

DRILL INFO

Rettet
DEN DRILL
save the drill
...mehr als Artenschutz!

Second edition, August 2006



Foto: Cyril Ruoso

Freedom will soon be reality

Dear members and friends of the Drill

This issue will be covering Liza Gadsby visit to Europe.

At the same time, we would like to introduce to you the Pandrillus Project, where we will give you a glimpse into the near future concerning the Drills in Nigeria.

The AGM (Annual general meeting) will be held on Saturday the 21st of October in Zoo Wuppertal .

There will be an election needed to fill the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman.

All members will find an invitation and the Program for the AGM attached to this issue of our Drill Info. We hope that you enjoy reading your copy of the Drill Info.

Liza Gadsby European Trip

Nordhorn

Liza Gadsby, one of the original founders from Pandrillus, came to Europe on the 18th of April and stayed until the 26th of the same month. The main reason for her visit was the participation of the primate conference which was held in Apenheul in the Netherlands.

Liza was able to find enough time also to visit Germany. She took the opportunity to see the Zoo from Hanover and the Nordhorn Animal park, where she made a speech and gave interview's to members of the Press.



Liza Gadsby (middle) with Dr. Heike Weber and Roland Wolf in Nordhorn

Hannover

In Hannover she met Dr. Andreas Knieriem – coordinator of the European Drill program “EEP” and other committee members of “Save the Drill” during the short visit in the Zoo.



Liza Gadsby with Dr. Andreas Knieriem in Hannover

The visit started with a guided Zoo tour on which Liza was fascinated by the “Sambesi” River landscape, she also praised Hannover’s Drill collection as exemplary for other Zoos. In the following discussion, further information and news was exchanged.

One very important and critical point in Liza’s opinion is the way that Drills are being held in Zoos. Most zoo’s hold a solitary male with several breeding females, The fact is that Drills live in large families (“Clans”) which would include a number of large adult males, this form of group structure is essential and important for the well being of the Drills and should be considered when held in captivity, the disadvantages is that a lot of space will have to be provided for such “clans”. Another point which was mentioned was the lack of communication between the various Zoos; she wants to personally to help close the gap between USA and European Zoos.

“Pandrillus”

The Drill Rehabilitation and Breeding Centre is situated in the Cross River State in Eastern Nigeria close to the boarder to Cameroon.

Pandrillus was founded in 1991 and is the largest employer in the region which brings in a lot of support from the Local populations, The Pandrillus Education programme was recently visited from President Obasanyo – a very important guest!

The Centre is divided into a breeding and Quarantine station in Calabar which holds a Single Drill group. At the same time there are a further 210 animals in five families currently being held in the Afi Mountains in area consisting of thick natural habitat.

The Afi mountains Station was officially recognised in May 2000 as the “Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary” with approximately 100km² which will be designated to reintroducing of wild living Drills in a step by step process.

During this year, it is planned to do a survey and collect necessary Information on this rough mountainous countryside, also documentation of local wildlife living in the area already! In the second stage, trials will be carried out using different systems for localising the drills after release (Radio colliers for example) It is planned to release single animals or in small groups into the regions. Since this project will take a lot of effort and time Liza Gadsby expects the first attempts not to take place before next year since further studies will be needed with various other organisations and Wildlife and Forest departments plus local Government Departments before conclusion of a final release plan! Since such actions involves not just Labour-intensive but also includes enormous financial costs, Pandrillus is depended on Sponsors and donations from organisations such as “Rettet den Drill” (Save the Drills) to cover such expenses.



Liza also informed us that Pandrillus was recently suffering from a recurring problem with “Balantidium coli”, a bacterial organism which is common in Gorillas but also affects the Drills. The necessary medication is not only very expensive but difficult to buy in Nigeria; Fortunately Dr. Knieriem and the Zoo management were in the position to donate several packs to the value of over 500€ of this badly needed medication.

News

Pandrillus -Baby boom!

During the Months of May and June - 19 Drill babies were born, an important factor for the future release programme.

Births in Stuttgart and Hanover

On the 14th of June, Stuttgart's "Bubi" gave birth to a daughter "Kumasi".

And in Hanover on the 13th of August, "Daphne" gave birth to a son "Ibo".

Zoo Wuppertal, Enlarged Drill enclosure finished.

The wuppertaler group was able to move in time for summer into their new enlarged outside enclosure, a purposely built area was designed just for food foraging.

Death of "Congo".

Barcelona Zoo reported the death on the 22 June of their breeding male "Congo"

New Bank Account

The old account in Hanover has been closed, and we now have a new account in Nordhorn

Please use only the new account

Kreissparkasse Grafschaft Bentheim

Konto-Nr: 14075956

BLZ: 267 500 01

IBAN: DE 952675000100140759

BIC: NOL ADE 21 NOH

We would like to welcome the following "New member" to "Save the Drill"

Denise Nierentz, Zürich

Kirsten Beißner, Hannover

Daniel Stumpe, Stuttgart

Dr. Anne Fallner-Ahrens, Rheda-Wiedenbrück

Marsha Vaughan, Columbus/USA

Sandra de Groot, Amsterdam

Konstanze Weber, Barsinghausen

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