

SOI DOG

February 2024 *post*



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

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ADOPTION CORNER

MEET THE SOI DOGS LOOKING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOMES

Vanessa Jakoby



Estimated age:

3 years

Size:

12kg

Personality:

Sweet, friendly, active.

Time on shelter:

2+ years

Adopt Me



OMIYAGE

Omiyage was transferred to Soi Dog from the local government pound. Life was tough for her there as she was young, small and blind.

Now three years old and well adjusted to the loss of her vision, Omiyage can be found greeting visitors at the gate of her enclosure – tilting her head when they call her name, “Omiyaaaaage!”

All Omiyage asks for are belly rubs and a little patience as she maps out her new home environment. Can you be the light that guides her through her dark world?





CHUMSANG

Chumsang was the picture of despair when he arrived at Soi Dog, malnutrition having worn him down to skin and bones. He went on to make a truly remarkable recovery.

Now he stands as a handsome 17-kilogram boy who loves his walks and play time. Understandably, he can be cautious in new surroundings, but with love and support he soon relaxes and shows off his sweet personality.

Chumsang has never had his own home or his own family to love. Could you be the one to change that? He certainly deserves it after everything he's been through.

Adopt Me

Estimated age:
4 years

Size:
17kg

Personality:
Gentle, affectionate,
sometimes cautious.

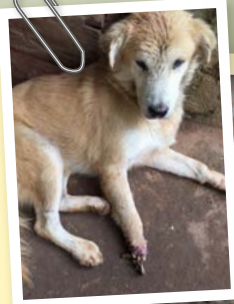
Time on shelter:
3+ years

JOVONNA

Jovonna is one of the shelter's many three-legged residents, having undergone an amputation after becoming caught in a snare trap.

He adjusted quickly to the change and doesn't let anything prevent him from being a happy boy. However, being a tripawd means he prefers slow walks with regular breaks for cuddles and treats!

Jovonna is known for his friendly yet independent nature, and he stands out not only because of his missing leg but because of his winning smile too. If we're describing your kind of dog, please get in touch!



Adopt Me

Estimated age:
7 years

Size:
20kg

Personality:
Curious, friendly,
independent.

Time on shelter:
1+ year



BE A HERO, BE A FLIGHT VOLUNTEER!

We understand that not everyone is in a position to adopt a soi dog or cat. But did you know there's another way you can help adopted animals? By signing up as a flight volunteer, you can help them make the all-important journey to their forever home!

If you are travelling on pre-booked tickets from Phuket (HKT) or Bangkok (BKK) to any of the destinations in North America or Europe via any of the airlines listed below, we'd love to hear from you.

Popular destination ports:

DESTINATION	IATA CODE
AMSTERDAM	AMS
BRUSSELS	BRU
PARIS	CDG
NEW YORK	JFK
WASHINGTON DC	IAD
LOS ANGELES	LAX

New
Destination
Added!





The process is so easy and requires very little effort on your part.

We cover the excess baggage fee and arrange all documentation for the animal. All you have to do is turn up for your pre-booked flight where a Soi Dog representative will meet you and complete the check-in of the animal who will already be in their travel crate, ready to go.

When you reach your destination, you just have to remember to collect the animal in the same way you will collect your luggage, and hand them over to a Soi Dog representative or adopter (depending on what has been arranged for that particular animal).

Be a hero, be a flight volunteer!

or scan the QR code



Read more or register your interest:

<https://www.soidog.org/content/become-flight-volunteer>

logistics@soidog.org



FURRY FRIENDS AND FOREVER LOVE

AT THE GILL DALLEY SANCTUARY, LOVE ISN'T JUST RESERVED FOR THE ANIMALS

Anamika Komath

Meet Soi Dog volunteers **Paul and Nadda** whose time at the Gill Dalley Sanctuary in Phuket took an unexpected turn towards love and companionship.

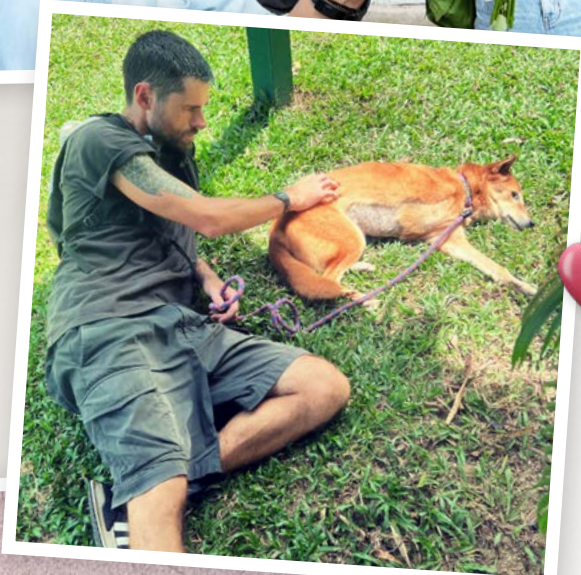
Their journey to Soi Dog began separately, with Nadda seeking solace from the stress of city life in Bangkok and Paul stumbling upon the sanctuary while out running. Drawn by their love for animals and the desire to make a difference, they found themselves volunteering side by side.

Paul fondly recalls, "The first day I met Nadda... we shared a kennel run, and everything seemed better around her. I remember going home and seeing one of my neighbours. I told him I'd just met the girl of my dreams."

Their mutual dedication to animal welfare was the spark for their relationship. Nadda explains, "If you have a heart for stray animals, you at least have to be kind. And that speaks loads about a person. I don't think our relationship would have developed this strongly had we met somewhere else."



Fast forward to October 16th, the pair married – with Gan, one of Soi Dog’s visitor and volunteer coordinators, as their witness – a fitting choice given her instrumental role in introducing them by placing them in the same 'run' of dogs.



Paul and Nadda offer words of encouragement to those considering volunteering.

“Working with stray dogs is hard work... But all of them will teach you the power of patience, kindness and acceptance,” says Nadda.

“You’re going to need a lot of sunscreen, and you will end up with sweaty, dirty clothes with a lot of hair on, but it’s more than worth it. And keep watch for a fellow volunteer who seems to always be around!”

Paul concurs, “Go for it! My volunteering journey has been hugely rewarding. And you never know, it might just lead you towards your soulmate.”

So come join us at Soi Dog, where love awaits in every wag and purr. Who knows, your volunteer experience might just lead you to your own happy ever after...

Visit soidog.org/volunteer to learn more.



VIETNAM'S EDUCATION SECTOR JOIN FIGHT TO END DOG AND CAT MEAT TRADE

Amy Bryant

In the last edition of the *Soi Dog Post*, we shared with you the news that Vietnam's traditional medicine community had unanimously denounced the use of dog and cat meat for medicinal purposes.

The landmark move came at a workshop in the capital Hanoi led by Soi Dog, social behaviour change agency Intelligentmedia and the official voice of traditional medicine practitioners in Vietnam, VOTMA.

Just a few months on from that important development, we're thrilled to share that another of Vietnam's most influential sectors is following suit – the education sector.

At a separate workshop also organised by Soi Dog and Intelligentmedia, in partnership with the Hanoi Department of Education and Training, teachers from more than 30 secondary schools in Hanoi met in November.



Soi Dog's Senior Manager of International Advocacy Faizan Jalil (centre) with teachers from across Hanoi at the workshop.



Together, they discussed the most effective ways to educate the next generation about the ethical and health implications of the dog and cat meat trade as well as the importance of responsible pet ownership and rabies prevention.

The workshop was met with an enthusiastic response from teaching staff who, within days, were integrating the issues into their curriculum by way of reading materials, group discussion and roleplaying activities!

No one group or organisation can influence social change alone, particularly with an issue as deep-rooted as dog and cat meat consumption. It takes multiple sectors of society, working continuously towards a shared goal.

With your support, we will continue to engage sectors from across Vietnamese society – from the highest levels of government to grassroots campaigners – to build a brighter and kinder future for the country's companion animals.

To Vinh Dien Secondary School is just one institution that has begun incorporating companion animal welfare into their curriculum.



20

A SOI DOG FOUNDATION FILM

For much of 2023, film fans were embroiled in a debate: *Barbie* or *Oppenheimer*? However, there was a late contender to the competition: *20 – A Soi Dog Foundation film*!

Released in December in honour of Soi Dog's 20th anniversary, *20* takes an intimate look back at two whole decades of the foundation, revisiting the tragedies and triumphs and meeting the people and animals who defined it.



The film was a labour of love which saw us dig deep into the archives to do justice to everything your support has achieved over the past 20 years, so it was wonderful to receive such lovely feedback from those who watched and enjoyed it:

“

Loved every minute of it.

“

The pain, the joy and the satisfaction of successfully changing lives – it is such a touching journey.

“

I was crying at times and smiling with happiness the rest of the time.

“

A fabulous, meaningful and so very moving document of Soi Dog's needed work.

“

This is a masterclass in humanity, unconditional love, altruism, compassion, dedication beyond comprehension and vision!

“

Such a touching tribute, from where Soi Dog began to where it has come now.

“

A beautiful film that made me proud to be a donor.

“

A very informative and heartfelt film in so many ways.

“

20 needs to be put on television to show the world what can be done starting with very little.

“

Any chance for this film to be on Netflix?! The production is excellent!

If you haven't seen 20 yet, you can watch it on our YouTube channel by clicking the link [here](#) or scanning the QR code below.

The film is longer than our usual content, so please make yourself a cup of tea, settle in and join us as we commemorate the past, celebrate the present and look ahead at a future where homeless animals are treated with the love and care they so deserve.

Thank you to everyone who has been with us along this journey. Here's to the next 20 years of making a meaningful difference together.



THREE CHEERS FOR 20 YEARS

GALA DINNERS CELEBRATE TWO DECADES OF SOI DOG

Anamika Komath, Charlie Drury and Chutima Srisawang



Photo Credit: Matt Wreford Photography ©2023

A remarkable evening unfolded on December 7, 2023, at One Great George Street in Westminster, London, marking a significant milestone for Soi Dog Foundation.

Our first ever black-tie gala dinner celebrated 20 years of the organisation's unwavering commitment to improving the welfare of dogs and cats across Asia.

As the clock struck seven, the doors swung open to welcome 130 cherished supporters and friends of Soi Dog. The venue emanated an air of celebration and goodwill, creating the perfect setting for an unforgettable evening.





Our charismatic host for the night was none other than the incredible actor and animal advocate *Peter Egan*.



Esteemed guests, including *Laura Carmichael*, *Chloe Pirrie* and *Lesley Nicol*, added a touch of glamour and compassion to the gala.



Thanks to the incredible *James Raydar*, *Luka Powell* and the mesmerising Thai Music Circle for making the evening feel like a dream with their live music.



Undoubtedly, the highlight of the night was the lively auction, where guests enthusiastically bid for exclusive items, contributing generously to Soi Dog's noble cause. The funds raised during the auction will play a crucial role in increasing our efforts towards the welfare of homeless animals in Asia.



Photo Credit: Matt Wreford Photography ©2023



We were honoured by the presence of the Thai Ambassador to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Mr. *Thani Thongphakdi*, symbolising the Royal Thai Embassy's strong support for Soi Dog's mission.



We also want to express our heartfelt gratitude to our event sponsors – Essential Foods, Fetch Coffee Roasters and Tito's Handmade Vodka. Their generous support played a crucial role in making the gala a resounding success, underscoring their unwavering dedication to Soi Dog's mission.

Moreover, we extend a warm thank you to the businesses and individuals who contributed auction and raffle prizes, actively participating in helping us raise funds to support our beloved animals. Your remarkable generosity has a lasting impact on our endeavours, and we are truly grateful for your steadfast support.



The gala dinner is a testament to the shared passion for animal welfare and the continued encouragement from supporters that fuels our mission to make a positive impact on the lives of countless homeless animals.





A separate but equally special gala dinner took place in Bangkok, Thailand, on November 18, 2023, marking 20 years of Soi Dog Foundation in the heart of the country where it all began.

The grand event unfolded at Kimpton Maa-Lai Bangkok – a five-star and, rather aptly, pet-friendly hotel in the centre of the bustling capital. The hotel's sophisticated Grand Studio, decorated in Soi Dog orange and black, set the scene for a memorable and meaningful evening.

Doors opened at 6pm to over 80 cherished friends of Soi Dog, including dedicated supporters, government officials and generous business owners, all gathering to express their solidarity with our mission and well wishes on the occasion of our anniversary.

Distinguished guests included Deputy Governor of Bangkok Assoc. Prof. *Tavida Kamolvej*, fellow hardworking members of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), Deputy Director-General of the Department of Disease Control *Dr. Sopon Iamsirithaworn*, and actress and model *Kanticha Chumma*.



The evening was further graced by the presence of singer, model and actor *Chinawut Indracusin* and his mother *Hélène*, both fervent and long-standing supporters of the foundation.



Chinawut shared the family's experience of adopting their dog *Chanom*, a survivor of abuse, and cat *Dusita*, an amputee, from the Gill Dalley Sanctuary in Phuket. Their touching story served as a poignant reminder of the challenges faced by homeless animals and underscored the significance of adoption.

Soi Dog Foundation CEO *Louise Rose* also spoke passionately about the transformative impact that the foundation's supporters worldwide have had on the landscape of animal welfare in Asia.

Among the evening's many other highlights were mesmerising music performances and a live auction featuring exclusive items and experiences so kindly donated by local businesses. Generosity abounded among the guests during the auction, with all proceeds raised helping to further enhance our efforts to help animals in desperate need.





We are also deeply grateful for our amazing venue sponsor Kimpton Maa-Lai Bangkok and all of our wonderful event sponsors – Perfect Companion Group, Best Equipment Center, i-Tail Corporation, IDEXX Laboratories Thailand, Kakao Entertainment (Thailand), Relevant Audience Digital Agency, Kelly and Companion, and Alchemy Wines and Spirits (Thailand). Without them and without our treasured guests, the gala simply would not have been possible.



A heartfelt thank you to our supporters who have been an integral part of Soi Dog's incredible journey. Your unwavering commitment and compassion have been the driving force behind two decades of remarkable achievements.

As we reflect on these two unforgettable nights, let's carry the spirit of compassion forward, understanding that, together, we can create a world where every dog and cat can lead a life of dignity and love. Here's to two decades of making a difference and to many more years of impactful achievements.



A PURRFECT DONATION

VOLUNTEER'S HANDCRAFTED CAT TREES TRANSFORM SOI DOG CATTERY

Anamika Komath



At the Gill Dalley Sanctuary, a work of compassion recently unfolded at the skilful hands and caring heart of one remarkable volunteer – *Markus Engler*.

A semi-professional triathlete from Switzerland, Markus traded his running shoes for work boots and, over the course of a few weeks, dedicated his time to crafting six beautiful cat trees for our feline friends.

This wasn't Markus' first rodeo. In 2019, he built five scratching posts for our cattery. However, he returned this time with a bigger vision: to spoil our cats with stronger, multi-levelled cat trees made from sustainable materials.



Markus teamed up with *Nui* from our maintenance team, and together they meticulously designed and assembled six cat trees from scratch – one for each of our five cat suites and another for our nearby FIV house.

Nui, used to the sound of metal, found a new rhythm in the buzz of woodworking tools and learnt fresh techniques he can use for future shelter projects.

Markus and Nui's trees are not only beautiful but also highly functional. With removable scratch mats, thick 8mm ropes and easily replaceable parts, they're designed to withstand the test of time and will be enjoyed by our cats for a long time to come.



As our soi cats bask in Markus' dedication, we extend our deepest gratitude for the time, effort and resources he donated.

If you feel inspired by Markus' efforts, visit our volunteering page www.soidog.org/volunteer or reach out to us at volunteering@soidog.org. Whether you're crafting cat trees, walking dogs or simply spending time with our animals, you will be making such a difference.



FACES OF THE SOI DOG SPONSOR PROGRAMME

SPONSOR ONE, SAVE MANY

INTRODUCING

MADAHVA

Hey there! I'm Madahva, and I've got some amazing news to share with you.

I just hit the double digits, celebrating my 10th birthday as well as my five-year anniversary at the sanctuary! It's been an incredible journey.

When I was rescued, my life was hanging by a thread as I battled a severe case of distemper with a fever, a runny nose and eyes oozing with pus. Fortunately, some kind people brought me to the Gill Dalley Sanctuary. I couldn't even stand due to exhaustion and the pain of hip dysplasia.

Thanks to compassionate souls like you, I received the urgent care and love I needed and a roof over my head. You have given me a comfortable life in my senior years. Now, I get to experience these simple pleasures every single day.



I like: Slow walks, sunbathing and getting lots of cuddles.

I dislike: Knowing that there are dogs like me out there old and homeless.

What sponsorship means to me:

As a sponsor dog, I feel incredibly fortunate to have amazing individuals like you in my life. Your support goes beyond me; it makes a real difference for countless dogs and cats at the Gill Dalley Sanctuary.

We all depend on your generosity to receive the care and love we need and deserve. Your support makes my tail wag!

SPONSOR ME



LEARNING TOGETHER

Chutima Srisawang

In an effort to enhance veterinary knowledge and stray animal welfare, Soi Dog Foundation recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Thailand's leading veterinary institution.

Soi Dog has worked with Kasetsart University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine on a number of projects over the years. However, the MOU marks our first official cooperation.

The cooperation will facilitate an exchange of academic knowledge and expertise between us.

Students of the university, for example, will gain practical experience by spending time at our hospitals and assisting with treatment. With animals arriving every day with complex injuries and illnesses, there are plenty of valuable case studies to learn from.

At the same time, Soi Dog vets can learn from faculty experts who will share the latest advancements in veterinary science and techniques for animal care.



KU

KASETSART UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN
FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, KASETSART UNIVERSITY

AND
SOI DOG FOUNDATION

On September 20th, 2023



Centre: Soi Dog CEO Louise Rose and Faculty Dean Asst. Prof. Dr. Kongsak Thiangtham at the MOU signing.



Since the MOU signing, we have already had the pleasure of hosting a group of vet interns at our hospitals: sixth-year students *Noey*, *Meem* and *Cream*.



Noey enjoyed her time in the sterilisation suite the most as it enabled her to engage with the local community and educate them about stray animal care while also making a meaningful difference to reducing overpopulation.

Meem, meanwhile, relished her time in our hospitals. In addition to learning new surgical techniques, she found helping our dogs and cats grow healthier and happier to be deeply rewarding.

For Cream, it was the opportunity to learn about shelter management that interested her the most, alongside performing thorough routine health checks on our sanctuary residents.



Noey, Meem and Cream are the first veterinary volunteers to be welcomed to Soi Dog under the MOU.





SANTA PAWS PAYS A VISIT TO PARADISE

Vanessa Jakoby



The festive season is all about tradition. Here at Soi Dog in Phuket, we have our own tradition that we've kept for years: our festive beach walk!

Every year, on or around Christmas Day, our dedicated volunteers take a group of lucky dogs on an exciting trip to nearby Mai Khao Beach.

There's nothing quite like the moment their paws touch the sand, the salty breeze ruffles their fur and they see the endless stretch of sea and sky.

It's your support that makes magic moments like these possible. You make every day feel like Christmas Day for these once sick, injured, neglected and abandoned animals. Thank you!

If you'd like to be part of this fun tradition, why not volunteer with us next festive season? Or join us at the sanctuary throughout the year for more magic and memories.

For more information about volunteering at Soi Dog, **[click here](#)**.



CNVR UPDATE: MORE MILESTONES AND PRINCESS PROJECTS

Chutima Srisawang

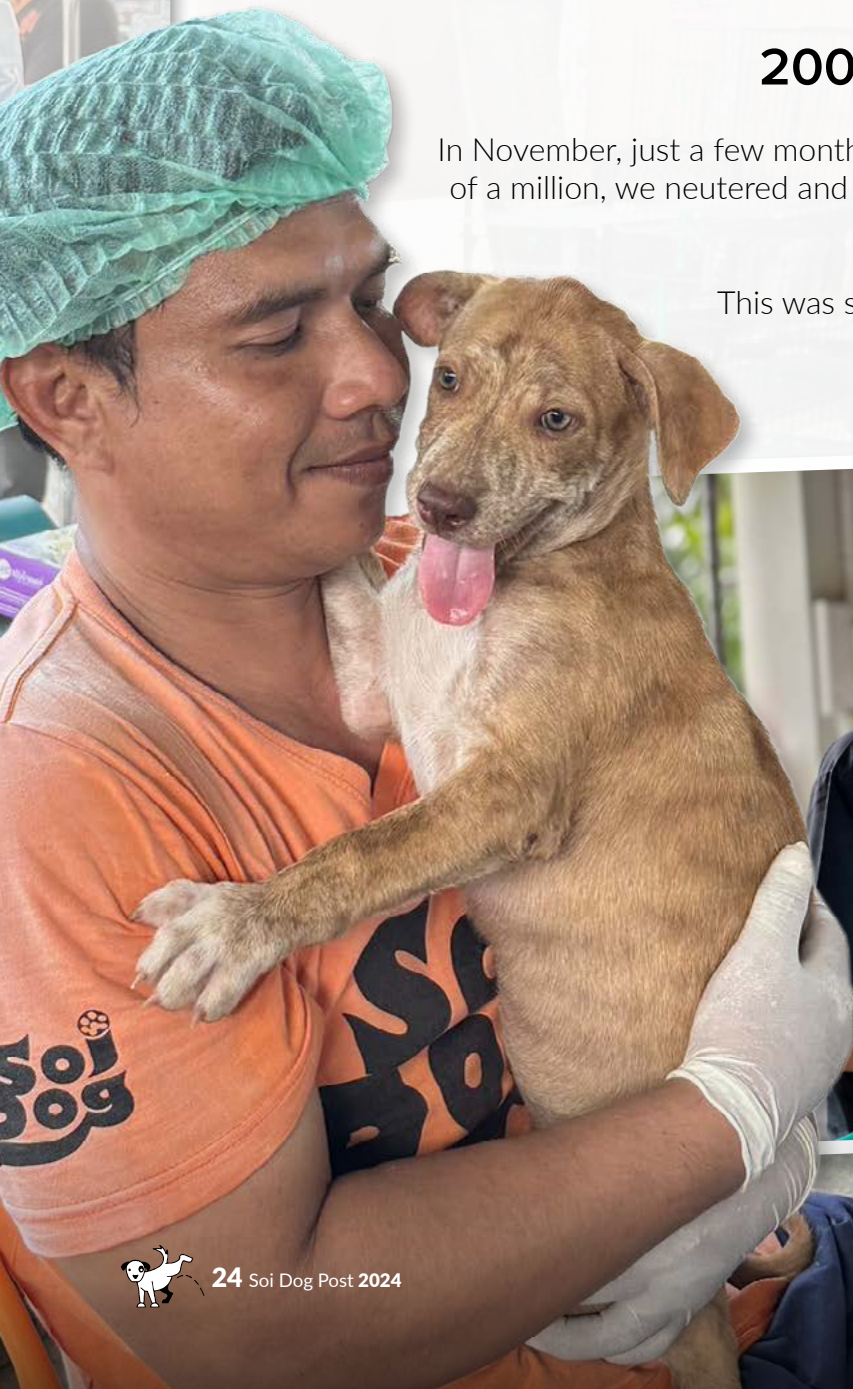
When we reflect on our CNVR (Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate, Return) programme in 2023, the milestone of a million neutered and vaccinated animals will always stand out as the highlight.

However, we will also remember 2023 for another milestone and a few very special events too...

200,000!

In November, just a few months after reaching the all-time total of a million, we neutered and vaccinated our 200,000th animal for the year.

This was significant as it was the first time we reached this number in a single calendar year!



By the end of 2023, the total number for the year had climbed even higher to 238,838 animals – a 22% increase on 2022 which saw a total of 196,106 animals neutered and vaccinated.

Of course, these staggering statistics wouldn't have been possible without your generous support and, in Greater Bangkok, the kind ongoing funding of Dogs Trust Worldwide.

Together, this enabled the launch of four new Soi Dog mobile teams in 2023, which spread the impact of CNVR farther and wider than ever before.

With a total of 18 mobile teams, coupled with our clinic in Bangkok, our sterilisation suite in Phuket and 26 external projects we're supporting, we are ready to reach even more animals in 2024.



The year is already off to a strong start. Your support saw **24,565** dogs and cats neutered and vaccinated in January – setting a new monthly record!



PRINCESS CHULABHORN'S PROJECT

2023 was also the year we participated in not one, not two but three royal events!

As you may remember from previous editions of the *Soi Dog Post*, Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Krom Phra Srisavangavadhana has long championed efforts to make Thailand rabies-free, most notably through her 'Disease-Free Animals, Rabies-Free People' project.

We were proud to participate in one of the project's events in July and even prouder to be invited back again later in the year.

In October, at the invitation of Kasetsart University's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, we joined a sterilisation and vaccination event in Udon Thani, a province with a strong track record of rabies control.

Just a month later, our Bangkok mobile vets headed to Nakhon Ratchasima to work with the Chulabhorn Volunteer Veterinary Unit at Kasetsart University Animal Hospital to help manage the overpopulation of dogs at Nawaminthakasatriyathirat Air Force Academy.

That our CNVR programme is recognised and trusted at such high levels is testament to your amazing support – thank you!

Soi Dog's Dr. Jen Dr. Oob and Dr. Nat in Udon Thani.



Princess Chulabhorn and Dr.Oob (centre) in the sterilisation unit at Nakhon Ratchasima.



DID YOU KNOW

THAT THERE ARE EVERYDAY WAYS TO HELP THE STREET DOGS AND CATS OF THAILAND AND BEYOND?

Here are just a few ways to get involved.

Easyfundraising

Available to UK shoppers is Easyfundraising, the largest charity shopping site in the UK.

There are hundreds of high street retailers, all of whom will donate between 0.5% and 10% of your purchases directly to Soi Dog!

For free sign-up, visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk or search the Easyfundraising app on Android or iOS.



Facebook fundraisers

If you're not into shopping online, you can still create a buzz and fundraise virtually by setting up a Facebook fundraiser for your family and friends to contribute to.

Check if Facebook fundraisers are available in your country [here](#). To get started, click "Fundraisers" in the menu at the side of your newsfeed.



Soi Dog Lottery



From just £1 per week, UK supporters can now play the Soi Dog Lottery to help animals in need.

The draw takes place every Friday afternoon, and the top prize of £25,000 will be up for grabs, along with 35 runner-up prizes.

Visit soidog.affinitylottery.org.uk to start playing today. T's & C's apply. Players must be 18 or over.

Don'tSendMeACard

Help Soi Dog and the planet by sending e-cards in place of greetings cards! Visit the Don'tSendMeACard website [here](#), choose from a fantastic (not to mention super cute) range of designs for all sorts of occasions, donate the cost of buying and sending a physical greetings card and hit send. Send an e-card, save a life!

DontSendMeACard.com

CARS



North American supporters, if you want to make a big and bold gesture, how about donating an unwanted vehicle to Soi Dog with CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services)?

CARS arrange collection and valuation and carry out all transactions on your behalf. Donations are tax deductible too.

Visit our partnership page at careasy.org/nonprofit/soi-dog-foundation-usa or call 855-500-RIDE (7433) to get involved.

Giveacar



The option to donate a vehicle is also available to our supporters in the UK through Giveacar.

Whether you're donating a car, light van, motorbike or caravan, Giveacar make it easy by handling everything for you. They even offer free collection from anywhere in the country.

To get started, visit our partnership page at giveacar.co.uk/charities/soi-dog-uk-cio or call 020 7736 4242.



LEAVE A LEGACY

BE THE FUTURE
FOR STRAY ANIMALS



SHARE OUR VISION BY
JOINING THE SOI DOG
LEGACY PROGRAMME

The legacy Gill left for the
street dogs and cats of Thailand,
who had no-one else to turn to,
will live on eternally

Visit www.soidog.org/legacy or
email legacy@soidog.org to find out more



www.soidog.org