



## FFI North West Group SPRING PROGRAMME 2016

FFI NW evenings are a unique mix of entertainment & learning focussed on conservation. They are informal, informative and fun, and are open to everyone, so come along!

### FRIDAY 29 January 2016

### *'Sumatran tigers: heartbreak and hope in the rainforest'*

### With Olivia Walter



Olivia Walter is the Development Manager at Wildlife Vets International (WVI), a position supported by the International Zoo Veterinary Group. Since moving to Yorkshire with her family, she has seen WVI grow in reputation and capacity. Prior to working at WVI, Olivia worked within the zoo community, first at ZSL London Zoo and at British And Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Having always been interested in the bridge between in and ex situ conservation, she had short spells with WCS Cambodia and Wetlands International in Borneo.

Tigers and Amur leopards have featured throughout her career. First as assistant EEP Studbook keeper for Amur leopards, then International Amur leopard studbook keeper. On moving to WVI, she gave up studbooks but is still involved in the reintroduction project through WVI's work. WVI has just published the first ever (in English and Russian), in-depth disease risk assessment for the reintroduction for a big cat.

Olivia says "I have read the books, the papers, been to the conferences, know the people, lectured students. I know the story inside out and backwards. Just occasionally I take a back step and wonder whether we are doing the right thing. Am I doing this job just because I love it? Are we actually making a difference? Is the task just too big? Is it actually possible to save endangered species when the opposition is so powerful and doesn't seem to care?"

I was given an opportunity to find out for myself through an invitation to accompany an anti-poaching patrol crossing Kerinci Seblat National Park. Little did I know that we would encounter most of the threats to Sumatra's tigers up close. This is my story discovering how my piece of the conservation puzzle fits into the bigger picture."

To reserve tickets email or call Penny Rudd [pennyr@chesterzoo.org](mailto:pennyr@chesterzoo.org) / 01244 650215.

Tickets may be available on the door but advanced booking helps keep costs down and guarantees a seat! Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start at Chester Zoo's Russell Allen Lecture Hall, off the A41, just before the Park & Ride (use postcode CH2 1EU for SatNav). Tickets cost £9 for FFI Members, £10 for non-Members, with a concession of £5 for students. All prices include a buffet and wine.

For advance notice & full details of events, join our e-mailing list:  
contact [a.fidgett@chesterzoo.org](mailto:a.fidgett@chesterzoo.org) putting 'FFI North West' in the subject line.