

SANCTUARY STORIES



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WINTER 2023

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 effective animal protection laws, safe havens and veterinary care available to street animals in Sri Lanka, our work and facilities are a lifeline to many otherwise doomed animals.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023

- We are currently caring for **2200** dogs and **21** cats at the sanctuary
- We provided over **30,000** treatments for disease, wounds, fractures and tumours
- We sterilized **800** dogs and cats and conducted **450** other surgeries
- We provided over **11,000** blood tests - smears/ biochemistry/haematology
- We provided over **12,000** anti-parasitic treatments (worming, mange, tick/flea treatments)
- We provided over **11,000** vaccinations against rabies and other deadly viruses
- We feed around **2,500** cats and dogs **EVERY** day and operate the largest feeding program and largest animal sanctuary for street animals in Sri Lanka.
- We are operational **EVERY DAY** of the year



HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS!

THANK YOU for helping us to save and transform so many precious lives



BUTTERCUP AND BABIES

Living on the streets, particularly the busy roads in Sri Lanka, is hazardous for Man's best friends. In November, we heard about a pregnant dog left disabled and helpless in a road after an accident. We knew she would die a horrible death, so took her in. These cases always break our hearts.

Named Buttercup, we struggled to keep her alive as she had bladder issues and difficulty urinating. Her pups had survived the accident according to the scans we conducted, but we had to catheterize Buttercup and closely monitor the progression of her pregnancy. Cases like this always pose a huge clinical challenge as disabled dogs often need caesarean sections because they can't give birth naturally. However, the timing of the surgery is absolutely critical for the survival of the pups. So, when we thought the time was right, we acted and, to our huge relief, 5 pups were delivered alive and well.

These are the cases we are helping day in and day out, dogs that would not survive without us. We are thrilled to report that Buttercup and her babies are all doing well.



♥ ♥ ♥ SURVIVORS ♥ ♥ ♥

BEATEN PUPS

We heard that 4 pups (all female) had been cruelly dumped in our village and were being beaten by kids and villagers. There are so many dumped pups on the roads and in the village. Despite free neutering, we suspect many of these pups are from owned dogs and their owners neglecting to get them spayed. We also witness a huge amount of animal cruelty on a daily basis and this is why our project is so important in Sri Lanka. We rescued the beaten pups, and they are now at the sanctuary. The endemic dumping of pups places the sanctuary under considerable pressure.



PUP 4



PUP 1



PUP 2



PUP 3



HOMING

We endeavour to home as many rehabilitated and healthy dogs and cats as possible. We do, however, have to regularly check on the welfare of all homed SOS animals and continue giving veterinary support and vaccinations during their lifetime.



CHRISTMAS AT THE SANCTUARY!



We treat all creatures great and small when they turn up at the sanctuary. This chicken was brought to us with a broken leg. Our vet provided treatment and we will continue helping the chicken until healed



SCRUMPY

SCRUMPY - RAGS TO RICHES

The dream of every street animal is to find love and a forever home

Scrumpy was a street dog from Sri Lanka.

He was disabled in an accident and sick with distemper and babesia gibsoni (a dangerous tick-borne disease) He was pitifully dragging himself along a busy road and doomed.

However, his fate changed because we took him in.



GLUEY UPDATE

Gluey was mentioned in the last newsletter. She was the disabled puppy that arrived covered in glue and also battling babesia. She survived and is thriving under our care as you can see.

(Scrumpy continued)

Kim, the charity founder, lovingly nursed him back from the brink, a close bond was forged, and she decided to adopt Scrumpy. He now lives with Kim and her other rescues in London and enjoys a luxurious, pampered life.

Scrumpy eventually found love, happiness.

Where there is love, there is life....



MATILDA - INJURED KITTEN

This sweet kitten was found in the road with her intestines out. We conducted emergency surgery to save her life. We are pleased to report that Matilda survived and is recovering well at the sanctuary.





KENDRICK



KENDRICK



PAYTON

Payton arrived as a weak, disabled puppy and covered in ticks. She most likely met with an accident like so many dogs living on the streets. We are pleased to report that she made a full recovery and is walking tall now.

KENDRICK

The poor male pup arrived at the sanctuary covered in used engine oil, which is highly toxic to dogs. There is a common myth in Sri Lanka that covering dogs in engine oil heals skin complaints. These myths and ignorance cause huge animal suffering and deaths. It's yet another battle we face doing this work.

Kendrick was emaciated, weak, and had tick-borne diseases Babesia and E. Canis.

We are pleased to say we saved his life and he is now a transformed and happy boy.



PAYTON



MORE OF THE MANY LIVES SAVED AND TRANSFORMED **THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT!**



ZULU



ZULU

Zulu was pitifully crying for help after an accident on the road and being left helpless and in absolute agony. In reality, there is very little help for accident cases like him in Sri Lanka. Many just walk past and there are very few orgs that offer a lifeline and rehabilitation to these street animals.

Zulu had a fractured pelvis, extensive bruising and retention of urine on arrival. How he suffered. We had to catheterize him, treat for pain and also treat for babesia, a dangerous blood parasite disease that causes severe anaemia and weakness.

Thankfully, with a huge amount of veterinary input, love and care, Zulu recovered. Without us, he would no longer be alive today.

POE

Poe arrived at the sanctuary after being hit by a train. He was so critical we didn't think he would survive. He had multiple injuries including a head trauma injury.

It was touch and go, but we never gave up on him and he never gave up either.

Poe, pulled through and, despite some neurological symptoms from the injury, he is doing really well now and is out and about at the sanctuary.



POE





HORLICKS



HORLICKS



MIMOSA

HORLICKS

One of the many train accident cases we receive at the sanctuary. Yes, many dogs get hit by trains. The poor soul was lying critically injured by the track. It was touch and go as he had sustained a serious brain injury. We are pleased to report that Horlicks is doing extremely well now and will hopefully make a full recovery after his near brush with death.

Meadow arrived at the sanctuary near to death after being attacked and left severely disabled from a dog attack. Meadow had babesia too, but her survival was only due to the fact that she came to us- a place where we fight to save each life and don't euthanize for convenience. The charity is pro-life and as a result the sanctuary is full

MEADOW

of survivors because we gave them that precious chance in their greatest time of need. That's what they need the most.

Meadow is such a joy. She loves the garden and is learning to walk again.



K9



Arrived disabled after a road accident and had wounds from dragging herself around. She is fully recovered now and walking.



MEADOW

MIMOSA

Mimosa was dumped on a busy road with 2 siblings. 1 sibling was killed, the other sibling was taken by someone and Mimosa was also hit by a vehicle. She was left alone, disabled and helpless.

We agreed to help her, despite being at breaking point at the sanctuary. As if she hadn't suffered enough, little Mimosa was suffering from babesia, a dangerous tick-borne disease and was also harbouring parvovirus. She faced so many challenges to survive, but, we got her through and she is now walking.

BREAKING NEWS



BREAKING NEWS

LACK OF SPACE & OVERCROWDING

We are still struggling with lack of space and overcrowded clinics full of critical dogs and cats. We long to build a larger clinic to cater for all the horrific cases we take in as well as expanding into our adjoining 3.5 acre land. This land is still jungle and desperately requires development.

We can only dream about expansion and having better facilities to take this vital project to the next stage now. We hope 2024 will answer our dreams and benefit so many more desperate animals.

Donations and legacies to Animal SOS Sri Lanka, can make such a huge difference to our survival, our future and the futures of many otherwise doomed animals.



BREAKING NEWS

FLOODING AND EXPENSES



We have had heavy rains in Sri Lanka for many months now, leaving our land wet and boggy. Rainwater from the entire village flows into our lower land sanctuary and we have had to dig more drains and soakage pits. Building new shelter areas for our dogs is an on-going expense, as are repairs to existing structures. The effects of the extreme weather conditions in Sri Lanka, is a challenge in itself. We have had to buy new water storage tanks, a transformer to improve our electricity supply to the sanctuary and now have the expense of paving some sections of the top site sanctuary. All of this on top of our huge running costs and feeding 2500 dogs and cats a day! It's endless...

Donations are always desperately needed and appreciated.



BIRTHDAY FEEDING PROGRAMME

"He who feeds a hungry dog feeds his own soul"

A huge feeding program was organised by the founder in October. 100's of dogs and cats from the sanctuary to Matara were fed from 5pm to 3.30am for the founder's birthday feeding mission. 350 kilos of food was cooked for this program, in addition to 1000 kilos of food for our sanctuary animals. We started cooking at 4am in readiness and many hungry stomachs were filled.

We also treated many dogs for skin conditions during this program and rescued a pup that was adopted by Kim. A huge labour of love.

WE NEED TO EXPAND - PLEASE HELP!

"Happiness doesn't result from what we get, but from what we give."

We are at a crossroads now and need your help to move this amazing project forward. We want to do more, but our hands are tied as we lack the support and funds to expand and get the facilities we desperately need.

Without expansion, we will continue to struggle and street animals that could be helped are dying every day.

THE BEST WAY TO HELP IS TO DONATE

Monthly Standing orders really help us to have a regular income to fund our running costs each month.

If every single rescued dog and cat at the sanctuary were sponsored, that would generate approximately half of our monthly running costs, ease our situation substantially, and help with the survival of this vital project.

We have 420 disabled dogs - **Sponsorship is £25 a month**

We have 1780 other dogs - **Sponsorship is £10 a month**

We have 21 cats - **Sponsorship is £10 a month**

Donate by Cheque

Please make cheques payable to: Animal SOS Sri Lanka Post to:

12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford,
London E18 2DR

Donate via Card

Call 07773 746108

Leave a Legacy

Our charity is uniquely run by a small team of dedicated, unpaid volunteers in the UK, so donations and legacies go directly to the animals in need. That is the way we want it to be and we are sure our supporters agree. There are no fat cat salaries as with other charities. Charity admin is covered by Kim and other unpaid volunteers.

Legacies will give our charity a future, will save many more lives, help us to expand our work, enable us to plan ahead and reach many more desperate souls in dire need.

There are also generous tax concessions for leaving a legacy to a UK Registered Charity. Animal SOS Sri Lanka's Registered Charity Number is 1119902.

There is no greater way of directly helping and saving lives than by remembering Animal SOS Sri Lanka in your will.

Gift Aid

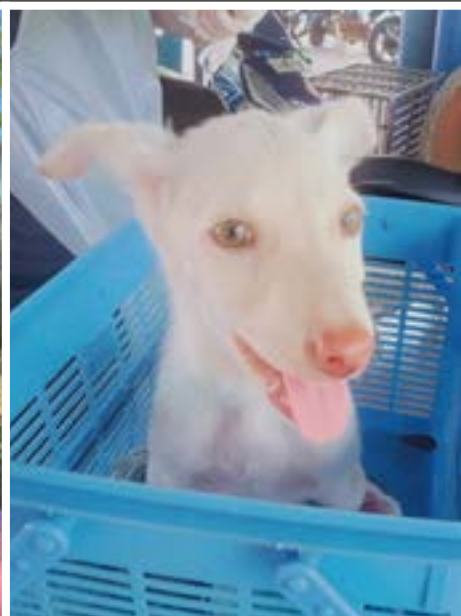
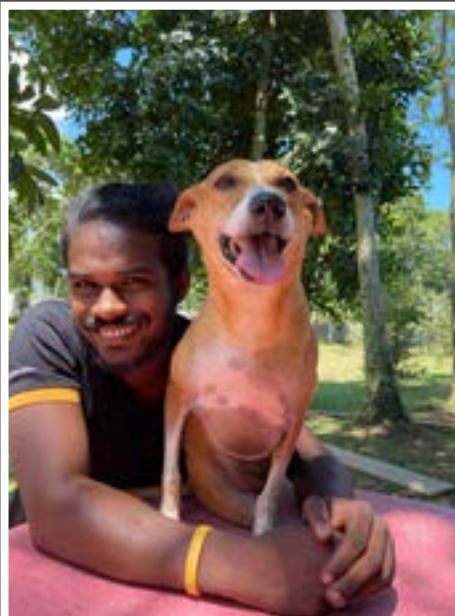
Gift Aid increases the value of donations by allowing us to reclaim basic rate tax on your gift. If you pay higher rate tax you can claim extra relief on your donations too. If you are a UK tax payer and have not already completed a declaration, please check the Gift Aid section in the advert below. If eligible, tick the circle in the advert, include your full details and return it 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

Donate/Sponsor a spay/neutering day – £600 for a free neutering and rabies vaccinations day for dogs and cats.

Donate towards the development of our new land, or towards the building of a larger, well-equipped clinic.

Please do consider setting up a standing order either directly with your bank or by completing the form in the newsletter. You can download a standing order form from our website via www.animalsos-sl.com.



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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH

Life is extremely fragile for street animals in Sri Lanka but for some pets like Cindy, a Great Dane, the suffering is just as bad. Cindy was almost lifeless when we took her in. She was just skin and bones, had huge pressure wounds and could barely lift her head. We battled to save her life, something we do 365 days a year at our sanctuary in Sri Lanka. Cindy survived along with 1000s of other dogs and cats that we have nursed back to health from the brink.

Animal SOS Sri Lanka is a UK Registered Charity, dedicated to alleviating the widespread suffering of dogs and cats in Sri Lanka. We provide veterinary care, free neutering and vaccination programs, adoption schemes and animal welfare education. We are currently caring for over 2000 rescues at our sanctuary and in desperate need of donations to continue our vital work.

PLEASE HELP!

Please LIKE us on www.animalsos-sl.com

PLEASE HELP US TO CONTINUE GIVING THESE ANIMALS A FUTURE BY DONATING TODAY. There is no greater gift

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.....

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 {E} info@animalsos-sl.com {T} 07773 746108

thank you!