



SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT

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AUGUST 2003

A FLYING VISIT:

We only knew they were actually coming on 28 June and they arrived on Tuesday 1st July!! For those of our members and friends who were able to meet Ida Yuniati and Edy Hendras, I am sure you are pleased that we have two young people of such excellent calibre caring for the Javan Gibbons as much as we do. They received a warm welcome when they gave their presentation to SGP members, Docents, Zoo staff and friends on Wed July 9th. We squeezed them in before the usual Docent social evening and then Des Hume continued to inspire the audience with tales of bats and even more bats in PNG. (Oops, no tree kangaroos!!)

Ida and Edy spent much of their time at the Zoo watching the Silvery Gibbon family. Ida was so thrilled with our exhibit. There is no way she can observe all the family interactions in Java. The wild gibbons are too fast and too high in the trees and there are no family groups established within the other captive animals in Java. She stayed with me and she came home each night, chattering with delight about all the behaviour and interactions she was able to observe at the Zoo. Edy spent some time working with the Zoo's Education Department, as well as having a quick tour of the Environment Centre at Piney Lakes. Good signage and information displays were of great interest to him, just as well he had a digital camera. A trip to Kanyana was also squeezed in, on a very wet and wild evening and again, their Education display impressing our two visitors.

While in Perth, they were interviewed by an Indonesian reporter currently living in Perth. Her article was published in the Jakarta Post on 8 July. Available on the web at www.thejakartapost.com/yesterdaydetail.asp?fileid=20030708.Q01 or if you would like a hard copy, please give me a call, Tel 9293 3052, Dianne.

When Edy and Ida returned to Java after their visit to Perth and to Perth Zoo in July, they were laden with donated supplies. They were so laden, they were 18kg over the baggage limit! Thank you Garuda Indonesia, for helping out there. Two suitcases of donated clothes went to Java for the villagers in Halimun National Park. Medical supplies donated by St John Ambulance went to our Gibbon Centre, children's books that can be used in the Mobile Education unit were packed, and on top of that, Edy and Ida took back their prizes from the Bingo Night! No wonder Ida contacted Jakarta and asked for a truck to meet her at the airport! Thank you to everyone who kindly donated goods to our Conservation work.

THE BINGO NIGHT WAS FUN!!

What a great evening, the South Perth Bowling Club hosted the SGP Bingo night and catered with a delicious light meal before the numbers started rolling, plus the bar prices were very kind on our wallets. Almost every table went home with a prize, some (who shall remain nameless) went home with more than one!! We had a great selection of prizes!! We already have requests for more of the same, so next time you see Nola, our very capable Committee member inviting you to come to Bingo, swing on down and share your money with the Silvery Gibbons. Our profit was around \$800, so we did well and we all had fun!! Lots of thanks to Ian, our caller and to Nola and Jack for all the time and organisation involved. Well done!!

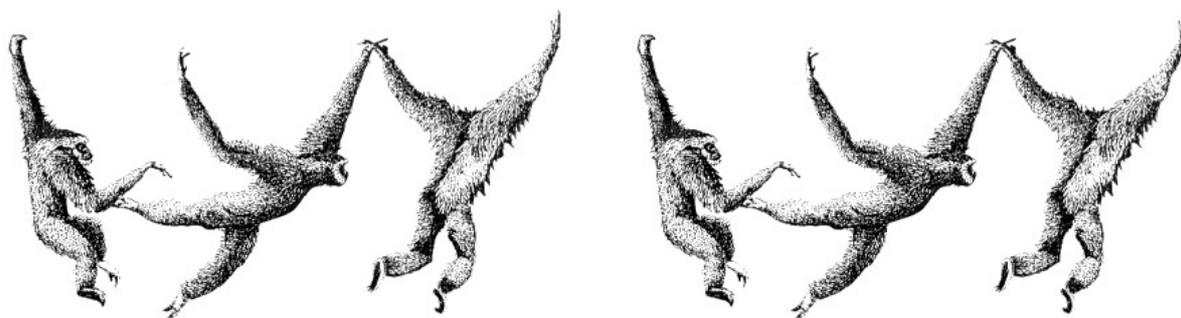
Great News! - Expansion of National Parks in Java

Conservation International has chaired for over 6 years a consortium consisting 17 NGOs, 8 government institutions and research centres, 4 universities and 2 companies to develop both Gunung Gede and Gunung Halimun National Parks. Although most activities have concentrated in the Gunung Gede NP, the vision has been to connect both national parks in a corridor to expand/connect habitat for the critically endangered Javan Gibbon and Javan Hawk Eagle. This corridor will be an excellent demonstration site for more effective conservation partnership and management with the government. This initiative included the expanding or corridor connection of the parks to other forests nearby. If the model works in both national parks then hopefully this can be imitated by other national parks. The government has used both of these parks as models for national park management systems in Indonesia. These parks also function as a critical water catchment area, consisting of at least 13 rivers that provide a water supply to big cities downstream such as Jakarta.

Just recently there has been news of the payoff for the hard work put in by the consortium members. In June 2003 the Minister of Forestry released Ministerial decrees no. 174 and 175 on the expansion of both national parks, Gunung Gede NP (added 6,000 ha to become 21, 957 ha) and Gunung Halimun NP (added 70, 000 and is now 113, 357 ha). The captured forests are coming from the Government Forest Estate Company (Perhutani) and Watershed Forest with almost 60% being in good shape with natural habitat. The Conservation International program in Gunung Gede NP will be adjusted to include a new role, which is to ensure more awareness by communities in the newly protected sites within both Gunung Gede and Gunung Halimun National Parks. Often, in Indonesia, communities are completely unaware of the existence of a national park, even if they are living inside it.

Excerpt from an email (2/7/03) by Jatna Supriatna,
Conservation International Indonesia.

The expansion of these parks is fantastic news for Javan Gibbon conservation. Gunung Halimun and Gunung Gede Pangrango National Parks are two of the few remaining habitats for wild Javan Gibbon. Your support to your own SGP, has contributed to this achievement, take a pat on the back, SGP members and friends.



AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALANDERS LIVING IN INDONESIA.

Dianne and Michelle established contact with ANZA whilst in Jakarta in March this year and since then Michelle has been busy, writing articles for the expatriates living in Jakarta. Both articles were printed in recent editions of their magazine, 'Berita', published by ANZA (Australian and New Zealand Association). The first article was an introduction to the SGP and our conservation work in Java, we were pleased when they used a photo of a captive Javan gibbon for the cover of that issue. The second was about the Java trip last year - trying to gather some interest from the expats to visit Halimun National Park and support the eco-tourism project working there. The ANZA group came to the rescue for the village in Halimun NP that was destroyed by fire in April. Food consumables were sent, in the form of salted fish, milk powder and instant noodles, along with four bags of clothes. Michelle is planning further articles for this magazine.

Quote: From a recent letter accompanying a funding submission:

'Our need to construct these enclosures is becoming ever more urgent. The trip that Michelle and I completed in March to Java is now reaping benefits with some of the new rescue centres established very willing to send any confiscated gibbons to the Javan Gibbon Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, (JGC). We were able to speak with the managers of these centres personally and assured them that the JGC has been established with the best scientific and conservation values and objectives. The various other rescue centres are caring for many other species of protected wildlife, eg reptiles, raptors, small carnivores, which are now, more readily being confiscated by the police and forestry officials'. *End quote.*

Our special request for extra donations that went out with the last newsletter has encouraged a reasonable amount, but not enough to be able, to actually start the construction of these first, very important enclosures.

A plea from your President, if you are reading this and you know someone who may be able and interested to help us in this crucial stage of the Project, please call me on 08 9293 3052

REMEMBER, 100% OF OUR FUNDS SUPPORT SILVERY GIBBON CONSERVATION

STOP PRESS:

Wildlife protection activists, NGO ProFauna Indonesia confiscated another Silvery Gibbon in mid-July. Estimated to be 2yo, the gibbon was confiscated from a trader who was arrested by police. The gibbon is reported to be in poor health, with wounds around it's abdomen from the chain it had been attached to. It has been sent to an Animal Rescue Centre in Cikananga. ProFauna reported that the gibbon still had all its teeth, captive gibbons are often subjected to canine extraction.

Also, in our last newsletter we advised that 5 Javan Gibbons had been confiscated in Sulawesi. Ida Yuniati, the veterinarian at our Javan Gibbon Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre has done some investigating herself, and found out that the Silvery Gibbons were confiscated from a private holder. There are five males, all now at a rescue centre. It is planned to send them to Kalaweit Care Centre in Kalimantan. One day, when our Centre has more capacity, maybe such animals can be sent there. Our Centre is still very small, but we are working on it!!!



HELP US TELL THE GIBBON CONSERVATION STORY:

A Compaq laptop 233MHz with 64Mb RAM has kindly been donated to SGP by Perilya Limited. We're halfway there - now we're in the market for a digital data projector. This will allow us to be self-sufficient when we visit schools, community groups and companies to do presentations for educational purposes and for fundraising. If anyone knows where we might obtain such a projector, either donated or at a very good price, please call Michelle 9243 5369.

ZOOTOBER THIS YEAR

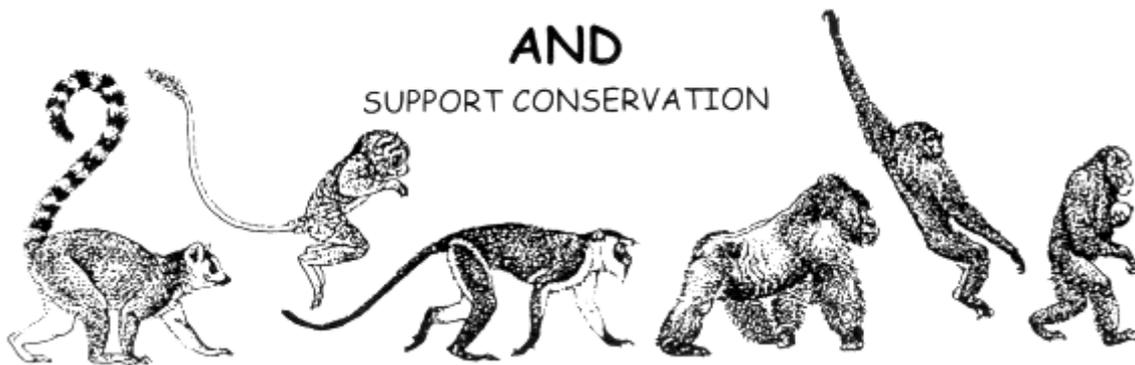
During the school holidays, SGP will be holding a display/information booth at the Silvery Gibbon Enclosure within Perth Zoo. The aim is to raise the awareness of Zoo visitors to the plight of the Silvery Gibbon, and to inform them of the activities of the Silvery Gibbon Project, in Java as well as what we do in Australia. If you would be interested in helping us by spending a few hours at the booth, talking to the visitors, please call Nola on 9337 9252 to arrange when you can attend. We plan to have the display open from 9 to 4pm. We welcome your help even if you are not a Docent at the Zoo, we will arrange to roster you with one. The week of the holidays that the booth will be operational is October 6-12.

THE SILVERY GIBBON ART AUCTION

Our very popular annual event is still in the planning stages. The main news is that we have delayed the date until Feb or March 2004.

Our next Art Auction will have a new venue and a revamp
Don't worry, you will be the first to know the date and the new details

LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, NOW YOU KNOW,
YOU HAVE MORE TIME TO SAVE YOUR DOLLARS
TO BE ABLE TO BUY STUNNING ARTWORK



**SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT DIARY
COME ALONG, ALL WELCOME
PLEASE MARK YOUR DIARY TODAY**

SATURDAY AUGUST 2ND
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH
SATURDAY OCTOBER 4TH

KALAMUNDA VILLAGE MARKETS
SGP HAVE GIBBON GOODIES TO SELL

NEW COLOURS IN T'SHIRTS,
NEAT LITTLE PRINTS
BENDY TIGERS
FUNKY CARDS

9AM TO 3PM
WE WILL BE THERE, WILL YOU??

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1PM SUNDAY AUGUST 24TH
PERTH ZOO THEATRE

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR
ABOUT OUR POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS
THROUGH THE LAST YEAR

PLEASE JOIN
THE SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT
TODAY, AND BE PART OF A GREAT
GIBBON GROUP, HELPING TO SAVE A
SPECIES AT RISK

PRIMATES HELPING PRIMATES