

โครงการคืนชะนีสู่ป่า Gibbon Rehabilitation Project



104/3 Moo 3, Paklock, Talang, Phuket 83110, Thailand
Tel/Fax: 076 260 491-2

Email: grp@gibbonproject.org <http://www.gibbonproject.org>

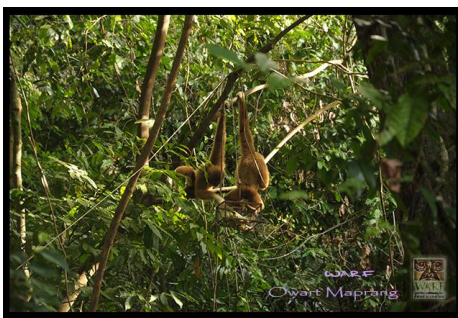
May 2016 (Volume 15 Issue 5)

Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (Phuket): GRP



Crystal and Willy: Following Crystal and Willy's release on the 21st of April, we are glad to report that the couple is progressing well! The GRP team monitored the couple's first few weeks back in the wild

and initial observations were encouraging; with the two gibbons foraging in the wild and moving around their new forest home with ease. Although Willy still tends to stay low to the ground, the couple has expanded their range and has started exploring further into the forest. The couple has even been seen exploring GRP's forest campsite! Crystal and Willy now rarely return to their cage to relax or sleep, relying more and more on their new forest home. We hope that they will continue to grow in confidence and continue to adapt to their new home. The GRP team has now stopped observations of Crystal and Willy and currently only visit the couple to feed them in the morning and check up.



Epson and Sylvia: Epson and Sylvia continue to grow in confidence in their forest environment and are showing signs of relying less on human intervention. Epson and Sylvia are no longer waiting for their daily feed at the food basket and often arrive late for feeding! Because of this we have now reduced the amount of food Epson and Sylvia receive daily. Recently, the couple has been observed travelling further and further through the forest and has even been seen near the rubber plantations singing with our gibbons

in the rehabilitation site! GRP are confident that couple will be very successful in their new home and will continue to thrive.

มูลนิธิช่วยชีวิตสัตว์ป่าแห่งประเทศไทย

65/1 ชั้น 3 สุขุมวิท 55 คลองตันเหนือ เขตวัฒนา กรุงเทพมหานคร 10110, โทรศัพท์ 02 7129715/ 02 7129515 โทรสาร 02 7129778

Email: info@warthai.org <http://www.warthai.org>

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Arun, Toffee and Baby: Arun and family continue to do well in their forest home and are often seen by staff relaxing and playing in their forest home. Some lucky tourists have even spotted the family close to Bang Pae waterfall! This adventurous family has also been found close to their new neighbours Crystal and Willy. Arun, who was attracted by Crystal and Willy's singing, went to check out his new neighbours, and although he kept a safe distance, seemed very curious of his new friends!



Other Animals and Gibbons updated

Jojo and Lumduan: In our rehabilitation site we had previously paired Tunda and Lumduan together in the hopes that one day they would become a successful mating pair. At first the pairing seemed successful, however, during feeding time the two gibbons showed signs of aggression towards one another and were often seen fighting. As a result of this, the decision was made to separate Lumduan and Tunda. Tunda has now been moved to his own bigger enclosure and is very happy in his new home, often seen swinging on his bamboo and trying new tricks! The GRP team is now hoping to pair Lumduan with another of our male gibbons; Jojo, in the hopes that this pairing will be more successful. Lumduan and Jojo are currently in adjacent enclosures and seem very curious of each other!

New Homes! A few of our residents in the rehabilitation site have been given new homes over the last couple of months. One of our long term residents, Guinness, is in the process of getting a brand new enclosure! Guinness's old enclosure was showing signs of rust so the decision was made to renew it. For the time being, Guinness has been moved from his long term friend Nuan, whilst the repairs take place. However once the repairs are complete we are hoping to reunite the friends! Our male gibbon; O and one of our slow lorises; Melissa, have been given new bigger homes. O has been enjoying swinging around his new enclosure whilst Melissa has enjoyed exploring her new home.

Seagame and Brany: One of our resident couples, Seagame and Brany, are making exciting new progress! Volunteers often see the pair interacting and showing signs of intimacy. This is great news for the couple and we hope they will be able to join our release program very soon!

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Other News

Walking Street Market: GRP returned to Old Phuket Town Walking Street Market again last month for another successful night of raising awareness to both tourists and locals about the challenges facing gibbons. Many people wanted to learn more about gibbons and many more supported us with generous donations! The volunteers and staff had great fun talking to all the shoppers and are looking forward to the next market!



School Visits: The month of May saw the beginning of the Thai school year and the start of GRP's educational visits to schools. GRP aims to teach students, about the problems facing gibbons as well as other wildlife and environmental issues. The students enjoyed taking part in lots of interactive games and also had a chance to learn some English from our volunteers by singing along to some educational songs! We have planned to visit 6 schools in June and we will be visiting many more this year!

Donation Box Collections: Thanks to the support of many companies and hotels, GRP has donation boxes all over Phuket! In May, both GRP staff and volunteers went to collect these donation boxes and were overwhelmed by the generous donations given by locals and tourists. The GRP had a great time meeting all the wonderful staff at the companies and hotels and greatly appreciate their support



LEAFLET DROP AO PO PIER 9TH MAY: The GRP organized another leaflet drop in May, focusing on the popular tourist location, Ao Po Pier! The team spoke to the tourists about our project and informed them about the cruel and illegal gibbon trade. The staff and volunteers had a lot of fun talking to the tourists and hope to engage with the public again soon!

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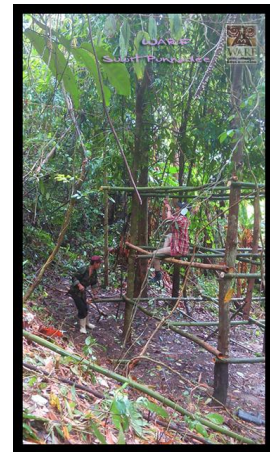
Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (Chiang Mai): GRPC

Dry season is always a challenge for our wild gibbons, with less forest food and water available. This year was no exception, and was even recorded as one of the longest heat waves for decades causing drought in many areas! In the forests of Chiang Mai it is common practice to burn areas of forest to make way for new plantations. However, aided by this year's extra long dry season these fires spread greater distances, reducing the amount of food available to our gibbons.



To help our gibbons, the team in Chiang Mai has supplemented our forest gibbons with food and water to aid them throughout the dry season. Fortunately, May marked the end of the dry season this year which allowed our forest gibbons to forage for food and water again.

Nat, Nuan, Beauty and Tony: This family continues to thrive in Chiang Mai and is often observed playing together and foraging for food. Recently Beauty has been showing signs of aggression towards humans such as shaking trees and jumping towards people. We believe this may be a sign that Beauty is maturing and may be ready to find her own mate.



Nuan-Tony / Jun / Acclimatization Cage

Brittany, Jun and Thong: It has been an eventful year for this group of gibbons! Our last update from Chiang Mai reported that Ollie had gone missing, leaving Brittany in the forest by herself. Although initially concerned for Brittany and how she would survive on her own, the team is no longer worried. Brittany has proven herself to be a confident gibbon and has been coping in the forest well.

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Brittany has found herself some new friends and has been seen spending time with both Jun and Thong. Although Jun and Brittany have not been observed fighting or showing signs of aggression, Brittany is noticeably the more dominant of the two, with Jun being much more cautious around Brittany. Thong and Brittany have also spent much time together, and are getting along well. The Chiang Mai team believes that Brittany and Thong may eventually become a mating pair, and to prevent any fights between the females, have made the decision to recapture Jun. We hope that in the future we can pair Jun with another male and release her again. Although it is still early days for Brittany and Thong, we are excited to see how this potential new couple will get along.

Champ and Mee & Annie and Aye Aye: GRPC are happy to report that Chiang Mai's newest residents, Annie & Aye Aye and Champ & Mee are coping well in their new environment and are happy in their new homes! The Chiang Mai Team is busy building an acclimatization cage in the forest for our new gibbon arrivals. It is yet to be decided which couple will be released first as both couples are adjusting well to the Chiang Mai environment. However, we will keep you updated on this as soon as a decision is made.