



TEMPLE PROJECT April 2012

In October 2007, the DRCS started providing dog and cat food for many of Samui's temples. In April 2008, our Temple Project-Team has started to not only give food but also vaccinate and to provide medical attention to dogs and cats. If absolutely necessary, the injured or sick animal is brought to the shelter for further treatments. Our work includes a lot of street work and many little villages surrounding the temples.

When we look back at the way some temple dogs were treated or completely ignored when we first started working at the temples 4 years ago, the change has been remarkable. Starving and half naked dogs as well as visible open wounds were nothing unusual for the resident temple dogs. Sure, the monks were forced to tolerate the abandoned temple dogs but how could they really help these mainly sick dogs and cats which bred as fast as the wind!?



The sceptical faces we used to see, when we turned up at the temples, car packed full of medicine and dog/cat food, are thankfully over. Most of the time, we are now welcomed with a smile and over the years, the monks trust us to come back at least once/week to provide them with food and to take care of any new dumped dogs and cats as well as making sure the uncountable resident temple dogs stay

healthy and get treated if necessary. We put it down to exactly that trust, that is what has made the behaviour of the monks towards the dogs and cats change so dramatically.



A helper of the temple preparing the daily food for the dogs



Now, it's nothing unusual for some of the monks to give medicine provided by us, every morning and evening for certain animals, prepare food for sometimes up to 40 temple dogs and many more cats. The way the monks often literally wait for us to turn up on our temple days with an injured or sick animal in their hands, touches us every single time. Some monks even wanted to learn from us how to correctly clean a wound and remove maggots, something almost unthinkable just a few years ago, when nasty wounds like that were simply ignored.



Every single treatment is being recorded and here are some facts in average numbers from the last 3 months:



85 Vaccinations / month
90 Wound cleaning / month
140 Mange treatment / month
80 Animals taken in for neutering / last 3 months
25 Animals taken in for further medical treatment / 3 months



Tom treating a puppie's wound



Jay and Tom giving the Temple dog Fozzy his weekly TVT-injection (transmissible venereal tumor)

Every month we deliver over 1,000 kg! of dog and cat food to the temples



Marly- The Village Dog.



This is Marly, before and after. We found Marly in a little and fairly poor village where we were working, treating the dogs for mange, cleaning wounds, vaccinating and de-worming and whatever else was necessary. The village people were very friendly with the dogs, however were not able to feed all those hungry mouths. Of course none of the females were spayed at the time and so more and more puppies were born. Marly was a very quiet and depressed looking mangy dog and it took a while until she cooperated with our treatment. We treated her at the village over a few weeks and as you can see, the change in her is remarkable. Not only has she turned into a beautiful looking dog, she also has decided to change her attitude of life and has become an excited and joyful dog, living in the village with the other 15 dogs J



LOOKING GOOD MARLY!



A Dog-Family's Story



7 little puppies and their mum were one of hundreds of cases we (also in charge for the puppies, young dogs and their mothers), had been left to deal with. Since the risk of getting sick at the shelter is so high without vaccination, Tom decided to take care of this family at his home for the 3 weeks until they were fully vaccinated. Just days before the puppies had to come into the shelter, some monks from one of our favorite and most animal-caring temples, asked us if we had a puppy for them since all their dogs had grown up and they'd love to have another baby dog. We then took the chance and asked straight out if they could think about taking in 7 instead of just one puppy, ohh and the mother of course, who we would get spayed first. The answer was Yes and so we drove the family to the temple where we were already being waited for by several monks. It was definitely one special moment, giving over this family to them, knowing what a nice and free life would be waiting for them in with the monks houses and their beautiful dog family of about 25 dogs.

Now- a couple of months later, 4 out of the 7 puppies were adopted by families visiting the temple or taking part in temple-celebrations. The other 3 are doing great and will be taken into the shelter in a couple of months for spaying. The mother dog is the monks favourite dog and is living like a queen.





The monks explained very clearly that they appreciate us coming by every single week, providing them with food and medication and that's the reason why they considered taking new dogs.....



Some pictures from the day the German TV-Team came to visit:





THANK YOU GEORGIA FOR THE HELPING HAND
ON THE TEMPLE-TOUR, COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT
WITHOUT YOU THAT DAY!
HOPE YOU COME BACK SOON!



Some pictures from the work at the Temples in the last 3 months:







The Temple Project has saved hundreds of lives already and has proven very successful. The costs for food, vaccinations and medical treatments have become so high that we need your desperate support to keep this project alive.



The Temple-Team

If you want to read more, here are the links to the last 4 TempleReports:

http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/Tempel_Dec_2011_ENG.pdf

http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/TEMPLE%20PROJECT%20August%202011%20Englisch.pdf

http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/TEMPLE%20PROJECT%20April%202011%20English.pdf

http://www.samuidog.org/Rundbrief_PDF/TEMPLE_PROJECT_November_2010_English.pdf