



News

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A Note from Shirley

Dear IPPL Friends,

In this issue you will read articles by some of the people who were going to make presentations at our 2020 conference which was postponed due to the pandemic. They include Adams Cassinga, who founded the first sanctuary for monkeys in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Samantha Dewhirst of the C.A.R.E Baboon Sanctuary in South Africa. They, and other sanctuaries around the world, are suffering because of loss of funds and volunteers.



Here at IPPL, we are enjoying beautiful weather. The sweet smell of roses, tea olives, and confederate jasmine fills the air. Bird life includes cardinals, chickadees and tiny wrens. We have more hummingbirds than usual this year.

This morning, I visited our gibbon Maynard, who came here from a sanctuary in Washington State in 2009. He is a rambunctious male. His loud calls upset neighbors who threatened to shoot him, so he was sent to IPPL.

Our supporter Donna Tichenor had been volunteering with Maynard at his former home. After he came to IPPL, it took Donna several years to locate him as the sanctuary manager would only say that he had been sent to an “awful” place!

Then I suddenly got a phone call out of the blue asking if we had a gibbon named Maynard. Donna’s husband had done a Google search for “Maynard Gibbon.” I confirmed that we did indeed have a Maynard! Soon after, Donna visited and she later moved to Summerville.

When I saw Maynard this morning, I sat down with him. He started calling loudly. I called Donna. I don’t know if Maynard heard her voice, but he called nonstop for 15 minutes.



As IPPL continues to take precautions, we hope that all of you are well and staying safe. As always, we thank you for your concern for the world’s primates!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shirley McGreal".

Dr. Shirley McGreal
Founder

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IPPL News

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About the Cover



Rita Miljo, founder of C.A.R.E., often said, “Why wait until a species is on the brink of extinction before we try to help?” It was this belief that motivated her to start a baboon sanctuary in 1989. Since Rita’s tragic death in 2012 these words have continued as the heart and purpose of C.A.R.E. The orphaned baboon on the cover is one of countless babies rescued by C.A.R.E. over the years. (see story page 8)

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.

SANCTUARY FOR “TAILED MONKEYS” ESTABLISHED IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

By Adams Cassinga

My name is Adams Cassinga and I was born in a small town called Bukavu, on the Congo-Rwanda border. Even though Bukavu is only 25 miles (40 kilometers) from the Kahuzi Biega National Park, home to the mountain gorillas, I have never seen a mountain gorilla in the wild. In order to view one in my country, it costs about 750 US dollars. Clearly that’s a price calculated for rich foreigners, not people from an average African family like me.

I so much wanted to be zoologist, biologist or primatologist but my parents refused to pay my school fees if all I wanted to be is a monkey chaser!

They wanted me to get into the army and serve as an air force pilot, instead.

The idea of creating a sanctuary for “tailed” monkeys came to us when we observed a trend in the bushmeat market, where every type of “tailed” monkey is not considered protected. Even though our country has laws protecting certain wildlife species, many more species do not have protected status and thus, they are vulnerable to extinction very soon. We are ranked as one of the countries most affected by poaching and trafficking of protected species in the world.

So we thought there was a need for a project which would help ensure the future existence of some of these animals, mainly primates and “tailed” monkeys in particular.

I have loved all wildlife but, since an early age, I have had a soft spot for primates. At the primary school I attended, there was a rule that we should not speak in any other languages besides English and French. If anyone spoke in any other language, he was given a special punishment. At the time corporal punishment was banned and they thought the most appropriate way to punish us for that particular offence was to make us wear a chimp skull around the neck, during break time.

This way, other youngsters ran behind the one wearing it and likened him to a chimp, calling him/names such as

“uncivilized.” To many of them that was torture but, after I wore it twice, I got hooked on it and I would start speaking in my mother tongue often on purpose in order to wear it! It had a way of making me feel special, in touch with that animal’s soul.

For the first time, at age 12, I saw a chimp at the Lwiro Rescue Centre. Ever since, I have always thought that humanity was probably not limited to humans only. I know we have other relatives in the wild. They don’t speak or behave like us, but we have a link somewhere. If anything, we should respect them, including their right to life!

As a founding director of Conserv Congo, my team of eco activists and I have investigated many cases involving primates and we have managed to save five great apes and many monkeys, in the process of fighting the illegal trafficking of wildlife in our country.

We are faced with many obstacles, including not having a proper environment to put these animals should we save them. Due to this challenge, there many primates out there, held hostage while others are just in the wrong hands of pet owners, and many more in the bush meat market, waiting to be slaughtered for dinner, and we find ourselves in a very difficult situation where we delay to save them because we don’t know where to take them and how to feed them.

So we have recently purchased a piece of land of about 250 acres (100 hectares) and we plan to make a rehab centre on one side and then plant fruit trees, vegetables and other indigenous trees on the other side. We are still in dire need of funds in order to kickstart this project.

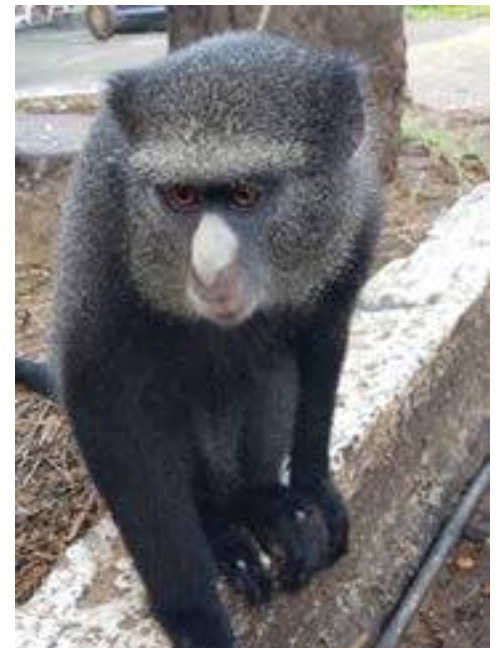
We believe this is going to be the first non-discriminatory sanctuary in the country, as we plan to take in any kind of primate except great apes for whom other sanctuaries exist. Any other tailed monkey will be welcome, from the largest to the smallest.

The future of the project is for educational and observational research purposes. We shall enter into agreements with universities in order to form partnerships for our own sustainability. The centre will prioritize local youths and they will be encouraged to use the centre free of charge. On the property, we will also broadcast programs relevant to the community’s environmental issues.

The area is called Dumi, on the outskirts of Kinshasa. The area is on a plateau, but most of the local species were consumed to extinction by poachers. It is crisscrossed by two major rivers, both tributaries of the Congo river.

Meet four members of our monkey family:

Bobo (blue monkey)



Bobo is the biggest monkey we have. She is about three years old and was confiscated from an immigration officer who bought her from a poacher. She was kidnapped as a toddler after her mother was eaten as a result of the bushmeat trade.

Bobo is the matriarch of our small primate family. She takes care of every other member, but she also has an unpredictable character, and she has

attacked her caregivers twice. She has a very bad temper due to the abuse she received. As a result, she does not like any female human approaching her. It was established that the woman at the home where she was kept was mistreating her and she still has those bad memories. Now that we understand her better, we give her time alone when she wants it.

She has a huge appetite and can eat up to 3.3 pounds (1.5 kilos) of food in a day. Her favorite foods are maize dough (ugali), avocado and sugarcane.

Masta (Vervet monkey)



Masta is the only male in the family. He is a true gentleman. He protects the entire clan, despite his small stature. He is the small alpha male of the family. He is brave and fearless. We got him from a man who kept him as a pet. He was not just an ordinary pet. He was trained to steal for the owner. Masta is slick. He can quickly get into your pocket and take whatever he likes! He is closer to the dogs than to other monkeys. He plays with them and sleeps with them during the day. At night he loves sleeping in the large mango tree.

He also had his accomplices in those two dogs. He would enter through the window and then he would open lock on the door for the dogs to come in. They would then commit their crime without any worries. Masta loves peanuts and loves to play in water. He has this strange look, almost like a baboon, but smaller!

Masta loves hanging around me when

I am working. He is very protective of me and likes to get into my shirt when he feels vulnerable. He disturbs me a lot when I am eating. Even when I give him his own plate, he wants to eat from mine.

Bolingo (Red-tailed monkey)



Bolingo is the baby of the family at only eight months of age. She is the boldest female we have. She wants what she sees—and she wants it at any cost! She never takes No for an answer. She came from Mbandaka, at the beach where she was being sold to passengers going to Kinshasa. Our agent confiscated the infant and warned the seller. She has been with us for four months now and is still growing fast.

Bolingo means “Love” in Lingala. She loves pawpaw fruit and milk.

She is close to every member of our team. She is cool with everybody. Not fussy at all!

Shalako (Red-tailed monkey)

Shalako is another case found in Monkoto, where her mom was caught in a trap and for two days the little infant was there, hungry and dehydrated. She was rescued and voluntarily surrendered to us by the hunter. She has been with us for five months. She’s traumatized and sometimes shows signs of withdrawal.

She was adopted by Kiki, another matriarch who nurses both Bolingo and Shalako. She is more of what we humans would refer to as a mama’s girl!



Shalako was named after the man who rescued her. She is older than Bolingo.

Kiki (Red-tailed monkey)



KiKi is about three years old. She was confiscated from an army officer, who kept her in a very small bird cage. The cage was so small that she couldn’t turn around in there. She was in a very bad state of health. She was underweight and looked malnourished. After three months of care, she turned out to be a very kind and calm monkey. She eats, plays, cares for the two little ones and she never fights with anyone, or for anything.

As a result of being confined for a long time, she spent many months here, but could not climb a tree! Today, she loves

jumping from one tree to another. She is just a food lover. She is definitely the healthiest of them all, and she never says “No” to food. Her name Kiki is a common name for a monkey in Central Africa.

Their fate is in our hands

The three other monkeys include a black and white colobus, another red-tailed monkey, and a vervet.

When talking of bushmeat in the Congo, primates and tailed monkeys in particular are the most vulnerable. First because they live in groups, are easy to kill with guns and traps. In addition, the indigenous people are accustomed to their taste, which is different from any other species of wildlife.

These animals are under tremendous pressure and they are targeted from all angles. Amongst the many threats, we can cite poaching, bushmeat consumption, deforestation and logging, demographic

explosion and of course ignorance.

The lack of a proper biological inventory is also a contributing factor to the decimation of these monkeys because no one knows how many are still out there.

At the moment, the fate of these monkeys is in our hands and so is their future existence.

We cannot keep fighting this scourge by repression only, but also by being proactive. Many people may wonder why protect what is not legally protected. However, whatever is legal is not always what’s right and vice versa. Once a monkey has been smoked on fire, which is the most way poachers and ordinary people preserve their bushmeat here in Congo, no one can tell which species it was. In fact, nobody cares as long as they can eat it!

At any given time in Kinshasa we could rescue up to 10 monkeys a day. The only problem is we don’t have enough means

and enough land to put them on.

Other than that limiting factor, we wish to collect as many as we can lay our hands on and put them where they belong, the wild!

We project that, in less than ten years, we should be able to release at least 500 “tailed” monkeys into this forest, which may grow in size depending on our capacity to buy more land and grow their food on there. This will also attract other stray animals running away from dangers and which do not have a habitat.

This will also regenerate ecosystems and make them even better for other species such as insects and birds.

This is the reason why we feel that creating as many sanctuaries, rehabilitation centers and other artificial habitats across the country and region, may be the only option we have left for the survival and future of these smaller primates, neglected by the law and the people.

Maui Art Class Studies and Paints Gibbons and Other Endangered Species

By Barbara Steinberg, BFA

Fourteen years ago, I created the “Maui Animal Kindness Club Art Class.” The classes are offered year round for children ranging in age from 5–15. The class pledge is: “I promise to be kind to animals (as well as people) and to speak and act in defense of all helpless creatures.”

Included in each class is a Show and Tell time where the young artists share their paintings and tell how they have been kind to the animals they painted. Almost always their response is, “I painted the gibbon, or other animal, free in the wild.”

Each week, I try to email their art to places who rescue and protect the animal that the students painted. It is our hope that their art will inspire all who see it to care about saving the endangered species they painted. One of the classes went to the office of Mayor Victorino this year and each child bought three paintings that depicted endangered species of Maui. They were quite proud to receive a proclamation declaration making Endangered Species Day on Maui an annual event!

Each year I participate in a juried native species of Maui art exhibit in Maui. This year two of my paintings were accepted and so were two from my talented students!

During the last few months the students painted a subject very dear to my heart . Each week they painted a different primate such as the beautiful gibbons at the International Primate Protection League (IPPL). At the end of this annual project copies of the images are sent to Shirley McGreal, our inspiration and mentor for many years. I told the children about three gibbons rescued from a roadside zoo in Maui that now live at IPPL. They love to talk about this! We consider IPPL and Shirley—and the gibbons special friends!



Barbara’s painting of IPPL’s Arun Rangsi



Barbara and her talented students

Life in China Studying the Forgotten Apes

By Carolyn Thompson



(Above) Carolyn monitoring gibbon behaviour in the forest along with a local reserve ranger who used to be a hunter!
(Inset) Betty the female Skywalker Hoolock gibbon (who sadly only has one eye—reasons unknown).

The morning sun blinds me as it peeps over the tops of moss-covered tiled roofs of a local ethnic minority dwelling. Two chickens sneak past me into the open kitchen to watch morbidly as their duck cousin is prepared for breakfast. They screech as a small, angry elder shoos them away by flapping her arms wildly.

The houses date back more than 50 years and are made from old wood and bamboo harvested from the forest in the days before the nearby reserve was established. Mules, pigs and chickens are found on the ground floor and humans roost above. Night-time can be a very noisy affair!

Suddenly, something magical happens—a melancholy song carries across the neighbouring reserve canopy and into this small Chinese village of 10 elders. It is the song of the gibbons.

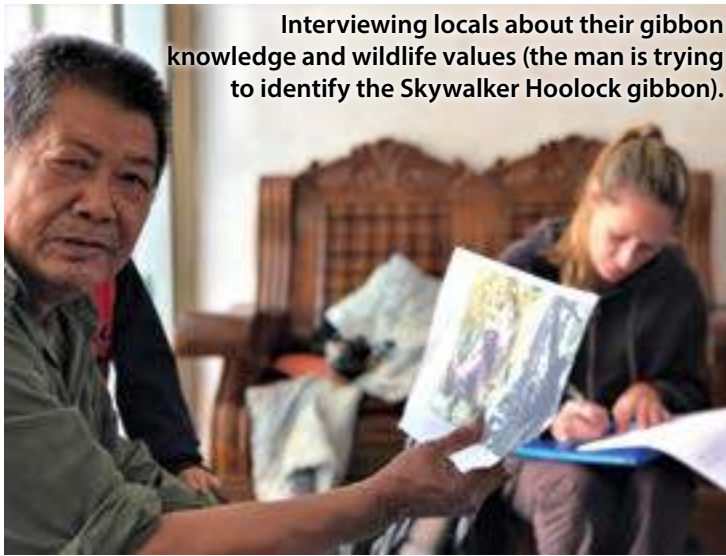
I am a doctoral student studying the world's most threatened primates in China. I study gibbons, the smallest of the apes, known for their territorial songs, coordinated duets, acrobatic locomotion, and small family group sizes. Of the 20 species, 19 are on the brink of extinction.

I study three of the rarest gibbon species: the newly described Skywalker Hoolock gibbon found on the China-Myanmar border with dwindling numbers below 150; the Hainan gibbon, considered the World's rarest primate with a mere 26-30 individuals on Hainan island in the south China Sea; and finally, the Cao vit gibbon, found on both sides of the China-Vietnam border in numbers below 130.

My doctoral research combines biological data (gibbon behaviour, ranging and feeding) with social data (interviews with local people to understand their nature and wildlife values, and patterns of resource use). It is a novel approach which I hope will explain some of the patterns of gibbon decline we have witnessed across China over the past 2000 years, and more importantly, help to inform future conservation strategies.

I interview local people surrounding the last remaining gibbon strongholds in Yunnan, Guangxi and Hainan provinces. So far, my findings suggest that local people value gibbons highly, symbolic of a shared and rich cultural history. Gibbons found

Interviewing locals about their gibbon knowledge and wildlife values (the man is trying to identify the Skywalker Hoolock gibbon).



outside of nature reserves are protected by locals who are keen to develop ecotourism in the area. Furthermore, by protecting the forest, these locals seem to understand that it will shield them from natural disasters and safeguard the gibbons who are vital seed dispersers.

To ensure I get the most candid answers from local people, I immerse myself into village life. China boasts 56 different ethnic groups, colourful cultures and 300 local dialects. I once had the pleasure of dining with Miao, Lisu, Jingpo, Man, Dai and Han people all around one table. We toasted everyone's health in our local dialects with small glasses of Baijiu (potent Chinese rice wine). After the first round I was tipping backwards off my stool...

It is not always easy doing research in China. The language barrier aside, I was once reported as a terrorist on the China-Myanmar border, and another time I tripped over a farmer's chicken, leaving my foot black and the size of an elephant's.

My culinary palette has also been tested on numerous occasions by eating duck brain, beef intestine, chicken feet and the famous 100-year-old egg. Supposedly, 500 years ago a farmer found preserved duck eggs in a muddy pool of water containing calcium hydroxide. He hatched the idea of making this egg himself. Fermented in strong black tea, lime, salt, and freshly burnt ashes, the eggs are left to ferment for two to five months (not a century!). Once "brewed," the egg white has a black congealed consistency and the yolk is a dark goopy

Education in a remote school next to gibbon habitat.



A remote ethnic minority village where I have stayed high up in the Yunnan mountains, adjacent to Skywalker Hoolock habitat.



green. Not for the faint-hearted!

The rewards from this work far outweigh the challenges, however. One of my most memorable field moments was meeting an 87-year old woman who had never left her small, remote village or met a Caucasian woman before. Although bed-ridden, she insisted I visit. We talked in basic Mandarin

about her childhood and her family and she told me old folktales about the gibbons.

It is always an honour being invited to stay in a local's house. Chinese people are incredibly warm and generous. In minutes I am treated like family, helping with homework, sipping green tea and looking at the sunset. I also try and visit as many local schools as possible; the students are always eager to learn about the Queen of England and her corgis.

When dusk falls, the busy villagers amble back from the fields to their abodes, until a blast of techno music can be heard vibrating from the village centre. Here, hard-working women will dance away their physical and mental aches and pains of the day. I always excitedly join in with my two left feet, much to the delight of on-lookers!

And of course, then you have the charismatic gibbons. Following them in the forest is always an adventure. I pinch and remind myself that this is my job! I follow the gibbons from dawn until they find their sleeping trees in the afternoon. We go out in all weathers, but I do not notice the rain. During a day's follow, the gibbons sing, feed on unusual fruits, flowers, bugs and leaves, and play with bird nests that they discard on my head.

The gibbons are often referred to as the "forgotten apes" because, in the shadow of their great ape cousins, they receive considerably less research, funding and media attention. It is therefore a privilege seeing these majestic apes in the wild and hearing their haunting songs which serve as an important reminder that they are still here.

Carolyn is a British-Swiss primatologist and 3rd Year PhD researcher at University College London and the Institute of Zoology in the United Kingdom. She is studying three of the World's rarest apes and spends her time recording gibbon behaviour and working closely with local communities to establish sustainable solutions for coexistence. You can follow Carolyn and learn more about her and her research here: www.thompsoncarolyn.com; Twitter: [@gibbonresearch](https://twitter.com/gibbonresearch); Instagram: [gibbonresearch](https://www.instagram.com/gibbonresearch).

C.A.R.E. and COVID-19

Surviving, frustrations, hopes and reality

By Samantha Dewhurst

The urgent need to help wild animals survive, conserve populations, and preserve habitats has never been so apparent as it is today. Even before the pandemic, it was well publicized that biodiversity is reaching crisis level and humans need to make profound efforts to protect and respect nature.

The evidence provokes an urgent, pressing need to act. At the end of 2019 C.A.R.E. had an exciting five year strategy which included securing land for semi-wild enclosures and to ensure we have areas to safely release baboons.

2020 – C.A.R.E. goes back to survival mode

2020 was to be the launch of reaching long term dreams for C.A.R.E.'S baboons. We had many achievements, including the early release success of five orphans who are all enjoying freedom, and were looking to many new possibilities. With plans in place, a steady stream of volunteers confirmed, and a new release site, we were betting on a good year. Our long term goals were so close and then suddenly we were brought back to solid Earth. COVID-19 has brought the whole world to an unbelievable stand-still.

The possibility of a global virus had been predicted for some time—due to man's disrespect for wildlife and the environment. The impact is staggering and heart-breaking. Our mission is to continue our fight to protect and care for the primates even though it may be more difficult (or challenging). Stephen Munro, Managing Director, and I are used to adversity: adapting to chaos and rising above the challenges which relentlessly come with the territory. This situation is new and has us very concerned.

C.A.R.E. survives because of the army of volunteers we have enlisted around the world and organizations like IPPL providing essential funds in times of need. With volunteers unable to come due to border closures, and all institutions globally facing the same catastrophe; it has been a struggle for us. Overnight, all



main streams of income have disappeared, staff on the ground are minimal, our usual food suppliers ceased activity, and the promise of helping hands vanished.

Yet here we are with 430 orphaned souls looking to us to provide security and care. We are still dealing with the usual but always unexpected situations, such as vehicle repairs, responding to calls for animals in need and veterinary emergencies. Feeding the baboons has become expensive and our staff must still be paid (even though only 3 out of 12 remain on lockdown with us) but incoming funds are low and our reserves diminishing!

Despite our resilience and how accustomed we are adapting to challenges over the years, we now find ourselves back to survival mode. We've taken advice from other centres, veterinarians and experts to minimize the damage the virus could cause us, but the reality is, no one really knows how long it will last.

We persist

We are used to disease control and prevention and have strict protocols to protect the baboons due to the common risk of tuberculosis. COVID-19 similarly is a respiratory illness. Therefore, while the basics were already in place to protect staff and primates, we have amplified preventative measures; personal protective equipment, hand-scrubs and sanitisers—all expensive necessities. Living hand to mouth in the past was normal, but we have worked uncompromisingly to have a financial cushion. Seeing our reserves diminishing makes us feel undone.

Still we persist. Holding fast to our achievements, to words of encouragement, donations, and the outpouring of love towards our baboons all help us to feel optimistic.



Love in The Time of COVID-19

By Stacy Lambert, Lead Animal Caregiver, IPPL

Here at IPPL, we started off 2020 with high hopes. Preparations for our 16th Biennial Supporters Conference were underway and the staff was excited to see our members once again. Then, everything came to a sudden halt as the COVID-19 virus began to sweep through the world. On February 24th, we made the difficult decision to cancel the conference in order to protect the staff, speakers, our resident animals and, of course, all of you.



IPPL Animal Care team

A few weeks later we decided to put the entire sanctuary on lockdown, quarantining ourselves from our local members by stopping all visitors and even volunteers from entering the grounds. As conditions worsened, the staff came together and decided to add on to our already stringent protocols to make sure that we were doing everything possible to keep the gibbons and otters safe, particularly since quite a few of our animals are elderly. Needless to say, it was a lot of changes to tackle one after another.

While the world continued to suffer, the staff was determined to make sure that our animals were in no way affected by the chaos. Luckily, since we're not open to the public, our day-to-day activities weren't greatly impacted, but with the staff always in masks and trying not to physically interact with the gibbons and otters as much as normal just to be safe, they could tell something was going on. So, we banded together and began to think of fun, new ways to expand our enrichment program.

Between holidays, staff appointed themed days, tasty new recipes and a neighbor's rock band who was constantly practicing outside, the gibbons and otters had something

new and exciting going on in their lives constantly! The banana bread "cookies" we made for Easter were a favorite with the gibbons, and Otis, one of our otters, was ecstatic over his four-leaf clover ice cubes! As donations from our Amazon Wish List began pouring in,



Scrapy with Easter banana bread cookie

we added fun new toys, windchimes, Kongs and, of course, bubble machine days (always a favorite) into the routine.

It hasn't been boring out on the grounds and some days we aren't sure who's having more fun with the enrichment items, the animals interacting with them or the staff watching the fun! Even though we're restricting our physical interactions with the animals, we want to make sure that they still know how much we love and adore them every day.

But the love doesn't stop there! While dating is almost impossible during this period of social distancing, the matchmakers here at IPPL are still hard at work and we are happy to announce our newest paired couple, Peppy and Mia! Peppy, one of our adoptable gibbons and a favorite amongst members, came to IPPL in April of 1982 after spending the first three years of his life as a test subject at two different labs. He was paired with a young female named Helen before he was rescued and the two had 35 wonderful years together until Helen died in March 2017.

Ever since, the Animal Care staff have been keeping an eye out for a good mate for him and we finally found his perfect match in Mia, an ex-zoo gibbon who arrived at IPPL in March 2015. We had tried to pair Mia with a few of our other bachelors over the years but there were never any sparks between them. So, the staff had an idea, why not move Mia into Gibbon House 5 where Peppy lives to see if there is any attraction.

Almost immediately, Mia and Peppy were captivated by one another and would spend all day staring at each other across the sidewalk that separated their two enclosures. Shortly after, they began

singing together, then started responding to each other's songs and the staff knew that they were singing the songs of love!

We began the introduction process between Peppy and Mia but these love birds had other plans and demanded we speed the process up! Peppy would actually pull and bang on the gates separating them while Mia stared longingly at him. After a rather short introduction period, the two were put together and have been happy ever since. They now spend their days lounging in the sunny spots in their enclosure and participating in long, relaxed grooming sessions.

We have even seen Mia bring Peppy food if he's not nearby during feeding times! While these two are still in their honeymoon stage, this new couple is not into public displays of affection and has

made it almost impossible for us to get a good picture of them together. A staff member will see them grooming each other but, as soon as we grab a camera, they jump apart and act as though nothing was going on. Only after some sneaky, paparazzi style hiding was one of the caregivers able to snap a photo of them side-by-side, but even then Mia turned her head as though to hide her face! Since Mia is more reserved with the staff than Peppy, we'll continue to watch them from afar so they can focus solely on each other and their budding new romance.

While times have been difficult recently with all the stress, worry and isolation, we at IPPL have never felt alone, and that is because of you. The love and support that we have received from so many of our amazing supporters

through Facebook, emails and phone calls has been incredible. There are not enough words to express our gratitude.

When we found ourselves with a shortage of masks for the staff to wear whenever we are out around the animals or handling food and put out a request for help on Facebook, we received 50 fabric masks in the mail the next week.

The amount of donations of supplies from our Amazon Wish List and Nuts.com account has been staggering.

So truly, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for everything you have done to help us out over the past few months.

We look forward to the day that we can once again open the gates to all of our incredible supporters and let you come experience the amazing sanctuary that we like to call home.



Otis, obsessed with ice treat enrichment



Mia (left) and Peppy



AmazonSmile and IPPL's Amazon Wish List

More than ever, people are shopping online. If you are shopping on Amazon—PLEASE use AmazonSmile. All you have to do is visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> and select International Primate Protection League as your charity. At no additional cost to you, Amazon will then donate a portion of your purchase price to us!

And while you are shopping—please consider our gibbons because they enjoy getting special items from our supporters. There is a link to IPPL's Amazon Wish List at <https://www.ippl.org/gibbon/how-you-can-help/> Purchases are tax deductible!

For Our Gibbons and Otters—Thank you!



Respect: the basis for Human-wildlife coexistence in India

By Ian Redmond

Imagine looking into your garden and seeing a troop of monkeys rampaging around. As a reader of *IPPL News*, you might be delighted and reach for your binoculars or camera, but as a gardener wanting to defend your carefully nurtured blooms or vegetables, you'd be reaching for your... what? Gun? Catapult? Stick? Water-pistol? The thing you reach for in such a situation will depend on your attitudes, which of course will have been shaped by where



Wildlife gardening in India. Hanuman langurs prune bushes as their infants play on the lawn in a front garden on a busy road in Patan, Gujarat.

and how you were brought up, and then modified by your experiences in life. Human-wildlife conflict, often abbreviated as HWC, is a critical issue in a world where more and more natural habitat is shrinking, being converted to human-dominated landscapes of agriculture and residential areas with little room for wildlife. HWC arises most often when humans and wild animals compete for resources, but in India—one of the most populous countries on Earth with 1.35 billion people—there are many examples of HWC standing for human-wildlife coexistence. Why is that the case?

Cultural and religious influences play a central role in how people deal with HWC—and this is one of the fascinating aspects of spending time in India, where compassion for wildlife is literally written into the constitution, as well as the teachings of the major religions. Seeking a deeper understanding of this was part of the reason I spent January and February in India this year, also leading up to attending the 13th Conference of the Parties to CMS, the UN Convention on Migratory Species for which I serve as

an Ambassador. I spent January in warm, humid and gloriously green Kerala, in the south-west, and February in the more arid northwest of Gujarat and all too briefly, Rajasthan. The above photograph of a garden full of langurs was taken in Patan, Gujarat, and while the adults were eating the leaves of the flowering bushes, their impact on the plants was not unlike a gardener pruning and thinning them. The infants and adolescent langurs were having a wonderful time chasing each other around the lawn and jumping on and off the garden swing. It clearly wasn't the first time this troop of Hanuman Langurs *Semnopithecus entellus* had availed themselves of the garden's amenities, and yet it looked like a well-tended garden—clearly their feeding and play was not as destructive as it might seem at first glance. Apparently the two species of primates—humans and langurs—were able to share the space. The response of the infants to me and my camera—they squealed and ran to Mum for reassurance—suggests that the householders probably chase them away from time to time, but with a level of tolerance that they too have a right to be there.

Patan is a walled town with a long Muslim history and some breath-taking historic structures such as the nearby Rani Ki Vav, an ornate 11th century step-well as impressive as any medieval cathedral in Europe. The main religious text for Muslims is the Koran, or Qur'an, which has this to say on our relations with other species:

*There is not a thing that moves on the earth,
no bird that flies on its wings,
but has a community of its own like yours.*

Mohammed (520-632)
The Qur'an 6:38

In Mount Abu, Rajasthan, I visited the Dilwara Jain temple, where unbelievably ornate white marble carvings cover every surface, and the local Hanuman langurs benefit from the ancient Indian concept of "ahimsa"—non-violence and respect for all life, human and non-human. This is central to Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism, especially the latter where Jain monks will sweep the path with a brush made of peacock feathers before walking in it to avoid



accidentally crushing an insect.

Two of the most popular Hindu deities are Ganesha, the elephant-headed god of hospitality, writers and intellectuals, remover of obstacles, and Hanuman the monkey god, often depicted as half-man half-monkey, a symbol of strength and energy, and leader of a monkey army in the Hindu epic, Ramayana. Because of this, Hindus see elephants and monkeys as earthly representatives of these deities and treat them with great respect. For monkeys this manifests in them being fed in temples and roadsides, and people

being more tolerant of them stealing food or crops. For elephants, unfortunately, this results in the keeping of elephants in temples, where they spend much of their life chained to the ground, so they can be fed by devotees and trained for use in festivals where they are controlled using the double-spiked ankus.

In Kerala, my focus was on elephants and their mistreatment in captivity, as well as how HWC is resolved. My most uplifting moment was watching a herd feeding in a tea plantation near Munnar and realising they were pulling up grass

and small plants between the tea bushes (which they don't eat), and so they were effectively doing the weeding!

I usually write and lecture about primates and elephants being #GardenersoftheForest but in India I saw them being gardeners of the garden and plantation. All is not totally rosy, however, because they do raid crops and steal food from tourists. I experienced this myself when I had to physically push away an optimistic Bonnet Macaque *Macaca radiata* who was intent on entering my hotel room in

Kumily to forage—he had a hand missing, so became known as the One-armed Bandit as he checked out the home-stay every day for less vigilant visitors from whom he might steal food. His ability to scale the drainpipe despite his missing limb was most impressive!

In Periyar National Park, where strict rules prohibit people from feeding wildlife, I watched how the macaques had developed a simple but effective method of acquiring food: the more confident members of a troop would charge at a group of tourists in which one or more are eating snacks, causing mild panic and

Wild elephants feed on grass growing between tea bushes near Munnar, Kerala.



the inevitable dropping of said snacks, which the monkeys quickly snatched up and consumed with evident relish at a safe distance. Others simply swiped ice creams from unwary children and enjoyed the high-energy food, watched by a fascinated and mildly amused crowd. Such incidents happen everywhere tourists come into contact with wild monkeys, but consider this in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Research indicates that all Old World monkeys and apes are likely to be susceptible to coronaviruses, and so every time a monkey steals an ice cream, or a devotee offers food willingly to appease Hanuman, there is now a risk of the recipient contracting COVID-19. The consequences of this could be far-

As we look to the post-COVID future, although everyone is keen to get “back to normal,” many people are calling for a new, greener normal, and there is a determination to build back better our lives and our economy. With that in mind, the world would do well to adopt the intent behind the passage from the Constitution of India displayed on a sign at Trevor’s Tank Forest Reserve, Mount Abu.

2020 was supposed to be the super year for Nature, during which the world would agree on a way forward to an “ecological civilisation”. The CMS CoP13 was planned as a curtain-raiser for a series of high-level meetings of world leaders to agree on, in UN-speak, a “post-2020 framework for biodiversity.” Instead, our way of life was brought to a screeching halt by a few strands of self-replicating RNA—a virus causing

The One-armed Bandit, a Bonnet Macaque foraging on hotel balcony in Kumily, Kerala.



a disease, the likes of which we have not seen before. The UN meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity and climate convention have all been shunted into next year, and we are all learning new ways of doing things remotely. Perhaps, united against a common foe in the shape of a virus, the COVID-19 crisis will bring out the best in humanity and we will emerge with determination to work together for a truly sustainable future. The alternative doesn’t bear thinking about!

Note: Many of the incidents described here appear in the #BrightenYourDay series of videos posted by Ian on Youtube, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/YoGambassador/videos>



Bonnet Macaques eat stolen ice creams in Periyar National Park, Kerala.

reaching and potentially disastrous for the whole ecosystem.

We do not yet know the mortality rate from this new disease in different species, but even if just unwell, a sick monkey is more likely to fall prey to a predator. In Periyar, for example, this could result in the novel coronavirus entering the tiger population. The Bronx zoo has reported that tigers there have tested positive for SARS-Cov-2, the virus causing COVID-19, and so there is a very real threat of this zoonotic virus, which jumped from wildlife to humans in a wildlife market in China, jumping species again all over the world and adding a new threat to already endangered species of wildlife.



Extract from the Constitution of India on a sign at Trevor’s Tank Forest Reserve, Rajasthan.

An email from our friends at J.A.C.K.

From Roxane Chantereau



Dear Shirley,

Here in the Democratic Republic of Congo things are very weird. The virus was said to be in town in March. The city was set in total lockdown with the army everywhere. We couldn't drive to the chimps and called the local Governor for a special permit to drive through the military roadblocks. He gave us an armed police escort so that we were not bothered by the army when going to the sanctuary.

Then, two days later, the COVID-19 cases were said to be negative. The shops and factories opened again as if lockdown

had never happened. Rebels then took the opportunity to invade part of the city (close to our house and the chimps) and, again, we couldn't go to the chimps because of the gun shots. The Congolese army had responded immediately against the rebels.

Franck and I could feel the situation was deteriorating. Schools, churches, restaurants, and bars had been closed and so were the borders. Food was not imported as usual (the DRC imports a lot of food!), prices started to increase, and local people got nervous and angry since

staple foods were getting scarce.

We decided to buy and stock a huge quantity of non-perishable food for the chimps and for the workers just in case insecurity or the virus would make the situation get worse.

Finally, at the end of March, our partner, the ICCN (DRC national park authority) imposed a preventive lockdown on J.A.C.K. As no one could confirm the virus was in town or not, our DRC Partner asked our keepers to remain one month (and maybe more) at the sanctuary to keep the virus away from them and



Armed police escort

from the chimps. Because we do not know what impact the Coronavirus can have on chimpanzees, Franck and I were asked to provide anything our team and chimps might need during this first period of lockdown.

Today, our vet and our seven keepers are being accommodated in the volunteer camp that IPPL started sponsoring in 2011. We bought mattresses, mosquito nets, a TV set, pots, and pans, etc. They all stay with the two Rangers who are kindly supported by IPPL!

Two other members of our team are



Roxane with her "new" family

accommodated at our private house. We have one lady working with us at J.A.C.K. since the early beginning (surrogate mom). She is living with us because she could not stay at the volunteer camp with all the men. Franck and I improved two buildings in our garden so that two families could stay and be isolated with

us. They have young kids (between 3 and 12) and the wife of the other workers is pregnant. In case the virus is all around us, these families will be safe on our property.

We wanted to bring all the families of all our keepers at the sanctuary, but our workers refused: when working with the chimps, they did not want to have their children close to the enclosures, etc. So, Franck and I did our best to provide their wives with a bonus which helped them buy enough food for a month. Should the husbands have to stay one more month at the sanctuary, we will do our best to help again each and every family!

Franck and I are wearing masks and gloves all the time. We are the only people entering the sanctuary. We provide food every day for 34 chimps and 18 humans. We also give airtime for our workers to call their families. We provide medical assistance too. Yesterday, we had to take one keeper out of lockdown as he had had malaria for three days and needed to be set on a drip with special medical care. Once he feels better, he will be sent on annual leave. No choice!

As you can see, Shirley, things have been quite busy over here. It is very stressful and challenging to feed 52 hungry tummies on a daily basis in such a weird situation. But we want humans and chimps to be happy and well during these special times of preventive lockdown!

Thank you again for all that you do for J.A.C.K. and for the sooooo many other lost souls under your care.

Hugs from all of us,
Roxane



J.A.C.K workers during COVID-19



Worker making masks

LATEST EMAIL FROM ROXANE!

“Things are getting worse! The virus is spreading but the authorities don’t say a word about it and, unfortunately, we have lost most of our DRC sponsors as well as European partners which have been supporting us for about 10 years. We are not sure how long we will be able to face this situation! Salaries have been cut by 50% in most of the companies all around us, but we can’t do this to our workers. They are family to us. They work hard every day to give the chimps the best care and they live so many sacrifices away from their families.”



Tommy, Nalia and Mata!

Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand and the COVID-19 Crisis

By Edwin Wiek

On May 1st 2001, at that time 34 years of age, I started to build the first enclosures for gibbons and macaques behind a temple in Petchburi, Thailand. Little did I know at that time that this would be the start of a project, a foundation, that was to change the lives of thousands of wild animals and over ten thousand stray dogs and cats. As



Gibbon living on WFFT's Gibbon Island

a matter of fact, it was to change my life completely as well, pushing the limits and boundaries for the better year after year. Something that started as a personal hobby became living the dream, even though at times it looked like a nightmare to others. It was a dream come true.

I remember the first years, that were probably the best of times, as I worked hands-on with the rescued animals, helped them to get on their feet again, assisted with medical work and designed better enclosures for them to live in, and for the lucky ones

finding release sites giving them another chance at life in the wild.

Small donations came in, we started to welcome volunteers from all over the world who paid towards the upkeep and visitors attended educational daytrips, slowly we were financially sustaining the upkeep of the projects, feeding the best available food, providing state of the art

medical treatment and building new large enclosures on newly purchased land. By 2007 we actually bought our first piece of land to house eight elephants that we had rescued by then, in 2008 we were able to buy a nice piece of land from a farmer next door where we build our first open enclosures for gibbons and macaques. Things were going better than expected!

I still remember the first donation from an International NGO, it was in 2003 and it happened not long after the CITES convention in Bangkok, where I met Shirley McGreal for the first time. She visited our (at that time tiny little place) and promised to send some help, she did and I remember how proud we all were that someone like Shirley believed in our mission! The amount of money was not the issue, the fact that she believed our work was worthwhile pushed us to do even more.

While we have always continued to rescue any wild animal in need of help, even if it wasn't very endangered, we started to do more. We started to investigate the illegal wildlife trade, both on the ground and on-line, with support of DEFRA in the UK and the USFWS in the US. Several arrests and convictions were made due to our work. We started the "People and Animals" project where we spayed and neutered 5,000 dogs and cats within a year, to us an important project not just for animal welfare purpose but



Monkey rescued and released in one day

also important to wildlife conservation as stray dogs and cats kill so many wild animals. I became an advisor to the senate and parliament in 2015 and worked with politicians and MP's drafting new wildlife protection laws, something never seen before as I am still a foreigner in Thailand.

At the end of 2019 we cared for over 700 wild animals at our projects, employed over 100 local people and about 10 foreign staff members. With 85% of all funds coming from ethically correct commercial projects such as the volunteer program and day-trips, we only got 15% of our overhead in donations from supporters.

I started the Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT) after I got hold of a young long-tailed macaque in 1999 and this little fellow is still living with us right now. Soon after people became aware of my work more animals were handed over, mostly gibbons and macaques, but every now and then other animals were added such as bears, elephants, lorises and even a wild boar. Lately we also had young orangutans and even an older chimp handed over. My love for these primates has always been the drive to keep going, don't get me wrong, I have nothing against elephants or bears, but who can resist these animals that are so much like us?

In January of this year we did see the number of visitors go down rapidly as many of our visitors are Chinese and from other Asian countries, by February we were down by 50%, In March our volunteers started to cancel placements and by the end of March Thailand closed its borders. In under three months' time we lost 85% of our income, but we expected it to last not too long as China had relatively quickly dealt with their spread of the virus. Little did we know that in Europe and the Americas it would blow out of proportion so rapidly.

As soon as Thailand would open up, we would be welcoming foreign volunteers again and we expected this would happen

early June, but we are now told it might take up to October this year, or even later. This would be disastrous for us. Unable to get loans, as we are a charity in Thailand, we are facing cash shortages soon while we need to feed 700 wild animals every day, clean their enclosures and treat their illnesses.

New wildlife is continuously brought in from accidents on the road, electrocutions from power lines and confiscated from the pet or bushmeat trade. Recently I was asked to take in three more chimpanzees from an old military zoo in Central Thailand and some other orangutans from the same facility. Some tourist zoos have contacted us to take in wild animals as their zoos are running bankrupt due to the COVID-19 crisis as well. It is so hard to say no to these offers just because of the lack of funds. In recent talks with the highest authorities on law and wildlife, we were told that PATA Zoo in Bangkok will be forced to close down and their animals will need to be rehomed, a dream we have had for so many years, that will become impossible to help with due to the current situation.

We are now running on our last financial reserves with just enough money left to keep going from seven to eight more weeks (as of May 19th) with no clear picture where we are going. We have cut our expenses by 45%, having to let go of many staff members, cutting salaries and asking for food donations locally. We have raised funds through social media and were able to raise over 30,000 dollars this way in the last two months, but our monthly expenses are still a bit over 40,000 dollars a month right



Canoe, recently rescued after 30+ years in a small cage

now. Because we have always relied on ethically correct commercial projects, we never specialized in fundraising and the writing of grant proposals, which is the only way right now to keep going during the current crisis. After 19 years on this project site we are now living day-by-day.

IPPL has supported us for the past 20 years, often with year-end funding and for a few years with a grant from the ARCUS Foundation.. We would like to say a very BIG THANK YOU to all sponsors and patrons of IPPL for this and of course to Shirley and the team at IPPL, where I happily visited three times in the years between 2010 and 2018.

I wish I had a happier story tell everyone, but this is the hard reality we face right now. We will keep on fighting to care for the over 300 primates at WFFT and all other animals, but the future is unclear for now. I personally feel responsible for this mess and all the animals we currently have here and I have no idea where they can go to if we run out of funds. It is my fault that we were not prepared for this situation, but then again who did ever think this would be happening to all of us?

I know we're not the only ones in trouble due to the crisis and I hope everyone else will find a way to continue following their dreams. Hoping this crisis ends sooner than later.



Read more updates about IPPL's activities on our Facebook page. "Like" us!
www.facebook.com/InternationalPrimateProtectionLeague



See more images from the sanctuary and IPPL activities.
Follow us on Instagram!
www.instagram.com/ippl_summerville

The nation of Mali is located on the edge of the Sahara desert. For many years, the wildlife department was run by Dr. Bourama Niagate whose Africa-wide wildlife protection work is legendary. He has worked closely with IPPL delegations to Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

Cultural Diversity Preservation of Mali's Chimpanzees

by Itai Roffman, Ph.D.

In spite of considerable ecological degradation and hunting, we have located over the last decade, via participatory ethnography with local tribes, viable populations of Western chimpanzees in Mali, including in areas where they were last observed in the 1960's. These critically endangered near-arid savannah chimpanzees, which range close to deserts and savannahs, seem to have undergone accelerated evolutionary processes compared to their rainforest counterparts, due to low resource availability as indicated by their cultural diversity.

These include:

- cliff-dwellings,
- a variety of ways used to construct nests,
- a range of extractive foraging techniques,
- medicinal plant use,
- differing forms of navigation and locomotion.

Since isolated human populations survive nomadically between ecological niches over a wide area, we concluded that the only way to protect them is by recruiting tribes occupying similar terrain. As our interviews suggest, these human tribes lived in harmony with chimpanzees for millennia. However, in the past century, due to colonialism and the activities of missionaries, the people were forced to abandon their animistic ancient traditions and taboos against hunting chimpanzees. As a result, Mali's chimpanzees were driven to near extinction.

Therefore, our project aims to restore indigenous traditions and encourage chimpanzee protection. Securing tribal sovereignty and renewal of ancient customs and hunting taboos will ensure both tribal and chimpanzee survivability.

Over the past decade we have realized this mission by establishing a research/conservation team (tracker, tribal liaison/



interpreter and guide), while developing a methodology for gaining collaboration and commitment by the local tribes.

This method is based on a chimpanzee protection/conservation accord, signed by 32 village chiefs to date, whose communities are spread over around 620

square miles (1600 square kilometers) in southwest Mali, making that area in effect a reserve.

In return, we provide the village chiefs with items such as salt for food preservation, chlorine for well sanitation, and farm animals. Moreover, we help them build vegetable and tree nurseries and provide them with mosquito nets (150 distributed to date, each net can protect 3 people) to reduce infection by malaria.

Initial results from our trail cameras have indicated improvement in the chimpanzees' status with the birth of new babies. So we intend to duplicate this strategy across the region. Global warming and the spread of desertification due to industrial deforestation (for charcoal, gold and timber), is a major threat to biodiversity in Mali, as manifested nowadays across the south of the country.

Our endeavor will involve planting thousands of fruit/medicinal trees in areas surrounding the villages adjacent to chimpanzee habitats—resulting in the creation of 'green corridors' between neighboring chimpanzee communities, thus reducing their genetic isolation. We have planted 500 trees to date (including medicinal species that are traditionally used to alleviate malaria symptoms). Furthermore, we have recently partnered up with the local Malian nature conservation NGO "STOP SAHEL" to facilitate our joint endeavors.

Park rangers are expensive and require extensive training. Therefore in countries like Mali indigenous communities can provide the ideal protection for endangered species. Specifically,



Chimp accord tree planting



Itai Roffman with group



Samba "planting" tree

the local communities' generations-long environmental affinity is critical to conservation, as they intimately know the ecologies, including the historical and present condition of wildlife and vegetation.

The projects described are further strengthened by the Roots & Shoots program for youth (of the Jane Goodall Institute) based at the National Zoo of Mali, where we combine chimpanzee cultural diversity preservation with education.

Lastly, we have recently initiated the realization of a sanctuary for chimpanzees on zoo grounds, which includes natural woodland and cliff-dwellings. The sanctuary now houses three adult chimpanzee orphans whose families were hunted in the wild between 20-35 years ago. This sanctuary will also allow us to rehabilitate other chimpanzee bushmeat orphans. We also plan to help the zoo build on their natural brush land a small sanctuary for baboons and patas monkeys in the near future.

Since 2013, in partnership with Mrs. Monia Panchevre, Director of the Zoo National du Mali director and Mrs. Marie Garnier, coordinator of Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Mali, we have refurbished the entire zoo chimpanzee cage area for our male chimpanzee Samba and our two females, Fatim and blind Fifi, by constructing a fish and lily pond, two traditional mud huts for privacy, two fresh water faucets with sinks, and termite mounds with real termites.

We have also planted vegetation and trees in and around their enclosure as well as set up tool preparation sites for cultural and psychological rehabilitation. Our Roots & Shoots activities at



Bourama Niagate with Shirley

the zoo includes teaching the children a selection of chimpanzee language expressions to establish a rapport between them.

(See clip: <https://youtu.be/MISJUfr0n84>).

Finally, the three chimpanzees were able to visit their small cliff woodland sanctuary which will soon be opened for them daily once it is completed.

Dr. Roffman is a professor at the Max Stern Yezreel Valley College, Israel

Our Overseas Partners Desperately Need Your Donations!



Most of the organizations featured in this issue are our overseas partners. All are suffering without much needed volunteers, the loss of some staff and the critical loss of revenue while they continue to care for thousands of primates and rescue even more!

With this issue of *IPPL News*, we are asking that you, our friends, please consider making a donation to assist these dedicated individuals as they continue their heroic efforts.

Checks should include the memo **For: Sanctuaries Spring IPPL News** and mailed to IPPL, PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484 USA. 100% of all donations will be divided between the sanctuaries which provided stories for this issue.

Online donations can be made at <https://www.ippl.org/gibbon/donate/> In the Designation Box, please scroll to **Sanctuaries Spring IPPL News**.

Drill Ranch: A Deadly Attack and Now COVID-19

By Liza Gadsby



Destroyed vehicles



Delivering food during COVID-19

Drill Ranch in Nigeria is amongst Africa's first primate sanctuaries. Founded in 1991 for rescue and captive breeding of highly endangered drill monkeys, the project today cares for 581 drills, 28 chimpanzees, 10 Sclater's guenons, and more. The guenons and one drill group live at the Drill Ranch urban HQ, a quarantine and education facility. Six drill groups and the chimpanzees live five hours away in the rainforest, in large, natural habitat enclosures at Drill Ranch Afi Mountain, near Buanchor village.

One night after Christmas, the Afi camp office was robbed; equipment

totaling \$6,000, including two computers, and \$2,000 in local currency was stolen. Police were informed; they visited camp and took statements. As their investigation proceeded, two staff were held for questioning. Ten days later, the police asked 3 security staff to visit the station. That afternoon, unbeknownst to us, the police decided to transfer all five staff. The police vehicle had an accident. One staff, Kyrian Tah of Buanchor, was killed. Everyone, including 6 police officers, were hospitalized. Our driver Peter Eyo of Oron died later of his injuries.

The next day news of this accident reached Buanchor. Dozens of village youth stormed Drill Ranch, pouring in on motorcycles armed with clubs and machetes. They ransacked the camp, smashing vehicles, generators, equipment, tools, structures – and manhandled Liza and project manager Zack Schweneker onto motorcycles, whisking them away to the village.

In Buanchor it was chaos and mayhem. Hundreds of people were shouting, pushing, pulling and struggling—many of whom were well known and trusted for decades. Zack was pulled into the street,



Mealtime for over 600 primates including 581 drills



Okay, a 2 ½ yr. old drill

savagely beaten and dragged away. The community leadership were powerless. After a few hours Zack and Liza were sneaked out by a friendly faction, reunited, and returned to camp.

Drill Ranch camp was heavily damaged and looted: they'd rained havoc on vehicles, kitchen, main lodge, tool shed, fuel stores, radios, cameras, phones, binoculars, etc. all damaged, destroyed or stolen. The office was looted, including \$1,700 in local currency. They'd bloodied a Dutch tourist, who, thankfully, escaped. The animals and enclosures were untouched.

For the next month, four armed police helped secure camp. All staff, including those from Buanchor, worked 24/7—caring for animals by day and security patrolling by night. We were proud of them—working together to feed 600+ animals, repair infrastructure, prepare meals for 25 people, plus normal chores. Without our Land Rovers or any driver willing to go to into Buanchor, we struggled initially to get enough animal food. Fortunately, a local man with a truck offered to carry animal food at

reasonable rates.

Four months later, the situation remains unresolved. Kyrian's and Peter Eyo's bodies remain in the morgue. Although the police are responsible, their families are demanding compensation from Drill Ranch. Our expenditures skyrocketed with medical costs for staff, replacing and repairing infrastructure (at least \$10,000), twice daily staff meals, and overtime wages. Tensions have eased somewhat, yet security feels uncertain. Despite being the largest private employer in the area, spending up to \$1,000 cash weekly buying animal food directly from villagers, Drill Ranch was not protected from their rampaging youths.

The camp office was reinforced with strong mesh and new locks. Plans to rotate staff out are on standby as we face COVID-19—now our most pressing concern. Known cases are inexplicably low in Nigeria so far, with testing largely unavailable. We closed Drill Ranch to the public—a sad day and the first time in our history we've done so. We stockpiled dry food – beans, ground nuts, maize, and

guinea corn for animals—and rice, pasta and tinned fish for staff. Reserves of diesel and other fuels are on hand. Drill Ranch remains on high alert on all fronts, an exhausting situation to sustain.

Extreme hygiene measures are established: masks, rubber gloves and distancing of two meters as best we can, including from the animals. Non-essential staff are furloughed but still on payroll; active staff continue to live in camp, as they have since January, with visits home to their families severely restricted. Safely acquiring animal food is a big challenge. In Calabar it must be obtained in the open market, and at Afi in our own daily market in the village. Food is handed off by buyers to on-site staff who wash, sort and store it under new, cautious protocols. It's a lot of extra work for everyone!

Thank you for continuing to give to IPPL. Drill Ranch and many primate care facilities worldwide rely on the staunch, unfailing support of IPPL, especially in difficult times. It's you—the supporters—that make that possible. Thank you from all of us!



Mother drill with infant



Magnificent male with group



Moving Soon? Let Us Know!

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*!)



Years ago, IPPL had a Recommended Reading section in its newsletter. With this issue, we are bringing it back. We hope you will consider this book and look forward to more recommendations in future issues.



IPPL's Book Choice

The Falcon Thief: A True Tale of Adventure, Treachery, and the Hunt for the Perfect Bird

Gyrfalcon



Since IPPL was founded in 1973, we have worked on issues pertaining to primate trafficking. We have often seen instances of primate trafficking being linked to trafficking in endangered birds. This is an utterly vile trade and involves criminals stealing birds' eggs from their nests and hiding them in body belts. In 2020 Joshua Hammer's book *The Falcon Thief* was published. It focuses on the activities of notorious egg smuggler Jeffrey Landrum who stole eggs from wild falcons' nests to supply Middle Eastern clients who use them for the sport of falconry and in falcon racing. Landrum was arrested in Canada in 2018 (see police photo). This trade is unspeakably cruel. The egg smugglers access falcons' nests in remote areas. The eggs have to be kept warm for their long trip to the Middle East. That is why smugglers like Landrum put them in body belts as seen here. This photo shows Landrum with a body belt that included eggs of gyrfalcons, the largest and most spectacular of falcons. These birds live in the High North and nest on remote cliffs. Canadian authorities arrested Landrum and confiscated the eggs, none of which hatched.



(Right) Jeffrey Landrum police photo

Special Gifts to IPPL Given by:

- **Anonymous** – in memory of Auristella Valle.
- **Anonymous** – in memory of John C. Phillips.
- **Jeffrey Boyer** – in honor of Alex and Tori.
- **Susan Belyea** – in memory of all the animals that died in the zoo in Germany.
- **Miriam Bisbing** – in memory of Charles and Kay Clausing.
- **Denis Bossarte** – in honor of Fran Ippensen.
- **Douglas Cohn** – in memory of Dr. C. James Mahoney.
- **Cheryl Delmlino** – in honor of Gail Marie Boleng
- **Nicoletta Dipietro** – in memory of Daisy May, my sweet beautiful stray dog who entered my life and stole my heart for 8 ½ years.
- **Patsy Dunlap** – in memory of Gray Dunlap and Kitty Weaver.
- **Melissa Dutton** – in memory of Banks A. Dutton, Jr.
- **Veronica Ferguson** – in memory of IPPL gibbon, Blackie.
- **Jason Fisherman** – in honor of Sue Teich on her 90th birthday.
- **Beverly Hoffman** – in honor of my daughter in law, Laura Munson Comola.
- **Clyde Hedin** – in memory of Carol Hedin.
- **Jocelyn Kaplan** – in honor of Bonnie Goebert.
- **Barbara Kelberlau** – in memory of Nancy Woods.
- **Carol Leenstra** – in honor of The Innocents.
- **Carol Linville** – in honor of Shirley McGreal.
- **Lois Lippold** – in honor of Shirley McGreal.
- **Steve Martin** – in memory of Sooty, Zora and Megan.
- **Marie-Paule Mahoney** – in memory of Jim.
- **Barbara Musarra** – in memory of Dave Walsh.
- **Carroll Muffett** – in honor of Shirley McGreal, her lifelong dedication to the survival and well being of primates everywhere and her commitment to supporting partners on the frontlines of conservation efforts.
- **Ellen O'Connor** – in honor of my mother who loved all animals.
- **Elizabeth Orr** – in honor of Shirley McGreal
- **Loren Ostler** – in honor of IPPL and EAGLE Network.
- **Brenda Parks** – in honor of my sister, Liz Bills.
- **William Reynolds** – in honor of my mother, Anne C. Reynolds.
- **James Scott** – in honor of Penelope Summerall.
- **Ryna Segal** – in memory of Lulu.
- **LuAnn Short** – in memory of Blackie.
- **Rose Marie Shramick** – in memory Shirley and Don Davies.
- **A.J. Varner** – in honor of Roscoe, a brave little corgi.
- **George and Linda Warriner Jr** – in honor of Jake Gagnon.

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

IPPL Supporter's Donation Form



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:

I would like to make a one-time donation to help IPPL's overseas partners during COVID-19: \$ _____

- \$20 regular dues \$50 sustaining dues Other amount: \$ _____ (dues)
 \$100 patron dues \$10 student/senior dues Other amount: \$ _____ (one time donation)

I wish to honor someone special with a Tribute Gift:

This donation is ... In honor of In memory of _____

Please note: We acknowledge tribute gifts in each issue of *IPPL News*

- I will be paying via a check or money order made payable to IPPL.
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U.S. federal tax ID number:
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amount / month

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Primate Paraphernalia!



Two-sided Gibbon Tote

Each unique bag was air-brushed by San Francisco artist Ken Holley
 Cost: US \$25 • Overseas: US \$35



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



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!



Please adopt me at www.ippl.org!

Courtney



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?



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

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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Meet Turnip!



Turnip was born at the Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens on May 21, 2011. In April of 2012 he and his family were transferred to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. where they continued to live in a large family unit. In the wild Asian otters live in multi-generational families that range from 12 to 50 members! Unfortunately, there were territorial behaviors observed between two of the younger females and their mom, so they and Turnip were sent to IPPL in September of 2017. He is still paired with his sister, Pickles, while their other sister is now living with one of our other males.

Turnip is a shy otter who isn't too interested in interacting with the staff here at IPPL. He is extremely curious, however, and will always investigate any new items we place in his enclosure. He also likes to watch the animal care staff as they go about their day, almost as though he is supervising them to make sure they do a good job! Turnip is extremely intelligent and has been seen digging up the sod in his enclosure hunting for worms and other bugs, much to the displeasure of our maintenance staff who put the fresh sod down for him and Pickles right before they arrived!