

## **New Year, New King Penguin!**

Birdland Park & Gardens is celebrating the start of 2016 with a very special new arrival, a female King Penguin. Travelling to the Bourton-on-the-Water park all the way from Denmark the 16 month old little girl is part of the breeding programme.

Arriving just before Christmas the King Penguin now happily inhabits Penguin Shore with the existing colony of King Penguins and Humboldts.

Head Keeper Alistair Keen says: "We are thrilled to have a new female King Penguin in our colony. The addition of another female means that we can continue with a strong breeding programme – the only King Penguin breeding programme in the UK."

"She took a couple of weeks to settle in but is now often first in the queue for food. The rest of the group have all taken to her and she has had Seth showing a particular interest in her! Seth has previously only ever paired with one other female so we are hopeful about the possibility of chicks in the future from this match."

As yet unnamed, Keepers will be launching an online campaign for Birdland visitors to name the female and win a Penguin Feeding.

Visitors can meet the new King Penguin and the rest of the raft of penguins daily from 10am as well as watch the penguin feeding at 11am and 2.30pm.

birdland.co.uk

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For more information please contact:

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### **Editors Notes:**

- Birdland opened in 1957 and was one of the first bird encounters to open in the UK.
- Birdland Park is a 9.5-acre site situated on and around the River Windrush in Bourton-on-the-Water. 7 acres are dedicated to the Bird Gardens featuring over 500 birds, 140 species in 50 aviaries. The 2.5-acre Nature Reserve is home to many indigenous species from kingfishers to otters.
- Birdland has the only breeding group of King Penguins in the country. Spike the King Penguin, who was hand-reared, is a popular resident with his own Facebook and Twitter following.
- There are a number of rare species at Birdland and the team are actively involved with global breeding programmes.