



Forest Chatter



Issue 26 | December 2018

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From the President...

My favourite pastime this past few weeks has been watching *Orangutan Jungle School* on the STAN network. I downloaded to my iPad and when I get a free moment on public transport I watch it. People wonder what I am giggling at and often try to sneak a peek. I am of course delighted to share with them. I also love watching it on the big screen at home. The whole series was shot in new generation 4K quality. It's stunning. STAN have a free trial if you don't already have a subscription. An adoption of a baby from this series makes a great Christmas or birthday present for your friends.

More on this series and the babies inside this month's issue.

I have just returned from Borneo with a team of Indonesians and Australians designing a new solar facility at Samboja Lestari, Borneo's largest Orangutan sanctuary. It will, once installed, save 100,000 litres of diesel fuel per year and the roofs will capture over 300,000 litres of rainwater. This follows the success of our pilot solar project at Samboja Lestari which has performed flawlessly now for 12 months. It's a very complicated and long process and we will keep you informed of its funding and construction.

It's that time of the year where we are all getting bombarded with requests from any charities we have ever glanced at. I hope you can make some space in your Christmas generosity this year for the Orangutans. Your contributions this year have made it possible to release 52 more Orangutans to the wild, bringing our total to 378 released. We can do even more next year with your support.

Best wishes for the holiday season from the entire team at BOS Australia.

Tony Gilding, President

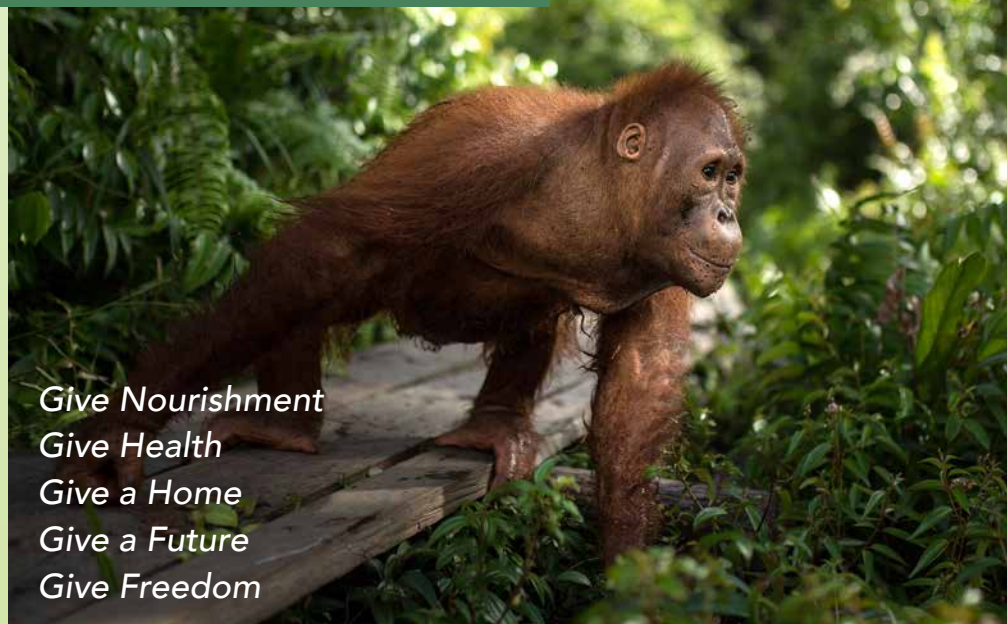
Beni needs your help this Christmas

Orangutans like Beni, one of the adorable stars of *Orangutan Jungle School*, are critically endangered, and sadly we face the reality of a world where they no longer exist in the wild.

We need to raise \$50,000 to help care for Beni and some of his orangutan friends in 2019.

Your gift this Christmas, can help ensure their survival.

- \$32 can help nourish an orphaned orangutan with food
- \$67 can help give vital medicine when an orangutan is sick or injured
- \$145 can help teach an orangutan life-skills in forest school
- \$310 can help provide a safe and enriching enclosure to sleep in
- \$2,000 can help cover critical medical tests before an orangutan can be eligible for release.



*Give Nourishment
Give Health
Give a Home
Give a Future
Give Freedom*

Every gift you give, whether large or small, directly helps Beni and his orangutan friends in the year to come.

Please donate by 31 December and help give Beni, and his friends, a future.

<https://bit.ly/2QamrEP>



It's a jungle out there!

Orangutan Jungle School is a new 10-part docu-series that premiered in its entirety on Stan in November.

The series is filmed at our Nyaru Menteng animal sanctuary in Borneo, where BOSF manages the largest primate rescue and rehabilitation project in the world.

Go behind the scenes and meet BOSF's skilled team who have been rescuing orangutans that have been displaced from their habitat, separated from their mothers, or kept illegally as pets, and teaching them the skills needed to return to the wild.

Once in our care, these orangutans have the chance for a future of freedom – but the road back to the wild is long as they embark on the various stages of their education. See them in the nursery, the five stages of forest school and the pre-release islands learning the essential lessons for survival.

Watch the orangutans in their jungle classroom as they learn how to crack open a coconut, build a nest, become an expert climber, and be aware of snakes. The youngest students are less than one year old and the oldest are the equivalent of human teenagers.

You are guaranteed to become emotionally invested in each of their

amazing journeys to freedom.

Meet some of the cast

Valentino: the class clown who BOSF carers hope will smarten up enough to graduate.

Mema: a picky eater who thinks snack time is gross.

Malika: the clumsy toddler who doesn't know how to climb.

Big-bellied Beni: the glutton who has to go on a diet.

Kesi: the inspiring amputee victim whose hand was cut off by a machete as she clung to her mother's back. Nothing stands in her way and she's always at the top of her class, even in climbing.

Cinta: one of Jungle School's cleverest, boldest and most resourceful students. She is full of surprises.

While *Orangutan Jungle School* is an entertaining and fascinating insight into the world of these orangutans, we also hope it will foster awareness for the plight of this endangered species and the fragile ecosystem in which these charismatic apes lead their lives.

Sign up to Stan for only \$10 a month and share their world.

www.stan.com.au

Adopt a cast member

Two-year-old **Taymur** (top right) was illegally smuggled into Kuwait and kept as a pet. In April 2017, a joint operation was launched to rescue Taymur and repatriate him back to Indonesia and he finally returned home in October 2017. After a period in quarantine, Taymur was moved to the new Baby House at Nyaru Menteng where he joined the Nursery Small Group. His first day at Forest School was spent climbing, a skill he quickly picked up and he continues to learn and thrive in our care.

Jelapat (middle) was a 1.5-year-old orphan when he was rescued in 2016. He was being illegally kept as a pet in a village in Central Kalimantan. Jelapat, like the other infants in our care, will have to undergo a lengthy rehabilitation process at Nyaru Menteng to learn the survival skills he would have gained naturally from his mother in the wild.

Little **Topan** (bottom right) was only eight months old when she was rescued by local villagers in Central Kalimantan, who found her alone by a river bank. She was handed over to the BOSF and taken to the Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Centre. Nine months after her arrival, Topan is now a member of the Nursery Small Group in Forest School. She has slowly grown to become a friendly, brave climber and shows little hesitation when ascending tall trees or dangling from high branches in Forest School.

Adopt an orangutan today:
www.orangutans.com.au/meet-our-family/



World's first orangutan island sanctuary opened

BOS Foundation, together with government and private sector partners, officially opened Badak Kecil Island Orangutan Sanctuary, in Central Kalimantan in November 2018.

Badak Kecil Island is a 104-hectare, forest-covered island in the Salat Nusa Island cluster. It is jointly managed by BOS Foundation and PT. SSMS (a palm oil company based in Pangkalan Bun), with the aim of

creating a sanctuary for orangutans that cannot be released to the wild.

BOS Foundation has been planning to use Badak Kecil Island as a sanctuary for 'unreleasable' orangutans since 2016.

The area chosen has a large carrying capacity and well-maintained vegetation; is isolated by river waterways throughout the year; does not have an existing wild orangutan

population; and can facilitate orangutan adaptation and socialisation.

Immediately after the official opening of Badak Kecil Island Orangutan Sanctuary, six 'unreleasable' orangutans were transferred to the new sanctuary from Nyaru Menteng Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre.

The six orangutans released include Moncos (male, 20), Yasmine (female, 23), Manis (female, 22), Caesar (male, 28), Mama Lasa (female, 26), and Pepsi (female, 21). All six will be protected, observed, and supplemented with food by our team of BOS Foundation technicians for the rest of their lives.

This isn't just good news for the orangutans, the establishment of the Badak Kecil Island Orangutan Sanctuary has created economic opportunities for local communities. They are providing the transportation services for the orangutan food and water, and managing the accommodation facilities (provided by PT. SSMS) for staff and visitors coming to the sanctuary and the surrounding islands in the Salat Nusa island cluster.



Profile of a BOSA supporter

Thank you ... Charlotte Sterrett

It's almost impossible to describe a 'typical' BOSA supporter. No matter your gender, age, location or occupation, we all have one thing in common: a respect for, and understanding of, just how important it is to save orangutans from extinction.

Charlotte Sterrett has been supporting BOSA since 2011.

A highlight for her over this time was when BOSA began releasing orangutans back into the wild, after spending so many years rescuing and rehabilitating them. That was a real milestone moment for Charlotte which she is proud to have helped achieve.

As a climate change expert at Oxfam, Charlotte is very aware of the impact the environment has on every part of our lives. She has adopted five orangutans; one for her daughter and for each of her nephews and nieces. Through their adoptions, Charlotte's family have become aware of the plight of the orangutans and the impact of climate change. Through *Forest Chatter* and adoption updates, they now know how important orangutans are to the ecosystems in Borneo.

Charlotte and her family always try to vote with their money by buying palm oil free products, wherever possible*.

Charlotte likes that BOSA is a part of a global movement, it punches above its weight and achieves a great deal with a skeleton staff, a dedicated team of volunteers and little budget. Charlotte is passionate about supporting BOSA and is looking forward to hearing about more successful releases in future.

She's also watching *Orangutan Jungle School* with her daughter, nieces and nephews and she might even go on a volunteer trip to Borneo one day.

* Whilst BOSA respects an individual's actions on palm oil, BOSA policy is to support the use of only certified sustainable palm oil and to advocate for labelling.



BOS Australia
primates helping primates

Borneo Orangutan Survival Australia

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Our newsletter is proudly written and produced by BOS Australia volunteers.

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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/bosaaustralia](https://www.facebook.com/bosaaustralia) or [instagram/bosaaustralia](https://www.instagram.com/bosaaustralia)

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