

Dog Rescue Center Samui
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Dear animal lovers!

December 2009

Unbelievable how quickly time flies by!! Another year and we are in our annual Christmas stress – who speaks about the economical crisis?? – Christmas IS happening and in a way we just cannot get around it, can we?! Furthermore Christmas is less associated to giving presents, but to giving love and normally that doesn't cost anything. It wasn't an easy year for many of us due to the economical crisis. The same affects the DRCS due to the fact that we had fewer tourists visiting Koh Samui. They normally cover 25% of our costs thanks to their donations during their holidays. We had very few tourists in October and November and unfortunately more and more Russians who haven't yet found the way to DRCS. Even from abroad we don't always hear good news. I know from your emails that many of you are hit hard by the crisis. I fully understand that for those of you having lost your job, you can no longer take over a sponsorship. I really want to say thank you to those who informed me. This helps me to concentrate immediately on finding a new sponsor for the animal. Unfortunately I have further bad news: Henriette Tangen, the account holder from our DRCS-account in Norway has embezzled money from our account there. The loss is at least €500. I contacted her many times even by post, but she is reluctant to pay it back. When I call her she hangs up. I told her that I will expose her name in the next newsletter. Please help me and write her that the money was meant to be for the dogs and cats. The money will bring her no luck that is for sure. This is her address: Henriette Tangen, Sandoveien, 3070 Sande i Vestfold, Norway, Tel: + 47 99 50 01 96, e-mail: henriette.tangen@getmail.no, henriette.tangen@chello.no.

Time and time again we have problems with the emails addresses from t-online, AOL and sometimes even Yahoo. Those email addresses show error messages, although they have been delivered in some cases. Due to heavy rain, we experience a lot of power cuts, resulting in us even having no lights. These power cuts can often last a long time. Up until now the rainy season hasn't yet started, although there is still some time left until end of December.

The year of the big crisis for everybody did also bring some sunny days to the DRCS. We received some bigger sums from a few sponsors and thus could carry out some important development projects and equipment acquisitions, that otherwise would not have been possible.

The Internet AG in Switzerland donated €4,000 to DRCS. Thank you. Our bus was quite shaky and daily trips to the shelter in Baan Taling Ngam were almost impossible. To this end we really needed to buy another used bus. Our president Khun Sud got a low priced offer from his friend in Chiang Mai and organised that our new gem was transported to Koh Samui. The bus was priced at €6,000 of which we could collect €1,000 on the island. So we couldn't resist to finally buying this bus. Our helpers are so happy with the new vehicle, thanks partly to the newly installed music system and Bang, our driver, is overjoyed with the power steering.



Ulrike, who runs our forum applied last summer at TASSO to be considered for the prize of the "Goldene Pfote" (Golden paw). Many of you voted and thanks to this we managed to get into the final 3 to be considered for the prize. The winner gets €5,000, the second receives €2,000 and the third will receive €1,000. But frankly no matter which place we achieve, I am already delighted with this result. The final winner will be announced December 13th in Pfullingen, not far from Stuttgart. Ulrike will of course accept the prize in our name and give a speech. Many thanks to Ulrike!

John from Soidog in Phuket tried for a long time to find a supplier for good quality but reasonably priced animal food. Finally he was successful. He now receives animal food from a company that normally only provides to the military and police. With John's recommendation we are now in receipt of the first supply and guess what: the dogs love it! Furthermore we are able to save about €400 per

month!. Only disadvantage is that we need to order 3,000 kg at once. We didn't have any mouse proof space for all those bags, but we were lucky: an animal lover from Switzerland agreed to cover the costs of €1,500 to build a storage facility. Many thanks to this fantastic donor.

VOLUNTEERS

In September Katharina from Denmark visited the DRCS together with Dr Asgar and 2 vet assistants in order to support Dr Sith for 2 weeks. Dr Asgar arrived with a lot of donations in kind. He is a very experienced vet and Dr Sith appreciated all of his advice. They will come back in March for 2 weeks and Dr Sith is looking forward to this. Both got on really well and Dr Asgar also was very much appreciated by the team. Katharina collected €3,000 this year in Denmark for DRCS. She collected used items from friends and relatives, which she then sold at flea markets from her friends and acquaintances. I know how difficult it is to spark interest in the suffering of animals outside of Koh Samui. So I am really impressed by her efforts! Many thanks to Katharina, her husband Martin and all helpers and donors in Denmark.

For Werner's' 60th birthday on October 3rd we had many animal lovers, whom we have gotten to know over the years come to Koh Samui in order to celebrate his birthday together. Their visit also served for the purpose of supporting the dogs and cats on Koh Samui. Many thanks to Ghislaine and Pete: they spent hours at hotel receptions in order to convince managers to set up our donation boxes, and they had a high success rate: 35 new boxes could be set up. I am very grateful for this work as I know we will be able to collect new donations via those boxes in the future. All of our helpers were active in feeding dogs and finding injured ones for treatment near temples, on markets and streets.



Mitzi, Katharina, Dr. Asgar and Luise from Denmark



From left to right: Martina, Marcus, Ulrike, Eva, Pete, Günter, Ghisleine, Bärbel, Antonio and Uwe.

The pool for the dogs was repaired and canopied. The pool was never really leak proof. Now since 2 months it finally is!! They carried out a huge cleaning and tidying up of all enclosures. I thank those volunteers for their efforts during their vacation in helping improve life for the dogs and cats.

Werner and I will be in Berlin from December 17th – January 5th. Of course we want to take part in the Christmas season like buying a Christmas tree, decorating it, baking Christmas cookies, wrapping up Christmas presents and buying lots of sweets. What we put ourselves through for the festive season of love! Furthermore Werner's mother turns 90 and that is something that we don't want to miss. Thailand is famous for shopping for anything you can possibly imagine. Unfortunately I have forgotten who of my friends I brought back which present and when.

Alison from Scotland will sacrifice her vacation again in order to stay in our house and to take over the management and supervision of the DRCS whilst we are in Germany. Since she has managed this task successfully over many years I am not worried for my beloved dogs and cats. She will also answer some English e-mails which means Janine will have more time for all the German correspondence. Thank you for your continued patience in us answering your emails.

Allison will be supported by Bärbel and Günter who have now lived on Koh Samui for 3 months and who will help to look after things at the shelter.



Günter, Tom and Bärbel

Our staff knows them well now and understands that they cannot mess around with them. Almost daily they go to the shelter to check and control the cards of the dogs and keep an eye on the mangy and thin dogs. Furthermore Tom from Switzerland is back for 3 months and he will definitely help to keep an eye on things too. He's been helping out for many years and is a very close friend of Janine.

THAI HELPERS

In my last newsletter I introduced 4 new Thai helpers. Three of them are still with us and they are very efficient. EGG and JOE work in the single box area and LEK is momentarily trained in the cat house. Before he worked in the puppy house and Janine and Linda were very pleased with his work. But when Janine and Linda heard that EM will come back they wanted him to work in the puppy house again. EM is very caring with the dogs and even when he is not being watched, he really takes care of them, removes ticks and gives the dogs a bath. Frankly speaking this is not something all of our helpers would do unfortunately they don't always treat the animals as instructed unless we keep an eye on them.



Lack, Leg and Em

PINJO did try hard to meet the demanded standards but he was a little too slow at work and had major difficulties to carry out very simple tasks. I would have given him another chance, but he didn't show up any more after pay day, which was ok with me. Since he never managed to finish his work, other helpers needed to step in, which didn't make them too happy? Additionally to PINJO, DON also left us. Due to family problems, he immediately had to travel to Suratthani, mainland, planning to come back after 2 weeks. However after the first week I was told that he wouldn't comeback since he then would have needed to pay his debts with me...?! I have no words for that any more. He owes me €30. Would you give up your job for that? He carried out the easiest tasks in the house we could offer him. After our cleaning

lady DAM resigned, I didn't hire another woman and thought it would be better to give this job to one of the helpers instead, in case we had not enough employees over the weekend this person could help to give medicine to the animals, but DON unfortunately wasn't able to give medicine to our cats at all. OW refused to work together with DON as he had the opinion DON was a bit DING DONG (a gentle explanation for someone who is not fully normal) in addition to being arrogant. OW and BANG are our best employees. BANG is assisting our doctor at the shelter. OW is always in Chaweng and I was very surprised when he told me that he refused to treat dogs together with DON. I didn't want to end up with a power struggle between OW and me. Thais are very proud and OW might have resigned from his job and he is too valuable. Now KING is carrying out this task in our house in Chaweng. He wanted to have this job for a long time. He is very good in giving medicine to cats and can jump in when we have shortage in staff. He also has the benefit of having worked in the cat house before. I don't really miss DON much. He had difficulties to master all the housework tasks and furthermore liked singing songs in a very loud and very incorrect way so that your ears hurt. The other employees are singing as well though, so maybe that is a sign of SANUK (having fun). Furthermore GON "resigned", meaning he didn't show up in the usual way after having been paid. In the past few months, he regularly didn't show up, I then learned from the others that he wouldn't be coming back any time soon. The "illness" rate is still high among our employees. I have however, stopped caring why our employees don't return. The Thais often take decision which I cannot understand. Once they make a decision they are sticking to it and that's it, apart from EM who has worked for us before for 3 years also LEG came back. Over the years we had so many Thai helpers who worked on and off with us, I simply couldn't remember him. But all employees assured me that LEG was very hard working, and so I hired him again. It is very important for the Thais to have fun at work and to be integrated. SANUK (fun, enjoying life) is always priority number one and it's important that the helpers are getting on well. New helpers which are not recommended by the current helpers, often face a hard time in the beginning. There is a lot of singing and laughing going on at the DRCS. Thailand, the land of smiles and big singers!

Not all employees are responsible for looking after the animals. In the case of them all showing up for work, there is always enough necessary reparation work to do. The animal shelter consists of 7200 m²; there is always something to be fixed. Since the dogs kept breaking the blue wire cages, we started building our own. Those cages are heavier but last much longer. Furthermore we constantly have to replace the benches in the bigger outside compounds. Bamboo-benches are too expensive and not as sturdy as our hand made ones. Building takes a lot of time and is only possible if enough helpers come to work. Sometimes our helpers even do conversions or build small rooms by themselves.



The dogs love the new benches. We have 10 outside compounds, and can never have enough of them.



The helpers working on the new cages

Reconstruction of the old storage room into a dog house:

We re-constructed an old food storage room in one of our compounds into a lovely dog friendly facility. We built a second entrance and made the window a lot bigger. Despite the many cats we had, hunting around in the dark, we could never manage to get the annoying mice situation under control; hence the facility was useless for storing dog food.



During the work with the cement all helpers show enthusiasm and effort. We will also tile the floors. Tiles are quite cost efficient over here, only about €3 per m².



Soon the dogs can move into their new house. A few food bags are still in the way but surely this will change very soon.



SPONSORSHIPS

Ritchie Newton the „ELVIS“ on Koh Samui – www.ritchienewton.com – took over a sponsorship for the dog Ritchie when he was still mangy and covered with wounds. He promised to take him over after treatment has finished. And he did. Unfortunately Ritchie kept finding sneak-out-holes in the fence or escaped through half open doors. During his nightly excursions on Koh Samui's streets he jeopardized his own health but also endangered others.

Now Ritchie is back at the shelter. After his stay with ELVIS he can relate to humans a lot better. He has a lovely personality and gets on with other dogs well. He is always happy when someone comes into the compound and always tries to be in the first row to get cuddles. However, he is not really happy at the shelter and therefore we are trying to find a new home for him in Germany. Until his departure, Ritchie currently is looking for a sponsor. If you are interested in helping Ritchie, please get in touch with us. A sponsorship costs €15 per month and many dogs and cats still look for a sponsor! Please help us and become a god-parent by taking over a sponsorship: – How To Help – godparent.

We are not only looking for sponsors but also for flight companions for animals which already found a new home in Germany or Europe. If you're flying with Air Berlin and want to help to get a dog to his new home, please contact us. The flight costs for a dog travelling with Airberlin, weight doesn't matter, only costs 120 Euros (since 1.11.2009 – before €60). 1kg cargo costs about €35 with other airlines.



VACCINATION prevention programme

It is very important for the temple-team NOT to remove the dogs from their usual environment if not absolutely necessary. Since a transport or a stay at the shelter can involve a lot of fear and stress for the animals, the team is trying to do as many on-site-treatments as possible. Janine has been with us for over 5 years and Linda has worked at the DRCS for 3 years, in which time both of them have learned a lot. In particular, Linda and Janine now master any form of wound cleaning, vaccinations, treatment of mange and taking blood samples etc. If uncertain they contact Dr Sith. The advantage of this is that now only in very urgent cases animals have to be brought to the shelter.

A vaccination for a dog costs €3. That is why so far it wasn't financially possible for us to vaccinate EVERY dog at the temple and surrounding villages. We had to mainly concentrate on vaccinating young dogs and cats against distemper, parvo and hepatitis. Sadly we were often forced to helplessly watch how dogs from the temples or a village close by got infected with the often deadly virus pathogens. But thanks to the increasing support.

from animal lovers around the world we could build up a larger vaccination and prevention programme this year, even outside of the shelter, which is great news. The temple team vaccinated and de-wormed over 700 dogs and cats, so that the viruses couldn't spread that easily during the wet season

PUPPY PLACEMENT

Our long term volunteers Janine and Linda also made it their goal to find a new home for as many puppies as possible. A few months ago they started to put up A LOT of posters at telephone boxes, in front of supermarkets, gas stations and on countless back roads. They pointed out that many puppies, young animals but also many healthy and vaccinated grown up dogs and cats are waiting for a new home. It is also very important to mention that we offer free medical treatment and vaccinations for life as well as the sterilisation/castrations of the adopted animal. As a result of this intense poster-campaign, we found new and safe homes for more than 35 puppies, 7 young animals and 5 grown up dogs as well as many cats. And all this within 1 month! Last week I sent one of our helpers with over 200 waterproof laminated posters around the island and hopefully we'll be able to rehome many more. Momentarily we have about 50 puppies and younger dogs in our puppy house. The majority of them get medicine on a daily basis. Janine and Linda are very happy that EM is back working at the puppy house and the surrounding quarantine area. As they have trust in EM they only need check every second day to see whether all is under control.



DOG AND CAT RESCUE SAMUI
 Phone: 077 413 490
 Mobile: 081 893 94 43



Puppies and adult dogs to give away !

Many puppies and about 300 lovely dogs at our shelter in Ban Taling Ngam are waiting for a new owner. We have all ages, sizes and colours, all of them fully vaccinated and neutered. If you take a puppy (or an adult dog), the castration, treatment, vaccination and medication are free for the rest of its life. Come by and have a look or give us a call.

เชิญท่านผู้สนใจเลี้ยงสุนัขโตและลูกสุนัขสวยๆฟรีได้ทันที

มีสุนัขโตและลูกสุนัขประมาณ 300 ตัว ที่ชมรมช่วยเหลือสัตว์บ้านตลิ่งงามพร้อมที่จะให้ฟรีสำหรับทุกท่านที่ใจเมตตา งามมีลูกขนาด ขุดขมขู ขุดสิ ขุดสิวได้รับบริการฉีดวัคซีน ฉีดยาฟรี สุนัขโตได้รับบริการทำหมันฟรี สำหรับท่านที่มีสุนัขโตหรือลูกสุนัขจากชมรมไปปล่อย เราพร้อมให้ บริการในการฉีดวัคซีน ทำการรักษามะและทำหมันฟรีที่โรงพยาบาล สบใจดีตลอดชาติ

ศษ โทร **0878958928**







Together with EM they talk about the any new situations and discuss the treatment of the new arrivals, which also involves a picture-registration and vaccination if possible. It is very important for the both of them that the puppies are in safe hands, so that they can spend their time without worry, managing other tasks at the temples or in more isolated villages further away from the big ring road. There is no doubt that we have still have many dogs and cats on this island in need of immediate help!

Please take over a sponsorship for food or vaccination for the dogs at the temples, villages and on the beaches!

Check out our Forum where we have a counter running.
Help us to achieve our collection target for vaccinations.

TV SHOOTING with Pro7

I told you about the Pro7 film shooting in the last newsletter. The show was supposed to be called "It's my life" and broadcast in October.

After the shooting I thought that the film cut was in best hands, since Sebastian (director) promised to cut it himself. Unfortunately he had to take over another project and Anke did the cutting. This however was not the only change and shortly after I was told that now Jan would do the final cut. Since neither of them has ever been at the shelter, I didn't feel so excited about it all any more. Once the final film was ready, Pro 7 established that the actual work and purpose of the DRCS didn't come through as much as planned and another shooting was set for the 25th November, directed by Christiane who's been living in Thailand for quite a while. Weather-wise we got lucky: a day full of sunshine in the middle of the rainy season!

Since I am an old film specialist by now we managed to get through the last scenes very quick. The most important thing is not to look into the camera while giving a statement, which frankly wasn't easy at all, especially in the beginning. If you by mistake look straight into the camera, the whole text has to be repeated. I am excited now to see the film finished and wonder who's going to do the final cut (hoping it will be Sebastian). Since now the film has become more expensive due to the extra day of shooting I believe that Pro 7 is definitely going to broadcast it.

Once I find out when the film is going to be aired I will put it into the forum and our homepage. Just continue keeping an eye on the TV programme of Pro 7.

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 12,000 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 vaccine for parvo, distemper etc., the rabies vaccine is still quite a bit cheaper.

Also this year we had to take on many dogs and cats in our shelter as they couldn't find a way to survive on their own. All had to move closer together to give space to the new arrivals. However we really cannot take on many more dogs as otherwise they will injure themselves during bite and power fights.

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!



The volunteers Kathrin, Frank, Bärbel and Günter giving a Bayticol-Ticwash to the dogs. No tick will survive this procedure and it's often the only way to free the dogs from those restless monsters. Some dogs are loaded with them.

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 several dogs and cats to a safer future. On our homepage you can check out those happy animals in there new homes at '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

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!

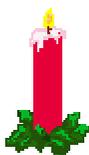


If you decide to order at Zooplus.de or at Amazon.de we will receive between 3.5% and 8.5% of your purchase value which will be transferred automatically to the DRCS account. To this end, I would appreciate if you would conduct your purchases through us. In order to do so you need to click on our logo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

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!

Merry Christmas
and a Happy 2010

Brigitte



p.s.: Don't forget to check out our videos on Youtube under dogsamui and samuidog1!

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

