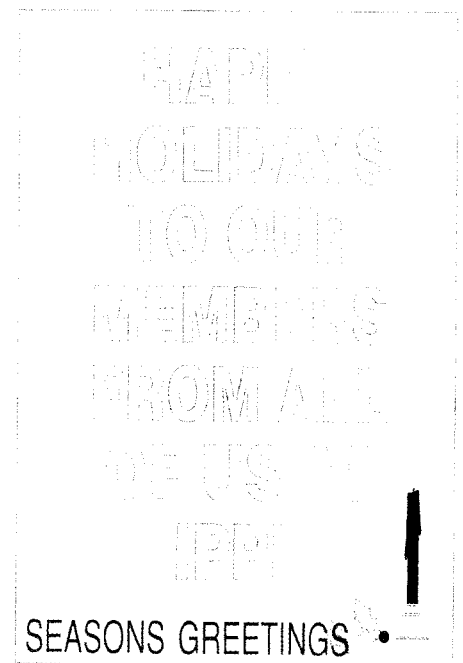




# News

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DECEMBER 2003



## ***INSIDE:***

**IPPL IS  
30 YEARS OLD**

**PRINCE PHILIP  
SALUTES IPPL**

Mueller's Gibbon  
©Art Wolfe

## A LETTER FROM IPPL'S CHAIRWOMAN



Dear IPPL Member,

*It is nearly the end of IPPL's 30th birthday year!*

*In this issue of **IPPL News**, you will hear from many people and organizations helped by IPPL over the years, and also from two of our first employees, **Kathy Crawford Gilbert** and **Betty Brescia**, as well as from many IPPL Advisors and Field Representatives.*

*You will also hear from some of the overseas recipients of IPPL support. From our earliest days, IPPL has helped primate rescue centers and activist groups overseas. As you read these messages from front line primate protectors in areas as far away as Nigeria, Cameroon, and Indonesia, you will see how much IPPL's help—which means **your** help—is appreciated.*

*In most of these countries there is a small donor base and the small energetic front-line organizations run by people of remarkable dedication need our help.*

*You will also learn about IPPL's new "Adopt-a-Gibbon" program. IPPL has been caring for gibbons at our Headquarters since 1977 when we first moved to South Carolina. Now 33 gibbons share their lives with our animal care staff. We are starting an "adoption" program to help ensure that, as long as they live, IPPL's gibbons will receive the best of care. More information about this plan is available on Pages 34-35.*

*Like many charities, IPPL has seen its income shrink dramatically this year due to the sorry state of the world we so ungraciously share with the nonhuman animals. That's why we need and appreciate the generous support of our wonderful members and supporting organizations.*

*Smiley LaGrass*

### NEW – IPPL GIBBON T-SHIRTS STARRING IPPL'S OWN GIBBONS!

IPPL is delighted to offer you a new gibbon T-shirt, which we know you'll enjoy wearing.

The T-shirts feature drawings by Michelle Winstanley Michie of three IPPL gibbons: **Arun Rangsi**, who came to us as a baby from a research laboratory; **Igor**, who spent 26 lonely years in research, and our blind gibbon **Beanie**.

We hope you will buy gibbon T-shirts for yourself and your friends. The shirts are forest green and 100% cotton. Available sizes are **S, M, L, XL, and XXL** (adult) and **S, M, and L** (children).

The price for adult Ts is \$15 (US), \$22 (overseas air); for childrens' sizes, \$12 (US) and \$16 (overseas). The price includes shipping, handling, and a flier introducing each gibbon.

Please use the order form on page 32.



## IPPL IS 30 YEARS OLD!

IPPL is 30 years old this year!

IPPL Secretary Dianne Taylor-Snow and many IPPL friends have worked hard contacting friends of our organization, including Field Representatives, members of the Advisory Board, former employees, friendly government officials, groups that have received IPPL grants, and others! Friendly comments have poured into Headquarters.

We were honored to receive a congratulatory letter from Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, a long-time friend of IPPL who has a special interest in the wildlife crime issue and has helped IPPL's work on many occasions. As you can see, Prince Philip, although long associated with large organizations, sees the need for small specialized groups like IPPL and encourages you to support our work.



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I am delighted to have this opportunity to offer my warmest congratulations to the International Primate Protection League on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and my special congratulations to its founder, Dr Shirley McGreal. The League can look back with much pride on its very considerable achievements in those years. There have been some very significant successes and a few disappointing failures, but most primate populations around the globe are in a better state thanks to its activities.

General purpose conservation organisations, such as WWF, can make the case for endangered species as a whole and can initiate projects for the protection of wilderness areas and whole eco-systems, but it needs the detailed work of specialist organisations to ensure that individual species can continue to thrive. IPPL also faces the particular challenge of the illegal capture and trade in primates. This is a very dangerous business and it takes real courage to collect evidence, track smugglers and bring illegal dealers to justice.

I can only hope that the League will continue to raise the funds needed to keep up, and hopefully to increase, its good work in the future.

# IPPL'S FIRST YEARS – NEVER A DULL DAY!

By Shirley McGreal, Founder-Chairwoman, IPPL

I founded the International Primate Protection League while living in Bangkok, Thailand in the 1970s. I remember the city as one big traffic jam! In this issue of *IPPL News*, I'll share some memories of our earliest days (1973-75).

In Thailand it was hard to avoid the spectacle of cruelty to animals, both wild and domestic, which I had not expected in a Buddhist country. I felt motivated to search for an organization helping primates after seeing crated gibbons, monkeys, and lorises at Bangkok Airport, and all kinds of wildlife on sale at the Bangkok Weekend Market (now known as Chatujak).

Many of the hotels kept baby gibbons, which they used as "photo-props." I soon learned that these babies had been brought into captivity by the shooting of their mothers high in the treetops.

When I learned that no organization existed solely for the protection of primates, I decided to found one, even though I had no technical knowledge. However, I started reading anything about primates that I could find. One of them was *The Apes* by Professor Vernon Reynolds of Oxford University, England. I contacted Dr. Reynolds about my plans.

He could easily have responded with an arrogant letter saying, "I never heard of you, what are your qualifications to run a primate group?" Vernon's reply was a defining moment in my life, he wrote me back immediately, saying it was a **wonderful** idea that was long overdue. He volunteered to help in any way he could, and asked, "*Can I be a member of your committee?*" I was so excited. Ever since that day, I never considered doing anything else with my life—and Vernon has been with IPPL almost from Day 1.

## The US Army Gibbon Lab

I learned that the US Army was maintaining a gibbon laboratory in Bangkok and that cruel experiments were being performed on gibbons. These experiments included inflicting gibbons with many diseases, including dog heartworm. I told a Thai reporter working

for the *Bangkok Post* about the place and agreed to work with him—as long as my name was kept out of the story since, being a foreigner in Thailand, I was nervous of repercussions.

The two of us worked hard for several weeks gathering information and finally the story appeared, under the heading "**This Lab Must be Closed Down.**" The story filled the whole front page of a news section. A large photo of a baby gibbon in a lab cage appeared on the page. The reporters were listed as "Shirley McGreal and Veera Prateepchaikul!" Thai wildlife authorities immediately "raided" the laboratory for illegal possession of gibbons.

Some gibbons from this laboratory were exported to a lab in California that had a program involving injecting gibbons with a leukemia-like virus that killed them after months of suffering.

Many years later, IPPL operated a gibbon sanctuary and our first lab gibbon (**Arun Rangsi**) came from this laboratory. He was unwanted by other facilities when this lab closed down in 1981 after losing government funding, because he was supposedly insane and weighed half what a gibbon his age should weigh.

## Project Bangkok Airport

After learning about the huge quantities of Thai wildlife being shipped round the world, I had an idea that turned out to be a good one. In the mid-70s Thai students were working hard for democracy and getting involved in a variety of causes, including wildlife protection. The students' long spring break was approaching, and I thought it would be good to send teams of students to

Bangkok's busy Don Muang Airport, to make detailed logs of every single wildlife shipment leaving Thailand. The students were eager to participate.

Mrs. Katherine Buri, a wealthy Thai lady with a passion for wildlife, the Animal Welfare Institute, led by the late Christine Stevens, and several other organizations helped fund the project in which over 50 university students from Mahidol, Chulalongkorn, Kasetsart and other fine Thai universities participated. There was little security-consciousness at that time and the students were free to roam the airport.

During the ten weeks of the project, over 100,000 animals left their homeland forever. The students were outraged and demanded bans on export of Thailand's wildlife. Fortunately, besides her wealth, Mrs. Buri had great connections in the Thai government.

One day she phoned to ask me to make copies of the hundreds of pages of



At work on Project Bangkok Airport

shipment logs that very day, because then Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj wanted to see them immediately. I hurried to a copy shop. The Thai press also showed interest in the findings. As a result of "Project Bangkok Airport," Thailand banned export of all primates and many other wildlife species.

### The Singapore Connection

Towards the end of my stay in Thailand, I paid a visit to Singapore to look into reports that Singapore was a waystation for wildlife smuggling even though Singapore had very little wildlife left. I didn't know anyone there, so called the local SPCA. The woman who answered the phone had a strong British accent, and said she would love to meet me. Just a couple of hours later, she was in my hotel room.

Marjorie Doggett was a tiny, very slender woman and she peered at me over the rims of her glasses. We became instant friends, and remain so. Marjorie was a legend in the Far East for her work on behalf of animals. She spoke some Chinese and could hang around dealers'

shops and listen in on their conversations, because most of the dealers didn't think this tiny harmless-looking woman could speak Chinese! Nor could they know that Marjorie's tiny body was made of solid steel!

I had prepared a "cover story" in case I could get into any dealers' premises. I pretended that I was trying to move 20 gibbons from Thailand to the United States. Marjorie first got me into the office of the prominent animal dealer Y. L. Koh who dealt heavily in gibbons, a species not found in the wild in Singapore. After chatting a while, Koh told me that he could move the gibbons by a coastal freighter leaving for Singapore from a port in Southern Thailand. I kept asking him how I could trust him, and he told me more and more. I was all ears! After the meeting I went to a coffee shop and made careful notes of what had been said.

The next dealer I met was Christopher Wee, a famous or infamous character in Asia. Rumor was that he had sold one albino python over 20 times—pocketing the money and never producing the animal

(if it existed)! Like Koh, Wee shipped many gibbons from Singapore to the United States. Wee told me he could easily move the 20 gibbons. He bragged that his brother-in-law was a customs officer on the Thai-Malaysian border and said he could transport the gibbons in false petrol tanks mounted under a truck, and that his relative would be there to resolve any border problems.

That night, the phone in my hotel room rang—it was Christopher Wee. I never figured out how he found out where I was staying and became a little nervous. Maybe I was going to be tossed into Singapore Harbor! I didn't need to worry. It turned out that all Wee wanted to do was invite me to be his guest for a weekend at the Penang horse races!

Following my safe return to Bangkok, I wrote an article called "**The Singapore Connection**" which was published in the *Bangkok Post* and carried by wire services to newspapers all over the world. The ensuing uproar caused the "**Singapore Connection**" to be closed down, at least as far as gibbons were concerned.

## PLEASE HELP IPPL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

The International Primate Protection League is constantly working to raise the funds needed to maintain our organization's programs, which include:

- \* **Investigating** wildlife crime and campaigning to bring wildlife criminals to justice,
- \* **Caring** for the 33 wonderful gibbons housed at IPPL Headquarters,
- \* **Supporting** primate sanctuaries in Africa, Asia, and South America, and
- \* **Educating** the public through literature such as *IPPL News* and by sponsoring international primate protection conferences at Headquarters every two years.

Every donation helps, especially in these difficult times. We hope you will be able to make a generous gift to IPPL this holiday season. Any gift, **large or small**, helps. Please send this form with your gift so that it can be correctly credited.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Payment by check ☐ Payment by credit card (fill in details below)

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address used for card billing (now required for verification): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form along with your payment to: **IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA.**

You can also use our secure web site **www.ippl.org**

# REPORT OF NIGERIAN WILDLIFE CRIME COMMISSION

In October 2002 IPPL received a copy of *the Report of the Administrative Panel of Inquiry to Investigate the Illegal Trade/Smuggling of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora into and out of Nigeria*.

The Panel was established in February 2003 and was chaired by a retired and highly respected judge, the Hon. Justice J. U. Bassey. Its mission was to investigate the "Taiping Four" gorilla case (see page 8).

## Officials and civilians recommended for prosecution

The report identifies many people who should, it is recommended, be prosecuted, including civilians and allegedly corrupt government officials. These individuals included:

### Dr Dora Olufunmilola Akinboye

Dr. Akinboye, the former Director of Ibadan Zoo, stated that the gorillas had been originally purchased from a dealer in Kano, Northern Nigeria. Akinboye claimed that in 1999 some Malaysians, accompanied by a Nigerian national, visited Ibadan Zoo. The guests stated that they were associated with Taiping Zoo. The Malaysians paid a second visit, bringing money and giving Dr. Akinboye a list of animals wanted by Taiping. Akinboye should have obtained export permits for animals from the Nigerian Ministry of the Environment Headquarters in Abuja, Nigeria's capital city, but the Malaysians told her to instead contact the Ministry's Lagos office, which had no authority to issue CITES export permits. The Panel denounced Akinboye as a liar and associate of the dealer Odukoya who should be subjected to criminal prosecution and not allowed to hold any official position in the future.

### Professor Mathew Ofierherhe Akusu

Akusu, a veterinarian, signed the health certificates for the baby gorillas. He stated that he had not personally inspected the animals. The Panel commented, "*The professor was reckless in issuing the certificate of health which facilitated the*

*export of the animals...There is no doubt that Professor Akusu was a crucial actor in the illegal transaction.*" The Panel called for the university to discipline Akusu, for the Nigerian Veterinary Medical Council to investigate him, and for criminal prosecution.

### Alhaji Lateef Olofinjana Suberu

Suberu worked for the CITES Office at the Ministry of the Environment's Lagos office. He stated that he believed that the baby gorillas were born at Ibadan Zoo. The Panel commented, "*Alhaji Suberu struck the Panel as an officer of very low integrity, not befitting the sensitive office with which he is saddled. The Panel finds ample evidence of aiding and abetting to commit a crime of exportation of endangered species from Nigeria.*"

It recommended that Suberu be immediately dismissed from his post and that he should be prosecuted.

### Mr. Olugboyega Olubiyo Omotade

The Panel named Mr. Omotade, a Chief Environmental Scientist in the Ministry of the Environment, as "an active and willing accomplice" in the gorilla deal who should be prosecuted.

### Engineer D. B. Usman

Usman failed to appear before the Panel. He was the man who actually signed the CITES permit for the gorillas, but he had recently retired. The panel recommended that he be prosecuted.

### Mr. Tunde Odukoya

The notorious animal dealer Odukoya did not appear before the commission. The Panel recommended, "*The case should be referred to the Police and Security agencies with the aim of arresting and prosecuting him. He should be declared a wanted person with immediate effect.*"

The Panel also recommended criminal action against Alhaji Ali Lawan Yola and Bashir Garba Beli for facilitating the illegal trade in wildlife through Kano

Airport in Northern Nigeria.

It also recommended action against Dr. Fola Kayode Idowu and Mr. Fola Olatunbosun, both officials at Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos who allegedly facilitated the illegal wildlife trade.

### Six dead gorillas at Nigerian zoo

The University of Ibadan also undertook an investigation and the letter below reporting on its findings shows that six baby gorillas died before the four were assembled for export to Malaysia. It also appears to confirm that all the gorillas originated in Cameroon.

Extracts from the letter dated 20 December 2002 signed by the University of Ibadan's chief investigator, Dr. Abiodun Sanni, Professor of Food Microbiology, follow (unedited).

*During our course of investigation, the Panel noted that out of [US\$11,100] expended on the purchase of animals from 1st July, 2001 to 31st December, 2001, [US\$8,770] was used in purchasing one female gorilla [US\$1,010], one female lowland gorilla [US\$1,434], one baby gorilla/one baby Chimpanzee [US\$2,090], one male gorilla [US\$932] and one lowland gorilla [US\$2,600]. Dr. (Mrs.) D.O. Akinboye, the immediate past Acting Director explained the rationale behind spending such a huge amount on gorilla only, saying that it was to fulfill the Animal Exchange Cooperation between University of Ibadan Zoo and Taiping Zoo, Malaysia. However, all efforts by our panel to have access to the documents relevant to the Exchange cooperation, proved abortive.*

*To our dismay, the panel also noted that all the gorillas were recorded as dead within few weeks of acquisition. When further demanded to locate the carcasses of the dead gorilla, neither the management nor the Zoo workers was forthcoming.*

*However, when we requested for the post-mortem record of dead Zoo animals over a period of time, from the Dept. Of Veterinary Pathology, a list forwarded to the Panel by*

Prof. S.O. Akpavie, the then Head of Department, included 6 dead gorillas.

To my utter dismay, my attention was drawn to the issue of illegal trade of endangered primates in the University of Ibadan, Zoological Gardens, on the Internet. On further enquiry, this endangered primate turned out to be gorilla which also formed the focal point of our investigation.

However, few days ago, I received some documents from the World Primate Association [IPPL] that poses

more questions on the dead gorillas. The association has not taken the matter lightly. The Presidency has been notified of this act of illegality supposedly committed by the University of Ibadan, Zoo...

Sir, as the Chief Executive Officer of this great University, the onus is on you to step into this matter decisively. I reliably learnt that the Presidency has waded into this potentially scandalous issue of trading in endangered animal species.

The letter identified a firm named **ABISEF VENTURES** as the supplier of the animals to Ibadan Zoo. Unfortunately Dr. Sanni's main objection to the shipment seemed to be the price the university had paid to acquire the gorillas and the "expected spiral international condemnation of Ibadan Zoological Garden's involvement in the scandalous deal ... which is a potential threat to the image of the University, which may impact negatively on various collaborative partnerships abroad."

## PLEASE REQUEST ACTION AGAINST NIGERIAN SMUGGLERS

IPPL would like to see those identified as wildlife criminals by the Nigerian Report of the Administrative Panel of Inquiry prosecuted. Please contact President Olusegun Obasanjo requesting tough action against all wildlife criminals identified by the Presidential Commission, including Mrs. Dora Akinboye, former Director of Ibadan Zoo. Postage from the United States to Nigeria costs 80 cents per ounce. Address:

Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, President of Nigeria  
Federal Secretariat  
Shehu Shagari Way  
Abuja, Nigeria

In addition, please contact the Ambassador or High Commission of Nigeria to your country of residence. The US and UK addresses are:

Embassy of Nigeria  
1333-16TH Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036

Nigeria High Commission  
Nigeria House  
9 Northumberland Avenue  
London WC2N 5BX

You can locate the address for your country at the official Government of Nigeria web site  
<http://www.nigerianembassy.org/>

## REPORT ON WILDLIFE CRIME IN NIGERIA AVAILABLE

Readers wishing to read a copy of the *Report of the Administrative Panel of Inquiry to Investigate the Illegal Trade/Smuggling of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora into and out of Nigeria* may receive a copy for the cost of postage and handling, which is \$25 US or \$30 for shipment overseas, including airmail postage. Please contact IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484 USA.

## SPREAD THE WORD: IPPL PSA VIDEOS AVAILABLE

IPPL now has 30- and 60-second Public Service Announcements (PSAs) available for use. These short videos feature scenes from IPPL's gibbon sanctuary with a voiceover narration that explains IPPL's mission. In addition we have a short (11-minute) film that goes into greater detail about IPPL's history and accomplishments. IPPL thanks Advisory Board member Ann Koros for the generous donation of her time and talents for the production of these segments. If you have a suggestion regarding where these PSAs could be distributed, please contact IPPL's headquarters (843-871-2280, or [info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)).

## UPDATE ON "TAIPING FOUR" GORILLA CASE

In March 2002 IPPL was tipped off about the arrival at Taiping Zoo, Malaysia, of four baby gorillas. Gorillas are (at least on paper) totally protected from trade by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). IPPL began an immediate investigation to find out how the animals got from Africa to Malaysia.

IPPL contacted the Malaysian Wildlife Department and learned that four gorillas had indeed reached Malaysia from Nigeria on "captive-born" certificates. The Department immediately cancelled permits issued to Taiping Zoo to import another two gorillas. The Department stated that it had believed Taiping Zoo's claim that the gorillas were captive-born.

IPPL was able to obtain documents pertaining to the shipment. One document was an export permit issued by the Nigerian Government falsely stating that the gorillas had been born at Ibadan Zoo. However the only gorilla at Ibadan Zoo was an elderly female! We also found out that South African Airways had carried the animals—and that the South African Government had issued permits for them to pass through Johannesburg Airport.

On 11 November 2002, during the Conference of the Parties to the CITES treaty held in Santiago, Chile, Dr. Imeh

Okopido, Nigeria's Minister of State for the Environment, and Mr. Denis Koulagna Koutou, Director of Wildlife and Protected Areas in Cameroon, presented the Malaysian delegation with a letter requesting the return of the gorillas to Cameroon. The letter went unanswered.

Following a prolonged IPPL campaign, Malaysian authorities decided to confiscate the animals and announced that the gorillas would be sent to Pretoria Zoo in South Africa, a decision IPPL opposed as we believe that they should be sent to a sanctuary in Cameroon, preferably the highly respected Limbe Wildlife Centre.

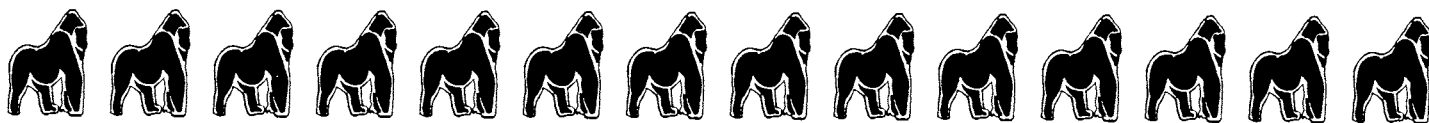
On 27 August 2003, after learning of Malaysia's plans to send the "Taiping Four" gorillas to Pretoria, Cameroon's Minister of the Environment Mr. Tanji Mbiangor sent an official letter to his counterpart in Malaysia requesting the gorillas' return to Cameroon. The Minister wrote:

*As a follow up of the joint letter signed by Dr. Imeh Okopido, the Nigerian Minister of Environment, and my collaborator Mr. Denis Koulagna Koutou, last November in Santiago (Chile) and referring to the four smuggled baby gorillas, I would like to emphasize on the hope of the Nigerian and Cameroonian*

*authorities to see these animals sent back to their native land instead of being exported to a zoo in South Africa as recently reported by Dr. Shirley McGreal of the International Primate Protection League. Let me inform you that two other gorillas smuggled probably by the same network were seized and repatriated to the Limbe Wildlife Centre in Cameroon, in favor of joint efforts by the Nigerian and Cameroonian government and the CITES authorities on May 23rd of this year. This information needs to be given in order to prevent Your Excellency from being convinced that the Pretoria Zoo is the only [zoo] equipped for the rehabilitation of these animals, the argument that seemingly oriented the decision of sending the smuggled gorillas to South Africa.*

*I would be grateful for any measure you will take for repatriation of the young gorillas to their native land instead of the Pretoria Zoo.*

Minister Mbiangor sent a copy of his letter to Dr. Imeh Okopido of Nigeria and the Secretary-General of CITES. No final decision has apparently been made, even though Article VIII 4.B of CITES calls for return of confiscated animals to their homeland whenever this is feasible.



## CAMBRIDGE HALTS PLANS FOR PRIMATE LAB

In a victory for animal welfare activists in Britain, it has been reported that Cambridge University is prepared to cancel its plans to construct a biomedical research lab near the city. The lab would have used primates in studies focusing on human brain diseases.

Animal rights activists have been prominent in protesting the proposed lab, notably with a march and rally organized by SPEAC (Stop Primate Experiments at Cambridge) on October 11 that drew many hundreds of demonstrators to the city center. In addition to popular opposition, 155 Members of Parliament have signed a

parliamentary motion calling for a ban on all primate experimentation in the UK, in view of the "important biological differences" between human and nonhuman primates.

Scientists, including IPPL Advisory Board Member Dr. Vernon Reynolds, have concurred, stating in the press that "large sums of money spent on experimenting on monkey brains in the new facility will mean less money is available for scientists studying human brains—both patients' and healthy volunteers'. Unraveling Alzheimer's Parkinson's, and other neurological disorders is dependent on such human

studies. They are the key to finding treatments and cures for these terrible diseases."

There has even been criticism of the project from within the university, specifically complaints that revised proposals submitted in 2000 suppressed the fact that the laboratory would be using primates as research subjects. Finally, the cost for the lab has ballooned from £24 million to £32 million in five years, leaving the cash-strapped university to wonder how it could afford to fund such an expensive and increasingly unpopular project.



# DOUBLE ASSAULT ON ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT – LETTERS NEEDED

On 18 August 2003 the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) proposed a draft policy that would make it easier for US sport hunters to import trophies of endangered animals into the United States. This policy would also assist other animal users, including circuses and exhibitors, to import endangered live animals. In addition it would loosen restrictions on importation of derivatives of endangered animals, such as fur and hides.

On 10 September 2003 a second assault on the Endangered Species Act was launched. New regulations to facilitate commercial exploitation of endangered wildlife, both overseas and inside the United States, were proposed.

These new regulations would allow previously illegal activities, including the killing of endangered animals, to take place in return for payment to be used for alleged "conservation."

IPPL is working to defeat **both** proposals and seeks the help of our worldwide membership.

## Assault 1

The FWS administers the program under which permits are granted for international trade in endangered species. Permits are issued based on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the more rigorous Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Public comments on the draft policy were due by 17 October 2003. IPPL, along with many other wildlife protection organizations, was able to submit timely comments. In addition we contacted members of our e-alert list and circulated an Internet petition. Thanks to everyone who helped!

IPPL has little doubt that corrupt wildlife officials around the world will be thrilled at FWS's proposal, **and that honest officials will be dismayed.**

## The draft FWS policy

FWS proposed to issue permits for killing or trade in foreign wildlife "if such action enhances survival of the species in

the wild" and if the habitat country has an effective conservation program for the species. Hunters' fees would qualify as contributions to conservation. That the agency could consider that US nationals shooting endangered animals overseas would constitute part of an effective conservation program is appalling to IPPL!

## IPPL submits comments

IPPL submitted detailed comments on the proposals. Extracts follow.

*If this "Draft Policy" were to be implemented, unscrupulous circus owners and trophy hunters in the United States would be given an unprecedented opportunity to despoil other nations' wildlife under the guise of conservation...*

*In many cases native people are not permitted to shoot, even for food, the same animals that the rich Western safari hunters would be allowed to kill. The spirit behind the proposal will certainly be viewed as racist at worst, and insensitive at best, by many in developing world nations...*

*The Service has offered no proof that the profits gained by killing any of the animals mentioned in the "Draft Policy" would go the protection of these same species...the US has no way to monitor any overseas wildlife protection programs.*

IPPL also drew attention to a permit application filed in 1978 by the US-based Safari Club International, for import of sport-hunted gorillas, orangutans, Zanzibar red colobus monkeys, and hundreds of members of other highly endangered species and wondered how a similar application would be considered under the new policy.

## Species Survival Network comments

Carroll Muffett of *Defenders of Wildlife* prepared excellent comments for the *Species Survival Network*, a coalition of animal protection organizations of which IPPL is a member. Speaking for 31 organizations, Muffett stated,

*In our collective view, the Draft Policy is only one manifestation of a growing and increasingly disturbing trend in the FWS's implementation of our nation's most important wildlife laws. Our organizations have a long and fruitful history of collaboration and cooperation with your agency. Regrettably, however, we are confronted by an ever-expanding array of regressive decisions and policy proposals—that elevate form over substance, private interests over the public good, and politics over law. We urge the Service to reverse this trend, and reclaim its proper role as the leading advocate and protector of wildlife, both in the United States and around the world.*

## Other comments

\* **Dr. Jane Goodall** commented, "It stinks, quite honestly. It's an open door to corruption. It's disgusting."

\* **Christine Wolf** of the US-based *Fund for Animals* commented, "It's the method through which FWS is attempting to regulate our strongest environmental law into oblivion."

\* **Karl Ammann**, Kenyan crusader against the bushmeat trade, stated, "Never mind the local poachers, as is already happening in Cameroon, making the point that they see no reason why they cannot kill a few of **THEIR** elephants now and then, for a meal or some cash income, while rich foreigners can buy licenses to hammer the species **FOR FUN.**"

## Washington Post runs story

On 11 October 2003 the influential newspaper *Washington Post* ran a story about the proposed policy. Reporter Shankar Vedantam explained FWS's rationale.

*Giving Americans access to endangered animals, officials said, would both feed the gigantic US demand for live animals, skins, parts and trophies, and generate profits that would allow poor nations to pay for conservation of the remaining animals and their habitats...Safari Club*

International gave \$274,000 to candidates during the 2000 election cycle, 86 percent of it to Republicans. It also spent \$5,445 printing bumper stickers for the Bush presidential campaign.

Writing for *The Battalion*, the Texas A and M University student newspaper, Justin Hill wrote,

*Bald eagles, the national bird, were on the endangered species list just a few years ago...the United States fought hard to save the bald eagles and was successful. What if Americans had been told the best way to save the bald eagles was to kill or export the birds? Americans would not tolerate foreigners coming in and killing the US national*

*bird and Americans must not tolerate policies making it OK to kill endangered species in other countries...*

Dangerous is an under-statement. The idea that it is necessary to kill endangered species to save them defies all logic.

## **Assault 2**

The second assault on the Endangered Species Act consisted of proposed regulations affecting all endangered species, including those in the United States.

Katherine Meyer of the Washington law firm Meyer and Glitzenstein prepared comments,

*The Bush administration is now proposing new regulations that will define*

*the term "enhance the survival of the species" to allow it to issue permits for a whole host of previously illegal activities including the direct killing of an imperiled species as long as the permittee contributes funds or other support to some kind of conservation program for the species as a whole...this is nothing short of a sea change in the way the ESA is administered and will return us to the days when there was rampant commercial exploitation of exotic species, precisely what led to enactment of the ESA in the first place...*

*The regulations are a blatant gift to the exploiters—hunters, zoos, circuses, developers, commercial entrepreneurs, etc.—who have been lobbying for such changes in the ESA for years.*

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO**

We request our US members to write letters opposing the draft policy, referring to "*Draft Policy for Enhancement of Survival Permits for Foreign Species Listed Under the Endangered Species Act*" and the draft regulations, referring to the "*Revisions to the Regulations Applicable to Permits Issued Under the Endangered Species Act*" to their congressional representative and both their senators. Addresses:

*House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515, USA*

*Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510, USA*

You can locate your representatives' names at [www.ideacenter.org/contactreps.htm](http://www.ideacenter.org/contactreps.htm)

We request our overseas individual and organizational members to help by contacting the US Embassy in their country of residence. Letters from overseas are really helpful as they are relayed to the US State Department via the embassies and the State Department is very sensitive to public opinion overseas.

Among the points for letter-writers to make:

- 1) The Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed a new policy and regulations under the Endangered Species Act that would relax restrictions on international trade in endangered species—both living and killed as trophies or for their skins and hides.
- 2) Species are listed on the Endangered Species List because they are facing extinction. To allow US nationals to kill or remove from the wild animals belonging to these species will bring them closer to extinction and will set a bad example to local people who are not allowed to kill them.
- 3) Request that your representatives (or the US Ambassador to your country) contact the Secretary of the Interior to express their opposition to both the proposed policy and regulations.

## **SPECIAL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF IPPL'S GALE MARTIN**

IPPL animal caregiver and special nanny to Courtney Gibbon, Gale Martin, recently passed away after a lengthy illness. Special gifts have been made in her memory by the following individuals:

Shirley McGreal and Courtney Gibbon \* IPPL Staff \* Jake Roos and Leana Stormont

## FOND MEMORIES, KIND REFLECTIONS

**IPPL's friends and allies have many good memories of their connection over the years with IPPL and IPPL's Chairwoman, Dr. Shirley McGreal. Below, some of our supporters share their thoughts about their connection with the mission and values of IPPL.**

**The essence of IPPL,** *Charles Shuttleworth, IPPL Representative in Taiwan since 1974*

Thirty years of dedicated and selfless service towards the protection of primates throughout the world certainly call for congratulations.

Under Shirley's leadership, IPPL has forged ahead undeterred by every form of opposing vested interests. It has not hesitated to take on large corporations, corrupt government officials, powerfully connected animal dealers—in short, every entity and every person, be he president or pauper, whose behavior is inimical to the welfare of this earth's wondrous, and so beleaguered, primates.

IPPL has saved the lives of thousands of primates, from tiny marmosets to huge gorillas. It has, of course, alienated many people and organizations in doing so, but this is the price of true endeavor. It has, however, among the true and honest, made countless friends and can stand on its record, tall and proud alongside any wildlife protective agency anywhere in this world.

As one who has been a member of IPPL almost since its inception, and engaged in many tussles on its behalf including, notably, the smuggling of gorillas into Taiwan, I am very proud to be a member of an organization that is truly altruistic in every aspect, untainted by political, commercial, or any motive other than the welfare of the world's wildlife.

There are people who cannot envisage a world without its wildlife. We in IPPL are such people. We see nature's guiding hand in the effortless swing of the gibbon in the high rain forest and the huge herds of zebra and wildebeest standing in the still, shadowless clarity of the African veldt, and this is what IPPL LONGS FOR, STANDS FOR, and will NEVER give up STRIVING FOR. This is the very essence of IPPL.

**Shared enthusiasm for animals,** *Marjorie Doggett, IPPL Advisory Board Member and Representative for Singapore from 1975 to 2003*

The phone rang in the Singapore SPCA office just as I was leaving and it was handed to me to answer. The caller was Shirley McGreal who was spending a week in Singapore on her way back to the United States from Thailand. We met later that day and thus started a friendship that has lasted nearly 30 years.

Our shared enthusiasm helped us over many difficulties in the early years when we had few funds, little office equipment, and only four gibbons in the sanctuary.

Thanks to Shirley's hard work and the help of dedicated supporters, IPPL has grown from its embryonic beginnings to become an internationally respected society with worldwide contacts.

Financial crises still occur, but IPPL has weathered such storms and now manages to send donations to smaller societies abroad and to help support sanctuaries for the rehabilitation of primates in their countries of origin.



**Marjorie Doggett with Fritz**

**United in the fight against primate experimentation,** *Dr. Vernon Reynolds, IPPL Advisory Board Member since 1974*

What an extraordinary 30 years these have been! When Shirley and I first met, on her visit to Oxford in 1973, we found we had both noticed an article in *Nature* describing a cruel experiment performed on members of a wild macaque group, and had both written letters to the editor complaining about it. In our discussions, then and subsequently, we have always shared the conviction that primates get a raw deal in the wild and in captivity. Since that time Shirley has, through IPPL, turned the spotlight on any and every case of cruelty and misuse of primates and brought about a major turnaround in world attitudes.

I remember when IPPL was sued for a million dollars by IMMUNO, the Austrian pharmaceutical company that was performing what we viewed as cruel experiments on chimpanzees. For a while we wondered if IPPL could survive. Fortunately the US Supreme Court did, in the end, throw the IMMUNO case out because Shirley was right and they were wrong. Justice is not always done but in this case it was. IPPL survived and prospered as never before.

I'm sure Shirley's work and example have done a lot to inspire both me, in my efforts to conserve the chimpanzees of the Budongo Forest in Uganda, and my daughter Janie, in founding People Against Chimpanzee Experiments (PACE), which led to her being able to put a stop to the cruel experiments on chimpanzees at the Biomedical Primate Research Centre in Rijswijk, the Netherlands. We are both indebted to Shirley for your courageous and unswerving commitment to the primates, our nearest relatives in the animal kingdom, and for her inspiration to us personally.

**Cultivating courage and compassion, Cyril Rosen, Director of IPPL-UK since 1976**

It was in 1976 that Shirley McGreal and Ardith Eudey [co-founder of IPPL] made a special visit to England to attend the Congress of the International Primatological Society at Cambridge University. They took the opportunity to interview me as a potential new representative for the UK, replacing Dr. William McGrew.

As a keen member for three years I had deputized for Bill whilst he was away on field research in Africa and I had a genuine admiration for Shirley's courageous battle with the primate traders. She left nothing to chance, tossing me in at the deep end to participate in the discussions at Cambridge. The Congress organizers had strong reservations at her enthusiastic leafleting but I found it impressive that she recognized no obstacles to her mission on behalf of all the apes and monkeys in the world.

One thing that Shirley has in common with most of her growing army of recruits is the sure knowledge that Man is not quite so unique as he/she imagines. The qualities of courage, loyalty, responsibility, and compassion are apparent in most primate communities. IPPL simply seeks to develop these humane talents so that we may deserve to share their grooming party.

**Teaching the next generation to love and respect primates, Dr. Frances Burton, IPPL Advisory Board Member since 1975**

I first met Shirley when she was in Toronto, visiting her sister, and stopped by the University of Toronto to see if there were any primatologists who might be interested in IPPL. We met and that was that.

I have assisted in several major battles that Shirley has undertaken, especially where trans-shipment through Canada was involved. Most of my effort has been in the classroom, bringing hundreds of young people to an awareness of non-human life; through film and direct observation, these new generations have come to know monkeys and apes for the sensitive, cognitive beings they are.

I have written of my relationship with Mark, Ben, and Wilma—monkeys of

Gibraltar. I have made a video of Popeye and his family along the road in Tai Po (Hong Kong). Mark, Popeye, and Big Daddy shared several traits. As leaders, they showed remarkable restraint in the face of severe antagonism, human or monkey. They were judicious in the application of their formidable power, kind with youngsters, tolerant of people. I have memories of Big Daddy looking extremely tired, but still having time for a crying juvenile, who ran to him to be hugged and patted; of Popeye carefully watching the human who was trying to make him do a trick for a lousy fruit, but not rising to the provocation; of Mark sitting beside me, holding my leg and threatening boisterous sub-adults away.

I have been down to IPPL for two major meetings—and thoroughly enjoyed myself and been impressed with the care and concern for the rehabilitated gibbons.

**Working together for lab primates, Ann Koros, IPPL Advisory Board Member**

I first met Shirley McGreal over twenty years ago at a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. I was with the North Carolina delegation of the Mobilization for Animals, one of the early efforts to coordinate nation-wide rallies to make the public aware of the plight of laboratory primates. I was extremely impressed with Shirley and her work on behalf of all primates. She invited some of us to Summerville to visit the IPPL Sanctuary. Needless to say, I was fascinated by the gibbons then, and still am to this day. The sanctuary was great in the early 1980s, but it's an absolute gem now.

In addition to maintaining the wonderful gibbon sanctuary, IPPL has spent the last 30 years shutting down smuggling networks, working for the prosecution of smugglers, helping primate rescue centers in many countries, and fighting to protect primates all over the world. I applaud Shirley McGreal and am very proud to be a part of IPPL.

**Sharing the honor of global recognition with Shirley, Ranjen Fernando, IPPL Representative in Sri Lanka**

Shirley McGreal and I had the distinction of being awarded the United Nations

Environment Program (UNEP) Global 500 Roll of Honour in Rio during the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. It was a richly deserved honor in recognition of her services to eradicate the illegal international trade in primates and other wild animals. Thousands of those primates who now live freely in the wild owe their freedom to her teams of dedicated and enthusiastic helpers and the international network of her advisors and representatives, who had been playing a major role in securing their freedom and their right to live.

One of the pioneering successes of IPPL was in neighboring India when she persuaded the Indian Prime Minister of the day (Morarji Desai in 1977) to impose a ban on the export of rhesus monkeys from India. Indian monkeys were being sent to the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, where they were being subjected to appalling, cruel radiation experiments to study the death throes of these helpless "experimental" animals. As soon as the Indian press carried this news from the USA (sent via IPPL), the Indian government clamped down on the exports to Maryland.

Shirley's undaunted courage, backed by that of an equally energetic team, scored many successes in bringing to justice international smugglers and animal traders who had the "sympathy" of even such authorities as the US Fish and Wildlife Service and federal prosecutors in the USA. IPPL succeeded in ensuring that the Miami smuggler Mathew Block, of "Bangkok Six" fame, ended up in prison. This was a resounding victory for her and her team.

We need more of the likes of Shirley and IPPL to rid the globe of unscrupulous animal pirates who enrich themselves on the suffering of helpless animals. May Shirley and IPPL grow from strength to strength in their endeavors to make this world a safer place for animals!

**One battle in the "Bankok Six" orangutan smuggling saga, Milka Knezevic Ivaskovic, IPPL Representative in Yugoslavia**

It seems like it was just a few years ago when I joined IPPL. Actually, it was in 1990, when the famous Bangkok Six case occurred.



**Milka with Sanja**

At that time, I worked as a volunteer at the Belgrade Zoo and even kept a baby orangutan, Sanja, in my apartment. She was the "property" of Belgrade Zoo and I was some kind of substitute for her mother. Mr. Bojovic, the zoo director, ordered me to keep her presence a secret and not to mention that she was an orangutan. I didn't know anything about primates—I was just very fond of all kinds of animals and Sanja... well, she was definitely amazing!

But, after a while, I became suspicious about Bojovic's good intentions: Sanja hadn't proper shipping documents, and I started to realize that her arrival was, for some reason, being kept a secret. I learned about IPPL and contacted Dr. Shirley McGreal. Soon I found out that Mr. Bojovic had been involved in several cases of smuggling primates and rare birds. He was also one of the important links in the Bangkok Six affair in which six baby orangutans being smuggled from Asia to the then Soviet Union were confiscated on Bangkok Airport.

So, I decided not to be silent, but to act. First I had to educate myself about primates. Then I started to write articles for various newspapers. I wanted to inform people about the terrible ways of killing orangutan mothers to get babies, about how babies were smuggled, and about Bojovic's

role as "middleman" in the "Bangkok Six" affair. Unfortunately, at that time, there was no freedom of the press in my country and I was accused (by Bojovic) of libel and slander. I was tried and found "guilty," although I presented all the evidence and despite many witnesses testifying on my behalf. The judge was Bojovic's close friend, as were some journalists, and Bojovic himself had powerful political connections.

The trial lasted for five years. Finally I was cleared of all the accusations, but, actually, I haven't changed anything or anybody—except myself. In that time my country was at war and the Bangkok Six case wasn't considered important. During that period, Dr. Shirley McGreal and many IPPL members from all over the world were encouraging me, sending nice, comforting words in their letters. They became my best friends, even though I have never seen them.

Mr. Bojovic is still the manager of Belgrade Zoo. He never said that he was sorry for what he did. Unfortunately, there is no Sanja at the zoo—she has disappeared.

I used to dream about her every night. Last year I wrote a book about baby orangutans. My children and their friends like it. Maybe that is the best result of my "role" in Bangkok Six case—to put my feelings on paper and help others to learn and feel the same. I hope that it will soon be translated into English so every IPPL member can read it. It would be my "thank you" to all of you—for comforting me, during those difficult years.

### **Fighting battles on behalf of lab vervets in Israel, *Andre Menache, IPPL Representative in Israel***

I first became involved with IPPL in 1988. It was so encouraging to know then that a worldwide organization existed that cared about the plight of primates.

Our biggest primate battle was against the use of vervet monkeys as a diagnostic aid in Israeli hospitals. We battled both against the housing conditions (small cages, no recreational facilities for exercise, and no environmental enrichment), as well as trying to persuade the authorities to use non-animal methods for diagnostic

purposes, instead of the monkeys. The battle lasted about 15 years, during which time about 30 vervets were kept by the hospital. At the end of the battle, the hospital finally agreed to release the remaining two vervets.

Our fondest memory was the successful release of two hamadrayas baboons from medical research, following bone marrow experiments, to a spacious enclosure at a local zoo in Tel Aviv.

My fondest personal memory is of my visits to the Pretoria Zoo in 1975, where I learned to imitate gibbon calls. Ever since then, I communicate with gibbons whenever I come across them. Friends tell me that I do a mean gibbon impersonation!

### **Former lab capuchins enjoy a happy retirement in Ireland, *Yvonne Smalley, The Monkey Sanctuary, Ireland***

Ireland's first and only monkey sanctuary has been established for almost five years. We have the privilege of caring for and rehabilitating a group of black-capped capuchins, thanks to the excellent work of IPPL-UK, which brokered their release from a laboratory in the UK where many had spent ten years.

The monkeys now enjoy living free range on large islands at the secluded sanctuary in County Wicklow. Free from their cages at last, they can climb 40-foot trees, catch insects, and drink from the lake as they would in the wild.

Certain monkeys now explore new islands via rope walkways. The monkeys interact with swans and geese and are fascinated with watching plenty of other animals at the sanctuary.

The monkeys are greatly changed from the pale-faced, disturbed creatures who arrived in March 2000. Dedicated daily care from Willie Heffernan has calmed them, and fresh air, good food and exercise in their peaceful environment have given them all strong muscles and glossy coats!

We would like to thank IPPL for good advice and for a wonderful grant that enables us to keep the monkeys safe on their islands and hopefully offer a home to other deserving primates.

**Studying lemur behavior and conservation, Mitch Irwin, Graduate Student in Primatology, Madagascar**

Very little truly intact primate habitat remains in the world—what's left is usually highly disturbed and fragmented by human activities. Most studies of wild primates concentrate on healthy, protected populations, as this is crucial for observing "normal behavior" (it also ensures that study animals aren't hunted). Unfortunately, this has left us ill equipped to appreciate how serious the threats of habitat disturbance and fragmentation really are.

My research aims to assess this risk for rainforest-dwelling primates in Madagascar. I am studying primate population dynamics and behavior at Tsinjoarivo, eastern Madagascar, comparing fragmented and intact forest. The results should help us assess the severity of fragmentation's threats, and identify "target species" most in need of conservation efforts.

IPPL directly assisted this project's research and education components. One grant in mid-2003 helped sustain field activities when other funds were desperately short, and an earlier grant in 2002 funded the printing of 2,000 educational brochures describing Tsinjoarivo's primates and stressing their uniqueness and precarious future. As Tsinjoarivo had no previous legal protection, conservation efforts or environmental education, this brochure was crucial in raising local awareness: several locals even confided that it influenced their decision to stop hunting primates.

Thank you IPPL members for your generous support and happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

**Members' Meetings: Well-organized and enjoyable, Hilko Wiersema, IPPL Advisory Board Member, Netherlands**

I first heard of IPPL and the name Shirley McGreal was back in the 1970s, while I was working in the Radio Biological Institute TNO, a primate laboratory in the Netherlands. My then-directors were worried about this lady in the USA!

Even then I promised myself that some day my name would be on IPPL's member

list.

Now I, with Dr. David van Gennep, represent IPPL in the Netherlands. I've been to Summerville twice, soon the third time next spring (if I'm invited!). I'm impressed time and time again by the way Shirley runs IPPL, and the way the biennial meetings are organized. And the evening of spiritual songs [singers from the South Carolina Sea Islands appear at a Saturday night reception at every IPPL conference] is very enjoyable.

**Members' Meetings: A productive ambience, Iqbal Malik, IPPL Advisory Board Member, India**

My heartiest congratulations to IPPL on its 30th anniversary. It is both my pleasure and honor to be associated with the organization for nearly two decades.

I met Shirley in 1983 when I was attending my first primate conference in Nairobi. I spotted her sitting quietly in a corner and approached her. I was soon enchanted by her warm and pleasing personality. Her open-minded outlook and acceptance of new ideas made it a memorable interaction.

I attended my first IPPL meeting in 1987. It was a wonderful experience unlike any other. The ambience was like that of a big picnic. Along with serious discussions there would be lunches organized by the different members, which never let the atmosphere become too formal. This informality led to more in-depth and closer interactions among the members, resulting in getting a whole lot of work accomplished.

This has been Shirley's biggest asset. Her ability to put people at ease and help them bring out the best in themselves. This too has been the hallmark of IPPL and probably the reason for its achieving the great success that it has.

**Members' Meetings: The best place to meet primate people, Olga Feliu, founder of the Mona Chimpanzee Sanctuary and IPPL Representative in Spain**

I have represented IPPL since 1996. The first time I heard about it was in 1992, and I was impressed by the organization's work.

In 2000 I had a chance to attend an IPPL members' Meeting at the

organization's Headquarters in South Carolina, and it was there that I first became aware of the commitment of IPPL's members. It may be the best place to meet new primate people and to share information with them regarding primate welfare and conservation issues.

**Providing credibility for a new Dutch primate sanctuary, Riga Reussien, Stichting AAP, the Netherlands**

I remember well how very proud my late husband Okko and I were to welcome Shirley to our humble dwelling in Amstelveen, back in the mid 1970s, and to show her around, talking about our shared feelings of pity and love for monkeys and apes. I still keep a nice snapshot of that visit. I also remember her first visit at the very beginning of Stichting AAP, our primate rescue center in the Netherlands. It was a short visit, as she was on her way to the airport, but she took the chance to get acquainted with Okko, and hear his views on "monkey-business."

At that time we lived in a common house with monkeys peeping from all corners. We badly needed another place for them. It was hard to convince the authorities of that, as they did not believe in the necessity of a sanctuary for primates and other exotic animals. Thanks to Shirley's putting in a good word for us with government officials, Stichting AAP became a more credible organization in the eyes of the authorities and has since expanded to spacious premises.



**Iqbal with monkey friends**



## COMMENTS FROM TWO EARLY IPPL EMPLOYEES

**Kathy Crawford, now Kathy Crawford Gilbert, was IPPL's first employee. She joined us in 1981, soon after Arun Rangsi's arrival. Betty Brescia joined us in 1988 and managed the office for ten years before retiring in 1998.**

### **Being IPPL's first employee – by Kathy Gilbert**

Twenty one years ago I had placed a "Job Wanted" ad in the Charleston-area newspapers looking for a job working with animals. To my surprise, I received a call from Shirley McGreal, who was looking for help with the IPPL sanctuary. I was so excited: this was more than I had hoped for.

The first gibbon I met was Arun Rangsi ("Roo"). He was a scared, small, wide-eyed gibbon who always needed to cling to something. Shirley let me offer Roo a grape, which he took with caution. The nervous Roo proceeded to bang his head while rocking back and forth. Roo had worn the hair off his head by banging on the bars of his cage. My heart just ached with sorrow and compassion when Shirley told me the history of Roo's life (see "Adopt An IPPL Gibbon!" page 34-35) and the mission of IPPL.

After meeting Roo I was introduced to Durgie, Brownie, Tong and Sapphire. They were all interested in the new person that had come to meet them. Tong talked softly to me as if she had known me for years. I was blessed to be offered the job of caretaker/secretary of IPPL.

I worked for IPPL for about four years and loved every minute of it. Every day was a new and exciting experience working with my furry family. Safety was always a top issue at the sanctuary when it came to the gibbons. I had to laugh when Shirley forgot her own rules and got too close to an adult gibbon named Brownie. I turned around to see Shirley lifted off the ground by her hair and Brownie talking as if to say "I finally got one!" Although we loved them we always had to remember they were wild primates!

As time went on, the IPPL gibbon family began to grow. Shirley had arranged to help two young gibbons escape their fate at a research laboratory. Peppy and Helen came to live with us at IPPL. Helen was the mischievous gibbon while Peppy was the quiet thumb sucking gibbon. Peppy had been inoculated with a cancer virus, but thank God it did not take. They both adjusted to their new home immediately.

The last gibbon I was able to help relocate was Shanti. Shirley and I drove to New York to free one more gibbon. When we arrived at the laboratory we walked through part of the research lab to where Shanti was housed. We passed cages of research chimpanzees and I was shocked at how small the cages were. Although the cages were clean, they were tiny with very little room to swing. That image will always be imprinted in my mind and it encourages me to fight for my furry friends.

The laboratory veterinarian was very kind in helping us move Shanti to IPPL. He helped us load her into the car and we headed back to South Carolina. You could tell Shanti was scared, but she sat quietly in her carrier. In the hotel room later that night, we offered Shanti grapes and bananas. Her first choice was the banana! When we got back home to Summerville, Shanti was placed into an enclosure across from Peppy and Helen. We knew she would be just fine when she tried to sing with the other gibbons.



**Kathy with IPPL Gibbon Tong**

My love for the gibbons goes beyond words. They are like my children, but I must remember that they are wild primates taken from their natural environment. In an ideal world they would be swinging through the trees and singing with their family instead of being captured and caged by poachers.

Congratulations to IPPL and Shirley on your anniversary and may you continue to have many years of success protecting our primate friends.

### **Being mistaken for Shirley McGreal by a primate smuggler's henchman – by Betty Brescia**

It was a pleasant September day in 1988 when I started my IPPL employment. The gate and parking area were guarded by Annapurna, a marvelous St. Bernard, who was as gentle as a lamb while playing with the gibbons.



**Betty enjoying her retirement party**

Ten years of memories include:

- A request for a large number of IPPL T-shirts for the Gibbon family reunion in Summerville,
- Hurricane Hugo hitting our area, creating havoc in his wake but sparing the gibbons and otters,
- The gibbons' beautiful songs and calls heard during the day.
- Laura Mattera's shock when Blackie grabbed her sun glasses. No one ever believed the speed and agility of the gibbons!

- Shirley's struggle to provide a safe environment for primates around the world.

During her lengthy battle with animal smuggler Matthew Block, I had a confrontation with a process server who was trying to deliver a subpoena to Shirley to force her to go and testify in an orangutan smuggling trial in Miami—on behalf of the defendant! He had followed me by car from IPPL headquarters to downtown Summerville. As I left the vehicle, he shouted "Shirley McGreal" a few times. Ignoring him, I walked toward the supermarket. He quickly ran in front of me and called "Shirley McGreal" again. What a surprise when he discovered me instead of her. But then working at IPPL was always full of surprises!

## TAKING CARE OF PRIMATES – NOW AND FOREVER

Over the years, IPPL has greatly benefited from caring supporters who have remembered IPPL in their wills. Thanks to those wonderful people, IPPL can continue and expand its program of investigations and can help horribly abused primates in rescue centers in Africa and Asia. We assist groups working to help wildlife in remote parts of the world, and take care of the 33 wonderful gibbons, many of them research veterans, living at our headquarters sanctuary.

In 1999 we built a much-needed education center, thanks to a bequest from Swan and Mary Henningson.

One kind member left a special gift for Igor, our lab gibbon who had spent 21 years behind black plexiglass because he self-mutilated at the sight of other gibbons. Igor has spent 16 years in "retirement" with IPPL.

We also care for our gentle blind gibbon Beanie (seen above with his friend Bullet, our blind rescue dog.

These departed members' compassion and thoughtfulness survives their leaving this world.

We hope that you will consider including IPPL in your estate plans, to ensure that primates in need will have our hard-working and experienced organization to stand by them now and in the future.

Please contact IPPL, POB 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA, if you would like a pamphlet about providing enduring help for IPPL.



## IPPL EARNS FOUR-STAR RATING FROM CHARITY NAVIGATOR

Charity Navigator ([www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)), an independent organization that evaluates the financial health of non-profits in the United States, has awarded IPPL four out of four stars. Trent Stamp, Executive Director of Charity Navigator, wrote IPPL that:

*We celebrate the work of outstanding charities like yours by supplying you with unbiased information to share with your donors. The International Primate Protection League's 4-star rating means your supporters can be confident in your efforts to maximize the impact of their donations.*



# IPPL'S GRANT PROGRAM IS APPRECIATED

IPPL has had a small grant program operating for many years. Grants have been provided to many overseas rescue centers and primate activist organizations. As you can see, this program is greatly appreciated.

## IPPL'S HELPING HAND – AFRICA

**Assisting the longest-running chimp rehabilitation project, Stella Brewer Marsden, *The Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Trust, The Gambia***

The Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Trust's [CRT] work started in 1969 when I met my first confiscated chimp in the Gambia. Since then, the CRT has accepted chimps from many sources—not always with success, but this was pioneering work and things were done in the past that would not be done now. But there has been some success: the CRT is now responsible for 64 chimps, several of whom are third generation CRT chimps. All the chimps, except two, live the lives of wild chimps—with all the freedom and risk that such a life offers.

Funding the work has always been a problem. I set up the CRT adoption scheme that has funded the work after royalties from my book *The Forest Dwellers* and a documentary about us dried up. But IPPL has helped out with emergency funding on several occasions. Cyril Rosen (IPPL-UK) has been a

supporter of the CRT's work for almost as long as IPPL has been in existence—perhaps before! Three years ago, IPPL-UK came to the rescue by providing funds for an electric fence, without which the latest integration could not have taken place. And just recently IPPL-UK assisted with funding for river transport.

Almost as important as help with funds is the knowledge that the support of IPPL is there: as a sounding board, as a source of contacts and advice, and as the international primate policeman doing essential work that assists operations in the field in an indirect, and so perhaps a less obvious, way. So my personal "Thank you" to Shirley and Cyril and to all the IPPL staff for your past help and support, and a "Thank you" from CRT's 64 chimps.

**Timely advice, Sheila Siddle, *Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage Trust, Zambia***

In 1983 we received a baby chimpanzee who was dying. He had been confiscated from smugglers who were trying to get

him from Congo (then Zaire) to some seaport, from which they could ship him overseas and get a lot of money for him.

We knew nothing about chimpanzees, but because they are so much like human babies we were able to save his life. We now have 100 chimpanzees and have been able to buy 13,000 acres of land to form what is now known as Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage.

It has not been easy—and there is no way Dave and I could have done what has been done without the moral and financial support of people like Shirley McGreal and IPPL. We have had many grants over the years from IPPL both in America and in England.

It is not just the money, though. It is knowing that Shirley and IPPL are there if we have problems, knowing that they will help in any way they can, knowing I can pick up a phone or send an e-mail and get an instant response from either Shirley or Cyril Rosen—that does a lot to boost one's confidence in difficult times.

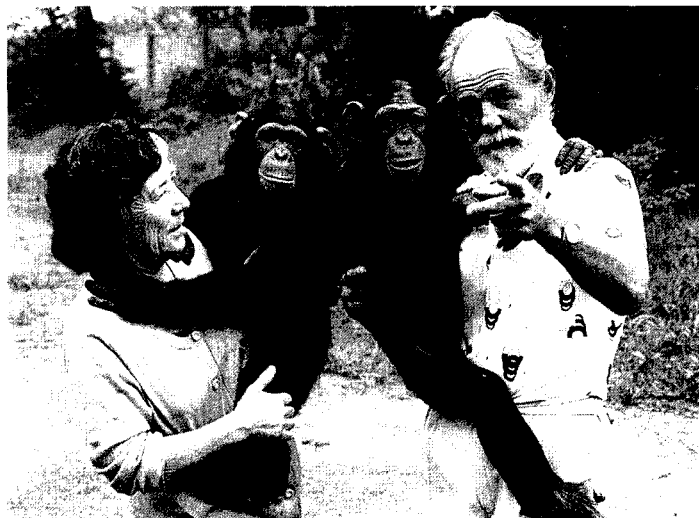
In 1985 I wrote to the *National Geographic* magazine asking for help in getting some advice about five chimpanzees that I was suddenly stuck with. They wrote back to me and gave me Shirley McGreal's address, which, all things considered, was the best thing that could have happened.

Over the years Shirley has been a constant source of help in many difficult situations. Like the time I had smugglers come onto the farm with a baby chimp that they wanted to sell. They had forged documents, but I did not know they were forged until Shirley told me. She is always the first one I contact when anything is wrong.

We had visitors here once and I was uncomfortable with them. I faxed Shirley their names and asked if she had ever heard of them. She immediately faxed back and said double your security. These people were exotic animal dealers. She seems to have spies in all parts of the



Stella with Zwockel



(from left) Sheila, Sandy, Rita, Dave



Patrick with Sandy

©Noel Rowe

world who keep her informed about the awful things that are happening to primates

During very difficult court cases when things seemed to be going badly for Shirley and IPPL, she never wavered in her resolve to fight the criminals. She has always worked tirelessly in the struggle to rid the world of the cruelty that is carried out not only on primates, but on all other animals as well. So there are a lot of animals out there who have benefited from IPPL's struggles over the last thirty years. Let's hope they are still going strong in another thirty years.

We all love IPPL. We love Shirley. We love Cyril and all the wonderful people who work and support IPPL.

### **Improving the quality of life for two captive chimps, Valerie and Tim Buchanan, Kumasi Zoo Chimpanzee Project, Ghana**

Afua and Cecelia are two adult female chimpanzees who are housed at the government-run zoo in Kumasi, Ghana. We became acquainted with these two chimpanzees while living in Ghana in 1999, when we observed the small, barren, old-fashioned enclosures they were both living in individually. Their enclosures were made of concrete and steel bars, and their environment was sterile and un-stimulating. Afua is probably over 20 years old and Cecelia is in her mid-30s.

We began efforts to implement the plans to construct a new, larger enclosure for them to share and encouraged zoo personnel to provide affordable daily enrichments. Relocating them from the zoo to a proper sanctuary was (and is) not an option. After receiving a generous challenge grant from IPPL, matched by Dr. Carole Noon, the project was on its way.

Modifications to Cecelia's enclosure and the adjacent empty enclosure began in February 2003 and are now finally complete. Afua was relocated from her area to meet her companion Cecelia, whom she had been able to hear and see from a long distance across the zoo grounds, but could never touch, for decades. It was a truly moving experience as they both ran to each other and embraced through the bars. They could touch each other now! They immediately began grooming one another.

The new enclosure now has a high tunnel walkway connecting two large enclosures for a nice view of the surrounding area, ropes hanging from the top, and they now have a private area to go to when they do not want to be in view of the public. The gate separating Afua and Cecelia will finally be opened in the very near future, time allowing for the proper personnel to be present in case of any fights. It is highly unlikely they will fight with each other!

Thanks to the generous support of Shirley McGreal and the IPPL members

who believed in my passion and determination to make a better life for these special gals. Although it took three years to complete, Afua and Cecelia now can live the rest of their lives with a companion to break up their long monotonous days.

### **Support for chimp reintroduction, Dr. Benoit Goossens, HELP Congo, Republic of Congo**

HELP Congo has been addressing the issue of orphaned chimpanzees in the Republic of Congo since the beginning of the 1990s. It also takes part in the development of innovative solutions to protect great apes in the Republic of Congo, in collaboration with the governmental and non-governmental agencies in the country.

Our biggest primate battle was to develop a reintroduction program for orphaned chimpanzees and monitor the progress of their release into the wild in order to develop a model for other similar projects.

HELP Congo also promotes active conservation of the Conkouati-Douli National Park, where wild chimpanzees and lowland gorillas range. Thanks to IPPL, we have also received enormous financial support from The Arcus Foundation, which largely contributes to the success of our project.

**Rehabilitation of rare drill monkey orphans, Elizabeth Gadsby, Pandrillus Foundation, Nigeria**

Pandrillus Foundation is grateful to IPPL for ongoing support of our two programs: the Limbe Wildlife Centre and the Drill Rehabilitation and Breeding Center (DRBC). The DRBC, Pandrillus's pilot project, was created in Nigeria in 1991 to recover orphan drill monkeys, one of Africa's most endangered and least known primates.

The DRBC has rescued 64 drills and created 6 family groups, with over 130 offspring in two generations. Captive breeding is important for drills, as they number in the low thousands in the wild, and are rare in zoos, where reproduction has been poor.

The DRBC worked with the Nigerian government to create the Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary where wild drills, chimpanzees, gorillas, and other threatened primates survive and where the project hopes to release drill groups to the wild in the future. The DRBC is also home to 22 chimpanzees and is working intensively with the Nigerian government to put an end to the country's long history of wildlife smuggling.

IPPL has been an ardent friend, with a financial lifeline in times of need and the international credibility and clout to make a difference on the larger issues: thanks to IPPL, Nigeria recovered two drills in 1997 that were smuggled to Asia. The Pandrillus Foundation thanks IPPL for supporting our programs.

**Ten years of support for an African rescue center, Tony Chasar, Limbe Wildlife Centre, Cameroon**

Home to 31 species of African primates, as well as a myriad of other wildlife, Cameroon is considered to be one of the world's bio-diversity "hot spots," with high numbers of endemic plants and animals.

The Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC), a rescue and rehabilitation center for captive wild-born primates and other wildlife, provides one of the few opportunities to see many of these species.

With over 30,000 visitors yearly, and a strong on-site and outreach education program, the LWC has become an important tool for conservation education and awareness in Cameroon. Many of the animals at the center are threatened or



**Pandrillus caregivers Njurah and Jacob with an infant drill.**



**Limbe caregivers**



**Rescued gorilla Pitchou**

endangered primates, victims of habitat destruction, the bushmeat industry, the local pet trade, or the international animal trade.

The LWC reflects the richness and diversity of Cameroon's wildlife and faces at the same time the challenges regarding conservation throughout Central Africa.

During 1991-92, while conducting wildlife surveys in Cameroon, Pandrillus became aware of the acute problem of captive wild-born gorillas, chimpanzees, drills and other primates. These animals were often kept in appalling conditions.

After collaborative efforts with the Cameroonian Ministry of Environment and Forests (MINEF), a proposal was put forward to develop the defunct Limbe Zoo to serve as an interim sanctuary for these captive wild-born primates.

Today LWC has become a home for over 120 primates of 16 different species. These animals are housed in large electric-fenced outdoor areas in social groups, which allow them to express their natural behaviors.

LWC has come a long way from those beginning days; these achievements are directly due to the hard work and dedication of the Cameroonian staff and volunteers from all over the world. All this was made possible only through the crucial support received from IPPL.

IPPL has been supporting the Centre since its early days in 1993. IPPL helped to buy animal food, medical equipment, and pay staff salaries when all seemed hopeless. IPPL assisted in fundraising

efforts and helped us to apply for grants and funds from other organizations.

We would especially like to thank Shirley McGreal, who has become a friend to the project, the animals, staff, and volunteers. We are extremely grateful for her patience and her dedication to helping conservation in Central Africa. Without her assistance we would not have gotten where we are today.

### **Dealing with daily primate welfare in Kenya, Pam Cunneyworth, *The Colobus Trust, Kenya***

On the south coast of Kenya and living under continual threats of habitat loss, you will find the rare but beautiful black-and-white Angolan colobus. Yellow baboons, vervet monkeys, and Sykes monkeys also live here. However, the primates of this area are facing a surging human population and an accompanying rise in human/wildlife conflict.

Under these circumstances, the small grants program of IPPL-UK has greatly assisted us over the years in our capacity to deal with primate welfare cases effectively and professionally.

For example, the Colobus Trust received a grant of £750 in 2002. The funds were used for the construction of two primate rescue cages and maintenance of our on-site veterinarian clinic. The funds also were used to restock our clinic with medicine and surgical equipment, greatly reducing our veterinarian bills.

Lastly, we were able to provide a

standard uniform to our field assistants, who spend the greater part of each day moving between hotel and private plots. The uniforms allow them to be recognized easily as staff from the Colobus Trust. Thanks to IPPL for facilitating our day-to-day operations.

### **Financial and moral support for Tacugama, Bala Amarasekaran, *Tacugama, Sierra Leone***

An incidental rescue mission that began in 1989 by me and my wife has now grown into the only Primate Conservation center in Sierra Leone.

I am an "accountant turned conservationist" who established a sanctuary outside Freetown to care for orphaned and rescued chimps.

Capturing, hunting, and trading in chimpanzees are illegal in Sierra Leone. But law enforcement and confiscations could not be undertaken as there was no facility to house and care for the rescued animals.

In 1995, the Tacugama chimp sanctuary was established within the western area forest reserve with initial funds from the European Union office. We now house 66 chimpanzees who live in three enclosures covering ten acres of forested land.

A major part of Tacugama's success story belongs to those animal welfare and conservation organizations that continue to assist the project. IPPL's financial and moral support over the years is highly valued by Tacugama. Our profound gratitude goes to everyone at IPPL.

**Outfitting park rangers in Africa,**  
*Dr. Jo Thompson, Lukuru Wildlife  
Research Project, Democratic  
Republic of Congo*

In recent years IPPL and its members have provided financial and awareness-raising aid for the wildlife crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In addition to providing general financial support for the Lukuru Project's efforts to protect the wild bonobo (*Pan paniscus*), IPPL was instrumental in the successful completion of the "Outfit a Ranger" campaign.

In November 2000, the Lukuru Project launched a campaign to uniform all the ICCN (Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation) park guards across the entire country. All park guards had been stripped of their uniforms between 1996-1998 with the advance of civil war.

The "Outfit a Ranger" initiative produced 1,600 complete uniforms (shirt, trousers, hat, rubber gum-boots, newly designed set-of-four insignia patches) for the park personnel, making their presentation unified and consistent across the whole of the DRC. These much-prized uniforms provide the park guards with identity and motivation.

Both internationally and within the DRC, IPPL has played a vital role in raising member support, providing the IPPL matching donation, and making significant contributions to the recognition of the plight of the dedicated staff of the ICCN, who have committed their lives to protecting wildlife.

**Promoting conservation of rare monkeys,**  
*Nicky Pulman, Cercopan, Nigeria*

Cercopan is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to the rehabilitation and conservation of rainforest primates and their habitat, protection of community forests, environmental education, and scientific research.

Based in Calabar and Iko Esai, Cross River State, Nigeria, Cercopan operates with the sanction and cooperation of the State Forestry Commission, Ministry of Environment. Our Calabar site serves as headquarters and a base for our rehabilitation and urban education programs. Iko Esai is the site for our forest-

based research and education center, Rhoko, which protects close to 3,000 hectares of Iko Esai community forest adjoining the Cross River National Park.

Our Calabar site is home to over 90 guenons and mangabeys, who find their way through the gates of Cercopan by many different means. Donations and confiscations of orphaned primates have always been an integral part of our work towards the protection and conservation of primates in Nigeria. Ninety-five percent of all incoming orphans are donated to the project by concerned Nigerians: this is largely due to our educational outreach program.

Accepting and caring for these orphaned rainforest primates is an important tool in helping to spread the message to the general public about the importance of protecting Nigeria's wildlife heritage, about giving wild animals the respect they deserve, allowing them to live freely in their natural habitat. Of course, accepting orphans also is important in terms of removing primates from miserable and degrading conditions.

With the help of IPPL, Cercopan has been able to spread the word about primate conservation to more people in Nigeria and address a wider audience by providing educational materials and



**Red-eared guenon**

visual aids, among so many other things. IPPL's continual unconditional support is of immense importance to Cercopan, and we are honored to be part of their extended family.

**Support for daily operations at a bonobo sanctuary,**  
*Dominique Morel and Claudine André, Lola Ya Bonobo, Democratic Republic of Congo*

With its 22 young bonobos, the Bonobo Sanctuary of the ABC association (*Les Amis des Bonobos du Congo*, or The Friends of Bonobos in Congo), known as "Lola Ya Bonobo" or "the paradise of the bonobos," comprises the largest group of bonobos in semi-liberty in the world.

Located on the outskirts of Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), it offers a haven for the rehabilitation of orphan bonobos confiscated by the Environment Ministry authorities. Without such a place, even the best-intentioned officials would be powerless to stop the trade in these animals. Bonobos face the threat of extinction due to war, hunting, and deforestation.

The association also aims to contribute to the long-term protection of bonobos *in situ* through the education of Congolese youth. The ABC's Sanctuary receives over 10,000 visitors every year as part of its school group program.

IPPL's support for the ABC's work, in 2002 and again this year, is proving invaluable in helping the association meet its education objectives, as well as its protection goals. Covering running costs has always been a challenge, and support from the IPPL has proved critical.

Support in 2002, at a crucial time when the bonobos had just been transferred to the new site of "Lola Ya Bonobo," allowed the school group program to resume and expand in spite of the distance of the Sanctuary from the capital city, in particular by allowing the ABC to rent buses to transport students from marginal neighborhoods to the Sanctuary. Renewed support this year will again contribute to the ABC's educational program, as well as to other key running costs of the Sanctuary, such as substitute mothers for newly-arrived infant bonobos, keepers, and veterinary/medical staff.

## IPPL'S HELPING HAND – SOUTH AMERICA

### **Chile's primate sanctuary, Elba Muñoz Lopez, IPPL Representative in Chile**

IPPL has been a very important organization for us. It was the first one helping us with money. We applied for a small grant that we used to build a habitat for the spider monkeys.

In the year 2000 Viejita and Gordita, two female capuchins from the Bioterio de Primates laboratory of the Universidad Catolica, reached our sanctuary. We wrote Shirley to ask for help to enclose a habitat with special glass so it would allow us to control the temperature inside, because the monkeys were used to living in controlled temperatures.

These monkeys are doing well and are now integrated into a group of eight capuchins. Viejita is more than 45 years old and is the oldest monkey at the Centre.

In December of 2000 we bought new land and, again, IPPL was the first to help

us with buying the things we needed to build the first enclosure there.

In November of 2002 I attended the meeting in Santiago for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) as an observer from IPPL, on the invitation of Shirley McGreal. It was a fantastic experience that allowed me to meet representatives from other organizations and let them know about our work.

In the beginning of 2003 we rescued the chimp Toto. Animal Defenders, a group we met through IPPL at the CITES meeting, helped us with the money to build a beautiful habitat for him. Animal Defenders also helped finance his stay during the seven months he was with us recovering. Toto is now at Chimfunshi in Zambia, a rescue center for chimps.

IPPL has been helping us in very special moments and I feel very honoured to be their representative in Chile.

### **Woolly monkeys find sanctuary in Peru, Lucy Molleson, Ikamaperu, Rio Mayo Reserve, Peru**

In northern Peru, a group of young woolly monkeys is growing up in the sheltered sanctuary of a project known locally as Ikamaperu. Ikamaperu is run by Helene and Carlos Palomino, with the help and support of IPPL-UK.

Known locally for their work rescuing injured wildlife, Helene and Carlos brought in their first monkey four years ago. He was severely malnourished and had been cruelly soaked in engine oil. After three weeks of intensive care, Taysu was healthy enough to be identified as a rare woolly monkey infant. He was the first member of an expanding group, which now includes seven other young woollies.

Helene and Carlos are determined that these monkeys should have the chance to lead as free and natural a life as possible. Woolly monkeys are hunted in the wild, and are becoming extremely scarce. The orphans from Ikamaperu and other rescue centers may well become the future survivors of their species.

By dedicating all their time and their own resources, Helene and Carlos have been able to secure 50 hectares of forest along the banks of the Rio Mayo, which will become a protected reserve for monkeys. Cyril Rosen, the director of IPPL in the UK, came up with an inspired idea to raise money for completing the reserve. Members were asked to sponsor an achiote tree, one of the monkeys' favorites. Work began in earnest this summer, with over two thousand tree seedlings planted to enrich the forest, and the first building begun.

Thanks to IPPL, the little monkeys at Ikamaperu will have a home for life.



**Elba Muñoz Lopez representing  
IPPL at CITES-2002**

## CHECK OUT IPPL'S WEB SITE

IPPL regularly updates its Web site ([www.ippl.org](http://www.ippl.org)). We invite you to visit our site regularly. You can join, renew, make extra donations, and make purchases on our secure server. We also exchange links with other organizations sharing all or part of our goals.

## IPPL'S HELPING HAND – ASIA

### **Long-term assistance for a gibbon release project in Borneo, A.B. Chanee, Kalaweit, Indonesia**

The Kalaweit Project is a gibbon rehabilitation project in Borneo. The project has already taken in 111 gibbons. The first couple was released last year, a second will follow in January 2004, and there will be releases every six months.

Starting this year, the Kalaweit Project began its activities in Sumatra to help the gibbons and siamangs originating from this island. During the last few months, 32 gibbons and siamangs have been received.

The Kalaweit project also struggles to end the trafficking of animals and the hunting and ownership of gibbons. IPPL's assistance is crucial for the Kalaweit Project, which has been receiving help for several years. The support of IPPL allows us to care for the gibbons and also to broadcast our message of peace between humans and animals. IPPL is one of the few sponsors that, concerned for the future of primates, has helped Kalaweit over the long term.

### **Keeping a sanctuary on its feet, Pharanee Chotiros-Deters, Highland Farm, Thailand**

The Highland Farm Gibbon and Wildlife Sanctuary (recently renamed as the William E. Deters Foundation for Gibbon and Wildlife Conservation) was founded in 1996. The Foundation was established on June 16, 2003, to honor my beloved husband, after William and several of our Thai animal care workers were brutally murdered on May 10, 2002.

Highland Farm is a refuge center on 35 acres for 37 abandoned, mistreated and/or physically abused gibbons. These little singing apes come to the Foundation by different paths, yet their need for protection, special care and love is the same. Since their capture in Thailand's forests as babies, none have lived in the forests and/or with other gibbons. Sadly,

all are totally dependent on human intervention for survival.

Although my husband has been gone for over a year, the work must go on. We are very grateful that we received a special



### **“Uci” gibbon resident of Kalaweit**

grant from IPPL and The Arcus Foundation, because since my husband has gone, I have not received his retirement money from the US for over a year now.

We, including gibbons and many animals at the foundation, lived on that money. We couldn't build the 15 new enclosures for the new gibbons on our waiting list because of lack of funds. So I feel relieved now that help has arrived.

### **Working closely with primate activists, Rosek Nursahid, ProFauna, Indonesia**

ProFauna Indonesia (formerly KSBK) has worked with IPPL for eight years now. At that time, ProFauna asked for help from IPPL to fund our primate trade monitoring program in Java, Indonesia. Surprisingly, IPPL granted the proposal. Since then, ProFauna and IPPL have been

working closely to fight against the primate trade in Indonesia.

IPPL played an important role in the development of ProFauna, which is now recognized as the leading animal protection organization in Indonesia, with its thousand members.

Shirley McGreal, by consistently promoting ProFauna to other international organizations, has made it possible for us to “go international.” Shirley's kind help has enabled ProFauna to work with many international organizations on various issues.

ProFauna has built an animal rescue center, which is home to many endangered primates confiscated from illegal owners, such as siamang gibbons, Borneo gibbons, slow lorises, Javan ebony langurs, and Javan gibbons.

Through operating the rescue center, ProFauna is more active in fighting the primate trade and trade in other rare animals. As the result, ProFauna activists have often experienced terroristic and anarchic attacks from the animal trading mafia.

Thanks to IPPL for its support. We are proud to be part of IPPL and its work to continuously speak out for primate protection.

### **Preserving biodiversity in northeastern India, Soumyadeep Datta, Director, Nature's Beckon, Assam, India**

Nature's Beckon has greatly benefited from the support of IPPL in its conservation work. Nature's Beckon has been highly successful in starting community-based conservation programs for nonhuman primates in northeast India, thanks to the support of IPPL and its members.

IPPL has brought the conservation efforts of Nature's Beckon to the knowledge of an international audience through *IPPL News*, which has greatly boosted the morale of the members of Nature's Beckon.



Nature's Beckon thankfully acknowledges the support of IPPL and its members on the occasion of IPPL's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Battling chimp exploitation as "entertainment,"** *Louis Ng, IPPL Representative in Singapore*

I first got in touch with IPPL during my university days. I was deeply interested in primate conservation and was keen to hold an exhibition in Singapore to create awareness of the plight of apes. I wrote to several organizations asking for help and

financial support. IPPL not only responded to my mail but offered me a grant, enabling a group of us to create the much-needed awareness in Singapore of the plight of all apes throughout the world.

Today, together with a group of dedicated friends, we have founded an animal welfare organization in Singapore, Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES), and I now work full-time in animal welfare.

IPPL remains a strong ally in our fight to end the abuse and exploitation of animals. Together, we've put an end to the cruel practice of using baby chimpanzees

as photography props at Singapore Zoo. With help from IPPL, we've also investigated the trade of surplus chimpanzees at Singapore Zoo, and recently we've confiscated a vervet monkey kept illegally as a pet in Singapore.

ACRES and IPPL are miles apart, on different continents. However, IPPL is always there, right beside us when we are in need of help. Ending the abuse of animals is undoubtedly an uphill battle. I, however, remain confident that we will win this battle, through sheer determination and with the continued and enduring support of IPPL.

## **RESCUING ORANGUTANS: THE EARLY DAYS**

*By Barbara Harrison, IPPL Advisory Board Member since 1975*

I was in Borneo (1952-1967) when I had my first real-life contacts with orangutans. My husband, then director of the Sarawak Museum, from time to time took charge of confiscated, orphaned youngsters. He needed my help to care for them. In Sarawak (as elsewhere) orangutans are legally protected. The government confiscated protected animals if they were found or reported in the trade or held privately, then placed them in charge of the Museum. Then as now, the same problem arises wherever protected primates are at issue: the law which protects them is difficult to enforce *so long as no place exists where the animals can be taken care of professionally, for life.*

My private home was only a stop-gap solution. Also, I began to understand that, for a wild-born orphan, a zoo was comparable to "prison for life". To set up a "rehabilitation center" for young captives, so I thought, might be a better alternative. No one had done this, but I decided to try it anyway. I wanted to guide such animals back to the forest, to gently "teach" them self-sufficiency, and to discover a method of doing it through observation and experience.

I obtained funding for an experimental rehabilitation program. The Sarawak forestry department provided an area of protected forest. With the help of devoted

attendants and some veterinary assistance for the animals, I began to believe that rehabilitation was the best part of a long road "back to paradise".

Disappointment followed as rain follows sunshine. I can briefly mention two incidents. The first incident involved a rehabilitant orangutan taking it on himself to invade a holiday beach not far from the project area, there to "molest" bathers. No harm was done. The bathers could get away in the water. To explain to the government that a half-grown male orangutan only wished to "explore and wrestle" was more difficult! My apologies were to no avail. I was told to **relocate the project elsewhere**. The bathers needed their beach.

Fortunately I was able to raise interest in Sabah for a new rehabilitation project. A forest was found for protected animals, including those from Sarawak. I will never forget the anxieties I endured at sea, when a near-desperate young orangutan tried to break out of his cage! A more serious incident followed weeks later. My animals seemed to adjust well at this point. Daily they were taken into "wild" forests where contacts with free-ranging orangutans were a possibility. On and off we seemed to "lose" them there as they moved out of our sight. They were also taking less support-food than in Sarawak.

Then, just as I was on the point of leaving Sabah and was temporarily absent from the project, an unexpected disaster occurred. As I was told it, the largest male (the same animal who had earlier "molested" the bathers) suddenly came out of the forest and began to raid stores and attendants' quarters in the center. Most people who saw him ran away. Only the senior ranger thought he knew better. He took his rifle and shot the animal dead. As he explained it on my return, he was afraid for his life! I was devastated. What made it worse were the man's lame excuses. According to what others had seen he had not been in danger at all. But I could do nothing. An investigation could not be started. I was in a foreign country. I was expected to go for good anyway, and to go in peace.

The Sabah project continued well thereafter. During the past thirty-odd years the government supported it as a tourist-attraction. Anyone who observes the current situation from the animals' point of view realizes, however, that so long as the animals remain accessible to tourists, as if in a zoo without barriers, their reintegration into the forest must stagnate. These orangutans remain closer to the feeding stations than they otherwise might. The spectacle visitors create for them and the snacks they bring



unite animals and humans in a make-believe Disneyland. Visitors do not realize the danger of getting hurt, while the orangutans stay exposed to the possibility of becoming infected by human disease.

All rehabilitation centers created since the 1970s for a growing number of captive primates face similar dangers. Yet they are the best hope. Along with

orangutans, all free-ranging forest primates suffer. In Southeast Asia, they must make room for oil palm estates, agriculture, and the occasional golf-course. Many orphans still end their short lives in the pet or zoo trade.

IPPL readers support all these primates, wherever possible in rehabilitation centers and through updated research projects in protected forests.

There is no other way. The problems Shirley and I faced decades ago have not gone away. More primate species are becoming endangered, and exceedingly vulnerable for that reason. The best one can do is to continue helping. Shirley's way is to motivate others to join in, and insist that a better, more capable and appreciative guardianship of primates lies in the future.

## PROFAUNA MEMBERS ATTACKED

*By Rosek Nursahid, ProFauna Indonesia*

This year ProFauna's "three primates" float stole the show for thousands of people lining the roads during Malang city's Indonesian Independence Day parades, held each August. Three volunteers dressed in primate costumes jumped around on a "jungle truck" (hung with the banner "A primate's home is in the wild, not in a cage as a pet") and distributed thousands of animal protection stickers. Thanks to funding from IPPL and the collaboration of the Petungsewu Animal Rescue Centre, ProFauna's message reached an enthusiastic audience.

### Police raid dealer

On 30 July 2003 a group of ProFauna activists in Jakarta was attacked by animal traders at the notorious Pramuka Bird Market in Jakarta.

Initially, the coordinator of ProFauna Indonesia's Jakarta Office, Hardi Baktiantoro, with two ProFauna members (Edi and Jaya) was intending to help the Jakarta Police Department conduct a confiscation of protected animals offered for sale by one of animal dealers at the Pramuka Bird Market area.

Three policemen inspected the dealer's house and found two scaly anteaters (*Manis javanica*), four Javan ebony langurs (*Trachipitecus auratus*), four slow lorises (*Nycticebus coucang*), five eagles, and 25 plastic boxes usually used to transport wild animals.

### Forestry officials sabotage raid

At first, the operation ran smoothly, but unfortunately a team from the

Forestry Department Jakarta (BKSDA DKI Jakarta), the institution responsible for wildlife conservation, never completed the process of signing a BAP (Official Confiscation Report).

As the result, when the Forestry Department team appeared, a crowd consisting mostly of animal traders had gathered around the house. There were hundreds of them. The angry mob became uncontrolled and soon they began to attack the ProFauna team, after being informed by the government officials that the confiscation was based on ProFauna information.

### Dealers attack ProFauna team

ProFauna members became punching bags for the angry animal traders, getting hit, kicked, and stepped on, hundreds of times. Jaya was occasionally lifted and slammed against a wall until he lost consciousness. A camera and cell phone belonging to Hardi were violently seized by the animal traders.

ProFauna's transportation cages also became the object of plunder, all our belongings were gone! The brutal and anarchic action was finally stopped when policemen shot twice into the air.

This incident would not have happened if BKSDA DKI had reacted quickly and protected the ProFauna activists from the animal traders. Instead, they made matters even worse by telling the traders that ProFauna had informed them that animals belonging to several endangered species were inside the animal collector's house. It was

unfortunate that BKSDA DKI acted so slowly and irresponsibly.

### Animal trading mafia

For a long time, there has been evidence that the trade in wild animals at Pramuka Bird Market in Jakarta has involved an animal trading mafia. Animal trade at this market, the biggest one in Asia, seems unstoppable.

It also involves government officials **who are supposed to protect animals** always giving information to the traders when there is a planned raid, so that news of the operation is leaked.

Thousands of wild animals derived directly from Sumatra, Kalimantan, Papua, Maluku, and other places are entering this huge bird market every month. In 2001 ProFauna investigations revealed that shipments of rare wild birds from Maluku traveled on permits issued by the local Forestry Department (BKSDA).

This vicious attack on ProFauna members will never decrease ProFauna's spirit for campaigning to stop the trade in endangered species in Indonesia. The trade in endangered species has been a serious threat to the protection of wild animals. If there is insufficient law enforcement, more endangered animal species will face extinction in the near future. In fact, local extinction has already happened to several species in many areas due to the flourishing wild animal trade.

## MESSAGES FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Among the government officials with whom IPPL has worked for many years, two stand out: Mohammed Khan of Malaysia and Bourama Niagate of Mali. Here are their messages in honor of IPPL and our Chairwoman Shirley McGreal.

### Message from Mohd Khan Momin Khan, former Wildlife Chief of Malaysia

It was several decades ago that Shirley, Marjorie Doggett, and I corresponded to ban the export of the long-tailed macaques and smuggling of gibbons from Malaysia. We never met at that time, but wrote to one another.

I was on a plane to Delhi, where I was to attend the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Along came a lady and, incredibly, she sat next to me. A while later she started talking about primates and what she was doing to conserve them. I listened and had an idea as to who she might be. She asked me if I liked primates, and I responded, pretending that I did not! She was, I believed, completely surprised when I told her that I was the person from Malaysia she was corresponding with! We had a great meeting and did a great deal since then to protect and conserve primates in Malaysia.

The ban on the export of long- and short-tailed macaques was approved by the Malaysian Government after considerable efforts were made. Shirley and Marjorie played a vital role in providing information on the high mortalities suffered by animals during transport and at their final destinations. Those that survived were subjected to research that

was often cruel. Malaysians became aware and realized what was happening to their primates; they supported the ban that has remained to this day.

Gibbons were totally protected in Malaysia and we had very good information from IPPL that brought the smuggling down to almost zero. Malaysia became a Party to CITES one year after it was created. We received a lot of information from IPPL on the importance of CITES in controlling wildlife smuggling and convinced the Minister to get Malaysia to join CITES. There were probably fewer problems in Malaysia than in many countries around the world but CITES intercepted a few cases of wildlife smuggling from Malaysia. It was a great experience for me, thanks to IPPL.

### Greetings from Bourama Niagate, Wildlife Department of Mali, West Africa

Let me address to all the associates of IPPL my best wishes for a very happy birthday to celebrate its 30 years of existing for the protection of our friends the primates. For me it's a real pleasure to learn that your organization now has reached the age of an adult human capable of thoughtfully working for the protection of animals in general and for primates in particular.

I am also very happy to learn of all the tributes to Shirley, who is a very close friend of mine. She is a person very well respected by our wildlife service in Mali for all the efforts she never ceases to conduct for the safety of primates.

I wish you all a long and happy life and excellent health. May the Almighty accompany you in all your work! I am now establishing my own non-governmental organization named AMEPANE, and we hope to collaborate with IPPL.

I have always enjoyed being with Shirley for her good advice and sociability. She has an open and honest humanity. I reiterate all my compassion for you and all the IPPL gibbons and all



**Bourama Niagate**

the world's primates.

It's now 30 years that Shirley has searched for ways to spare little innocent animals like primates from the barbaric cruelty of maggoty animal dealers and from the talons of criminals. For many people it seemed folly to attempt to succeed in taking on a domain as tough as the international primate traffic. Nonetheless she succeeded, not alone, but with the participation and total cooperation of a large number of people sensitive to the primates' cause.

The battle that Shirley leads today is not for herself alone but for the whole of humanity. This battle contributes to the preservation of the entirety of biodiversity. It is a battle for the whole of Africa, which seeks today to protect its natural resources pillaged by poachers and brigands.

I urge all IPPL members to redouble their efforts and be cautious of infiltrators. Let's maintain a common front to block the highway bandits who try to trouble our minds by bad teachings.

Once again I thank Shirley for the services rendered, and I wish a long life to IPPL, which survives only through our participation and our contributions.

Long life to IPPL and our friends the primates of the whole world. Together let's support IPPL's efforts!



**Shirley with Mohammed Khan**

# A CHIMP ORPHAN'S LIFE SAVED IN GHANA

*Anna Merz, IPPL Advisory Board Member since 1976*

I suppose the biggest primate battle I've fought was to get legislation passed by the Ghana Government to make the keeping of wild animals in Ghana illegal without a license from the Game Department.

This, of course, rebounded on me as confiscated animals were sent either to the zoo in Kumasi, or to me, to deal with. One such was Berta, a baby chimpanzee. She had been confiscated by a game scout who found her being offered for sale at Kumasi Central Market. He took her to Val Sackey, then running the Kumasi Zoo. Val took one horrified look at the tiny, stinking bundle wrapped in diarrhea-soaked sacking and decided to pass the buck to me.

She phoned me to warn me that a baby chimp in "rather bad condition" was en route with her car and driver. The lamentable bundle took one horrified look at my looming white face and summoned up its small remaining reserves of strength to scream its pain, terror, and misery.

As well as a wrecked digestion, she had pneumonia and was seriously dehydrated. She had to be cleaned, given antibiotic injections, and forced to take tiny quantities of glucose and saline. Everything I did hurt her. Everything she did made me more filthy! Several dresses and towels later I dispatched someone to town to buy diapers and rubber panties!

The first two weeks were a major battle waged both day and night. At the end of this period she decided I was her friend and not her enemy, and she clung to me frantically. So she had to accompany me everywhere, worn like a black hairy muff round my neck while I worked in the office.

At the end of four months she was strong enough to go and join the other babies being rehabilitated in the Bia Forest Reserve, later to become a National Park. When I visited her eight months later she was part of a chimp family and did not know me. That was a small success.

## LIMBE WELCOMES TWO MORE GORILLAS

*by Tony Chasar, volunteer at Limbe*

The Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC) in Cameroon opened its doors to two more confiscated gorillas in September 2003. The arrival of Anthal (a young female, with a presumed age of about 9 years) and Arno (a juvenile male about 4 years old) brings the LWC gorilla population to 12.

The two newcomers are western lowland gorillas (*Gorilla gorilla gorilla*) and are currently in quarantine. After preliminary tests are carried out, they will join young gorillas Brighter and Twiggy, who arrived at LWC only last May. All four of the newcomers will later be introduced to the resident gorilla group.

On September 11, 2003, two staff members from the LWC traveled 720 kilometers (420 miles) to the South Province of Cameroon where we had been told there were two "stray" gorillas.

It turned out that a Lebanese

businessman (a one-time timber exploiter, Mr. Nasal Nassar Bodaki) who had been keeping these gorillas had abandoned them in Nkomo village and had left Cameroon. The two gorillas had started harassing the inhabitants of the nearby villages in order to search for food in farms and houses.

Mr. Nasal had left Cameroon for a couple of months, leaving no provisions for the gorillas' feeding. Anthal was forced to forage in neighboring villages, thus harassing and panicking people. Arno, a gentle gorilla who loves to be carried around, followed Anthal on all their foraging patrols.

Fortunately, no one harmed the animals. Instead, the villagers contacted the local administrative officers so that these gorillas could be brought under control. The Provincial Chief of Wildlife

for the South Province contacted the LWC, asking for help in a rescue mission.

With the help of the local and regional wildlife officials, the two gorillas were brought to the LWC on September 13.

A villager told Limbe staff that her husband's master (Mr. Nasal Bodaki) had bought Anthal from a local hunter who had killed her mother in 1996. They fed Anthal with milk, fruits, bread, vegetables and sweet drinks, for she was the Lebanese man's favorite "pet". He used to take her on car rides in the nearby villages.

Later, Nasal Bodaki encouraged local hunters to procure a partner for Anthal. Arno was sold to him in the year 2000 when he was about one year old.

The two new gorillas are doing well and we hope that Cameroon's internal pet trade in wild animals will soon be stopped.

### *Special Gifts*

- Karen Colwell, in memory of her mother Mary Colwell
- Ms. Karen B. Dantine, in honor of her son Damian
- Shana E. Dilworth, in memory of Mavis Lozano
- Elinore B. Gordon, in honor of Arun Rangsi's birthday
- James and Sidney Martin, in memory of their son Sam
- Mrs. Jeanne Riley, in memory of Albert Cumberlandidge
- Mr. Samuel R. West, in memory of Clyde and Irene West

## IPPL MEMBER PROFILE: VIOLET SOO-HOO

Violet Howard was born in Oak Park, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago). Her family moved to Montana before settling in Seattle, Washington, when she was eight years old. She spent her youth in Seattle, graduating from the University of Washington and later earning a secondary teaching certificate.

She also earned a Masters' degree in Drama and a Lifetime Certificate in Secondary Education from the University of San Francisco. She began her teaching career at a senior high school, but was invited to participate in a Spanish language institute in Mexico City, a joint project of the Mexican and United States governments. After three months in Mexico, she returned to Seattle to resume her teaching. She and her mother began to travel widely.

It was during this time that she heard of an African safari the San Francisco Zoo was offering. As a young child Violet had always dreamt of traveling to Africa. Edgar Rice Burroughs, author of *Tarzan of the Apes*, was a friend of Violet's father and she had read all the Tarzan books. Violet's mother urged her to go.

It was on this safari that Violet met her future husband, Carroll Soo-Hoo, an avid animal lover and world traveler. When asked if it was "love at first sight," Violet replied, "*No, I don't believe in that! But we were soul mates. Carroll and*

*I were the only ones out of the twelve people on that trip who knew anything about animals.*" Violet and Carroll were married the year after they met and took five more trips to Africa together over the years.

Prior to meeting Violet, Carroll was a benefactor of the San Francisco Zoo. In total the Soo-Hoos donated 40 animals to the zoo including two gorillas, two chimpanzees, one orangutan, two tigers, two cheetahs, two kudus, and two wild dogs. Of course this was long before there were any laws governing the wildlife trade and before the public became aware of the sordid aspects of this traffic.

It was not long before the Soo-Hoos later became crusaders on behalf of zoo and laboratory animals, especially primates. They followed with sorrow the deaths of many animals at San Francisco Zoo, including a mandrill, a chimpanzee, a gorilla, a baby orangutan, and a newly acquired hoolock gibbon.

They worked to bring to an end the then-prevalent feeding of zoo animals by the public. They were also concerned about members of the public tormenting and harassing zoo animals. They fought a zoo project to take visitors into the animal quarters at night, feeling this constituted harassment and posed a threat of disease to the animals.

Violet believes in writing protest letters. On 4 November 1979, she visited the San Francisco Zoo and complained that:

*The gorillas were pelted with peanuts and other objects. Harassment by a man obviously drunk and children climbing on the guardrail were situations witnessed...How long is the city going to permit such mistreatment of animals?*

The Soo-Hoos were lucky enough to meet the late gorilla expert and passionate conservationist, Dian Fossey, several times on her visits to California.

Carroll, who passed away in 1998, read every issue of *IPPL News* from cover to cover. Violet continues to carry the torch now in animal protection, turning her living room into a workshop. She has been a member of IPPL since 1977, and her passion is still the protection of laboratory animals. According to Violet,

*We were very privileged characters. Drag an animal out of it's natural habitat and treat it like dirt? NO. Treat them like family! On that subject I want to be very radical. I won't change my feelings.*

There is no doubt that Violet and Carroll Soo-Hoo have made a difference, not just for the animals at San Francisco Zoo, but also for those of the world!



From left, Shirley, Carroll and Violet Soo-Hoo



Violet poses alongside a wonderful photo of an adult baboon that she took on one of her African trips

## TWO MONA MONKEYS SMUGGLED TO PORTUGAL

*In mid-September IPPL received the following astonishing report from monkey expert (and IPPL small grant recipient) Sara Laub. On a return flight from the island nation of São Tomé, she unexpectedly found herself seated next to a rather inept monkey smuggler. Here is her report.*

On 7 September 2003 I was on a flight that would take me from São Tomé, West Africa, to Lisbon, Portugal, with a stop-over at Cape Verde for an hour before re-boarding. The carrier from São Tomé to Lisbon was TAP Air Portugal flight TP 1164. There is only one flight a day from São Tomé, departing at 7:10 a.m. and scheduled to arrive at Lisbon at 5:45 p.m., though we actually landed at 6:10 p.m.

I was seated in the aisle seat, 16B, next to a man in the window seat, 16A. He was of native São Toméan origin, in his late twenties/early thirties, and his final destination was Lisbon.

### **Squeaking noises give away smuggled monkeys**

During the initial part of my journey from São Tomé to Cape Verde, I noticed squeaking noises coming from somewhere nearby. I put this down to a faulty passenger chair. Having re-boarded the flight (now bound for Lisbon) with the same gentleman sitting next to me, I continued to hear these sounds, and they did not seem to correlate with any passenger movement.

As these noises continued, becoming more frequent, I noted the man seated next to me growing anxious and knocking a brown paper bag that he had at his feet. I queried him as to what was in the bag. Not speaking much Portuguese, I did not understand him at first until he said "macaco," the Portuguese for monkey. I gestured whether the airplane staff knew of their presence on the flight. He shook his head and said no.

Not wanting to overtly stress the man into any sort of rash behavior, I waited a couple of minutes then left my seat and

contacted a cabin crew member. I told him of the situation and identified myself as belonging to a primate conservation organization. He was suitably concerned, knowing it to be illegal trafficking, asked me for my seat number, and said he would notify the captain and another crew member. I returned to my seat.

Ten minutes later I was called to the front of the plane and connected with a female flight attendant. She was to be my main liaison during the flight. Again I explained the situation and identified myself (I gave her my card); I also expressed that it was essential that I be able to assess the monkeys' condition, preferably in a secure private area. We had been traveling for six hours, during which time they would not have received food or, more importantly, water, and that, given their cries, they were obviously in some distress.

After a bit of "to-ing and fro-ing," we returned together to my seat. She asked the man in Portuguese if he was carrying monkeys; he admitted it and knew it to be illegal.

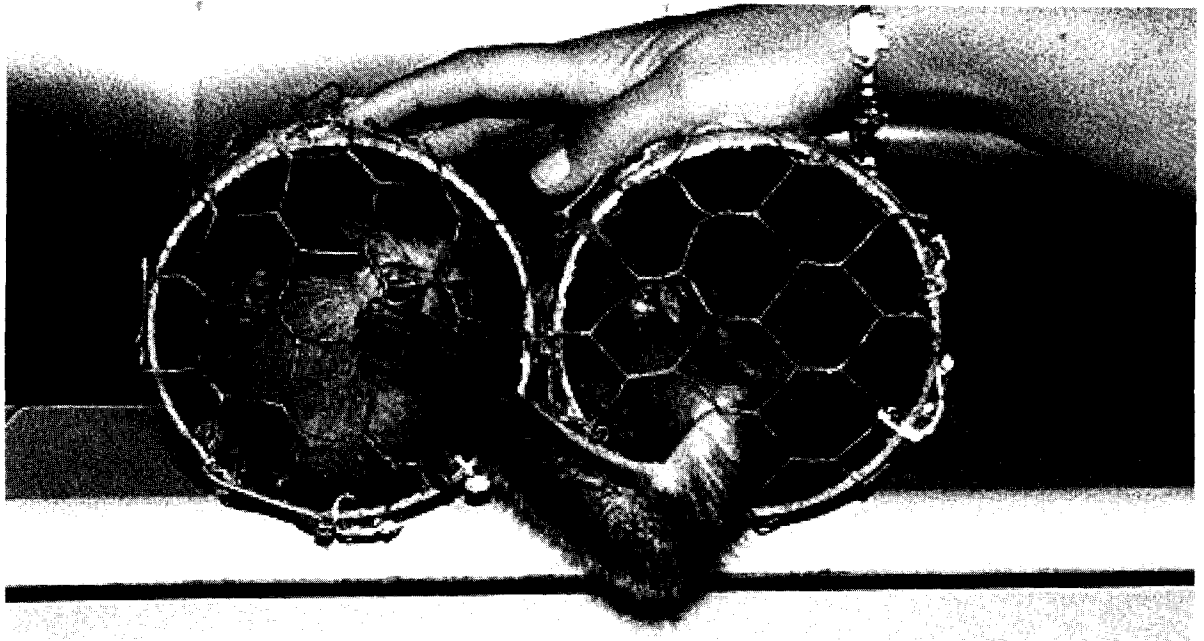
The flight attendant asked to see the animals. The paper bag contained two cylinders approximately 40 cm (15 inches) in length, with a diameter of approximately 10-15cm (4-6 inches).

Both were studded with air holes. The front and rear ends of both cylinders were open-ended, but covered with a wire mesh, through which the monkeys could extend their arms. The smell of feces was also evident.

The attendant continued to talk to the man, shaking her head but not looking overtly authoritarian. Amazingly, she then turned to me and said the man knew he was in trouble and that he could be facing jail or would have to pay a big fine, which he could ill afford; would it be possible for him to give the monkeys to me? I would then be their owner, implying he could then go free.

I said that such a solution was totally unacceptable, that this was illegal trafficking of wild animals, and that there were international laws and legislation in place to prosecute smugglers. I tried to again express the seriousness of the situation and the fact that it would be necessary (indeed, I believed the correct procedure) to contact the proper customs authorities prior to landing in Lisbon.

She nodded. I reiterated my need to assess the animals' condition as a matter of urgency and my preference to do it in a secure location, such as a toilet. I had no way of knowing how secure these traveling units were, and an escaped



animal would have caused chaos. Furthermore, I wished to limit any additional stress to the animals by placing them in a quiet location and not drawing further attention from passengers to the situation.

She flatly refused this request, saying it would not be possible. On later reflection, this behavior and that of the captain, who was apprised of the situation, was wholly irresponsible, and even possibly bordering on corporate negligence. By not placing the animals in some sort of secure quarantine, particularly before assessment, the passengers were placed in danger. Subsequently, all my activities had to be carried out in the open and did, as feared, cause unwarranted attention from other passengers.

### **Infants packed in tiny cylinders**

The cylindrical traveling units, when examined, contained two infant Mona monkeys (species *Cercopithecus mona*) approximately 6-9 months old. Aside from being cramped and obviously uncomfortable, they were relatively bright and responsive in nature. I asked the stewardess to inquire where the man was taking the monkeys and whom they were for. He replied that he was taking them to Lisbon and that they were his own. The stewardess doubted this position.

I asked the man in Portuguese if the monkeys were for money. He smiled and said rather unconfidently "No." At no other time did he repeat his affirmations of being their owner and was more than willing to hand them over to me without question.

Having basically assessed their condition, I asked the stewardess if it would be possible to bring me some water and a device with which to give it to them; I suggested the possible use of a plastic medical pipette. Ten minutes later she came back with a cup of water and a cloth in it. The cloth I knew would just be grabbed and was therefore unsuitable as an administering device. I suggested a small spoon, which she duly brought. I successfully administered water to both animals. Their behavior was consistent with them being thirsty (readily drinking from the spoon, repeated vocalization and, after initial administration, grabbing of the administration device).

Later the stewardess came back with

an apple and they were both fed a small amount. For the rest of the flight (approximately two hours) I sat perched on my seat rest with the monkeys (in the bag) occupying my seat. They were able to be openly comforted.

### **Air Portugal uncooperative in apprehending smuggler**

Twenty minutes before the flight reached Lisbon, I still had not been notified what procedure would be adopted on landing. I rang for assistance. Both the steward and stewardess whom I asked came back with the same message from the captain: nothing would be done. The captain had refused to notify the relevant authorities on the ground. He maintained that there was nothing he could do while we were on board and, further, that if I continued to hassle the passenger, he would call the police on me.

They said I would need to go through customs with the man and that I would need to notify them myself. This would have been impossible, not simply because I was going into transit, not through customs, but because I doubted this man was going to simply follow me. I relayed all this information, growing more anxious.

However I received no further assistance and from then on was met with aggression and hostility. In desperation, I asked the stewardess to tell the man I would take the monkeys and he could go. This was agreed upon. I also asked that at least one of the crew come with me to explain the situation to the police. I had no idea where to go in the airport, did not speak Portuguese well, and did not as a consequence want myself to be implicated.

The plane landed. The man quickly exited his seat. I waited for the rest of the passengers to leave, hoping a crew member would come and get me. This did not happen. I was told to leave the plane. The kindest words I received were offered by the original male steward, who said "Good luck."

As I was leaving the plane, I tried to identify the captain, but this only resulted in an aggressive exchange of words. The captain refused to give his name; he told me to get off his plane and that I would be given no assistance—it was my responsibility to go to the police. I was not told where the police office was. Again, the captain re-iterated that, if I did

not leave the plane immediately, he would call the police on me. I left not knowing where to go or who to inform.

I walked to the transit desk situated next to passport control. Once again I explained the situation to an individual behind the desk. He told me that I would have to go to customs, through passport control. I explained I was in transit and wouldn't accept that procedure; it was ridiculous. I started making phone calls, attempting to contact people who could help.

Fifteen minutes later the man behind the desk said he was calling someone for me. A couple of minutes later I was finally met by the correct customs official who showed me his badge. He asked if I could identify the man. I said I could, and he took me to the front of passport control. I believed the man to be long gone, but at the front of passport control, at the desk, there he was. I identified him and the customs official went to speak to him.

Amazingly, he admitted to having the monkeys. He was taken to the transit desk. The police took my name, address, and passport number. The man was taken away carrying the monkeys, which I found strange; I enquired where the man was going, worried that the animals would just be given back to him. I was told by another official that the monkeys would not be returned to the passenger; they would go to Lisbon Zoo. I was thanked for my help. The monkeys left my possession at 6:50 p.m., and at 7:30 p.m. I boarded flight TP 5166 for the remainder of my trip.

**IPPL Note:** IPPL-UK's Cyril Rosen later confirmed that the animals had, in fact, been confiscated and removed to Lisbon Zoo. In response to a query from Shirley McGreal, zoo administrator Dr. Fernando Paisana informed IPPL that "*one of the animals ... died 6 days later (on September the 14th) of still unknown causes.... The second animal is still on quarantine, which should end on December the 6<sup>th</sup>. When the quarantine period is complete, the Customs Office will determine the destiny of the animal, which can either remain at Lisbon Zoo, together with [the zoo's other] Mona monkeys, or be sent to another institution.*"

In October 2003, Joao Loureiro from the Portuguese CITES Management Authority contacted IPPL with the information that "*the passenger has been charged with a misdemeanor under our internal legislation.*"



## STOP PRESS – THAI OFFICIAL CALLS FOR DEATH PENALTY FOR ANIMAL TRAFFICKERS

Thai wildlife officials raided two animal dealers' premises in October 2003. These "raids" have received wide press coverage in Thailand.

On 30 October 2003, the Bangkok newspaper *Nation* carried a call by Khun Plodprasop Suraswadi, Permanent Secretary at the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry, for Thailand to follow China's lead and institute the death penalty for those who hunt and traffic wildlife.

He was referring to a raid conducted on 28 October 2003 on the premises of Nonthaburi resident Luethai Tiewchareon. Forestry officials and police had seized carcasses of tigers and bears, destined for the restaurant and medical trades, and some live tiger and bear cubs.

Authorities also seized two live orangutans. One of the baby orangutans was extremely sick and later died.

The second raid took place on 3 November 2003 at another home in Nonthaburi. Thanajak Suthinunt owned this one. Hundreds of live exotic birds were confiscated. Sadly, a baby orangutan less than six months old was found in the animal trader's freezer. Khun Chawann

Tunhikorn, director of Thailand's Wildlife Conservation Office, which organized the raids, commented that he believed that the dead orangutan had been smuggled into Thailand from Indonesia by the same people who imported the two babies confiscated a few days earlier.

Other confiscations involved wildlife offered for sale at Chatujak Market held every weekend in Bangkok.

The 5 November 2003 issue of the *Nation* carried an editorial by Pennapa Hongthong about the tragedy, emphasizing the traffic in orangutans. Extracts follow.

*Being protective of their young, orangutan mothers always keep their babies within reach, not only to feed them with milk but also to prevent them from getting lost in the treetops where they reside. It is impossible for humans to climb up a tree as high as 30 metres to grab a baby from its mother. And it is impossible that an orangutan mother would give away her child without a fight.*

*The truth is, the only way to take a baby orangutan is to shoot the mother. The large size and slow movements of the*

*species make it an easy target for hunters. However, sometimes things don't go as planned. Many baby orangutans have been accidentally shot as well, or die from falling to the ground together with their dying mothers.*

*An orangutan mother has only one baby at a time. To take one baby as a cute pet—worth up to 500,000 baht (\$12,500 US dollars)—at least one mother must be killed.*

*The International Primate Protection League, a United States-based conservation organisation, say they have information that six baby orangutans were shipped to Thailand two months ago.*

*It is believed that members of a wildlife-trade racket entered the habitat of the orangutans and shot their mothers dead. The babies were then smuggled to Thailand on a fishing boat from Indonesia to Samut Sakhon harbour. They must have been kept in a dark and damp room in the boat's hull. Some probably died on the way while the survivors slipped into Thailand without passing a customs checkpoint. If the three remaining babies in the recent shipment are not found, where will they end up?*

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

IPPL requests members to send letters or holiday cards to the Thai officials whose addresses are listed below. Postage from the US to Thailand costs 80 cents per ounce. Here are some suggested talking points:

1) Applaud the raids on animal dealers and request that they continue. 2) Request that Thai laws be strengthened to punish wildlife criminals. 3) Urge that these laws be strictly enforced.

*Mr. Somchai Piensstarporn, Director General  
Department of National Parks and Wildlife  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment  
Phaholyothin Road, Jatujak  
Bangkok 10900, Thailand*

*His Excellency Mr. Sakthip Krairiksh  
Ambassador of Thailand to the United States  
Royal Thai Embassy  
1024 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20007, USA  
Fax: 202 944-3611*

For other Thai Embassy addresses go to [www.traveller2000.com/thailand/embassies\\_worldwide.htm](http://www.traveller2000.com/thailand/embassies_worldwide.htm)

Letters to the Prime Minister commending the raids would also be appreciated. Bring to his notice how interested people all over the world are in Thailand and the nation's wild animals. Mention that the illegal wildlife trade is damaging Thailand's reputation and may possibly hurt the tourist trade.

*H.E. Mr. Thaksin Shinawatra  
The Prime Minister, Government House  
Nakorn Pathom Road, Dusit, Bangkok 13000  
Thailand*

# PRIMATE PARAPHERNALIA!



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Features a gibbon, gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutan, squirrel monkey, and ring-tailed lemur; 100% Cotton

**Color:** Tan

**Sizes:** S, M, L, XL, XXL

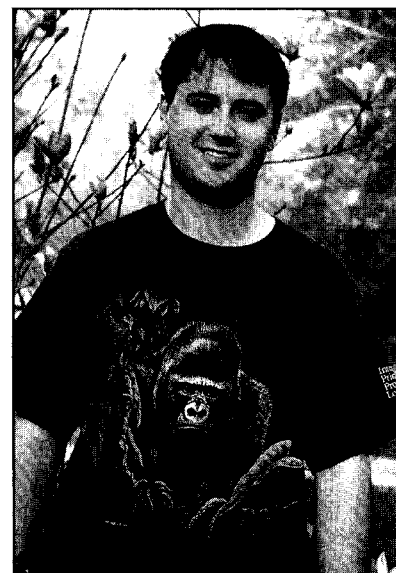
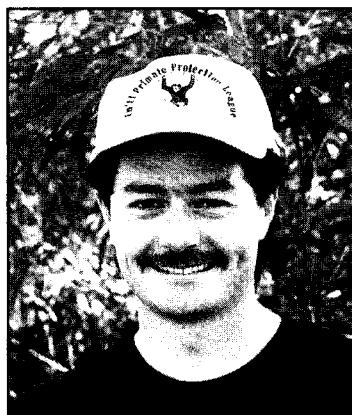
**Cost:** US\$14 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)

**IPPL Baseball Cap:** Cotton cap features the IPPL name and a swinging chimp.

**Color:** Khaki

**Sizes:** one size fits all

**Cost:** US\$12 (inside the US), US\$16 (overseas airmail)



## Gorilla T-Shirt: 100% Cotton

**Color:** Charcoal

**Sizes:** S, M, L, XL, XXL

**Cost:** US\$14 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)

You can also order IPPL merchandise on the Web, via our secure server, at:  
<https://sims.net/secure/ippl.org/catalog.html>

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*For verification purposes*, if credit card billing address is different from the **Ship to** address above, please give the billing address information below:

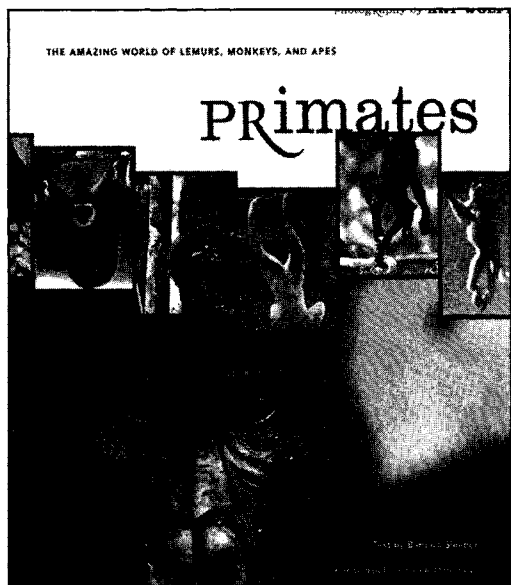
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**Questions? Call 843-871-2280.**





### Primate Photography Book:

Award-winning wildlife photographer Art Wolfe teams up with conservation writer Barbara Sleeper to create *Primates: The Amazing World of Lemurs, Monkeys, and Apes*. This delightful oversized book, suitable for people of all ages, contains hundreds of the most spectacular and colorful primate photos you'll ever see.

**Cost:** US\$25 (inside the US), US\$30 (overseas surface shipping), US\$40 (overseas airmail)



### Orangutan T-Shirt:

100% Cotton

**Color:** Navy

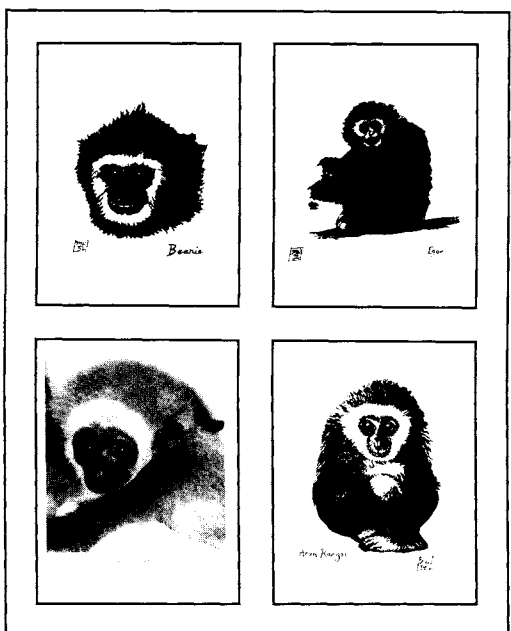
**Sizes:** M, L, XL, XXL

**Cost:** US\$14 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)

### Forgotton Apes Video:

Featuring Beanie and the other IPPL gibbons.

**Cost:** US\$16 (inside the US), US\$22 (overseas airmail)



### Gibbon Notecards:

12 cards plus 12 envelopes, 3 each of 4 IPPL gibbon designs.

**Cost:** US\$10 (inside the US), US\$14 (overseas airmail)

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David Van Gennep (Netherlands)  
Hilko Wiersema (Netherlands)  
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# ADOPT AN IPPL GIBBON!

Each of the 33 gibbons living at IPPL Headquarters deserves a happy life. Many of IPPL's residents have come to the sanctuary after years in research, as pets, or in sub-standard living conditions; some are handicapped. By "adopting" an IPPL gibbon, you help to ensure that your chosen animal (and all the IPPL gibbons) will continue to get the best care possible: a quiet, peaceful life in sunny South Carolina, living in spacious enclosures with their mates, and eating only fresh, natural foods. For a donation of \$15 or \$25 per month for at least six months, you will receive:

- A signed Certificate of Adoption.
- A 5" x 7" glossy photograph of your gibbon.
- A quarterly update on your gibbon.
- An IPPL sanctuary fact sheet.
- A gibbon fact sheet.
- A set of gibbon stickers.

In addition, if you chose to adopt a gibbon at the \$25-per-month level, IPPL will send you one of our forest-green T-shirts featuring several IPPL gibbons. And remember: "adoptions" make wonderful holiday gifts that will last all year.

---

## Yes, I want to "adopt" an IPPL gibbon!

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to adopt:

1. (Insert name of gibbon) \_\_\_\_\_ at \$15 per month for 6 months (\$90) \_\_\_\_ 1 year (\$180) \_\_\_\_ 2 years (\$360) \_\_\_\_  
OR

2. (Insert name of gibbon) \_\_\_\_\_ at \$25 per month for 6 months (\$150) \_\_\_\_ 1 year (\$300) \_\_\_\_ 2 years (\$600) \_\_\_\_

For the \$25/month level, select the desired size of T-shirt (circle). **Adult sizes:** S M L XL XXL **Children sizes:** S M L

☐ **This is a gift.** Please send the adoption packet and updates (and T-shirt, if applicable) to the following recipient:

Recipient's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will be paying via a monthly check made payable to IPPL.

☐ I will be paying by credit card (circle): VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

Name (on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card billing address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

For information about adopting your gibbon through a monthly automatic checking account withdrawal, or if you have other questions, please call us at 843-871-2280, or send us an e-mail ([info@ippl.org](mailto:info@ippl.org)).

Please mail your application to: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA; or fax it to (843) 871-7988.

## IPPL gibbons presently available for “adoption”

### Arun Rangsi

Arun Rangsi was born in 1979 at a California research laboratory. Abandoned by his mother at birth, he was raised with a substitute mother made of wire to which he clung. Then the laboratory lost the funding for its program, and IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal, acting on a tip-off, rescued him from possible euthanasia. Once he arrived at the IPPL sanctuary, his physical and mental condition greatly improved, thanks to a good diet and lots of love. Today Arun Rangsi lives happily with Shanti, another former laboratory gibbon, and his family. To keep this sweet, gentle ape happy and healthy, we’d love for you to “adopt” him.



Arun  
on Arrival Day  
and Today



### Beanie

Beanie is another gibbon who would not be alive if IPPL didn’t provide him with a good home. He was born in August 1989 and was living at a primate research foundation in Florida with his parents—until tragedy struck. One morning when he was one year old, Beanie was found unconscious on the floor of his cage. Sadly, Beanie had been bitten by a mosquito carrying the encephalitis virus. He was left blind and suffering from epilepsy. The foundation decided to send Beanie to IPPL, and he arrived in March 1991. His handicaps have not prevented him from enjoying life. He sings like a healthy gibbon and is one of the best gibbon acrobats at our sanctuary. By “adopting” him, you’ll help provide him with the extra love and attention he needs.

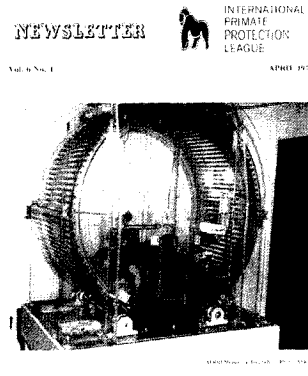
### Courtney

Courtney was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was just 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving the little 12-ounce infant with a terribly mangled leg. Thanks to the skill of our veterinarian and months of attention from Courtney’s special nannies, her injuries have healed remarkably well. She has had minor follow-up surgery, but is nonetheless extremely active. If you saw her leaping around, you would hardly believe how badly she had been hurt. Since we cannot place her with another gibbon until she is mature, she will continue to need special attention from her human caregivers for several more years. We hope you’ll consider “adopting” this spunky little ape.



# IPPL NEWS – 30 YEARS OF NEWS OF THE WORLD'S PRIMATES

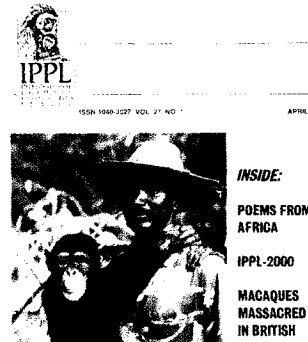
*IPPL News* has been published continuously since 1974, so the current issue brings Volume 30 to a close. *IPPL News* started as a small publication when IPPL Chairwoman Shirley McGreal was living in Thailand. Everything was black and white until August 1998, when we began to have color covers. We thought you'd be interested in seeing a few of our covers over the years. In 1997 IPPL received a commendation from the BBC for the excellence of our publication.



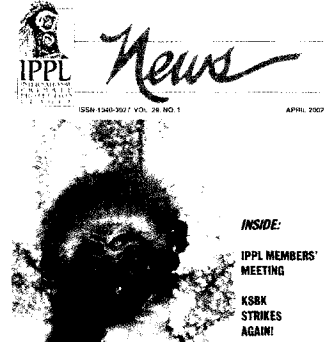
**INSIDE:**  
MEET "PITCHOU" GORILLA  
IPPL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING



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PROBOSCIS MONKEY DEMONSTRATION



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GORILLAS REACH MALAYSIA

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