

WORKING FOR ANIMALS

HELPING ANIMALS IN INDIA



DECEMBER, 2018

LAND FOR A CATTERY

My heart breaks every time someone brings a small kitten to KAS. We only have a small cage with adult cats, and no place to keep kittens. Often people bring cats because they no longer want them. Sometimes also there is a phone call from a member of the public asking for an injured cat, possibly lying on the road, to be collected. At other times, people throw kittens over the fence at KAS.

All in all there are about twenty cats in the cattery, donated by the Marchig Trust, Although we have built extensions for them (funded by Animal Protection Network), so that they can walk down a 'tube' and lie in the sun, and although they have warm boxes where they can lie at night, and even though the cats in the cattery are healthy and well fed, we would like them to have more space so that they can fulfil their natural behaviour. There is a block of land for sale just above the shelter, between the road and the dispensary.

The prices of land are rapidly increasing, because,, when the road was built, local people, and people from Kalkata who wish to have a holiday home in the foothills of the Himalayas, are snapping up land. The land which we purchased for such a reasonable price has now become very expensive.

For .17 of an acre it will cost us about \$A45,000.

The committee of Working For Animals have all donated money for this cause.



This land will provide a huge space for the cats to live a comfortable life.

Christine Townend,
DGAS Founding Trustee.



THANKS TO DR. SAMEER CHHETRI AND DR. MIHIR MAZAGAONKAR

Dr. Sameer Chhetri often visits and helps out at Darjeeling Animal Shelter. Although he works for the government, in his spare hours, and during weekends he carries out spays at DAS.

We are also fortunate to have Dr. Mihir working for DAS. He loves animals and previously volunteered at several organisations, bringing his knowledge with him. He keeps puppies in his room at night, and works diligently to keep up with the long stream of people who bring their animals to DAS for treatment. Dr. Mihir performs a spay operation in the



Between the two cat cages there is a ramp which the cats like to use. The number of cats rescued by KAS increases daily.



Cats rest in the sun in the current cattery but it is too small for the number of cats now held at KAS.



The second cattery at KAS which is joined by a ramp running between the two cages. So many cats are surrendered to KAS.

Photo Gallery



ABOVE: Every day people bring their dogs and cats to KAS and DAS for vaccination against rabies, parvo and distemper, and for neutering. The public need help with their animals.

ABOVE TOP: A street dog is caught humanely in a net. She will be vaccinated, spayed, and returned to the street after a full recovery.

Many rescued animals are adopted by members of the public after it has been determined that they will care for the animal properly. A leaflet is provided to ensure this and free treatment is available for any animal adopted from the shelters.



LEFT: Rescued puppies at KAS, have now been adopted

RIGHT: The kennels at DAS house 24 dogs, and there are also dogs running free at the shelter. In addition, there are two isolation kennels.



A camp at Burmek brought people from long distances to have their animals neutered and vaccinated against rabies. Altogether in the last year at DAS, ABC dogs (spays and castrations): 337
Cats: spays and castrations: 42
Vaccinations against rabies: 788.

This is despite the fact that Darjeeling was closed for about 5 months due to a strike.

ABOVE: Padam (AT KAS) holds a dog which was rescued after someone threw boiling water at her. Now the dog is almost recovered. She is very friendly and we hope she will find a new family to live with.



roads are steep and narrow in Darjeeling. Frequently there are pot-holes and traffic jams. The staff have to drive for an hour each way in order to bury the bodies of dogs who have died (thank you to the Municipality which has provided a pit).

NEWS

In the month of July, Yogita Chettri (Publicity Officer) came up with the idea of getting a wall painted in the centre of town. Having requested the Municipality and explained to them the main purpose for the mural, they agreed and we started our work with the help of two artists, Cookie and Caro.

The main purpose for the mural was to raise awareness of rabies in the form of art so that people would enjoy looking at the artwork and also get the clear message on 'rabies' and 'vaccinations' available at Kalimpong Animal Shelter. There are no cases of rabies in Kalimpong now, after Kalimpong Animal Shelter carried out a rabies vaccination/neuter programme, commencing 17 years ago.

THANKS TO:



* Animaux Secours (France) for major funding of KAS including the new operating theatre, so badly needed, as the old one was falling to pieces, and was too small for the large amount of operations carried out at the shelter.

* One Voice (France) for major funding of DAS.

* Animal Protection Network (Sweden), who fund a cat ABC and the spay-vaccination camps held by both shelters in remote villages.

* Sameer Chhetri, a veterinarian who frequently helps out voluntarily

* Alain DuPont, builder, who is working as a volunteer, helping in the design and construction of the new Operating Theatre

The many volunteer vets and vet nurses who have willingly and freely given their time to helping out at KAS and DAS, including Romy, Kim, Grace and Sandrine, Beatrix and Paula,

Christoffer, and local volunteers, especially Dr. Julie Tolhurst, a voluntary veterinary advisor.

CAMPS:

Camps are not easy. The staff and vet have to leave early morning, and travel long distances, squashed in a vehicle, over rough roads.

During the last year, up until June, KAS has carried out fifty camps in remote areas, where veterinary facilities are not available. During this time the number of dogs who have been vaccinated against rabies numbers

1694, and this is despite the long bandh (strike) which lasted for about a third of the year. The total number of village camps including anti-rabies and Animal Birth Control camps conducted is 306 and 13910 animals were vaccinated against rabies

and 2026 dogs and cats were spayed and neutered in these camps.

During the strike, when it was almost impossible to obtain food for animals, *Animals & Us*, from Sikkim, donated food. Thank you so much for your help, *Animals & Us*.



Volunteer vets, Beatriz Belda and Paula Valiente, examine a pup brought for treatment at DAS in April. BELOW: A man at a camp in Burmek waits for his spayed dog to regain consciousness.



OPPOSITE:

Moti, An Indian Elephant, can be ordered from Help in Suffering at a cost of \$US20 which includes postage and handling. All proceeds from sale of the book go to HIS. After depositing the payment (see below) please inform Mr. Nirmal Jain at nirmal@his-india.in that you have transferred money for an order:

Account Name: Help in Suffering

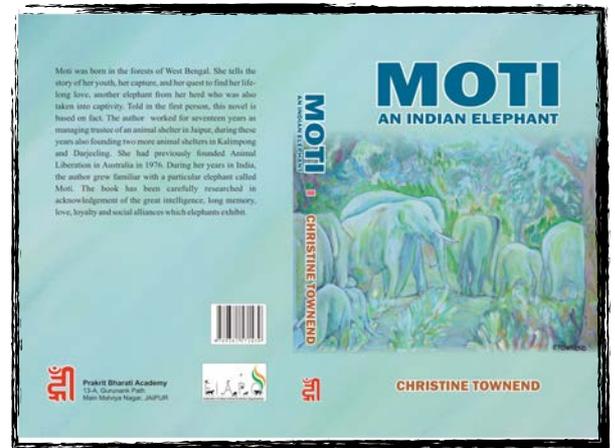
Account Number: 20085900605

Bank: Bank of Maharashtra

Bank Address: Park Street, MI Road, Jaipur. 302001

Swift Number: MAHBINBBJPR

IFSCode: MAHB0000389



ROTARY AWARD: Kalimpong Animal Shelter had received a Rotary award for its rabies control work in the Kalimpong and Darjeeling Districts. The citation reads 'Rotary club Kalimpong considers it a privilege to honour KAS by conferring on them the Rotary Vocational Excellence Award, 2018, for their contribution to the advancement of their vocation and exemplary service to the community.' The photo at left shows Mr. Donald Karthak, trustee, accepting the award.

BUY A BOOK: HELP AN ANIMAL

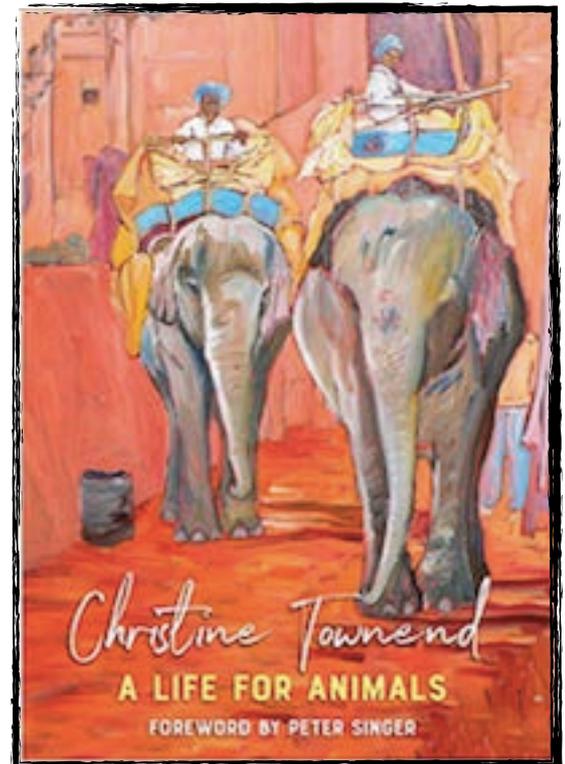
Did you know that our beloved Christine Townend's most recent book, a biographical tale called *A life for Animals* was written to help fund the work of Working for Animals charity. The book makes gripping reading, and tells the story of a journey to India which changed Christine's life forever.

Until now the book has been difficult to buy in bookshops or online and we're sorry so many of you haven't been able to get hold of this wonderful book.

But we've just had some good news. The book is now available on Amazon for download in kindle: <https://www.amazon.com.au/Life-Animals-Animal-Publics-ebook/dp/B07F3P2PXT> and as of August 2018 will also be available from Booktopia. 100% of the proceeds of this book are donated directly to Working for Animals who help fund three animal shelters in India - Help in Suffering in Jaipur, Kalimpong Animal Shelter and Darjeeling Animal Shelter - as well as supporting other causes which progress the lives of animals across our planet. When you buy this book you will not only enjoy an inspiring story, you also financially help many animals in need in India.

We thank you for your support and invite you to view some of our work at www.workingforanimals.org.au. Please feel free to share this with anyone you think may be interested and place it on Facebook or other social media.

Janet Purdie (WFA)



KAS AWARDED CITATION

KAS was awarded a Citation by the Government Veterinary Block II vets, and Dr. Deo Pandey accepted the award in a ceremony held at Sakyong, Animal Resources Development Department, Kalimpong, Bloc - II, Pedong on 17th November, 2017.

We are happy to inform you that Dr. Pandey has been recognised for his hard-work and dedication in pursuance of making the Hills a rabies free society. He, as part of Kalimpong Animal shelter, is also felicitated for his cognizance in helping the strays of Kalimpong live a better life through the ABC programme.

Thank you, Dr.D.P.Pandey for your tremendous effort.

