



DOCTOR SONYA HILL

Lecturer, Programme Leader for Animal Behaviour & Welfare, University of Chester



Sonya P. Hill is an animal behaviour and welfare scientist with particular expertise in exotic wildlife. Sonya began her academic life as a biological anthropologist, and went on to gain valuable field experience with the Jane Goodall Institute in Tanzania, as well as husbandry and research experience in several UK zoos. Following an MPhil at Durham, she gained a PhD from the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, for work on behavioural and physiological investigations of welfare in gorillas. This involved working within a range of zoos in the UK, Germany and Portugal, as well as the University of Veterinary

Medicine, Vienna, Austria. Sonya joined Chester's Department of Biological Sciences full-time in 2014, following a decade spent working as a scientist at Chester Zoo.

Sonya has a broad interest in evolutionary approaches to animal behaviour and welfare science, and specialises in evidence-based management of captive exotic wildlife. She is the research advisor to the European Endangered Species Programme for gorillas, and a member of the Research Committee of the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the Captive Care Working Party of the Primate Society of Great Britain, and a Trustee of the Jane Goodall Institute UK. She also holds professional memberships of the International Society for Applied Ethology, the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, and the Association of British Wild Animal Keepers. Sonya is an Associate Editor of the "Animal Behavior and Welfare" Specialty Section of the academic journal, *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*. Outside of work, she is a cellist with the Chester Philharmonic Orchestra

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