

## Dog and Cat Rescue Samui Foundation

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Dear Animal Friends

August 2020

THANK YOU, THANK YOU and once again THANK YOU for not letting us down in this global crisis. Please don't leave us alone in the future either. We still need YOU. We only have YOU. The last tourists left the island in April. The few tourists who are still here do not want to be "saved". Corona without end. I already had the worst fears in April, when many hotels had decided to close for 5 months. Many hotels, bungalow complexes and shops are now advertised for sale...

I can hardly expect any help from the island because the poverty caused by the complete decline of tourism is terrifying. Many people on the island had to be supplied with food. Due to the lockdown, the Burmese sat in their camps without any supplies.

SAM GRUBER (see FB) has launched a large relief effort and has been "feeding" hundreds of Burmese and poor Thais since April. He has had great success with his relief effort.

The lockdown was no problem at all on Samui. You could move freely during the day, sit on the beach and meet friends (with the necessary distance). There was a curfew from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. No alcohol was sold for a long time and, of course, was not allowed to be drunk in public. The distance had to be kept and needless to say that wearing a mask at all times has become the new normal. Before entering a grocery store (all other stores were closed) the temperature was measured. There were many police controls with temperature measurements. Here in Thailand, of course, everyone sticks to the regulation of wearing the face mask. This is not a country in which you disagree with the authorities.

In any case, Koh Samui has been corona-free for over 3 months, alcohol has been made available again and we are also allowed to swim again. Masks are still mandatory - everywhere and the temperature is still measured in all shops...



## **SYBILLE - our angel at the shelter**

I am sure that many dogs would not have survived without Sybille's dedicated care. She sits down with the dogs and gives them time and love. This is particularly important for very seriously injured dogs. Some have lost their will to live and need to be motivated to stay alive. The helpers do a good job, but unfortunately they are limited to cleaning and feeding. They want to finish their work as quickly as possible and are only thinking about the next break. Food is the most important thing for them.



This is a part of the pack, which is under the special care of Sybille.



## **MARCUS**

Has been there regularly for over 21 years. His bungalow-rental business has of course come to a complete standstill and he therefore has a lot of time to look after the dogs in our shelter. He makes sure the large enclosures get cleaned properly and checks whether the dogs have fresh water and whether the bowls are clean. He's been very happy with the work of the helpers lately.



## **JULIA - our long-term volunteer**

Among other things, she takes care of Jays' dogs and her house, who has unfortunately been stuck in Switzerland since April and, as it looks, cannot return for the time being.



**JAY and TOM:** Memories of a better time: working at the temples and in the villages

**JAY and TOM** will probably not be able to return to the island this year. They are both in Switzerland and it looks like the Thai government will not let foreigners into Thailand for the foreseeable future. **WE MISS YOU - COME BACK SOON!**



**LINDA** from our Outside-TempleTeam

**LINDA** from the temple team has had to take care of all the temples on the island since April, because Jay is still in Switzerland. The temples have been supplied with dry and canned food for many years. The monks are kind enough to feed the dogs and cats. It was not easy to get the monks to work with foreigners, especially with women. The monks show Linda the sick animals for treatment. She then decides whether the dog or the cat needs to be brought to Dr. Sith or if she can do the treatment alone. The working-together relationship with the monks has become better and better over the years.

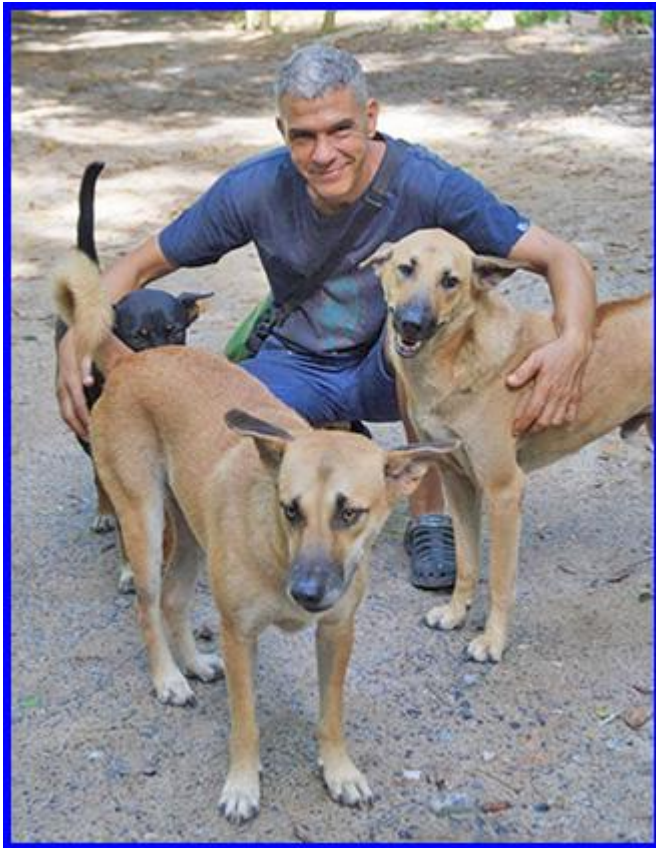
**Linda** also has to take care of Jays' feeding stations and as well as her own feeding stations. A lot of tourists have diligently fed the dogs on the beaches and in many other places. But there are no tourists left who feed the dogs. That was clearly noticeable. So Linda had to set up additional feeding stations in places where the dogs had gathered.

She is also solely responsible for the puppy house. That was what both had dealt with before the corona pandemic.

**TOM** has always been on the island for many months a year and is well trained in the treatment of sick dogs and cats. Tom used to work a lot with Jay on the outside and was also badly appreciated for carrying the heavy dog food bags.

**LINDA** is also constantly on the lookout for injured and sick dogs. We get a lot of WhatsApp messages from animal friends who report injured or sick dogs and cats. They often make it very easy for them. They send a photo and a message where the dog or cat is. They then expect us to take care of it immediately. I do expect a little help from them but not everyone is willing to do so. On the contrary, I am often insulted by resident foreigners that I should do my job.

**MARKUS** has left his footprints all over the shelter. He plastered a lot of walls, covered new roofs and he did a lot of welding this year. He flew back to Germany 4 weeks ago. We ALL hope that he will come back next year.



**SIMONE** goes for daily walks with our "fighting dog" Ophelia and with our two bull terriers. The bull terriers Maximus and Charlie have been with us since April when their owner had to leave the island. Now he's stuck in France and it's still unknown when he can return to the island. Unfortunately, he could not take his dogs with him because they did not have a rabies antibody test. It is a requirement for entry into the EU. After the test, the dog must stay in Thailand for three months.

I can only strongly advise every foreigner to get your doggie ready for departure; otherwise it can be very expensive and can take a long time until you can finally hug your darling again.



Of course, we cannot only work with volunteers although it would be a great thing if we could. Volunteers are usually highly motivated and very reliable. Long-term volunteers in particular are of great help to us because they can be entrusted with special tasks: taking care of dogs that require special care or taking new photos of all dogs in the shelter and taking stock of the dogs in the shelter. That's what Sybille and Julia just finished doing since our helper OW took yet another long 'vacation'. It sure was not an easy task.

OW, one of our most experienced helper, has been taking care of the photos for many years. He always did a great job and kept tracking down unregistered dogs. Please don't ask me where they come from. Some of them are simply no longer picked up by their owners. Our helpers then release the dogs in one of the large enclosures, because they cannot stay in a single box forever. Unfortunately, they often forget to let us know. At the shelter, a lot of work has to be done by the helpers. The 60 single boxes have to be kept clean and the dogs have to be given their medicine. The cat house fills up more and more and the cat boxes are always occupied. There is also more and more to do in the puppy house because more and more dogs are brought in. The area is 7500m<sup>2</sup>, there is a lot to keep clean and repairs are always necessary. Dr. Sith needs 2 medical assistants. The clinic is well attended!

Also in and outside my house, there are more and more dogs and cats that have to be looked after.



You probably wonder why we need so many helpers. The problem is that our helpers' work ethic has always been very bad. Believe me, I've made a lot of staff changes over the past 21 years. Completely unsuccessful. It is almost normal that 5 to 6 helpers simply do not come to work. For a day or two. Planning for urgently needed repairs is almost impossible and can only be carried out if no more than 2 are missing. Of course, the helpers don't get paid if they don't show up for work. Over the past few weeks I have let go some of the 'not-so-good' helpers and hired new ones. Half the island is unemployed. It is very easy to find new helpers. Marcus, our animal shelter inspector is very happy with the new helpers. He says: The shelter has never been this clean! I like that!



## FOOD STATIONS

After the tourists were all gone, we had to think about what would become of the dogs on the beaches. So far, they have been looked after almost exclusively by tourists. I took over the feeding at Chaweng Beach. The dogs have all gathered on the stretch of beach at the public entrance. The Thais meet regularly on this stretch of beach to have a picnic. There is always something left for the dogs and just looked at me funny when I offered them the dry dog food. Shows how well fed the Chaweng Beach dogs are. There are very few dogs left on the beaches, and they are all well fed and look great.



The Chaweng Beach in August 2020  
In August we normally have high season here, packed full with Italian and French tourists



**Gina-Lisa** sunbathes  
in a comfortable supine position



The chicken sellers are on the beach every day and the dogs like to be around them. The bones are ALWAYS the perfect left overs







Balu only comes to the beach every now and then. You can meet him every afternoon at the LaemDin market.



The dogs on Chaweng Beach can't complain, it looks like they'll get through the corona pandemic well. These are current pictures.

### Feeding the dogs at the shelter and in and around my house.

In recent years we have always been able to pick up enough food leftovers from the hotels and bungalow complexes in order to offer the dogs in the shelter and at my house a small meal (mainly rice). The dogs liked the food and it was a very appreciated change for them every day. Since all hotels are closed for the near future, we started to cook huge mountains of rice with chicken. **We cook 50 kg of rice and 20 kg of chicken carcasses for the dogs in the shelter every day.** It was a big challenge to get it right. The rice with the chicken is of course cooked first thing in the morning at 9 a.m. But it wasn't so easy to get this huge amount cooled down enough by 4 p.m. that the dogs wouldn't burn their tongues and throats. It's around 35C here during the day. When the rice and chicken is done cooking, it gets put into 4 large cement mixing tubs and then it has to be constantly stirred. At 4 p.m. it has cooled down just enough for the dogs to be able to eat it. Our food mix tastes much better and the dogs prefer it to the food leftovers from the hotels. It is a real delicacy for them. We therefore had to think about how we could prevent them starting to fight over the food. The goal is that each dog gets a bowl. The dogs always have bowls filled with dry food, so if someone really doesn't get anything he doesn't have to go hungry. Of course, we also cook rice with chicken for the dogs at my house.



Several helpers are needed to feed the dogs in the big compounds. All go into the compound together, fill the bowls and spread them as quickly as possible. I have practiced this several times with the helpers and i am now very satisfied. There is no biting because there are enough bowls and every dog that has a bowl in front of him starts eating straight away. In with no time the feeding is over and the bowls can be collected. Off to the next enclosure.



We have 8 enclosures in which the food has to be given that way. I am afraid that the dogs will get used to the good food and that they will no longer take the leftovers from the hotels. But that's something I can think about when the time comes and it looks like that's still far away.

The costs for the food have already risen due to the many feeding places as well as the daily rice meals for the dogs at the shelter, but as long as we can count on your support, I hope that we can continue to offer the dogs in the shelter the self-cooked food.

It is the absolute highlight of the day for the dogs. The dogs living at the shelter have almost no chance of being adopted so they should at least enjoy some good food if they have to spend their lives in 'captivity'.

Unfortunately, it almost never happens that an adult dog gets adopted. I am quite sure that everyone would rather live with a family but unfortunately it's mainly puppies that get adopted.



"I have found a safe place on the tree so I can enjoy it in peace!"





## LINDA filling up her food stations

**Linda** now has to take care of all the feeding places and the dogs at the temples alone. I have offered her that one of our helpers can help her with delivering dry food to the temples. She will let me know if it becomes necessary. At the moment she can still do it alone



The dogs are always delighted when they see the Dog Recue Car and recognize it immediately. Any chance they get and they are in.





## BIRGIT (in FB Hertha Müller) on feed round

There are certainly some Thais and resident foreigners who occasionally or regularly feed dogs in their area.

But it takes a very great love for animals and discipline to prepare the food DAILY and bring it to the dogs in several places on the island, no matter the weather. The dogs are waiting ... Birgit was doing this daily for weeks: she cooked rice with chicken every day and mixed it with dry food and off she went onto her food-station round! She was always supported by Mike. Of course it is difficult for both of them to pay the enormous costs for the food out of their own pockets. (Which they have done for a long time now).

We therefore provide them with dry food and mange and tick treatments for the dogs. Many THANKS to all who helped with a donation: **these dogs can only be fed with your support.**





Unfortunately **BIRGIT** had to return to Germany at the beginning of July and Mike had to take care of feeding the dogs on his own.



**MIKE and WIEBKE**

Mike was lucky because **WIEBKE** supports him in his daily work with the dogs.

**Mike** often did the feeding round with Birgit, but he was more of a driver and photographer





The joy is great every time when all dogs are found on the feed round and are healthy and happy. Unfortunately not all "neighbors" are enthusiastic. Some are downright vicious and Mike has been insulted several times for feeding stray dogs. He's not the type to be intimidated easily. But what can he do about poison that is secretly laid out at night?

We have an animal welfare law in which high penalties are threatened for animal cruelty or killing. Mike has now had a sign printed and is hanging it up in front of his house. There is a penalty of up to 2 years and (or) up to 40,000 Baht. I think the Thais don't even know that animals have rights



**HEIKE** looked after many dogs on the island. Unfortunately, she also had to go back to Germany.

**MIRA** and her children took over the food round from Heike on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. On the other days, the dogs are fed by **RICHI** and his wife **JANNET**.



**MIRA** and her children Lenny and Lania



on the right **HEIKE**



**RICHI**



**JANNET**

## VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

The corona crisis will come to an end and tourists will hopefully come back to the island.

The only question is when? Will we hold out until then without these donations? In the next few months, we will probably only depend on help and support from abroad. I can only hope and pray that you won't let us down. Nobody knows what we ALL still have to face. This uncertainty scares me. Every one of you is affected by this crisis. I wish you ALL that you get through this difficult time well.



**Apple and Pepsi**  
with their food donation for our cats



**Dale** brought some food for our dogs too



**Anastasia and Ernesto** (picture on the right)

Donation from the „**Hot in the Biscuit-Team**“  
(picture on the left)



Thank you to **Philipp** and **Nicky**  
for their food donation



Thank You to **Androvs**  
for the food donation



**Jaibao** collected money for us in Bangkok and brought a lot of food.

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO ALL ANIMAL FRIENDS WHO BRING US FOOD!**

Food is what we need most urgently at the moment, because we have endless mouths to feed. Unfortunately, it will be a long time before tourists can take over some of the feeding on the streets and on the beaches again.

**10 kg of dry food costs 10 Euros!**



Thank you to **Fritz** and his Wife for coming to visit and for their generous food donation.

They brought 3 big bags of dry food.



**Justine and Nichole** from England



I'm bored ...  
Another photo session.



**Mayme and Dennis**

## CATS TO NO END

Pregnant cats or mothers with their babies are constantly brought to us. They sometimes bother the wealthy villa owners. Oh if even a cat walks across their terrace ... They tell me the greatest fairy tales. The cats supposedly jump on the tables and do their "business" there. It is almost always foreigners who blackmail me to pick up the cats. Apparently the landlord would not tolerate the cat! Which landlord? Does he sit with you on the terrace? Sometimes I can understand the Thais for being so disparaging with foreigners. I am also when it comes to dogs and cats, because normally only the foreigners have a real problem with the stray dogs and cats.



Mothers with babies have recently been brought to us more and more often.



**JOELLE** regularly helps out in the cat house. The cats love her! The cat house is now hopefully safe from snake attacks. We have raised the walls again and completely covered the roof with wire mesh. Now we can see the snakes well when they have sneaked into the cat house again. Hopefully this won't happen anymore because we believe the cat house is now safe from snakes.





Unfortunately, the cats often have to wait a long time until we can release them either at my house or at the shelter.





**A sponsorship costs 25 Euros a month.**

If you would like to sponsor a cat, please contact us. [info@samuidog.org](mailto:info@samuidog.org).  
We have no cats on our new homepage yet but of course it's also possible to sponsor a cat.



## PUPPIES WITHOUT END



It's a pity that we don't know anything about their mothers. Maybe we could have neutered them. Taking unvaccinated puppies into our shelter is always a very big problem for us because they could easily catch a virus at our Rescue Center or bring diseases into our shelter. We do not have a proper quarantine station and sick animals come to the shelter every day.



We have now housed them in our small puppy house in Chaweng. The puppies that were there before are now vaccinated twice and big enough for the main puppy house at the animal shelter.



Hooray! I found a home!

**LINDA**, who is now solely responsible for the puppy house in the shelter, only takes unvaccinated puppies into the shelter if there is no other option. The risk that they will die is great. Linda always tries to find "sponsors" for the puppies until they are vaccinated.



Unfortunately, a lot of puppies are being dumped at our shelter without a mother and therefore the chance of survival is considerably smaller; but we do our best. AU, our Burmese helper in the puppy house, has been with us for a very long time and is still doing a very good job. He really loves animals, which of course is very important.



Hmm, that's delicious



Right up on the road we rented this house for the many puppies we could not find a home for. It has a large garden and the dogs seem to be very happy there. Some of them were born at the shelter and have never known another life.



Once again we had an unwanted visitor in the cat house at the shelter. The helpers have no problem catching a snake. Phil from the snake farm just had to come and pick her up....

## STORM at the shelter

Once again, a storm has brought down huge branches from the now gigantic trees. A lot of damage has occurred and all singel boxes in the front area of the shelter had to be re-covered. A huge mountain of branches had to be brought in front of the animal shelter and once it's dry enough, it has to be burned. The whole parking lot was covered with a large mountain of branches. Since the rain never really stopped long enough, it took a little longer until we had space in front of the shelter again. When it was dry enough, our helpers wanted to burn the big mountain of branches all at once. I was just about able to prevent the worst. Because the environment was as dry as the wood after a few days without rain... Under my supervision, they then burned the wood in the designated bin.



All the dogs got away with a fright.  
Fortunately, nobody was hurt





The dogs found the whole spectacle really interesting. Something is finally happening! Unfortunately, it happens more and more that storms easily break the branches of trees like matches and we just had another storm that hit Koh Samui. This time the damage in the shelter was limited. Small branches had broken off everywhere and are now scattered all over the compounds. A large branch broke off a tree inside the cat enclosure. The cats really enjoyed playing hide and seek in it. No huts or boxes were damaged. That's really good news. That's a lot of work for the helpers. I can only hope that not too many people decide to take a few days off.

At my house, a four meter wide and equally high bougainvillea hedge fell over.



The benches for the dogs have to be renewed very often. Some of the helpers are excellent handymen. There is always a lot to repair in the shelter.



The lattice doors of the individual boxes have to be constantly repainted. Due to the high humidity, we tirelessly fight against rust. An almost hopeless fight.

Do you remember the dramatic "FIVE ISLANDS" dog rescue operations after the government blocked those islands for EVERYONE? **SWEETY** was the last remaining dog on the island and has persistently resisted attempts to catch her and has repeatedly disappeared into the caves. Now she lives with me in the house and after only 2 days, she was already part of the pack.



**ANNETTE**, my loyal office worker, immediately loved **Sweety**. Annette now has to work for two because she also has to do a lot of Jay's work.

Prepare for night's rest





I have 22 small dogs in my house at the moment. Needless to say that EVERYONE would like to sleep in the bed or at least in the bedroom, but of course that's not realistic. These 7 dogs are the chosen ones. But that can always change. When new dogs arrive, I often take them to the bedroom for the first few days after arrival.

**GOOD NIGHT!**

## FLIGHT COMPANION

Looking for flight companions doesn't make much sense at the moment, because the last tourists have long left the island. Bangkok Airways has not transported dogs for a long time either. Actually, this regulation should apply until October 24th. But since BKK-Airways probably had too few passengers, they withdrew their regulation and it's possible again to bring dogs to Bangkok with BKK-Airways. James from "ReloForPets" was on Samui 4 weeks ago and picked up dogs by car. He also took one of ours with him. He is now waiting in BKK for his departure to England. Such a transport is of course relatively expensive and only makes sense if there are many dogs in the car. We can only hope that BKK-Airways won't change its mind and continues to do cargo dog transports.

As a complete surprise came to offer from the transport organization "Actionfordogs" on July 31st. They offered a flight for two dogs to Frankfurt.

**DAISY** and **HOPE** were the two happy dogs who, after a very long waiting time at our shelter, were finally allowed to board their flight to Frankfurt.

The prices from "Actionfordogs" are so far quite acceptable: 695 euros per dog to Frankfurt. At the moment only direct flights are possible. Most airlines have not yet resumed their service and acquaintances who wanted to fly back with Lufthansa could only do so after the 3rd try.



At the end of September, the visa extension due to the corona pandemic ends for everyone. Apparently there will be no more extensions. If you don't have a valid visa until then, you have to leave the country. Who will take a dog for us?

**PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU WANT TO HELP TO GIVE A DOG A HAPPY LIFE!**

The flights are just simply rebooked in the last minute and suitcases can be unpacked again. Although she was lucky because they hadn't left for Bangkok yet. The flight was delayed for over a week. So of course, dog transports are currently difficult to plan and it is also difficult for new dog owners to make plans. Some have to drive through half of Germany to pick up their darling in Frankfurt. Many take a few days off to have time for the new family member. At the moment there are only 11 dogs waiting for their departure. Five to Germany, three to France, one to Ireland, one to England and one to Sweden.



Thanks to YOUR help, every dog and cat has had the possibility to receive free medical treatment for over 21 years on Koh Samui. Stray dogs who –for whatever reason- cannot survive out there on their own, we can offer shelter at our Dog Rescue Centre.

With your help, at least 6 animals can still be neutered every day. Thanks to your donations in the past few months, we have not yet had to make any cuts to our Castration program. Over the past 21 years, over 30,000 dogs and cats have been neutered and uncountable vaccinations and treatments have been carried out.

### **We still offer free medical treatments to ALL stray dogs and cats.**

Unfortunately we can no longer treat the dogs and cats with a Thai owner free of charge at the moment. We have changed our signs accordingly. The Thai people now have to pay 500 baht (about 14 Euros) for the castration / sterilization of their dog. We take 1000 baht from foreigners. Foreigners generally earn more than Thai people and that's why we consider this to be justified. All over Thailand there are different prices for Thai people and foreigners for all kind of fees.

The most important thing in the near future is that we can get all Dogs and Cats fed. If necessary, we could stop the castrations to save costs. Please don't let it get that far and help us with a donation for food.

### **10 kg of dry food cost 10 Euros**

If everyone donated just one bag, we could look after all the animals for a very long time.



If you order from Zooplus.de or Amazon.de, we get between 3.5 and 8.5% of your purchase amount transferred to our account. I would be happy if you would do your shopping with us. Please click on the logo on the German homepage of the homepage [www.samuidog.org](http://www.samuidog.org)

We get about 200 Euros credited through your purchases every month.

We have also registered with GOODING. Similar to Amazon, GOODING has a lot of shops on offer. Why not have a quick look. In addition, we have been registered with BILDUNGSSPENDER for a long time. All four give us a percentage if anybody orders something there. You might want to check out which provider is the cheapest for you. There are certainly a lot of similar facilities there, but I don't think there is need for any more. They all have the same shops on offer.

Of course, also in the past few months, we had to take many stray dogs and cats into our shelter because they had found no place for themselves to survive.

Your sponsorship can ensure that their bowls are always well filled.

Please take a look at the dogs and cats still looking for a sponsor on the Webpage.

<https://www.samuidog.org/animallist/animals-looking-for-sponsor>

**A sponsorship for a dog or one  
Cat costs 25 euros a month**

The ongoing costs for the DRCS are around 18,000 Euros per month.

If you are on Koh Samui, come and have a look at the documents. You are cordially invited to do so.

The dogs and cats are always happy to receive visitors and pats!

Best wishes

*Brigitte*

*and the DRCS team*

*Stay healthy!*

Accounting for Sponsors:

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



**Please help us with your donation  
the dogs and cats continue with  
to provide food and medicine**



**HELP US HELP**