



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

President's Report

The 2009/2010 financial year has delivered great progress in Silvery gibbon conservation. For clarity, Silvery gibbons are also known as Javan gibbons and its name has now being adopted by Australasian Zoos. In revising SGP's Business Plan it was most pleasing to note that we had largely remained on target and met many of the objectives. The 2010-2013 Business Plan outlines once again a very clear direction for the project and one that will ultimately assist to secure wild populations of gibbons.

SGP committee took the opportunity this year to develop a new logo and launch a fresher more modern look for the organisation. Thanks must go to Anders Alexander for his assistance with this work.

The most exciting development of the year was the release of the first ever pair of Silvery gibbons back into the wild. Echi and Septa were released into Pattiwel forest, West Java, in October 2009, and continue to do well. This isolated patch of forest has provided an outstanding opportunity to monitor the pair closely. Further releases are planned in the near future.

Another huge move forward this year has been the development of a Global Cooperative Management Program (GCMP) for this species. This project, although independent from SGP, is an important step forward for the invaluable contribution of the wider zoo community to Silvery gibbon conservation. SGP has played a leading role in the development of the project, and facilitated important meetings to progress global efforts in Silvery gibbon conservation. A full description of the intent of the GCMP can be found on page 9.

SGP continued to generate a reasonable level of income, and although a little short of target, our spending was also down for this year. The reason for this is that there are several large projects on the horizon that we plan to commit funds to. These projects are likely to require high-level funding but it will be important to have initial funding available from SGP to get them underway before leveraging additional funding.

SGP is approaching the 2010/2011 financial year with greater structure in committee function. We believe this is an important development as the project plans to expand and improve productivity.

A huge thanks as always must go to all of our members, donors and friends who have continued to provide support. We offer our appreciation on behalf of the gibbons.

Clare Campbell

Project Objectives for 2009/10

The Silvery Gibbon Project continues to provide funding and support for a range of conservation initiatives for the Endangered Silvery gibbon.

The aim of the project is to:

- a. secure and protect the habitat of the Silvery gibbon in Java,
- b. re-establish the complete fauna of the areas through the reintroduction of Silvery gibbons (*Hylobates moloch*),
- c. provide education programs and facilities for the rehabilitation of ex-pet gibbons, and
- d. improve the husbandry standards for all gibbons held in captivity throughout Indonesia

SGP currently provides operational costs and construction of facilities as well as providing husbandry and veterinary assistance to the Javan Gibbon Centre (JGC), an Indonesian based gibbon rehabilitation centre in West Java. The JGC as of 1 July 2010 houses 27 gibbons; and successful breeding is anticipated in the near future. (NB. The first successful birth occurred in late July 2010)

In October 2009, the first pair of Javan Gibbons was released into nearby Pattiwel forest. The pair continue to thrive. This has been a land-mark achievement in in-situ conservation. We are now at the beginning of an expanding program to reintroduce captive gibbons into their natural wild habitat – something SGP has been working towards since its inception in 1992. JGC staff are exploring additional release sites for the next suitable pair of gibbons. The working partnership of the Indonesian Javan Gibbon Centre and the Perth based Silvery Gibbon Project is in full-swing – if you forgive the pun.

SGP have continued to provide funding for the Mobile Conservation Education Unit as well as Capacity Building initiatives, notably with the invaluable assistance of funding from Perth Zoo.

The overall objectives highlighted for 2009/2010 were to ensure the long-term survival of the species through education programs, rehabilitation and release of ex-captive gibbons, and protection of habitat and wild populations with the implementation of successful Gibbon Patrol Units. This was to be achieved through the;

- i. Continual improvement of husbandry and veterinary standards at JGC and at Indonesian institutions housing gibbons,
- ii. Progress reintroduction of ex captive gibbons (including Perth Zoo gibbon),
- iii. Identify priority areas of habitat: containing;
 - wild populations requiring protection, and
 - habitat that has the potential to sustain a reintroduction program,
- iv. Develop and implement suitable habitat and wildlife protection strategies, and
- v. Implement effective education programs to reduce illegal pet trade and habitat degradation.

SGP continued to provide funding to the Mobile Conservation Education Unit (MCEU) in Java. Conservation education is one of the key strategic elements applied by conservationists to increase community awareness, and in so doing gain support from stakeholders. Education is a significant long-term investment in enhancing public knowledge, and attracting people to become involved in – at least support – conservation efforts. It is one of the most crucial elements in the overall strategy to conserve the species.

The over-arching goal of this program is to raise public awareness concerning the threats facing Javan gibbons and their habitat. The program consists of regular visitation by the MCEU to students and communities near the Javan gibbon habitat.

The local nickname given to the MCEU is “Moli & Telsi”. Moli is the popularly known name for Silvery gibbons (a critical endangered species), and Telsi, the local name for the highly endangered Javan eagle-hawk (*Spizetius bartelsi*), which is also a mythical bird which is now used as the nation’s symbolic emblem “Garuda Pancasila”. Moli and Telsi were chosen as the program’s “flagship” for conducting the mobile conservation and education program, for their appeal to children. “Moli” the Javan gibbon and “Telsi” the Javan hawk-eagle are represented as characters to deliver the program’s conservation message. Apart from names that are easily recognized and remembered by children and local communities, Moli and Telsi are also depicted through humorous, cartoon and friendly characters.

The MCEU program consists of;

1. Forest interpretation,
2. Film showing about flora and faunas,
3. Small mobile library,
4. Discussion and interactive quiz on environmental issues,
5. Conservation and education interactive games,
6. Leaflets or booklets, and
7. Conservation music.

The objectives for 2009/2010 were also revised to incorporate some commitment to the development of the Global Cooperative Management Program.



Project Outcomes 2009/10

In January 2010, SGP President, Clare Campbell attended a meeting with the Javan Gibbon Foundation, in Java; an organisation that supports conservation efforts for this species in Java. During the later months of 2009 discussions began with the Javan Gibbon Foundation (JGF) in regards to development of a Memorandum of Understanding with Silvery Gibbon Project. A more formal agreement was required due to the allocation of funding from WCA to SGP as well as the overall increase in SGP's financial contribution to the JGF.

An additional purpose of the meeting was to discuss, in person, with JGF additional projects that SGP could consider supporting into the future.

Outcomes of the meeting;

- Finalisation and signing of an MOU between SGP and JGF. This MOU formalises our agreement to continue to provide support to Silvery gibbon conservation. We hope this may also indicate a greater level of security and accountability and encourage other donors/organisations to support SGP.
- Clare Campbell became a JGF board member
- Preliminary discussions regarding the potential development of Wildlife Protection Units for gibbons in Java. It was agreed that the JGF would hold further discussions with National Parks and Ministry of Forestry staff to investigate the most suitable location. All members agreed on a goal of having one unit in operation by the end of 2010. With our efforts to date being focused on the Javan Gibbon Centre and community based Education Units we are very keen to expand conservation efforts to include protection of wild populations and important gibbon habitat.

Overall, the meeting went extremely well, and Clare was also able to make arrangements for Perth Zoo CEO and Curator to visit the centre and meet with JGF members to discuss further involvement in the project. This occurred in mid-February, again with successful outcomes.



Left: Silvery Gibbon Project President Clare Campbell signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Javan Gibbon Foundation President Pak Wayhudi.

Whilst in Java for the meeting Clare took the opportunity to visit the Javan Gibbon Centre, and was fortunately also able to go to Pattiwel forest and check on the progress of the released pair, Echi and Septa. All reports to date indicate a successful release.



Above: Clare with JGC Manager, Anton and Head Keeper, Mulya at the Pattiwel Station and Echi in Pattiwel

In late September Vice President Karen Payne and committee member Holly Thompson travelled to Java on behalf of SGP to visit the JGC. The aims of this trip were to:

- a. Visit a number of institutions holding captive Javan Gibbons within Indonesia
- b. Perform x rays and health assessment of some the JGC gibbons
- c. Observe the gibbons at the Pattiwel site prior to their release
- d. Monitor the progress of the Javan Gibbon Centre

Karen and Holly also had the opportunity to meet with Alain Compost , a French photographer and wildlife documentary maker based in Indonesia, who has created a series of wildlife documentaries on endangered Indonesian Wildlife. Alain accompanied them to the Javan Gibbon Centre and was able to take some photographs as well as movie footage of the gibbon centre and its x ray procedures within the veterinary clinic. He was also able to be there for the gibbon release on the 16th October and obtain video footage of this historic event.

Right: Holly at JGC with keepers and Alain Compost



Karen and Holly visited a number of institutions holding captive groups of Silvery Gibbons including the Schmutzer Primate Centre, Bogor Primate Centre, Bandung Zoo and Taman Safari Indonesia. This was part of the outcomes of the Indonesian Gibbon Workshop held last February, with the hope of updating the International captive studbook for the species and helping to write a husbandry and care manual to optimize the care of those captive gibbons. While the standard of care of animals in general at some of the places was concerning, a number of places were obviously caring well for their Silvery gibbons. Standards are slowly improving.

It is hoped that the visit will help to increase communication between the various institutions to work toward a common goal, and enhance the Global Cooperative Management Program for the species.

During the visit Karen was able to arrange for the hire of an x ray machine from the Bogor University to provide the opportunity to obtain radiographs from a number of the gibbons. While x rays are a routine diagnostic test in small animal medicine here, at the Javan Gibbon Centre this is the first time since the centre opened in 2002 that we have been able to perform these tests. The procedure required not only the hire of a portable x ray machine, but also the set up of a temporary darkroom to develop the pictures. With our makeshift darkroom in place, we were able to radiograph three of the gibbons. Nakula, to assess the extent of his spinal changes; Sasa, to assess her chest for any bone abnormalities; and Nuk, to assess her chest.

The x rays revealed both Nuk and Sasa to be normal, with no signs of pathology. Nakula's x rays demonstrated the severe spinal deformity we already knew existed but showed no active changes to indicate ongoing disease. The changes seen are likely the result of changes early on in his life, probably due to poor diet and lack of sunlight. They indicate that although he has quite dramatic curves in his spine, they appear to be stable. The x rays taken during this visit will also act as a baseline for us to compare to in the future if his condition should worsen.



Above: Nakula, procedure and x rays.

Karen and Holly were also able to inspect the Pattiwel release site where a pair of gibbons, Echi and Septa, had been staying since mid August. The pair were moved to the Javan Gibbon Centre in mid-2008 after previously residing at the Cikananga Rescue centre for almost 5 years.



Above: Soft release enclosure at Pattiwel Forest.

Preparation of the release site was funded by SGP, including the construction of paths, facilities and the soft release enclosure. Much effort was also put into educating the local people about the release to ensure the gibbons and the forest remain protected.

Unfortunately the JGC was hit by a severe storm in March 2010. There was some damage to an enclosure and some of the facilities; however, these have all been repaired at minimal cost.

Overall, the Javan Gibbon Centre continues to progress well, with 27 gibbons now residing at the centre. Most of the gibbons are now housed in pairs.

The Mobile Conservation Education Unit (MCEU), using the Javan Gibbon and Javan Hawk Eagle as flagship species (Moli and Telsi), has been operating since 2003. Its premise is to work on a conservation education program that moves from school to school or from village to village. To date, the MCEU has worked with 20,000 school students from elementary schools, junior and senior high schools. More than 200 schools and 30 villages have been visited by this mobile education unit.



Above and Left: Children participating in Conservation Education classes.

The impacts of this program have been positive with delivery of pet gibbons to the JGC, and continued participation in the reforestation program and in assisting the conservation education program. Some of the villages, with up to 300 families, have received a clean water supply. This has become an example of the need to conserve the forest.



The education program works together with Volunteers as implementer, which has a conservation education program for communities and schools. This program uses material from the Bodogol Conservation Education Centre, and has received positive comments from schools and communities. Please see the detail of the progress below:

Above: Children assembled after Conservation education class.

In June, SGP also funded and facilitated the opportunity for two JGC staff to visit the Mobile Education Unit, also funded by Perth Zoo, operating in Sumatra. The following report highlights the outcomes from this visit.

Study Comparison of Mobile Unit Program in Jambi province

A report prepared by: Muhammad Abduh, Dede Rahmatulloh, Asep Somantri

The Mobile Conservation Education Unit (MCEU), using the Javan Gibbon and Javan Hawk Eagle as flagship species, has been operating for 6 years in Java. Its premise is to work on a conservation education program that moves from school to school or from village to village.

For strengthened capacity of JGC personnel focused in Mobile Unit Activities, support by SGP, we've got opportunity visited to Jambi Province to participating in Orangutan Mobile conservation Unit running by FZS in Jambi Province. The purpose of the visit to know and sharing information and method about education activities through mobile unit program.



Our visit begin on June 28 until July3, 2010. The location at Open Orangutan Sanctuary Danau Alo. The participants came from Senior high schools are SMAN 3 Tungkal Hulu, SMAN Tuah Kemuning dan SMAN 1 Batang Cenaku, with total there were 15 students. At location, domestic travel, board and lodgings were supplied by FZS. FZS staff demonstrated how they conducted education program for students to raise awareness for Orang Utan conservation there.

The impacts of this visited have been positive to exchange for experience regarding education activities between two conservation program which use two important species of primates in Indonesia, Orangutan and Javan gibbon.



Global Cooperative Management Program for Javan Gibbons

In 2009, a Global Cooperative Management Program (GCMP) for this species was borne out of a recognised need for improved management of the captive population in order to make a significant and genuine contribution to the conservation of the species.

The program aims to assist in the conservation of the species by;

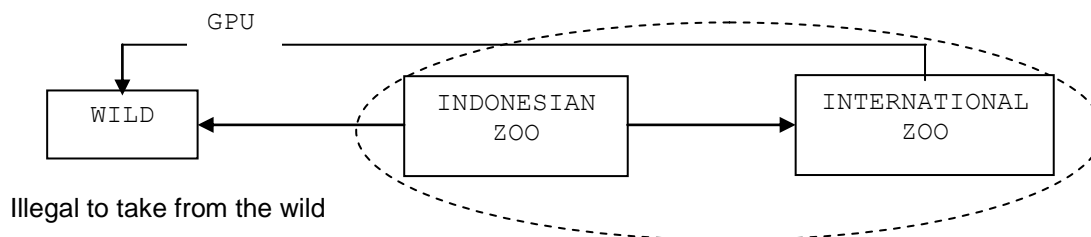
- holding an insurance population and/or providing animals for release to the wild as part of a managed conservation reintroduction program;
- act as an insurance population in case of catastrophic declines in the wild;
- conserve high levels of the genetic variability found in wild populations;
- conserve the behavioural repertoire of the species;
- support the development and documentation of husbandry techniques for the species;
- supports regional fundraising efforts;
- provides animals for zoo-based research; and,
- ensure a captive population persists in zoos for the purposes of educational display and/or fundraising.

What is a GCMP?

Traditionally, many captive species are managed regionally. Although some transfer has occurred between regions as required the population has not been managed as one unit. Genetic analysis and subsequent recommendations on regional populations has now been identified as unsustainable. The GCMP provides the opportunity for the separate regional populations to be managed as one metapopulation, providing the best outcomes for genetic pairings and breeding management. The GCMP, with a viable well managed captive population can not only provide suitable animals for reintroduction but can also leverage significant funding for *in situ* conservation projects.

A Global Cooperative Management Program (GCMP) can provide a tangible link between this *ex situ* management of a species and *in situ* conservation. In situations where both captive and wild populations are small it makes sense to capitalise on any resource available and in many cases well managed captive population can genuinely contribute through being ambassadors to raise funds for habitat and population protection, as well as providing suitable animals for reintroduction. It must be noted that animals should never be removed from the wild and placed in captivity as this would simply contravene any captive program's primary goal of conserving the species in the wild.

The following diagram demonstrates how the Indonesian and International zoo populations, in conjunction with Gibbon Protection Units can work together for the benefit of the wild population and negate the need for animals to be taken from the wild in future.



To summarise, the key outcomes of a GCMP should be:

- having a protected and sustainable population of wild gibbons, and
- a viable and well managed global captive population.

In order to achieve this it is essential to have commitment from all regional programs and to operate under agreed values such as;

- best Species Management of population (Pair formation based on global genetics),
- maximum Funding from International Institutions for *in situ conservation* (Institutions sign Cooperative Agreement, inc. funding commitment),
- animals available for reintroduction (if required),
- *ex situ* population is managed to be sustainable without further wild founders,
- the program actively supports actions to prevent further gibbons coming into captivity.
- pairs are formed that are behaviourally compatible, and
- wherever possible gibbons are housed in natural groups.

Why have a GCMP for Javan Gibbons?

The Javan gibbon captive population is relatively small and difficult to sustain in the long term without some form of co-operation between regions. Population analysis has determined that long term sustainability will require an improvement in breeding success within Indonesian zoos and management of the entire captive population as one metapopulation.

The Javan gibbon wild population is also relatively small with the likelihood of suitable areas available for reintroduction. Whilst the priority for animals housed within rehabilitation centers should always be that these animals be reintroduced into the wild there should also be some recognition that not all of these animals will achieve suitable rehabilitation and in some cases animals born and raised in good zoos may be more suitable for reintroduction.

Indonesian zoos currently have minimal breeding success with this species and it is likely that animals are still sourced from the wild to meet display demands. This activity is not only illegal, but highly detrimental to the conservation of the species. The GCMP can provide assistance to Indonesian institutions to improve husbandry standards and breeding success negating the need for further acquisition of wild animals.

Management of an international studbook with detailed information about all animals within the program will also assist to ensure closer scrutiny of animal acquisitions.

Memberships and Adoptions

SGP memberships were a little down on previous years. This is likely a reflection of the economic downturn and the increase in the number of conservation organisations to support. We hope to increase numbers in the current financial year with attempts to increase awareness and target different demographic.

Many members continued to take advantage of the 3 year membership option which is a positive trend.

As always, we are always ready to welcome new members to the SGP and we do ask all our current members to encourage their supportive friends and colleagues to join up and 'Hear their call'

The adoptions program continued to progress well although we have recently reviewed price structure in an effort to entice more adoptions. A successful adoption program can certainly be an excellent source of income and also provides the opportunity for our members and friends to feel a real connection with the animals we are assisting.

Thanks must go primarily to Dianne gates, Kate O'Connell and Karen Payne for co-ordinating and processing memberships and adoptions.

Treasurers Report

The Association recorded a surplus of \$30,379, an increase on last year's surplus of \$11,427. The surplus is due to increased income, primarily a significant grant from Perth Zoo's WCA and several successful events. It is anticipated that a significant portion of these funds will be allocated to projects in the coming year. Income was total of \$79,093 and the expenses total \$48,714. \$26,070 was provided to the Javan Gibbon Centre for operational costs, veterinary costs and staff development. \$1,067 was spent on essential travel with SGP committee members continuing to personally cover travel costs.

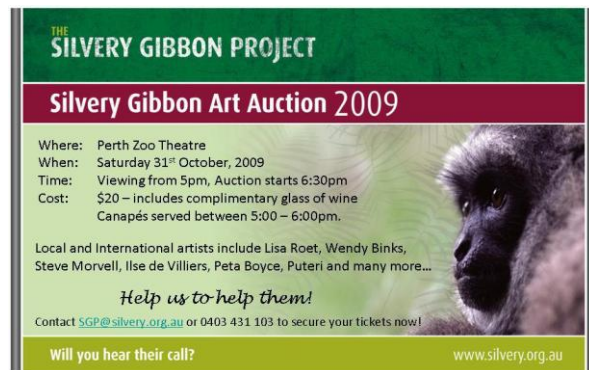
Donations continued to be an important source of income, with \$13,379 derived from these. It was a significant year for events with a total of \$29,046 generated. The majority of this was from the Art Auction held late in 2009.

Merchandise generated an income of \$2,085. We hope to increase merchandise revenue in the next year however are mindful of the significant effort required and will be cautious of investing too much in this area.

A very big thank you to our treasurer Sharon Buckland. It is always a time consuming and tedious task doing the books and stocktake at the end of the financial year and Sharon has continued to do an amazing job. Thanks also to Byfields accounting services for taking care of our annual audit.

Events

The stand-out event for the year was the much anticipated Art Auction. Traditionally a signature event for SGP, it was great to see it back in style! The event proved once again to be an outstanding success. With just under 100 people attending we were able to raise almost \$25,000. Full credit must be given to the hard work of a dedicated group of committee members who were able to source some outstanding artworks and pull everything together for a very classy event.



THE SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT

Silvery Gibbon Art Auction 2009

Where: Perth Zoo Theatre
When: Saturday 31st October, 2009
Time: Viewing from 5pm, Auction starts 6:30pm
Cost: \$20 – includes complimentary glass of wine
Canapés served between 5:00 – 6:00pm.

Local and International artists include Lisa Roet, Wendy Binks, Steve Morvell, Ilse de Villiers, Peta Boyce, Puteri and many more...

Help us to help them!

Contact SGP@silvery.org.au or 0403 431 103 to secure your tickets now!

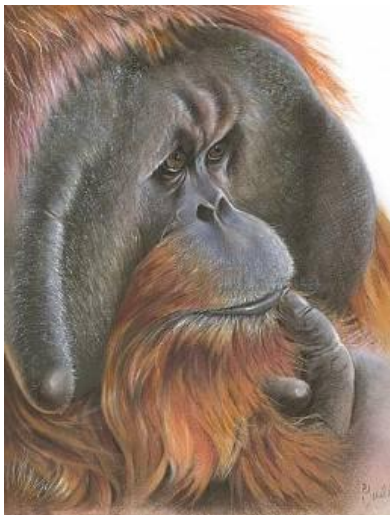
Will you hear their call? www.silvery.org.au

The Art Auction would not have been possible without the generosity of the many artists - local, national and international - who contributed such fine pieces of art to our cause; and of course without the generosity of all those who came along on the night and snapped up some true masterpieces!

A big thanks to Nicholas Duncan, our charismatic auctioneer, who convinced so many of us to part with our hard-earned money for such a worthy cause. In addition we would like to thank:

- Master Picture Framers Cannington, for doing such a wonderful job with framing
- Lorraine Dunn, for handling the finances on the night
- Tanya Taylor, for making the theatre look like a tropical oasis
- Our Auction committee, for the many, many hours of work involved in organizing this event before, during and after the night.

The night went very smoothly, thanks to a lot behind the scenes help from committee and volunteers.



Above: Some of the artwork featured on the evening



Another successful event which looks set to be an annual collaboration was the Walkathon held in March. Silvery Gibbon Project joined forces with the Australian Orangutan Project and the Asian Rhino Project to walk for a reason, hosting the inaugural joint walkathon, a 3.5km fundraising walkathon around Lake Monger.

The day was a great success, thanks to the help of all of those who attended. We were lucky enough to have support from a number of school groups: Tranby College, St Brigids College, Blue Gum Montessori and John Curtin College of the Arts, as well as friends, family and other supporters. A sausage sizzle, raffle and prizes for the highest sponsor-ships finished the day off. Thank you to everyone for coming along on the day, sponsoring and lending a hand. As a result of your support we were able to raise more than \$6000 on the day, which went directly to helping these endangered species in their habitats of Java, Sumatra, Borneo, India and Vietnam. We hope that this will become an annual fundraising event in the future.



Above and Left: Participants enjoying the walkathon and committee members at the SGP Stall.

Committee Report

The 2009 AGM was held on the 19th August in the Perth Zoo theatre . The following people were elected to committee;

President :	Clare Campbell
Vice President:	Karen Payne
Secretary:	Pam Willimott
Treasurer:	Sharon Buckland
General Member:	Deb Armstrong
General Member:	Dianne Gates
General Member:	Kate O.Connell
General Member:	Robin Stevens
General Member:	Holly Thompson
General Member:	Luke Newing
General Member:	Belle Picchio

Deb Armstrong resigned from her position on committee throughout the year. Deb was a tireless working for the organisation and we are greatly indebted to her. Thanks Deb for your involvement in SGP and we wish you all the best for future endeavours.

Future Planning

2010/2011 should see further development in terms of habitat and wild population protection. Strategies are now clearly defined to ensure the protection of these species and implementation of many of these activities is expected within the next 12 months.

Habitat is currently being assessed for further releases and we hope that a viable reintroduction program, working in line with other Global Cooperative Management Program activities will help to secure wild populations.

On the home front, SGP hopes to become an even more dynamic organisation in the coming years. We will soon be establishing an events calendar to allow forward planning and to keep members informed of upcoming activities.

We also look forward to improved use of electronic media as an effective awareness raising and promotional tool and we hope our newly launched facebook page will be the beginning of big things.

SGP has a target income for 2010/2011 of \$100,000.

Special Thanks

A huge thank you, first and foremost to the SGP Committee and their families. As always, our work would not be possible without the assistance of everyone at our meetings and events. A special thank you to those of you involved in the administrative tasks including accounts, newsletters , memberships, adoptions, minutes, reports and grant applications.

I would also like to pass on special thanks to the following supporters of SGP;

Perth Zoo and Wildlife Conservation Action for their generous and ongoing support of the project. 2010/2011 will once again deliver an opportunity to take the organisation to a new level and we thank Perth Zoo for assisting our ability to do so financially.

Perth Zoo Docent Association for their continued support to the project. The docents always provide great attendance to events and show a keen interest in our work. We truly appreciate your support.

Bill Waterer- once again Bill has continued to be an outstanding supporter of SGP. Bill works tirelessly for the Australian Orangutan Project and has been instrumental in the development of the Roots and Shoots program in WA. Bill has managed to educate thousands of WA school children about the plight of endangered species and is an inspiration to us all. He has raised thousands of dollars for SGP again this year through the sale of merchandise and adoptions and we are always grateful to have him on board.

Katie Saunders for being an outstanding SGP Representative at Mogo Zoo, NSW. Katie has managed to raise funds for SGP and generate a great deal of support amongst the community over there.

Byfields Accounting Services for their assistance with our yearly audit. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Leif Cocks for his continual guidance and support in developing the project.

Dan Scarporolo. Dan has continued to assist with our website.

Jeff and Ursula Beaton for their help with distributing emails and newsletters.

Anton Ario for being our primary contact at the Javan Gibbon Centre and giving excellent advice on local issues and cultural sensitivities.

Karen Payne, Derek Smith, Kate O.Connell and Anton Ario for the use of their photos!

Thank you also to all of our members and supporters for their financial support throughout the year.

Finally, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Javan Gibbon Foundation and especially to the dedicated staff at JGC for the commitment to providing the best care possible for the gibbons at the centre. Thanks must also go to Ibu Nana and her assistants for her continued work with veterinary procedures at the centre.



Will you hear their call?