

# SOI DOG

October 2025



*post*

If you want to go fast, go alone.  
If you want to go far, go together.

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# THAILAND'S CATS GET THE CARE THEY DESERVE

## SOI DOG LAUNCHES DEDICATED FELINE CNVR PROGRAMME

*Anamika Komath*

**For years, Soi Dog Foundation has been changing the lives of Thailand's stray dogs through our CNVR (Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate, Return) programme.** With over 1.5 million dogs and cats spayed, neutered and vaccinated since 2003 and near-zero rabies cases in Phuket, our work has been nothing short of transformational.

But as the number of street dogs has declined, a new challenge has emerged: a growing population of stray cats.

**Thanks to a partnership with UK charity *Battersea*, we are thrilled to launch our first dedicated feline CNVR initiative in Phuket and Phang Nga.**

Funded by a two-year grant, this project brings mobile veterinary teams to communities across both provinces, offering cats full health checks, sterilisation, and vaccinations.



By providing these services, we are preventing hundreds of thousands of unwanted kittens, improving feline welfare, and giving local communities access to affordable vet care. This is a major leap forward for Thailand's cats, marking the first time a CNVR programme has focused exclusively on them.

“

**This dedicated, cat-focused CNVR programme is a huge milestone for feline welfare in Thailand. Our mobile teams will be the first of their kind, allowing us to address the unique challenges faced by stray cats and expand the life-changing impact of our CNVR work beyond dogs.**

”

**Dr. Ala Izydorczyk,**  
International Director of Animal Welfare



## **NEW CANINE CNVR MOBILE TEAM JOINS THE MISSION IN PHANG NGA**

**With 50% funding from *Happy Doggo*, a brand-new CNVR team has hit the road in Phang Nga**, sterilising dogs and preventing thousands of unwanted puppies. While our dedicated cat CNVR programme is breaking new ground, our dog programme continues to thrive.

None of this would be possible without you; our faithful, dedicated, and compassionate supporters, and our incredible CNVR partners, Dogs Trust, Battersea and Happy Doggo. Every cat and dog cared for, every litter prevented, every life saved is a testament to your generosity. Thanks to you, we have now transformed over 1.5 million lives, and together we can continue to expand our CNVR work, bringing hope to Thailand's animals.

**Thank you for creating healthier streets and happier communities across Thailand.**



# FINDING HOME AT SOI DOG

## WHY VOLUNTEERING CHANGES MORE THAN JUST DOGS' LIVES

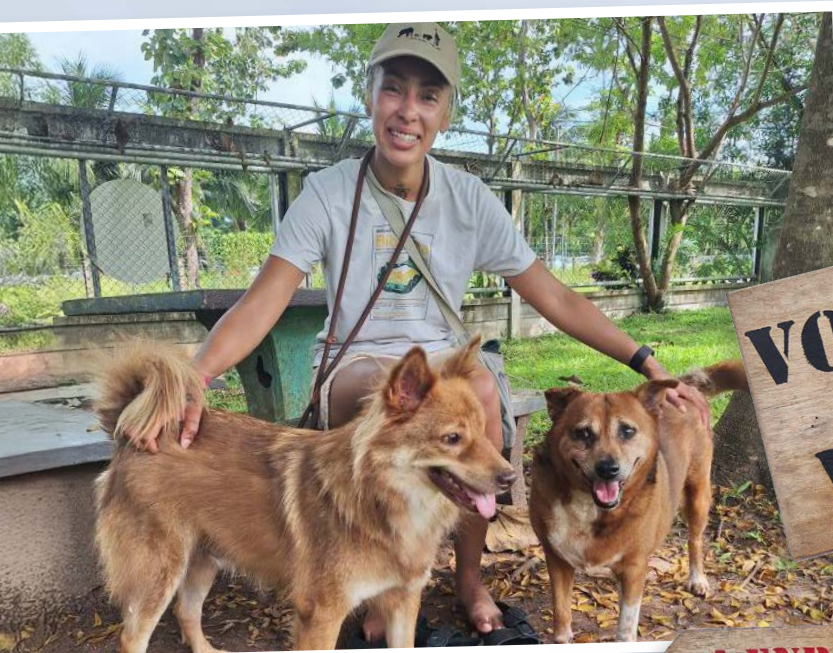
*Anamika Komath*

**The first thing you notice when you arrive at the Gill Dalley Sanctuary in Phuket isn't just how peaceful and green it feels.** It's the joyful chorus of barks and dogs greeting you with wagging tails, eager to share a little love.

That's what volunteering here is all about. It's not complicated; you walk dogs, sit with them, play, and remind them what it feels like to be loved. When you see how much it means to them, how they light up just because you took them for a stroll in the sun... that's when you realise how much they've been waiting for you.

With over 1,200 dogs and 243 cats calling the sanctuary home, volunteers are often their only chance for daily companionship. Without you, many

would spend their days quietly watching the world go by, tails wagging hopefully at each passer-by.



**VOLUNTEER  
WELCOME**

**OFF LEAD 1-2**

**A ENRICHMENT**

**F RUN**

**GARDEN**

**A1-A4**

**H RUN**



## MORE THAN JUST VOLUNTEERING

Soi Dog isn't only about the animals, it's about the people, too. Volunteers come from every corner of the world, yet it rarely feels like you're among strangers. Whether you're walking a dog, sitting quietly with the cats, or simply sharing a meal in the volunteers' area, connections happen quickly and easily. Before long you're swapping stories, trading travel tips, and setting off together to explore Phuket—wandering night markets, discovering peaceful hillside temples, or gathering for dinner at a beachside restaurant.



## SAFE AND WELCOMING FOR SOLO TRAVELLERS

If you're thinking of coming alone, you won't be alone for long. Phuket is known for being safe and easy to navigate, and at Soi Dog there's always someone ready to split a taxi, share a dinner, or plan a weekend adventure. Even if you arrive nervous, you'll soon find yourself surrounded by people who get it. People who came to give and stayed because they found a place that gave back.

Some volunteers come for a week, others stay for months, and almost all of them leave with lifelong friends. What starts as "solo travel" quickly turns into being part of a family; one built on shared purpose, compassion, and more than a little dog hair.





## RECOGNISED AROUND THE WORLD

This year, Soi Dog was honoured with a **Travellers' Choice Award from TripAdvisor** thanks to the thousands of people who have visited, volunteered, and fallen in love with the place.

## WHY IT STAYS WITH YOU

Volunteering at Soi Dog changes more than the animals' lives. It changes yours. You come to help, and you leave with a heart that's fuller, lighter, and somehow braver. You leave knowing that there's a place in the world where you are needed, welcomed, and remembered.

When you go, you'll carry those moments with you, and know that somewhere in Phuket, there's a peaceful green sanctuary full of wagging tails and beautiful smiles just waiting to see you again.

Come volunteer with us: [www.soidog.org/volunteer](http://www.soidog.org/volunteer)



# YOU MADE THE UNTHINKABLE POSSIBLE

**A HISTORIC STEP TOWARDS ELIMINATING  
THE DOG AND CAT MEAT TRADE**

*Gina Churchill-Straffon*



**Just a few years ago, the idea of eliminating the dog and cat meat trade in Vietnam felt like an impossible dream. Today, thanks to your compassion and support, that dream is becoming reality.**

In August, Soi Dog Foundation signed a groundbreaking Partnership Agreement with the *Hanoi Sub-Department of Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Medicine* (entrusted by the Hanoi Department of Agriculture & Environment). This landmark collaboration marks the beginning of a journey to eliminate the dog and cat meat trade and reduce human rabies in Vietnam's capital.



At the heart of this partnership is a sustainable livelihood transition programme, supporting households currently involved in the trade to move into new, more stable, and humane occupations. This initiative creates lasting opportunities for local communities, safeguards public health, and champions animal welfare—a truly revolutionary approach.

While attitudes are shifting away from dog and cat meat consumption, the practice remains rooted in traditional beliefs about its nutritional and medicinal values. However, **as the evidence clearly shows**, the trade, transportation, and slaughter of dogs and cats has become a dangerous source of rabies transmission and other diseases.

“

**We are incredibly proud and moved to launch this groundbreaking project alongside Hanoi authorities. This marks not only a major milestone for Soi Dog but the beginning of a future where humans and animals can coexist safely and harmoniously.**

”

**Rahul Sehgal,**  
Director of International Advocacy

## **TACKLING THE TRADE: 12 MONTHS IN ACTION**

In the first year, we will lay a strong foundation for lasting change through four key pillars:

### **1. Comprehensive Assessment and Data Collection**

We will carry out detailed surveys across 14 key areas to map and quantify individuals and establishments involved in the dog and cat meat trade. This includes identifying high-risk facilities that pose public health threats, understanding current business operations and readiness for transition, and creating tailored livelihood transformation pathways for each household.



## 2. Training and Livelihood Transition

Specialised workshops will provide essential knowledge on the health risks linked to the dog and cat meat trade, particularly its direct connection to rabies. Participants will also gain practical guidance on sustainable business models within Vietnam's fast-growing pet industry and support to transition step by step into safe, stable, and humane occupations.

## 3. Government Capacity Building

We will deliver training for veterinary officers, market inspectors, disease control personnel, and other authorities. These sessions will strengthen expertise in outbreak management for canine and feline diseases, deepen understanding of the rabies–dog meat trade connection, and ensure international standards for humane euthanasia are upheld.

## 4. Public Awareness and Behaviour Change

Our communications campaigns will inform communities about the risks of rabies transmission from the trade, encourage shifts away from practices incompatible with a modern Hanoi, and inspire safer, more compassionate ways of living. We will also promote responsible pet ownership and highlight the growing opportunities of the pet industry.



Together with the Hanoi authorities, and with your unwavering commitment, we are laying the groundwork for lasting change. Thanks to your incredible support, the future for dogs and cats in Vietnam is brighter now than ever before.



# RYDAR'S HARD ROAD HOME

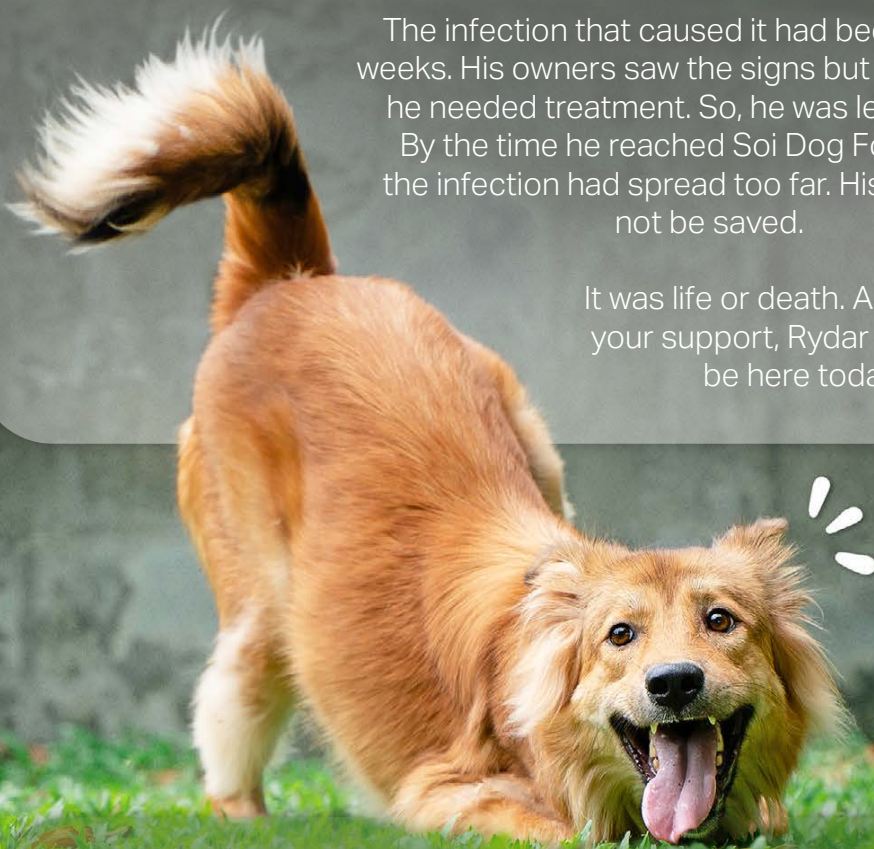
Anamika Komath

**When Rydar's front legs suddenly gave out, his whole world collapsed. One moment he was running, the next he couldn't even lift himself off the ground. He lay helpless, confused, and in terrible pain.**

The infection that caused it had been there for weeks. His owners saw the signs but didn't believe he needed treatment. So, he was left to suffer.

By the time he reached Soi Dog Foundation, the infection had spread too far. His legs could not be saved.

It was life or death. And without your support, Rydar would not be here today.



## A PLACE TO BELONG

Thanks to supporters like you, Rydar was brought to the *Gill Dalley* Sanctuary, a home built for animals who cannot survive alone.

For Rydar, every day still comes with challenges. Things that used to be easy like scratching an itch, chasing a ball, or even lying down comfortably became daily struggles.

**But he is never alone.**



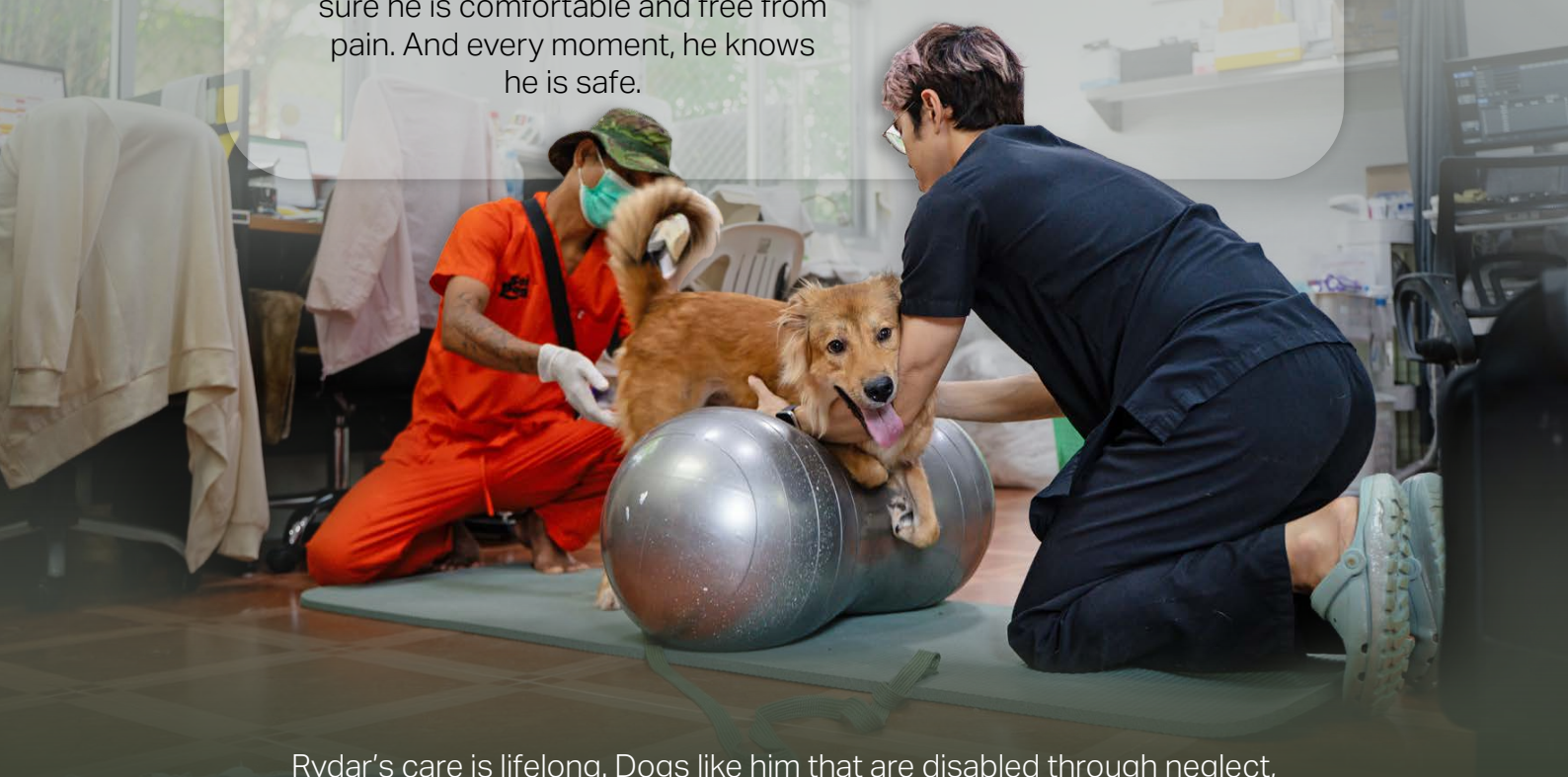


*Film, Ta Soo, and Joe, his three carers, are with him every step of the way. They comfort him when the frustration is too much. They lift him when he can't move. And they remind him what a precious boy he is.*

With their care, Rydar has learned to love life again.

## LEARNING TO LIVE AGAIN

Rydar's life now depends on constant, specialised care. Every week he works with our vet, *Dr. Ohmmie*, on strengthening exercises to build up the muscles he still has. Every day he receives medication to make sure he is comfortable and free from pain. And every moment, he knows he is safe.



Rydar's care is lifelong. Dogs like him that are disabled through neglect, cruelty, or accidents will always need special treatment. That means ongoing veterinary costs, dedicated carers, and a sanctuary where they are safe.



## A DIFFERENT KIND OF FESTIVE SEASON

This time of year, while families across the world gather to celebrate, Rydar will be celebrating too. He will wake up safe, warm, and loved, surrounded by people who care. He will eat his meals without fear and race joyfully in his wheelchair.

But it could so easily have been different. Without your compassion, Rydar would not have survived. He would never have known the comfort of loving hands.

That is the difference you make. You turned despair into hope.  
You gave life where there could have been none.

In this spirit of togetherness, will you give that gift again?  
By **sponsoring Rydar**, you will not only secure his future but also help other dogs who, right now, are facing the same fight between life and death.

For Rydar, and for every dog still waiting,  
**your kindness is the miracle.**



# ADOPTION CORNER: ONE-EYED EDITION

MEET THE WINKING SOI DOGS  
LOOKING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOMES

*Amy Bryant*

## Remobra

**A new recruit to the one-eyed club, blind girl *Remobra* had her right eye removed only recently due to inflammation that couldn't be treated. She remains blind – but pain-free – in her left eye.**

Owing to a difficult start to life, Remobra likes to take her time getting to know people, but it's worth the wait to see her gentle and often playful personality.

Remobra is far less wary when it comes to her blindness – she's mapped out her enclosure well and enjoys her walks around the shelter.

P.S. If you can't adopt, you can still do something amazing for Remobra by becoming her sponsor ***here***.



**Adopt Me**

**Estimated age:** 4 years

**Size:** 13kg

**Personality:** Calm, cautious, gentle





**Adopt  
Me**

**Estimated age:** 8 years

**Size:** 22kg

**Personality:** Friendly, gentle, talkative

## Nuyu

**Like Remobra, senior dog Nuyu had his right eye removed and is blind in the other.**

However, he remains a sprightly boy who enjoys going for slow walks and exploring the off-lead areas, with a little guidance and encouragement.

Perhaps the most unique part of Nuyu's personality, though, is how talkative he is! If you're looking for a friend to confide in, Nuyu is your boy. He's a great listener, and he'll gladly chat back.

Please enquire if you can give Nuyu a happy place to enjoy his golden years.

## Sumoto

**Sumoto here has been rocking a permanent wink for most of his life and hardly knows any different!**

One of our long-term residents, Sumoto arrived at Soi Dog as a puppy with a protruding right eye that had to be removed.

Having grown up at the shelter, Sumoto has a lot to learn about the world and will need time to overcome his fear of the unfamiliar.

When he's at his best, Sumoto loves to play and to cuddle, and he can't wait to share these activities with someone special.



**Adopt  
Me**

**Estimated age:** 6 years

**Size:** 23kg

**Personality:** Cautious, energetic, playful





**Adopt Me**

**Estimated age:** 6 years

**Size:** 21kg

**Personality:** Energetic, friendly, playful

## Waranda

**No one is quite sure of the events that led to Waranda needing her left eye removed. She simply turned up at a temple one day with a severe facial injury.**

In any case, Waranda has adapted well to the change in her vision, and it doesn't hold her back from living a full and fun life.

An energetic girl who likes going for walks, chasing tennis balls, swimming and spending time with people, Waranda would make a great companion. She just needs someone to give her a chance.

### AN IMPORTANT NOTE !

Adoption from overseas is a hot topic right now. In light of this, we want to assure supporters that **all** of our dogs are:

- ✓ Spayed/neutered
- ✓ Fully vaccinated
- ✓ Microchipped
- ✓ Travelling in full compliance with each country's import regulations
- ✓ Absolutely no health risk whatsoever to humans or other animals
- ✓ Medically assessed
- ✓ Behaviourally assessed
- ✓ Disease-free and parasite-free



# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF COMPASSION

**AS WE HONOUR MARION TEN CATE AND  
HER INCREDIBLE JOURNEY WITH SOI DOG**

*John Dalley*



**At 75 years young, Marion Ten Cate has recently stepped down from her role as President and Treasurer of Soi Dog Netherlands** after an incredible twenty years of dedicated service.

Marion first came to our rescue back in 2005, when our co-founder, *Margot Homburg*, resigned. Having just adopted soi dog, *Scruffy* – who went on to be her loyal companion for 16 years – this was the beginning of two decades of tireless commitment to the cause.



The Netherlands was the very first country where Soi Dog became officially registered and was able to accept donations. From that moment, Marion was there at the helm. Month after month, without fail, she meticulously prepared and submitted the accounts, ensuring everything ran smoothly.

Long before the UK relaxed its entry requirements for animals, Marion also played a vital role in helping dogs find homes there. With the help of her vet, she arranged for UK-bound dogs to be registered in the Netherlands and issued with EU pet passports. Thanks to her efforts, many dogs avoided long months of quarantine and instead were able to begin new lives in loving homes within days.

In recognition of her extraordinary service, one of our dog runs now proudly bears her name. Above you'll also see a recent photo of Marion with her beloved dogs – including one who is now an incredible 19 years old – as well as Scruffy (pictured right), who first connected Marion with Soi Dog and, in many ways, changed the course of our history.



Marion's adopted  
soi dog, Scruffy.

***The Marion Ten Cate run.  
President and Treasurer  
of Soi Dog Netherlands Foundation 2005-2025***

Marion's contribution has been nothing short of remarkable. Her compassion, her steadfast reliability, and her love for animals have left an indelible mark on Soi Dog, and on the thousands of lives she has quietly helped to save.

**THANK YOU, MARION.**



# THE SOI DOG SILLIES

Vanessa Jakoby



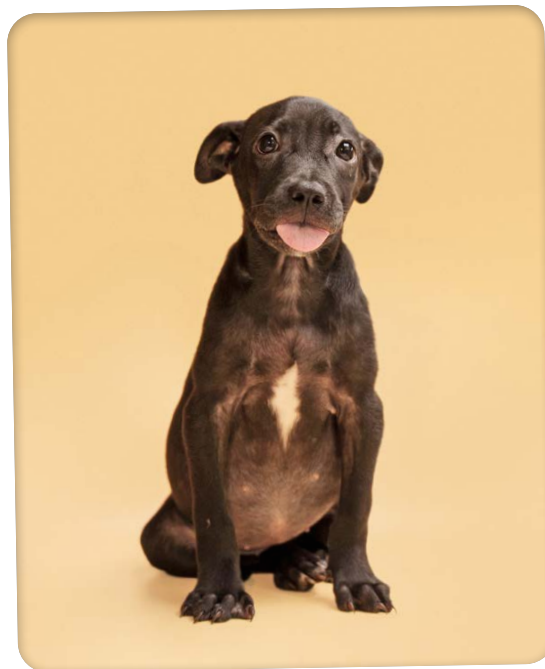
*"Oh... was this your drinking bowl?  
Sorry..."*



*"Just stopping by to say hi."*



*"Don't worry... I'm just 'gently' playing."*



*"My modelling career starts now.  
Vogue, please call me."*

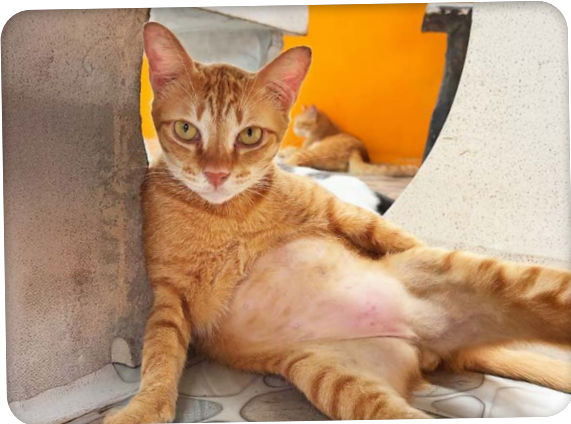




*"Can you stay a little longer?"*



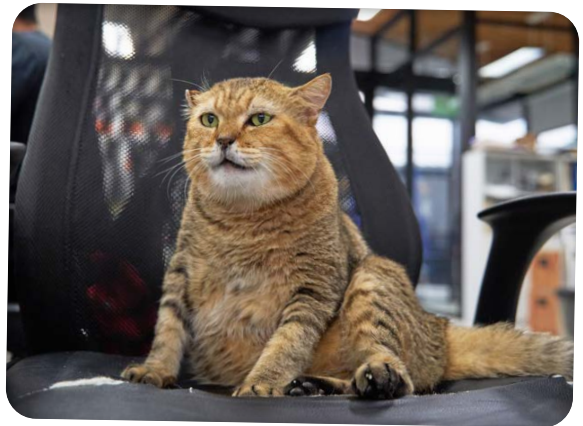
*"When you tell them to share,  
but nobody agrees on the rules..."*



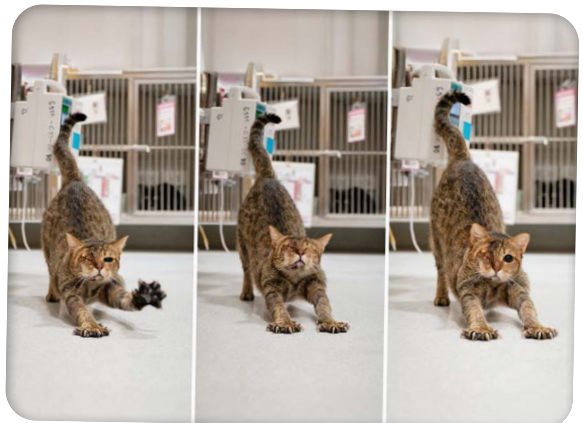
*"You ever just sit and question  
all your life choices?"*



*"Every hero meets their match.  
Mine is this toy..."*



*"I run this office, and the humans  
just don't know it yet."*



*"Stretching like nobody's watching...  
oh wait."*



# SIMPLE WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As the festive season approaches, there are many ways you can make an impact for Thailand's street dogs and cats while you shop.

## SUPPORT WHILE YOU SHOP

Turn your seasonal shopping into lifesaving care - at no extra cost to you!

Shop through [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and your favourite UK retailers will donate up to 10% of the purchase price to help animals in need.



## LEGACY

The festive season can often be a time of reflection, and we are reminded of what matters most. If you share our vision of ending animal cruelty, please consider including Soi Dog in your Will or estate plan. Your legacy is a powerful way to make a lasting difference for street dogs & cats.



Visit [www.soidog.org/legacy](http://www.soidog.org/legacy) for more information.



For months, Gabina was left chained on a balcony, lonely and confused. Your sponsorship will ensure that dogs like Gabina receive the love and care they deserve.

## SPONSOR

Sponsoring a rescued dog or cat this winter is a heartfelt way to share the spirit of the season with a furry friend in need. Your sponsorship will help provide food and shelter to an animal waiting for their forever home. Whether it's for yourself, or for someone else, sponsorship is a gift that keeps on giving.

Sponsor a dog or cat today:

[www.soidog.org/sponsor](http://www.soidog.org/sponsor)

## GIVE IN MEMORY

Donating in memory of a loved one is a meaningful way to honour a beloved person or pet at this special time of year. Your memorial gift doesn't just honour a life, it saves one.



Visit [www.soidog.org/inmemory](http://www.soidog.org/inmemory) to make your donation.

## GIVE YOUR VEHICLE NEW PURPOSE



Transform your unwanted vehicle into vital care for animals, by donating it through one of our partner organisations. Both offer free collection nationwide, handle all paperwork, and ensure your donation is tax-deductible.

**CARS** (Charitable Adult Rides and Services) operates in the USA and accepts all motorized vehicles - from cars to boats.



**Giveacar**, in the UK, accepts cars, vans, motorbikes, and caravans in any condition.



Your vehicle's value, whether through auction or scrap, will directly support our care of Aisa's street dogs and cats.



# FESTIVE GIFTS FOR **ANIMAL** **LOVERS**

May your holidays be as

**FABULOUS**  
**AS ME**



I needed  
**SNACKS,**  
**SNUGGLES**  
**AND SAFETY.**  
You delivered!



Gift tasty treats or life-saving vaccinations to our furry residents, and your loved one will receive a personal thank you message from our grateful pack.

Visit [www.soidog.org/gifts](http://www.soidog.org/gifts) to shop the range.

