



# THE RESCUER

2018/2019

Dedicated to the rescue,  
rehabilitation and release of  
suffering animals and the  
protection of their habitats  
around the world.





## TOGETHER WE HOLD THE KEY TO THE FUTURE

International Animal Rescue celebrates its 30th birthday in 2019 – and how the world has changed since the charity first began!

The past 30 years have seen the threats to our natural world increase at a terrifying rate – and there's no denying that we as human beings are responsible for them. So now we must all work together to solve the problem.

In spite of the huge challenges that lie ahead, I remain hopeful about the future and what we can do to turn things around. Every day I encounter inspirational people who give me cause for optimism – individuals dedicated to improving the lives of animals and people and preserving the natural world we all depend on to survive.

At IAR we learned long ago that, in order to improve animals' lives, we would also need to help the people who depend on them or live alongside them. When we rescued the dancing bears from the streets of India, we also helped the bears' handlers establish new, humane ways of earning a living. In Indonesia, our work to save critically endangered orangutans involves not only the rescue and rehabilitation of these great apes, but also a range of projects to help the communities living alongside them. We have established that people living in remote rural communities are driven to carry out illegal hunting and logging out of poverty and the desperate need to feed and care for their families. By providing support to these communities in critical areas such as education and health care, we are also inspiring

and empowering them to become guardians of the forest and their local wildlife. Initiatives such as these are vital if people are to change their attitudes and behavior towards the natural world.

Without a concerted effort by every one of us to respect and cherish our planet and all the creatures we share it with, the future would be very bleak indeed. But I hope that, once you have read the uplifting stories in *The Rescuer*, you will feel optimistic and positive about what lies ahead too.

Thank you.



# A BRIEF HISTORY OF IAR

In September 2019, International Animal Rescue celebrates 30 years of saving animals from suffering around the world



## 1989

International Animal Rescue is officially registered in the UK by Miss Tillyer who later became an important legacy benefactor

## 1998

Vet clinic is opened in Goa to help stray cats and dogs

## 2002

IAR launches campaign to help bring an end to cruel dancing bear practice in India

## 2006

Alan Knight is awarded an OBE in Queen's Birthday Honors list

## 2009

IAR rescues the last dancing bear, bringing an end to India's 400-year-old tradition

## 1993

IAR is established in Malta to tackle illegal hunting of birds

## 2001

IAR is officially registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in the USA

## 2006

IAR is officially registered in Indonesia to care for primates and tackle deforestation

## 2007

First rescue and rehabilitation center is built in Java to care for victims of the illegal pet trade

## 2009

Rescue of orangutan Jaja a victim of the illegal pet trade in Indonesia, launching the start of IAR orangutan rescue work





**2012**

IAR builds **first Orangutan Rescue and Rehabilitation Center** in West Borneo

**2015**

IAR launches **'Tickling is Torture'** campaign to expose the cruel slow loris pet trade

**2017**

Launch of **reforestation project in Indonesia** to plant 650,000 trees following fires in 2015

**2018**

BBC film **"Red Ape: Saving the Orangutan"** airs in UK

**2013**

IAR's Orangutan Rescue and Rehabilitation Center becomes the **first Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) accredited facility** in Asia

**2016**

IAR wins **'Charity of the Year'** at Just Giving awards

**2017**

Launch of **'Great Bear Rescue'** to rescue caged bears in Armenia

**2018**

IAR releases **first bear cubs back into the wild** in Armenia

**2019**

IAR wins **first place at 'The Charity Awards'** for Environment and conservation



## PROVIDING LIFELONG CARE FOR BROKEN BEARS IN INDIA

Bear dancing was a common practice in India for centuries. Sloth bears were caught from the wild and beaten and mutilated to entertain villagers and tourists who would pay to watch the bear 'dance'. In order to 'train' the bear cub, a red hot needle was used to pierce its muzzle and a coarse rope would then be threaded through the open wound. The bear's handler would tug and yank on the rope to make the bear stand up on its hind legs and 'dance'.

With the help of our partners Wildlife SOS in India, we have rescued more than 620 dancing bears from this cruel trade - and in 2009 we rescued the very last one! Our sanctuaries in India still care for nearly 300 bears, providing them with a lifelong, loving home where they can enjoy a peaceful, pain-free retirement.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The sloth bear is endemic to the Indian subcontinent and lives in the tropical forests of the region. However, over the years the species population has begun to decline and is now listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of threatened species.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Bears really do love honey and nuts and one way to keep them busy and entertained is to fill sacks with yummy treats and hang them from tree branches in their enclosures. Bears love the challenge and it keeps them occupied and out of mischief for hours!

## ALEEM'S LIFE FULL OF LOVE AND HONEY!

Aleem is a beautiful sloth bear living at our sanctuary in Agra, India. This delightful photo makes it hard to imagine his horrific past as a dancing bear when he was forced to perform for tourists on the side of a dirty, polluted road.

Once, Aleem's life seemed dark and hopeless. He was weak, malnourished and extremely thin with a look of despair in those beautiful, big brown eyes.

In a joint operation with our partners, Wildlife SOS, we rescued Aleem and took him to our sanctuary. He received expert medical care, which included a new diet to bring his weight up to a normal level.

He soon developed a close bond with fellow bears Ambika and Sultanbi and together they roam the

sanctuary which has been designed to emulate the bears' natural environment as closely as possible. They are able to indulge in the many enrichment activities available to them, including a pool and even a field with a sprinkler system to help them cool off on warm days!

Aleem can also often be seen enjoying hearty portions of honey-laced porridge and nuts - his favorite snack! Every so often, he will cheekily sneak up and steal nuts and dates from the hands of his keeper while he is busy stuffing them in the enrichment ball or a braid-feeder.

As far as we're concerned, he can steal all the nuts, dates and honey he wants. It is our mission to provide these bears with the life they deserve and, with your help, we are doing just that!



## HELPING ORANGUTANS IN CRISIS

The plight of the orangutan in Indonesia has reached a critical stage, with the survival of the species under serious threat. Animals are suffering and dying because of the systematic destruction of the rainforest, primarily for palm oil but also for other agribusinesses, as well as the production of pulp, paper and plywood.

Our teams in West Borneo are doing everything they can to save the Bornean orangutan from extinction and protect and preserve its precious rainforest habitat.



## BUJING FINALLY GOES BACK HOME

We found poor Bujing chained to the side of a house in West Borneo in 2014. He was dangerously thin and had no hair as a result of severe malnutrition. Stolen from the wild when he was just a baby, Bujing was later sold to a family and kept as a pet.

His owners fed him a diet consisting mainly of milk which was completely unsuitable for a growing orangutan. Out of desperation, Bujing started to steal food from local villagers and so was chained up by his owner to keep him under control.

We're so glad we reached him when we did. If he had been chained there for much longer, Bujing's story could have ended in tragedy.

However, thanks to you we were able to send a rescue team to save him from his suffering. He was rushed to our orangutan rescue center where he received urgent medical treatment from our specially trained vets.

After years of rehabilitation, in June 2019 Bujing was deemed ready for release and, along with four other orangutans, he was taken on an epic journey back to the rainforest where he was finally set free.

YOU are the reason why Bujing and many more have the chance of a new life! Thank you!



## SUPPORTING SUPERWOMEN IN INDONESIA

The release of Bujing and his four friends was extra-special because for the first time IAR also enlisted women from the local hamlet as porters to carry supplies and equipment for the release team. The female porters joined the male porters who were carrying the five crates containing the orangutans, each weighing between 220 and 330 lbs.

The involvement of local communities has become an integral part of IAR's efforts in Indonesia to help boost their economy. Female figures play an important role in regulating the household. They use the additional income for their children's health or education needs without having to make money from activities that damage the natural environment.

"The 'superwomen' who have helped with this release will go

home with extra income to help their families. Empowering women is one of the most effective ways to save forests," said Karmele Llano Sanchez, IAR Indonesia Program Director.



## RESCUING BEARS BEHIND BARS

Every year wild bears in Armenia are illegally caught or trapped by poachers. Once captured, many of them end up in small, squalid cages in restaurants and other public entertainment venues as a tourist attraction. Some are kept in bus depots, others are hidden from view in dark cellars. The bears are mentally and physically damaged by the boredom and frustration of their miserable existence behind bars.



## THE STORY SO FAR...

In 2017, with our partners FPWC in Armenia, we launched a campaign to help these suffering bears. The Great Bear Rescue aims to stop this cruelty and free all the bears from their barren prisons. The ultimate goal is to rehabilitate and eventually release those that are physically and mentally equipped to fend for themselves. Those that are too damaged to survive in the wild will be given a permanent home in sanctuaries where they will be well cared for, well fed and have the freedom to express natural bear behavior.

To date we have rescued 25 bears, including four cubs.

We are also supporting government moves to amend animal protection legislation which would make it easier for the police to seize a bear when its owner refuses to cooperate.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know? The bears in Armenia are Syrian Brown Bears (*Ursus arctos syriacus*), one of the smaller sub-species of brown bear. They are found in the mountainous areas of the country where they forage for fruits, berries and insects in the meadows and forests and hibernate in caves and tree hollows.



## DASHA'S FAMILY RETURNS TO FREEDOM

In 2018 we made history by releasing two young bears back into the wild in Armenia for the first time. And there was an even more momentous event in May 2019 when Dasha and her two cubs were set free!

Dasha was rescued from a restaurant in Armenia, where she was being kept in a cramped cage half-submerged in water. In a joint operation with our partners, FPWC, we saved Dasha from a lifetime of cruelty and neglect. The following spring, when Dasha emerged from hibernation, she had two small cubs at her heels!

One year later, the little family was transported high into the Armenian mountains. After getting into position, our team raised the doors of the transport crates. Luka was the first to emerge, eager to taste freedom for the first time.

Dasha followed shortly after but hung back for Coco, who was cautious of the new life that awaited her. It wasn't long before all three were running through the flower-filled meadows of the Armenian countryside, digging holes and foraging for fruits and berries.

We have fitted Dasha with a radio collar so that we can keep track of her movements. We also have a team of rangers monitoring the bears. The latest report confirms that they are high up in the mountains, far from human habitation.



## MISCHIEVOUS MONKEYS ON THE MOVE

Three cheeky monkeys - Jordanny, Sophie and Lola - have been at the Refuge For Wildlife in Costa Rica since being rescued as tiny fragile babies four years ago. Having lost their mothers, they would not have survived all alone in the wild and needed 24 hour care from our expert vets and care takers.

The trio quickly bonded and became a family, supporting each other throughout the rehabilitation process. Thanks to the exceptional care provided by the Refuge, the tiny monkeys grew to be strong and developed all the essential skills they would need to survive in the wild. The time had come for them to go home.

Firstly, they were transferred to our pre-release enclosure located in a heavily forested and remote area with extremely limited human interaction.

After several weeks adjusting to their new surroundings, under constant observation from the monitoring team, the three were finally deemed ready for release. The top of the enclosure was opened and within minutes they had all climbed out confidently, high up into the trees. They were at the end of their journey through rehabilitation and at the beginning of their exciting new lives back in the wild.



## SLOW LORISES ARE QUICK TO ADAPT TO LIFE IN THE WILD

Thirty-one rescued Critically Endangered Javan slow lorises have completed their journey to freedom! After treatment and care at our Primate Rehabilitation Center in West Java, the shy little primates were transported to the habituation enclosure (an area of open forest enclosed by netting, with various types of tree for natural food and shade) before their final release into the wild.

During this time, our team in the field observed and recorded behavioral data on the lorises. During the habituation period all the lorises were active and

displaying natural wild behaviors and so, happily, they were all finally set free.

All thirty-one lorises have undergone an incredible transformation. When they first arrived at our center, many of them were malnourished, diseased and traumatized. Now they are finally fit, healthy and free!



## LOVING CARE FOR CATASTROPHES CATS

Without Catastrophes Cat Rescue and the ongoing support it receives from IAR, there would be little hope for homeless and unwanted cats in desperate need of food and shelter. It is Catastrophes' mission to give every cat a second chance in life. Its residents receive expert veterinary treatment and plenty of love and attention from an army of cat-loving care takers dedicated to giving the cats a contented and happy life. Sick cats are nursed back to health and given a home for life in the sanctuary's beautiful countryside setting.



## AND THE WINNER IS...



In June 2019 IAR won the 'environment and conservation' category of The Charity Awards, the longest running and most prestigious awards program for charities in the UK. This was in recognition of our reforestation project in Indonesia, which works to protect Critically Endangered orangutans and their rainforest habitat.

IAR's reforestation project has planted more than 12,500 tree saplings so far, thanks to the support of the local community. In addition to planting and protecting precious rainforest, education is at the heart of everything we do. We strongly believe that education is vital if we are to have any hope for the survival of the species. We have developed a number of educational programs such as our 'conservation camp' which encourages local teenagers to become active stewards in the protection of Borneo's wildlife and natural environment.

This achievement owes much to our wonderful supporters. Without you, none of our work would be possible. Thank you!



## LEGACIES

"I have been supporting International Animal Rescue for several years now... I have a real affinity for orangutans and I absolutely love animals. I think that we as humans have not been kind to them, destroying their habitat and making it very difficult for them to survive. I feel very passionate that I can do something about it and help their survival.

We have a responsibility to try and help and International Animal Rescue are very good at real time updates – you know that your money is being well spent." Annabelle Boone, IAR Legator

Leaving a gift in your Will is quick and simple to set up and can make a huge difference to suffering animals.

Leave a lasting legacy for animals. Contact us today for your free 'Giving the gift of freedom' legacy booklet. Call us at (508) 826-1083, email us at [info@internationalanimalrescue.org](mailto:info@internationalanimalrescue.org) or write to us at: International Animal Rescue, PO Box 137, Shrewsbury, MA 01545



## WE HAVE THE BEST SUPPORTERS IN THE WORLD!

Over the past year we have been blown away by the amazing things our supporters have done to raise the funds we need to continue our life-saving work. We rely on public donations and we are incredibly grateful to every single supporter who chooses to go the extra mile in support of our work.

## HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

We believe it is incredibly important to inspire the younger generation to care about the world around us and the animals we share it with. They are our hope for the future survival of Critically Endangered species and their precious habitats.

We want to say a huge thank you to triplets Alice, Lizzy and Kitty for all they have done in support of our orangutan rescue project over the past year! They gave up sweet treats, held a bake sale, organized a coloring competition, held an 'orange' day at their dad's work and sold home-made stickers to reach their amazing total of more than \$1,533!

*"Fundraising and being a part of such an incredible organization has been the greatest and most fulfilling experience of my life."*  
– Patty Cuthbert



# CAKES FOR APES

This year, Cakes for Apes was bigger and even better than ever before, and that's all thanks to the super supporters who took part!

Throughout the month of April, all around the world, people hosted cake sales and tea parties in schools, offices, shops and cafes. The global event has raised over \$42,500! We are absolutely delighted by this incredible amount. It just goes to show that every single penny really does count!

# THE EXTRA, EXTRA MILE

Over the past year, we have seen people take part in a number of running challenges from 5Ks to full marathons! We are so inspired by the determination and dedication that these challenges take. We have really enjoyed seeing so many supporters proudly crossing the finish line in our colorful running vests!



*"I'm amazed and heartened at what International Animal Rescue has achieved. I feel immensely proud to be a part of it all!"*  
**Mel McAlpine**

# JOIN OUR FAMILY OF FUNDRAISERS

If you're interested in fundraising in support of our work, then we would love to hear from you! You can email us at [fundraising@internationalanimalrescue.org](mailto:fundraising@internationalanimalrescue.org) or call us at (508) 826-1083.



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW-2018

The financial summary shown is an extract from the organization's full audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018. The full financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and approved by the Officers. For further information, please contact the Treasurer at the IAR US office address.

International Animal Rescue US's auditors are Michael J. Smeriglio III CPA, Cos Cob, Connecticut.

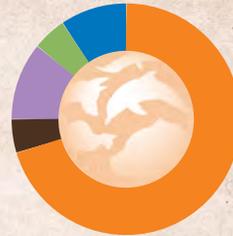
### Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended December 31, 2018

	Unrestricted funds 2018	Restricted funds 2018	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>Voluntary Income</b>				
Donations	925,215	95,875	1,021,090	807,866
Fundraising Events	133,213	-	133,213	4,080
Major Gifts		292,900	292,900	164,383
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>1,058,428</b>	<b>388,775</b>	<b>1,447,203</b>	<b>976,329</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Program Services	788,173	426,808	1,214,981	601,043
Management and General	75,128	-	75,125	79,452
Fundraising Expenses	191,458	-	191,458	147,251
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>1,054,759</b>	<b>426,808</b>	<b>1,481,567</b>	<b>827,746</b>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	3,669	(38,033)	(34,364)	148,583
Fund balances at January 1, 2018	301,639	55,833	357,472	208,889
<b>FUND BALANCES AT DECEMBER 31, 2018</b>	<b>305,308</b>	<b>17,800</b>	<b>323,108</b>	<b>357,472</b>

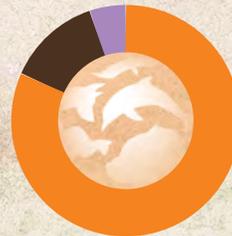


In 2018 International Animal Rescue generated a small deficit of funds in the year. Over \$1.2m of our income has been utilized on program expenses with only 13% of income required to cover the fundraising activity. In 2018, we have invested funds into 'The Great Bear Rescue' - our project to rescue captive bears in Armenia as well as for the ongoing care of our ex-dancing bears in India. We have grown our orangutan and slow loris conservation projects in Indonesia, with a big focus on prevention. In addition, the howler monkey project in Costa Rica has gone from strength to strength. We hold modest reserves, which cover working capital and financial risk and will be used to fund future animal protection programs.



**INCOME** \$1,447,203

- Individual Income
- Partner Adoption Program
- Foundation Income
- Legacy Income
- Events Income



**TOTAL EXPENDITURE** \$1,481,567

- Program
- Fundraising
- Support

## GIVE THE GIFT OF FREEDOM

Leaving a gift to International Animal Rescue in your Will is easy to set up and will make a world of difference to suffering animals around the world.

By choosing to remember us in your Will, you will be part of something incredible, part of an end to animal suffering. You will be a lasting part of the solution.

To find out more please  
get in touch today!



## CONTACT US

Address: International Animal Rescue, P.O. Box 137, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

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International Animal Rescue



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