

A Peaceable Kingdom



Any visitor who has seen other animal shelters in India would agree that IPAN's resident animal community of seven different mammalian species make up the happiest and healthiest community in the whole of India at Hill View Farm, the Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu. Villagers come and are amazed to see our pack of close to 30 shining, playful dogs that are not fighting and fearful of people. No one has ever seen calves who have had all their mother's milk since birth, and who enjoy being chased by the dogs, and butting heads with sheep and goats as monkeys ride on their backs. Nor has an Indian ever seen before a herd of over 100 robust and friendly donkeys. Usually most donkeys carry heavy loads, or are sick and injured, and often abandoned by the roadside to fend for themselves.

We wish we could share with you the light and the sounds and smells of our Animal Refuge, daily routines of our dedicated staff caring for the close to 300 animals who live at IPAN's Animal Refuge and who together make it the incredible place that it is — a Peaceable Kingdom.

There are usually a dozen or more animals in for treatment, either brought in by their owners or other concerned people. We have four young orphaned Bonnet macaque monkeys. They are now the resident clowns at Hill View Farm Animal Refuge, delighting staff with their antics when let out of their enclosure in the evening.

We continue our free spay/neuter program, and have sterilized almost 1000 dogs. This program has been so effective that we now rarely see dogs with maggot-infested bite wounds, since there is virtually no fighting in the villages as there used to be when females came into heat. We also have an adoption program for abandoned puppies that IPAN take in, worm, vaccinate and feed until they are fit for a good home. We treat in-field, 10-20 animals a day, especially the livestock of the poor. We routinely vaccinate dogs to control distemper and rabies and treat them for mange and other

parasites. This all helps stop the spread of communicable diseases to the wildlife in the surrounding forest and jungle.

IPAN is always in need of continuing donations, and every cent donated goes directly to IPAN. IPAN's only paid staff are in India, all local village and tribal peoples, under the supervision of Deputy Director and Manager of Hill View Farm Animal Refuge, Nigel Otter. Nigel turned his farm and many talents over to IPAN in 1998, when IPAN Director, Deanna Krantz, was in need of a sanctuary for nearly 100 animals — a herd of donkeys and several cows, calves, goats, ponies, dogs and puppies that she had rescued after a long battle on their behalf with a defunct local animal welfare society. Many of these animals were being starved to death, provided no veterinary treatment, and the donkeys were being bred and sold into hard labor.



IPAN Director Deanna Krantz with orphan Sambar fawn and dog "Massi."

Animal Cruelty and Wildlife Issues

IPAN's Animal Refuge has provided sanctuary for six mules (who had served in Kashmir with the Indian army) who were confiscated, along with over 40 other ex-army horses and mules by the Indian Government from the King Institute in Madras, on the grounds of cruelty and neglect.

These animals were being bled for their serum for the production of vaccines and snake anti-venom. At the Government's behest, IPAN's Deputy Director inspected the facilities provided by Blue Cross Madras for these animals because of complaints about their welfare, and made some improvements in their feeding, shelter and health care.

IPAN has several ponies, cows and water buffalo in protective custody under court order, in three separate court cases involving inhumane transportation. All are landmark, precedent-setting cases, two of which, after almost a year in the District Court, were won in March 2002.

IPAN staff continue to enjoy close collaboration with tribals and Forest Department employees, providing documentary evidence of illegal land use in the Reserve Forest and Mudamalai Wildlife Sanctuary, and investigating the killing of elephants, guar (Indian bison), and other wildlife.



Some of the ponies in protective custody at the Animal Refuge.

We are encouraged that UNESCO has recently designated this area as part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, in the heart of which IPAN is stationed. It is one of over 400 critically important Global Biosphere Reserves, rich in both biological and cultural diversity, that have been recognized by the UN

as the world's most significant regions to protect and restore. IPAN's work is one of very few projects in the Nilgiris that will help stem, if ever reverse the annihilation of the wild and of indigenous cultures in our area of this Global Biosphere Reserve. Farmers only get government insurance payments for the loss of livestock to a tiger or leopard if they have a signed veterinary autopsy report and cause of death

certificate, plus a photo of the dead animal. Remote tribal communities have no cameras or way to get a veterinarian. Now IPAN is helping save panthers and tigers by providing these people with a veterinarian and free camera and autopsy services. When they know that they will be compensated for their loss, as we have found, they do not retaliate against the predators with poisoned bait that also kills non-target species like hyenas, jackals and vultures. Nor do they persecute these predators when IPAN staff are able to heal their precious cows, bullocks and buffalo who survived an attack.

For information about IPAN's videos on the Refuge and Programs / Wildlife Issues / Humane Investigations - please write or e-mail IPAN@erols.com.

Helping People

In helping poor livestock keepers improve the health and welfare of their animals, and therefore be able to better feed their children and send them to school, IPAN has won the trust and support of the indigenous peoples. This strong local support and being so much in the field in jeeps mean that IPAN staff are kept well-informed on animal welfare and wildlife killing and illegal land use issues, especially as they relate to the responsibilities and concerns of the State Forest Department, the Wildlife Warden and Indian Institute of Science (IIS) field researchers.



One of the refuge orphan monkeys on "Shadow's" back.

Elephant Situation

Some 60 wild elephants have been killed in the area over the past 18 months, males for their ivory (female Indian elephants, unlike the Africans, do not have tusks). There is not one adult "tusker" left in the region.

The wild-caught, severely injured Makhna, or tuskless male elephant, whom IPAN named Loki and treated for several months at a state-operated elephant camp, is in the news again. After a High Court ruling, IPAN's team of elephant experts were allowed to evaluate Loki's condition and instigate whatever treatment and improvements in his care were needed. The team was led by Dr. James Mahoney (who first treated Loki 3 years ago). See: www.gcci.org and click on "IPAN," then "Loki." Dr. Mahoney was joined by world-renowned elephant care and humane handling expert Alan Roocroft. Thanks to San Diego Zoological Society and Florence Lambert of The Elephant Alliance for covering his expenses.

A High Court injunction, filed by the Tamil Nadu State Forest Department barring the IPAN team from continuing to treat Loki - who was urgently in need of basic veterinary and expert foot care - was put under appeal by advocate G. Ragendan, who works closely with Ms. Maneka Gandhi's People for Animals organization (PFA) and the Animal Welfare Board of India. The landmark case of Loki, thanks to the perseverance of Deanna and the support that she was given by PFA, went to the Supreme Court in New Delhi where three Supreme Court Justices looked into the case. So the saga of Loki, the messenger, continues. We will keep the word out on the Loki Saga, and other, related elephant issues in India, via the internet on arnews@envirolink.org.



"Manya," the older Bonnet macaque monkey, comforts a younger orphan who is being treated for an injured wrist.

Veterinary Support

IPAN is most appreciative of the volunteer services of four wonderful veterinarians, who are now honorary members of the IPAN Veterinary Volunteer Alumnus Association (IPANVVAA)! These are Canadians Dr. Jennifer Schengil and Dr. Alexija Nemanis, with her Swedish veterinary partner Dr. Johan Lindsjo, and Dr. Dwight Gaudet who has the largest urban veterinary practice in the US.

IPAN is especially fortunate to have local veterinarian Dr. M. Sugumaran now working full-time as Senior Veterinary Officer. Thanks to Mr. Gary Fink for donating to this good animal doctor his full salary.

Nigel Otter was recently honored by community leaders with an award for IPAN's services. IPAN flew Nigel (his first flight!) to New Delhi in May 2001 for a two-week training course convened by the Central Government for certification as an official Animal Welfare Inspector. He is also an advisor to the Collector (Regional Municipal Authority) on all animal and environment-related issues. We especially want to thank Ms. Laura Utley, Founder and CEO of our "parent" organization, Global Communications for Conservation Inc (GCC), and her Executive Assistant Ms. Patricia Sherman, for providing IPAN with tax-exempt status as one of GCC's international projects, and for donating staff time to processing IPAN donations and inquiries.

IPAN's main expenditures are: Feed for the resident animals, labor, diesel fuel for our two old jeep-ambulances, and veterinary supplies. Financial support is needed annually to operate Hill View Farm Animal Refuge and IPAN's outreach programs and wildlife investigations. We have funds to keep going for only a few more months, and the Indian bureaucracy is currently moving at a snail's-pace to mobilize funds to help us feed and care for their animals at IPAN's Refuge, dozens being held for the Courts. Please make out your tax-deductible donation to "GCC/IPAN" and mail to:

Global Communications for Conservation, Inc.

150 East 58th St., 25th Floor

New York, NY 10155



"Plastic" is one resident cow IPAN saved after removing 20 kgs of plastic bags from her stomach.

India Project for Animals and Nature
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IPAN

Helping
People,
Animals,
and
Nature

Visit our website
at www.gcci.org
and click on
the link to **IPAN**.

India Project for Animals and Nature



Panoramic view of the IPAN Refuge.

IPAN would like to thank Stephanie Pope, Eric Kerby, and the rest of the students involved with Dr. Jane Goodall's *Roots & Shoots* organization for producing this newsletter.