



EMBRACING EDUCATION:

May at the Little Fireface Project Java Research Station

ISSUE 1 • MAY 2024

POWERED BY



OUR FOCUS

Before the school holidays start in June, LFP put the focus on our education program this month. We kept our activities as fun as possible so that at the end of the holidays, the students are looking forward to continue learning with us!

In anticipation of our "International Day for Biological Diversity" campaign coming up, we invited a local high school to visit our research station to learn more about loris conservation.

SCROLL FOR MORE



FIREFACE
NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

School Visit • P. 2

Online Seminar • P. 3

English Lesson • P. 3

Education4Conservation • P. 4

Stories from The Field • P. 5

Sponsor Shout Outs • P. 5

SCHOOL VISIT

FROM MA PERSIS TAROGONG

On the 10th of May, LFP had the honor to accompany the conservation club of MA Persis Tarogong in their wildlife conservation learning journey. The club visited our research station to learn the basics of wildlife conservation, especially our Javan slow loris conservation program! The day began with Ardi, one of our Research Assistants, giving a presentation about the basics of wildlife conservation, biodiversity threats, the ecology of Javan slow loris, and a brief overview of what we do here at LFP. The students showed their eagerness to learn by asking many questions like the difference of ex-situ and in-situ conservation, are the lorises considered an endangered species and whether we could keep them as pets, and why should we make the effort to conserve them.

The day continued with the students going to the field to see our conservation initiatives. Firstly, they visited our artificial wildlife bridges. The wildlife bridges are designed to combat habitat fragmentation in the agroforest of Cipaganti (our research site) and several of our bridges are made of water hoses that also double as plantation irrigation pipes for the farmers. Whilst still in the field, our Research Assistants also taught the students basic vegetation analysis techniques. After looking at the lorises' habitat, the students got to try tracking using our VHF radio telemetry equipment! Project Lead Katey hid some loris collars around the field site for teams of students to track down. The students were very excited to try radio telemetry, and with our guidance, every group successfully found the collars hidden in the field.

To wrap up the visit, the students gathered in our research station to see the rest of our equipment. The students got to try out our thermal cameras, and infrared binoculars and learned about the use of camera traps and passive acoustic monitors. Katey, and Windi, our Education Program Manager demonstrated the function of each piece of equipment, almost like the students are actually training to become a researcher here in LFP!

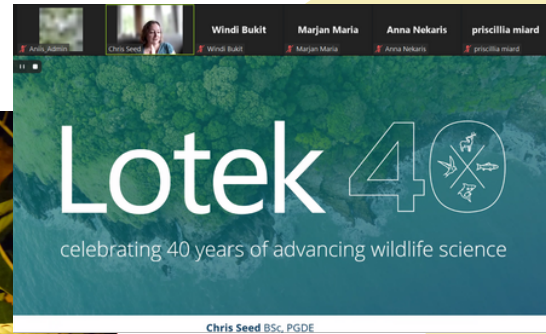
We really hope that by through this outreach, students around Garut are slowly realizing the importance of wildlife conservation, the role of lorises as forest protectors, and are willing to continue learning and contribute to conservation in their daily lives!



UNVEILING THE UNSEEN

ONLINE SEMINAR

In recognition of the first ever World Species Congress by Reverse the Red on May 15th, LFP hosted an online seminar “Unveiling the Unseen: Technological Solutions to Conservation Challenges” on Friday 17th May.



1. Rope Bridges Project



The seminar featured six keynote speakers; Prof. Anna Nekaris, founder and Director of LFP, Paul Howden-Leach of Wildlife Acoustics, Sutasinee Sasoong of Love Wildlife Foundation, Christine Seed of Lotek, Dr. Pricillia Miard of Night Spotting Project, and Marjan Maria of Bangladesh Slow Loris Research & Conservation Project. These expert speakers delved into their wildlife research using state of the art technology such as VHF and GPS radio telemetry, accelerometer loggers, bioacoustic monitors, thermal cameras and camera traps. Through this online seminar, we hope that students and other researchers could collaborate and gather a more in-depth data with the help of technologies. The seminar is now available to watch on our YouTube Channel.

ENGLISH LESSONS

WITH LFP INTERN ALEX!



This month, Alex, an LFP intern and Oxford Brookes alumnus, accompanied by Aniiis, our Admin Intern, visited MI Al-Hidayah Elementary and Junior High School to give an English lesson. We do this to familiarize them in speaking english and promote their confidence when interacting with a foreigner. Alex, Aniiis, and Rizky, the teacher in MI Al-Hidayah are currently incorporating some new activities in the English curriculum!

The students have experienced introducing themselves to Alex, talking about their hobbies, their favourite colours, and also practice daily conversations! The students are very excited to practice english with Alex since they are so used to hearing english with an American accent, and now they get to hear how Alex speaks with a British accent. Hopefully, with this program, the students could develop a habit of practicing english and also broaden their knowledge of the english language!

EDUCATION4CONSERVATION

WITH DR STAN LHOTA



The **EDUCATION4CONSERVATION** program has been implemented for 4 years. The students that first introduced to this program is now sitting in 2nd grade of elementary school! This program is initiated by Dr. Stanislav Lhota and is still implemented until now in PGRI Pangauban kindergarten and 2nd Pangauban Public Elementary School.

The objectives of this program is to introduce a curriculum that incorporates conservation efforts and leads to having a healthy environment. The students are introduced to their daily environment and the biodiversity around them through fun activities such as role playing as wildlife and making a play out of it. The students are also doing some activities outdoor as part of the program to really experience what it's like to learn in nature.



In addition to visiting schools, Dr. Stanislav Lhota also joined some of our activities! He visited our cafe Rumah Edukasi Kopi to taste of our Fireface Coffee here in Cipaganti, and went to Amang to have a look at his hand carved wood craftsmanship. Amang's carvings available to purchase on our Etsy shop. On top of that, he took part in our slow loris observations and even sometimes joined a full 12 hour shift! Dr. Stan asked a lot of questions about the lorises' behaviour and our study group family tree since he currently is also conducting slow loris research in West Sumatra and East Sumatra.



NEW PUBLICATION!

This month we published an article entitled "Evaluating the Use of Chemical Weapons for Capturing Prey by a Venomous Mammal, the Greater Slow Loris (*Nycticebus coucang*)" in collaboration with Indonesia's National Research and Innovation Agency and Cikananga Wildlife Center, examining whether venom of greater slow lorises functions for prey capture. It has been published in MDPI Animals and you can download it for free!

SCAN ME



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

ENDINGS AND NEW BEGINNINGS

Crackers

This month we made the decision to de-collar Yokai (son of Acil and Suky) and Crackers (son of LN and Loopi) as both males have reached adulthood and started ranging outside of the field site in search of their own territory and potential mates. Both individuals have been observed by the LFP Java team since they were infants and contributed significantly to our research on infant loris development.

We hope that they continue to live long and happy lives on the foothills of Mt. Papandayan!

We are very excited to announce that Lucu's youngest offspring has joined our study group. Her name, Lestari, was suggested by long term PTES donor Linsey Hutchins and fittingly translates to "sustainable" or "eternal" in bahasa Indonesia. Her mother Lucu is one of the original LFP lorises, having been part of our study group since 2012 and Lestari is her 9th known offspring! It is incredible that after 12 years we are still observing Lucu and watching her family continue to grow.



Lestari



SPONSOR SHOUT OUTS

This month Project Lead Katey caught up with Zak Showell, Director of Shaldon Wildlife Trust who have been supporting LFP for many many years. with essential equipment, supplies and advice on captive care. In addition to their annual donation, Zak also passed on a thermal monocular gifted to LFP by thermal imaging specialist researchers at Cocobolo Nature Reserve. Thank you to both for your continued support!



A huge thank you to our long term funder Augsburg Zoo who have committed another annual donation of €20,000 to fund our conservation efforts in Java. In recent years, Augsburg Zoo have supported several of our large-scale outreach events, including our annual International Day of Education celebrations, funded key field equipment and contributed to the installation of artificial wildlife bridges - to name a few!

This month we also received a €1,000 donation from NaturZoo Rhein who regularly send donations for our work. This donation will be used to support our education programme and field research activities.

