

Hold off on the shopping, skip that daily coffee or eat at home for a month...it's time to Go Without for Gibbons!!



Dear Members and Friends,

We hope that 2015 is treating you well so far! It is certainly shaping up to be a very positive year for gibbons, especially with momentum in full swing for Year of the Gibbon. At the recent congregation of gibbon experts here in Perth for the 2nd International Gibbon Husbandry conference we were able to plan some exciting events for the remainder of the year which should not only serve to raise the profile of gibbons and draw attention to their plight, but hopefully assist in raising much needed funds for conservation projects.

In exciting news for SGP we have recently secured 3 years funding from ARCUS foundation to support operations at the Javan Gibbon Centre. We have been working towards this long-term support for some time and it provides a great deal of security and encouragement to the incredible team in Java. We have also secured full funding for the Reintroduction Program and Gibbon Protection Unit for 2015 so the team are moving forward with additional releases into the Mt Malabar region.

As well as aiming to secure funds for coming years we really must now focus more on expanding protection efforts and any initiatives to curb the illegal trade in gibbons. Whilst authorities appear to be enforcing laws to a higher degree there remains a lack of disincentive for poachers and we are continuing to see young gibbons come into the care of JGC. There are simply not sufficient numbers to allow this to continue.

We need your help! With our partner, Wildlife Asia, we are recruiting individuals and local businesses to make regular contributions to our organisation. This kind of funding allows us to provide ongoing support and plan ahead to expand our activities. If you would like us to come and speak to your staff, school or community group about our work please [contact us](#) today.

We look forward to bringing you our new website by the end of this month so be sure to check it out. If you haven't already please also like our new [Facebook](#)

page. Thank you for your support and we wish you all the best for your chosen sacrifice in Go Without For Gibbons month!

*Clare Campbell*  
SGP President



It's that time again! This June is your chance to get your friends and family on board, make a small sacrifice for the month and raise important funds for gibbon conservation. We have made it even easier for you this year by setting up a [My Cause](#) account. Click on the link to register for the event and then you can easily seek supporters. Our committee members are gearing up for their month without their chosen luxury, all for a good cause. What will you go without in June?

**Be creative! What would other people pay to see you live without for a month?**

**DONATE**



### **Javan Gibbon Centre Update**

The team at JGC welcomed another birth in February, to Mel and Pooh, the resident handsome couple! Check out this lovely [video](#) of Pooh sheltering her baby from the rain.

Although breeding was not previously a priority at JGC there is increasing suggestion that family groups may indeed adapt better to reintroduction than pairs. This family will hopefully get the chance to



### **2<sup>nd</sup> International Gibbon Husbandry and Conservation Conference**

Perth Zoo hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Gibbon Husbandry and Conservation Conference in mid March 2015. 40 delegates attended from around the world including England, U.S.A, Japan, India, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Australia. Guest speakers, Kalaweit Project director Chanee and the Silvery Gibbon Project's Clare Campbell impressed the conference delegates with their level of expertise and insight into conservation.

be free in the forest in the near future and provide another opportunity to assess the ability of rehabilitated gibbons to survive in the wild.



*Pooh with her newborn infant at JGC.*

The staff at the release site have been busy preparing for the upcoming reintroduction of two more pairs into Mt Malabar. The gibbons were transferred to the site earlier in the year and have been observed calling. They will be released into the forest in April. The previously released family continue to thrive and remain in close proximity. The first pair released into the forest, Sadewa and Kiki have moved to the opposite side of the forest and have proven extremely difficult to monitor. They are not always observed together.



*Staff preparing the acclimatisation enclosure at the release site.*

In other reintroduction news, the IUCN Best Practice Guidelines for Gibbon Translocation, authored by SGP President

The conference had a strong focus on conservation in the field as well as how zoo's and not-for profit organisations can get involved in gibbon conservation. The Year of the Gibbon organising committee all attended the conference and used the forum to kick start discussions on how the initiative would work and plans underway. It was also a great opportunity to brainstorm ideas.

Delegates focussed on having clear outcomes and these were discussed during workshops. Attendees not only had backgrounds in conservation but world class husbandry experience.

On Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> Clare Campbell led the way with focussing on not only gibbons but all species endemic to areas in Asia that share the same habitat and therefore the same devastating threats. Not only were presentations focussed on gibbon husbandry and conservation but also elephants, orangutans and other primate species.



*SGP President ,Clare Campbell talking to the delegation about gibbon reintroduction.*

Perth Zoo's corporate sponsor Garuda Indonesia covered flights for the Javan Gibbon Centres staff Anton and Pristi so they could attend the conference. Perth Zoo



Clare Campbell along with Dr. Ben Rawson and Dr. Susan Cheyne will soon be published. These guidelines will be formally launched at the Global federation of Animal Sanctuaries workshop in Indonesia at the end of May. This important document is the culmination of two years work, a collaborative effort between gibbon practitioners across their range states. It is hoped that it will provide the framework for successful gibbon translocation resulting in a positive impact on the conservation of species.

The Gibbon Protection Unit operating in the Mount Malabar region continues to have a positive impact protecting forest in this area as well as engaging local communities in conservation. Working alongside the Mobile Conservation Education Unit, this team supports local farmers by distributing and assisting to plant endemic seedlings. In the last quarter approximately 2000 seedlings from 10 species of endemic trees were planted in Blok Datar Baru (Mt. Haruman) and Blok Puntang. The teams also continue to deliver their conservation program to many local school children.



*MCEU and GPU staff educating local children and planting endemic seedlings.*

As mentioned, 2014 saw several new gibbons arrive at JGC, mostly young animals confiscated from the illegal pet trade or voluntarily donated. This has highlighted the ongoing issue of gibbon poaching and the

also covered all catering costs for the ice breaker and three days of meals leaving funding left over from delegates registration fees to go towards conservation in the field.

Stay tuned for more information on where the next conference will be held!

need for further effort in preventing this. SGP hopes to secure funds this year to support the training and deployment of additional GPU as well as increased public messages in Indonesia about gibbon conservation.



*A local resident hands in his pet to JGC. This young gibbon has clearly been removed from the wild as an infant.*

To further highlight the amazing work of JGC staff we wanted to bring you some pictures of Nakula, a favourite for many of our supporters. We first met Nakula back in 2007, when he was housed in a small rusty cage at another rescue centre. Suffering from spinal deformity, almost complete hair loss and other medical conditions, Nakula's future seemed bleak. Anyone who has had the privilege of meeting this little fellow will attest to his incredible spirit and although he displayed intense fear of other gibbons, the staff have worked tirelessly to accommodate his special needs and persevere in finding him a partner. We are very happy to report that Nakula is now enjoying the company of UU and as you will see in the pictures below, his physical transformation is remarkable!





*Nakula prior to his arrival at JGC in 2007 and Nakula with UU today!*

A huge thanks must go to IPPL who have supported Nakula's care over the years and also to our many friends who have 'adopted' him. We welcome Jean-Charles Druet who has recently sponsored Nakula all the way from France. if you would like to adopt a JGC gibbon please visit our website [HERE](#). A gibbon adoption is also a great way to engage your workplace or community group.



### **An Evening with Chanee**

Many thanks to our supporters who came out to our Evening with Chanee event at Soprano's Restaurant and Pizzeria in Perth. This was a great opportunity to once again present the incredible work undertaken by Chanee and the Kalaweit team in Sumatra and Borneo.





Chanee with Holly, Clare and Phil from Soprano's. Guests mingling at the event.

SGP has been a long time supporter of this project and we continue to provide funds whenever possible. Together with Wildlife Asia we made a commitment at this event to secure funds for the upcoming purchase of an additional 30ha in the Supayang reserve. Thank you to our donors who have helped us almost reach this target. If you would like assist us with the purchase of land in Sumatra and Borneo please contact us today at [silverygibbon@live.com.au](mailto:silverygibbon@live.com.au).

In other Kalaweit news, 3 pair of Siamang have been released into an area of forest in Sumatra. After being transferred to their acclimatisation enclosures, the pairs took almost 8 months to begin calling, a signal that they were feeling comfortable in their new environment. The pairs will be monitored for at least a year and we look forward to hearing of their progress. You can watch this great [video](#) about their release.

Thank you once again to **Tranby College** for allowing us to be a part of their annual Market Day this year. This is not only a great opportunity for us to engage local children in wildlife conservation but also helps us to raise much needed funds. [Contact us](#) today and find out how your child's school can get on board!



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