

THE ZOO

Summer 2014

The magazine for supporters of **Bristol Zoo Gardens**

Page
8

32 stone. Above your head

the new 180° view
gorilla house

Bristol
ZOO
Gardens

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WILD PLACE
PROJECT

Bringing Conservation to Life

Page
6

SAVING WILDLIFE
BRISTOL ZOO
TOGETHER

Page
11



The Wild Place Project Update

The eagerly awaited Wild Place Project has now been open for nine months and in that time we have welcomed over 45,000 guests!



The Wild Place Project has greeted several new residents in the last few months; the first of these were two young red river hogs who joined us from Edinburgh Zoo. Following a naming competition, the hogs were named Ekundu and Mito and are proving very popular with guests.

Instantly recognisable for their bright red fur, the red river hog is undoubtedly the most brightly coloured of all wild pigs. They have black legs, a tufted white stripe along their spines and white 'spectacles' around their eyes.

February saw the arrival of a herd of Boreray sheep, a very rare breed of sheep from the tiny and remote isles of St Kilda of the west coast of Scotland. St Kilda was evacuated in the early 1900s and since then the sheep population has been feral. Their conservation status is listed as 'critical', meaning there are less than 300 left. Several

of the females were pregnant on arrival to the Wild Place Project and the first of the spring lambs have begun to arrive. These new arrivals will make a positive impact on the conservation status of the Boreray sheep and will also prove popular with guests.

In March we were joined by a pack of five European grey wolves. The wolves, all young males, arrived from the Highlands Wildlife Park in Scotland.

They will be living in the Wolf Wood exhibit; an area of woodland at The Wild Place Project which has been left as natural as possible to replicate their native woodland habitat in Europe, Asia and North America.

A new, log cabin-style shelter has been built for the pack, with a guest viewing area, a keeper room and two separate sleeping areas for the wolves.



And remember, Bristol Zoo members can 'try before they buy' and receive a 15% discount on annual passes at the Wild Place Project. That means you can have unlimited fun all year from just £14.45!

Feed the Lemurs!

Get up-close and hands-on with our family of lemurs in our unique behind-the-scenes experience.

NEW for 2014!

What to expect!

- Complimentary entry into the Wild Place Project for yourself and a friend
- Visit the animal care centre and weigh, chop and prepare the lemurs' lunch
- Head down to the Madagascar walkthrough and call the lemurs into their house for lunch
- Go behind the scenes in the lemur house to feed the lemurs and experience them leaping all around you!
- Ask the Ranger any questions you have and enjoy the Wild Place Project for the rest of the day!



Just £35 or two people for £50!
Visit www.wildplace.org.uk to book online or call our experiences team on 0117 980 7175



Summer Events at the Wild Place Project

Late Night Openings Open until 9pm every Friday in July

For a unique and wild start to the weekend why not visit the Wild Place Project's Late Night Openings? The entire site is open to explore with animals to see from lemurs and zebra to okapi and red river hogs. Plus with our newly opened 'Wolf Wood' exhibit, animal talks and entertainment, you'll be sure to have a howling time!

For more information visit: www.wildplace.org.uk/late-night-openings

Open air theatre – Alice in Wonderland Saturday 9 August, 5pm

Join us for a fun-filled family evening and watch a hilarious musical adaptation of 'Alice in Wonderland'. Admission to the Wild Place Project from 4pm is included within the ticket price, giving you the chance to explore the park before the performance.

For more information visit: www.wildplace.org.uk/alice-wonderland