

FREE
MAGAZINE

COLCHESTER ZOO

Spring/Summer 2020

BIG NEWS

Adorable white
rhino calf born

BIZARRE

FACTS

you didn't know about
our animal care team!

MEET OUR NEW ARRIVALS

Read about the various different
species that have arrived at the Zoo!

ACTION
FOR THE
WILD



A Letter from the directors of Colchester Zoo to all supporters, visitors and passholders.

Dear Friend,

We have just enjoyed some of the sunniest Spring weather in living memory, a very sad time to be closed, particularly missing the usually excellent busy Easter holiday and May Bank Holidays.

On the positive side, we have no reports of any of our staff being infected, therefore grateful the measures in place have worked and we can get on with our business of keeping the zoo going.

Whilst we had the glorious sunshine the zoo looked lovely this spring, when the weather is warm, the animals are energetic and keen with lots of lovely babies to excite us all.

A ghost zoo with empty pathways
Sadly we seem to be spending our day in a ghost town or more appropriately a ghost zoo, this is really odd.

Many of us, performing our daily duties, still find it very strange and have difficulty in coming to terms with this isolation and the lack of life we are experiencing. However, everyday all staff turn up for work early in the morning to carry out almost the same routine as it has always been.

This is a great bunch of people turning up with energy and dedication to carry out those daily tasks with a great smile on their face.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity, by the support and help so many people have given us since closing down because of COVID-19.

This is a spirit we have never previously experienced, the kindness is really overwhelming to the point where it has left us almost speechless and in some cases even emotional.

We have saved no life, we have not put our life on the line like nurses or doctors so we certainly are no hero, all we do is look after our animals which is our job. Therefore, to have received so much praise, to have received money from so many people including children giving up their precious savings, to people who bring fresh fruit and vegetables, is simply amazing.

People have walked, people have run, people have done all sorts of unimaginable efforts to do their bit to demonstrate the support they have for the zoo.

To say we are grateful and emotional over this enormous sense of affection and care towards the zoo by so many people is simply overwhelming.

So, on behalf of all the staff and all the animals here at the zoo we want to say a huge thank you to all of you for your help, for all your kind words and your generosity.

We know in these difficult times so many organisations need help and the fact you have decided to help us means a lot to us, the animals and our survival.

Let me also say that no one here connected with the zoo will ever forget this, what you have done for us because of the love of your zoo.

We know every business is suffering from financial constraints but animal-based organisations have extra responsibility that even when closed the running costs are high and we must supply and maintain normal services and duties.

COVID-19 has been something exceptional and has made us sit back and perhaps re-consider what was our normal way of life and we can wonder what will be our new normal life.

There have been many heroes from doctors to nurses, to other staff working with the NHS but also so many volunteers who have done so much for so many – Humanity at its very best.

Keep safe and look after yourselves.

Thank you for your support and help, we will never forget it and we hope we can continue our work.

From the directors of Colchester Zoo

COLCHESTER ZOO IS NOW CLOSED

As of 23rd March 2020, the difficult decision was made to temporarily close Colchester Zoo to customers due to the current situation of COVID-19.

**Your support is critical
– now more than ever.**

The daily running costs of Colchester Zoo are **£25,479**, plus veterinary care bills and other unexpected expenses.

Despite the Zoo closure, our Animal Care Team is vital to continue to deliver an excellent level of care to all of our animals, along with operational staff.

If you are able to lend a helping hand, the Zoo has an **Operating Fund** which you can donate to via their website at www.colchesterzoo.org

Thank you in advance for your support during this difficult time.

Stay up-to-date with Colchester Zoo as we are **#BringingTheZooToYou** on social media.





WELCOME!

Action for the Wild	6
A BIG News - White Rhino Calf Born	8
Exciting Developments	10
Volunteering at the Zoo	11
Animal Adoption	12
Bizzare Facts	13
Baby Boom	14
Kids' Activities	16
Fun Facts	17
UmPhafa Private Nature Reserve	18
Amazing Aardvarks	19
Zoo News	20
The Outpost Gift Shop	22
Fuel your Adventure	24
Conservation at Home	25



If you would like to come on board and advertise in the next issue, or if there is something you would like to see featured, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch with the team at marketing@colchesterzoo.org.



Please pass on this magazine on for someone else to enjoy.

HELLO FROM ALL THE STAFF AND ANIMALS

Our 2020 Spring/Summer issue of the Colchester Zoo Magazine has been published a little different to what we had planned unfortunately.

Usually we print and distribute this magazine via our local Sainsbury's Store in Stanway and other local Sainsbury's stores, along with issuing them to visitors at Colchester Zoo.

The magazine is also normally supported by a number of advertisers to assist us to produce this publication.

Many of you may know that as of 23rd March 2020, the difficult decision was made to temporarily close Colchester Zoo to customers due to COVID-19.

The decision after consideration was taken with the interest of everyone, visitors, members of staff and our social responsibilities.

The use of the word 'sorrow' depicts how difficult we view the current situation and where we are in terms of managing the disease, along with the impact to people, jobs and the future of everyone young and old.

We are in the unknown, we don't know what the future for the Zoo will be. Will we survive? When will we re-open? Will we have sufficient funds to continue? How will recovery be? Will it be fairly straight forward or will we be presented with more difficulties? Will this world recover or will it become different?

The daily running costs of the Zoo is **£25,479**, plus veterinary care bills and other unexpected expenses. Despite the Zoo closure, our Animal Care Team are vital to continue to deliver an excellent level of care to all of our animals, along with operational staff.

Due to the reduction of income via visitors, the Zoo has had to look to where costs can be saved. It was decided that one of the savings we would make would be the expense of printing and distributing this magazine, therefore, we have created an online version of the Colchester Zoo content within the issue which was due for publication.

We hope that you enjoy reading this online edition, and wish you and your families well during this difficult and unusual time in our lives which we are facing.

Best wishes

COLCHESTER ZOO



ACTION FOR THE WILD

Charity No. 1105621

Action for the Wild is Colchester Zoo's conservation charity, which gained its status in 2004.

To date, Action for the Wild has donated over £3 million to conservation projects worldwide. These funds are put towards building work, staff wages, medical treatment, food, research projects and more within each organisation.

Throughout 2019, our charity, Action for the Wild, helped to support projects around the world. Below is a quick update of some of the many projects we supported during 2019.



(Association Européenne pour l'Étude et la Conservation des Lémuriens)

Action for the Wild contributed to this lemur consortium by donating our **£1,768.50** membership fee.

CENTRE DE REHABILITATION DES PRIMATES DE LWIRO

(CRPL)



£4,993.51 was donated to provide fresh fruit and vegetables for 199 primates and 83 parrots between April and June 2019.



HORNBILL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The foundation was set up in 1978, and conducts biological research on wild hornbills.

Sponsorship of **£357.45** was donated to help three family groups of hornbills.



ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE PROJECT

The Elephant Orphanage Project is working to rescue, rehabilitate and release orphaned elephants as a direct result of poaching.

To help with medical treatment and to provide food for the orphans, Action for the Wild donated **£5,000** in 2019.



SUPPORTING FLAMINGOS

In 2019, one of Colchester Zoo's Heads of Section took on a trip to South Africa to care for young lesser flamingos.

£500 was donated to help assist with the project.



Hluhluwe-iMfolozi National Park is an important stronghold for black and white rhinos. **£6,580** was donated to Save the Rhino for anti-poaching equipment.

FREE THE BEARS

Free the Bears is working to protect, preserve and enrich the lives of bears throughout the world by offering a safe sanctuary for rescued bears.

Since 2003, more than 80 bears have been confiscated in Laos from poachers and wildlife traders, or have been donated by people who had kept them as pets.

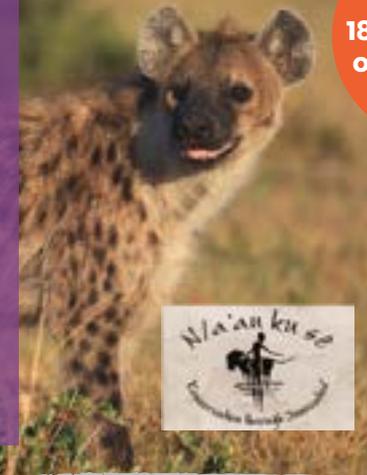
Last year, Action for the Wild donated **£5,250** to help construct a new Quarantine Centre and provide food, enrichment and health checks for rescued bears.



N/a'an ku Se (Large Carnivore Conservation Research Project)

The project works with local farmers and land owners to conserve viable large carnivore populations, and also engage farmers with non-lethal tools to manage carnivores.

In 2019, Action for the Wild donated **£4,836.07** to purchase a GPS collar, 15 camera traps, 150 rechargeable batteries and 2 battery chargers to support their research activities.



KOMODO SURVIVAL PROGRAMME

The project aims to protect and monitor Komodo dragons and their habitat with the involvement of the local community.



Action for the Wild donated **£914.42** to support this project.



VulPro is working to halt the decline of vultures throughout Africa.

Action for the Wild donated **£5,000** to VulPro to monitor vultures.



ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION

The foundation is working to save orangutans by protecting their tropical forest habitat, and promoting research and education.

To help to pay for a veterinarian's salary and associated translocation costs necessary to perform a number of orangutan rescues, Action for the Wild donated **£7,000**.



Through its Tiger Health Programme, Vets Wildlife International provides clinical services, on-site training, disease investigation and research activities for a variety of projects.

Action for the Wild donated **£3,000** towards the continued development of a web-based information service, the 'Wild Tiger Health Centre'.



Visit page 18 for updates on UmPhafa!

Projects Action for the Wild is supporting in 2020



1. AEECL Lemur project - Madagascar
2. Centre de Réhabilitation des Primates de Lwiro, Primate Project - Democratic Republic of Congo
3. EAZA Elephant TAG Research Fund - Europe
4. Elephant Orphanage Project - Zambia
5. Fisher's Estuarine Moth Breeding Programme - UK
6. Free the Bears - Laos
7. Gelada Baboon Project - Ethiopia
8. Hornbill Research Foundation - Thailand
9. Komodo Survival Program - Indonesia
10. N/a'an ku sê Carnivore Research - Namibia
11. Orangutan Foundation - Borneo
12. Red Panda Network Forest Sponsorship Scheme - Nepal
13. Save the Rhinos International - South Africa
14. Trees for Tamarins Project - Brazil
15. VulPro Vulture Project - South Africa
16. Wildlife Vets International - Online - Global
17. UmPhafa Private Nature Reserve - South Africa
18. Elephant Keeping Welfare Report - UK

You can help!

Find out how to donate online at www.actionforthewild.org or during your visit to Colchester Zoo.

Our New Year starts on
A BIG HIGH
 with a white rhino
 calf being born!



On the evening of Saturday 4th January, Emily, the white rhino, gave birth to a healthy female calf after a pregnancy of sixteen months and eight days!

The animal care team were aware that Emily was due to give birth sometime in December or January and therefore, had around-the-clock CCTV on Emily so they could ensure they were available when she went into labour. All went smoothly, as with her previous births, and the calf is strong and healthy, with mum doing really well too.

Emily is an experienced mum and is taking it all in her stride. Unlike the usual African names chosen for many of our past rhino calves, the animal care team have named this little one **Lottie**. They've used letters from both parents' names as she was showing personality traits of both her mum, Emily, and dad, Otto.

Lottie has been busy exploring and meeting some of her neighbours who share her home at **'Kingdom of the Wild'**. She enjoys running, skidding and jumping around the paddock area!

This big bundle of joy is Emily's third calf, having had all three calves here at Colchester Zoo with our male white rhino, Otto. Emily became pregnant within two months of being reunited with her old flame, Otto, after he temporarily left us for a year on breeding loan to Woburn Safari Park.

Otto is also the father of Emily's previous calves, Pembe and Kifaru. Pembe was born in 2013 and Kifaru celebrated his third birthday on 3rd February 2020.



White rhinos are listed as **Near Threatened** on the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List of Threatened Species, this is due to the poaching crisis and ivory trade.

EXTRA BIG NEWS

We are also excited to announce that young Lottie will have a play mate in the latter part of 2020, as one of our other female white rhinos, Astrid, is expecting a calf of her own!



Astrid is due to give birth at the end of September or early October 2020, after a pregnancy of sixteen months. The pregnancy was confirmed in 2019 via hormone analysis from faecal samples sent to a specialist lab after the animal care team had their suspicions.

This will be Astrid's first calf fathered by Otto, making this youngster the half sibling of our current bundle of joy, Lottie!

Here at Colchester Zoo, we've had great success as part of the breeding programme for white rhinos, and this new arrival will be the sixth calf to be born at Colchester Zoo.

It seems that on Otto's return from his temporary leave, he not only reignited his flame with Emily, but also found a new love with Astrid, who arrived whilst he was away!

As our rhino crash has our older male Kifaru has now moved on to another zoo. Kifaru will be missed but it is hoped he will follow in his father's footsteps and become part of a successful breeding programme too.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

Colchester Zoo is continually reinvesting into the park with both the animals and visitors in mind.

ZOO-PER TRANSFORMATION!



Back in September 2018, our construction team began work on the Zoo's main entrance to create a brand-new admission building as part of Phase One of our ticketing, admission and shop redevelopment.

On 20th March 2019, the first phase of the project was completed and the new admissions building and Outpost Gift Shop was opened. In January 2020, The Outpost Coffee Lounge was opened!

We believe that this is a vast improvement to our previous entrance and shop facility and has improved our visitors' experience from the start of their visit, to the end.

Spring 2020 will see the final phase completed, so watch this space!

COLCHESTER ZOO APP COMING SOON!

We're currently working on a NEW Colchester Zoo App that will include a number of useful features for visitors before, and during, their visit!

As a user, you will be able to create your own plan for the day of your visit by scheduling encounters you don't want to miss. You can also use the app to assist with wayfinding, with the best routes being highlighted for you to get to your desired destination within the Zoo.

Users will also be able to view species' profiles to learn and discover more about the animals from the comfort of their own home. The app will also be host to many more useful features, including alerts and reminder notifications to help you on your adventures!

It is hoped that this will be completed and deployed in Spring 2020 with updated features later in the year.

Keep an eye on our website and social media for the announcement of the app being available for download!



VOLUNTEERING AT THE ZOO

'Volunteers do not get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they're priceless'.

Volunteers at Colchester Zoo are an integral part of our Zoo team. Across the Zoo, all of our staff and volunteers, collectively known as **'The Blue Crew'**, work together to provide a great visitor experience.

Most volunteers usually have a central role in the day-to-day activities of the Zoo and at special holiday times and for events.

You may find them making sure our animals and guests are safe and well informed as they pass through a walkthrough exhibit, such as Lost Madagascar, or Australian Rainbows. They may be the person handing you food at the public elephant feeds, or even be a zombie, scarecrow or elf during Shriek Week and The Magic of Christmas.

Volunteers apply for the role for many reasons - some deeply personal, others because of their interest in wildlife and the environment, and others just because they love the Zoo and want to help visitors have the best time.



There is never a dull moment when you volunteer at Colchester Zoo.

We aim to have a volunteer crew that reflects our community so you will find **'vols'** are recruited to enable people to learn and grow into the role and are a diverse range of ages and abilities.

An important aspect of **'The Blue Crew'** is to enable college students who are undertaking studies to have work experience.

We believe the volunteer role at the Zoo also brings rewards for those who offer their time, as we have fun, learn and support each other within the **'best office in the world'!**



My memorable moment as a volunteer at Colchester Zoo is that I enjoy every minute of it. My boss is great because he is so down to earth. I am so honoured to be part of the Zoo. I am so proud of Colchester Zoo because the Zoo gets busy every day, with all the baby animals and I'm also proud of all the work the Zoo does, ensuring these animals never go extinct. All the volunteers are great people to work with and we all get along, making sure everyone has a good time while visiting Colchester Zoo. In 2019, I went to Essex University as part of a reptile distress day, I never in a million years thought that I'd be helping people get over their problems and phobias. We took interesting educational items from the Zoo. Volunteering helps me find confidence in myself and helps me gain new skills and experience.



We are always happy to accept applications to join the volunteer team. For more information, please visit our website, www.colchesterzoo.org.



We were very proud to be awarded the **Essex University Community Volunteer Award** and have good relationships with local colleges that offer animal care courses.

Animal Adoption

The perfect gift for any animal lover.

Adopt an animal at Colchester Zoo and you will be helping to support the Zoo and our charity,

ACTION FOR THE WILD
Charity No. 1105621

which assists with conservation projects all over the world!

You can choose to adopt any of the animals at the Zoo and you will receive information about your chosen species, plus much more.

Corporate adoption is also available for businesses.



© Phil Judd

Visit www.colchesterzoo.org to see all of our adoption schemes or call **01206 331292** for more information.

BIZARRE FACTS...

Working with animals is never straight forward and every day brings new challenges for our animal care team.

Find out below what weird and wonderful things are part of their daily tasks and what it takes to look after some of the most endangered animals in the world.



SPARKLING RHINO POO

To help track the female rhino's oestrus cycle, faecal samples are taken from our rhino enclosure. However, rhinos poo all in the same space, so in order to find the poo, one of the females has non-toxic glitter added to their food - sliver glitter works best! Our dedicated animal care team will then check for the poo containing glitter and remove for sampling.



SOUNDS FISHY

Our smooth-coated otters get lots of enrichment to keep them active. One form of enrichment involves a watermelon and fish. The otters have to learn to get the fish out of the watermelon. Once the fish has been removed, the otters then eat the melon!



The secret tool the animal care team loves is none other than the lemon!

Lemons are used for cleaning hand prints off windows, and to get rid of limescale and water marks. Lemons are also used for scent enrichment for lots of our animals.



A STINGING SNACK

One of the giraffe's favourite food items is fresh stinging nettles, which means, during the summer, the animal care team has to pick them. It's a quick learning experience for the team to work out how to avoid getting stung, whilst picking the nettles.



WALKIES WITH A DIFFERENCE



To keep our pigs active and happy, their care team often take them for walks. They don't need a lead or a harness; instead they are trained to walk with the team. Our three **Oxford sandy and black piglets**, which arrived in January, are learning how to walk on their best behaviour!

GRASS PICKERS

Gelada baboons are a grazing primate, which means, in the spring and summer, the animal care team hand-pick delicious grass to add to the primates' diet.



2019 year of the baby boom

Amur tigers are currently listed as Endangered on the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List of Threatened Species.

2019 has to go down in Colchester Zoo's history for having a brilliant baby boom, including the birth of endangered big cats, some of which are a first for Colchester Zoo!

In June 2019, we excitedly announced that Amur tiger, Taiga, had given birth to three healthy cubs – two males and one female, named Mischa, Pasha and Tatána, respectively.

Taiga has proved to be a very attentive mum and has an amazing relationship with all three cubs, who are now growing bigger and bigger daily!



In September 2019, we were delighted to welcome into the world two Amur leopard cubs to mum, Esra.

This is the first time that Colchester Zoo has bred Amur leopards and is also Esra's first litter.

Esra has taken to motherhood extremely well and both cubs are healthy and strong. Esra continues to do a fantastic job raising the pair, who are confirmed as one male and one female, named Luka and Lena, respectively.

These big cats face a number of threats in the wild, so these cubs are particularly important as Amur leopards are currently classified as **Critically Endangered** on the IUCN Red List, with only around 100 individuals remaining in the wild.

© Jamie Reeve © Libby Page © Steve Stanton

It is amazing to watch these endangered big cats grow each day and see each of their individual personalities come to life!

Here's some pictures to show their brilliant development!



Conservation

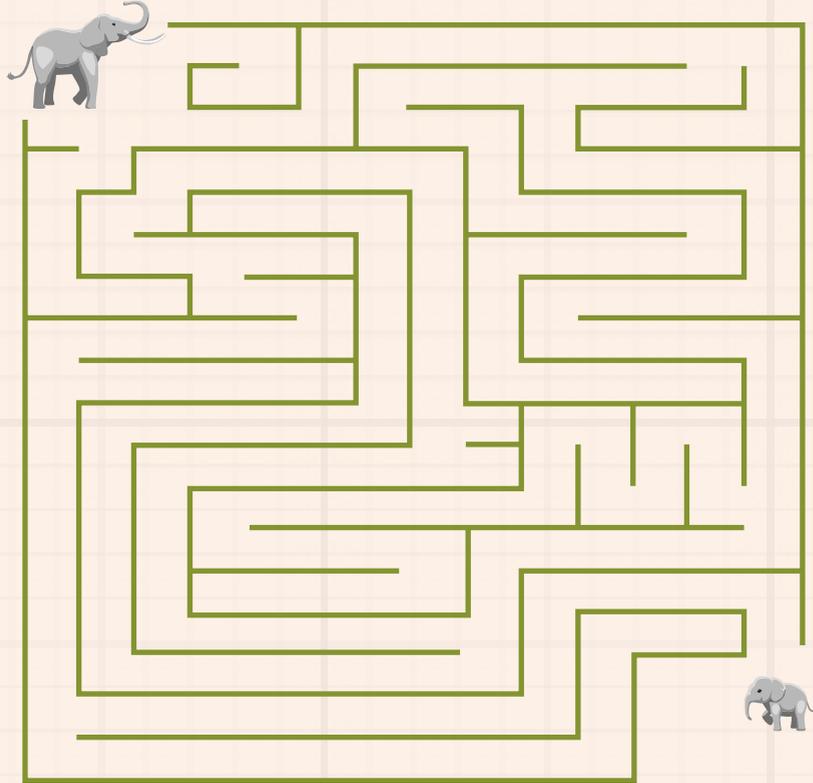
Other births adding to our baby boom in 2019, included red pandas, an armadillo, smooth-coated otters, Humboldt penguins, bush dogs, and various primate births, such as, a titi monkey, mandrills, gelada baboons, ring-tailed lemurs and more!

Conservation is at the heart of our mission at Colchester Zoo, so these births are a great achievement as we continue to work to raise awareness of the plight of these beautiful animals in the wild.

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Magic Maze

Help mum elephant find her calf by drawing a line through our maze.



What's the Word

Can you rearrange the letters below to create another word?

L O D R O C I E C

Word Safari...

Find all the words below in our word search game.

S I H O L I D A Y G
 P U B T I G E R X O
 R G O A R H I N O A
 I L P A L M N F D T
 N R I F Q W I K L N
 G S E A L I O N Q B
 L A M D N E E L T M
 O K H O L D A I B A
 V B D A F F O D I L
 E L E P H A N T E T

Spring
Rhino
Daffodil
Lamb
Lion

Goat
Elephant
Tiger
Holiday
Sealion

Riddle me this...

I have four, big, fluffy paws,
 I run very swiftly, hunting with claws.
 With a spotty coat I like to climb trees,
 and lie around enjoying the Russian breeze.
 I'm often seen hunting on my own,
 I like to eat meat straight off the bone.

What am I?

FUN FACTS



PROTECTIVE ARMOUR

The large, hairy armadillo from South America is just that - large and hairy!

Their backs and heads are covered in bony plates, but their tummies and the space between these plates are covered in coarse hair.

When threatened, an armadillo will draw their feet under their bodies and flatten themselves to the ground, leaving only their tough body armour exposed, making them difficult for predators to attack.



TALENTED LEMUR

The largest nocturnal primate in the world is the aye aye!

This lemur is native to Madagascar, and has a long slender fingers with an extra long middle finger.

It uses this longer finger to tap onto trees high up in the rainforests, before then listening for the movement of the wood-boring insect inside.

It's rodent-like teeth, it then chews through the wood and uses its extra-long finger to pull them out.

UMPHAFA

Private Nature Reserve

Colchester Zoo and Action for the Wild purchased land to form the UmPhafa Private Nature Reserve in 2005.

We have since been working to rehabilitate the land and recreate the historic animal populations on the reserve.

In 2019, Action for the wild donated **£439,583.60** to ensure the continued running of the reserve, from employing field rangers and reserve management staff, to releasing additional wildlife species and ensuring their continued protection.



For more information, please visit www.umphafa.org

KEY EVENTS ON THE RESERVE

In March 2019, we released 26 eland and 22 red hartebeest onto the Reserve.

In August 2019, we completed an aerial game count to get a better idea of wildlife numbers.

Our range of species has continued to breed, such as our giraffe population, which has increased from 31 at the end of 2018 to 41 at the end of 2019.

Throughout the year, we have continued to put out salt licks and molasses for our animals, to improve their condition and increase our breeding rates.

64 interns stayed with us for a total of 57 months in 2019.

In 2020, we will continue our work to promote and protect the wildlife populations on UmPhafa, and also look forward to some exciting developments with our internship scheme, welcoming a fourth university to the reserve.



AMAZING AARDVARKS

These amazing African mammals are the only member of the order 'Tubulidentata'.

They are really unique mammals, with elephant shrews and tenrecs being the closest related animals to them.



Their genus name is 'Orycteropus', which means 'burrowing foot' alluding to the fact that they make many burrows within their territories.

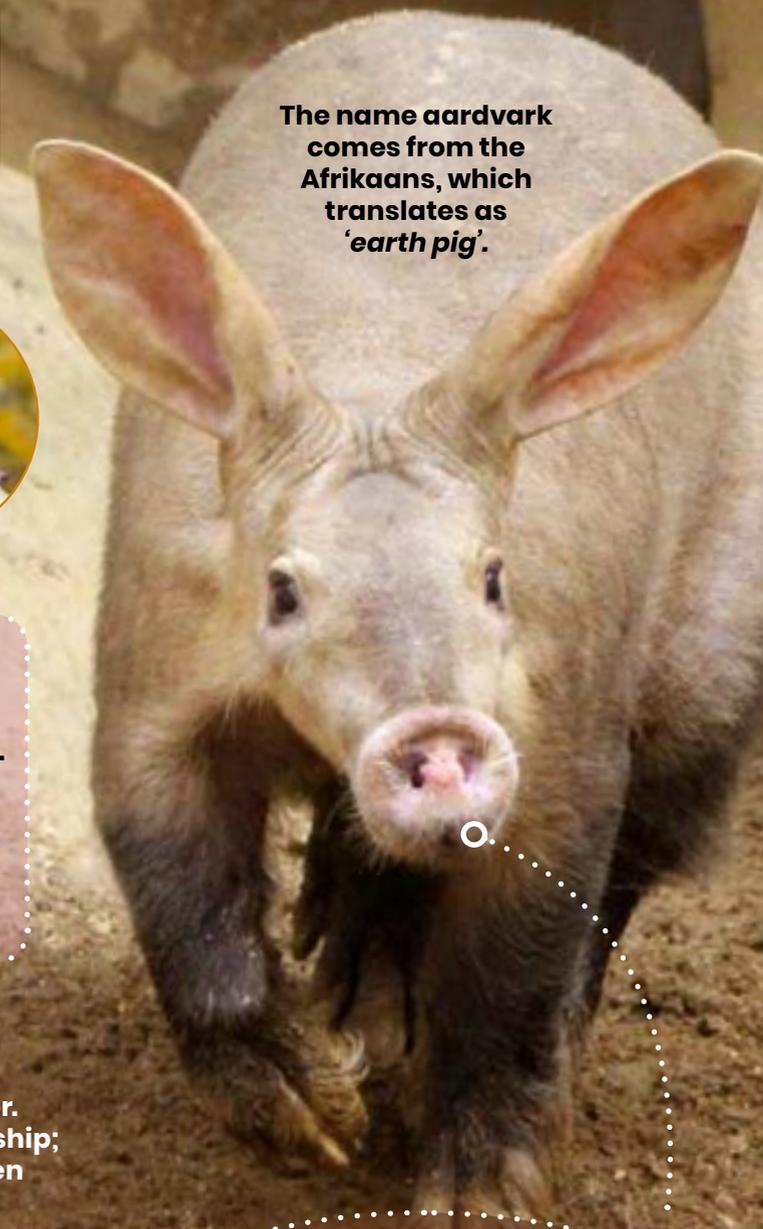
Their home burrows can reach up to 30 ft in length and also have many smaller dens across an area, where they can rest or hide from predators.



Their diet consists of ants and termites, with very little else being eaten. For water, however, they eat the aardvark cucumber. This plant and the aardvark have a very close relationship; the aardvark's gut helps the seeds' fertility and, when the aardvark passes the seeds, with a little ball of fertiliser attached, it grows very well.

You might think eating 50,000 ants and termites a day might take the aardvark some time. However, they save time by not bothering to chew their food as we might, instead letting their specialised stomachs churn, grind and crunch the insects as part of the digestion process.

The name aardvark comes from the Afrikaans, which translates as 'earth pig'.



Aardvarks have one of the best senses of smell in the animal kingdom. They have well-developed olfactory lobes in the brain that process smells.

Colchester Zoo is home to over 220 species! Find out what some of them have been up to recently and learn more about our latest arrivals!

Tamanduas Oreo and Ruth welcome another baby into the world!

Born on the 11th April the young Tamandua is yet to be sexed but is growing healthy and strong!

Keeper Jennie says, "We're excited to see baby's personality come out and see if it resembles a mixture of Ruth and Oreo's traits."

Ruth is very relaxed and shows a lot of interest in us whereas Oreo is a bit more serious but he still has a gentle character"

Did you know...
Baby's cling to their mother's back during the early days and weeks.



Meet the latest editions to the troop!

On the 28th March we welcomed a tiny new arrival as female Ring-tailed lemur, Andro, gave birth to a healthy offspring, joined on the 9th April by another baby, this time born to mum Madison.

Both are being helped by the rest of the group including Anakin, who is father to the new arrivals.

The youngsters can be seen clinging onto the front of mum, but it won't be much longer before the little ones gradually begin to explore their home!

Did you know!?

Ring-tailed lemurs have powerful scent glands and use their unique smells as a communication tool!



Endangered deer is born!

On the 25th March Colchester Zoo welcomed an adorable male Philippine spotted deer born to mum Autumn and dad Bongat!

The little one continues to spend lots of time outside with the rest of his family and it won't be long until he is introduced to the Visayan warty pigs who he shares his home with.

This is amazing news for the species which is currently listed as **Endangered on the IUCN red list** with them being one of the most narrowly distributed mammals in the world!



Award Winning!

We are delighted to have received a number of awards throughout 2019 including;

- **Family Favourite Day Out** from Raring to Go for a third year running
- **Best Day Out Outdoors** from Essex Mums for the sixth consecutive year
- **Best Halloween** event from Essex Mums for the fourth consecutive year
- **Best Events** for, **Breakfast with Santa** and **The Magic of Christmas** from Essex Mums for the second consecutive year!

We hope to continue this success and recognition of our dedication and hard work in 2020.



Otis the Fennec Fox

Colchester Zoo is pleased to announce the arrival of a male Fennec Fox named Otis who has joined our resident female named Sammy.

Otis arrived on the 16th March 2020 and has settled in extremely well with him being introduced to his new companion, Sammy, within the 2nd week of his arrival.

Keeper Emma said, 'Upon introducing the pair Otis showed interest but Sammy was a little unsure and kept her distance. Each day since they have seemed to be getting closer and closer.'



You can explore our gift shop without having to enter the Zoo. Head to the left of our Admissions Building.

THE OUTPOST

GIFTS • HOME • SOUVENIRS

We have a variety of gift vouchers for experiences, zoo passes or monetary vouchers to give that special someone an unforgettable day out!



Look out for this label!

100% Recycled.
100% Huggable.

As part of Colchester Zoo's Green Policy, we have been working with our suppliers to reduce single-use plastic items, reduce packaging and introduce environmentally-friendly products.

Early 2020 saw a new eco-range introduced to The Outpost Gift Shop.

This **NEW 100% recycled** soft toy range is manufactured and filled with 100% recycled polyester from plastic waste and weighted with recycled glass beads.

DISCOVER WHILST YOU PLAY!

Colchester Zoo Top Trumps 2nd Edition will coming arriving in store soon!

With a fresh look and new animals included, this is a great game to play amongst friends!

Collectors may like to add this new pack to their existing pack for a bumper game of Colchester Zoo Top Trumps!



Take part in our exciting Top Trumps Trail and receive your Super Top Trumps card.

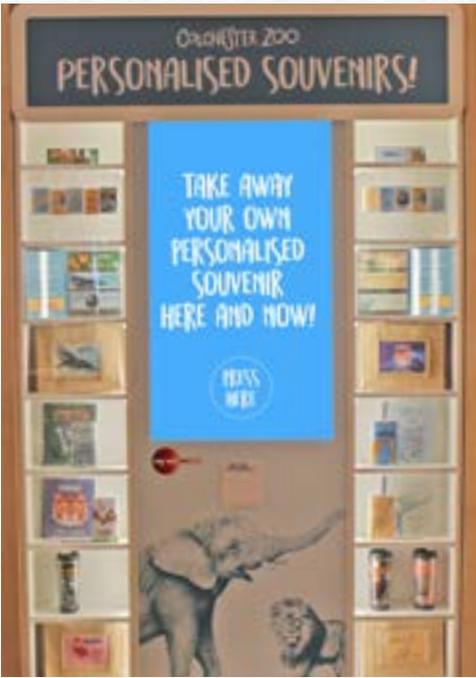


Both of these new games include interesting facts about animals and conservation!

MAKING IT PERSONAL

Visit one of our interactive 'Personalised Souvenirs' stations within The Outpost Gift Shop and make a personal souvenir or gift across a variety of products, such as a magnet, notebook, a flask or a bag!

A fun and unique souvenir from Colchester Zoo!



Good days start with coffee

The final phase of the new Outpost Gift Shop saw the introduction of the Coffee Lounge in January 2020.

This new facility provides visitors with a relaxing environment to enjoy a hot drink and a bite to eat with both savoury and sweet options available!

The Outpost Coffee Lounge is an ideal place to wait for friends or family to arrive, or to take the weight off your feet after a busy day exploring the Zoo.

The Coffee Lounge is accessible from 9.00am without having to pay admission into the Zoo, therefore it's available to visitors who would like to enjoy a spot of retail therapy without visiting the park. The new shop and Coffee Lounge is a destination for all to enjoy, not just Zoo visitors.

fuel your adventure at COLCHESTER ZOO

Catering For All

We aim to cater for all visitors on their day out with us at Colchester Zoo, with a variety of seasonal food and drink available.

We consider all dietary requirements when creating our menus and offer a diverse choice across the Zoo with a number of dairy and gluten-free, options vegan and vegetarian choices available.

Gluten Free Brownies



Vegan Pizza



Vegetarian Wrap



Eco-warriors!

Sustainability is a priority for Colchester Zoo and we consciously work with our suppliers to ensure that no unsustainable palm oil is included within any of the products, and that our suppliers are **RSPO Certified**.



We also sell Water In a Box and offer bamboo cups as an alternative to paper cups for customers, however, the paper cups that we do issue our hot drinks in are fully recyclable.

ZOO PASSHOLDERS

You can save 20% when you spend over £15 in Penguin's Restaurant or Southern Kitchen.*

*Offer not valid on sweets or in conjunction with any other offer. Spend £15 in one transaction. Valid only on presentation of a valid Colchester Zoo Pass.

DID YOU KNOW...

250,000 tonnes of the food that goes to waste each year is still edible - that's enough for 650 million meals!

At home, waste mostly occurs because we don't store food properly or because we are confused by the various expiration date labels. Another big reason is that we put too much on our plates and are not able to finish it all. All we need to know are a few tricks and we can reduce food waste!

All we need to know are a few tricks and we can reduce our food waste!

Some tips on storing food;

Lettuce, broccoli, celery and spring onions are like flowers and will last longer if you put them in a bit of water.

Your carrots will last longer if you cut off the greens and store them in a covered container filled with water. This will keep them fresher for a long time!

Got some old fruit you need to process? Old bananas are perfect for banana bread or a smoothie. Apples can be used to make apple strudel or pie.



Conservation at Home



As we start to come into the warmer season, we have some top tips to make the most of your garden. From watering plants to building your own bird feeder, turn your garden into a haven for wildlife.



Did you know... water droplets on leaves can act as a magnifying glass, burning the leaves, petals and foliage. To avoid damaging your plants in the heat, we suggest **watering them first thing in the morning or last thing at night.**

As the early morning frost has disappeared, May is the perfect time to **plant tomatoes, courgettes and pumpkins** that were previously sown under cover. You can even start to sow some unusual vegetables!



Looking to restore some wildlife back in the garden? Why not **leave the mower** in the shed and let the grass grow. In doing so, this will allow space for wild flowers, **attracting butterflies.**



Looking to purchase a bird feeder? Why not recycle and make your own? Follow the steps below to make your own bird feeder.

TOP TIP
Secure items together with tape while the glue dries.



Grab your old teacup and saucer. Using your glue, apply a generous amount to the saucer and place your teacup on top.

TOP TIP
Use an old necklace and 'S' hook to make it vintage.



Once dry, using your twine or ribbon, tie around the handle leaving additional twine ready for tying to a branch.

Sit back and watch as the birds enjoy your hard work.



Now it's time to head out into the garden and tie your bird feeder from a tree or fence and don't forget to fill with bird seed or fat balls.

Sainsbury's



In this edition, Sainsbury's Stanway Store Manager, Kevin Jones, talks about two of the company's values; 'Respect for the Environment' and 'A Great Place to Work'.



Respect for the Environment

Sainsbury's has launched the 'Net Zero by 2040' commitment, which supports our colleagues and customers to live well today and into the future.

So what's Net Zero?

'Net Zero' means reducing the amount of carbon emissions we generate across our business. Then working to offset any remaining carbon emissions and reduce our carbon footprint overall to zero.



Here's our plan...

We will use a £1 billion investment to support seven commitments that focus on reducing carbon emissions, reducing food waste, eliminating plastic packaging, reducing our water usage and increasing recycling, biodiversity and healthy and sustainable diets.



A Great Place to Work

We are delighted to announce that we have been chosen as leading retailer in this year's 'Stonewall Top 100 Employer 2020'. This is the first time we have been included in the index, which is great news for our employees.

Trust in Trees

Through our partnership with **The Woodland Trust**, we've helped to plant 3.8 million native trees, but we need to do more.

So we've committed to plant at least a further 1.5 million trees over the next five years, with the potential to mitigate a further 375,000 tonnes of CO₂, as well as helping create a habitat for wildlife such as, red squirrels and birds.



Gluten Free Seeded Fruit Slice

Are you gluten free but have a sweet tooth?
This delicious recipe will tick both those boxes!

Ready in: 40 minutes

Preparation time: 10 minutes

Cooking time: 30 minutes

Makes 24 slices

Ingredients

150g gluten-free oats
2 tsp ground ginger
2 small lemons, zested
75g dried blueberries
100g dried berries and cherries
100g dried apricots, roughly chopped
100g sesame seeds
100g sunflower seeds
100g pumpkin seeds
397g tin sweetened condensed milk
150g dairy-free spread
1 tsp vanilla extract

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/fan 160°C/gas mark 4.
Line a 31cm x 23cm tin with baking paper.
2. In a large bowl, mix together the oats, ginger, lemon zest, dried fruit and seeds and set aside.
3. Heat the condensed milk, dairy-free spread and vanilla extract in a small pan over a low heat, stirring occasionally, until combined.
Pour into the bowl with the dry ingredients and stir well.
4. Spoon the mixture into the tin, spread evenly and bake for 25 minutes.
Remove from the oven, allow to cool completely, then cut into 24 bars.

EACH SERVING PROVIDES:

Energy
775kJ / 185kcal / 9%
Fat 8.6g / 12%
Saturates 2.0g / 10%
Sugars 14.6g / 16%
Salt 0.1g / 2%
Carbohydrate 20.1g
Fibre 2.2g
Protein 5.6g