

Curraghs
**Wildlife
Park**

Call of the Wild

Issue Eleven

So here is the first edition of "Call of the Wild" for the Isle of Man's third lockdown! Have you seen issues 1-12? If not, and you would like them, send an email to liz.brunswick@gov.im so that they can be sent to you. Do you enjoy "Call of the Wild"? We'd love to hear from you and will always reply to your emails!

Happy Birthday Thackery!



Thackery the tapir turned 32 on 10th March! He has lived at the Wildlife Park for nearly 20 years, when he arrived with his mate, Clanger. She died in 2013, and a year later a new female tapir, Louka, arrived to keep him company.

By tapir standards he is a very old man (they don't normally live past 30) and he is a great favourite with his keepers. He is pictured above with Head Keeper Sarah. Are you wishing you had her job?!

Which animal at the Wildlife Park?
Unscramble the letters to find out!

der furfed rulem
steedplacc low



Riddle Time

Clue - all live at the Wildlife Park. Their full names are used in the answers to make it a bit harder ...

High in the trees
You'll see me swinging
Stop and listen
To my tuneful singing

I'm a
S _____
g _____

From my nice warm rock
Into pond I slide
With my oval shell
Just watch me glide

I'm a
r _____ - e _____
S _____

My red bushy tail
Is a sight to see
If first you don't spot me
Look up in my tree!

I'm a
r _____
p _____

With my long thin legs
In the lake I wade
You're bound to love
My pretty pink shade

I'm a
ch _____
f _____

Whose poo?

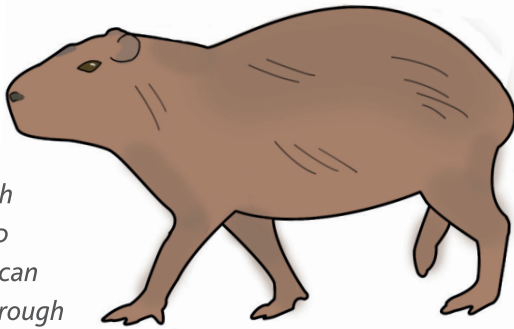
Poo clue: These tiny pellets are about the size of tic tac sweets. A tiny African antelope with a strange name did this poo! Maybe you could check the Wildlife Park website ("animals" link) if you're stuck.



bump on face is a gland that makes a smell for scent-marking

eyes and ears are positioned so they can poke out when hiding in the water

thin layer of coarse hair protects the skin without overheating



very short tail, difficult for a predator to grab

front teeth never stop growing (can munch through lots of tough plants and not wear out)

webbed feet and strong legs make the capybara a good swimmer



Animal of the Week

Capybara

Capybaras are rodents - in fact the largest rodent in the whole world! Actually they are very close cousins of guinea pigs!

Baby capybaras are born furry, with their eyes open so that they can follow mum and escape predators straight away. (Some animals have bald, blind, helpless babies that hide in a den.)

Habitat

From marshes and places close to rivers, lakes and streams in South America

Food in the Wild

They are herbivores, eating grass, water plants, grains and fruit

Superpower

They can chomp through wooden fences!

Animal Maths - can you work out the missing number?

$$\text{Red-necked vulture} + \text{Red-necked vulture} + \text{Red-necked vulture} = 18$$

$$\text{Blue and yellow macaw} + \text{Blue and yellow macaw} + \text{Red-necked vulture} = 20$$

$$\text{Kangaroo} + \text{Blue and yellow macaw} + \text{Blue and yellow macaw} = 16$$

$$\text{Blue and yellow macaw} + \text{Kangaroo} + \text{Red-necked vulture} = \square$$

Can you name the animals in the above puzzle?

blue and yellow m _____

red-necked w _____

k _____ v _____

Cut out and keep me

