



Venus

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**Meet the
fun-loving
sportive
lemurs
of Nosy Be,
Madagascar**



A Note from Shirley & Siân

Dear IPPL Supporter,

The weather has been unpredictable here in Summerville. We had four weeks without a drop of rain and then the heavens opened and we had nonstop rain for a week. There has been flooding everywhere!

We hope you'll enjoy this issue of *IPPL News*. Our cover story is about the sportive lemurs of Nosy Be, an island off the north coast of Madagascar. Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island, and is located in the Indian Ocean east of the African nation of Mozambique, after separating from mainland Africa about 165 million years ago). Madagascar has no monkeys or apes, but is home to many species of lemurs. Sadly, the island has been impacted by rampant deforestation and massive soil erosion.

The ancestors of lemurs rafted to the island from the mainland of Africa and radiated into the wonderful, unique and beautiful primates found living free on this island—and nowhere else in the world.

Some lemur species are monogamous and others live in troops (like the ring-tailed lemurs). Most species are nocturnal and solitary. **Every** lemur species is endangered.

Because lemurs are endangered, we were thrilled to hear of Valerie Clark's efforts to save the sportive lemurs of Nosy Be. These primates sleep all day in tree hollows. But, because so many trees have been cut down, Valerie and her colleagues have created wonderful nesting boxes so that the lemurs can sleep peacefully by day and not be exposed to predators. At nighttime they are active in the remaining forest.

IPPL is now seeking funds to help Valerie continue with her work protecting these lemurs. We hope you will read her article and make a generous donation to help these amazing animals.

YOU can help animals from the comfort of your living room by making a gift for these amazing lemurs!

Best Wishes,



Shirley McGreal

Siân Evans

Dr. Shirley McGreal
IPPL Founder

Dr. Siân Evans
IPPL Chairwoman

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IPPL News

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About the Cover



Over 111 lemur species live on Madagascar, a California-sized island in the Indian Ocean that is the only place on earth where wild lemurs live. Dr. Valerie Clark gives a detailed accounting of these endangered primates and what she and her organization are doing to protect and save this enchanting species.(see page 3).

IPPL: Who We Are

IPPL is an international grassroots wildlife protection organization. It was founded in 1973 by Dr. Shirley McGreal. Our mission is to promote the conservation and protection of *all* nonhuman primates, great and small.

IPPL has been operating a sanctuary in Summerville, South Carolina, since 1977. There, 34 gibbons (the smallest of the apes) live in happy retirement.

IPPL also helps support a number of other wildlife groups and primate rescue centers in countries where monkeys and apes are native.

IPPL News is published
three times a year.

Nosy Be Sportive Lemurs

By Valerie C. Clark, President of iF.R.O.G.S

Over 111 lemur species live on Madagascar, a California-sized island in the Indian Ocean that is the only place on earth where wild lemurs live. All lemur species have been listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) since 1977. Why so endangered? The smell of burning is common throughout Madagascar, often from ‘tavy’ (i.e., slash and burn agriculture) and even right next to protected areas to create charcoal for cooking.

In northwestern Madagascar, unprotected areas surrounding the 14 kilometer (5.4 square miles) Lokobe National Park (LNP) on the island of Nosy Be (**Figure 1**) are no exception—everyone has to eat, and charcoal is the cheapest way to cook.

Smoke stings our eyes and ash crunches beneath our boots as we look for known lemur sleeping trees from previous surveys. Part of Transect #4 (a transect is a path cut in the forest with precise specifications) had been clear cut—even fruit trees without a nesting box had been logged since we last visited these degraded forests east of LNP (**Figure 2a**). The locals tell us that someone from the mainland stole their trees to make charcoal when the elders were away for two weeks. Then I asked why there were still new piles of wood for charcoal (**Figure 2b**), and was told that this land is for sale. And so we dream on imagining buying the land and planting native trees that would form natural tree-holes needed as daytime sleeping and nesting sites for critically endangered Nosy Be sportive lemurs.



Figure 1. Nosy Be is a 123 square mile island off of the northwest coast of Madagascar.

Nosy Be sportive lemurs are found only on the island of Nosy Be.

On average, Nosy Be sportive lemurs weigh about two pounds (0.88 kg) and are ten inches tall with another ten inches of tail—the similarity in body and tail length differentiates them from their closely related cousin on mainland Madagascar that weighs less and has a tail relatively longer than body, plus different genetics. Nosy Be sportive lemur fur feels soft and plush, and features a black dorsal stripe and masked face highlighted by piercing orange eyes (**Figure 3**).

All sportive lemurs are strictly nocturnal and by day they rest in spacious tree hollows in large trees, using these sleeping

sites also for nesting and rearing their babies. If no tree-holes are available, then they are forced to sleep exposed during the day (**Figure 4**), and thus can be easily caught by predatory birds, such as buzzards, flying in from LNP.

At night, the “sportys” or “Lepis” as we call them, actively forage on leaves and fruits, and are easily spotted with a headlamp, thanks to their shining bright eyes

resulting from tapetum lucidum behind the retina. Their “sportive” name comes from how fast and far they can precisely leap from tree to tree.

Sportive lemurs generally are thought to be solitary, and the specific birthing season in Nosy Be occurs from late August through November. Usually, a single infant is born and reared in a tree-hole; however, the current large number of mother-baby



Figure 2. The charcoal industry deforests unprotected areas east of Nosy Be’s Lokobe National Park, destroying these critically endangered primates’ homes.

pairs exposed to predators due to lack of safe nesting sites is a challenge to this primate's survival from the brink of extinction.

To help the critically endangered Nosy Be sportive lemur, the Indigenous Forest Research Organization for Global Sustainability (iFrogs) built 25 wooden nesting boxes to mimic tree-hole sleeping sites and installed five of these boxes per transect in August 2015. The box design was based on that of British ecologist Josephine Andrews and her colleagues (1998) who had



Figure 3. Nosy Be sportive lemurs characteristically have (A) a black dorsal stripe and (B) masked face appearance highlighted by orange eyes.



Figure 4. Nosy Be sportive lemurs normally sleep in tree-holes by day, but this individual was exposed to predators on a travelers' palm where it tried to rest.

created one wooden nesting box and found it to be continuously occupied by sportive lemurs over the course of a year (**Figure 5**). Within one week of installation in 2015, sportive lemurs moved into iFrogs' man-made boxes and after three months more than 50% of the boxes were occupied, including mother-offspring pairs.

Three years later nearly all the wooden boxes had rotted from rain and were infested with ants, and/or damaged by cyclones; yet lemurs persisted to live inside of boxes with active ant colonies rather than be exposed on branches. That is why in September 2018 the iFrogs team built 40 new wooden nesting boxes and installed ten of these lemur homes on each of four transects, placed every 50 meters. Some sportive lemurs moved into these new boxes



Figure 5. Since tree hollows are rare in degraded forests, iFrogs builds and maintains nesting boxes that mimic sportive lemur tree-hole sleeping and nesting sites.

within 24 hours, and six mother-infant pairs moved in within three weeks of installation! (Figure 6)

Note: Valerie Clark volunteers to lead a 100% indigenous team in Nosy Be, and the local team's work is supported by donors like you. Priority actions in 2019 include: building and installing ten new boxes within Lokobe National Park (LNP) borders thanks to an invitation from park director, monitoring all boxes, and building and installing plastic rainproof roofing above all 50 boxes.

The lemur birthing season begins in late August, and the heavy rains begin in November, so we have only have a short period of time to raise funds needed to save the critically endangered Nosy Be sportive lemur. Visitors are always welcome!



Figure 6. Carolina and her baby



MEET VALERIE C. CLARK

Valerie Clark founded and volunteers as iFrogs Executive Director, and works as an artist, educator and environmental professional in Florida, USA. Her PhD research was on frog skin chemistry, and she now serves as adjunct faculty in Ecology & Evolution at Stony Brook University in New York, working with Dr. Patricia Wright to build research, conservation and education capacities in Nosy Be, NW Madagascar. Val, as she prefers to be called, is also an Explorer of the National Geographic Society:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/find-explorers/valerie-c-clark>.

How to Help Sportive Lemurs With Matching Funds From IPPL

You can help with this important and life-saving project!

Your donation to IPPL for iFROGS will allow Valerie and her colleagues to continue to build, install, monitor, and maintain the life-saving sportive lemur nesting boxes.

IPPL will match gifts up to \$5,000! Please send your check to IPPL and earmark it for Sportive Lemurs • PO Box 766 • Summerville, SC • 29484 or donate via our web site www.ippl.org. At the bottom of the Donate page under Designation there is a place to direct your contribution to the Help Sportive Lemurs. Either way, we thank you for your support!

Go Nuts for Gibbons!

Our friends at Nuts.com have put together a special care package that gibbon fans can purchase for our sanctuary residents. This goody box includes the following healthy snacks, which are favorites that Spanky and all our gibbons love:

- ◆ 5 lbs. jumbo roasted unsalted peanuts (in shell),
- ◆ 1 lb. raw unsalted cashews (shelled),
- ◆ 1 lb. dried mango (unsulfured, low sugar),
- ◆ 1 lb. dried Turkish figs, and
- ◆ 1 lb. dried diced Turkish apricots.



9 lbs. of specially selected treats for the IPPL gibbons!

Only \$49.70 (includes shipping)

www.nuts.com/gifts/nutsforbirds/ippl.html



Spanky goes nuts for peanuts!

Monogamy in Primates, Why?

By Dr. Siân Evans, IPPL Board Chairwoman

At the time Shirley and John McGreal were establishing the IPPL sanctuary in Summerville, I was in the final year of my undergraduate studies at Bedford College, University of London, where I was studying Zoology. It was a lovely place to be a student because Bedford College was smack in the middle of Regent's Park, next to the world-famous London Zoo.

During the summer months when windows to the lecture halls were open, we could hear the lions roar, and this was a welcome distraction from the often times tedious lectures. I had intended becoming an immunologist when I graduated, but then on a fateful trip to London Zoo, I met a glorious pigtail macaque called Porky and from that moment on I wanted to have primates in my life. So, I traded pipettes and petri dishes for a life that has been spent mostly monkey watching. My doctoral thesis was on monogamy in marmosets.

I now enjoy the companionship of nocturnal owl monkeys and, whenever I come to Summerville, I enjoy the

Marmoset couple



Photo © titipong

gibbons. I seem to be drawn to primates that live as monogamous pairs. I was always intrigued in what cements the relationships between the males and females in these monogamous primates. With gibbons, the beautiful duets that the males and females sing announce to all the other gibbons within earshot that they are a pair and that together they share and defend a patch of forest that they consider their home.

What of the smaller monogamous

monkeys of the New World? They chatter but don't sing together, but both marmosets and owl monkeys deposit smelly secretions as calling cards and it may be that their smelly signatures announce to other monkeys that they are partners. When I investigated the enduring male-female bond further by creating circumstances where unfamiliar marmosets could become visually acquainted, it was obvious that the fact the males were aggressive to males and females to females and this had a lot to do with the reason that these marmosets were both territorial and bonded to one another.

When a male marmoset spied an unfamiliar female, he could not conceal his attraction for her but his amorous behavior however changed dramatically when his partner arrived on the scene. I concluded that, while songs and smells are important, it is the aggression to individuals of the same sex that is responsible for the fidelity of the pair bond. I cannot help thinking that jealousy may play a similar role in human marriages though wedding bands and date nights are the better aspects of human enduring partnerships.

Owl monkeys



Photo © Arco Images GmbH

Protests for Primates – the Ape Alliance, the Tapanuli Orangutan and the Bank of China

By Ian Redmond, OBE

Ian Redmond at Save the Tapanuli protest



The times they are a-changing—and the nature of peaceful protest is changing too. This is a tale of public demonstrations large and small, and how sometimes they really can affect the survival of a species.

The Tapanuli orangutan was described by science in 2017. How extraordinary that we know so little about our closest relatives that a new ape species can be found in the 21st century! As readers of *IPPL News* are likely aware, no sooner had the species been recognised, that it was declared the most endangered great ape on the planet. Only 800 or so individuals survive in a dwindling habitat; the beautiful, biodiverse Batang Toru Forest in Tapanuli, North Sumatra, Indonesia.

This worryingly small population is already being fragmented into three sub-populations by roads, mines and plantations. The biggest single threat they face at present is the construction of a hydro-power dam across the Batang Toru River, reported to be financed by the Bank of China (BoC), which will flood the critical core area of the orangutan habitat.

Scientists predict this will lead to the extinction of the newly described orangutan. As well as impacting six other primate

species, including siamang and agile gibbons, and countless other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, some of them are found nowhere else on earth. Local conservationists are challenging the legality of the dam and calling for the forest to be declared a World Heritage Site, and their efforts have attracted international support.

It is a long way from Batang Toru to my rather cluttered office in the basement of the RSPCA Building in Stroud, England, but events were to link the two locations with a third equally distant destination: Beijing.

One day in March, I heard the manager of the charity shop upstairs calling down to say that I had visitors. I wasn't expecting anyone and wondered if a couple of volunteers had dropped by, but no, amidst the second-hand clothes and furniture I was greeted by two smartly dressed gentlemen from the Bank of China in search of the Ape Alliance. They had found the office address on www.4apes.com but no telephone number, so they took a chance, hired a chauffeur-driven car in London (120 miles away) and told the driver "find this office." Luckily, I was in and invited them to join me for a cup of tea.

No sooner had the species been recognised, the Tapanuli orangutan was declared the most endangered great ape on the planet.

The Ape Alliance is a loose coalition nearly 100 organisations concerned about ape conservation and welfare. On the 1st March we had taken part in global protests outside some Bank of China branches, including the one in London where these gentlemen work, and were planning another day of action on 21st March, urging the BoC to stop funding the dam that will destroy the Tapanuli orangutan.

My guests pointed out that on 4th March, the Bank of China had published a statement saying that the Batang Toru dam was a project still under review and that they had not yet provided any funding. They were at pains to say how much they respected our views, how they wanted to be leaders in Green Finance and in a very encouraging move, would like to host a round-table meeting in London of Ape Allies and their colleagues from the Bank of China Jakarta office. In return, please would we

call off the protests the following week.

Well, the purpose of the protests was to get the Bank's attention and it seemed we had succeeded (their visit to Stroud was clearly instructed by someone very senior in Beijing!), so after a conference call the next day, the Ape Alliance and a wider group of activists agreed to postpone the action, at least until after the round-table. We had people across the world all fired up to demonstrate their opposition to the dam. One of our allies, a US organisation called Mighty Earth, proposed redirecting the protest to the Mandarin Oriental Hotels in

New York and London. Why? Because the parent company of this luxury hotel chain is Jardine-Matheson, a long-established British company with interests in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia, including owning a gold mine in the Batang Toru Forest and Astra, Indonesia's biggest employer. While not directly



Tapanuli orangutan with baby





Photo © Ian Redmond

involved with the dam construction, the gold mine's smelters use power from the grid and so, if the dam is constructed, they would indirectly be benefitting.

To the bemusement of guests and top-hatted doormen, a giant gibbon and a crowd of banner-waving protesters handed flyers to passers-by in London, while in New York a petition was presented, urging Jardines to use its influence in Indonesia to halt the dam construction, which satellite images show is already destroying valuable habitat.

A few weeks later, Lord Sassoon, a Director of Jardines, invited Mighty Earth and the Ape Alliance to discuss the issue at their London HQ. The date happened to coincide with the Extinction Rebellion protests that occupied some of London's major landmarks, so I had the surreal experience of cycling from Marble Arch to Oxford Circus and down

Regent Street on roads completely devoid of traffic. It was wonderful—no dangerous encounters with lorries (English for “trucks”), no diesel fumes—just peaceful protesters calling for urgent action on climate change and the loss of biodiversity.

The protests were headline news, and completely changed the tone of the meeting. I asked Lord Sassoon which side of history did he want to be on? Business as usual leading to ecosystem collapse and climate breakdown, or speaking out against unsustainable development? To be fair, the gold mine had only recently been acquired by Jardines and they were broadly supportive of our cause, but on the dam their stance was neutral. They didn't need the extra power, but were unwilling to criticise the Indonesian Government and companies pushing for the dam to be built.

On 30th April, the Bank of China lived up to its word and hosted a meeting of scientists and other Ape Allies who presented a convincing body of evidence showing why the dam should not be built in Batang Toru. Not only because of the impact on orangutans and other wildlife, but because it will destroy the livelihoods of communities living downstream who depend on the river, and who will live in fear of disaster if one of the frequent earthquakes in the region causes the dam to collapse.

Again, the Extinction Rebellion headlines, the speeches of Greta Thunberg and Sir David Attenborough, all set the framework of our discussion and “put wind in our sails” to argue our case.

The CEO of the Bank of China (UK) and his counterpart from Jakarta took careful notes and forwarded our evidence to the review panel, which is still assessing the project. They would not commit to a date for the decision, but given their published code of practice and desire to be leaders in Green Finance, it is hard to see how they could approve the \$1.6 billion needed to build the dam. Without that, the dam is unlikely to go ahead.

If they decide not to finance it, the Ape Alliance will be the first to praise them for their far-sighted decision, but we made it clear that, if they give it the green light, the protests will resume. Maybe with some help from Extinction Rebellion (which coincidentally also started in Stroud!).

The fate of the Tapanuli orangutans has become a test case for the environmental impacts of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative, a multi-trillion-dollar network of roads, railways, ports, dams and other infrastructural development throughout the developing world.

Many of these developments will have an impact on primate habitat and increase the pressures on wildlife by facilitating access to hunters and trappers. The environmental cost of each project must be realistically assessed, and where it is too high, as with the Batang Toru Dam, alternatives **MUST** be found. The importance of primate habitat for climate stability cannot be over-stated, and the work of IPPL in monitoring and protecting primates—the #GardenersoftheForest—is more important than ever.



Photo © Ian Redmond

Mandarin Oriental Hotel asks "gibbon" not to block entrance

Here's What You Can Do!

The simplest action is to sign one of the several petitions. You can use your browser to search the internet for "Avaaz Tapanuli petition." You can also find it at https://secure.avaaz.org/campaign/en/save_the_tapanuli_orangutans_loc/?cWREjnb

Please send polite letters to your nearest Indonesian Embassy in support of the idea of declaring Batang Toru a World Heritage Site and urging the expansion of a nearby geothermal energy plant to provide power with less environmental damage.

His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia to the United States
Embassy of Indonesia
2020 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20036 USA

Indonesian embassies in other countries can be found at <https://www.embassy-worldwide.com/country/indonesia/>

You can also write to the Bank of China branches in Indonesia and the United States urging it not to fund the Batang Toru dam because it would be counter to their own green policies.

Mr Zhang Chao Yang
Country Manager, Indonesia
Bank of China (Hong Kong) Ltd, Jakarta Branch
Tamara Center Suite 11th Floor,
Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav. 24,
Jakarta 12920 Indonesia

President of the Bank of China
1045 6th Ave.
New York, NY 10018
USA

The cost of air mail postage from the United States to any destination in the world is \$1.15 per ounce. The cost from the United Kingdom is £1.35 for 10gms and £1.55 for 20gms.



From Dian with Love

Shared by Shirley McGreal

Dian Fossey was savagely murdered on 26 December 1987 in her cabin located at the Karisoke Research Center, where she established the first long-term study of mountain gorillas, in the mountains of Rwanda.

It is not known who committed the murder, and the reasons are not clear. Poachers? Maybe, but unlikely because they could have killed her years earlier. Did she know something about smuggling in the mountains? Could it have been a personal enemy? Or a senior government official upset that she just got a lifetime visa? No one will ever know.

Dian had no electricity in her remote camp in the mountains and she used a manual Olivetti portable typewriter, making two carbon copies of every letter, sheet, or field note, to conduct her prolific correspondence. Cabins were lit by paraffin pressure lamps, or

hurricane lamps when they ran out of shelf space. She had a fridge powered by kerosene.

I received regular letters, some eight pages long and single-spaced. Here are some highlights from her letters to me over the years.

Karisoke, May 19, 1978

“The most graphic, and rather horrid ones [photos] of Digit in death, are poses of his body sitting upright sans head or hands. I can’t look at them myself; they are in the same pose as the Rwandese poster which says, ‘Come and meet me in Rwanda.’”

“Thank you again for both of your letters. It is good to know that people in the outside world care about this place and my work with the gorillas. Possibly the day after day rain and fog which now totally envelop the camp and work do influence one’s moods; after Digit’s death, as well

as the death of a baby gorilla from Zaire [now Democratic Republic of Congo], it makes one wonder why they should go on fighting.”

Karisoke, July 19, 1978

“He did send me a number of black and whites, but of only 2 photos. He did not send any of Digit decapitated; it is not a pleasant picture to look at, however it tells more than any text especially when compared with Digit alive.”

“We’ve also completed 2 other censuses with the money and last week alone cut 32 traps. The money from England is just about finished now so I’ll be using what American funds are collected to continue with patrol work and training of Rwandese. It is my aim to see that the funds are directly applied to the work rather than to such things as airfares or expensive equipment.”



Photo © Ian Redmond
Dian takes notes on Group 5, Jan. 1978

Karisoke, August 4, 1978

"The latest news is tragic beyond belief. On July 24th Uncle Bert, the majestic silverback in his prime of Group 4, was killed by a single bullet into his heart, the estimated 16 to 17 year old female, Macho, mother of a 3 year old infant, Kweli, was shot and killed in the same poacher raid by a single bullet which went through her right arm, directly through her heart, smashing the ribs and exited her body; her 3 year old was slightly wounded through the right trapezius, probably by the same bullet, but lives."

"When Macho was shot, he turned back in an abortive attempt to go to her assistance and was shot head on. He was then decapitated, and the bullet which had lodged in his body was excised by a large panga [machete-like knife] slash on the right side from the heart chamber."

"With no silverback leader, the fate of Group 4 is virtually nil as they have

only ten-and-a-half-year-old Tiger and an older female who've been trying to lead and protect them... Also feel poachers will strike again knowing they are now without a leader. The entire situation is just about too much to bear. In closing I wish to thank the League for the money sent on to the Digit Fund which will be certainly used for poacher patrols. I will be keeping in touch."

Karisoke, September 19, 1978

"For this reason, I'm glad the old girl [Flossie and her daughter Cleo had joined the Susa group, Simba had joined Nunkie's group and had a baby, Jenny, in 1981] is away; hopefully she and her daughter will both have new chances to breed. So, essentially Group 4 is now split between 3 groups."

"Again, I wish to thank you most sincerely for all of your help and work on behalf of the gorillas. You have done a tremendous amount of good. It's wonderful to know that people do care. It seems that if one is to do this work

that you've accomplished something worthwhile rather than go along with the bunch that wants to turn their backs on the facts."

Karisoke, October 16, 1978

"In addendum to the above report, the boy, Ian Redmond, who took a spear in his wrist, is just fine and will be able to go through life showing off his poacher-spear scar to his great grandchildren with gusto. It took five stitches externally and a great number internally, but they didn't even keep him in the hospital overnight."

"Ian is from Yorkshire—need I say more! Have never met anyone quite as ingenious at getting things for next to nothing leaving the 'donor' feeling as though he were in debt to Ian!"

Karisoke, December 23, 1978

"I do have one bit of very sad news. Mwelu was killed, an infanticide victim, by Nunkie on December 6th when he took Simba into his group. This was not unexpected. Actually, Simba is far better off traveling with Nunkie, who maintains a range on Visoke's slopes, rather than the saddle, just now."

"Secondly, and I think this is quite comical, Puck, long considered a blackback male of Group 5 has also given birth!!! There is nothing I like better than being proven wrong and Puck's sex is undoubtedly one of the biggest mistakes ever made thus far; am delighted about it because that's what research is all about."

"Though as December 31st approaches I can't help but feel that I am stop-watching Digit's last days as of a year ago, a morbid feeling but one that persists. Also, the 'holiday season' is the



Dian and Shirley at Animal Protection Institute Conference
Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles in September 1981

properly, they make a lot of enemies, but how much more satisfying it is to know

biggest poacher season of all, and I am inclined to anticipate the usual influx



Dian with infant Poppy, Jan. 1978



Dian smiles at teenage poacher, not blaming him for following in his father's trade

despite the fact that most of the full-time poachers are still in prison."

Karisoke, February 8, 1979

"If I am correct, because of my Africans' work, there are no poachers within 5km. of the study area (*most are in prison because of the work of Nkubili*), but it is not good to relax vigilance."

"I can well understand why you are busy. I actually wonder if any other single person has done so much for the cause of Primate protection than yourself? There are so many people that yak about 'doing', but never act. I can only do for the gorillas, but you are doing for so many species."

Karisoke, March 1, 1979

"Thank you again for all of your support and your great courage. I do so wish the world was filled with Shirley McGreals."

Karisoke, April 23, 1979

"Patrol-wise, the Africans have been working very well having demolished 233 traps giving an over-all total of 354 traps in 28 days. This past week their 3 days of work only found 9 which disappointed them terribly but thrilled me."

Karisoke, August 19, 1979

"In the way of GOOD news—MUNYARUKIKO [*notorious poacher*] died on Sept. 3rd. Surely that will make your day! It sure made mine when I heard about it. I may have more to tell you about it someday."



Dian briefs Digit Fund anti-poacher patrol

During the Spring/Summer of 1980, Dian moved to New York

Ithaca, New York, Unknown date, 1982

"I so enjoyed talking to you today—it meant a lot because I am getting to the point where life in this country is absolutely becoming meaningless. It will always be encouraging to me to know, once I am back home, at camp, that there are people such as yourself who care about primates who cannot speak for themselves. More important you speak along with action yet without self-accolades. That is what active conservation is all about."

Ithaca, New York, February 10, 1983

"I would like to know when you sleep! First things first. I do want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for nominating myself, Jane [*Goodall*] and Birute [*Galdikas*] for the seventh J. Paul Getty Wildlife Conservation Prize. That really means more to me than you will ever know. If there were even the most remote chance of "winning", every cent of my third would be pledged toward Karisoke."

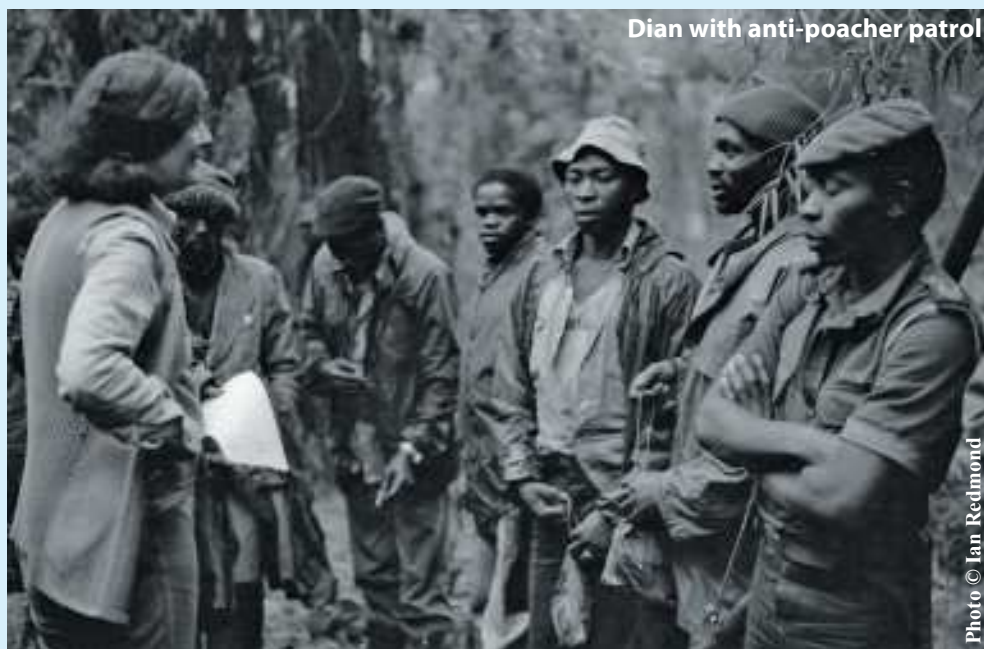
“I am pleased and yet, as you understand, dismayed, that you went to pick up a female gibbon [*Shanti*]. How sad that there was another available waif and loss; how wonderful that she has you and Arun to go to.”

Finally, Dian left the United States and moved back to Rwanda prior to her next letter in January 1984. From this point her letters reflected a more cheerful tone

Karisoke, January 6, 1984

“Patrols were resumed immediately and are working ever so effectively just like before, except that the students have swiped all of the real guns and the men have to work, or feel secure, with only little starter pistols which I bought in America with Digit Fund money.”

“In my dotage I have learned not to criticize the inability of students



to cope with the isolation, terrain, weather and food boredom available at Karisoke. Some, like Ian Redmond, can cope and others can't. Simultaneously

I can only give thanks for the Africans, most of whom have been with me since 1968, who have turned down softer jobs at higher salaries with the Mt. Gorilla Project.”

“In between passing out the food and the gifts, I had to deliver a baby, a premature male fathered by one of my best trackers and named Karisoke. I've never delivered a baby before but the lady did most of the work.”

“...Thanks to the Digit Fund I am running patrols six days a week; three weekly and the same men I have used for years and years, and three weekly with Park Guards. It is, in a way, a training program for the Park Guards who have been assigned, in addition to their other duties... ‘Guardians for Gorilla Groups’ is the theme behind the work for the guards in the hopes of giving them more individual motivation.”

Karisoke, May 6, 1984

“Dear Shirley, I am not ‘killing myself by neglect’! In 1963 a lung specialist in Louisville warned me that it would be suicidal to climb to Kabara on that first memorable safari to Africa (he subsequently died of lung cancer) ... I take vitamin pills, bought a small O2 machine, eat a couple of bananas to avoid potassium deficiency, and thrive on potatoes and eggs because of budget problems.”

Karisoke, December 5, 1984

“The Mountain Gorilla Project freely uses my name and that of Digit [*a young silverback slain on Dec. 31, 1977*] in the solicitation of their own funding, thus duping the public quite thoroughly.”

“In the meanwhile, the African staff and myself wake up each morning with our integrity intact knowing that our day will be fully utilized for the benefit of the gorillas. Integrity is the name of the game. If you have it, don't worry about what your next-door neighbors are doing—maybe it will rub off in time.”

Karisoke, January 20, 1985

“I do not recall how long the last of the 4 gorillas at the Singapore Zoo [*In 1983 Singapore Zoo had imported four gorillas, all of which died.*] was alone. No lone gorilla, certainly in captivity, is ever a contented gorilla, but rather



Thirty-eight-year-old Puck was one of the most studied mountain gorillas in history. Dian Fossey thought Puck was a male—right up until the time she gave birth to her first offspring. Puck died April 10 of cancer.

a maladjusted, depressed, introverted skin specimen of its species.”

Karisoke, October 17, 1985

“This year we have lost two silverbacks [*Nunkie and Beethoven*] from death by natural causes and four infants from infanticide [*When a silverback takes over a group whose leader has died or been displaced, the incoming leader often kills infants fathered by his predecessor, SM.*] There no way I can be optimistic about the species’ survival, albeit the poachers don’t roam like buffalo any more, nor are traps easy to find now. It is the human presence that is certainly intervening with their privacy and preservation.”

“I end this with the note that we are continuing to function on a near daily basis thanks to the Digit Fund which

pays the men/patrollers, not the park dept. or the various members of the gov. Let me know please how you are getting along, and about the Brazzaville 5 [*five infant lowland gorillas collected by a woman residing in the Congo Republic, she eventually amassed more than 30, most of whom died, SM*]. I know you will never give up your integrity but please never give up your aims. What ever would the primates of the world do without you? Love, Dian”

Sadly, this letter was the last one I

received from Dian. On the morning of 27 December 1985, Ann Pierce, a former Karisoke student called to tell me the terrible news that Dian was dead. I was so lucky that my paths crossed with hers and I will always miss her.



Dian’s grave next to her beloved Digit.

Read more about Dian Fossey!

Dian Fossey was a prolific letter-writer, using her battered Olivetti manual typewriter. IPPL published all her correspondence with me in our April and August 1988 issues of *IPPL News*.

https://www.ippl.org/newsletter/1980s/045_v15_n1_1988-04.pdf#page=2

https://www.ippl.org/newsletter/1980s/046_v15_n2_1988-08.pdf#page=17

In 1986 IPPL published a special issue of *IPPL News* with tributes from Jane Goodall, Heather McGiffin, Colin Groves, Dr. Juichi Yamagiwa, Melissa Panger, the late Maharaja of Baroda, Rwandan officials, and many more.

https://www.ippl.org/newsletter/1980s/039_v13_n1_1986-04.pdf#page=1

More Ways to Help IPPL

Volunteer

We are always looking for dependable, animal-loving individuals to work in the office, help prepare the gibbon and otter meals, work with animal care staff to clean indoor and outdoor habitats, and anyone with a green thumb would be a great help too!

Visit our website or e-mail info@ippl.org to find out how to get involved.

Matching Gifts

Many employers will match gifts made by their employees to 501(c)(3) organizations, thereby doubling or sometimes even tripling your donation and impact!

Find out today if your company offers matching gifts!

Donate Your Car

We offer a free, convenient service for converting that extra car, truck, or RV into a tax-deductible donation benefitting IPPL.

Visit our website or call 877-999-8322 to make your donation.

IPPL Welcomes Ape Action Africa!

By Jessica Byers

IPPL was treated to a very special visit from our longtime friends at Ape Action Africa (AAA). Rachel Hogan, OBE and Sanctuary Director and her colleague, Susan Lutter, had come to the United States for Rachel's *Saving Gorillas Tour* in San Francisco and New York. We were delighted to have them add a side trip to South Carolina to come see us at IPPL.

Upon arrival in Summerville, Rachel and Susan were greeted with beautiful May weather. It was warm, flowers were in bloom and you could hear gibbons singing, birds chirping and lizards running through the leaves. On hand for Rachel's presentation were IPPL staff, IPPL members and invited guests.

AAA's sanctuary is in Mefou Primate Park, Cameroon, Africa and is located on roughly 1012 hectares (2500 acres) of land. Since 1996, the sanctuary has rescued hundreds of primates, some only days old and hours from death. Once in AAA's care, the staff works around the clock to give them urgent veterinary care, nourishment and a future.

During Rachel's presentation, with the help of Susan Lutter, we learned about some of the extraordinary work of AAA. Then, Rachel shared the stories of three of their amazing gorillas.

For Rachel, originally from Birmingham, England, it all began when she went to AAA in 2001 as a volunteer for three months. Little did she know how that trip would change her life forever. Towards the end of her three-month stay, a two-week-old orphaned baby gorilla was brought in. Everyone thought that this baby gorilla would die; never had a gorilla this young been hand-reared and *survived*. Rachel was determined to prove them wrong. She did—and she never left!

When this baby was given the name Nkan Daniel (*Nkan means gorilla in the local dialect*), no one knew what an important role he would play in his group. Nkan Daniel became a very strong silverback, and now leads a troop of 10 gorillas. He also chose an equally strong and suitable mate, Nona.



Rachel's presentation at IPPL

Nona arrived at the sanctuary as an adolescent. She was found at a camp and had been badly wounded by bullets when her mother was shot and killed for the bushmeat or the illegal trade markets. When Nona was found, this poor young gorilla had been without water for days and infection had set into her wounds. Thankfully, she was rescued by AAA—giving her the opportunity of a bright future. Not only did she recuperate, eventually she became a mate to Nkan Daniel, who leads their troop. Nona and Nkan Daniel had a baby, named Dr. Sandra, but sadly she died in 2014 due to unknown causes.

Another orphaned gorilla, who owes his life to AAA, is Shufai. He was found in a poacher's camp suffering from bullet wounds after his mother had been shot for bushmeat. Once at AAA, he was treated and began to thrive but, as he got older, the wounds in his arm were causing him great pain and so his



Rachel with baby Nkan Daniel



Magnificent Nkan Daniel today

Rachel Hogan started as a volunteer in 2001 and was appointed director of AAA in 2010. Earlier this year, Rachel was presented with the Order of the British Empire (OBE) from Prince Charles for her efforts in the protection and conservation of wildlife.



Frightened and injured Nona upon arrival



Beautiful Adult Nona

lower left arm was amputated. Always a little fighter, Shufai did not slow down. He keeps up with his troop, climbs trees with the rest of them—and he even beats his chest with one arm! His courage is an inspiration!

One thing that stood out during Rachel's presentation was the tireless, commitment that AAA demonstrates every day by providing life-saving rescue, care, and a future for so many primates. With a primate population of over 350, including 213 monkeys, 111 chimps, and 23 gorillas among others, this organization works non-stop!

Rachel also told us about other aspects of the sanctuary's work, including their ongoing battle with poachers which leaves countless orphans to be sold and even die. They also operate a thriving education program for local school children, who are encouraged to visit Mefou to see Cameroon's wildlife in its natural environment.

In addition, AAA has always been committed to identifying areas that can be set aside as protected habitat for rescued gorillas and chimpanzees. It is their hope that one day the great apes and monkeys in their care will be released back into the wild, where they belong.



Tiny Shufai when rescued



Shufai now a healthy adult!



Susan, Shirley and Rachel



Guests visiting IPPL's gibbons

***Local IPPL members and invited guests
donated over \$600 for the sanctuary during Rachel and Susan's visit.***

Meet the IPPL Otters

Since IPPL was founded, we have had small numbers of Asian short-clawed otters living with us. Members who visit inevitably fall in love with these lively little animals, who weigh between eight and ten pounds. They are sociable and live in small family groups. We have received pets whose owners no longer want them, and surplus animals from US zoos.

Currently we have six otters living with us in three pairs: Pickles and Turnip, Boo and Otis and Olive and Mocha. All six came from zoos. We are entertained daily by the antics and personalities of these little fellows.



Mocha and Olive



Pickles and Turnip



Boo and Otis

Lab Monkeys' Horrible Deaths

Seven baby monkeys reportedly died of poisoning at the University of California Primate Center located at Davis outside Sacramento. The center is one of the seven federally-funded primate centers, and it houses 4,200 monkeys.

The 16 June issue of *The Guardian* reported that the baby monkeys were separated from their mothers and marked with dye. The dye turned out to be toxic to the babies. Seven monkeys, ranging in age from one day to a few weeks old, died. Dye was found on the fur, skin and around the animals' mouths.

Former primate researcher John Gluck commented that

"Seven infant rhesus monkeys, ranging in age from one to 19 days of age, were forcibly removed from their mothers, had a physical exam, were tattooed, had blood drawn, were marked with a dye with irritant capacity, and then placed back on their anesthetized and unresponsive mothers."

According to the 6 June 2019 issue of *Science* magazine, 76,000 monkeys were used in US research laboratories in 2017. Primate use is increasing. The US Department of Defense is a major user of monkeys in experiments into biological and chemical warfare experiments.



Ginger

Celebrating 20 Years and Thankful to IPPL!

By Sheri Speede, Founder/Director Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Sanctuary

IPPL sponsored my first trip to volunteer as a veterinarian in the country of Cameroon in 1997. Though neither Dr. Shirley McGreal nor I knew it at the time, the trip would change the course of my life. Less than two years later I was living in Cameroon and working to establish a new chimpanzee sanctuary, which I would eventually name Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue, based on its location in the forest near the confluence of the Sanaga and Yong Rivers.

During the many years since that first trip, Dr. Shirley McGreal has provided me with invaluable advice and moral support, and IPPL, under her leadership, has provided funding for

several of Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue's programs. I am delighted for this opportunity to commemorate our 20th anniversary by sharing a bit about our work and why African sanctuaries are so important to conservation.

Our Sanctuary

In 1999, we rescued our first three chimpanzees, long suffering adults who were languishing as tourist attractions in small cages at a resort hotel on Cameroon's Atlantic coast. One of these three, our beloved Jacky, is in his 50s today and still thriving at the sanctuary. He and our 75 other rescued chimpanzee residents, most of whom

were confiscated as babies, have access to tracts of natural habitat forest and are served a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables four times per day. In providing permanent homes for these illegally trafficked chimpanzees, Sanaga-Yong has been a critical element for the arrest, prosecution and conviction of poachers and traffickers.

While our location deep in Cameroon's Mbargue forest is ideal for our rescued chimpanzees, it can produce extreme challenges for those of us caring for them! The recent collapse of the bridge over the Yong River, which connected us to surrounding towns, is a prime example. For the last 20 years, we



Destroyed Bridge

could cross the bridge in our pick-up and drive to town in 45 minutes to buy food, medicine and camp supplies for the chimps, staff and volunteers. Now it takes four hours to drive on back roads around the bridge. We're currently in the process of importing a lightweight, aluminum boat to cross the river.

Forest and Wildlife Protection

Our mission is to provide the best care possible for our beloved chimpanzee residents while we work to prevent the killing, capturing, and orphaning of chimpanzees who still live free. We have spearheaded the creation of a protected area in the forest surrounding the sanctuary. The forest is home to free-living chimpanzees (who we hear and see often), gorillas, several species of monkeys, three species of pangolins and other wildlife.

In 2017, after our many years of efforts, a governmental commission signed an order to protect 28,285 acres (11,416 hectares) as the new Wall-Mbargue Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge is now on the national map, and we're awaiting the Prime Minister's signature that will allow eco-guards to be allocated to it. The area has been depleted under heavy hunting pressure for decades. With the area's new designation as a protected area and with our oversight in the forest, poaching and illegal logging have decreased. The surviving chimpanzees, gorillas and other wildlife are already safer, but we need eco-guards to provide an

effective enforcement mechanism so that populations can steadily increase, and biodiversity can gradually return to the Refuge. Sanaga-Yong will provide housing for the eco-guards and other support, as needed, to help them protect the forest and wildlife.

Conservation Education

In 2015, IPPL funded the first printing of our children's book, *I Protect the Chimpanzees*. We use the book as a centerpiece for our impactful classroom education program in primary and secondary schools surrounding the Refuge, as well as in schools around other imperiled wildlife areas. So far, we have educated and impacted the attitudes of 5,000 rural students, who will be future wildlife stewards in the heart of important



Kanoa

Photo © Jacques Gillion

habitat. Our studies show that the program has lasting impacts on the knowledge and opinions of students and that multiple contacts over time is the most effective way to strengthen conservation values and reinforce compassion. We hope these efforts will help protect future generations of chimpanzees and other wildlife.

Village Community

Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of people in the surrounding village community. These include the families of 30 permanent employees and others hired temporarily for special projects, the families of 100 local farmers who grow food specifically for the chimpanzees and the children who are literate thanks to teachers in four schools around the Refuge, to whom the sanctuary contributes salaries.



Jacky

Photo © Sheri Speede

Young chimps with caretaker



Photo © Jacques Gillon

Conclusion: Why African Sanctuaries are so Important to Conservation

African sanctuaries, like Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue, place tremendous value on each precious life we save. At the same time, we lead conservation programs that are the most effective on the African continent when evaluated per dollar spent. Charged with the care of long-lived primates—chimpanzees can live over 50 years—sanctuary directors and staff are the international players who stay in the field long-term.

Inspired by our love and admiration of the primates we know personally, and by our very practical desire to stop the influx of confiscated orphans into our sanctuaries, we are passionate and driven to stop the killing and orphaning. This translates into programs aimed at stopping poaching and saving habitats, and we learn firsthand what works and what doesn't. We address primate conservation from a truly informed, ethical and compassionate perspective.

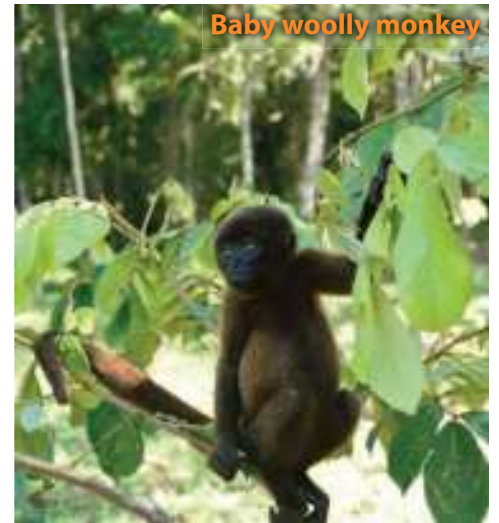
*Thank you, Dr. Shirley McGreal and
the IPPL team for always
supporting and understanding
the unique capacity of sanctuaries!*

Earthquake Rattles Ikamaperu

IPPL has helped support the Ikamaperu Sanctuary in Peru for many years. It is a rescue center primarily for spider, woolly and other monkeys confiscated from people owning them illegally. The sanctuary has been successful in returning spider monkeys to the wild.

We were extremely alarmed to hear from H  l  ne Collonges that the sanctuary was at the epicenter of the earthquake that struck Peru in the early morning hours of 26 May 2019. The quake measured at an 8 on the Richter scale (this size earthquake can be felt as far as 483km or 300 mi away), but originated roughly 114 km (70 mi) deep underground. Thankfully the damages were not as catastrophic as they could have been and, astonishingly enough, no humans or animals were killed or injured. H  l  ne told us a few days later,

The water tank has to be rebuilt as the structure has been totally fragilized, same thing for the nursery for the baby woolly monkeys. The kitchen for the monkeys has moved a lot and the structure has to be rebuilt entirely. It will be necessary to move it to another place as the ravine has been weakened as well. The roof is still good and can be used again.



In the environmental education center, all water channels have been shaken and broken. Our carpenter evaluates the rebuilding with labor included to 5000 euros more or less.

IPPL hopes to help when we receive further information and photos become available.



Releasing Rehabilitated Baboon Males as Single, Dispersing Males

Potential flaws, Hoped-for successes, and Why it is necessary

By Samantha Dewhirst, Director C.A.R.E.

Background

Baboon males are tarnished with a reputation for being audacious and particularly prone to conflicts with humans. So, then, what—of releasing males which have had contact with humans as infants and have been held in captivity? Some people may feel this is a waste of time; a recipe for disaster and not

necessary. After all, baboons are not yet considered endangered.

C.A.R.E., The Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education, a wildlife rehabilitation centre in South Africa, specializing in the rehabilitation and release of chacma baboons (*Papio ursinus*), believes that each baboon orphan is important and deserves a chance to be

free, a birth-right which was stolen from them by humans. One of the questions C.A.R.E.'s Founder, Rita Miljo (1931-2012), is renowned for asking is, "Why wait until a species is on the brink of extinction before we try to help?". C.A.R.E. was founded on the sentiment of that question.

In 1987, Rita turned her plot of land,



Troop release in 2015

a 14 hectare (34.5 acres) piece of scrub-bush beside the Olifants River, into a wildlife rehabilitation centre, primarily for baboons. By 2006, when I first visited C.A.R.E. as a student, the centre had more than 300 baboons. C.A.R.E. had grown into a fully-functioning rehabilitation centre and Rita had formed a model for raising and releasing baboon orphans back into the wild, with an exceptionally high success rate; a world's first.

Rita was a pioneer and C.A.R.E.'s reputation, paired with Rita's tenacity, ensured that any baboon in need of help within South Africa and surrounding countries had a refuge. The high intake, with lack of available contraceptives, meant the population grew rapidly. The baboons were happy and reproducing; something which wasn't frowned upon, as when a baby is born into a group of misfits, it can often be the cement needed to complete the bonds between

the individuals; turning them into a family. Cohesiveness is essential for survival of the troop in the wild.

Externally, the world's human population has also been escalating and areas which were once diverse foraging grounds for wildlife have been cleared for human settlements, plantations, agriculture, and in the more recent decade, Game Farms for the breeding of designer species which fetch a high price in Hunting Safari packages. Primates in particular are not welcome and although the IUCN assigns chacmas as "Least Concern," some local populations have been observed to be threatened with extinction. This may be true for more populations, but is unknown due to limited population-level spatial and demographic data.

Baboons today are still trapped, shot and poisoned regularly. Due to the drastic changes in land uses, despite releasing 15 troops since 1999, C.A.R.E. has found it very challenging to find suitable, available habitats to release baboons as fast as they come into the centre. Meaning by 2012, the time of Rita's tragic death, the population was bursting at the seams with over 600 primates which were beginning to find themselves in aging, cramped enclosures. Since Rita's death, supporters came to the baboons' rescue with funds to rebuild and transform the centre, continuing her legacy. In addition to a plethora of new first-class facilities, increased education and outreach programs, we have released several troops and all the baboons are on contraception; still, new orphans arrive on our doorstep and our population remains steady at 447.

A Welfare Predicament to Overcome

A challenge shared by most sanctuaries is that the population of male baboons at the centre is considerably higher than that of the females. This carries a number of problems; when males reach sexual maturity, as in nature, dominance displays and fights for rank are common. Being sexually dimorphic, the larger males often cause stress on the females and suppress lower ranked

Males on 2014 troop release



males, resulting in loss of condition and increased susceptibility to illness.

Sustainable & Achievable Solution In-line with Overall Goals

This summer, we hope to try out a new strategy to maximize the numbers of wild, rehabilitated animals being released and minimize rehabilitated animals being kept unnecessarily in captivity. With GPS collars (5 funded by IPPL), we plan to release single transfer age male baboons to mimic natural dispersal patterns. The baboons must fulfill strict criteria and will be released into protected reserves with resident troops. We still aim to release

whole troops. However, the immediate options for releasing male baboons in this way are plentiful, require less human resources, and are easier.

Thus far, we have identified a number of individuals who meet the criteria and this is likely to increase with time due to our refined, more hands-off rehabilitation process. If our initial data proves that males, released in this manner, successfully integrate with wild troops, survive and avoid humans, then we will have a case for going forward with these types of releases.

Data could be published to further strengthen the case for single male

releases which from a welfare perspective, is imperative, and from a conservation point of view could confirm the importance of rehabilitation centers in supplementing wild populations and adding genetic diversity.

Counteracting and Outweighing Risks

With all wildlife releases there are many risks to safeguard against. Our methodology, pre and post monitoring, in accordance with the IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines will be followed as per usual. When males disperse in nature it is a very dangerous time for them; there's increased risk of: injury as they try to integrate into

Sebastian arrived at less than 3 days old with umbilical cord still attached; his mother, exhausted from giving birth, must have opted for an easy meal from mis-managed waste and she was killed by dogs.

He benefits hugely from our new rehab methods (bonding very young babies to surrogate baboon mothers) allowing him to be a wilder and a more adjusted baboon.

If his new baboon family is not released before he reaches sexual maturity, he can potentially benefit from the single-male release with GPS collar.





new troops, predation and also increased risk of human conflicts.

However, the risks in captivity are also high, injury as a result of males fighting for dominance is not uncommon. The GPS collars provide us and the landowner a lot of reassurances; the male could be tracked and relocated should he leave the protected area, reducing all risk of possible conflicts. A warning message will be sent to our cell-phones should a.) the baboon move out of the designated area we allotted as 'safe', b.) if there is no movement of the baboon; thus, we can react accordingly.

It is possible that the baboon will not eat enough food; as per our usual releases some supplementation can be provided in the early days and as the GPS collars will allow, we can track the individual to observe Body Condition Scores; scores we give to decide if the baboon is above or below optimum body condition. If there are any concerns, due to the reliability of the GPS collars, we can react accordingly and intervene if ever necessary.

Contribution to Conservation Science

Currently there is a constant flow of wildlife, including endangered species, requiring rescue and rehabilitation due to human interference. Single male release offers an opportunity to reduce the pressure on primate rescue and rehabilitation centres by allowing the release of adult males when they reach transfer age, the age they would normally disperse from their natal group to find a new troop.

The validation of this technique for translocation of male dispersed primates offers conservation another tool to help restock species suffering from local, national or international endangerment. C.A.R.E. believes now, deep within a biodiversity crisis, there is a real need to develop and improve techniques for the rehabilitation and release of the world's animal species.

With many species on the brink of extinction, wildlife rehabilitation centres could play an important role in the preservation and reintroduction of endangered species.

Criteria to Identify Single Male Chacma Baboons for Release

- Raised with other baboons, weaned early from human contact
- No stereotypical behaviours
- Exhibits normal social behaviour
- Sexually mature
- Afraid of humans
- Full set of canines
- Pass veterinary clearance according to the IUCN/PASA guidelines

Other behavioral cues which we see which indicate a potential male for the study is that they spend much less time interacting with their own troop and spend more time observing neighboring troops and trying to interact with them.

Gibbon Rescue and Conservation Education in Vietnam

By: Lois Lippold, President of Douc Langur Foundation

Recent Douc Langur Foundation (DLF) actions at Chu Mom Ray National Park (CMRNP), supported by the International Primate Protection League (IPPL) and Wildlife at Risk (WAR), have saved another gibbon's life. Speedy co-operation between DLF, IPPL and WAR resulted in the



Gibbon rescued by CMRNP

rescue of a critically endangered infant gibbon.

In early June, DLF was advised by a trusted informant that a “young” gibbon was being kept at CMRNP’s “Rescue Center” and that they were planning to use this gibbon as an exhibit animal at the park’s “mini zoo.” Employees had no idea how to care for their charge. During the night, the little gibbon was locked in a floor level box and during the day was allowed to roam around the rescue center. Food provided consisted of leftover rice and meat.

When DLF and WAR arrived, the veterinarian found the gibbon was severely malnourished and ill. WAR transported the gibbon to its headquarters where he remains in quarantine. With round the clock care the gibbon is improving and is expected to survive and join other DLF and IPPL rescued gibbons at the WAR facility.

DLF and IPPL sponsor snare and trap patrols monthly at CMR. Participants are forest rangers from 14 forest guard stations, two mobile teams and contracted forest guards (Douc and Gibbon Conservation Teams) with 354 participants. During April 2019, 14 forest protection stations conducted 120 inspection patrol tours covering 82 forest sectors.

As a result, 79 people were arrested, four hunting camps burned and 1,121 snares removed.

A new activity supported by DLF and IPPL has been added at CMR. Forest guard stations conduct village conservation meetings. All occupants of villages adjacent to the park are highly encouraged to attend these meetings. For example, in March 2019, 303 villagers took part in conservation education activities. The education content was focused on raising the villager’s awareness of forest protection activities and reviewing the environmental laws of Vietnam.

Forest Protection Rangers conducting Conservation Education at CMR



CITES Conference Rescheduled

By Shirley McGreal

The 19th Conference of the Parties (COP19) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) was scheduled to be held from 23 May to 3 June 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. At present, 183 nations are treaty members.

CITES conferences are

held every two and a half to three years in differing locations that are selected by the treaty's members nations, IPPL has been represented at every single one since 1979. The conferences are attended by party delegates, representatives of other United Nations agencies, observers from a wide spectrum of non-governmental organizations, and the world's press.

CITES conferences make it possible for observers from non-governmental organizations to make great contacts and organize side-events about many topics, including ape trafficking. At CITES 2002 held in Chile, a side-event was devoted to a gorilla trafficking ring operated out of Nigeria which had been exposed by IPPL.

Ian Redmond was going to lead IPPL's 2019 delegation and was making plans; when suddenly things fell apart. On Easter Sunday (21 April 2019) a series of explosions happened at three churches and three luxury hotels on the island of Sri Lanka. As a result, the conference was postponed.

New plans for COP19 were recently announced. COP19 will be held from 17-28 August in Geneva, Switzerland.

The conference consists of plenaries attended by all nations, and then breaks into two committees; the Plants Committee and the Animals Committee. Among their agenda items are proposals to add as-yet non listed species to the appendices and proposals to add species to Appendix I. Appendix

Shirley with Asian delegates at CITES-Bangkok in 2004



I provides the most protection from trade to listed species by requiring dual permitting (import permits from the importing nation and export permits from the country of origin). Appendix II requires only export permits.

When these committees have completed their work, the Plenary reassembles. There were no proposals for primates for consideration at

COP19. At the last conference held in Johannesburg in 2016, the Barbary macaque was upgraded to Appendix I.

Several species upgrading proposals were of special interest to IPPL: the Asian short-clawed otter and the Indian smooth-coated otter were both proposed for addition to Appendix I, and the giraffe for addition to Appendix II. IPPL will work to ensure that these three and other animal-friendly measures pass.

Shirley with delegate Bourama Niagate of the animal-friendly nation of Mali.



Gibbon You All My Love

By Jennifer Buchanan and Stacy Lambert



On the back cover of the March 2019 issue of *IPPL News* we introduced you to Paen, a very sweet gibbon who has been here at IPPL since June 2016. She came to us from a zoo in Idaho, where she was living alone after the death of her sister. She loves to carry around her stuffed animals, and even bathes them, but she has never had a male companion. The caregivers here thought now was the time to give this sweet girl a chance at love.

Paen however, is very picky and there was no spark between her and the first two bachelors to whom we introduced her. We did not want to give up though! After much reflection, the caregivers thought that our recently widowed gibbon, Scrappy, would be a good fit for this unique girl. Scrappy is several years older than Paen, but in the gibbon world that doesn't really matter. They have many things in common, including some of their favorite foods; dried berries and nuts.

At first Paen did not seem that interested in Scrappy, and caregivers thought that maybe having a male companion wasn't in the stars for her. We do not give up easily at IPPL and slowly inched them closer together until they were near enough to share their food. Yet Paen still did not seem all that impressed with poor Scrappy.

Very cautiously, caregivers finally opened the last barrier separating the two and watched with bated breath as Paen ran away. The humans were all convinced that this

match was not made in heaven, but Scrappy is a very patient and kind suitor. Over the course of the first day caregivers watched as the two danced around each other, showing interest and curiosity, but still too nervous to approach.

Towards the end of the day, one of our caregivers that has a strong bond with both gibbons decided to try to "bridge the gap" between them and lure them close to each other with back scratches. Excited about getting some attention, they came up next to each other. Very tentatively, Paen began grooming Scrappy! Excited about this development, their caregiver backed away, and that's when Paen and Scrappy turned and embraced.

Finally, our two lovebirds became one. Ever since this fateful day, Paen and Scrappy's bond has continued to blossom. We knew it was truly meant to be when a few days later Paen presented her stuffed puppy to Scrappy. Now, they are one big happy family; these two gibbons and their stuffed animal children!



Special Gifts to IPPL Given by:

- **Miriam Bisbing**, in memory of Charles & Kay Clausing
- **Denise Bossarte**, in honor of Fran Ippensen
- **Terrence Burke**, in honor of Helen M. Burke
- **Harriet DuPriest**, in honor of Shirley's birthday
- **Susan Choi-Hausman**, in honor of Connee Choi
- **Brien Comerford**, in honor of God's creatures
- **Pam Dauphin**, in honor of Joanne Pierce
- **Veronica Ferguson**, in memory of Arun Rangsi
- **Harriet Gross**, in honor of Norman Gross on Father's Day
- **Traci and Bill Hoeltke**, in memory of our dear dog, Wisner
- **Diane Koosed**, in memory of Arun Rangsi
- **Carol Leenstra**, in honor of the Innocents
- **Lois Lippold**, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- **Kerry Masters**, in loving memory of Bob Anderlik
- **Linda Morton**, in honor of Shanti's birthday
- **Katherine Nadolny**, in memory of Nancy J. Woods
- **Elizabeth Olson**, in honor of my daughter, Oriana
- **Elizabeth Orr**, in honor of Shirley McGreal
- **Loren Ostler**, in honor of The IPPL and Eagle Network
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- **Jane Stanfield**, in honor of the CARE baboons
- **Friedrich Wendl**, in honor of Whoop-Whoop
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If you have received this magazine and are not currently an IPPL supporter, you can help sustain the important work of IPPL on behalf of the world's primates by making a financial contribution. By sending in a donation, you will be sure to continue receiving thrice-yearly issues of *IPPL News*. You may also donate online, if you wish, on IPPL's secure Web site (www.ippl.org). All donations are welcome!

Please accept my contribution to support the work of IPPL. I have enclosed the following donation:

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Millions of people around the world change their place of residence every year. That makes it hard to keep our mailing lists up-to-date. You can help us lower our postage costs by telling us of your new address in advance. Just send us an e-mail (info@ippl.org) or postcard with your old and new addresses. That way we can spend less money on overhead and more money on primates! (And you won't miss a single issue of *IPPL News*!)

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Leave a Lasting Legacy...

...for the Primates You Love

Over the years, IPPL has benefitted greatly from bequests left to us by departed supporters. Their thoughtfulness has allowed IPPL to...

- ◆ build new gibbon houses and outdoor enclosures at our sanctuary;
- ◆ acquire new sanctuary land, now totaling 45 acres, which not only creates space for our gibbons but provides a buffer zone that shelters local wildlife;
- ◆ construct a much-in-demand guest cottage for our visitors, known as “Swan and Mary’s Cottage” after the lovely couple who left IPPL the funds to build it;
- ◆ provide support to dozens of primate sanctuaries and rescue organizations around the world, wherever primates are native.



Ahimsa, son of Arun Rangsi and Shanti

Some of our bequests have come from people who have only been able to make small donations during their lifetimes. Others honor friends. For some, there are tax advantages to making bequests to charities.

Your bequest to IPPL will ensure that our unique work can carry on long into the future. Our address to include in your will is: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484, USA. Our U.S. federal tax ID number is 51-0194013.

If you are thinking about remembering IPPL in your will or trust, know that your love for primates will continue to live on through your generosity.

With gratitude,

Dr. Shirley McGreal
IPPL Founder and President Emeritus



Gary, retired from a tourist venue

Primate Paraphernalia!



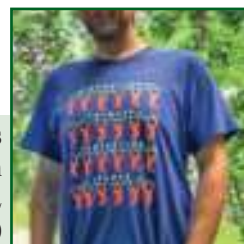
Two-sided Gibbon Tote

Each unique bag was air-brushed by San Francisco artist Ken Holley
Cost: US \$30 • Overseas: US \$40



T-shirt with Black Swinging Gibbons

100% cotton. Also in yellow and pink
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL
Cost: US \$15 • Overseas: US \$22



T-shirt with Orange Swinging Gibbons

100% cotton. Also in green
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL
Cost: US \$20 • Overseas: US \$30



IPPL Gibbon T-shirt:

100% cotton; green shirt features 3 IPPL gibbons: **Arun Rangsi**, who came to IPPL as a baby from a biomedical lab; **Igor**, who spent 26 lonely years in research; and **Beanie**, who was blinded by illness.
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL; Child S, M, L, XL
Cost: Adult US \$15 • Overseas: US \$22
Child US \$12 • Overseas: US \$26



IPPL Swinging Gibbon Roomy Totes

with a side pocket and an inside pocket
Cost: US \$25 • Overseas: US \$35

Two-sided Gibbon T-shirt:

100% cotton T-shirt with gibbon design front and back
Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL; Child S, M, L, XL
Cost: Adult US \$20 • Overseas: US \$30
Child US \$15 • Overseas: US \$19

Shop online for more gibbon apparel at www.ippl.org/!

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Meet the Gibbons Available for Adoption



Please adopt me at www.ippl.org!

Courtney

Courtney was born at IPPL on 10 January 2002, the result of a failed vasectomy. When she was 12 days old, her mother rejected her, leaving this tiny infant with a terribly mangled leg. Since she could not be returned to her mother, she was hand-raised by IPPL staff, special night-nannies, and volunteers for over six years. Many caregivers took turns feeding her, playing with her, and taking her for walks around the sanctuary grounds. Always curious and energetic, she was a real handful! Courtney has made an amazing recovery since the difficult time of her early life. She now runs, swings, and climbs so well you would never guess how badly she had been injured.

Despite Courtney's high level of activity, she is the biggest gibbon in our sanctuary. If asked what her favorite food is, we would have to say "grapes, and well... everything!" Since May 2009, Courtney has been paired with a former lab gibbon by the name of Whoop-Whoop. His mild-mannered personality is a good match for her wild ways as he always lets her have first dibs at their lunch pail. We hope you will consider adopting this spunky and determined "not so little" ape!



*Adopt me
too at
www.ippl.org!
Peppy*

Peppy was born in 1979 at a cancer lab run by the University of California at Davis, where the gibbons were used in painful and usually fatal viral cancer experiments. When the lab closed, he was sent to another research facility, the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) in New York. Fortunately, LEMSIP closed in 1982 and he and his companion-for-life, Helen, came to IPPL. They lived together at our sanctuary for 35 years until Helen suddenly died of cancer. Peppy sucked his thumb the day he arrived and has never "kicked this habit."

Peppy is the only gibbon who favors veggies over fruit, and in the morning, in addition to looking forward to breakfast, Peppy has his own ritual. When let out of his night quarters, Peppy begins every single day by running from one end of his outdoor enclosure to the other—the whole length of it, arms flung up, out of sheer excitement: it's as though every day he's grateful not to be stuck in a lab! Wouldn't you like to adopt this grateful little guy?



Visit IPPL.org for more information



Tong travelled the farthest to get to IPPL—all the way from Thailand! She is a yellow-cheeked crested gibbon who was wild-born in her native Vietnam around 1970. When she was an infant, she was sold to a US serviceman. When he left the country, Tong remained in the care of his servants. Unfortunately, they knew very little about gibbon nutrition, so Tong developed rickets, a deforming bone disease. Fortunately, Tong ultimately ended up in the care of newly formed IPPL in 1974. The only gibbon of her kind at IPPL, her coat color is reddish-gold, with a little patch of black on the top of her head. Her song is quite different from those of the other gibbons and ends with a lovely, bubbling trill. She is known for doing happy gibbon calls and somersaults whenever she sees special treats coming.

Tong's favorite foods are citrus fruit and all kind of beans. She loves her blue ball and is ready to play as soon as one of the animal care staff rolls it to her. She squeaks and dances around it—rolling it with her feet. She can get distracted, but as soon as it is rolled back to her, she starts dancing again! Would you like to adopt Tong? The only IPPL gibbon who came from Thailand and “wears” a stylish black hat—you would be helping care for this charming senior girl!



*Don't forget about me!
Visit www.ippl.org now!
Tong*



Shanti, whose name means “Peace” in Sanskrit, was born on 7 February 1978 at the Laboratory for Experimental Medicine and Surgery in Primates (LEMSIP) in New York. IPPL was looking for a potential mate for IPPL's very first rescued lab gibbon, Arun Rangsi (Rui). In 1983, Shirley and a former animal caregiver drove to New York to bring Shanti back to IPPL to begin her new life at our sanctuary. They found her living alone in a small cage—what a change she was about to have! Once at IPPL, we observed that Shanti had a very laid-back disposition. Her favorite food became figs and her favorite pastime became picking fresh figs from trees next to her outdoor habitat. When she was introduced to Rui – it was love at first sight. For over three decades they rarely left each other's side and even shared food. Sadly, in December 2018 Rui became very sick and he was gently put to sleep. After all the years that he and Shanti spent together, we thought it was fitting to offer Shanti as our newest gibbon available for adoption. We have a feeling that Rui would approve and hope that many of you will want to make Shanti your new adopted gibbon!



*Share your love by adopting me
at www.ippl.org! Shanti*

Adoptions make wonderful and unique gifts – all year long!



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



PRINTED MATTER

Meet Snowy!



Snowy came to IPPL in 2017 after a wildlife park in Florida suffered extensive hurricane damage and then fell on hard times. We agreed to welcome Snowy and one of his sons, Val. Two IPPL volunteers, John McGreal and Tom Knost, drove to Florida to get Val in November and Snowy in December.

Snowy, who will be 35 in September, is a little ball of non-stop energy. His daily routine is going back and forth from his night house to his spacious outdoor enclosure swinging

on every rope and surface that he can grab along the way. So taking photos of this active gibbon is challenging at best. The only time he slows down is when animal care brings his lunch of fresh fruit which he quickly grabs and takes off again. Quite a sight to see Snowy racing off with pieces of fruit tucked in his feet so he can eat on the go!

He is currently a bachelor, but perhaps one day we might have a female to introduce him to—providing Snowy will stay still long enough to say hello!