

Wild Futures'

Project Information Pack

Thank you for your interest in Wild Futures European Solidarity Corps Project

The European Solidarity Corps is the new European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer in projects in their own country or abroad that benefit communities and people around Europe. As the programme is covered by the European Commission the projects are completely free to volunteers! This includes:

- Full coverage of food and accommodation
- Travel expenses to and from the UK (with a maximum limit)
- Complete health insurance for the entire period of your volunteer stay
- Language training for long term non-native speaking volunteers.

There are **short term** placements for 2 weeks, 4 weeks and 8 weeks throughout the year for UK and non- UK volunteers. Please see the calendar for dates attached to this email.

Long term placements run for 12 months and start every October. Volunteers can choose from a range of placements in which their project will focus in: **Admin x 1** (for UK participants only), **Primate Care x3** (UK and non-UK participants) , **Education x1** (only UK participants) and **Site and Sustainability x 1** (only non-UK participants)

You can only submit a long term application in the months between July-August.



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Wild Futures is the only UK charity with a holistic approach combining an educational and environmental remit dedicated to promoting the welfare, conservation and survival of our closest living relatives, the non-human primates. We are working to end the primate trade and abuse of primates in captivity, promoting the rehabilitation of captive primates and the preservation of those in the wild, whilst operating a sanctuary for primates in need of a home for life.

Our safe haven for monkeys saved from mistreatment is The Monkey Sanctuary, in Cornwall, UK. We recently celebrated our 50th Anniversary and have provided a home for life and specialist care for more than 160 monkeys over the years. We are proud to be the first and only facility in the whole of Europe to be accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), demonstrating that we provide humane and responsible care for our animals. Because most of the monkeys come into us extremely traumatized and damaged, we recognize the importance of ensuring long-term, consistent care from people they know and trust. We also rely heavily on volunteers to help us to run our sanctuary day-to-day.

As well as providing a home for life to monkeys in need, we work closely with other charitable organizations to lobby local and central government to try and bring about positive change for primates. Our campaigns work has led to much advancement, including political recognition of the trade in primates as pets, the publication of a primate code of practice as part of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 and strong public support demonstrated by 45,000 petition signatures. We believe that education is vital for change and act in an advisory capacity in diverse forums, as well as educating visitors to our sanctuary and more than 3,000 school, college and university students on our work each year. We are committed to providing advice, practical support and funding to overseas projects linked with primate welfare and conservation. We have supported primate projects throughout South and Central America and Africa, many of which involve conservation initiatives with local communities and government.

When it comes to conservation though, we believe it's just as important to conserve plant and animal species closer to home as those on distant shores, so we also work to conserve UK species in danger from habitat loss, including the lesser horseshoe bat and the pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly.



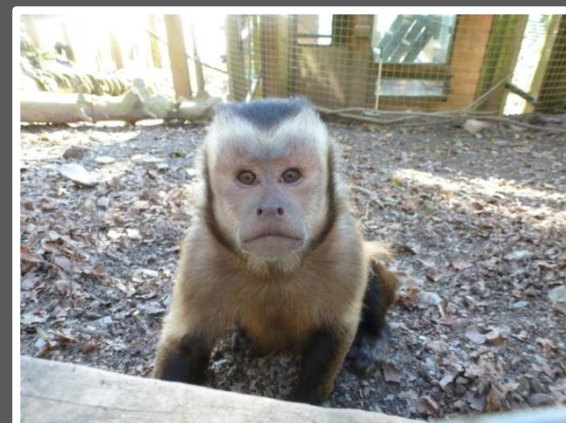
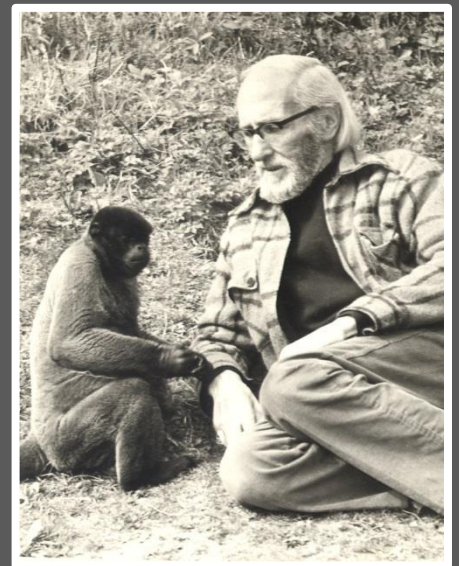
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The Monkey Sanctuary, past and present

The Monkey Sanctuary was established in 1964 by Leonard Williams and a team of co-workers. It began as a refuge for ex-pet and ex-zoo woolly monkeys, receiving recognition as the first place where this species bred outside its own habitat in the South American rainforests. Since the beginning, the aims of the sanctuary have evolved to focus on the protection of habitats and primates in the wild, native wildlife conservation, the rescue and rehabilitation of ex-pet monkeys and campaigning to end both the illegal and legal primate pet trades. The sanctuary became a registered charity under the name 'The Monkey Sanctuary Trust' in 2004 and in 2009 the name 'Wild Futures' was chosen to reflect the wider aims of the charity. Today we are home to 6 woolly monkeys, all descended from those rescued in the Sanctuary's beginnings, 3 Barbary macaques and 28 capuchins.

The Sanctuary is open to the public during the summer months. As well as carrying out the day to day care of the monkeys, the monkey carers give talks to the public about the individual monkeys, the wider issues surrounding the primate pet trade, global wildlife conservation and sustainability. The team have their own specialist areas of work such as maintenance, campaigns, education and fundraising. The Wild Futures' team share concern for animal welfare, conservation and global environmental issues.





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The following is a basic example of the type of work carried out for one day by each Long Term volunteer projects:

Example Rota.

(MORNING)		Education Volunteer	Administration	Primate Care.	Site.
Starting time	Ending time				
7:00	7:45	Preparation of food bowls (1-2 times a week).	Preparation of food bowls (1-2 times a week).	Preparation of food bowls (5 times a week).	Preparation of food bowls (5 times a week).
8:00	8:30	Breakfast.	Breakfast.	Breakfast.	
8:30	8:45	Morning meeting with staff	Morning meeting with staff	Morning meeting with staff	Morning meeting with staff
8:45	11:30	Capuchin, woolly or Barbary enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin, woolly or Barbary enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin, woolly or Barbary enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin, woolly or Barbary enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.
		Lunch.	Lunch.	Lunch.	Lunch.
12:30	14:00	Learn to and then conduct Skype calls for international schools. Assist with public talks to our visitors.	Help create and manage social network event. Compile adoption packs.	Learn about the species you are on through information provided by your supervisor and your own research	Aid with the development of new sustainable systems, biomass boiler, solar panels etc
14:00	14:15	Break	Break	Break	Break
14:15	16:00	Arrange events with Education officer on site or off site. Conduct public talks to the visitors.	Help in the admissions office or in the shop to cover lunches.	Prepare food for monkeys. Help redesign environmental enrichment	Assist the Site team with ongoing maintenance of the monkey enclosures and visitor site.
16:00	16:30	Break	Break	Break	
16:30	17:00	Continue to arrange events on site or off site. Conduct public talks.	Help create and organise fundraising events on and off site.	Ensure all monkey work for the day is complete. Write up daily notes. Write handover for the following day.	Help build new monkey enclosures.
(EVENING)					
19:30	20:00	Cook your own meal in communal house.	Cook your own meal in communal house.	Cook your own meal in communal house.	Cook your own meal in communal house.
20:00	21:30	Reflective discussion on work; beach	Reflective discussion on work; beach	Reflective discussion on work; beach	Reflective discussion on work; beach

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The following is a basic example of the type of work carried out for one week for
Short Term volunteer projects.

Example Rota.

(MORNING)		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Starting time	Ending time					
7:00	7:45	Preparation of food bowls for capuchins		Preparation of food bowls for Woolly monkeys		
8:00	8:30	Breakfast.	Breakfast.	Breakfast.	Breakfast.	
8:45	11:30	Capuchin or woolly enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin or woolly enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin, woolly enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin or woolly enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.	Capuchin or woolly enclosure cleaning. Create enrichment items.
11:30	12:30	Lunch.	Lunch.	Lunch.	Lunch.	Lunch.
(AFTERNOON)						
12:30	14:00	Help maintain site- gardening, shaling, painting. Preparation of food bowl for capuchin	Help re-rope the monkey enclosures with keepers. Assist with children's workshops	Full day of monkey food for the Woolly monkeys	Help maintain house- painting, cleaning. Assist in the café.	Make more enrichment for monkeys. Help clean the house.
14:00	14:15	Break	Break	Break	Break	
14:15	16:00	Continue with work site maintenance work.	Help re-rope the monkey enclosures with keepers.	Woolly monkey food bowls	Help maintain house- painting, cleaning.	Listen to talks about monkeys and the pet trade
16:00	16:30	Break	Break	Break	Break	
16:30	17:00	Help clean the house.	Pack equipment away for the day	Woolly monkey food bowls	Help maintain house- painting, cleaning.	Listen to talks about monkeys and the pet trade

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Explaining the rota

The rota is a basic example of **some** of the activities which occur in each project. The rota will be planned on your arrival between you and your supervisor.

ALL long term volunteers will conduct one month of normal volunteer work before focusing in on the chosen department (please see short term rota for the type of work). This is so that all volunteers gain an insight into the amount of work needed to keep the sanctuary functioning.

Much of the work is labour intensive and can be monotonous such as gardening, painting and cleaning.

Volunteers must know their project well before applying.

All volunteers **MUST** have a good level of English to participate, with the ability to communicate well for public talks or speaking on the telephone. This is also vital due to the close proximity to dangerous animals.

Qualifications are not required, however previous experience is desirable.





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Profile of the Volunteer.

Basic requirements: **18-30 years old**, volunteers from the UK **must** be resident in the eligibility areas (please see Eligible areas UK participants document), while non-UK volunteers must come from an eligible country (please see Eligible countries for non-UK participants document)

Clear communication

Being able to speak good English is important for your own safety and that of your colleagues. As an ESC volunteer at Wild Futures you will work with potentially dangerous animals. If the volunteer does not speak English we will have problems communicating.

Motivation

You must be fully committed when applying for these projects! It takes a huge amount of background work to organize volunteers to participate. If you accept a project and then drop out you cause a lot of disruption, loss of money and extra work. To protect against this all volunteers must pay a £50 deposit to secure their placement. If you drop out before the start of the placement **this will not be refunded**. Please consider this carefully before applying! For long term volunteers, you must stay motivated for the entire year, make sure you understand and know the project before applying.

Hard working

This ESC project involves a **lot** of physical work. Up to 60% of the work will involve cleaning, be it the monkey rooms or the public areas. Unfortunately we cannot make exceptions as to the amount of cleaning, that is why you need to be passionate about the animals and the organization otherwise you will not enjoy this EVS experience.

Affinity towards animals

Having an affinity to animals is important to understand why people work hard for the primates. Most animals show signs of trauma and need to be re-socialized with members of their own kind. We have a **'hands off policy'**, so the interaction between the caretaker and the animal should always be minimal. The fact that the animals develop towards a more natural life should be the cause of satisfaction.

No allergies

Having allergies for animal fur is problematic as you have to be around them on a daily basis. The house you will live in a 19th Century Victorian house so please be aware that this old houses come some problems. Long-term volunteers may live in a caravan on-site and although warm and clean it will still be a caravan with some associated problems. Volunteers should be generally physically fit, healthy and have an enthusiasm for hard work.



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Accommodation and Living

For volunteers staying 12 months, accommodation will be in a shared room with one other volunteer, or they will live privately on their own, or in a static caravan. Both types of accommodation are dependent on what is available at the time, so cannot be chosen by the volunteer. The accommodation provided is situated on site.

Short term volunteers will stay in one of our dorm rooms which can house up to 5 people. This room is located in the main house on site. The house is a 19th century building which serves not only as the headquarters of Wild Futures but also a living space for both keepers and volunteers. Volunteers who live in the house or in the caravans have access to the communal areas and facilities which include:

Kitchen, bathroom, laundry room, T.V and lounge, drying room and gardens.

Wifi is available but please be aware that because of our rural location the broadband width is limited and Wifi can therefore be slow. Volunteers are welcome to use the office computers after work hours if needed.

Volunteers DO NOT pay for their accommodation.

This is a **vegetarian and vegan** household and **basic food** is provided. If you choose to buy food please do not store, cook or consume any meat products within the house.

Pocket money is around 6 euros a day but please remember this does change project to project but only slightly. Money to UK volunteers are paid into their accounts, short-term non-UK volunteers are paid in cash and long-term volunteers are paid into UK account which we help to set up for non-UK volunteers.



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Travel expenses.

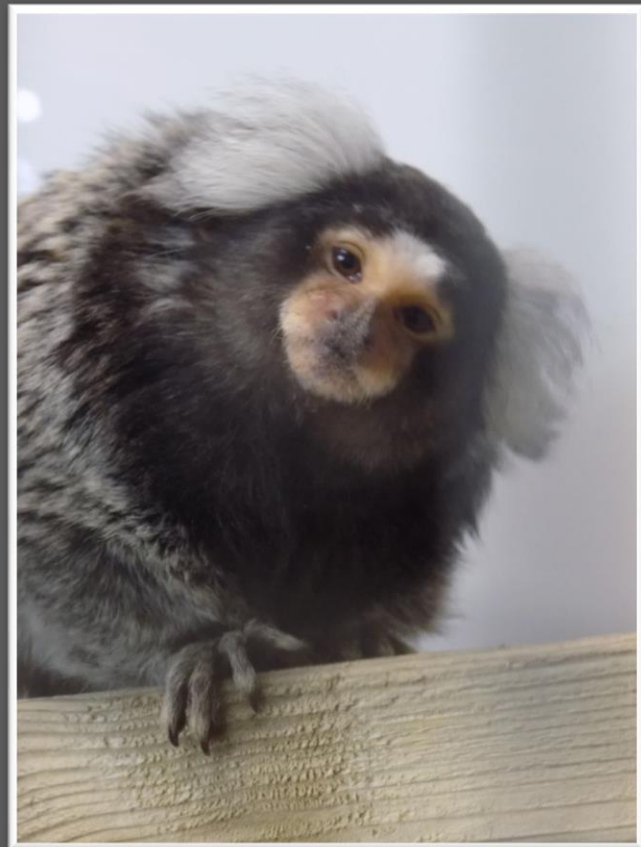
Volunteers from the UK have up to **£100** to spend on travel to the sanctuary.

Non-UK volunteers have up to **275 euros**.

For both UK and non-UK volunteers, the money is for your travel to the sanctuary **AND** back home again. If you exceed this amount, you will have to pay the extra yourself. In addition, if you lose travel confirmation emails or receipts, then we cannot reimburse you either. Screen shots of receipts are **NOT** acceptable. We need proof of purchase to reimburse you, so please ensure you keep everything.

If you fly into the UK from another country, other than your own, we cannot be reimbursed. So for example, if you live in Italy, you must fly from Italy otherwise your travel will not be covered.

You will be asked to send all travel confirmation emails to the ESC Coordinator once you have bought them. This is so we have an electronic copy of your travel. We will also ask you to print these confirmation emails and bring them with you when you arrive at the sanctuary. You will be asked on your first working day for these hard copies.



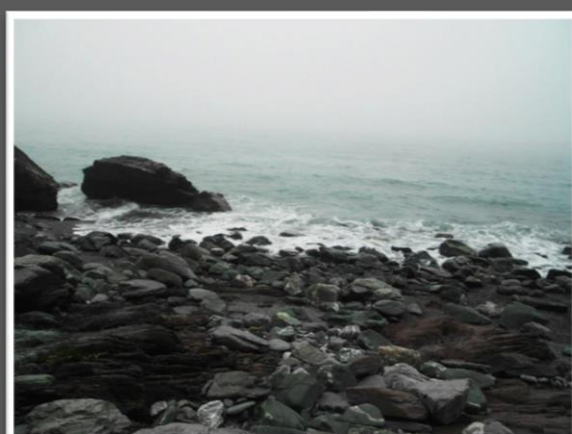
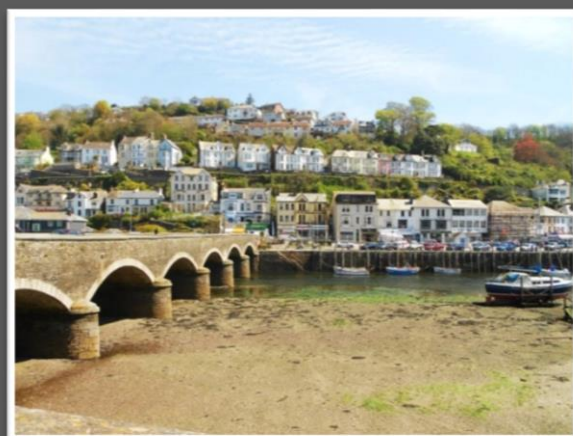
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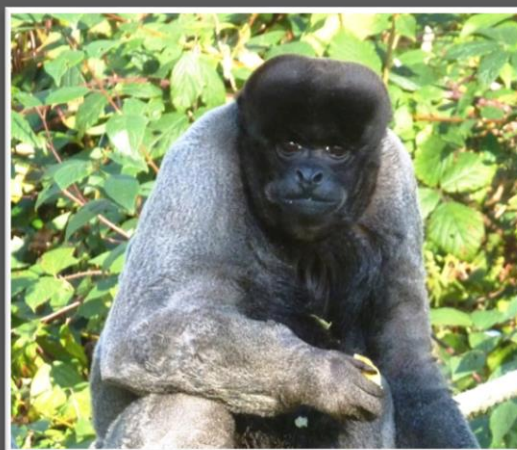
Free time

The surrounding countryside is picturesque. The Sanctuary is in a quiet rural area with access to the coastal path nearby. If you are prepared to walk, Looe and the nearby coastal villages of Seaton and Downderry are reachable within an hour. Looe is a tourist town and fishing port and is busy with holidaymakers in the summer. Looe offers souvenir shops, cafes, restaurants, pubs and walks along the coast or riverside. Boat trips are available to destinations such as Polperro (picturesque harbour village), Fowey, Looe Island (nature reserve) or along the Looe River. The nearest city of Plymouth which is 20 miles away, has bus and train connections from Looe. Other activities include visiting nearby Eden Project and Carnglaze Caverns. During winter, volunteers enjoy watching films and playing games by the fire.

Bikes are provided.



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If you are interested in a Wild Futures ESC project then please read the application form carefully and fill in all fields. Completed applications should be emailed with the Subject: Application for ESC Assistants (Position) e.g. Application for ESC Assistants (Education) or ESC Assistant (Short term). Long term applications can only be sent in the July-August months. We highly recommend that you visit our website on www.wildfutures.org for further information before applying.

All positions are funded by Erasmus+.

If you have any further queries please feel free to email.

Best of luck with your application and we look forward to seeing you!

For more information please contact;

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