END OF YEAR REPORT
2018

www.soidog.org
2018
A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR.
A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDER, JOHN DALLEY

I would like to begin by saying a huge thank you to all Soi Dog donors, supporters, adopters and followers for the enormous impact you have had, once again, in ensuring that the very best efforts are made to help the most vulnerable street dogs and cats in Thailand.

2018 was another record-breaking year in many aspects. Because of you, we managed to sterilise the most animals we ever have in a calendar year. Your help enabled the treatment of the highest number of animals in our hospital and clinics. The total number of resident dogs and cats has never been greater but the amount who found their forever homes was also at its highest, thanks to wonderful Soi Dog and cat adopters. We’ve never before seen more visitors to the sanctuary or more volunteers giving up their time to come and help the animals and each and every one of you made a difference to the lives of so many.

We embarked on the largest appeal in our history to be able to accommodate all of this going into the future. The expansion project at the sanctuary is the biggest we’ve ever committed to and together, with your help, we have been able to make that future a brighter one for all the animals here in our care and the ones that will inevitably pass through our doors during the years to come.

Whilst we strive, year on year, to put our hearts and souls into everything we do here in Thailand for the benefit of the dogs and cats, the fact remains that we could not do it without you. We hope you continue to help shape a brighter future for the dogs and cats of Asia. They depend on you and we simply don’t have the words to thank you enough!

Warm regards,

John Dalley
Co-founder
Soi Dog Foundation
The total number of sterilisations achieved by Soi Dog since it began in 2003 reached 250,000 in October, a month which also saw the 8,000 barrier breached for the first time with a total of 8,124 (6,920 dog and 1,204 cat) sterilisations.

Bangkok mobile clinics also broke their own records in the month of October. A total of 3,195 (3,170 dog and 25 cat) sterilisations were carried out. The overall number of sterilisations in Bangkok rose by 63% from 29,382 in 2017 to 48,005 in 2018.
IN THE YEARS PRIOR TO SOI DOG BEING ESTABLISHED, GILL AND JOHN WERE REGULAR VISITORS TO THAILAND AND, IN PARTICULAR, PHUKET. Wherever you turned there were stray dogs, generally in appalling condition and nothing was being done to alleviate the suffering. Today, despite the increasing amount of funds being spent on treatment, disaster relief, introduction of new legislation, education, ending the dog and cat meat trade, sheltering and rehoming, CNVR remains our top priority. Why? Because only by addressing the underlying cause, which is too many unwanted animals, can we ever hope to see improvements in the overall situation.

We are, therefore, delighted that 2018 saw a record 80,738 animals sterilised in Thailand. This was over 27,000 more than in 2017 which in itself was a record year. We understand that Soi Dog sterilises more animals today that any other organisation in the world, a remarkable achievement for what is still a relatively small organisation.

In this figure, we saw our southern mobile team complete a hugely successful and welcomed project on Koh Samui and neighbouring Koh Phangan.
In total, over **10,000 animals**, more than **6,000 in 2018** alone, were sterilised on those islands before our team moved on to commence work in Nakhon Sri Thammarat province. The largest number of animals sterilised were in Bangkok where, with the support of Dogs Trust International, a further two mobile teams were employed making four altogether. Backing has also been given to employ 2 further teams in 2019.

In addition, we have supported a number of projects in central and southern Thailand whereby Soi Dog finances the sterilisation of [mainly] dogs by private vet clinics prepared to operate at reasonable prices.

It really is impossible to calculate how many unwanted births have been prevented thanks to your support but the figure would be in the many millions of puppies and kittens saved from being born into short, misery filled lives on the streets.

People sometimes ask why the government do not simply collect unwanted dogs and euthanise them if unclaimed, as has been the practice in the West for many years. Such a policy would be contrary to the Buddhist beliefs of the majority of the population, and the killing of dogs is sadly never carried out humanely where it does occur. There have been moves in some quarters to have all stray dogs put into shelters. The question of who would pay for the thousands of shelters needed, the staff to run them, the food to feed the dogs, and the vets to treat them when sick, has never been answered. The fact remains that it would be impossible to remove all the stray dogs, and the ones that were removed would rapidly be replaced by others, without birth control in place, creating an endless cycle of suffering. This was the policy announced initially in Bangkok later in the year, but we are pleased to announce that after a series of meetings with the authorities the project was abandoned before it had started, in favour of supporting our CNVR campaign. Nonthaburi, one of the provinces that forms the Greater Bangkok region, also met with us and are behind our campaign.
TREATMENT (HOSPITAL)

ALTHOUGH CNVR REMAINS OUR TOP PRIORITY, WE SIMPLY CANNOT TURN OUR BACKS ON ANIMALS IN NEED WHO HAVE NOBODY ELSE TO TURN TO. As a result, a record number of animals were admitted from many different provinces to our dog and cat hospitals in Phuket, our clinic in Bangkok and private clinics when there was literally no room at our own facilities. Over 4,000 new cases were admitted during the year (up 13% on 2017) to receive mainly life saving treatments that would otherwise be denied to them. We are blessed with some excellent and dedicated vets and nurses who have transformed the standard of treatment now available.

The world-class treatment we are able to give to the most vulnerable and shocking admission cases is only possible thanks to wonderful supporters like you.

Garwen is 9 years old now and was discovered by Soi Dog suffering from terrible skin issues. The humidity of southern Thailand don’t help animals with skin problems but, with medicated baths, they can flourish and live healthy lives.

Papaya, so-called because when she was found alone on a hillside in Phuket, she was surviving by eating fallen papaya from the ground. She suffered chronic skin issues but blossomed at Soi Dog and now lives happily in Oregon, USA with her new family.

Susco had been hit by a car and her hind legs were temporarily paralysed after spinal trauma. She is making a good recovery at Soi Dog after hydrotherapy sessions.

Titan, treated for severe mange and leg injuries, recovered well.

OVER 4,000 NEW CASES WERE ADMITTED TO OUR HOSPITAL AND CLINIC DURING THE YEAR (UP 13% ON 2017)
Fahprong came in with a shocking open neck wound, underwent laser treatment and a variety of specialist care using the fabulous facilities which you helped provide to save cats like him.

Simba was discovered in September, trapped down a 4 metre deep well in the middle of the forest. His cries were heard by a local man who alerted Soi Dog. After a tricky rescue operation, Simba was brought back to the hospital and given the care he so badly needed. He had tried so hard to escape the well that he had completely worn his nails away in the desperate attempts to free himself. Happily, he is fully recovered and ready for adoption.

Gladwin, brought in by Soi Dog with horrific neck wounds, was treated at our hospital and is now fully recovered.

Molido had no use of her hind legs when she was rescued from a remote location in Phang Nga province. She was given a new lease of life when she was fitted with wheels. Happily, Molido has since traveled to the USA to start a brand new life.

Driscoll was discovered suffering from dehydration, was severely underweight with generalised dermatitis and multifocal alopecia. Slowly, with treatment, he recovered to become the beautiful cat he is today.

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A dog undergoes therapy in the amazing hydrotherapy unit - only possible thanks to donations from supporters of Soi Dog.

WHILST IN THE HYDROTHERAPY POOL, THE WEIGHT OF THE OCCUPANT DOG IS REDUCED BY 80%. THIS ALLOWS FOR ACCELERATED, PAIN-FREE RECOVERY FROM VARIOUS MUSCULAR AND SKELETAL INJURIES.

IT TAKES 290 LITRES OF WATER TO FILL THE HYDROTHERAPY UNIT FOR THE AVERAGE DOG.
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

THE INCREASING NUMBER OF TREATMENT CASES AND HIGHER STANDARDS OF CARE DOES BRING ITS OWN PROBLEMS. With more and more people aware of what Soi Dog does, so the demand increases and is now outstripping facilities in some areas, notably cat treatment and long term sheltering for dogs and cats. Any visitor to the sanctuary could see for themselves that all available space was taken up with containers for storage and portable cabins as offices. The old hospital, originally converted from a cattle shed that was scheduled for demolition on the opening of the new hospital, continues to act as a makeshift isolation unit for highly contagious diseases. The conditions for the staff who have to work there and the very sick animals being treated in it are simply far below an acceptable standard.

So it was that, in 2018, we commenced Soi Dog’s largest appeal to date. Adjoining land was acquired and work commenced on bringing the sanctuary up to standard. A brand new cat hospital was top priority as the existing hospital is literally overrun with treatment cases and cats that cannot be returned to the streets for one reason or another. We hope to see this open in Mid 2019.

8 new dog runs (with a capacity of around 25 dogs each) have already been constructed and are now open, thanks to sponsorship by Prince Rahim Aga Khan who dedicated it to his sons Irfan and Sinan Aga Khan.
In addition, new stores have been built which will see an end to the containers. A new laundry and maintenance workshop are being constructed with offices above these. Construction on a new isolation unit will commence shortly as well as an education centre. On the original site the old volunteer centre, which was near to collapse, has been demolished and a new centre, which incorporates accommodation for our medical staff, is also due for completion this year.

Vets, Visitor & Volunteer Building and new dog shelters under conversion from old deer sheds which existed on newly purchased land.

The new cat hospital with office space above.

NEW DOG RUNS WERE CONSTRUCTED AND ARE NOW OPEN

All these changes will not only provide badly needed increased capacity but also free up space on the original site. Another benefit has been the ability to provide further exercise space including areas where dogs can be let off their leads to play freely with their volunteer handlers. More funds are needed to complete the full project but thank you to all those supporters who have already donated.
EDUCATION

At Soi Dog, an emphasis is being put on the education of children to change the attitude of future generations to animal welfare. This was demonstrated in 2018 with a big jump in the number of local schools taking part in our education programme.

12 schools (involving 557 children) in and around Phuket were visited by our education team and 11 visits to the sanctuary were made by 159 schoolchildren from 10 different schools from Phuket.

In total, 716 children took part in activities to teach them about basic animal welfare and dog behaviour.

The new education centre on site will provide us with the best possible surroundings to welcome more schoolchildren and provide them with an inspiring learning space and a platform to become animal welfare advocates of the future. It is only by teaching the young men and women of tomorrow that we can really hope to achieve change on a grand scale.

You make all of this possible and are helping to shape a brighter future for generations of both animals and humans to come.

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SOI DOG WELcomed eight students from the INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LUXEMBOURG EARLY JULY. The eight volunteers visited the shelter from July 2nd to 12th as part of their Creativity Action and Service Programme during their summer holiday. Two chaperones, Melanie Northrop and Richard Paul accompanied them. Ms. Northrop had been corresponding with Soi Dog since the end of 2017, planning the visit. She was also a flight volunteer for two Soi Dog adoptees in 2014. The group spent their time at the shelter, walking and socialising the dogs, along with doing some painting, landscaping and other manual work with the maintenance team. Before leaving, the students made a donation equivalent to 1800 USD and handed over 315 USD worth of equipment for the maintenance team.
BEHAVIOUR ASSESSMENTS ARE CARRIED OUT ON A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT DOGS. Some of these assessments are for animals who have had adoption enquiries made about them already. These would mainly be focused on cat suitability tests. Is the dog reactive to a cat or is it non-reactive and able to live with cats?

However, the vast majority of the work by our behaviour team is focused on either shy or aggressive dogs. Both can be very challenging, for different reasons, but the ultimate goal is to rehabilitate them to a point where they are adoptable.

Our behaviour team completed 407 individual behaviour assessments in 2018 with a high completion success rate, meaning that dogs who were never considered available for adoption were now in a position to find their forever homes.

Your continued support enables us to work with the most difficult of cases and means we will never give up on any animal.
2018 WAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF ADOPTIONS. There was an emphasis on local adoptions and this was reflected in the numbers. Local dog adoptions up 99% and cat adoptions up 80%.

Overall, private adoptions were up 29%.

Our International Partner Rescue Programme also saw great success in 2018, with a total of 365 animals travelling to new lives. The ‘one animal for every day of the year’ ratio was an increase of 8% on the previous year.

The total number of animals moved out of the sanctuary to new lives here in Thailand and to various countries around the world was 820, an increase of 18% on 2017.

The support we receive from donors and adopters alike make these figures possible, and will continue to see more dogs and cats find their forever homes. Thank you on behalf of every animal that now has a family to call its own.

And to our partner rescues in the United States and Canada - a huge thank you from everyone at Soi Dog in Thailand for helping us change the lives of these dogs. We couldn't do it without you!

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ADOPTION HIGHLIGHTS

PODEVIS spent 2 years as a sponsor dog at our sanctuary before hitting the jackpot and earning an adoption to Connecticut, USA in November. He had lost his right eye and had a lame hind leg when he was picked up by our animal rescue officers in Rawai, Phuket. He is now enjoying the life he always dreamed of.

JAMIE - was also at Soi Dog for 2 years and was adopted to a couple from Austria in August. Jamie is approaching 9 years old and is blind. Not a good combination for being able to fend for yourself on the streets. Thanks to the support that Soi Dog receives from wonderful donors and adopters, we are able to save dogs like Jamie and offer them the new life they deserve.

DARWIN, now named Kuro, was callously dumped near the shelter when he was seven weeks old. Almost 5 years later he finally found the perfect home and family. He travelled in September from hot Phuket to cool Michigan and is loving his new life. He spends his days with his dog siblings exploring and hiking through forests.

PODEVIS, finally found his new home in 2018.

JAMIE at the sanctuary and cuddling with his new family.

DOGS

FLUTE - Flute came in with severely matted fur that was really in dreadlocks and took hours for the hospital staff to shave off until they found poor Flute underneath all the mess. His story touched a lot of people. After going through many enquiries for him in a relatively short space of time, a home in Florida was deemed most suitable for Flute and he travelled there in May. His new owner has owned dogs for years and also had dogs from many backgrounds with different behavioural challenges as well as health issues so we knew that Flute would be in great hands. Thanks so much to everyone who was part of his road to recovery, socialisation and adoption.

FLUTE, with matted fur on arrival at Soi Dog to a happy pup ready for a new life in Florida.

DARWIN, from a beach in Phuket to an Autumnal meadow in Michigan.

Flute, with matted fur on arrival at Soi Dog to a happy pup ready for a new life in Florida.
**Charlie-Peter** spent almost **three and a half years** at Soi Dog as a sponsor dog before finally being adopted in June. When he was found by Soi Dog, he had been slashed across the face, so very nearly lost his eye... The behaviour team at Soi worked hard to rehabilitate him from the horrors he had faced previously in his life. One of the very reasons your support goes towards dogs like Charlie-Peter is because we will never give up on dogs like him.

Born on the streets of Phuket, Thailand, the only life Charlie-Peter ever knew involved fighting for survival and hiding from danger.

He now spends his days enjoying the **English countryside** and the loving surrounds of a perfect forever family.

&Peach was dumped at Soi Dog as a small puppy. Such was her poor start in life, she spent over 7 years with us. Nervous and shy, she was one of the sponsor dogs at the sanctuary for many years. With help from the behaviour team, she grew more confident as time went by until she was finally adopted to her forever home in **Ontario, Canada** in June. Throughout her 2,628 days at Soi Dog, we never gave up on her. Huge thank you to her new family for making her dream come true. Peach’s fairytale ending is a great reminder that no matter how long a dog spends at the shelter, there is a home out there for them thanks to the continued wonderful support of people like you.

**Toff** was at Soi Dog for **over 4 years** when, at last, he met the love of his life who was volunteering at the sanctuary. He arrived at Soi Dog as another abandoned puppy saved from the streets but he left the sanctuary in April and headed all the way to **British Columbia in Canada** to start his new life. It’s only thanks to ongoing support from you that we can continue to find homes for dogs like Toff.
**CATS**

**BOONGBING** was rescued by Soi Dog in January after being found in the middle of a main road, unable to walk. A local shopkeeper said that the cat was a stray and had been waiting around for food near her shop. She wanted to help but didn’t have the money to pay for the urgent care he needed. Thanks to your donations, Boongbing was rehabilitated and found his forever home in **Thailand** in **November**.

**EMBER** came to us in early 2017 after suffering a broken leg whilst living on the streets. Left untreated, this could have caused major problems for a cat like Ember. Thanks to your help, we were able to give her the urgent surgery she needed. She was fitted with pins and a plate to help her broken leg heal and, after **over 1 year** at the sanctuary, was happily adopted to the **UK** in **June**.

A huge Soi Dog thank you to all of the adopters of the wonderful cats and dogs throughout 2018. You have made the ultimate difference in the lives of these animals and we could not be more grateful.

**GDP**

**THE LOCAL DOG POUND HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FACILITY THAT SOI DOG HAS BEEN OPPOSED TO AS IT IS LITTLE MORE THAN A DUMPING GROUND FOR UNWANTED DOGS.** For a number of years, we were banned from even entering following our criticism of the place. Successive governors showed little interest in it and it was a good example of all that is wrong with government run shelters in Thailand.

At last, in 2017, a new governor arrived who did show interest and sought to improve the facilities. Prior to him being replaced in late 2018, improvements were carried out that saw all the runs concreted. Soi Dog itself spent in excess of 500,000 THB (15,700 USD) on building a new quarantine section and a water purification system. On top of that, we provide all the dogs with their annual vaccines and administer Bravecto to eliminate ticks and fleas. Our Community Outreach programme teams and other staff regularly give up their free time to treat the dogs at weekends, and during the week we have vets and volunteers visiting regularly. All serious cases are taken to the Soi Dog hospital for treatment.

Although we would love to see the pound closed we do feel we have a responsibility to help the dogs once they have been incarcerated there, as to do nothing would see a rapid decline in their health. We do continue to try and educate the authorities into only placing dogs there that are clearly dangerous which, thankfully, are very few.

Soi Dog completed over 500,000 THB of improvement work at the GDP in 2018.

**IT**

**QR CODES WERE INTRODUCED BY OUR IT DEPARTMENT, MAINLY FOR USE IN THE VOLUNTEER AREA.** These have all the run information on them for each volunteer to look at on their device. They replace the former run information sheets and mean that we now use less paper in that department.

The wifi capability was extended to enable the operation of the QR codes and enhance the visitor and volunteer experience.

A new call centre style phone system was introduced to assist the front office with the deluge of phone calls they receive. The semi-automated system guides callers to the relevant department, aiding the fast-tracking of urgent animal welfare calls from the public.
THE FRONT OFFICE (HOSPITAL) WERE THE BUSIEST THEY’VE EVER BEEN. They fielded almost 18,000 calls during normal working hours and answered over 1,700 emergency (out of hours) calls.

More monthly records tumbled in the front office. January saw the most office hours calls with 2,910 and July witnessed the most out of hours calls with 191.

Whilst the office staff were run off their feet – they were also in awe of all of the people who cared so much to want to make that call and save the animals. A big thank you to everyone who made a call.

INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS

SOME WONDERFUL FUNDRAISING STORIES FROM SUPPORTERS ALL AROUND THE WORLD CAME IN DURING 2018.

Soi Dog is grateful to each and every person who did something to help raise vital funds for the dogs and cats, no matter how big or small. From cake sales and bike rides to sponsored walks and everything in between - you continue to amaze us with your dedication to the cause.

Supporters of Soi Dog and members of various Soi Dog boards were present at different locations of Gary Numan’s ‘Savage’ world tour, gathering donations from his generous fans. They made collections among fans of Gary Numan in foyer areas of the various European and North American locations of the world tour. Gary is an advocate and practitioner of the ‘adopt, don’t shop’ message and delighted to help Soi Dog gain awareness. A total of around 18,000 USD (575,000 THB) was raised across all locations. Thank you to the many fanatical foot soldiers of Soi Dog from around the globe for their continued efforts.
ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

Soi Dog Foundation marked its fifteen year anniversary in October 2018. The anniversary was recognised by a speech given by co-founder John Dalley and a short film was made to honour some of the longest-serving staff members, which can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSfNILkzprw

The anniversary month of October also saw another milestone reached – the 250,000th sterilisation since the beginning of Soi Dog. The face of the 250,000th was a dog named Chaiyo. She was brought in by her owner and earned the recognition of being the quarter-millionth such case, spanning the 15 years of the foundation.

Soi Dog Foundation was proud to be announced winners of the ‘Rescue Organisation of the Year’ and ‘People’s Choice Award’ from the Pet Philanthropy Circle which was presented on October 19th 2018 at Gotham Hall on Broadway, New York City.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In April 2018, an exaggerated rabies scare in north-east Thailand brought about another emergency rescue situation for Soi Dog. Misinformation and misleading direction by authorities led to the impounding of around 3,000 mainly owned dogs and many cats at the Nakhon Phanom Livestock centre, which had nowhere near the capacity to house them. By the time we were informed of the situation over 2,000 of the dogs had died of disease and starvation. We immediately sent teams of vets and nurses, who were there for many weeks, to try and save the remaining animals.

In November, with the quarantine period over and no dogs testing positive to rabies, we started an adoption programme that will continue well into 2019 whereby around 40 animals at a time are moved to Phuket prior to joining the partner rescue programme. This constituted one of our largest urgent appeals during 2018 and could not have been achieved without your help. Thank you to everyone who supported this rescue operation. Your kindness saved so many lives.

Soi Dog was also a shortlisted finalist in the Charity Film Awards for the second time in three years with the entry ‘A Story of Hope’. The story of Molido, a dog found with severe disabilities and brought to our sanctuary for rehabilitation, is another example of the tireless work carried out on a daily basis by our staff in the Soi Dog hospital. Thank you to everyone who voted for us.

Of course, we can only be considered for these type of accolades because of the support from our donors and followers. These awards are as much, if not more, for you than for us. Thank you and well done to everyone who make them possible.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM TREATED 3,768 ANIMALS ON THE ISLAND OF PHUKET DURING 2018. Amongst these cases, over 4,500 different treatments were administered and almost 650 vaccinations carried out.

They also held various workshops around the island, teaching animal first aid to communities to help people with the care of their own pets as well as the stray dogs in their community.

The two Community Outreach units were responsible for 270 emergency pick-ups during the year and provided back-up to the other animal rescue officers.

Your donations put these teams out there and make it possible for them to work in some of the poorest communities on the island, making a difference together. Thank you!
SOI DOG GOES GREEN

WE PUSHED ON WITH OUR ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN, developing ideas and methods to advise visitors and volunteers of the ‘no single use plastics’ at the sanctuary and teaching staff about the importance of caring for the environment.

Staff and volunteers also took part in beach cleaning activities during the year and managed to remove 4.5 tonnes of rubbish from Mai Khao Beach.

Thanks to all volunteers and supporters of Soi Dog for caring about the environment we live in.

Another important initiative at Soi Dog is the recycling of waste water. In a country that experiences feast or famine - in terms of its annual rainfall patterns - it is important not only to harvest the rainwater during the monsoon but also to ensure we are not frivolous with it during the dry periods. Our non-chemical water treatment system works to cleanse the recycled water we use around the sanctuary and helps preserve our on-site supply to see us through the driest of months.

Volunteers and staff at the local Mai Khao beach clean in Phuket.

SOCIAL MEDIA

WITH SOCIAL MEDIA PROVING MORE AND MORE POPULAR IN ALL CORNERS OF THE PLANET, it is not only important to maintain the interest of followers with regular updates of our animals but it’s also crucial to monitor incoming messages to the various platforms as, increasingly, we find this is a popular channel of communication for people to report sick and injured animals.

Popularity on Instagram trebled during the 12 months, the following increased from 25,000 on Jan 1st to 75,000 on Dec 31st. Thanks to everyone who used the hashtags #soidogfoundation and #adoptdontshop. Together we can make a difference!

Facebook likes also grew - we gained 25,496 new page likes in 2018.

Facebook is also widely used as the preferred method of contacting Soi Dog Foundation. Thus, we aim to be timely with our message response rate as some of these messages are seeking urgent advice for injured animals. Our response rate was up to 97% with a 47 minute average response time.

Most of our supporters discovered us through Facebook and we are truly humbled by the support from each and every follower - you are all amazing!

Thanks to all the new and existing followers of Soi Dog Foundation on social media. Together, we can build awareness, enlighten more people and help many more animals in the future.
VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

RECORD NUMBERS OF VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS CAME TO THE SANCTUARY DURING THE YEAR.

Volunteer numbers were up 7% on the previous year to 796.

Visitor numbers increased by 16% to 5,986.

Individual monthly records were also broken, with January seeing the highest number of visitors ever in one month with 657.

November saw the most volunteers arrive in a single month with 89.

The animals at Soi Dog rely so heavily on the volunteers and we thank each and every one of them for dedicating their time, patience and love to our dogs and cats.

Visitors account for a huge amount of donations here at the sanctuary and without them, we simply couldn’t do what we do. Thank you on behalf of all of our animals for your generosity.

SONGTHAEW – SOI DOG BUS

IN DECEMBER, THE SOI DOG SONGTHAEW BEGAN LIFE ON THE ROAD AND BECAME OUR VOLUNTEER TRANSPORT VEHICLE.

With a capacity of around 30, the introduction of the Songthaew meant that we had to run less vehicles to local areas to make volunteer pick-ups and drop offs. The expense of running up to three vehicles, and sending three different members of staff to drive them, was proving more difficult to justify. Money spent on fuel and staff costs has been dramatically reduced which frees up more funds to exactly where they are needed – for the care and treatment of sick or injured animals.
TRIP ADVISOR
SOI DOG FOUNDATION ENDED 2018 AS THE 4th BEST PLACE TO VISIT IN PHUKET (OUT OF 272) AND ENJOYED 5 STAR EXPERIENCE REVIEWS AMONGST A WHOPPING 97% OF ALL VISITORS.
Your amazing reviews open up the prospect of more people visiting Soi Dog and joining in with the impact we are trying to make – 5 star thanks to everyone who visited and reviewed us!

SDGIRL077675
Spearfish, South Dakota
3894
Reviewed November 24, 2018

A MUST DO ON YOUR VISIT TO PHUKET!
I’m so thankful to say that we had the amazing opportunity to visit this incredible organization during our trip to Phuket.

If you want to learn about a worthy cause or pet and spend time with all kinds of cats and dogs, this is a must-do for you. You’ll also have the opportunity to visit with knowledgeable caretakers and learn firsthand what it takes to make this operation run each day. To date, they’ve spayed/neutered over 250,000 animals!!

As an avid animal lover and supporter, I encourage any person of any age to visit and contribute to this worthy cause. It’s as easy as lining up a taxi cab ride to the organization and spending a few hours or a full day there (you may even be able to walk some dogs, play with puppies, pet some senior pups, or spend time with cuddly kittens).

Don’t forget to leave a little donation (or a lot) before leaving because you an be certain that your money amazingly on their facilities. The housing and veterinary clinics are really high quality. The staff are lovely and it’s just such an experience to visit the cats and dogs. I highly recommend all to visit and donate to the cause. Learn about what they do and the progression in the stray animal and dog meat trade. I only cried about 7 times. Happy tears I swear♥♥♥

ASHWIT
Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
61
Reviewed June 4, 2018

INSPIRATIONAL AND MOVING
We came to visit, not to adopt, but to see how the foundation worked. Having already adopted two of our own dogs from Colombiap, we were really interested in seeing how the foundation. This was the only trip we took during our 3-night stay, and it was 100% worth it. The tour was fantastic, and all the staff seemed so knowledgeable and caring, whether they were the volunteers who had been there for over a year, or those that were including it on a holiday trip. The stories behind many of the dogs were moving, some of them quite harrowing, but the philosophy of the foundation was clear to see, and the work they do is amazing - and you should visit to find out for yourself more about it. And then, of course, you get to enter and play with a pen of puppies, or with some of the more elderly poosches - and who wouldn’t want that?!
VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS

I ONLY DISCOVERED SOI DOG FOUNDATION A FEW MONTHS AGO, WHILE SEARCHING THE WORLD WIDE WEB. After reading their web page, and also many reviews by volunteers and visitors from all over the world, I asked myself "why not?"

MY INITIAL IDEA WAS TO VOLUNTEER FOR 3 OR 4 WEEKS, but after getting to know the dogs and cats, with their sad stories and past, and seeing how dedicated, kind and warm the staff working here were, and the passion they put into what they did, I was overwhelmed! So much so that it’s now been 18 weeks since I started my experience as a volunteer, and not a day has passed without me having great satisfaction and great emotions. If anyone is thinking of becoming a volunteer here at Soi Dog, I would tell them "don’t think twice..."

Just come here, and you’ll see for yourself why this experience really is priceless.

I’VE BEEN VOLUNTEERING WITH SOI DOG FOR A YEAR NOW, and I can easily say that it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I spend my time with older and special needs dogs, and I’m constantly amazed by how resilient and loving they are. The dogs in my run have become my family and I feel lucky to know each and every one of them. Also, it’s truly moving to be surrounded by other like-minded volunteers and staff, all of whom have committed themselves so fully to the dogs and cats here. The world is a better place because of Soi Dog Foundation.

I DECIDED TO VOLUNTEER AT SOI DOG IN MEMORY OF MY DOG KIMBA WHO PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR, aged 18, a lifelong companion. In her honour I decided to learn more about the Asian dog meat trade (DMT) which is vile and grotesque almost beyond description. The best way to spread the word and to stop this cruelty is to learn, understand and then communicate.

My run at Soi Dog (25 dogs) has given me more fun, more happiness and more pleasure than I could ever have imagined before my visit. I feel HUGELY privileged that these dogs have all accepted me as their friend.

My 30 days at Soi Dog have been the most rewarding and enlightening experience of my life.

Jessica Freedman, September 2018

Guy Wrench, December 2018

Silvia Balboni, Aug 2018

Jessica Freedman, September 2018

Guy Wrench, December 2018
SANCTUARY POPULATION

THE SANCTUARY POPULATION ON DECEMBER 31ST WAS RECORDED AT 508 RESIDENT DOGS AND 104 RESIDENT CATS. A total of 612 animals which represented a 6% rise on the previous year. A further 321 animals (+9%) were either in treatment, in isolation areas or outside clinics, bringing the total number at the sanctuary to 933 – an overall increase of 7%.

Our ever increasing and ageing population are grateful for every person who helps make a difference to their lives.
We will continue to strive to achieve the goals set out in our mission statement. The sterilisation programme is hoping to break more records in 2019 and set new targets for the improvement of animal welfare in Asia.

Our education programme will grow further and, by these two methods alone, we hope for great strides throughout the next twelve months.

Growth in every other area of the foundation will help us to make even bigger impact moving forward and be an even louder voice with greater influence to improve animal welfare.

Thank you, once again, to everyone who supported Soi Dog Foundation in 2018 and helped play a part in everything that we do.
The legacy Gill left for the street dogs and cats of Thailand, who had no-one else to turn to, will live on eternally

Gill Dalley
1959-2017