

# SANCTUARY STORIES



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SUMMER 2021

# 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 - JUNE 2021

- We are currently caring for 1866 dogs and 54 cats at the sanctuary
- We provided over 9,000 treatments for disease, wounds, fractures and tumours
- We sterilized 250 dogs and cats and conducted 95 other surgeries
- We provided 4500 blood tests/smears/chemistry/haematology
- We provided over 5000 anti-parasitic treatments (worming, tick/flea treatments)
- We provided over 4700 vaccinations against rabies and other deadly viruses
- We feed around 2250 cats and dogs EVERY day (sanctuary animals and hungry strays in the area) and operate the largest feeding program in Sri Lanka
- We are operational EVERY day of the year

## DAFFODIL FINALLY FOUND HER FOREVER HOME!

Her owner died, she was on the streets looking for love, but was being beaten and her leg was injured. We took her in, nursed her back to health and then found the perfect home for her.





# THE LARGEST FEEDING PROGRAM IN SRI LANKA

We cook nearly 1 tonne of food EVERY day to feed our Sanctuary Animals and hungry strays in the area. The food consists of rice, fish, chicken, dhal and vegetables. We are currently feeding around 2250 dogs and cats a day.

We freshly cook the food in 2 kitchens with 2 teams of staff- it's a herculean task!

New critical arrivals/disabled dogs/pups/cats/kittens all have extra meals.

We purchase dried/wet/cat & dog food in addition for extra feeding.

We spend around 50% of our monthly running costs on food. That is around £825 per day for feeding these animals. That's £24,750 a month! (36 pence per to feed 1 animal a day)

**This is why we need YOUR help to keep their stomachs full.**





# CAT STORIES

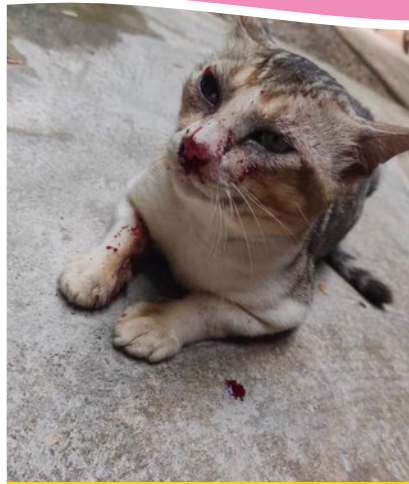


*We are currently caring for 54 cats at the sanctuary and also take in dire emergencies too. These are some of the recent emergency cases.*

## KOGGALA MUMMY CAT

This was a true horror case. An owned cat had difficulty giving birth. One kitten was born dead and the next kitten remained stuck in the birth canal for hours. A local vet was unhelpful and due to Covid restrictions, travel to us was problematic. The stuck kitten was eventually expelled and the next day the cat had surgery to remove 2 further dead kittens. However, the surgery conducted by a local vet was substandard. The wound site was not shaved, nylon sutures were used that are not dissolvable and the

wound got badly infected. We stepped in and had to operate on the cat to save her life. There was a bowel loop that had herniated into the subcutaneous space with adhesions and abscesses. We cleared up what we could and sutured her with absorbable sutures, placed her on IV fluids/antibiotics/pain relief and hoped for the best. The wound healed quickly and the cat made a full recovery after her near brush with death. The owners were so grateful.



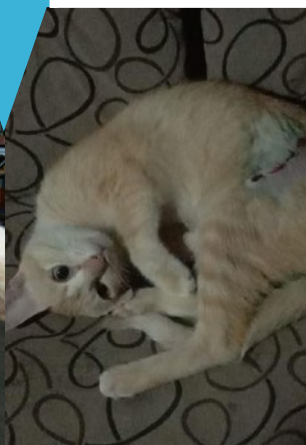
## PUTHA

It was alleged that this owned cat was badly beaten by a neighbour. We nursed him back to health, castrated

and vaccinated him and then had to find a new home for him as his original owners feared for his safety if returned.

## TIGER LILY

Tiger Lily was admitted to us earlier in the year with a horrible, maggot infested wound in her mouth. We healed the wound, nursed her back to health, vaccinated her and returned her to her guardians.



## NEUTERING DAY AT THE SANCTUARY

Due to Covid restrictions in Sri Lanka, our community outreach programs have been curtailed during the last 12 months. However, we continue neutering at the sanctuary. Neutering is key in alleviating animal suffering and reducing unwanted litters.



# SOME OF THE LIVES SAVED AND TRANSFORMED



**MALSONIC**



**MALSONIC** Malsonic had a humongous tumour weighing 1.5 Kilos, hanging from his neck. He also had babesia (tick-borne disease). We successfully removed the tumour, treated his babesia, and he made a full recovery.



**APPU**



**APPU**

Appu arrived with an infected nasal TVT (transmissible venereal tumour) tick fever and a corneal ulcer. We nursed him back to health.

**DIXIE**

Dixie was run over as a tiny pup and arrived at the sanctuary with a serious brain injury. She fully recovered under our care.



**DIXIE**



An older dog, she arrived at death's door; starved, hairless, suffering from maggot wounds but we pulled her back from the brink and she remains at the sanctuary.

**RUSARA**



**ELIE**



**ELIE**

He arrived in a horrible state-hairless, maggot infested wounds and severe anaemia from blood parasite disease, but we pulled him through.



**RUSARA**





# THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT!



VINNY

**VINNY**

So many street dogs get doused with boiling water. This poor little boy is another victim. Despite the cruelty inflicted on him, Vinny is such a trusting and lovable pup. His wound is healing well. Manuka honey is great for these burn wounds and we use loads of it at the sanctuary every day.

**LIBERTY**

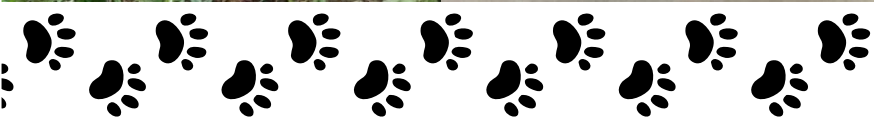
Another tiny pup run over and arrived at the sanctuary in a coma. She made a full recovery.



LIBERTY



TINKY



**TINKY**

An owned rottie and a victim of hakka pattas (explosive baits hidden in food to trap and kill wild animals) We struggled so hard to save her life and managed to pull her through against the odds.



**LILO**

From sickly pup, to healthy dog



LILO



SMITHY



**SMITHY**

Smithy was rescued from the street as a sickly, emaciated pup. She was transformed in our care.



## **Sam** our general manager

Working and managing this project in Sri Lanka is the most challenging, heartbreaking, mentally and physically exhausting job that I have ever had. I often get asked why I do it and continue to do it. The answer is simple: for every life we work tirelessly to save and transform; for every animal that fights and wins their battle for life; for the chance to watch them grow, thrive and walk again and integrate into our packs or go off to a new home. Giving these animals a future they would not have had is why we continue to fight for the voiceless.

As a British veterinary nurse I came to Sri Lanka because I wanted to help improve the lives of street animals and make a difference. What I got is so much more than just a job, here is a purpose, a goal. This job has taught me so much about myself personally and professionally and despite all the drama, politics and challenges in doing the work we do here, I have gained a family and a role that I am extremely proud to be part of. I would not change it for anything and will continue to fight for the animals that need our help.



## INTRODUCING SOME OF OUR DEDICATED STAFF AT THE SANCTUARY IN SRI LANKA

### **Sisira and Madu** - husband and wife team that work with our disabled dogs

Madu says – 'I wanted to be a nurse when I was younger, but never got the chance. I am glad today because I work with very special needs dogs and they rely on me to take care of them. I am happy with this responsibility'.

Sisira says- 'Working with dogs makes me happy and keeps my mind stress free as their pain is always worse than ours. We both work at Animal SOS as we love dogs'.



### **Malsara** - works in our lower site clinic

I love animals so much that I help them whenever I can. It is a blessing to work for Animal SOS and it's the best job I have ever had.



### **Sirisena** - Our cook who helps us to feed 2250 animals a day !

It's my pleasure to serve the dogs in my country...  
this work is very important





# NEWS

## NEW PATRONS

We are thrilled to introduce our new Charity Patrons: Peter Egan, much loved actor and animal activist and Jan Leeming, animal lover, TV presenter and newsreader. Both Peter and Jan fully support and believe in our vital work and will be brilliant ambassadors for the charity.



## ART EXHIBITION IN LONDON FROM 24TH AUGUST

### 'Birds, Beasts, Bipeds and Bandicoots' an exhibition of original art works

by the British Artists Anton Ratnayake and Tom Callis  
and the Australian Artist Shevaun Bernard.

From August the 23rd to August 29th, 2021  
at the fashionable NOHO STUDIO'S in Fitzrovia,  
46 Great Titchfield Street, London W1W 7QA,  
about 3 minutes walk from Oxford Circus.

Admission is free.

100% of all sales of Art will be donated to the charities  
'Safe Haven for Donkeys' Reg Charity No 1083468  
'Animal S.O.S.' Reg Charity No 1119902

Peter Egan, our Patron, will be opening an exhibition of original art works by the British artists Anton Ratnayake, Tom Callis and the Australian Artist Shevaun Bernard.

100% of all sales of art will be shared between Animal SOS Sri Lanka and another charity. There is a private viewing on 24th August at 5.30 pm and have a limited number of tickets, if any supporters would like to come. However, the exhibition will run for public viewing until 29th August. If you are an art lover, please do come.

## APPEAL FOR MORE SHELTERS AND WOODEN KENNELS

Monsoon season is here again. We have had floods, damage to buildings and some very wet animals at the sanctuary. Fighting Mother Nature as well as all the other challenges we face, is daunting to say the least but we battle on regardless because these animals need us. We do require a lot more shelter areas at the sanctuary as well as more wooden kennels for our dogs. Any donations to help towards this would be hugely appreciated.





# URGENT APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The hard times continue for the charity. Our work is endless, the suffering is endless and our struggle to survive as a charity is on-going. The reality is, we can only survive with your kind support and donations. We give a second chance to so many otherwise doomed animals; they only have us and we rely on you. Donations directly SAVE and TRANSFORM lives and also transform communities too. Remember, with our charity, donations go directly to the animals as we all volunteer our time for free here in the UK. Our running costs are currently around £46,000 a month. This is a huge amount for a small charity but we are doing a huge amount of work too. Look at the numbers of animals we feed every day that would otherwise starve. Look at the critical cases we take in every day and nurse back to health. The gift of life and providing a safe future are the most valuable things we can give these animals.



Your donations can help us in many ways:

- Fund our neutering and rabies vaccinations programmes that benefit so many animals and humans, reducing rabies, animal suffering and unwanted litters.
- Fund the daily care of animals living at the sanctuary. The costs of medications, veterinary care, monthly anti-parasite treatments, vaccinations and care staff at the sanctuary.
- Fund our vital feeding programmes – over 2250 cats and dogs fed EVERY day - the sanctuary animals and starving strays in the area that wait patiently for their only daily meal.

## 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

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

The kindest act and legacy that an animal lover can provide is remembering a dedicated, hands-on charity like Animal SOS Sri Lanka in your will. Imagine what we can do if we had more funds. Imagine the difference we can make with financial security and imagine us being in the position where we are no longer struggling from month to month just to survive. Imagine if we can expand our lifesaving services to reach more stricken animals in dire need. 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 the financial stability we need, the ability to grow and to plan and expand our vital services in the future to help more desperate souls. 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 remembering our charity in your will.



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

### 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)

ANIMAL  
SOS  
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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 1600 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](http://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.....