

# SANCTUARY STORIES



SUMMER 2017

# ANIMAL SOS



SRI LANKA  
Animal SOS Sri Lanka  
UK Registered Charity 1119902

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Our  
Story.....



There are thousands of stray animals in Sri Lanka suffering from horrific injuries, malnutrition and disease. Dogs and cats with fractured spines, severed limbs and maggot infested wounds; pups and kittens living on festering rubbish dumps; animals slowly dying of tick fever, womb infections and bleeding tumours - suffering in agony until they die. With the risk and associated fear of rabies strays are often demonised, leading to cruelty at the hands of humans. This ocean of suffering and misery is heart breaking for any animal lover to witness, let alone walk away from.

Animal SOS Sri Lanka, a UK-registered charity, was founded on the vision of Kim Cooling who, after witnessing the appalling plight of animals there, particularly the strays, decided to take action to help them. With a distinct lack of safe havens and veterinary care available to strays in Sri Lanka, our work and facilities are a lifeline to many otherwise doomed animals.

## Surya



Surya, lost mum and siblings and is the sole survivor of the family. The tiny kitten was delivered to the sanctuary by kind tourists in an extremely weak and emaciated state. Thankfully, Surya is now stable and although initially disabled, is starting to walk again. She is safe in her new home with us.

## Teddy Bear



This dear little pup was run over 4 times!! We took him in and he has thrived every since. He is determined to walk again too.

### Our Achievements (Jan 2017- June 2017)



We provided over 6500 treatments for diseases and wounds



We sterilized 425 cats and dogs and performed over 400 other surgeries



We provided over 6000 anti-parasitic treatments



We provided over 3000 vaccinations against rabies and other dangerous viruses



We conducted over 4000 blood tests- Blood smears/Chemistry/Haematology and 2200 other tests-skin scrapes, parvo and distemper



We feed over 1400 cats and dogs EVERY day. This includes sanctuary animals and strays in the area



We are currently caring for 1203 rescued dogs and 120 cats at the sanctuary.

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# FLOODS AT THE SANCTUARY

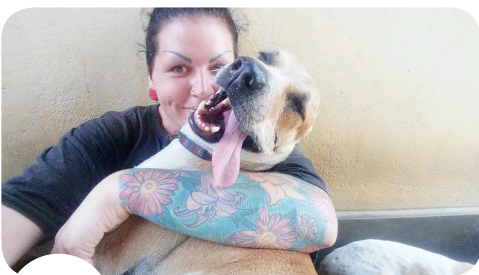
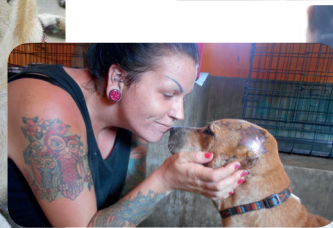
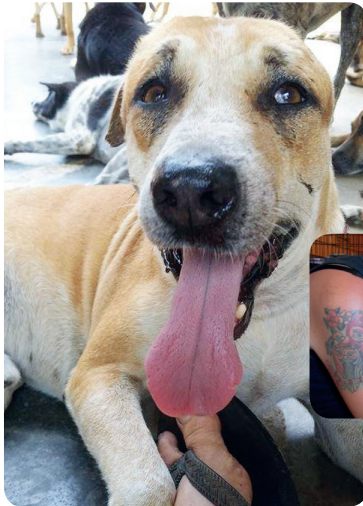
We are used to battling every hurdle imaginable to help the animals and, in May, it was Mother Nature's turn. Sri Lanka experienced the worst floods and landslides in more than a decade. More than 200 people were killed and 600,000 people were displaced. The sanctuary was affected and flooded and,

to add to the devastation, a large tree fell down too in heavy winds, causing major damage to one of our compounds, at a time when we are so desperately short of funds too. Fortunately, all our staff and animals are ok but there are urgent repairs to be done..



## FLO -MIRACLE DOG

We mentioned Flo in the last newsletter; he is the stray we were alerted to with part of his head missing. He was barely alive when we rescued him, collapsed and in the most horrific state imaginable. He had a huge head wound teaming with maggots and his ear was missing. Flo also had babesia, a dangerous tick borne disease causing severe anaemia. However, we gave Flo a chance as we believe in miracles and Flo wanted to live. Day by day he slowly improved with treatment and good care and just look at him now! The photos speak a 1000 words and his miraculous recovery is why our work is so important in Sri Lanka. Without us, what would happen to dogs like Flo ?





# KURUN & PUPS

We were alerted to a dog that had been hit by a bus and was pitifully dragging herself around with hind limb paralysis. Despite being stretched to breaking point, we agreed to help. When she arrived at the sanctuary, it was evident that the dog we named Kurun had recently given birth, as she had milk. So, we went back to the area to search for her newborn pups. Sadly, there was no sign of them. The next day a kind local delivered a badly injured pup to the sanctuary saying she was the mother's pup. The pup appeared to have been mauled by a monitor lizard and we then feared the other pups had been eaten. We named the girl pup Kurulli

and she had just opened her eyes and had maggots on her legs, vagina, back and anus. Soon after, 3 more pups (all boys) were discovered in a jungle by the same kind local. All pups had similar maggot infested wounds as Kurulli. It seems the pups were attacked by predators but somehow survived. Mum was absolutely thrilled to be reunited with her babies but soon after her milk dried up and she had developed some bladder issues due to her injury. So, we had to bottle feed the pups and catheterize mum. Despite the odds our efforts were rewarded, as the entire family survived and Kurun, the mum is trying to walk now.



## MIKE - A TRAGIC CASE

This is what happens when a pedigree breeds fall into the wrong hands, and sadly, it's quite common. It is not only stray animals that suffer, by any means. This rottweiler named Mike was at the mercy of drug addicts and bred from relentlessly for money. As his health faded due to neglect, abuse and starvation and the smell from his festering maggot wounds became unbearable to stomach, they planned to dispose of him through poisoning. He had served his purpose. They say money is the root of all evil and it certainly is! Luckily Mike was rescued, but he was fading away at a vets, so we agreed to step in. On arrival at the sanctuary, this gentle and trusting dog was barely alive. He was totally emaciated, weighing only 17

kilos, had horrific infected wounds, his toe was completely eaten away by maggots and he was dying from blood parasite diseases. In fact his blood count was so bad, we feared he would not survive. We had to conduct eye surgery as well to save his eye. Thankfully, all our efforts paid off and Mike survived, gaining 10 kilos in weight in just a few weeks of dedicated care. To top this amazing survival story, we found a prefect home for Mike with our friends Sam and Mark from Dogstar Foundation. They adore him and will provide a pampered life, a life he has never known. Our vital work gives dogs like Mike a second chance and that is the huge difference YOUR donations make.

## SANCTUARY VISIT

We recently had a visit from the students at St Thomas College, Mount Lavinia Kennel Club. It's lovely to have young people engaged and interested in helping animals and gives us hope for a brighter future for all living beings. We really hope more schools get involved with projects like this. Huge thanks to The Kennel Club of St Thomas for coming to visit us





## Monkey Dog

This sweet natured dog was attacked by a group of monkeys and arrived with a horrific wound. To add to his misery, the dog also had a piece of wood wedged in his mouth, which we removed. Monkey Dog made a full recovery and went back to where he lived with a member of staff.



## Skinny



We took Skinny in as she was nearing the end of her days on the streets. She had mange and blood parasite diseases-babesia and E.canis, which were slowly killing her. Look at her recovery in just a month! We changed her fate and gave her a second chance like many others at the sanctuary.

# HAPPY ENDINGS - More Rescued Animals

## Batu



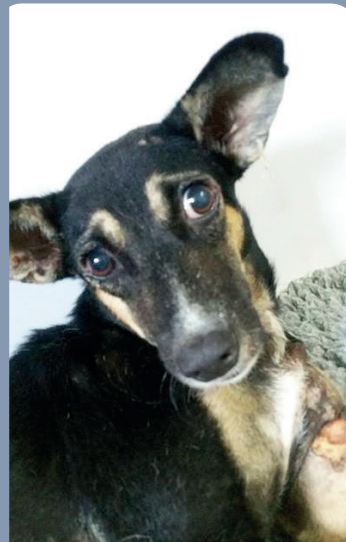
This tiny pup was involved in an accident which resulted in hind leg paralysis. She weighed just 1.4kg when we took her in and was extremely frail. We stepped in to help after we heard about her plight from another organisation that had rescued her. Without a long-term place of safety, these disabled animals are doomed in Sri Lanka. They simply have no place to go, so are euthanized. Little Batu was severely anaemic because of babesia and her gums were white. What a sad start to life! Good news though, she pulled through and better still, she is now running around!



## Lioness



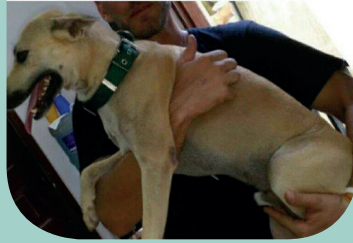
This road casualty with prolapsed eyes was delivered to the sanctuary. We managed to stabilise the poor dog that was in shock and our vets had no option but to quickly operate to save both her eyes. We named this dog Lioness and the operation was a success. Another life saved and transformed.





## 3 dogs from the village

3 dogs, Tarina, Michi and Janine, were delivered to our gates around 3 months ago. The dogs had an owner, but had become sickly so the owners requested our help. We took the dogs in and our work began. The dogs, 2 girls and a boy were emaciated, mangy and had blood parasite diseases. The male dog had a TVT (a treatable sexually transmitted tumour) After all their treatments and good care, the dogs were returned home in a healthier and happier state. The owners were thrilled to bits and very thankful. We will keep an eye on the dogs and support the owners to keep their pets healthy. Many poor villagers do not have the means to take their pets to a vet when they are ill and, as a result, the animals suffer. Our regular outreach programs in the villages significantly help local communities and pets with free spay/neutering services, treatments and anti-rabies vaccinations. Everyone benefits.



## and Lives Saved.



Bingo

Bingo was an owned dog that met with an accident causing horrific injuries to both hind legs. He was admitted to a vets in Colombo but seems to have received no appropriate treatments and care. We were asked to help out, as the dog was fading away. We have seen many horrific cases over the years, but the state of this dog on arrival at the sanctuary really shocked and upset us. Bingo was totally emaciated, weighing only 6kg, dehydrated, suffering from babesia (a dangerous blood parasite disease). He had one maggot infested leg that was literally hanging off and a needle/pin sticking out of the other hind leg where it appears some botched surgery was undertaken. His tail was also broken with the bone protruding. The dog was so weak and his blood count so bad, we were surprised he was still alive. Imagine the suffering this dog had been through. He was not eating either. Bingo's case is one of the most challenging we have ever had. He needed immediate surgery to amputate the infected leg that was hanging off, but he was weak and severely anaemic due to untreated blood parasite disease. After initially stabilising him, Bingo started eating the next day and our vets made a decision to operate sooner rather than later to save his life. The leg that was hanging off was amputated and thankfully, Bingo survived the surgery. The other infected leg which had a pin and bone sticking through, was also amputated a short while later because there was no way the leg could be saved and left as it was. Again, Bingo pulled through the surgery and was soon wagging his tail. His recovery since has been nothing short of a miracle. This was a dog with such incredible courage, a will to survive and so much love to give, despite his horrific ordeal and unimaginable suffering. Bingo was moved to the manager's apartment, where he will live happily and receive all the love he needs. Good news too is that he is adjusting well to his disability and getting around well on 2 legs now. There's no stopping this dog!

Smith

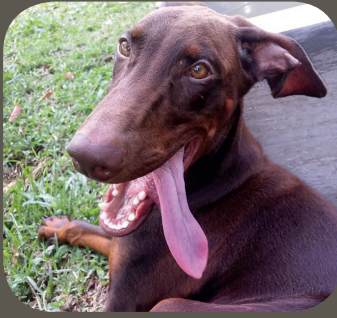


We rescued this poor cat from the village we named Smith. He had a horrific facial wound which has now healed under our care. We help cats as well as dogs and are currently caring for 120 rescued cats at the sanctuary, some of which are disabled due to trauma injuries.

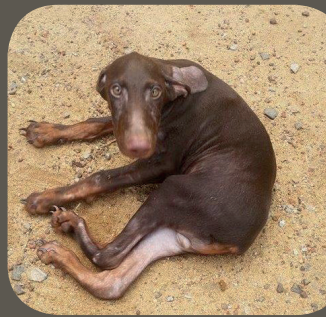




## Quentin



This Doberman pup was dumped outside our gates in May. The pup, around 3 months old, has deformed/fused back legs, likely to be from confinement in a tiny cage. We have always stated that pedigree breeds often suffer as much as strays in Sri Lanka as there are no effective Animal Welfare laws in Sri Lanka. They are bred relentlessly by backstreet breeders and drug addicts and once deemed 'useless' they are dumped like this poor soul. Luckily for Quentin, he has a brighter future now and although initially immobile, he is starting to get around well now and is improving by the day. We love him!



## Ina



Another paralysed dog dying alone by the roadside and taken in by us in May. The dog we named Ina, is only young and a tiny little soul. She was in the most appalling state when she arrived at the sanctuary - totally emaciated, crawling alive with fleas, suffering from horrible wounds from dragging herself around and more worrying her blood count was extremely bad due to her suffering from babesia and E.canis. We managed to stabilize her and slowly over the weeks, she recovered well, gained strength and is also trying to stand now.



## Sanctuary Scenes





# NEWS

## Yoga Fundraiser at Local School



The pupils at Avanti Court Primary School in Barkingside participated in a novel fundraising initiative - a mass yoga class to coincide with international yoga day. Over 600 pupils took part in the event on 22nd June. Their yoga teacher Jo Donoghue, has actually visited the sanctuary. The fundraiser was testament to the school values, which is to teach children to be compassionate and kind to all living beings. Huge thanks to everyone who took part. £230 was raised.

## Fitness Fundraiser

Huge thanks to our friend and supporter Tamara for organizing an amazing fitness fundraising event on 3rd June. The event was at the O2 Centre on Finchley Road. Back to back classes ran from 8am to 7pm by some amazing people who graciously gave their time to come in and teach. £1000 was raised for us. It was a lot of work to put the event together and shows what amazing supporters we have. Thank you to the wonderful Tamara and all of those special people who supported, participated and donated.



## Cornwall group



We have an incredible group in Cornwall that collect around the year outside supermarkets, stores and even in pubs to help the charity. Huge thanks to this amazing, dedicated team, the stores and supermarkets that allow these collections and not forgetting the collection pooches, the gorgeous Barney and Daley.

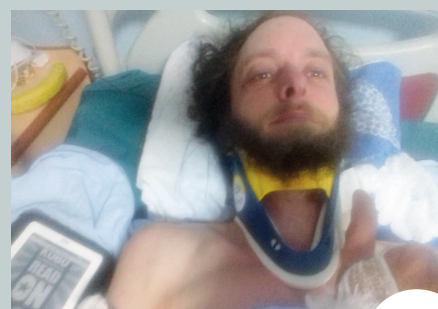
## Guernsey Supporters Group

We have another incredible group of supporters in Guernsey who help to raise funds for us throughout the year through auctions and other initiatives. They also collect items for our shipment. So many amazing people who give their time and energy to help the charity and the desperate animals in Sri Lanka. We would be lost without these selfless people.

Any group of animal lovers can organise support groups like these. We really need many more supporter groups like this around the country to help keep the charity afloat. If you would like to help, please contact Denize on 07799 175723 or email on [animalsossrilanka@hotmail.com](mailto:animalsossrilanka@hotmail.com)

## Get well soon, Ben

An amazing supporter who, after visiting the sanctuary, decided to do a fundraiser for us as he knows how much we are struggling. Ben was cycling from Turkey to the UK (over 4000km) to raise funds. Sadly, Ben was hit by a lorry in Romania, fracturing his vertebrae and his elbow. He was hospitalised and is still recovering. Despite this, Ben is determined to continue his challenge for us once he is recovered. What a man!!! Ben is trying to raise £2500 for us and he really deserves all the help he can get after all he has been through. If you want to contribute to his Justgiving page, this is the link - [https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/turkey-to-england-by-bike-for-animal-sos?utm\\_source=Facebook&utm\\_medium=fundraisingpage&utm\\_content=turkey-to-england-by-bike-for-animal-sos&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/turkey-to-england-by-bike-for-animal-sos?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_content=turkey-to-england-by-bike-for-animal-sos&utm_campaign=pfp-share)





*We will not be remembered by our words,  
but by our kind deeds'*

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## URGENT APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The charity is really struggling as we are now caring for over 1300 rescues and still doing our regular outreach programs where we neuter/treat/vaccinate so many other animals in need. Our donations were down in the last financial year and our running costs are up. This means we are really desperate now. Please help us if you can as so many desperate animals rely on us now and we are often their only lifeline. Donations directly save and transform lives and will help to keep this important project going. Remember, with our charity, donations go directly to the animals as we all volunteer our time for free here in the UK. There are no salaries, just dedicated animal lovers trying to make a difference. Our running costs are currently around £600 a day and that's hard to find when we don't have any reserves.

## YOUR DONATIONS CAN HELP US IN MANY WAYS

- Funds our weekly neutering and rabies vaccinations outreach programs that benefit so many animals and humans, reducing animal suffering and unwanted litters. The cost of a daily outreach program is approximately £350 and covers vet fees, medications/treatments, red collars and educational materials.
- Funds the daily care of animals living at the sanctuary. The costs of medications, veterinary care, monthly anti-parasite treatments, vaccinations, care staff at the sanctuary is huge to a small charity.
- Funds our feeding programs – around 1400 cats and dogs fed EVERY day - the sanctuary animals and starving strays in the area that wait patiently for us to give them their only meal.



**There is no greater gift than the gift of life**

# RESIGNED TO DIE



However, this dog was lucky as we took him in and lovingly nursed him back to health and happiness. But there are many more poor souls out there on the streets of Sri Lanka, clinging to life, that desperately need our help. We are currently caring for over 1000 rescued strays at our beautiful sanctuary in Sri Lanka, all nursed back to health after a terrible start in life. Animal SOS Sri Lanka is a UK Registered Charity dedicated to saving lives and offering a better future for the street animals in Sri Lanka. We also conduct neutering, vaccination and homing schemes. But, to continue, we need **YOUR** support now.

## HELP US TO GIVE THESE ANIMALS A FUTURE BY DONATING TODAY

I enclose ☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ Other £

Mr/Mrs/Ms.....

Please make cheques payable to: Animal SOS Sri Lanka.

Post to: 12 Cheyne Avenue, South Woodford, London E18 2DR

Or make a secure donation online [www.animalsos-sl.com](http://www.animalsos-sl.com)

Address.....

### GIVE MORE AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU:

- ☐ **GIFT AID.** I would like Animal SOS Sri Lanka to reclaim tax on this & all future donations until I notify you otherwise.  
I confirm I am a UK taxpayer & that I pay as much income or capital gains as Animal SOS Sri Lanka will reclaim in the tax year (currently 25p in every £1 donated.)

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Signature..... Date..... Email.....