items being put to use!



Just like your pet cat, more interested in the box!



Keeper powered lawn mower.



There's more than one use for a sprinkler.



Applying sun cream to the tapirs delicate ears.



If you'd like to donate something to the zoo then check out our Amazon wishlist filled with useful items we're always on the look out for. Find something you like, add it to your basket, checkout and Amazon will deliver it directly to us!

Just follow the link from our website or search in 'find a list' on Amazon.co.uk for "Linton Zoo wishlist"

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.

SHOP ONLINE? RAISE MONEY FOR OUR CHARITY AT THE SAME TIME

and it doesn't cost you a penny!

When you use easyfundraising to shop online with any of the 3,600 retailers, the retailer makes a donation to us to say thank you.

Plus you get loads of fantastic discounts from hundreds of High Street stores - everyone wins!



Doing your weekly grocery shop, ordering a take away, arranging insurance or booking your holiday? *just visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and choose Linton Zoo Conservation Fund!*

So far over £1,740.00 has been raised by online shopping for our wildlife conservation charity.

THANK YOU!!

ADMISSION

All information correct on 01/05/20 (incl. 20% VAT) are:

	Adults	Seniors	Child (2-13 years)	Babies under 2 years
Individuals	£12.00	£11.00	£9.50	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 on the car park or 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.

CONTINUOUS SUPPORT

We would like to say a huge thank you to Beaphar who have continued to donate specialised food for our soft-billed birds throughout the year.

beaphar



ZOO PER VALUE SEASON TICKETS!

Get unlimited admission to Linton Zoo for a whole year with our fantastic value season tickets, it's already paying for itself on your fourth visit.

But it doesn't stop there, your valid ticket will also get you **50% off** the admission prices at ten other wildlife parks and zoos in the region.*

Download an application form from our website or upgrade your day ticket at the gatehouse today.

Why wait, you can't loose!

*Visit our website to see the list of participating regional zoos. Offer currently valid until March 2021.

SEASON TICKETS 2020

Unlimited Admission for one year

1 Adult £40

2 Adults £75

(Purchased together)

1 Child £30

1 Senior £35

2 Seniors £65

(Purchased together)

FAMILY £120

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 B1052 Cambridge A1307 (A14) & M11 ▶

MAP REFERENCES

1. Parrots, Macaws	4. Animal House & Spiders	7. Terrapins
2. Hornbills	5. Aracaris & Turacos	8. Binturong
3. Reptiles	6. Lemurs	9. Azara's agouti

BALI STARLING
Leucopsar rothschildi



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

In 2001 only 6 individuals were left in the wild, now there are around 50.

WHITE COLLARED LEMUR
Eulemur cinereiceps



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

17 of only 19 lemurs found in zoos worldwide were born here at Linton.

BLUE THROATED MACAW
Ara glaucogularis



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

Less than 115 birds are left in the wild, our breeding programme is critical to save them.

BLUE CROWNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH
Garrulax courtoisi



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

Less than 200 individuals left in the wild with numbers still decreasing, this is one of the rarest birds in the world.

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

AMUR TIGER

Panthera tigris altaica



Status in the wild:
ENDANGERED

♀ Katinka

Last assessed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature in 2010 when numbers were low, but considered stable.

Katinka, born at Linton Zoo April 2006

AFRICAN LION

Panthera leo



Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Zuri and Kali
♀ Safina and Nabulaa
♂ Riziki
♀ Karla

Once the most widespread mammal on the planet, the lion population has seen a reduction of over 43% in the past 21 years.

Zuri, Safina, Kali and Nabulaa

BRAZILIAN TAPIR

Tapirus terrestris



Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Thiago
♀ Tiana

Rhinos 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.

SNOW LEOPARD

Panthera uncia



Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Centurio
♀ Nefeli

The bones and pelt (fur) of a snow leopard commands a very high price in the fur market.

Nefeli our young female

HARTMANN'S MOUNTAIN ZEBRA

Equus zebra hartmannae



Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

Goya, Heidi, Rosalie and Roselinde

The largest of the mountain zebra, the Hartmann's live in the dry, stony mountain and hill habitats of South-West Africa.

Goya, now 24 years old

ALDABRA GIANT TORTOISE

Geochelone gigantea



Status in the wild:
VULNERABLE

♂ Teddy and Jude many more!
♀ Norma

Living over 150 years and growing to 150kg these tortoises live in the Aldabra Atoll, a group of islands in the Indian Ocean.

Teddy one of our adult males

