

Bi-monthly Review of the Cat and Dog Welfare Programme, China

(November- December 2012)

2012 “Sharing Love with Them” Series Events in Full Swing!

To spread the idea of caring for lives and show our care for animals, Animals Asia invited animal lovers, animal welfare and protection groups, college groups and volunteer groups to launch “Sharing Love with Them” photo contest award ceremony, photo exhibition and “Cyclists Love Animals” series events nationwide from October to November.

We had carried out 35 exhibitions in 17 cities in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu, Beijing, Shanghai, Dalian, Kunming and so on to promote the idea of “Care for Animals” by exhibiting over 70 photos awarded in the contest.



“Yan Travel” cyclist team of Nanchong City; Photo exhibition in Shenzhen Caitian School

At the same time, about 60 cyclist teams from 21 cities such as Guangzhou, Chengdu, Dalian, Xi’an, Nanchang, Hangzhou, Xiamen, Chongqing etc. applied to join Animals Asia’s “Cyclists Love Animals” activity. We promoted the idea of “Care for Animals” to more people by cycling and via Weibo. Over 1,400 people took part in the activity and about 50,000 signatures were collected during the events. 60,000 more people were involved in the whole event for promoting love for animals.



“Cyclists Love Animals” in Chengdu;

“Cyclists Love Animals” in Dalian

Dr Dogs Invite You to Photo Exhibition

The “Sharing Love with Them” photo exhibition of Guangzhou was carried out in Redtory, a famous art village, from November 11th of 2012 to January 31st of 2013. The opening ceremony had drawn many cat and dog fans and we shared the information of care for animals and how to approach dogs with all the visitors.



Visitors signed on the board, wrote down their blessings to animals in wishing cards and took photos as well to support the event. The appearance of eight Dr Dogs pushed the activity to a high gear. Once arrived at the ceremony they were in spotlight with hugging and shaking hand. Many visitors inquired us how to join our Dr Dog programme or how to be volunteers.

The well-prepared wishing tree, signing board and wishing cards were also very popular. We could find that, wishes on the wishing card were not only blessing like “Healthy and happy live” but also story of their own four-leg friends. No matter who read the cards, they would be moved by these simple words.



Blessings to animals in wish cards



Pastes covered the signing board

Dr Dog went to Redtory again on December 30th to celebrate the New Year. Tan Huiyi, a winner of the photo contest attended our activity with her families including her dog “Lucky” who was in her photo, to wish everyone Happy New Year!

Our Chengdu Dr Dogs were invited to the opening ceremony of “Ta-man (They)” Small Animals Photo Exhibition held by Chengdu Hongxing Road Art Village and Qiming Small Animals Protection Center in Sichuan Province on December 1st. And part of our “Sharing Love with Them” photos also joined the exhibition. “Dr Henry” and “Dr Winnie” played with



金奖得主史小姐现场跟大家讲述照片背后的故事

visitors in the opening ceremony as special guests. To inform us that keeping dog scientifically will not influence pregnancy, Ms Shi Yunman, winner of the photo contest “We are Happy Together” awards shared with us the story of her photo.

Related links: <http://www.sc.chinanews.com.cn/news/2012/1202/0719155847.html>

“Cyclists Love Animals” Activities in Chengdu



市民在横幅上签字

signature of residents and sending out leaflets. At the same time, every team updated their latest trip on Weibo receiving strong supports online and off.

The most special team named “Tianfu Cyclist Team” was a professional cycling team and it also focused on public welfare. “We like cycling and traveled to many different places. The activity held by Animals Asia is very special and we will absolutely take part in it! Every one of us would like to promote the protection to animals by such an environmental and creative way”, said by the leader of the team. A girl of them adopted a stray dog around Chengdu Du Fu Thatched Cottage Museum during their trip and we sent some dog food to show our support and encouragement to her warm heart.



天府骑游圈队出发

Related Links: http://morning.scol.com.cn/new/tfzb/20121121/page_20.jpg

Animals Asia Persuade A Pet Service Company

to Abandon Coloring Animals

Have you ever colored your dog because you thought he would be more beautiful in different color? If you do, you should be careful of that! Some chemistry material in the coloring medicine may hurt the health of animals. For a long term Animals Asia promotes welfare for cats and dogs, to increase people’s awareness of coloring animals. Persuaded by Animals Asia, Chengdu Family, an animal service company agreed to abandon coloring animal service and donate 1% of their

profit to Animals Asia regularly. We appreciate to Family's help to animal welfare improvement. Over dress-up is not necessary for animals. They are born to be beautiful enough.

Dr Dog and Professor Paws events

From November to December, Animals Asia carried out a total of 45 Dr Dog visits reaching 2,362 people; 27 Professor Paws course and 7 Care for Animals Presentation to over 2420 people in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu and Hong Kong. Here are some selections:

Press conference for Animal-Assisted Therapy Mentorship Program

On November 30th 2012, Animals Asia's Dr Dog team was invited to participate in the press conference hosted by the Chinese Evangelical Zion Church Youth Employment Training and Creativity Development Centre in Tse Wan Shan. They shared to the public their experiences with their novel "Regain Momentum" animal assisted therapy mentorship program.



"Regain Momentum" animal-assisted therapy mentorship program was a 2-year one-stop program serving young people aged 15-24 who have been disengaged from social ties. These young people were withdrawn /semi-withdrawn and / or those with mental health issues. As a one-stop program, it provides individual counseling, animals assisted therapy, employment training, professional-led support group, and pet grooming skills workshops/training. They have served a total of 115 cases.



Press conference for Animal-Assisted Therapy Mentorship Program

"Regain Momentum" animal-assisted therapy mentorship program whom they commissioned a study on the evaluation of the effectiveness of their "Regain Momentum- Animal Assisted Therapy Mentorship Program " through the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of the University of Hong Kong.

In the conference, Animals Asia Dr Dog shared with the public about the roles of our Dr Dog in providing help in the small group session of their animals assisted therapy. Our volunteers and us Dr Dog team, echoed that they are delighted to find that the young people recruited with the program are more likely to be involved in animals assisted therapy, and have greater positive changes by using human-animal bond in therapy than in other program services. The centre have also reported that clients that are categorized as withdrawn seemed to be able to benefit most in increasing their self esteem and their perceived employability ,whilst those with mental health problem had a reduction in their interaction anxiety . One of the most encouraging results was that the unemployment rate of respondents had dropped from 84.6% to 32.7%.

In conclusion, the centre found that with this pilot project that once again the distinctive feature of the AAT (Animal Assisted therapy) component has been key agent to facilitate the engagement of these young people as well as aiding the fluidity of the intervention process. The AAT component have been able to take away some of the stigma that are often attached to receive social service.

Dementia Care Ambassador Training

On Dec 1st 2012, we have our first Dementia Care Ambassador training for our Dr Dog volunteers. The event was hoisted at the Hong Kong Jockey Club for Positive Ageing and training was conducted by the specialist Ms Eva Chan from this centre, the training was supported by the Fu Tak lam Foundation for our project for elderly with dementia. A total of 32 of volunteers joined in for the intensive 3.5 hours of training whom were very enthusiastic to implement new skills learnt.



Dr Dog Christmas parade 2012

The Duchess of Kent Children's Hospital has been celebrating Christmas with patients and staff on Christmas Day more than 40 years, once again on Christmas day as part of the celebrations is the annual Christmas Parade followed by a series of parties within the hospital and Animals Asia's Dr Dog have been honourable guest and playing a large part in the festivities.

The hospital is a renowned centre for the treatment of paediatric orthopaedic problems such as scoliosis and spinal deformities, and also provides treatment for children with neurological developmental disorders including cerebral palsy. It is also the hospital where Jill Robinson began Animals Asia's therapy programme, with the very first Dr Dog visit in 1991!

This year Animals Asia had a total of 15 of our lovely Dr Dogs, accompanied by their guardians, attending the party in their once-a-year role as Santa Paws.

The party started early in the morning with a parade to the front entrance of the hospital, with our Santa Paws leading off, alongside the Land Rover car team, followed by the lovely "Little Angels",

bringing up the rear.

In all, more than 120 people attended the party, including current and former patients, hospital staff and volunteers. 7 year old patient Chau Ying Ting [周映廷] have neck bone dislocation, so she has to wear a metal collar which is extremely painful, meeting and playing with Dr Dogs have helped her to forgot about the pain she said .

After some Santa Paws therapy for the patients, the hospital staff arranged Christmas carols and music being played, the giving of gifts by the many Santa Clauses on hand, then followed by magic show and of course we have an interactive session of Dr Dog with the audience, whereby we have a demo of commands by Tony Dr Dog guardian with Dr Wing Wing, which was immediately picked up by an interactive session between some of the hospital children and one of the Little Angels too.

The event was featured on various Christmas Day news and HK ATV, TVB, RTHK, now as well as in the Hong Kong press.

The Love between Zi Xuan and Dr Dog

Can you image what would happen when a kid who was scared of dogs meets a docile Dr Dog? Outdoor playing is the favorite of kids and dogs. Guangzhou Dr Dog cooperated with YMCA arranging a special trip in Chuan Qi Park for the kids of Guangdong Disabled Persons' Federation Mental Retardation Department. Ignoring the raining day, kids felt very excited to play with Dr Dog. Zi Xuan was one of them. He always felt very scared when he saw a dog before knowing Dr Dog. On that raining day, he started to touch them and then played with them very happily. At last, he found it was so difficult to be separated from Dr Dog. The kids stayed with their favorite dogs and combed their fur. Dr Zhuzhu was a Samoyed, and kids called him "Cotton Candy" because of his white and soft fur. Thank for the invitation from the YMCA. The smile of kids is the best gift to Dr Dog.

Related links: <http://weibo.com/1868995340/z6ZtTfwru>



Kids play with Dr Dog



"Am I like a cotton candy?"

“Please do not eat dogs, they are so lovely!”

Shenzhen Futian Yuandong Community Elderly Day-Care Center was surrounded by laughter, for our Dr Dogs came again on November 27th. We played some games with the elderly and encouraged them to guess the age, gender and weight of our Dr Dogs. Then volunteers reminded them, “Dogs need to keep fit as human does.” And the elderly laughed out loudly.

76-year-old Granny Zeng told us that she kept a dog in her hometown and missed him very much. Then she cried, “Please do not eat cats and dogs because they are so obedient and lovely.” This kind-hearted granny had a lot of memory related to dogs. Every time when we pay a Dr Dog visit, we feel like taking our little kids to visit the old, and we all get closer because of these little kids. The gap between human beings, human and animals become smaller.

Related links: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2012-12/16/content_16021120.htm
http://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XNDgzMzIyMjQ0.html

Stray Dog Became Professor Paw. Nothing is Impossible!

Professor Tutu once was a stray dog and struggled for her stomach. Did she ever think that one day she could be a “Professor” and carried out “care for live” course? Professor Tutu, Professor Yijiu and Professor Henry arrived at Jinxin Primary School to carry out a special Professor Paws course. Professor Tutu’s guardian shared with us the story of how a stray dog became Professor Paw.

This time, we added anti shark fin and anti furs products into our course besides regular content. A student said after the class, “Animals help us in every aspect and it’s too cruel to hurt them.” We applauded for their love.

**Letter to Culture Department of Guangzhou and Foshan Public Art
Center about Banning “Huangtang Dog Meat Cuisine”**

Recently, we were informed by many website news and residents that there is introduction about “Huangtang Dog Meat Cuisine” in Pearl River Delta tangible cultural heritage protection. In the “Pearl River Delta tangible cultural heritage protection survey”, “Huangtang Dog Meat Cuisine” was the least popular item and most people thought it should be banned. We were also informed that the objection was more than approval in the discussion on its municipality tangible cultural heritage application.

We sent letters to Culture Department of Guangzhou City and Foshan City Public Art Center, strongly suggesting them to disqualify the “Huangtang Dog Meat Cuisine” to be tangible cultural heritage. In the letter, we clarified the present black business chains of dog meat consumption and the damage to harmonious society, public security, food safety and so on. We hope the related government department could take our suggestion and ban “Huangtang Dog Meat Cuisine”.

“Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR)” Deep Training

After the first China Cat Management Symposium in Beijing in March, we cooperated with Beijing Luckycats by launching the TNR deep training for Zhangzhou Small Animals Scientific Care and Rescue Center and Tianjin Cat's Hope in Zhangzhou city and Tianjin City during the last two months in 2012. The training covered lecture, discussion and operation of cat catching cage. We also sent these two team tools and materials to support their development of TNR work. The teams' members took an active part in the training and made a workable TNR plan according to their local situation after group discussion.



TNR deep training in Zhangzhou and Tianjin.

Zhangzhou and Tianjin are the first two cities listed on our TNR deep training plan. We will carry it out in more cities and share Luckycats' successful experience with more local teams to help their own TNR work. We hope this project could be carried out normatively to improve the living circumstance of stray cats and help them to avoid suffering. We also hope it can defuse the conflict between stray cats and human beings and reduce the cases of maltreating, driving and killing to cats.

In addition, we are so appreciated to Tianjin Ken-Canpo Animal Medicament Health Product Co., Ltd for donating the cat food to the TNR project.

Cats and Dogs Welfare Lecture Presented

on Luckycats' Open Day

Invited by Beijing Luckycats, Animals Asia gave a presentation on their monthly open day in November, introducing our 3 main projects face to face with the volunteers and visitors. Every question was answered to make a better understanding for the visitors. A kid asked a question with a cat held in his arm, “Do the bears in Moon Bear Rescue Center play with cats?” We explained, “Bears like cats very much. But we are afraid that they might hurt the cats accidentally, so we won't let cats get close to them.” In the world of kids, animals and human beings are always good friends.

Support to animal protection groups

There were 3 groups from 3 cities applying for our public education material in the last two months of the year including Nanyang city of Henan province, Turpan of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, and Chengdu. Among these, College of Animal Science and Technology, Nanjing Agriculture University which has cooperated with us many times carried out a vivid “Care for Animals” course by watching movie, scenario discussion, Q&A and other innovative way. Students had learned knowledge about animals and how to get on well with small animals.



College of Animal Science and Technology, Nanjing Agriculture University
carry out promotion activity in Nanjing Qilin Primary School

Animals Asia China Cat and Dog Welfare Team
Animals Asia HK Dr Dog and Pro Paws Team

November and December, 2012