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August 2009

Dear animal lovers!

Apologies for being late with my newsletter, but I really wanted to update you on the most recent happenings at the DRCS. Between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of August we had a camera team from the German TV-Channel Pro 7 visiting the Rescue Center, filming and documenting 3 young German ladies in the role as volunteers at the DRCS. The whole show will be broadcast in October under the name „It's my life“. Obviously if you are a friend of DRCS it is mandatory to watch this programme, given that you can access Pro7! The producer gave his best to transform all the footage into a great show and I am so excited to see the result however, I am also curious to see how much of the non stop filming will actually be used. Tanisha, Romy and Rosi helped us out for one week working as volunteers whilst the camera team was present at all times. The purpose of the show was a competition between the three volunteers where the best of the three received a prize at the end. But I don't give away any more details, try to watch it yourself! Below are a few pictures from the film set:



Rosi, Tanisha and Romy, our „film volunteers“  
in our shaky bus..



Martin, Sebastian and Francesco, the film team of Pro 7



Vaccination of dogs at the temple in Bophut: The head monk leads the dog on its forepaws to its treatment and shows dedication in assisting during the vaccination.



The next dog is waiting for his treatment.



Together with the volunteers, we visited the cats and dogs at two temples. In the picture above you can see how we deliver food to the biggest temple on the island. The Wat Plai Laem was only constructed 5 years ago and doesn't really match with the „usual“ temples of the island. This temple reminds me a bit of Disney Land in the USA. At the Wat Plai Laem you will find a lot of sales stalls as well as a souvenir shop selling replicas of Buddha to tourists.

The only thing most tourists do not know is that it is forbidden to leave Koh Samui at the end of the holidays carrying a Buddha that exceeds a certain size. At the airport you can have a look at all the confiscated Buddha images; there is a huge room full of them.

Janine and Linda can be very proud of their temple project. Unfortunately Kelli, who was also part of the team, decided to step away from her work at the DRCS due to private reasons. She did a great job and we all regret her leaving the team. It was not easy for the three to gain the confidence and trust of the monks. However their tenacity and efforts has paid off. A lot of monks are now happy to hand out dry food to the dogs and cats which we regularly distribute to the temples. Some of the monks will even treat the animals with the medicine we provide. We look after 18 out of 26 temples on the island.



Janine and Linda have made a huge impact on the quality of life for the dogs at the temples

10 kg dry food cost around 6 Euro!  
 A vaccination for a dog costs around 3 Euro!  
 A vaccination for a cat costs around 4 Euro!

Please take over a sponsorship for food or vaccinations for the dogs and cats at the temples. In our forum you can follow the numbers who are now providing sponsorship of vaccinations for the temple dogs and cats:  
<http://samuidog.plusboard.de>



In order to protect the dogs and cats in our 2 animal homes and at the temples from falling ill we plan to vaccinate them before the start of the rainy season. Overall there are 500 dogs and 200 cats that need to be vaccinated.

Presently we have a vet student from Norway helping us out at the DRCS. Else is a last year veterinary student studying in Munich. She will be staying for almost 3 months and will hopefully be a great help to our vet, Dr. Sith. On her return home, it is unlikely she will see the sort of wounds that we, here, deal with on a daily basis. As we have a general check up of our dogs and cats on our agenda, Else has joined us at the right time. She will be checking all dogs and cats at the shelters together with a Thai helper and will record any abnormalities. Afterwards she is going to discuss her observations with the doctor and will furthermore proceed to vaccinate all of those previously checked dogs and cats. We have a long history of vet students joining us around autumn time.



It is not that easy to find the right dog when they all wait for their delicacy and try to be in the first row.



Dog vaccinations on Chaweng beach

## VOLUNTARY – TASTER SESSION

The volunteers didn't only try to catch dogs for treatment at the temples, but also „worked“at the shelter. They cleaned a compound, could „assist“ with an operation and gave medicine to cats.

At our house in Chaweng they mixed the dog food and distributed it to the dogs. Don't think this is an easy task! When our staff gets back with the leftover food from the hotels, they are awaited by 50 impatient dogs. The leftovers need to be sorted and raw meat or fish needs to be cooked, and the dogs love to help out with sorting the leftovers! The young ladies had some problems with fish eyes that look like small white balls. The food gets prepared in a 100 ltr jar, which was nicely filled that day.

Afterwards they had to give medicine to the dogs and were also involved in cleaning the house.

We also went to Kanda Buri Beach Resort at Chaweng-Beach to vaccinate dogs and to pick up a female dog for sterilisation. She will be returned home after one week at the shelter.

You can see more photos of the film set in our forum: <http://samuidog.plusboard.de> There are a lot of dog friendly bungalows and hotels on the island

that tolerate dogs on the beach: Have a look at our forum or home page for details: [www.hotelkosamui.com](http://www.hotelkosamui.com).

Having said that, I really need to reiterate: Please do not take dogs and cats into your hotel, bungalow or room. The next tourist who is staying in your room or hotel may not like dogs and is going to complain that there is a dog on the terrace. Whilst the hotel manager obviously is going to chase the dog away there is also worse happening. However, please do FEED the dogs at the beach or wherever you have found them. There is dog food available in every supermarket. The dogs also love grilled chicken that you can buy everywhere on the beach and on the street. Those dogs often only have YOU who feel sorry for them. Please save them from digging through rubbish which mostly happens during night time.

Since Pro 7 is very popular in Germany, I hope to find a lot of new donors. In the meantime our van is very shaky and needs to have regular repairs. We have already replaced many parts, but there are still many more that need replacing... Hopefully we can attract enough animal lovers with this programme so that we can manage to get additional donations to buy a new van. A used van aged 6 - 8 years costs around 6,000 to 10,000 Euro, a new one is around 27,000 Euro.

Unfortunately we are not in the financial position to afford the bus without additional donations.



If you decide to order at Zooplus.de or at Amazon.de we will receive between 3.5% and 8.5% of your purchase value which will be transferred automatically to the DRCS account. To this end, I would appreciate if you would conduct your purchases through us. In order to do so you need to click on our logo either on our home page

[www.samuidog.org](http://www.samuidog.org)

or in our forum <http://samuidog.plusboard.de>.



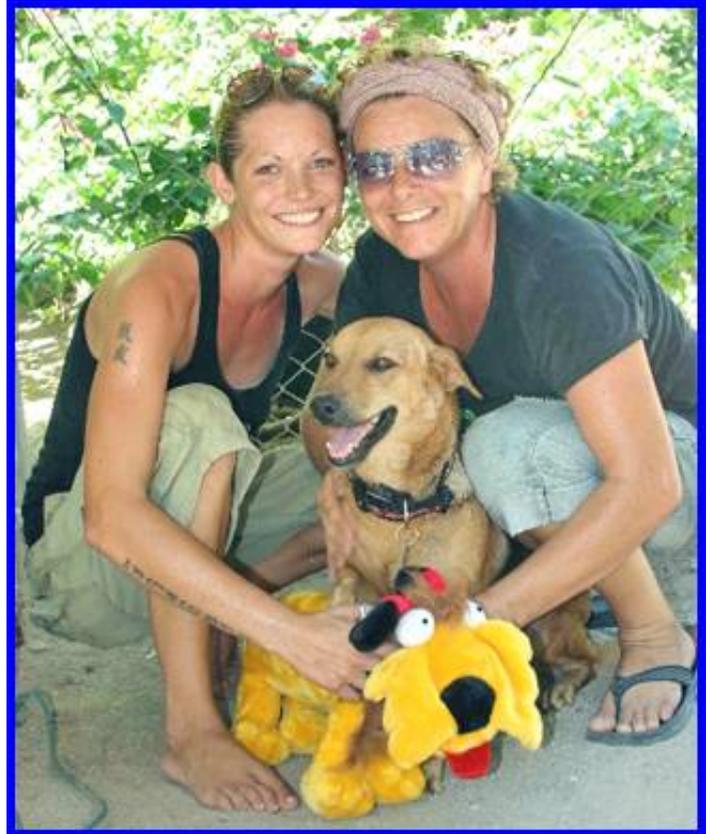
### OSKAR – World-Woof-Tour

During the same timeframe we also had Oskar ‘The Dog’ visiting us. Oskar has been travelling around the world with his owner Joanna and cameraman Manuel. They are visiting over 200 animal homes and want to sell their story to different TV channels afterwards. Originally Oskar is living in South Africa and I am not sure whether he enjoys the long travel around the world as much as his owner. He often got a bit hot and preferred to return quickly to the air conditioned room after the photo shoot. Joanna visited two temples together with Janine and Linda. She was impressed with what she experienced at the temples.

At every stop they hand out an Oskar stuffed toy whilst symbolically they appoint one dog to become their godparent. I didn’t quite catch the reason behind that. But the main thing is that a lot of animal lovers learn about us and hopefully support us financially in the future.



Have a look at their home page to learn more about their worldwide trip with Oskar: [www.worldwooftour.com](http://www.worldwooftour.com)



### GERMAN -TV

Furthermore we had Michael visiting us from German-TV, sponsored by the WDR. He filmed the animal shelter and our house over 2 days. Apparently it is supposed to be an 8 minute film, however he was not sure yet when it is going to be broadcast. A pity: now I most probably will never be able to see how much material of all those long film hours is actually going to be aired in the end. I hope of course that this programme is also watched by a lot of people so that this has potential to attract new animal lovers to the DRCS. Advertisement and PR is always a good thing! Within a short timeframe several TV channels showed interest in the DRCS, which hopefully results in more support through new donors. As a result of the financial crisis we feel the impact of less tourists travelling to Samui and so we are thrilled about any small additional donation we can get!



## VOLUNTEERS

From the 17<sup>th</sup> May until the 6<sup>th</sup> June, Werner and I visited my dad in Berlin to celebrate his 80th birthday. Of course I was a little worried at first since in the last few years Allison from Scotland has always guarded our house when we were in Germany over Christmas and also for this year; she has already booked her ticket.

Thankfully my headaches were blown away when Martina, Kathrin and Jörg decided to help out. Martina stayed in our house in Chaweng and took care of the visitors and kept an eye on the staff. She devoted her time and efforts to the cats, in particular the kittens. Jörg continuously spent time at the animal shelter and took care of things over there. Furthermore he spent time searching for sick dogs and brought in some dogs for spaying. Kathrin did her best to support both of them. All three managed our absence perfectly. A big thank you to them.

## THAI STAFF

As usual we have a continuous „coming and going“ of our staff:

Out of the five newly introduced Thai staff, only two are still with us: TAI and DÜNG.

TAI has a real all-round talent. He works exclusively at the animal shelter in Baan Taling Ngam and is looking after all sorts of repairs that are necessary. DÜNG has a fantastic talent in welding and is also gifted in all manual and technical work.

Over the last weeks I recruited everybody who wanted to work for us. There is still a high absence rate on a daily basis. However if everybody attends I finally am able to carry out some important repairs at the shelter. Everybody attends when it is pay day. However two days afterwards it is a different story.

SOMKIÄT finally quit after long back and forth. I took away his company motorbike due to his constant drunkenness. I didn't want to feel any liability if he killed somebody whilst being drunk. Afterwards he became very lazy and fortunately for us, decided not to show up anymore. He was working with us for many years and did a good job overall, but in the end he just couldn't control his alcoholism. Towards the end he only worked on repair and cleaning jobs as we no longer allowed him to give medicine to the dogs. I actually wanted to fire him a long time ago, particularly when he arrived at work already drunk. However I always felt pity, so I didn't proceed.

All of the four new staff have worked for us since 6 weeks. We will see how many of them will meet the requirements over time and stay with us.



Pinjo, Egg, Lek and

## EVERY DAY TASKS AT THE SHELTER



Every day we castrate 6 dogs and cats at the shelter in Baan Taling Ngam. They have to stay in a box for 1 week whilst receiving their medicine twice a day. Furthermore we treat at least 5 emergencies every day. Dr. Sith is very hard-working and I am really pleased with his work. He's been with us for 3 years.



On the way to the box after the operation

## TICKS

The amount of ticks on the island depends very much on the season. July/August has been especially bad. All dogs in Chaweng got a Bayticol-Ticwash and the whole yard was washed out properly. The treatment did help but should be repeated constantly and unfortunately Bayticol is very expensive. At the shelter we operated with a lot of powder and puppies are constantly searched for ticks by our volunteers, not always a pleasant task.



Shower time: And everybody's watching



ELYTH – Soar and Healing Cream

The Company Kanzlperger donated a huge amount of wound cream to the DRCS, which we immediately tried out on our dogs and cats. For 3 weeks, 34 many dogs got daily cream-treatment, which was then reduced to every second day. Of course they all love the stroking and additional affection. We are positively surprised with the results, since all dogs started to get their fur back. In order to document its success we've been taking pictures regularly. The test phase is not yet finished. In very bad cases the treatment will take longer. Most remarkably, even Ollis fur has grown back! Let's not forget, prior to the Elyth-test, nothing had a positive impact!

## FLIGHT COMPANIONS



Over the last years we managed to fly out about 100 dogs either from Samui or other surrounding islands to a lovely home in Europe. Many of them wouldn't have had a chance of surviving on the island. Please support us to rescue many more dogs by becoming a flight companion. There is not much required from you: You only have to be there for the check-in in Bangkok and for picking up the dog when you arrive in Germany. You then show all the prepared papers to customs and afterwards hand over the dog to its new owner. That's it – Easy!

Transporting dogs with a flight companion is much cheaper than doing so by cargo transport. With AirBerlin it's about half the price compared to a cargo flight: approx. 500 Euros. Unfortunately this is only possible with AirBerlin. With all other flights the transport is still significantly cheaper with a flight companion; however it still costs around 1,500 Baht per kg. Air Berlin in comparison has a fixed price of 60 Euros per dog.

Momentarily we have around 19 dogs waiting to fly to their new home. This is a record high. I often don't know where to put them all.



Buri and Prani from Hua Hin now live with Iris in Varel - Germany

## FACEBOOK

Christine and Laila from Germany set up a new Facebook page called: "My dog comes from Samui", where you can insert pictures of your Samui-dog and tell your story. You can also exchange information and share your experience via the forum. A „Samui-Dogs“ getting-together is also planned. Please have a look on Facebook and get in contact with Christine on: [e-mail@christinekallnik.de](mailto:e-mail@christinekallnik.de)



Ritchie Newton, the „ELVIS“ of Koh Samui [www.ritchienewton.com](http://www.ritchienewton.com) took over a sponsorship for the dog Ritchie at a time when he was still many and full of wounds and promised to give him a home once he had completed his treatments. That day finally arrived when the PRO7-team was here and so the 3 volunteers brought Ritchie to his new home. A sponsorship costs 15 Euro/month. Many dogs and cats are still looking for a sponsor! Please help us by taking over a sponsorship: [www.samuidog.org](http://www.samuidog.org) - How To Help - Adoption.

Thank you very much again to all the sponsors and helpers from all over the world. Because of your help, since 10 years every dog and cat can be helped for free on Koh Samui. Stray animals which have not found a place to survive on their own on Koh Samui can be brought into the shelter.

Because of your donations, we can still neuter at least six animals every day. In the last 10 years, over 10,000 dogs and cats have been neutered and countless vaccinations and treatments have been carried out. We offer free medical treatment for ALL cats and dogs (with or without an owner, that doesn't matter) including a pick-up service. Of course we will continue to offer free medical treatments for animals with owners as long as possible but since last November, we are no longer in the position to offer free vaccinations. I know that these vaccines are important but at this point of time when we have to save wherever we can, I don't know another way around this. Rabies vaccine is still free for everyone. Compared to the multi pal, the rabies vaccine is still quite a bit cheaper.

A lot of stray dogs and cats that couldn't make it on their own on Koh Samui have found a home in our shelter. With a sponsorship you can help to make sure that their bowls are never empty. Have a look on the homepage ('How to Help', 'Cats and Dogs to Sponsor'). Sponsoring a dog or a cat is 15 Euro a month! Even if you do not want to sponsor an animal, it's definitely worth having a look at our many dogs and cats and read their stories! If you're coming to Samui and you wish to bring a donation: Old towels and bed linen and sheets for the puppies and the cats, OLD toys for the puppies, powdered kitten/puppy milk, cat de-worming paste, de-worming tablets for dogs (multi-wormer), and flea collars for dogs. We can always use these things. Please check with your vet, if they have any old de-worming tablets or other medicine for dogs and cats to spare, which you could bring over when you come to visit the island.

Once again we were able to transport a few dogs and cats to a safer future. On our homepage you can check out those happy animals in their new homes at [www.samuidog.org](http://www.samuidog.org) 'What we do' and 'Dog Transport'. In case you're willing to become a companion for a dog transport, please contact me in time. The animals will be thankful and surely the new owners too.

Support us by letting people know about the DRCS! Pass on the newsletter to your friends and family or spread word of the DRCS through different forums. I strongly believe if we all work together now, we can get through this crisis.

**Don't forget the dogs and cats on Koh Samui.  
They still need your help.  
Every small donation helps us take one step forward**

Our monthly costs amount to 10,000 Euro. If you are on Koh Samui, you are cordially invited to stop by. You are welcome to come and look at our (financial) books. The dogs, cats and I always love visitors!

Best wishes

*Brigitte*

p.s.: Don't forget to check out our videos!

Banking details for sponsors you can find under "How to help"



Mu, Tai, Egg, Wut, Brigitte, Kio, King, Pinjo, Jo, Ow,  
Don, Dr. Sith, our President Sud, our Manager Wit, Bang,  
Road, D ng und Lek.