



Animal SOS Sri Lanka

www.animalsos-sl.com

12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford, London E18 2DR Ph. 07773 746108

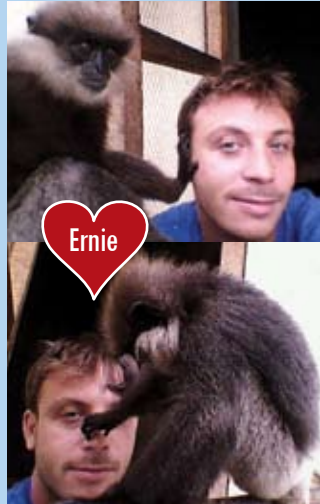


There are thousands of stray animals in Sri Lanka suffering from horrific injuries, malnutrition and disease. Dogs and cats with fractured spines, severed limbs and maggot infested wounds; pups and kittens on festering rubbish dumps; animals slowly dying of tick fever, womb infections and bleeding tumours-suffering in agony until they die. With the risk and associated fear of rabies, strays are often demonised, leading to cruelty at the hands of humans. This ocean of suffering and misery is heartbreaking for any animal lover to witness, let alone walk away from.

Animal SOS Sri Lanka, a UK registered charity, was founded on the vision of Kim Cooling who, after witnessing the appalling plight of animals there, particularly the strays, decided to take action to help them.

With a distinct lack of safe havens and veterinary care available to strays in Sri Lanka, our work and facilities are a lifeline to many otherwise doomed animals.

Monkey Business



Fun and games between best mates - Ernie our purple faced leaf monkey and Tom, our wonderful volunteer.

Ernie was captured as a baby from the wild and probably used as a beach monkey in the tourist trade. He was surrendered to us.



Since July '09

- 5750 dogs and cats have received veterinary treatments including blood tests, rabies/other vaccinations and neutering
 - 220 dogs, 3 cats and 1 monkey currently receiving refuge in our sanctuary
 - 100 dogs homed
- We also provide veterinary treatment and rehabilitation to injured wildlife



Our Official Opening

Although we have been operational since July 2009, we had an official opening of our project in October 2010. It was an opportunity for our friends, local officials, including the public health authorities, Ministers and local Patron Venerable Athureliye Rathana, to see what we do and visit the sanctuary. All pledged their full support for our project.

Members of the local community also attended as well as the families of our staff. Kim Cooling, founder member of the charity and Morag Longmuir were also present. It was a lovely day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The sanctuary dogs were on their best behaviour apart from Hope, who was manically shooting around in her cart, bumping into patrons and dignitaries without a thought! The event was featured on national news.



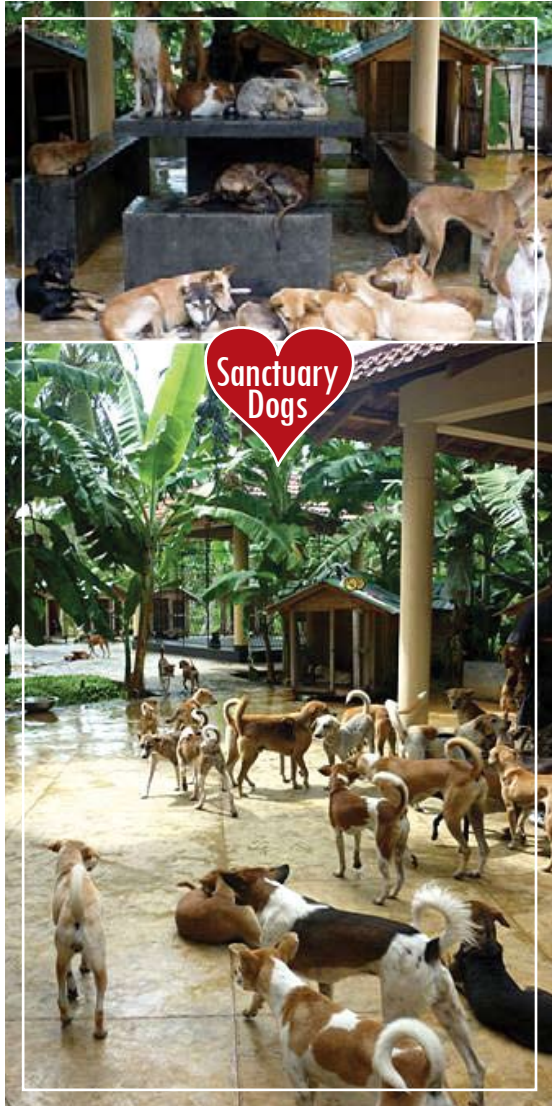
Tiger was rescued from a temple in Colombo and she is now safe in our care!



Thank You Anura

Anura is a member of our local staff and assists in our busy veterinary clinic working alongside Dr Nilantha our resident vet. He has a lovely caring way with animals, is great at calming stressed dogs and holding reluctant patients.

He keeps our clinic meticulously clean and tidy as well as caring for the young puppies that follow him closely around wherever he walks, like the puppy pied piper! He lives close to Matara with his wife and two beautiful sons.



World Rabies Day

26th September was World Rabies Day and in partnership with the public health authorities we organised a major outreach project in Weligama where a young child had recently died from rabies. In one day we vaccinated 157 dogs and 1 monkey. This was in addition to our other sterilisation and rabies vaccination outreach programs.

Rabies remains a threat in Sri Lanka to humans and animals. Many assume that strays are the greatest transmission risk, but unvaccinated domestic dogs are considered to be the cause of most rabies exposures in Sri Lanka.

A single rabies vaccine cost us 150 rupees-less than £1 to save a life.

'The future depends on what we do in the present'

Mahatma Gandhi



Blossom

We were alerted to this dog that was collapsed by the roadside in September 2010.



Fortunately for this poor soul, she was rescued just in time. We named her Blossom because we knew she would blossom in our care, and she certainly has. In just a few weeks the recovery of this dog has been quite remarkable.

Blossom will remain in the sanctuary and will never suffer on the streets again.



Update on Dotty

Do you remember Dotty from the last newsletter? She was the collapsed, emaciated and petrified dog that was brought to our clinic by a kind Brit who lives in Sri Lanka. We suspected she had been abused as she was so terrified of humans that she would not even look at you.

Well, as you can see from the photos, Dotty is a different girl now both physically and mentally. Some tender loving care goes a long way with these traumatised strays. Dotty has a happy future ahead in our beautiful sanctuary living among friends both canine and human.



Bus Stop Brian

Brian was rescued in November 2010 from a bus stand in Ahangama where he had been living since being thrown out by his heartless owner, who owns the shop next to the bus stand. Brian has a huge fungating tumour on his leg and his owner did nothing to help him, discarding him when the tumour worsened and became foul smelling.

Our sanctuary staff are totally besotted with this lovely boy who has been eating us out of house and home since he arrived at the sanctuary. We took a biopsy of his tumour for analysis and sadly the results confirmed what we feared—a malignant cancer. We are currently treating Brian to shrink the tumour and will continue to do our very best for him. Whatever the outcome, this gentle boy has finally found love and happiness with us.



Homing



Homing our ex strays that we have nursed back to health to loving families is an essential part of our work because it allows us to take in more desperate animals for lifesaving veterinary treatment and rehabilitation.

Once a dog is healthy it can be adopted, all are fully vaccinated, blood tested for the lethal blood parasite diseases and sterilised. We have strict protocols around our homing scheme, a contract is signed and regular home checks are conducted by our staff. All homed SOS dogs are given free veterinary care and vaccinations for the rest of their lives. We promote homed dogs as being family pets, living freely with their owners and forbid the cruel practice of chaining and caging pets which is a common practice in Sri Lanka.

We have built a strong and trusting relationship with our local communities through our outreach projects and are fortunate to have found some lovely caring families who have opened their homes and hearts to these wonderful animals.

Nanda

Nanda is a member of our sanctuary staff and in charge of organising the feeding of our resident dogs as well as monitoring their well-being. If there is a problem with an animal, for example a dog is not eating, he will ensure it is seen by Dr Nilantha our vet.



Nanda also assists with keeping the sanctuary clean and is followed everywhere by the dogs who absolutely adore him. Nanda lives in the village with his wife, children, pigeons and 6 dogs, 5 of which he has homed from the sanctuary. Sadly he had lost his previous pets to the Boxing Day tsunami.

We spay cats as well as dogs!



We Love Cats Too

Some of our Many Happy Endings because of YOU!

A waggy tail says it all... thank you for saving my life and making me happy!



Luna & Pups

Luna was recently brought to the sanctuary by a westerner staying in Galle. She had witnessed the heavily pregnant Luna being thrown out of a tuk tuk and subsequently being attacked by some local dogs. A few days later Luna gave birth to 7 pups - 2 stillborn. The surviving 5 pups are healthy and gorgeous as you can see. They are now safe in our care.



Anura before



6 weeks later



Benny before



Nellie before



6 weeks later



Benny 3 weeks later



Maurice



Fraggle

Another mum and pups living in the safety of our sanctuary. This mum gave birth to 4 pups in a school playground and it was unsafe to keep her there. All are thriving in our care.



Mum & Pups





We have dedicated some of our newsletter to our gorgeous, hilarious and deeply loved Funny Fing. He is the sole survivor of a litter of pups rescued from a festering rubbish tip in July 2010 by members of the charity. His survival is solely due to the dedication of our wonderful Manager Debbie, who has loved, cherished and shared her room and life with this dear little dog ever since, despite the destruction of her underwear, flip flops and other possessions!

Funny Fing

In case you have not already heard of me, most people have, I am pretty famous now - I am Funny Fing and I live here at the Animal SOS site in Sri Lanka. I share my home with Blondie, Chloe, Doc, Brian and "her indoors". I came to the site as a small puppy, rescued with my siblings from a stinking rubbish tip of all places - well we can't all be born with a silver spoon! Some describe me as half Chihuahua half fruit bat but I don't listen to them. I had a bad virus when I arrived as a skinny pup and was very sick; it claimed my siblings so it's amazing I'm still here really. "Her indoors" took me into her room to care for me and described me as a cat with nine lives, she also said I was accident prone after running into mops, brooms and other things. After having the moth eaten fur look for a while which I thought was rather trendy, I now consider myself to be the most handsome (ex) stray in Sri Lanka, well that is my opinion!. I spend my days causing as much havoc as possible, chewing things, flip flops, knickers, bras, shampoo bottles, well, anything really, its enormous fun. My partner in crime is Chloe, who has taught me our favourite games.

The "Knicker Game" is enormous fun! What you do is wait until her indoors is out of the room, then you jump as high as you can and grab a pair of knickers from the washing airer, you eat as much of them as you can before she comes back into the room, it is highly exciting and gets the adrenalin going!! The other really good one is the brush game, any brush will do, hairbrush, dustpan brush, toothbrush but the best is the toilet brush. Again, her indoors needs to sort out her attitude, Chloe and I were trying to have fun and play the toilet brush game at 5.30 in the morning - well its cooler then and we were wide awake. We managed to carry it between us and were heading for under the bed when she woke up, we almost made it but she had to get out of bed and spoil it for us, meanie!! We had to make do with eating the mosquito net instead. Chloe is trying to teach me a new game, flip flop eating. What you do is wait until they are talking and distracted, you check each one out to see if they are looking then you run like the wind with a flip flop. I take them to Chloe who is waiting inside, she pretends to be asleep to fool them, and then we take them under the bed and fight for them!



A BIG THANK YOU

To Chris and our wonderful fund-raising team in Newquay, Cornwall who have raised over £1200 for Animal SOS Sri Lanka. A brilliant achievement!



Venice Marathon

A big thank you to John Ward who ran the Venice Marathon for Animal SOS Sri Lanka in October 2010. John decided to help us after a trip to Sri Lanka where he witnessed the plight of the strays first hand. John raised £350 for the charity in sponsorships. Well done John!

I have many friends here but my arch enemy is Hope, she races around in a shopping trolley and is always trying to run me over. Our house is always full of waifs and strays and sometimes I get a bit jealous when "her indoors" pays them more attention, I simply cannot understand why she would find anyone more interesting than me. Who would?

You can read all about my games and antics at the SOS sanctuary on my blog-www.funnyfing.blogspot.com. Will write again soon. Love and licks, Fing xxx



Thank You to Our Wonderful Volunteers

We have had many volunteers since the last newsletter. We would like to thank each and every one of them for their valued contribution towards our vision and vital work with the suffering animals in Sri Lanka.

Thank you to our volunteer veterinary students-Hannah, Chris and Saara, our volunteer vets-Sian, Emily and Serena, our volunteer vet nurses-Clare and Sian and also a big thank you to John, Tom, Caron, Lisa, Gail W and Gail S.

Sian

I recently qualified as a vet nurse in the UK and initially got in touch with Kim as I wanted to spend some time abroad, gaining experience with a charity and putting my qualification to good use. I am so glad I found Animal SOS Sri Lanka as having just returned from a month working with the charity (November 2010) I can honestly say it was one of the most incredible experiences I have ever had. It can be hard work at times and the scale of suffering amongst Sri Lanka's street dogs is truly heart wrenching, but the transformations that are seen in the animals in such a short space of time makes it all worth while.

I spent my days assisting Dr Nilantha in the on-site clinic or with outreach sterilisation and vaccination clinics in the nearby villages and generally providing nursing care for any sick or injured animals on-site. I was greeted each morning by a sea of wagging tails and it was touching to see that these animals still have so much unconditional love to give, despite everything they have been through. It is hard not to get attached to the dogs and having just returned home I am missing the centre and the dogs terribly and have already booked a flight back out to Sri Lanka for a longer stay! I am hugely grateful to Kim for the opportunity to work with such amazing animals and the dedicated team that look after them and can't wait to get back out there.

Sian has now returned to Sri Lanka and is working as our veterinary nurse.

Emily - Vet

I visited the Animal SOS shelter in August 2010 shortly after graduating as a vet along with Sian, another veterinary friend from college. We were both really impressed by how well the shelter is run. All the workers seem to really care about the animals there and are amazing at keeping the compound clean and picking up on dogs which seem a little off colour or have stopped eating.

It was so refreshing to work at a shelter where the animals are cared for so diligently and being able to work in such beautiful surroundings was amazing. We saw many dogs which had been the victims of cruelty and neglect but watching these animals make a full recovery and develop into happy, bouncy little dogs was so rewarding.

I was surprised by how friendly all the dogs on site were. You always had some company when you were walking around the compound, particularly when you're holding bowls of yummy biscuits for the puppies! The dogs seemed to spend most of their days either sleeping in the sun or playing chase in the lovely open grass in the centre of the shelter. I was so sad to leave the shelter at the end of our stay. I felt that I had made some real friends there and can't wait to book the next flights out there. Everybody who works for Animal SOS should be so proud of what they've already achieved and I can't recommend this more highly as a lovely place for veterinary students and newly graduated vets to get some practical experience in a beautiful, friendly country.

Chris and Hannah - Veterinary Students

In the two weeks that we spent on site, we both feel that we learnt a fantastic amount and that it will be hugely beneficial to the next three years of studying. It would definitely be an excellent place for vet nurses and vets, both qualified and studying, to make a huge difference in a country where there is a seemingly limitless amount of work to be done for the animals. Looking at some of the 'before' and 'after' photos we were shown, it was almost impossible to imagine that the happy and healthy dogs we knew at the sanctuary had ever been that seriously ill and suffering. It just highlighted the amazing work Animal SOS is doing and it was a privilege to be able to contribute to that even in a small way.



If you want to volunteer at our sanctuary in Sri Lanka please look at our website www.animalsos-sl.com for details or call Kim on 07773 746108

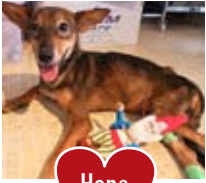




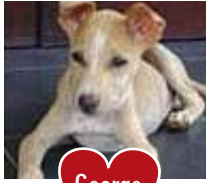
Please Sponsor a Dog Today!



Sunny



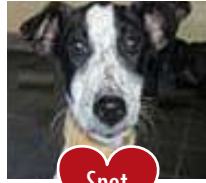
Hope



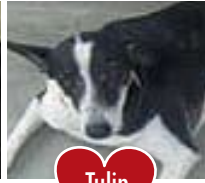
George



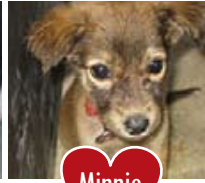
Julie



Spot



Tulip



Minnie

200 Dogs and Counting...

We now have over 200 dogs and puppies living in the safety of our sanctuary as well as 3 cats and a monkey. You can help us to feed and care for these animals by setting up a regular monthly standing order.

You can also sponsor one of the dogs on our sponsor a dog scheme for just £10 per month or £100 per year. This will help with the feeding and veterinary costs for your chosen dog. Simply complete the form below with the standing order instruction or enclose a cheque as payment. Once the payment is received you will receive a card with a photo of your sponsored dog and an annual update.

Please send your completed form (and cheque if applicable) to:

Animal SOS Sri Lanka
'Sponsor a Dog' Scheme
12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford
London E18 2DR. UK

Please make cheques payable to:
Animal SOS Sri Lanka
 For more info go to
www.animalsos-sl.com

How to Sponsor a Dog

Choose your favourite dog from the leaflet. You can find more information about our sponsored dogs at **www.animalsos-sl.com**

Dog's Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____

Sponsor Name(s) _____

Full Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Standing Order Form

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society to Pay a Monthly Direct Debit

YOUR ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Account Name _____

Sort Code -- Account Number

Bank Name _____

Branch Address _____

Postcode _____

I hereby agree to pay Animal SOS Sri Lanka a monthly standing order

BENEFICIARY DETAILS:

Sort Code 205274 Beneficiary Name Animal SOS Sri Lanka

Account Number 10823767

Agreed Monthly Sum £ _____ Instruction Start Date ____/____/____

I understand that this instruction may remain with Animal SOS Sri Lanka until further notice and details will be passed to my Bank/Building Society.

Sponsor's Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

Gift Aid Declaration

Under the gift aid scheme we are able to claim tax on donations from UK tax payers. We get an extra 25p in the pound from Inland Revenue. I am a UK taxpayer and wish that Animal SOS Sri Lanka, Charity Registered No:1119920 to treat all donations that I make from this date as a Gift Aid Donation.

Full Name _____

Full Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Date ____/____/____

Signature _____



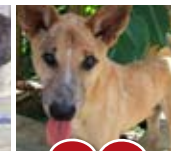
Charlie



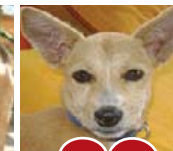
Monty



Scamp



Rocky



Blondie



'THE DEW OF COMPASSION IS A TEAR'

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP

Because of YOUR support we have helped 5750 animals since opening our veterinary clinic in July 2009 and our running costs continue to rise. Our work and achievements speak for themselves and we are making a tremendous difference to so many animals. As a small charity with no financial reserves and assisting as many sick, injured and vulnerable animals as we can, we are always in desperate need of funds. We also have to ensure that our sanctuary based animals are well fed and cared for every single day. This is a massive commitment and we need your support more than ever now.

PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE WITH OUR VITAL WORK, SAVING LIVES AND SECURING MORE HAPPY ENDINGS FOR THESE DESERVING ANIMALS

Future Plans

We plan to expand our vital outreach work in 2011 if our funds allow. These programs are crucial to reduce the misery of unwanted litters being born on the streets and also reducing the risks of rabies in animals and humans.

We also desperately need a facility for cats and injured wildlife, including a monkey house. We are receiving more wildlife as news about our project travels, but with a free roaming dog sanctuary we urgently require a separate area for these animals. We do have another acre of adjoining land but have no funds to develop this land to accommodate facilities for this purpose.

Please, Please Donate!

Please make cheques payable to: Animal SOS Sri Lanka and post to: 12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford, London E18 2DR

Sponsor a Dog

Please see our sponsor a dog form in this newsletter.

Standing Order

A small monthly sum will really help with our monthly sanctuary running costs. Please complete the standing order form in the newsletter and return to the address above.

Giving Life Through a Legacy

Leaving a legacy to our small UK Registered Charity will make a significant difference to the lives of so many really desperate animals. A legacy would enable us to expand our work and model to other areas in Sri Lanka reaching more suffering animals and saving many more lives. We could also provide appropriate facilities for other species such as cats and injured wildlife. Please do consider Animal SOS Sri Lanka in your will, there is no greater legacy for an animal lover wanting to give life and a brighter future for animals in such dire need. There are also very generous tax concessions for leaving a legacy to a registered charity.

Our UK Registered Charity No is 1119902
All our charity team in the UK work as volunteers

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR THE STRAYS IN SRI LANKA



A Painful Road Ahead for a Mum & Pup

1000's of stray mothers many sick with disease and hunger, search desperately for food to provide milk for their pups. Many die, leaving their vulnerable pups alone to slowly starve or perish on the roads. It is a heartbreaking sight.

Our charitable organisation helps these desperate strays by providing a safe haven in our beautiful sanctuary, veterinary care and vital sterilisation and rabies control programs to stop this cycle of suffering and misery on the streets. We also work with local communities to promote animal welfare.

WE CAN ONLY CONTINUE THIS LIFESAVING WORK WITH YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE HELP US BY DONATING TODAY!

I enclose: £100 £50 £25 £10 other £ _____

Please make cheques payable to: Animal SOS Sri Lanka.
Post to: 12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford, London E18 2DR.
Or make a secure donation online: www.animalsos-sl.com

GIVE MORE AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU

Gift Aid. I would like Animal SOS Sri Lanka to reclaim tax on this and all future donations until I notify you otherwise. I confirm I am a UK tax payer and that I pay as much income or capital gains as Animal SOS Sri Lanka will reclaim in the tax year (currently 25p in every £1 donated) Signature _____ Date _____

Mr/Mrs/Ms: _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

www.animalsos-sl.com

