



SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT

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A NEW PAIR OF SILVERY GIBBONS AT TARONGA

Perth Zoo's special female, *Regina*, has found a mate, *Halimun*, at Taronga Zoo. News just in from Lou, one of the pair's keepers, is that they have settled in and are singing well together. Lou's description of the new pair— 'Regina is such a beautiful female, every hair in place, and such a lady. Halimun is a spunky male with longer shaggy hair and he is such a surfy dude.' Halimun came from Howletts Zoo in the UK, which has a large number of molochs.

Regina and Halimun are not on display as yet, as their exhibit has not been completed. We all have high hopes for a new infant born from their partnership. We know the people of Sydney will soon be as delighted with Silvery gibbons, as our Perth people have been through the last ten years. From that enjoyment will come understanding and knowledge of their plight in the wild.

Taronga Zoo has chosen SGP to be the recipient of its support for in situ conservation of the Silvery gibbon, furthering the Zoo's commitment to the conservation of *Hylobates moloch*. We recently received a very nice transfer of funds to SGP, the result of a fundraiser in Sydney hosted by the Taronga Foundation. Primate staff at Taronga Zoo put on an excellent presentation about Silvery gibbons and SGP's work in Java and we extend our sincere thanks to all involved. These funds have been assigned to enclosure construction at the Javan Gibbon Centre and we are waiting at the moment to receive fair quotes for the labour and materials required.

Will you hear their call? became my call at the AGM as I sought out more assistance and interest from members to help run SGP and raise the necessary funds to continue our very critical work in Java. I have agreed to continue in the President's role for the next six months and then reassess the situation. We have had a wonderful response from our members to our call for more help and we welcome eight new people aboard the main committee and the four sub-committees. Many of our previous team have stayed on (thank you so much) to focus on the SGP projects close to their hearts and expertise.

A significant amount of reorganisation and teaching has been happening over the last month. With excellent ideas, skills and commitment we are now progressing the Project to further meet its goal of assisting in the conservation of this critically endangered gibbon and the protection of valuable habitat.

I **thank you** all so very much for all the ways you help SGP and look forward to some exciting events and fun times ahead. Back in early 1991, when we first started our fund raising and awareness work, we had three guiding principles. We made sure we thanked people for their contribution. We made sure we gave value for money. And we had fun!!! Sounds like it is still good operating procedure. Again, thank you for all your support, enjoy Christmas with those you love and hope to see many of you soon.

Your President, Dianne



WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE: A DIGITAL CAMERA, PLEASE?

We know this is a very big ask, but maybe someone out there is updating their gear and would like to talk to SGP about a good home for their old equipment. We have a very great need for a digital camera to record photographically our progress at the

JGC and our work here in Perth. Please call Michelle Wild on 9243 5369 or email wildfire@inet.net.au, preferably after 27 Nov as she is off on the SGP Vietnam tour in November.

SILVERY GIBBON PROJECT AGM

Our AGM was held in Perth on Sunday 26th September at the Theatre at Perth Zoo and we welcomed many of our Perth members. Before the meeting, I had said to our Committee, that I did not have the energy to serve again as the President and had not re-nominated. However, in the two weeks or so prior to the AGM, I had spoken to many members who I encouraged to be involved in some way, with the running of the SGP. These discussions have resulted in a great team coming together to move the SGP along its next period of development. I, myself, have been encouraged by this support and I have said I will take on the Presidency for another six months and then we will have another assessment.

Our new team is as follows—

Dianne Gates	President	9293 3052
Linda Shone	Secretary	9279 1884
Sharon Buckland	Treasurer	9337 8781
Sandy Caporn	Newsletter support	9490 8440
Christina Farrington	Funding proposals, publicity and website assistance.	9277 5898
Katy Jaksic	Membership Coordinator	0418 918 990
Sheena Reynolds	Events and Merchandise	9398 3885
Marie Smart	Events and Merchandise	9243 4196

Please feel free to contact us about ideas, support, ways to make money (the legal ones). Thank you again for all your support, Dianne.

JAVAN GIBBON CENTRE

SGP transferred the next allocation of funds (AU\$3750) to the Javan Gibbon Centre on the 21st of October. This money is for the October to December 2004 quarter. Along with this, we also sent funds to facilitate the transfer of Kiddy, the infant Agilis gibbon currently held at the JGC, to the Kalaweit rehabilitation centre in Kalimantan. Ida, the JGC veterinarian, will accompany Kiddy on the flight across and spend a week at the centre to make sure he settles in and also to do a comparative study of that centre in reference to the JGC.

The JGC currently has five Silvery gibbons and one Agilis gibbon. The latest arrival to the JGC is Moli, a three year old male, thought to have come from Halimun National Park. He arrived in September 2004.

Negotiations are still in progress regarding building the new pair introduction enclosures at the JGC. We are waiting for appropriate cost estimates and a detailed site plan which shows how the currently available land will be developed.

JAVA SUB-COMMITTEE

With regret we say goodbye to Ratna Sulastin from this sub-committee, and thank her most sincerely for her tremendous work for SGP. Ratna's expertise will be sorely missed. But there is good news! Two new sub-committee members bring a lot of knowledge and skill to the group. Clare Campbell, senior primate keeper at Perth Zoo, and Karen Payne, veterinarian at Perth Zoo, have both joined the sub-committee and will be a tremendous help in developing the JGC and caring for the gibbons housed there. Leif Cocks and Michelle Wild will be continuing their excellent work on this sub-committee.

ZOOTOBER 2004

During the October school holidays, SGP hosted a display at the Silvery gibbon enclosure at the Perth Zoo. The purpose of the display was to raise the awareness of Zoo visitors to the plight of the Silvery gibbon and to inform them of the efforts being made both here and in Java by SGP, to assist this species.

The display was set up from Monday 11th October to Sunday 17th October. There were display boards with photographs and information on our work, as well as activities for the children to take home. This included a colouring-in booklet with Indonesian animals, *Moli and Telsi*, a puzzle booklet with crosswords and sleuths and a fridge magnet that the children could colour in and take home to put on their fridge.

It was a very successful week for Silvery gibbon awareness. The Perth Zoo Silvery gibbon family were at their entertaining best and had the visitors enthralled with their antics. They made it all the more easy to engage people in discussion and to talk about these wonderful animals and the plight of those still in the wild.

Thank you to Michelle Wild and Ruth Williams for organising the display, and to all those fabulous people who gave their time, energy and knowledge to the display to help SGP spread the conservation message. Also thanks to Perth Zoo for their invitation to participate.

SGP TOURS 2005

Start dreaming and saving your funds, as Silvery Gibbon Project Tours are again offering a marvellous selection of places to visit, encouraging your involvement in real conservation. Meeting the people working at the grass-roots level and discussing with them their projects is a huge encouragement and a great way to bring us together to work together.

Back to Java 2005

A 17 day trip visiting the Javan Gibbon Centre, Cikananga Rescue Centre and the Schmutzer Primate Centre. Spend five nights at Leuwijamang village to see Silvery gibbons in their natural habitat and to learn about the village way of life. Canoe the Cigenter River and visit Javan rhino and Banteng ox habitat.

Departs: Early June 2005 Cost: approx \$3,000pp twin share

Singapore Sojourn

A four or five day short trip to Singapore including a night safari at the Singapore Zoo and a visit to the bird park. Perhaps add in some shopping or take a relaxing escape from the every day.

Departs: August 2005 Cost: to be advised.

Madagascar 2005

A 28 day trip to see those beautiful lemurs, sifakas and chameleons in their natural habitat. A tour not to be missed. Excellent photographic opportunities.

Departs: Early October 2005 Cost: approx. \$7,000pp twin share

Please contact: Michelle Wild on (08) 9243 5369, email wildfire@iinet.net.au; Ratna Sulastin on (08) 9310 7352, email ratnasulastin@hotmail.com; or Lesley Wall on (08) 9384 1212, email maepl@bigpond.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sheena and Marie, our two new Social representatives on the Committee, have really been using their combined brain power coming up with some wonderful ideas, not only for fund raising, but also to encourage us to have a good time. Below is a list of forthcoming events.

Saturday 4th December

Kalamunda Village Markets

Christmas hamper raffle and SGP merchandise. Excellent stocking fillers on sale!!

Sunday 19th December

8.00am

Christmas Breakfast

South Perth Esplanade Foreshore (Sir James Mitchell Park), meet by the BBQs.

Bring your own BBQ food, chair and a small wrapped gift to auction for the SGP.

January 2005

Outdoor Movies at the Burswood

Date and movie to be advised.

Saturday 30th April 2005 **Giant Gibbon Jungle Sales**

Keep your unwanted jumble for sale at this event! Anything and everything is welcome for the jumble sale with the proceeds going to the SGP. Anyone who can contribute plants, jams and/or cakes or anyone who can pick up and store jumble, please contact Sheena on 9398 3885 or email essexgirl@optusnet.com.au . Venue to be confirmed in next Newsletter.

Art Auction 2005. Yes, it is happening, probably around the middle of April 2005. The Art Auction team is working on the arrangements at this time, so please watch this space!!

WE ARE WINNING HEARTS!!

News from Asep, SGP's best friend in Jakarta.

On Saturday I delivered the suitcase to Ida in Lido, and I had a chance to visit JGC and meet the gibbons there. I also went up to Bodogol with Ida and stayed there until Sunday afternoon. Guess what? I met the gibbon near the station. What an experience!!!

When I came to the Research Center, there were four people from HSBC who joined the Nature Rangers Program set up by that Bank in cooperation with the National Park and CI. With two researchers, these people were involved in identifying all the animals in the National Parks (at that time they were identifying reptiles). So I joined them trekking, even in the creek at night. In the morning, I saw a gibbon near the station and could see him in action for about 10-15 minutes. Also heard their screams. I waited for surili and lutung but they did not show up there.

It was a good experience because I met the rangers, a person from the hotel who joined the trip, and several researchers and students from universities. Actually, I want to go there again.

I also discussed with Ida the possibilities to promote the conservation programs near the forest, as well as for those who live in big cities, because I see so many opportunities to increase the awareness and concern to the environment.

This is the story of my beautiful weekend. Thanks to my wife, who encouraged me to spend the night there, even when she needed me to discuss her studies over the phone from Perth.

Next message:

After my visit to Bodogol, my staff and I are arranging for about 50 (or more) children to go to Bodogol and we will organize the package with PPKA Bodogol for a short education on Tropical Rainforest. I hope that this is the beginning of natural conservation activities to increase the awareness and concern among children who live in big city like Jakarta. It would be a one day program on September 26. The children are from our Cartoon Club members from 5-14 years of age. If it is successful, we would make it regularly so we can involve more children in this program. So that is my update.

Regards,

Asep Sutresna



LOOKING FOR GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

Limited edition prints

Look no further than our very special limited edition prints of primates. Drawn in such exquisite detail by our Silvery gibbon supporter Robin Wingrave. Check out our website www.silvery.org.au

Silvery gibbon toy

We are in the process of developing a new Silvery gibbon toy, Moli. Wild Republic will be making Moli for us and we expect her to be available from early December. So if you are looking for a fantastic and cute stocking filler, contact Sheena on 9398 3885 to place an order. We expect the price to be about \$15.00.