

## Monthly Review of Cat and Dog Welfare Programmes, China (June 2011)

### 1<sup>st</sup> China Cat and Dog Welfare Programme Volunteer Summer Camp

In order to thank our Dr Dog guardians and volunteers for their continued contributions to Animals Asia's Cat & Dog Welfare Programmes in the Chinese mainland, and allow us all to have a better understanding of animal welfare, we arranged the 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Summer Camp from June 9th to 10th. The first ever summer camp was split into two with one in northwest China's Chengdu city and the other in south China's Guangzhou and Shenzhen cities. 46 of our volunteers and their family members joined the event.



Animal welfare presentation in the summer camp

The first part of the summer camp was an animal welfare presentation given by 5 experts from Animals Asia, Compassion in World Farming, Design Against Fur and Greenbeagle, talking about Animal needs, Factory farming, Fur trade, Shark finning and Responsible pet ownership. The open presentation drew over 300 citizens from local animal welfare groups, university students and ordinary people who cared about the topic.



Volunteers learn to make food for the bears.

In the Chengdu Camp, volunteers visited the Sichuan Longqiao China Bear Rescue Center and learnt to make special food for the bears by themselves. For most of the campers, it was the first time to see such large moon bears and everybody was shocked by the stories with those poor things after visiting the little moon bear museum.

The Guangzhou and Shenzhen Camps joined together to visit the SPCA Hong Kong. Tidy rooms and comfortable living areas, here all the animals waiting for a home seemed to give a warm welcome to our visitors. "We still have a lot to learn, have a lot to do and have a long

way to go, but it gives me hope,” said one of the campers.

It was a very nice trip, leaving us with good memories as well as space to reflect.. Our summer camp will now be held once a year to encourage those who volunteer jobs for all the cats and dogs in China.

### Public education in campus and community

#### “Responsible Dog Ownership” promoted in Guangzhou

2012 is the third anniversary of the launch of “Guangzhou Dog Ownership Management Regulations”. Guangzhou PSB has continually introduced public education events on how to raise dogs and responsible dog ownership to many communities in Guangzhou.

On 15th of June, 2012, the first ever Guangzhou official “Responsible Dog Ownership” public education programme was launched in Guangzhou Tianhe District Huajing Primary School. The whole event was organized by Guangzhou PSB and Animals Asia and was a huge success, receiving high praise from the school



Police Yin from Guangzhou PSB gives his presentation of correct dog keeping in the course.



and local citizens. Also it was a special Professor Paws visit for our 4 lovely dogs as it was the first time we worked together with the local PSB department in any school event. By watching interesting videos, a lecture, a knowledge contest and playing games, all the 88 students got to know about dogs from different angles, learnt how to get on well with animals and how to respect lives.

“Do you know how to make friends with Professor Paws?” Guangzhou PSB had heard about our Professor Paws a long time ago and knew we were experienced in such kind of public

education about dogs. They came along on Professor Paws visits twice in two primary schools in Guangzhou and said our presentation was suitable for young people. Animated and with lively discussion, practical information and tender Professor Paws, all ensures a good course for the students. One of the officers said even adults may not know all these practical tips for approaching dogs and that promoting responsible dog ownership could prevent disagreements between dog owners and non-dog owners, especially in Guangzhou as the number of registration for dog keeping is increasing every year. They also said the promotion of Professor Paws could help them do a better job in dog ownership management.

### **Public education in Communities of Guangzhou and Shenzhen**

Our volunteer dogs not only act as Dr Dogs and Professor Paws, visiting special people or schools, but they also appear in various communities acting as ambassadors at 'Correct Dog Keeping Education Events' where they show people how to be a responsible dog owners.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, Guangzhou Professor Paws took part in a 'Correct Dog Keeping Education Event' held by Guangzhou PSB in the Guangzhou Art Museum Square. In Shenzhen our Professor Paws visited Wanke Community where we joined hands with local property management and explained to residents how to be a responsible dog owner. The education is hoped to relieve any disagreements or misunderstandings caused by dog keeping in communities. The activity attracted many residents, especially children who loved playing games with our dogs.



"Can we be good friends?"

### **Dr Dog and Professor Paws events**

During June, Animals Asia carried out a total of 24 Dr Dog visits reaching 1,060 people; 11 Pro Paws course and 4 Care for Animals Presentation in Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Chengdu and Hong Kong, with more than 1,570 students and citizens taking part. Here are some

selections:

### **Dr Dog celebrates Children's Day with hearing-impaired children**

On 2nd June, Animals Asia together with the YMCA invited 11 hearing-impaired children from Guangdong Disabled Rehabilitation Center celebrating Children's Day to join 6 of our Dr Dogs "MeiMei, DouDou, Jimmy, JinBao, DoDo and FeiPoZhu" in Guangzhou. This was the second time for the children to have a visit from our Dr Dogs since the celebration of World Animal Day last year. The children were so excited when the 6 lovely 4-legged friends were introduced by their guardians at the event.

There was a team-building game with every team formed of 2 children and 1 dog -- searching for "hidden treasures" according to a map. Every team went to 4 places in the park, they then had to return to the starting point after collecting 4 stamps from each location. The game showed the unity and trust between children and animals.



"Little tiger" poses with Dr. Meimei.



Dr. Jimmy and a young child go to find the "hidden treasure".

Media report:

[http://www.lifeofguangzhou.com/node\\_981/node\\_989/node\\_997/node\\_1007/2012/06/08/133914375599288.shtml](http://www.lifeofguangzhou.com/node_981/node_989/node_997/node_1007/2012/06/08/133914375599288.shtml)

### **"Otis lunch time relax zone - Meet and Greet Dr Dog"**

On June 29<sup>th</sup> 2012, 3 of Animals Asia's Dr Dogs were invited as special guests for the "Otis lunch time relax zone - Meet and Greet Dr Dog".

Around 25 staff from the Animals Asia's Dr Dog team were invited to share their work and mission of Dr Dog. Our Dr Dog guardians also demonstrated how to properly approach and meet our canine friends.

All the Otis staff were very enthusiastic about meeting our Dr Dogs, where together they played games, shared stories about our companion animals and all had a great time full of joy and laughter. (Special thanks to Dr Creamie, Dr Goldie and Dr Yat Yat)



Dr Dog's as special guests for the "Otis lunch time relax zone - Meet and Greet Dr Dog".

### **Dr Dog Visit with a rock band**

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 4 of our Chengdu Dr Dogs visited Cuqiao Tiefu Elderly Home. The Chinese famous rock band "The Catcher In The Rye" (CIR) was invited as our special guests to join the event.

CIR are caring and attend charity events. The team said although they had many different kinds of volunteering experience, it was their first time working with dogs and they were very excited. Mr. Xiao Wei, lead singer of the band, said it was very interesting to be a partner volunteer of Dr Dog. He told reporters, "Dr Dog is one of the working dogs and all dogs are our good friends and helpers we should treat them well."



Famous rock band CIR's lead singer Xiao Wei visits CuQiao TieFo Elderly Home with Dr WangWang.

Media report in Chinese: <http://www.sc.chinanews.com/news/2012/0626/0950117527.html>

### **Support for animal protection groups**

In June, animal protection groups from 4 cities of Mian Yang, Wu Han, Nan Jing and Yu Lin were supplied with public education materials of over 4,800 leaflets and 87 posters from Animals Asia. In addition, we offered education materials to MaAnShan Stray Dog Rescue Team to support their "Care for Stray Dog" and "Anti-cat and dog eating" activities held both downtown and at the local meat market.



"Care for Stray Dog" activity launched by MaAnShan Stray Dog Rescue Team

### **Chengdu Commonweal Organization Service Park opens**

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Animals Asia staff from the Cat and Dog Welfare Department, Moon Bear Rescue and Animals Welfare Department attended Chengdu Social Organization Development Foundation's opening ceremony and the charity gala party. Chengdu Commonweal Organizations Service Park opened at the same time as a support platform for social welfare organizations, social workers and programme development. There were 38 NGOs from Chengdu and other cities that joined the event. We also actively communicated with other organizations and some said they would give a warm welcome to a Dr Dog visit!



Opening ceremony of Chengdu Commonweal Organization Service Park

Animals Asia China Cat and Dog Welfare Team  
Animals Asia HK Dr Dog and Pro Paws Team  
June, 2012