

WORKING FOR ANIMALS

RAISING FUNDS FOR TRUSTED INDIAN ANIMAL SHELTERS



JANUARY 2013

Helping Dogs in Trouble

The Kalimpong and Darjeeling Animal Shelters not only rescue and treat street dogs, but also those who have owners.

Mr. Ambar Rana purchased a 'pure-bred' St. Bernard, Ruff. Unfortunately he fell ill and could no longer care for Ruff, now 8 years old. The coat became matted, the skin festering underneath. Feeling ill with a secondary infection, Ruff stopped eating, and Mr. Rana brought him to KAS, worried about his condition. Mr. Rana, himself very ill, explained that he could no longer care for the dog, although he loved him.

KAS vet, Dr. Deo Pandey and veterinary trustee, Julie Tolhurst, assessed the condition of Ruff. Although weak and exhausted, he wagged his tail when they examined him, and they promised Mr. Rana that Ruff would be cared for at the shelter. Mr. Rana was grateful and relieved.



Julie asked Sanjeev to clip the coat. The dog had a severe flea allergy, dermatitis and also a secondary bacterial infection. Despite the pain and discomfort, he weakly wagged his tail, making no protest as he was injected with ivermectin and antibiotic. Only by removing all the matts could the skin heal properly. At first he refused to eat, and it seemed that he might die. However, after a few days, Ruff started to walk around again, trying to affectionately lick anybody who passed his way. If KAS did not exist, Ruff would have been one of many dogs left abandoned to die slowly in great discomfort.



Distemper Outbreak

Distemper is a cruel disease, rarely seen in Australia because adequate vaccination exists. The usual symptoms of the disease include a high fever, pus coming from nose and eyes, and, in the final stages uncontrollable spasms which must be extremely painful for the dog. Some dogs do survive but often their internal organs are irreversibly damaged by the disease. The dog pictured above was crying and whimpering in pain as spasms shook his body. fortunately a caring owner

agreed to allow the animal to be put to sleep.

In Kalimpong there has been an outbreak of distemper and the shelter is treating many cases every week. Because the vaccine costs about 300 rupees, many people cannot afford it. Thanks to a wonderful gift from Animaux Secours, KAS now has the funds to conduct regular distemper vaccination camps in and around Kalimpong. The vaccine will be provided free to those who cannot afford it.

Ruff, now living at KAS



RUFF WAS IN TERRIBLE CONDITION, SUFFERING FROM SKIN AND BACTERIAL INFECTION. SANJEEV CLIPPED HIS THICK COAT AND THE HEALING PROCESS BEGAN



NORI WAS RESCUED BY A TOURIST. SHE NOW LIVES A COMFORTABLE LIFE WITH THE GANG OF DOGS IN THE GARDENS OF KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER.



A CONCERNED PERSON FOUND BEAU WANDERING THE STREETS, VERY THIN AND WITH RICKETS. HE IS NOW RECOVERING WELL AND WILL SOON BE RE-HOMED.

Camps Needed in the Remote Villages



Due to a special grant from Animal Protection Network, KAS and DAS have able to carry out many camps in remote villages, where access by road is difficult. Sometimes the only way to reach a village is by walking, and the staff may walk for an hour or more to reach a village. Notice is given in advance that the team will be coming. Many of the village people depend on subsistence farming for their livelihood. Dr. Sameer Chhetri describes below a typical camp held in Vah Tukvar, a tea estate, 45 minutes' drive from the animal shelter.



'We didn't need to walk as the main road straight away escorts to the ground where the camp was held. This is the place where Bidya (our manager) was born and grew up, so she was able to give notice that we would be conducting a camp in this area where people greatly rely on Tea Garden work for their survival, along with some small-scale farming of chickens, goats, pigs and cattle. Bidya knew most of the people at Vah Tukvar, some of whom were very active in organising our camp, distributing posters. At some remote camps it is necessary to stay overnight, and for the sterilisation of instruments and drapes to be done in someone's kitchen but in this case, as the tea garden was not too distant, the sterilising of instruments, etc. was carried out in the early morning at the shelter in our operation theatre itself. The lunch were provided by the organising committee in Yah Tukvar and they were indeed very happy to see us. They were highly satisfied by our operations and vaccination procedures. We did give away a few medicines to some of the livestock owners whose animals had health problems. I also tried to visit certain houses with diseased pigs so that I could advise how to prevent infection through isolation and cleanliness.'

Dr. Sameer Chhetri
Darjeeling Animal Shelter,



Village house built with woven bamboo, mud and timber beams



Villagers produce two crops of corn and rice per annum, plus vegetables, goats, hens, cows and pigs

CAMPS IN TEA GARDENS

In the tea gardens which surround Darjeeling there are small hamlets where the workers live. Paid a very small salary, and far from medical facilities, DAS staff organise camps to provide treatment, and vaccination against rabies for the animals in these isolated areas. Camps are also conducted in more populated areas in nearby towns and outskirts of towns.





Over the past year, more than 100 animals were re-homed from DAS and KAS. Due to the Animal Birth Control programmes conducted by both shelters, far less puppies are being born and they are therefore more greatly appreciated. Photo right shows two happy new owners. Photo left shows Digby, rescued dog who now lives at Darjeeling Shelter.



Kalimpong Animal Shelter (KAS) has organized several Anti-Rabies vaccination (ARV) & field Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme this year. Find the major ARV & ABC programme conducted by KAS during the period of April 2012 to October 2012 in figure below.

Prepared by Arpan Karthak, Manager, KAS

Sl.No.	Date	Place	Dogs ARV	Cats ARV	Total ARV	Dogs ABC	Cats ABC	Total ABC
1	05.04.12	Pedong Bazar - Kpg	150	4	154	15	1	16
2	09.04.12	Dunn Loley Gaow- Kpg	34	0	34	12	0	12
3	11.04.12	Bidhyang/Dalapchan - Kpg	50	13	63	0	0	0
4	23.04.12	Kamjer - Loley Gaow	30	0	30	6	0	6
5	24.04.12	Loley Gaow, Kpg	20	0	20	0	0	0
6	27.04.12	Rousey Bazar, Kpg	52	2	54	0	0	0
7	17.05.12	Punboo Busty, Kpg	42	1	43	10	0	10
8	18.05.12	Yangma Kum, Kpg	20	2	22	10	0	10
9	27.05.12	Tanek Busty, 7th Mile	62	0	62	0	0	0
10	06.06.12	Kali Jhora, Kpg	24	0	24	11	0	11
11	28.06.12	Kherga Gaow, Bhalukhop- Kpg	45	7	52	0	0	0
12	22.07.12	N.K. School, 12th Mile, Kpg	117	13	130	27	7	34
13	06.08.12	SUMI Compound, Kpg	33	1	34	0	0	0
14	10.08.12	Vikram Cottage, Em Rd.- Kpg	31	2	33	0	0	0
15	30.08.12	Pudung - Khadel - Kpg	5	0	5	19	0	19
16	04.09.12	Takling/Soreng - Kpg	72	4	76	0	0	0
17	09.09.12	H.L. Dixit Road Kpg	25	0	25	0	0	0
18	14.09.12	HillTop-Kpg	24	1	25	0	0	0
19	21.09.12	Alghara - Kpg	46	1	47	0	0	0
20	23.09.12	Nandulal Gown - Mirik	20	3	23	7	2	9
21	12.10.12	13th Mile Gumba Dara - Kpg	23	0	23	0	0	0
Total			925	54	979	117	10	127



Left, Bidya Tamang, manager of DAS, with Cricket, a rescued dog, and (right) Julie, Wangel, Rudra and Naren try to catch a dog with eight puppies living under the foundations of the Planters Club. The mother will be vaccinated against rabies, spayed and returned to the Club and the pups will be vaccinated, sterilised and re-homed.





Morning Mobile Camp in Kalimpong Town, Shelter staff Anand and Lil putting collars to stray dogs for identification.

Anti-Rabies vaccination in Katarey Busty, Pedong. In pix Sanjeev and Lakpa.



Kids with their pets during a village camp.



Animal Birth Control & Anti Rabies vaccination camp in Khadaley, Pudung. Saneev and Anand administering anesthesia.



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