

Dog and Cat Rescue Samui Foundation

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Dear lovers of our pets

April 2012

Today I've got lots of good news for you. The floods have run off all over the country and finally supplies are provided smoothly again. Because of the floods and the bad weather in January and February only smaller numbers of tourists came to the island, but in the previous years there had been one or the other reason as well why tourists stayed away. One time there are demonstrations in Bangkok, one time everything is flooded. However, on April 1, with your donations from here and from far away, we could celebrate the 13th year of existence of the



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and for the first time under its new name, but besides that, nothing else has changed yet. Our manager Wit is trying to find out which reports the Government is expecting from us in the future, and what we will have to pay taxes or other dues for. He is very busy about that and in our next newsletter I'll give you further details. Big and warm thanks for all your loyal and kind support during all these years. Every single person has his or her share in what we could and can do for the dogs and cats in Koh Samui.

During the night of April 1 it kept pouring with rain and rather unpleasant memories were coming back. At about the same time last year we had just overcome the biggest flood ever in Koh Samui and nobody had the faintest idea of having a big party in Taling Ngam, as the roads

and streets were partly under water. This year we were lucky, as the rains stopped by noon and in the afternoon even the sun showed up for a few moments. The party was a success for everybody and we had great fun, and I personally hope that many of our employees will still be here next time!

We ourselves will fly to Berlin from May 15 until June 3 to celebrate my father's birthday together with our family and our friends. Unfortunately my parents grow older and older (and so do we, isn't it?!) and that's why I accompany Werner on his excursions to our native country in the future. Like this I can see my parents at least twice a year, too.

I cannot imagine any better holiday representative than Martina. She has already consented to share her bed with any number of dogs and lesser numbers of cats, but as she is a great cat-lover, she will devotedly take care of all our purring pussycats. Of course she will as well sort out big numbers of DCRS dogs for placement in new families.



MELODY

Martina has even found a new home for Melody - a dog without the slightest chance for adoption in Koh Samui.

Melody has arrived in good shape at her new "parents". I will keep you informed about how she manages to settle in her new home. Perhaps her one eye must be removed, and we will pay for the necessary medical treatment, of course.

I had asked you for financial support for Melody's transportation, and I could hardly believe WHAT happened. Within a few days, we had an enormous deluge of e-mails all offering help for Melody. The lesser we had expected this positive reaction, the bigger was our excitement: you can find the list of sponsors on our homepage under Information and News.

We will use the "left-over" donation money for other DRCS dogs having found a new home in Germany. Flight costs have almost doubled, because AIR BERLIN does no longer transport dogs after its merger with ETHIAD. That's why we do urgently need every Euro! I'll continue to inform you.



Melody in her new home with Susanne, Rocky und Sina



NEW COMPOUND FOR SMALL DOGS

As the group of smaller dogs (poodles, Shih Tzus, etc.) in our house in Chaweng kept constantly growing and we ended up with having 20 of these tiny monsters around us, we decided that measures had to be taken! You just can't imagine what things were like in the evenings: wild hunts after the cats or minor biting among some individuals. Not serious, but annoying. And, of course, they aren't house-trained....but for one exception: Branco, our Galgo, goes out into the garden! From 9 a.m. until 6 p. m. there is personnel in the house available taking care of the dogs and their leftovers- more or less immediately. In the evening it can be quite bothering to clean up behind the dogs all the time.

All in all, 20 dogs in the house are too many. Not to speak of some 50 cats- but most of THEM are clean and house-trained and use their pet toilets or go outside.

In the shelter I was searching for a convenient place and found two smaller kennels we can combine into a very pleasant big compound for my small darling pets. As most of them are long hair dogs we made big efforts to prepare them a special apartment. Especially Martina was very happy that the compound was finally finished and she has to live together only with our 10 resident dogs.

The STICHTING BUITENLANDSE ASIELEN has taken over the cost of the modification. Our big and hearty thanks go to Diny from SBA who has regularly supported us from the very beginning.

Here you can find a detailed report:
http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/New_compound.pdf





Stephanie and Rainer

VOLUNTEERS

Baerbel and Guenther, who, from last October until a few days ago, used to work almost daily in the DCRS, went to Germany beginning of April. They will have to work busily for 6 months so that they can return to Samui in October- but I suppose the dogs in the DCRS will certainly miss their caressing hands a lot.

Stephanie from Sweden spent a year with us but unfortunately she had to go back to Sweden. She, too, will work in her home country and save some money so that she can come and see us at Christmas!

Rainer who had used to return to Samui for many years and helped us so much has finally moved to Samui - for ever! Almost every day he comes to the DCRS - and has already furnished a couple of very good ideas for improvement. All the kennel dogs being given medicine wear red collars, whereas those going to Germany wear green ones, and those we are looking for a new home in Germany have got blue collars.

THAI HELPERS

Most important in our organization are the Thai helpers, will say, meanwhile we have hired some Burmese and Cambodians as well. To our great distress we cannot depend on only volunteers' working for us – THEY are much more motivated than any salaried worker! For many years I have constantly hired new helpers and must admit that sometimes there are real good ones among them!

On our homepage you can find a job description for every helper. <http://www.samuidog.org/text1.htm>

Last time I introduced 4 new hands to you- still with us are only 2 of them: JO and AU. Both have been trained for several tasks in Ban Taling Ngam; Jo was trained as a doctor's assistant.

BANG has taken care of his mother for quite a long time, but he will certainly return, when she will no longer need his assistance.

EM has returned to Bangkok. He found Samui too boring. But he will certainly return to Samui, too

We have employed four other new hands: MOO, TSCHAI, WIN and WAT

As we have got such an enormous amount of repair work to do in the DCRS and the house, it is absolutely no problem to keep them all busy- whenever all of them show up! As we say in German, the tooth of time keeps gnawing everywhere and at anything, and in this humid climate everything is rusting at an incredible speed.

MOO is a little older and a very diligent worker. He used to work in masonry and knows how to weld, lay-bricks, plaster, set tiles- he can just do anything we need. He is JO's father; both are Burmese. During



MOO, WAT, TSCHAI and WIN. Down JAA



the last weeks, MOO gave proof of his talents and he made a great job with the construction of the new compound.

TSCHAI is Thai. He works for us at the Chaweng house and, most important, he has got a driver's license. Every day, he is picking up the food leftovers at the hotels. For the dogs it's the climax of the day when he arrives with his "delicious" cargo. Tschai is very industrious and interested and keen on learning. I am very satisfied with his work.

WIN works in the DCRS itself and is being trained at the vet's at the moment. He is Burmese.

WAT stays with us at the house, is hard-working and interested as well.

JAA has started to work for us again, after a two years' break. Do you remember him? JAA used to be "Our man in Lamai"!



Dr. Sith and his assistants Win and Road

Just have a look at our monthly list of patients and you will get a slight impression how important the work of Dr. Sit and his assistants is for the animals.

February 2012: http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Hunde_Feb_2012_engl.pdf

or March 2012 http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Hunde_Maerz_2012_engl.pdf

DOGS ON THE BEACH AND ON THE HOTEL GROUNDS

As in every newsletter I want to ask you again never to lure the dogs to the hotel resort: not all the hotel guests love animals in their surrounding area. They consequently complain with the manager and this one solves the problem by removing the dog ...anyhow, anywhere. Please do feed the dogs only on the beach or in the street; they are dependent on your help! If YOU do not feed them, the only place for them to find food is the rubbish bin.

FILM CLIPS IN THE DCRS

In the last years we had several film teams from TV stations from different countries: from Germany, Switzerland, Sweden and even a team from South Africa met us. Of course we could never watch the films in Sweden or in South Africa, but this is less important, anyway. As we had had lots of interviews already, filming was done quite fast. First we made a few takes in the Shelter and then we trapped an injured dog on the beach. After the dog had been taken care of, we went with our "temple team" Jay and Linda to a temple, where monks and dogs had been expecting us already. About 25 dogs eagerly dashed towards Jay and Linda- and even injured dogs joined the crowd. Meanwhile almost all the monks in almost all the temples are quite cooperative and are willing to give the dogs and cats the food we supply them with. The monks did even show no reluctance towards the shootings. The feature was televised in the breakfast TV show in Germany.





It's been 4 years that our Temple-Team Jay, Linda and Tom have been going to around 20 Temples across the island, treating as many dogs and cats on the spot as possible. The working relationship with the monks at most temples has grown stronger over the years, a base of trust has developed and results in beautiful outcomes, like the one about this one puppy family the Temple-Team (also in charge for the puppies, young dogs and their mothers) were left to take care for. It came as a surprise to them when asked by the monks if they had a small puppy for them, since all their dogs had grown up so fast. Jay, Linda and Tom took the chance and asked if they would mind, instead of 1, taking in 7 puppies as well as the mother-dog. When they then drove into the temple with the dog family on board, they were already greeted by the excited monks. 4 out of the 7 found a new home in with the first week from people who visited the temple, the other 3 have a great time there and the mother dog has become the monks' favourite one and is living like a queen. The monks explained to the

team that they give provided medicine and food on a daily basis, only because the team made a commitment to come every week. When the monks realised the Temple-Team were there for the long haul, they took more of an interest in the welfare of all the animals. They no longer had to stand by helplessly and watch a sick animal suffer then die. The monks have been given the teams telephone numbers so in the case of emergency,



Paraly testing out her new wheelchair

they can contact the team directly and assistance will be provided. This has saved the life of many animals at the temples.

As proven in the beautiful story of the little puppy we called Paraly. Parlay was involved in a car accident leaving her paralysed on the back legs; she was then dumped at a temple. The monks called the Temple-Team straight away and our team were quick to respond. On arrival they were met by a tail wagging puppy who displayed such an amazing joy of life that the decision was made to give her a chance to survive.



The monks agreed to take care of her and so Linda and Tom made it their goal for the day to get this little one "back on its feet".

A quick trip to the local shopping centre and the base of a new wheelchair (originally a child's bicycle) was born.

Thanks to the amazing effort of our long-term-volunteers and the warm heartedness of the monks, who were so keen to help the little one, they agreed to take responsibility of putting the wheelchair on and off every day, Paraly is now a healthy and happy young teenager, rolling around in the temple area. The monks proudly modify the wheelchair every few weeks whenever Paraly has grown another few inches.

Have a look at their last report with many beautiful pictures and details about their work,

http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Temple_April_2012_English.pdf



Jay treating a dog at a small school in with the temple area

Jay, Linda and Tom have also been introducing the DRCS and its service to many off-the road villages. After explaining to the people what we do, most Thais are very thankful and help to get all the dogs together in the area in order to have them vaccinated, dewormed and treated for whatever problem occurs. Once vaccinated and healthy, the dogs come for their sterilization/castration for one week to the DRCS. Currently the Temple-Team brings in a minimum of 6 dogs/week from the temples and villages they work in. The main aim of the DRCS is to try to control the population of dogs and cats around Samui. So it's a very important step to get into the villages. Once they understand everything is free they are more than happy to help. There can often be as many as 30 dogs in one village alone, so it's also in their interest to help with the sterilization program.

PUPPY HOUSE

Most of the healthy and vaccinated puppies that arrive at the Puppy House find a home within the first two weeks. We are printing a huge number of advertising/awareness posters every week in order to get people to come to the DRCS and adopt a puppy. But, there are always some left that grow up in the puppy house either because they were too sick to be adopted, or were one of the few unlucky ones. At least once a year, exactly those young teenagers have to make space in the puppy house for the new little ones coming in. This time, Jay and Linda decided to get our compound no.10, which is right next to the puppy house, emptied and put all the dogs from there in the back compounds 1, 3 and 5 and transfer the young teenagers into the number 10. Compound 10 is one of the few compounds where people can see the dogs as soon as they come through our main gate, so the chances of being adopted still remain high.



Jay, Linda and Em are moving the dogs to another compound



Dogs from the Teenager-Compound; now mixed with the big ones and excited about the swimming pool in Compound 1



The teenagers from the puppy house with Linda- after a happy move to the much bigger Compound 10

FOUNDATION OF AN ASSOCIATION IN GERMANY

As I already informed you, we founded a development association. Please transfer your donations only to the association bank account Samuidog e.V. (IF THERE IS NO ACCOUNT IN YOUR COUNTRY). Here is the homepage of our association www.samuidog.de. The annual membership rate is 36 €.

HOMEPAGE

In my last newsletter I had told you that Camilla from Spain had declared she was going to create a new homepage for us.

Unfortunately and without any explanation she has disappeared from our monitor. I am very disappointed as there was no reason from our part she could have been upset about. Of course, Stefan was already busy working on a German version and will create the English version as well. The homepage is almost complete, it is very well done and clearly arranged – just beautiful! Sometimes - I admit - I have got problems finding an item on our present homepage!

FACEBOOK

If you are on FACEBOOK, you may have seen that our design has been changed again. This one is more suitable for pictorial features. Almost all the features I place on our homepage can be seen under BRIGITTE GOMM.

VISITORS and VOLUNTEERS

We are always glad to have visitors or volunteers willing to help and joining us for shorter or longer periods.

At the moment, the room for volunteers on the neighbouring ground is free. From there it's just a ten minutes' walk to Chaweng beach. In the April 2011-Newsletter you can find a photo of the room and the house. Those who are ready to do a 2-days-a-week office job, are very welcome to stay there.

Unfortunately there is a lot of paperwork to do in a big "firm" like ours. We've got to run the donation lists and archive the bills, address lists must be kept, Facebook and homepage must be updated, the card index box for cats and dogs must be up to date and complete etc.

On your right, you may see the place where you work. Cats and dogs are everywhere in the house; cats like to have a nap on the keyboard and are sometimes helping "paws". As we have got about 50 cats in the house, one at least is always on duty and claims being caressed.

You may also drop in for a few "strokes" only: 350 dogs and 100 cats are waiting just for YOU!

Reiner can show you where you might be helpful and his handling the visitors is first class.

Thank you very much again to all the sponsors and helpers from all over the world. Because of your help, since 13 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 13 years, over 17,000 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).



Aimee is just one example of all the cats and dogs that are looking for sponsorship.

For just 15 euro a month you could take over a sponsorship for one of our beloved.

<http://www.samuidog.org/adoption.htm>



We can arrange a pick-up service, even outside our opening hours. If we asked poor or less poor Thai people for paid treatment, we would certainly see many less arriving with their animals - they would be afraid that treatment would be too costly.

Also in the last four months we had to take in some more dogs and 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 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 and flea collars for dogs. We can always use these things. In serious cases of mange (scabies) - especially with puppies - ADVOCAT has proved extremely effective. Unfortunately it costs a fortune! If your vet has got expired ADVOCAT and is willing to give it away for free or cheaply, we would be so glad to get it! With some dogs only ADVOCAT can heal mange.

More than 30 dogs of the DCRS could be placed in Germany, together with a number of dogs which had met their new master on the beach and which we have arranged transport for!

On our website you can check out those happy animals in their new homes.

<http://www.samuidog.org/dogtransport.htm>.

Whenever you are in Samui and you have fallen in love with a cat or dog, please call me, so that I can inform you about the possibilities of taking this cat or dog home with you.

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. Please do not forget about us!



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

At the moment we are in the process of redesigning our homepage, but it is still worthwhile having a look under "info and news". I have been uploaded a lot of photos at my Facebook profile (Brigitte Gomm) Our monthly costs amount to 13,000 Euro. If you are on Koh Samui, you are cordially invited to stop by, and welcome to come and look at our (financial) books. The dogs, cats and we all always love visitors!

Best wishes

Brigitte

and the DRCS – team

For donations, please see webpage



Please help us with your donations for the dogs and cats, who continually require food and medicine.

HELP US HELP