



Issue 22 | December 2017

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From the President...

It's been a very rewarding year for orangutan conservation on many fronts! Our Vice-President Louise Grossfeldt and I have just returned from a day at Samboja Lestari and a two-day meeting near Jakarta of all the BOS partners from around the world.

It's always fantastic to compare stories with our European partners of our combined efforts to save orangutans. We heard the release numbers - over 300! We also now have over 350,000 hectares or 350 square kilometres under protection.

We have very ambitious plans to release over 200 Orangutans from their enclosures onto pre-release islands and it was fantastic to witness the construction of these islands. It's been unseasonably wet

and so excavation is on hold but we are hoping the releases will all happen in 2018.

We've been working towards developing these safe habitats for many years and they couldn't become a reality without an extremely generous gift to BOS Switzerland of A\$2 million for this specific project. We're all very excited to see a new home for these orangutans coming to life!

At the Special Care Unit, the water supply is now assured – more on that later in this edition! The solar installation is well under way and we are hopeful for completion by Christmas. This important infrastructure work will mean that we do not have to buy water or fuel again for this part of the care facility.

Our dream is to make all the facilities energy and water independent.

As a sober reminder of the ongoing forest clearing, we were advised of new arrivals at the care centres during our conference. The challenge is never over but with your support we are making lives better for over 600 Orangutans in our care and continuing towards our goal of returning as many as possible to the wild where they belong.

We ask you to remember the orangutans as you celebrate the holidays this year. When you adopt or donate, as your circumstances allow, you are helping make the lives of orangutans a little better.

Tony Gilding, President

Without your help, they won't survive

Sadly our baby centres are filling fast. Lost, alone, and abandoned; our babies won't recover without you.

How can you help them?

- \$35 provides a basic baby care kit, including milk, bottles, blankets, nappies
- \$70 provides comfort items like a special bed or toys to play with
- \$140 provides specialist medical for a year

Together we can make a difference.

Lost. Alone. Orphaned.

Help a baby orangutan by donating today.





A Christmas gift that keeps on giving

Tumbang Jiga Village is located deep in a remote part of Katingan Regency in Central Kalimantan. On our first rescue mission for 2015, a BOS team from Nyaru Meteng Rehabilitation Centre went to investigate news of a baby orangutan being kept by villagers.

Rescue

They arrived and found a tiny orangutan, about 8 months old, in very poor condition. She had spent the previous 6 months in captivity in the village and was weak, thin and injured.

The team confiscated the baby and took her to our Nyaru Meteng facility for medical treatment.

It's impossible to know what this baby had already suffered in her tiny life, but on her eight-hour journey to safety she let out occasional sobs while cradled in the arms of our vet, Meryl Yemima.

Rehabilitation

Named after her vet rescuer, Meryl has thrived under our care, made only possible by your support. She is now an adorable healthy three-year-old who has graduated from Nursery

Group and is now attending Forest School – Group 1.

Learning new skills

Meryl's babysitters are teaching her nest building skills. She learns fast, but often becomes bored quickly and will abandon a half-constructed nest whenever she feels like it. She enjoys being the centre of attention, especially with the babysitters and will grab their hand or leg if she feels she is not getting enough attention.

During the wet season, Meryl loves to play in muddy puddles and seems to particularly enjoy getting hosed down afterwards by her babysitters and splashing them with water.

Meryl is very curious and likes to sniff, touch and taste any new plants she is introduced to. If she likes the taste of them, she will share them with her friends. What a kind little girl she is.

Saved again

Earlier this year Meryl had to spend several nights in the Nyaru Menteng Intensive Treatment Unit due to a problem with her digestion. This treatment unit is funded by your donations; without you we would not

be able to help save these precious young orangutans.

We are pleased to report that Meryl is now fully recovered and is back learning with her friends in Forest School.

Adopt Baby Meryl today

Meryl has a long road ahead before she will become an independent orangutan who can survive in the wild.

By adopting Meryl today, you will help provide the critical care needed to help Meryl go through all the stages of Forest School.

Like you, we want to see Meryl have a healthy and happy life – growing up to be a strong adult who can be released into the wild.

You can adopt beautiful Meryl, for yourself or for someone special:

- A\$180 per year (one-off or ongoing), or
- A\$18 per month ongoing

Why wait. Give the gift of life today.

orangutans.com.au/Orangutan-Survival/Baby-Meryl.aspx

Orangutan adoptions are tax deductible in Australia.





When is a bore not a bore?

When it's helping to provide a clean, healthy environment for the orangutans in our care.

In an average year, we collect 176,000 litres of rainwater off the Special Care Unit (SCU) roofs at Samboja Lestari.

About 50,000 is needed for drinking, which still leaves not enough water for washing down the enclosures and facilities.

Cleaning up the food scraps, faeces, and enrichment rubbish is essential housekeeping to ensure the SCU is a hygienic facility.

The solution is bore water.

A local contractor, funded by BOS Australia, has been hired to drill the latest bore. The water will then be pumped up to 7,200 litre capacity storage tanks, from where it can be pumped under pressure and used for washing

down the enclosures and the underfloor areas.

Used water goes into the waste-water system and artificial wetland (a project funded and completed by BOSA last year) and from there it is released back into the environment as good quality water.

There are now three bores on site at Samboja Lestari helping to drought-proof the sanctuary: at the lodge, the office and now SCU.

BOS Australia AGM

The BOS Australia AGM took place on 23 October 2017.

Snapshot of the year

Many projects were commenced and or completed during the year. These were all funded by our generous donors and supporters. Some highlights, many from Tom Bertinshaw's work in Borneo, are:

- a rainwater collection system installed at SCU, capturing 176,000 litres of drinking water per year from the roof; gutters were also added
- a water collection and waste water system was installed at the new baby houses
- a power stabiliser was installed; the voltage is now strong

enough to support current and future projects

- electricity demand was reviewed and advice was provided on the design of solar panels; a project was commissioned and is set to be completed by the end of 2017
- new roads into the facility
- planting of trees
- completion of the baby house
- completion of water repairs at Nyaru Menteng; BOSA provided \$152,000 to BOSF for running costs
- BOSA funded orangutan transport repairs
- BOSA funded and vice-president Lou Grossfeldt delivered a successful enrichment program

Focus for 2018

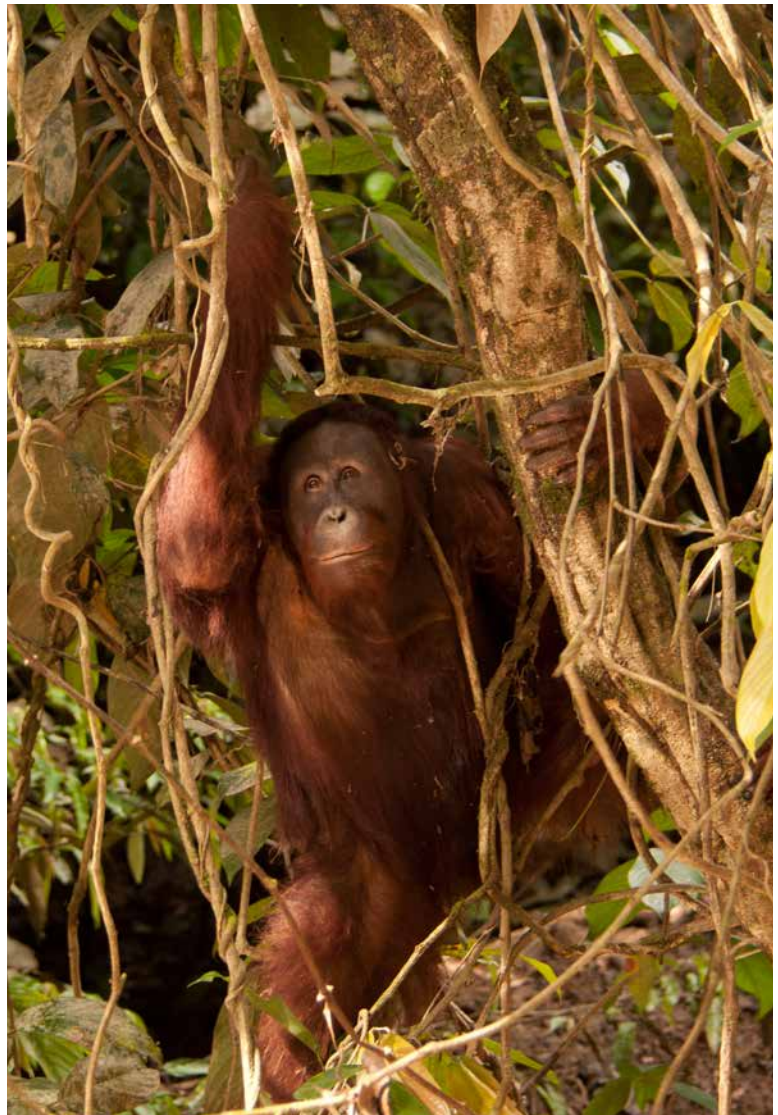
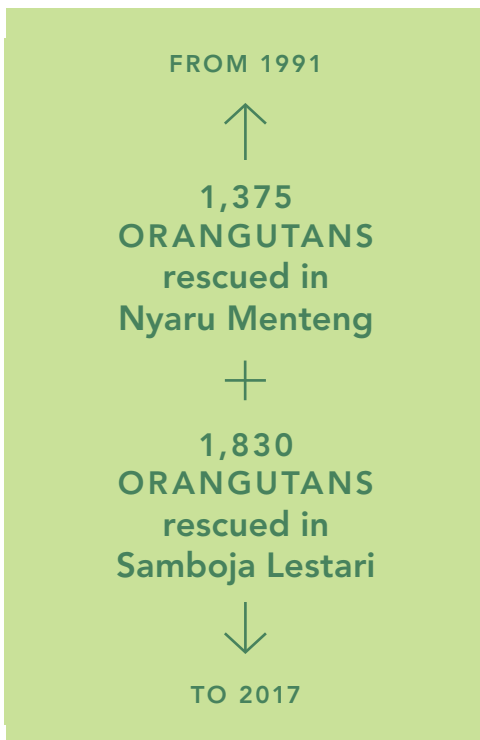
- Continuing with the bore project
- Solar power system installation
- Road improvements at Samboja Lestari to reduce vehicle maintenance costs.

BOS Australia committee

The committee was elected as nominated without objection:

- President: Tony Gilding
- Vice-President: Louise Grossfeldt
- Treasurer: Susan Griffiths
- Secretary: Lauren Jenkins
- Ordinary committee member: Cathy Heawood
- Ordinary committee member: Emma Dunphy
- Ordinary committee member: Kerin Welford

Thank you for supporting #orangutanfreedom



There is still so much more to do.

Funds are urgently needed to support the orangutans as we prepare them to move from enclosures to islands and to the forest.

Your support will contribute to the costs of keepers and caregivers, post-release monitoring field teams, camps, orangutan food, logistics, road and boat transport, medicines and medical support.

Your Support = Their Freedom



BOS Australia
primates helping primates

Borneo Orangutan Survival Australia

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Thank you for your continued support.



We love hearing from you

We know you've been spreading the orangutan word, so why not tell us about what you're up to? Email contact@orangutans.com.au or post your photos online at [facebook.com/bosaustralia](https://www.facebook.com/bosaustralia) or [instagram/bosaustralia](https://www.instagram.com/bosaustralia)

Can you help us?

Your donations provide food, shelter, protection, medicine and companionship for orangutans in our care. Visit www.orangutans.com.au to help us help them.

Donations by cheque are payable to Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Australia at PO Box 3916, Mosman NSW 2088.

Make a one-off or regular payment via direct debit or by credit card either online or by calling us on (02) 9011 5455. We now accept **pay pal** donations too! See the link on the homepage of our website.

Save paper and the environment and opt-in to receive our e-letter via email. at contact@orangutans.com.au

www.orangutans.com.au