

# SANCTUARY STORIES



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WINTER 2020

# ANIMAL SOS SRI LANKA

Animal SOS Sri Lanka  
UK Registered Charity 1119902

## Our Story

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 living 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 heart breaking 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.

## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2020

-  We are currently caring for 1800 dogs and 57 cats at the sanctuary
-  We provided over 12,000 treatments for disease, wounds, fractures and tumours
-  We sterilized 695 dogs and cats and conducted 300 other surgeries
-  We provided over 5000 blood tests/smears/chemistry/haematology
-  We provided over 6000 anti-parasitic treatments (worming, tick/flea treatments)
-  We provided over 5500 vaccinations against rabies and other deadly viruses
-  We feed over 2000 cats and dogs EVERY day (sanctuary animals and hungry strays in the area)
-  We are operational EVERY day of the year



**MERRY CHRISTMAS &  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS FROM THE SOS TEAM







*Herbie and pups*



# A MOTHER'S LOVE



PATTI & HERBIE & 16 PUPS

We rescued a pregnant dog a distance away from us that was being persecuted and faced either being killed or dumped in a remote place where she would not have survived. She had a TVT (Transmissible venereal tumour) a common condition in dogs in the tropics and spread by the transfer of living cancer cells between dogs, usually during mating. The genitalia of both male and female dogs are usually affected, although TVTs in eyes and noses are quite common too. A normal birth would have been problematic for this dog we named Herbie, so we gave her and her babies a lifeline. Soon after arriving, we had to perform a caesarean section to deliver Herbie's 4 pups safely.

A short while later we heard about a horrific incident elsewhere where a mother dog that had just given birth, was beaten to death and her 7 newborn pups were at risk. We took them in and Herbie became their

surrogate mum, feeding them and sustaining them.

The story does not end there. We were subsequently alerted to another horror. A mother dog that had given birth a few days earlier was looking for food and had eaten bait laced with explosives. This evil bait device is called Hakka Pattas or Jaw breakers. Although illegal in Sri Lanka, these devices are still commonly planted indiscriminately in rural areas to catch wild boar and other wild animals. Hakka Pattas are one

of the leading causes of elephant deaths in Sri Lanka. Dogs and other animals are also victims. The device literally explodes in the mouth causing an agonizing death as the animal is unable to eat or drink. By the time we heard about this mother dog we named Patti, 5 days had already elapsed. It appears from a witness that Patti was seen desperately trying to alert people to her situation. She had walked around 1 kilometre to some houses where she tried to catch someone's attention and succeeded in leading the witness directly to the place where her pups had been hidden, a derelict shed. It was as if she knew her time was running out and her only thoughts were for her pups and saving them.

We rushed to the scene only to find Patti feeding her 5 pups in the shed, with her mouth torn apart. It broke our hearts into pieces. That evening when she arrived at the sanctuary with her beloved babies, we did all we could to stabilise her and gave pain relief. Our vets were on hand first thing

in the morning to fully assess her. We have had horrific jaw injuries before and saved many dogs, but Patti was weak after suffering for 5 days without help, food and water and her injury was particularly brutal. Patti died during that night, caring for her beloved pups until her last breath. It's like she knew they were now safe with us and she could finally let go.

We now had another 5 orphaned pups to keep alive. We tried bottle feeding Patti's pups, as we have done so successfully over the years, but the pups were lethargic, not suckling well and perhaps missing their devoted mother. We were becoming fearful for them. Supermum Herbie was still producing some milk, so with the other pups a bit older and doing well, we tried Patti's pups with her too. Herbie again stepped up when help was needed and we supplemented the feeds too. All is going well at the moment and we are hopeful that out of such tragedy, we along with Herbie, have managed to save the lives of her own pups plus the 2 litters of orphaned pups whose mothers were so brutally taken away.

The love and courage of these mother dogs is stronger than all the hatred, cruelty and destruction that humans create in this world. It's why we fight so hard to save these animals 365 days a year.



*Patti*



*Patti and pups*



*Patti and pups*



*Patti and pups*



# SIYUMALI AND STELLA

A mother's love is strong across the species; it is not exclusive to mankind. This mother and daughter stayed together, tried to survive together and suffered together. They would have died together too if we had not stepped in to help. We

were alerted to them by a kind tourist. Despite being full and dangerously low on funds, we agreed to give them a lifeline. We caught the pup who we named Stella, first. However, mum was suddenly missing and we feared the worst, that it was too late for her. After a few worrying days, she turned up and arrived at the sanctuary. We named her Siyumali. Both mum and pup are now reunited and nursed back to health. Both dogs had horrific skin conditions, painful wounds and were



*Siyumali & Stella before*



*Stella before*

weak and emaciated. Siyumali also has babesia, a dangerous tick borne that kills 1000s of dogs in Sri Lanka. Just look at them now!!



*Siyumali before*



*Siyumali after!*



*Stella after!*

# DRAIN DOG SPRITE

We fished him out of drain. He was lying in water, weak and disabled after an accident which paralysed his hind limbs. We saved this sweet old boy just in time and he has made a miraculous recovery in our care and is walking again now.



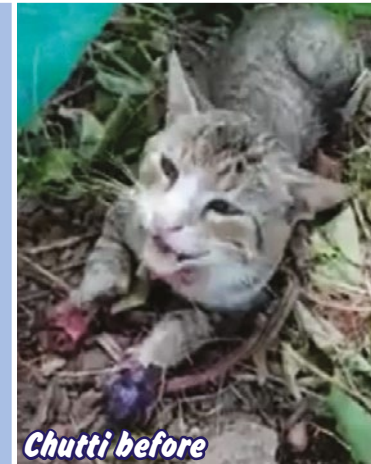
*Sprite before*



*Sprite after!*

# MIRACLE CAT CHUTTI

Chutti, a pet cat, was attacked with acid by wicked neighbours. We were asked to step in when we heard he might lose some of his limbs due to the severity of the acid burns. Under our care and over a few weeks, Chutti made a miraculous recovery and kept all 4 legs.



*Chutti before*



*Chutti after!*



# SOME OF THE MANY LIVES SAVED AND TRANSFORMED



*Gopal before*



*Gopal after!*

**LIBERTY**



*Liberty before*



*Liberty after!*



*Gopal after!*

**G** We heard another horror story about this poor dog that was possibly doused with boiling water. The wound was so horrendous and full of maggots, but he recovered well under our loving care and is now a happy, healthy and very loving boy.

**T** Tiny pup run over and arrived with a serious brain injury and in a coma. She has made an amazing recovery under our care. Another life saved.



*Pacino before*



*Pacino after!*

**OLD BOY FOX**



*Old Boy Fox after!*

## PACINO

Pacino is another abuse case, beaten and chased and with a life threatening wound that was becoming bigger by the day. We nursed him back from the brink and he will remain at the sanctuary.

We rescued this sweet old boy as he was literally on his last legs after a harsh life on the streets. He was so weak, malnourished and dehydrated, we were not sure if he would survive. We pulled him through to enjoy his twilight years at the sanctuary.



*Old Boy Fox before*



# THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT!



*Chadwick before*



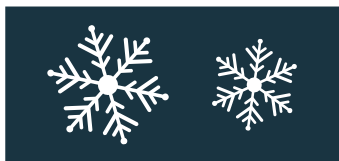
*Chadwick after!*

## CHADWICK, MIRACLE PUP

What a fighter, what a survivor and what a character. Chadwick arrived at our gates after an accident. He had a prolapsed eye, shattered jaw and a broken leg. We got him through the surgery. We had to feed him via a tube which was hard as he ripped his tube out and removed his bandages, but we battled on to save his young life. We succeeded and just 2 months on, this is him enjoying a day at the seaside.



*Pirate before*



## PIRATE



*Ren after!*



*Pirate after!*

Another accident victim and just imagine the pain he was in from his horrific leg injury, crawling alive with maggots. He was covered in ticks, so it's not surprising he has babesia gibsoni, a tick borne disease that destroys vital blood cells and kills so many dogs in Sri Lanka. He lost his leg but we saved his life.



*Ren before*



*Minash before*



## REN

Ren was caught in a snare, sustaining a horrific neck wound. We nursed her back to health.



*Minash after!*

## MINASH

Weak and dying after a harsh life on the streets, we took her in, brought her back to life and gave her a future.





**RANJAN**

Supervisor at the top site sanctuary

## INTRODUCING MORE OF OUR SANCTUARY STAFF

The sanctuary is divided into 2 adjoining sites, the 3 acre lower site and the top site that spans 1 acre. Each site has its own veterinary clinic with resident vets and their own kitchens, to cook the vast amounts of food needed to feed the animals every day. We have 2 separate teams managing the sites which works really well with so many animals to care for.

**BUDDHIKA**

Clinic assistant at top site



**SUMENA**

Looks after our pups and other vulnerable dogs at the top site sanctuary



**NANDA**

Supervisor at the top site sanctuary

# RECYCLING

We have been recycling for 8 years now and have raised precious funds from items that would have generally been thrown away. It's so easy to do. You could even arrange collections at work, school, college, university, groups, friends, family and neighbours. We recycle postage stamps: UK or World, postcards: new or used, foreign currency: coinage and notes, out of circulation UK currency,



Inkjet cartridges: used only (no own brands or remanufactured)  
Mobile phones: android or iPhones only (please advise actual model when posting to us)  
Please post:-Stamps, Postcards and Inkjet Cartridges to: 83 St Lukes Road, Southport, PR9 9AJ.  
Foreign Currency, Out of Date UK Currency and Mobile Phones to: 64 Fair Acres, Prestwood, HP16 0LE







## OUR BELOVED RESCUES AND STAFF CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AT THE SANCTUARY





# URGENT APPEAL FOR FUNDS



Covid continues to have a huge and very negative impact on the charity. Our charity shops have closed again for a second time, donations have dried up, no shipments have been able to leave with much needed, donated supplies for our animals, fundraising events have been cancelled and we are struggling to get through the next few months. With one of the largest sanctuaries for abused and suffering street animals in the world, you can only imagine how worrying this situation is for us all. We have so many lives depending on us. Lives of animals that have suffered so much, been lovingly nursed back to health from the brink of death and given happiness and a future they would never have had. We feed many starving strays in our areas too, provide free neutering and reduce deaths from rabies. We do so much to try to make a difference but we urgently need an influx of donations now to survive.



**OUR survival is THEIR survival!**

WE KNOW TIMES ARE TOUGH FOR US ALL, BUT **PLEASE, PLEASE** HELP US TO SURVIVE FOR THEM. LET THIS CHRISTMAS NOT BE THEIR LAST.

## HELP US BY DONATING

### Donate by Cheque

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

### Monthly Standing Order

Having regular monthly funds helps us to continue caring for the dogs and cats at the sanctuary and rescuing other desperate cases. You can download a standing order form from our website [www.animalsos-sl.com](http://www.animalsos-sl.com) or complete the form in this newsletter.

### Giving Life Through a Legacy

*"There is no greater legacy than giving the gift of life to others"*

We give a glimmer of hope to so many otherwise doomed animals. The miracles we perform in healing almost lifeless animals and restoring them physically and emotionally cannot be measured by words alone. Their survival depends on our survival and the best way to ensure our survival is through YOUR support. Legacies can give us financial stability, ability to grow and expand our vital services and give life to so many more desperate animals. There are also generous tax concessions for leaving a legacy to a UK Registered Charity. Animal SOS Sri Lanka Registered Charity no is 1119902. We are a small charity but doing a HUGE amount of vital work in Sri Lanka. The charity is run by unpaid trustees who absorb the administrative work so the funds donated go directly to the animals. That shows how much we really care and for any animal lover, there is no greater way of directly helping and saving lives than remembering our charity in your will.

*There is no greater legacy than giving the gift of life to others.*

### Gift Aid

Gift Aid increases the value of donations to our registered charity by allowing us to reclaim basic rate tax on your gift. If you pay higher rate tax you can claim extra relief on your donations too. So, if you are a UK tax payer and have not already completed a declaration, please check the Gift Aid section in the advert below. If eligible, tick the circle in the advert, include your full details and return to us so we can make your donations go even further at no extra cost to you. You can download a Gift Aid form from our website [www.animalsos-sl.com](http://www.animalsos-sl.com)



## All I want for Christmas is my home

We run one of the largest sanctuaries in the world for injured and abused street animals in Sri Lanka.

- We are currently caring for 1,800 dogs and 60 cats at the sanctuary
- We provide lifesaving veterinary treatments & rehabilitation
- We feed starving street dogs and cats in our area
- We provide free neutering, vaccinations against rabies & adoption schemes

Due to Covid, we are facing a critical shortage of funds and our sanctuary animals are at risk of losing their only home and safe haven. **PLEASE** help us to keep them alive this Christmas by donating.

I enclose ☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ Other £  
Mr/Mrs/Ms.

First Name.....Surname.....

Address.....

Email.....

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](http://www.animalsos-sl.com) {E} [info@animalsos-sl.com](mailto:info@animalsos-sl.com) {T} 07773 746108 *thank you!*

### Give more at no extra cost to you:

☐ **GIFT AID.** I would like Animal SOS Sri Lanka to reclaim tax on this & all future donations until I notify you otherwise. I confirm I am a UK taxpayer & 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.....



Call **07962 393568**  
(to pay by credit card)

Donate online  
**[www.animalsos-sl.com](http://www.animalsos-sl.com)**

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