

# 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SLOTH SYMPOSIUM

2025



## SPONSOR INFORMATION PACK







# INTRODUCTION

The number of sloths in human care is on the rise. Thanks to many dedicated sloth biologists, there are starting to be some resources produced to help to improve our knowledge of *Choloepus* sloths in human care.

Despite their increasing popularity, sloths in care lack the benefit of evidence-based husbandry to guide their standard of care. Traditional husbandry methods for other placental mammals are frequently inapplicable to sloths due to their distinctive anatomy and physiology. Thanks to many dedicated sloth biologists, and conscious efforts to bridge knowledge gaps, there are now resources produced to help to improve our knowledge of *Choloepus* sloths in human care.

In 2021, Deb (Sloth SOS), Steve (Novu Earth), and Kelly-Anne (Washbear Zoo Education) collaborated on an initiative to establish a community for sloth keepers, researchers, veterinarians, and conservationists to enhance our collective knowledge. From this, the first International Sloth Symposium was hosted at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS) in 2022.

The 2nd Symposium in October 2023, held at the Audubon Zoo in LA, USA, welcomed 80 more delegates and additional representatives from three in-situ conservation organizations in home countries. In 2024, delegates joined us at the Chester Zoo, England, where the Symposium grew from two-days of husbandry and conservation to three days with a full schedule of sloth veterinary care..



Edinburgh Zoo 2022.



The 4th International Sloth Symposium will be hosted by the beautiful Roger Williams Park Zoo, RI, USA.

Due to the success of our three-day event last year and the overwhelming request to continue the veterinary day, we are happy to share 2025 will include two days of husbandry symposium and a one-day veterinary conference.

We expect another amazing year of delegates from all over the world, including researchers, zoo and aquarium directors, curators, zookeepers, conservationists, veterinarians, and more!

See you there!

Deb, Kelly-Anne and Steve

## Sponsors....

The symposiums and veterinary conferences are organized and attended by those committed to improving the sloth welfare in human care.

The International Sloth Symposium provides a unique opportunity for your organization or business to reach a global audience in one convenient location. Delegates represent a variety of organizations and expertise related to animal husbandry, veterinary care, research, conservation, and more.

We are committed to providing sponsorship opportunities for all size organizations to 'join the team' and enjoy the benefits of participation.

Audubon Zoo, 2023





# INTERNATIONAL SLOTH SYMPOSIUM

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS 2025

### Sloth Supporter: \$250.00 USD

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide.

### Choloepus Conservationist: \$500.00 USD

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide
- Brand mention/logo on the website and social media mentions
- Space for a company-provided poster or banner advertisement in the Symposium auditorium/classroom(s)

### Bradypus Biologist: \$750.00 USD

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide
- Brand mention/logo on the website and social media mentions
- Space for a company-provided poster or banner advertisement in the Symposium auditorium/classroom(s)
- Vendor table for sponsor-provided materials, promotions or demonstrations during identified vendor times

### SuperOrder Superstar: \$1,200.00 USD

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide
- Brand mention/logo on the website and social media mentions
- Space for a company-provided poster or banner advertisement in the Symposium auditorium/classroom(s)
- Vendor table for sponsor-provided materials, promotions or demonstrations during refreshment breaks and lunch for 2 days of the symposium (dates are sponsors choice)
- 1 attendee full symposium ticket





# INTERNATIONAL SLOTH SYMPOSIUM

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### Xenarthra Advocate \$2000.00

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide
- Brand mention/logo on the website and social media mentions
- 1/2 page ad in printed delegate packet
- Space for a company-provided poster or banner advertisement in the Symposium auditorium/classroom(s)
- Vendor table for sponsor-provided materials, promotions or demonstrations during refreshment breaks and lunch for 3 days of the symposium (dates are sponsors choice)
- 1 attendee full symposium ticket
- One 15-minute presentation spot during the symposium (date of your choice)

### Megatherium Mentor \$3600.00

- Logo on all event materials, including the symposium 'thank you' slide
- Brand mention/logo on the website and social media mentions
- Space for a company-provided poster or banner advertisement in the Symposium auditorium/classroom(s)
- 1/2 page ad in printed delegate packet
- Vendor table for sponsor-provided materials, promotions or demonstrations during refreshment breaks and lunch for 3 days of the symposium (dates are sponsors choice)
- 2 attendee full symposium tickets
- Two 15-minute presentation spots during the symposium to share your business/product (date of your choice) 1 spot on a Husbandry Day and 1 spot on Vet Day. Presentations must follow all symposium rules & be preapproved by symposium founders



# Meet The Team

The Sloth Symposium team is made up of Deb, Steve, & Kelly-Anne; however, these events are only possible due to a dedicated team of sloth biologists, researchers, and conservationists who assist with many aspects of the events.



## Deb



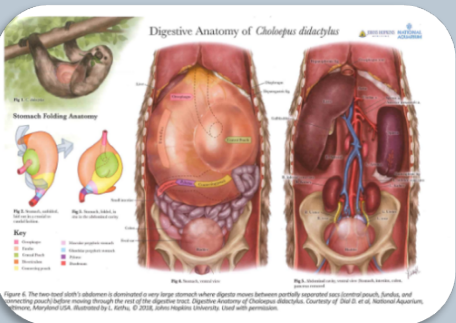
Deb Dial is a passionate biologist from National Aquarium, Baltimore, committed to advocating for animals in human care by developing and promoting best husbandry practices.

Deb has over 20 years of experience in both the private sector and within organisations such as AZA and her professional focus has been on small mammals (specifically two toed sloths) and avian husbandry as well as unique approaches to animal behaviour.

In addition to her full time job as a curator, Deb owns and operates a small zoo and aquarium consulting business, Educated Zookeeper LLC. Using funds from the Educated Zookeeper, she was able to launch her passion project, the science of sloths (Sloth SoS).

SoS provides emergency assistance to sloths outside of their home countries providing evidence based advice to help animals in crisis. A team of experts from around the world volunteer their time to review cases for SoS and collect information in an online library to inform future decisions. She serves on multiple professional committees including AZA's Avian Scientific advisory group as Vice Chair, AZA's P.A.X. TAG, Choloepus didactylus program and the C.didactylus SSP. She is also an advisor for the University of Washington's Applied Behaviour Program.

Deb has received the Susan D.Chan Author of the year award twice and has published multiple scientific illustrations surrounding the anatomy of choloepus including the first illustration of C.didactylus digestion.





# Meet the Team

## Kelly-Anne



Kelly-Anne Harland is a specialist small mammal keeper with around 20 years' experience in a range of animal husbandry roles at UK collections. She has a particular interest in PAX species and had the privilege of hand rearing a Linnes two toed sloth in 2016, a Sunda Pangolin in 2017, and a southern three banded armadillo in 2020. In 2019, she co-authored (with ZSL's Amanda Ferguson) a paper 'Hand rearing of a linnes two toed sloth at ZSL London Zoo', which was published in International Zoo Yearbook.



She was a lead event planner and host for the 2016 P.A.X. Symposium and workshop, The 1st International Xenarthra conference and for the 2020 Virtual PAX conference and workshop. Over the last 10 years, Kelly-Anne has provided consultancy services to around 50 collections globally to assist with husbandry and exhibit enquiries.

Kelly-Anne has a real passion for creating learning opportunities for Zookeepers and has run a huge number of conferences and workshops providing training for over 1000 Zookeepers.

Her events focus on underrepresented subjects focusing on specific taxa or skills and all events feature a curated learning scheme, measurable learning outcomes and industry expert speakers.





# Meet THE TEAM *Steve*



Steve Goodwin is director of Novu Earth, an organisation that specialises in training opportunities for Zookeepers, curators, and animal care students, along with specialised Zoo consultancy services regarding habitat suitability and environmental parameters.

He has worked in Zoos for over 20 years with a wide range of taxa including Sloth and been collecting field data on environmental parameters of rainforest species with a particular focus on UVB exposure in home ranges for several mammal species over the 4 years, of which him and his research partner are awaiting publication. Steve is currently planning the next research trip to collect in-depth information on micro habitats, including UVB and a variety of other environmental parameters.



## Novu Earth

[www.novu.earth](http://www.novu.earth)



Novu Earth is an organisation dedicated to researching wild habitat data to improve welfare for animals in human care.

Novu Earth partners with Conservation organisations and facilities using our research to help them evidence and support their conservation goals.



Novu Earth provides consultancy services to align captive husbandry with the wild using our own wild sourced data.

Novu Earth also provides specialised in person & digital CPD

**Email: [Novu.earth@gmail.com](mailto:Novu.earth@gmail.com)**





# The Science of Sloths (SoS) is dedicated to the welfare of sloths in human care.

Dedicated to improving outcomes for sloths in human care by providing science-based resources to advance welfare

The Science of Sloths began as a grassroots effort and continues thanks to sloth experts who volunteer their time

The network consists of researchers, scientists, curators, rehabilitators, zookeepers, conservationists, biologists, and veterinarians

The Science of Sloths (facilitated by The Educated Zookeeper, LLC)



[www.scienceofsloths.org](http://www.scienceofsloths.org)

