

FROM THE HEART
OF THE FOREST



www.orangutanfoundation.org.au



November 2018

ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION
INTERNATIONAL
AUSTRALIA

A word from our President



To commemorate Orangutan Awareness Week this month, OFI Australia released a video to help spread awareness and encourage everyone to take action to save orangutans. We are so proud of this video and we'd be very grateful if all of our supporters could share it on social media to help spread the word!

Making this video took a lot of time and effort from many people - I'd like to give very special thanks and love to Noel George Macdonald for the words and music, and for pushing me to get this done! Thanks to Stephen Van Mil for allowing us to use footage from The Last Trimate, Ross Wood for editing the visuals, Chris Wright for the orchestral arrangement, Ben Robertson for mixing and Nicky Kurta for the voice-over – what a team! Everyone so generously donated their time pro-bono, without them this video wouldn't exist. Click the link or image below to watch the video on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDSazRanddE>

Kobe ❤️

Kobe Steele, President, OFI Australia



New OFI Australia drink bottle available!

Crafted from high quality stainless steel with a black non-slip rubberised finish, this double-walled drink bottle will keep your drinks cold or hot for hours!



The bottle has a 500ml capacity and features a flip out drinking valve with drinking straw and a carry handle. The bottle is only \$20 and comes boxed - just in time for Christmas!

Check out this and other OFI Australia merchandise items at our online shop now!

[Click here to](#)
[Shop now!](#)

Meet our newest foster infant, little Amelia!



"A lady" is really the best way to describe Amelia. Orangutan infants, like human children, tend to wobble and bump about as they grow into their bodies. Yet Amelia is hardly gangly. Delicately picking her way through leaf-strewn forest pathways, she could not be more ethereal. Even Amelia's face is the height of refinement: big eyes, a nose so delicate one has to search hard to find the bridge, and best of all, a content expression that could melt the hardest of hearts.

Little Amelia was four years old when she was brought to the Orangutan Care Centre and Quarantine in 2018. She was found, abandoned and orphaned, in the middle of a recently

clear-cut piece of land in the Lamandau region of Central Kalimantan. Sadly, her background is of one that is all too recurrent amongst young orangutans who find their way to our Care Centre. We don't know how long she was kept in human captivity before being handed over to OFI. However, considering her abnormally small stature for her age, and the x-ray examinations which revealed an unusual curvature to the bones of her hands and arms, it is probable that she was kept in too small a cage, where she couldn't stretch, for a long period of time.

Upon arrival her hair was dry and thin and her eyes were swollen, most likely from stress and sleep deprivation. It was time to give Amelia the care – and rest – that she needed. Under OFI's care we hope Amelia will recover and will soon begin to thrive. You can help Amelia and the other foster infants in our care by fostering an orangutan today!



[Click here to foster Amelia today!](#)

Thank you Australian Ethical!

Great news!! OFI Australia has been awarded a \$15,000 Australian Ethical Community Grant!

The grant will provide essential funding to support The Orangutan Legacy Forest Reforestation Project, helping us to regenerate orangutan habitat for generations to come.

Each year Australian Ethical gives 10% of their yearly profits to charitable organisations and social impact initiatives making a difference. Now that's a great super company!

Thank you to everyone who voted for us – and thank you Australian Ethical!!



News from the Field - OFI Australia funds four new orangutan sleeping enclosures

OFI Australia has funded four new sleeping enclosures at the Orangutan Care Centre and Quarantine (the Care Centre). The enclosures are made of steel with slatted wooden bases. Each enclosure is large and strong enough to house an adult male orangutan. Ibu Waliyati, Senior Administrator at the Care Centre, is pictured below beside one of the enclosures demonstrating its sheer size and scale!

OFI Australia is committed to providing the best possible care for the orangutans at the Care Centre while they are being rehabilitated for their eventual release back to the wild. This includes investing in upgraded, high quality sleeping enclosures - particularly for our larger cheek-padded males. Thank you to all of our donors, supporters and fundraising friends who have helped make this happen!



Pongo, Hands Through The Forest - a lovely new novel by Sue Feenstra

This is a captivating story about Pongo, a spirited young orangutan, who loves his life in the rainforest. His days are spent alongside his mother in the magical tropics of Borneo. Playing amongst the vines, eating plentiful fruit and seeds, and chasing his friends through the trees, he is blissfully unaware that his home is on the brink of destruction. A great read with a real message!

Sue is generously donating part of the proceeds from each book sold to OFI Australia - thank you Sue!

Pongo is now available on our online shop. Visit our website to purchase your copy now!

[Click here to shop now!](#)



Meet our new OFI Australia Ambassadors, Joanna and Richard Collins

Joanna and Richard Collins live in Adelaide, South Australia. They are both successful business people, big-hearted philanthropists and proud Ambassadors of OFI Australia. In 2017 they visited the OFI Care Centre in Borneo with Kobe Steele, to see first-hand the plight of orangutans and the work of OFI. They were moved and inspired by what they saw so very generously donated funds so we were able to buy a seriously needed, state of the art, digital x-ray machine for the Care Centre's hospital along with a 10,000-watt Generator to provide permanent electricity to the Care Centre and hospital.



Richard and Joanna recently returned to Borneo to see the x-ray machine and generator in action, and to meet OFI Founder and President, and world-renowned primatologist and conservationist, Dr Birute Mary Galdikas. We are so grateful for Richard and Joanna's kindness and generosity and we are incredibly honoured to welcome them as ambassadors of OFI Australia!

Please support our partners - RARE bags



RARE (Recycle And Reuse Everything) bags are crafted in Australia from eco-friendly and recycled materials.

Each bag is unique in design and displays multiple patches. The OFI Australia RARE Bag will display the OFI Australia logo patch and others specifically related to orangutans, palm oil and loss of rainforest habitat in your choice of 'earthy' or 'bright' colours.



OFI Australia will receive a \$10 donation from the purchase price when you buy and OFI Australia bag!

Visit the OFI Australia shop for more information on how to order your bag!

[Click here to shop now!](#)



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