

Dog and Cat Rescue Samui Foundation  
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Dear friends of our animals!

August 2014

I hope you had a nice summer vacation. In the last months, some of you paid us a visit in Samui and I would like to say THANK YOU SO MUCH for all the gifts on location or from far away for our dogs and cats !

I realized that we had less tourists and much less families with children here all in all, due to the continuous news regarding the military putsch here in Thailand, many of you were discouraged. I can assure you that the situation in Samui was always peaceful and we didn't see anything of the putsch.



Here you can see Maa in her first but temporary wheelchair.

We would like to THANK EVERYONE who has supported the paralysed dog MAA from the Temple WAT PLAI LAEM.

We were overwhelmed with the response and so happy to realize only a couple of days after we sent out the plea for help that we could go ahead with ordering a wheelchair. Linda from our Temple-Team has been there almost daily now and worked together with the caretaker of Maa.

For those of you who do not yet know who this paralysed dog MAA is, here is her story:

Maa was dumped at Wat Plai Laem when she was no more than 5 weeks old, she was never really a healthy child but the monks and the caretaker completely fell in love with her.

Our Temple-Team were there -often several times / week - in order to treat not only her but all the other dogs and cats at this temple.

Maa usually needed some sort of attention and treatment so together they managed to get her through all the baby illnesses and get her fully vaccinated. At 8months old we had her sterilized which was a great achievement for a young dog like Maa with so many struggles to overcome during the first months of her life. Sadly very soon after she got blood parasite and became very ill but once again after several weeks of daily medication she pulled through.

Then tragedy struck. She lay sleeping under a car and the driver, totally unaware of her presence reversed and drove over the top of her. The caretaker immediately rushed her to the doctor only to be told that Maa was paralyzed and would never walk again, she called Linda at home to tell her of the sad news and ask advice.

Of course we raced to the temple the next day only to find Maa in the monks house, even though she had no control over her bowels, they wanted to keep her at the temple and care for her.



Oh, Maas friend and caretaker



Definitely a special kind of laundry place

Her caretakers were informed by our team what it would include to be taking care of a paralyzed dog. Especially at such a busy Temple as Wat Plai Laem.

Love succeeded and they made the decision not to take Maa away from her home, her people and made it their goal to see her happy again.

Thanks to you, everyone who has helped financially, we can see Maa smile again and with every day passing she is making progress with her new wheelchair. The costs involved are quite high. Before the caretaker and the monks knew that we could possibly support them, they started paying someone to come twice a day and wash her and clean her bedding. We offered to do the laundry for them but they insisted on hand washing everything themselves.

Shortly after this tragic accident, the Temple-Team made it their goal to make Maa mobile again, and that's when we decided to send out a plea to raise enough funds to have a wheelchair made for Maa and maybe get something extra to help with the costs for her caretaking.

You made it possible for us to not only get Maa her wheelchair but to also provide her with pampers incontinence pads and special food. Thanks to your generosity Maa is once again mobile and happy, although we're not quite sure if this happiness is due to her new found mobility or the fact that she's become a bit of a star attraction at the temple, either way we would like to thank you all from the very bottom of our hearts.

A lot more pictures of Maa and the day she got her wheelchair as well as some information about their temple & street work you can find on the Temple-Teams Newsletter:

[http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief\\_PDF/Temple%20NL\\_Aug\\_2014\\_engl.pdf](http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Temple%20NL_Aug_2014_engl.pdf)



I've got two e-mails expressing their objection of our intention to give Maa a better quality of life by means of a wheelchair. We should immediately take measures to stop her pain and put her down.

From my own experience I can assure you that Maa doesn't feel pain because of her paralysis. Many years ago I suffered from a cerebral stroke- and a hemiplegic. I felt no pain at all!

Almost all the Thais are Buddhists and when the highly venerated Thai monks ask for help for their favourite dog, you can be sure we won't offer a lethal injection as an alternative.

Of course we do put down hopeless animals. After an accident or a serious illness some cats or dogs can't be helped despite our hardest efforts to keep them alive: in this case we release them from their pain.

The Thai have got a philosophy of their own: as long as a dog keeps eating, he wants to stay alive. This may be right in some cases, but when a cat or dog only lies in a corner and eats I'm sure this animal doesn't really enjoy life.

To put an animal down or not will be decided from case to case very individually. But please do not forget that we are here in Thailand, and the Thais have a totally different approach to a lot of things- not only to cats or dogs. They care a lot less than we do about tomorrow or what the future will be like. They live here and now. I wish I could think likewise, but I start brooding when less tourists arrive and we will consequently have less money donated in the island!!

This is Eva; she has been living with us in the house for 2 years and is really happy when she can finally make it into her wheelchair. She's even squeaking with joy when we take her out of her cage.

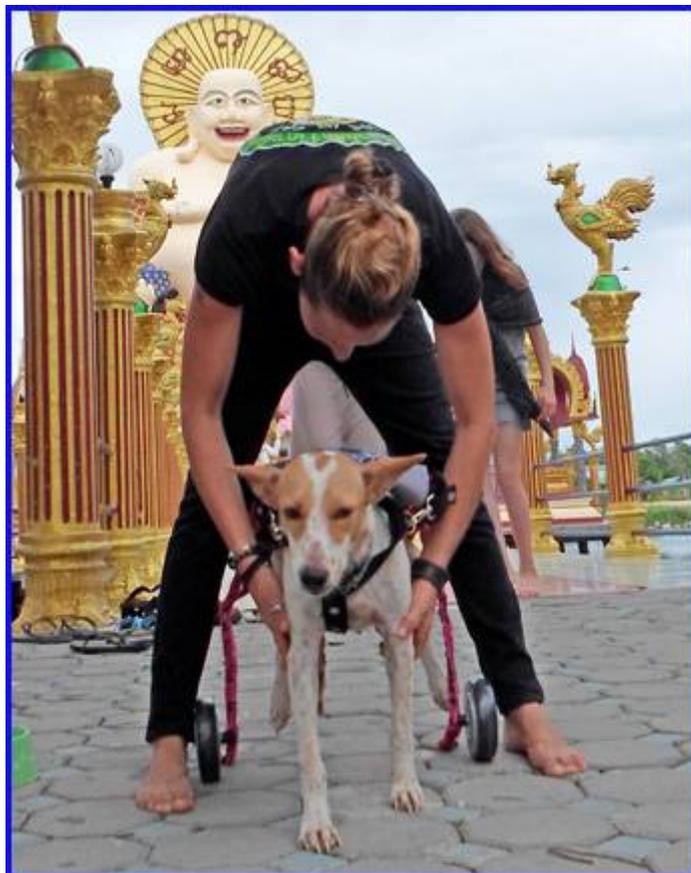
At night she must stay in the cage; otherwise she would sort of creep everywhere and get sore legs immediately. As she doesn't feel pain, there would be immense wounds very fast and she would die of a sepsis if not treated.

This is the biggest problem with paralyzed dogs. They must be taken care of regularly, as they can't stay in a wheelchair all day long. The cloths they hang in in the wheelchair straps must be changed when wet; otherwise she would excoriate her legs. Eva has always got a cushion on the living-room floor and when she is tired she rolls speedily there and lies down comfortably! She even follows the others when they are chasing a ball. Her chance to get it are very small- of course- but participating in the game is everything for her!

Whoever has met Eva in our house will confirm that she is just a live wire!

Here you can find the dogs living in our house:

<http://www.samuidog.org/Dogs%20Chaweng%20English.html>



Jay helping Maa with her first steps



## THE PUPPY HOUSE

It's an unfortunate fact that we seem to acquire more and more puppies at our shelter. More come in than actually get adopted so we watch them grow into adults and then its time for them to move out of the house into the bigger compounds. This it self is not a bad thing because they have remained healthy enough to survive, which means our vaccination programme works but this is where they will then remain for the rest of their lives, it's not a bad life but it would be so much nicer if they could find homes.

So please if you are thinking of adopting a dog from us have a look in the big compounds for some of our gorgeous teenagers.

Jay and Linda are still very happy with our puppy house man, Tai, who is proving to be worth his weight in gold, for him it's not just a job, he really cares for the dogs, which is fantastic for us because we know that if one gets sick and for some reason we are not there, then he will inform our vet and us. He totally understands about cross contamination and as a result we have seen less and less puppies die.

Only one piece of really sad news from the puppy house, after 6 years we had to say good buy to our beloved Jerry.

For those of you who ever had the privilege of meeting her, you know she was a truly special character and will be greatly missed by us all.

GOOD-BYE JERRY,  
You are unforgettable!

During the summer we have a lot of students who join us for an internship. Most of them mean a big help for doctor Sith, only a few need intense training so that it is not always so easy for doctor Sith to stay calm and even-tempered. Answering the same questions over and over again is rather a teacher's job in the long run but he keeps confirming that he enjoys „teaching“ and his job is never boring! The students are highly motivated and doctor Sith is always looking forward to meeting the next group. He likes showing how fast HE can do a neutering or castration- and (I think) he intensely enjoys being admired!

We are naturally always pleased about volunteers who do not especially want to handle a scalpel. We've got plenty of work to do in the DCRS: you may imagine that 350 dogs and some 80 cats require a lot of work – and helping hands!

Here is a small video clip showing what volunteers might expect at our place!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMEa0LxPiBQ>



Our deepest THANK YOU to our Dr. Sith for his heartfelt caretaking for our dogs and cats



Dr. Sith surrounded by vet students



The transport in our shabby banger from our place to the shelter which is 25 kilometres away from here needs getting used to for our "travellers"!

Visitors are always welcome. Dogs and cats enjoy any tender loving care and when you've got some sausages or other treats they will stay by your side forever and a day!

The essential work in the shelter and at our house must be done by our Thai and Burmese colleagues. Unfortunately nothing has changed with our basic problem that these helpers show up whenever they feel like doing so. They are never absent for a long time, just one day or two- but if five or six helpers do that I myself will have more and more serious problems to get everything organized. Fining them is no use at all- meanwhile, after 15 years- I gave that up. Helpers earn between 250 and 320 Euro a month. Some have got a family and children; the Burmese must send their families the money- therefore I had a bad conscience when I withdraw some money for serious errors and misconduct, something I do sometimes after telling them -I presume- over a hundred times not to place the rakes with the teeth upside on the ground.

In our last newsletter I had shown you all the helpers and their pictures. Two of them have left. THAI was a very good worker with a driving license. He should take care again of a great part of the organization business in the DCRS and support BANG in his task to collect accident victims or to take the healthy animals back. Unfortunately his family called him back again- if or when he will ever show up again is very uncertain. Of course he didn't forget to borrow 150 Euro from me before leaving. He told me he would be back after ten days- by now it's more than two months and we haven't heard of him since. The coward he is, he doesn't even answer the phone or immediately puts the receiver down.



DANG absolutely wanted to work for us again- so he was given the chance, but, sorry to say, he wasn't able to bear in mind the simplest facts; besides, communication was almost impossible with him. He had started drinking, so we released him for good.

In the last years we reemployed former helpers several times. Most had disappeared for family reasons and when they wanted to work for us again- why not take them? This spares me a lot of work (and nerves!) usually they remember vaguely how the wind blows here...

I employed two new Burmese. NUI works in the single boxes and takes care of the cleaning of some of the bigger kennels. He is working hard and I am very much satisfied with his job.

BAI works with us at the house, speaks a little Eng-



lish and Thai quite well. He, too, is working hard and understands things easily.

At the house, work is very diverse, and sometimes I haven't got the nerve to explain things again and again- nor do I feel the slightest desire in the end to start learning Burmese.

Finding Burmese helpers isn't difficult, but we urgently need Thai helpers with a driving license for cars.

Injured or ill dogs must be collected or returned afterwards. We neuter/castrate 6 animals per day; these are usually taken back after a week.

This means taking 12 animals per day from A to B in an average, plus the emergencies. The food leftovers from the hotels must be collected, too.

5000 kilos dry food and innumerable tins with dog or cat food must be transported around half the island from MACRO to the shelter. At 9.30 in the morning volunteers are waiting to be taken from Chaweng to the shelter which is at a 25-kilometer-distance.

When the helpers with the driving license are missing, we are confronted with settling most serious organization problems. We are very lucky that the few helpers with a driving license are rather reliable. But logistic bottlenecks are to be faced nevertheless...One of the buses always needs fixing which impedes our organization still more. In rainy days, transportation in the small Nissan cars isn't really fun. I'm afraid we will have to purchase another new used bus in the near future. But as long as the old bangers make their way over the mountain between Chaweng and Lamai....

At the moment - first things first - we must pay for the 3-years rent (7000 Euro) of the neighbouring house!



In the cat compound we had a big water tank for collecting water from the rain gutters. Unfortunately we couldn't use that water and complex filtering methods would have turned out too costly- so the "thing" had been standing around, totally useless, for a very long time.

Now we have transformed the water tank into a cute and cosy cat-house. The works had been going on for a very long time as we had never enough helpers, but, finally, when I even didn't believe in the completion any more- it was finished!

The cats are very satisfied with their small bungalow and I'm no longer annoyed by the useless water tank.





## STORM IN SAMUI

Another violent storm caused a lot of damage in the shelter. A very big tree had broken in half and one part had fallen on one of the dog kennels in the big compounds. No dog was harmed, but the dog house is completely destroyed. When it starts to rain the situation will become tight. We set to work immediately and started to fix everything.



The dogs love it when there is some action in their compound. They enjoy watching our helpers work!





It was a giant of a tree with consequently a lot of thick branches with thousands of leaves and all that had to be dragged across almost half the shelter. Outside half the parking lot was blocked. Günter enjoyed himself burning enormous heaps of branches and leaves. For all this repair work we need skilled helpers, but luckily some Burmese know how to weld, too.

Werner displayed a lot of posters saying that we were looking for helpers with a driving license- and indeed five came! I wouldn't believe my eyes. Probably some hotel drivers had lost their jobs because of the lack of tourists.

Two drivers have started working and a third one will perhaps arrive next week. It is much too early to tell which will be able to work for us or if they possibly don't come back after one or two days....We'll see.



Here are some pictures about the work we do. Unfortunately we haven't got pictures of all the dogs and what they looked like before and after our treatment. When the dogs are healthy again, they can stay with us only exceptionally. Only too often the helpers forget taking a picture of the dog before they bring him or her back. Like everything, this is a problem of staff. The helpers do not understand why I want to have a picture of a dog which is no longer in the shelter.

The idea never occurs to them that I would want to inform people about the job we perform here. Neither do the helpers bother where I take the money from to pay them! Most important is for them to be paid

Here you can find our monthly patients from the month July:

[http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief\\_PDF/Hunde\\_Juli\\_2014\\_engl.pdf](http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Hunde_Juli_2014_engl.pdf)

Of course we treat a lot more animals each month but only write about the really bad cases in our monthly list of patients. Here you can find some before and after pictures of the treated dogs:

[http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief\\_PDF/Vorher,\\_Nachher.pdf](http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Vorher,_Nachher.pdf)



ROMEO was reported by some animal friendly tourists. Wherever he went he got chased away due to the terrible smell of his wound. When he shook himself, the maggots fell all over the place. Without immediate help he would have died a slow and painful death.

He was one of the lucky ones!



DARKO has a similar story. Thankfully he was also reported and as you can see he's recovered very well.



## CAT ROOM in the neighbouring house in Chaweng

We have started to make all the cages in the next house a lot bigger. The cats are extremely fond of our new climbing cages; for mothers and their babies we joined together 4 cages.

For 3 months we had to stop neutering cats because we couldn't get the anaesthetic. Of course we also tried to get it from any other vet on the island and Wit tried through several companies in Bangkok – but nothing! AMAZING THAILAND. Once it was available again, we could only buy a limited amount of it....

In the moment it is empty again. I have no idea where we could order the aesthetic for the cats.



For many years we have been fighting against tick problems and the diseases they transmit, e.g. Ehrlichiosis, Babesiosis, Leishmaniasis. We lost a lot of dogs, as their disease was only detected too late.

I summoned the Samui „Pest Control“ and within two days all the kennels were sprayed thoroughly. But the result wasn't what we had expected: the ticks escaped on the dogs, so that those had more ticks than before the big spraying action.

After this unsuccessful effort of tick extinction Linda luckily found David: he had a product to spray all the kennels with and the result was perfect. We are very confident...

If you need help 0954281121

[davidsimpsonfarmer@gmail.com](mailto:davidsimpsonfarmer@gmail.com)

DAVID CREEPY CRAWLY PEST CONTROL



We were finally able to get rid of the serious “mice problem” in our food shed: CATS!!!

In the evening we put two to three cats into the food shed: in the first days the result was overwhelming! Meanwhile only very few mice lose their way in the food shed; even when they are full up cats take great pleasure in hunting mice and cats are extremely patient besides...

As to the rest of the ground we simply can't do anything against mice. We have got no chance. We had even placed ultrasonic devices into the puppy house: these worked efficaciously for two months; then the mice were no longer bothered and they started playing again in the puppy house. We placed devices in the ground to produce vibrating sound waves to frighten and drive the mice away: no success at all. So we will have to live with all species of mice and snakes forever....

Of course we still have the occasional snake-alarm and sometimes the helpers think it's really funny trap scorpions into a glass jar for no reason what so ever.



Maysa from Thailand created these wonderful pictures for us and sold them for 30 Baht to her friends. She was able to sell 50 items!



On occasion of their wedding, Sarah and Dean from Australia collected 10,400 Baht (240 Euro) among their guests for us! Thank you so much!



Gaby and Uwe arrive at the temple with their collars

Germany who bought over 1200 new dog collars and gave up their luggage allowance to bring them here to Samui. Here they are at one of the temples giving the dogs an identity.

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 puppy milk and flea collars for dogs. We can always use these things.

In serious cases of mange (scabies) - especially with puppies - ADVOCATE has proved extremely effective. Unfortunately it costs a fortune! If your vet has got expired Advocate and is willing to give it away for free or cheaply, we would be so glad to get it! For some dogs only Advocate can heal mange.

Should you have used or new collars – dogs wearing collars don't look like strays and are very often treated better by the Thais.

Please help us to introduce the DCRS to as many people as possible. Forward our newsletter to your friends and acquaintances or spread news about the DCRS work in the panels you visit.

If you are in Koh Samui and see a cat or dog needing help, please call us 077 413 490 or 081 893 94 43. Please help injured and ill dogs and cats. Please stay with the animal and try to calm it until our helpers arrive. We were informed about most of the poor creatures in the pictures of our monthly patients by tourists.



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 on our GERMAN website [www.samuidog.org](http://www.samuidog.org). We receive every month about 400 Euros thanks to your shopping.

Thank you very much again to all the sponsors and helpers from all over the world. Because of your help, since 15 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 15 years, over 20,000 dogs and cats have been neutered and countless vaccinations and treatments have been carried out. We offer free medical treatment for ALL stray cats and dogs, with a pick-up service even beyond our opening hours. For dogs and cats with an owner, we must ask for coverage of the medicine costs. Medicine in Thailand is rather inexpensive and those who have no money will still get medicine for free.

Also in the last four months we had to take in some more dogs and many cats in our shelter as they couldn't find a way to survive on their own.

With a sponsorship you can help to make sure that their bowls are never empty. Have a look on the website <http://www.samuidog.org/adoption.htm>.

### **Sponsoring a dog or a cat is 20 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.

Our monthly costs amount to 15,000 Euro. If you are on Koh Samui, you are cordially invited to stop by and have a look at our records. The dogs and cats love to get some cuddles!

*Brigitte*

And the DRCS-Team

Banking details for sponsors

[http://www.samuidog.org/text3\\_english.htm](http://www.samuidog.org/text3_english.htm)



**CRUSTY** is here vicariously for all the dogs and cats still looking for a sponsor.

