



AnimalsAsia
Kindness in action

TWENTY-ONE YEARS TOGETHER

2019 Review

TOGETHER WE'VE COME OF AGE

Dear friends,

We reached another incredible milestone for the animals in 2019 as we celebrated Animals Asia's 21st birthday.

In many places, turning 21 means the start of an adult life and independence. But to me, it really brings home the importance of depending on one another.

You (*especially you*, our wonderful, loyal supporters), the officials and celebrities we work with, and our teams on the ground... together we've made extraordinary progress for the animals. In just over two decades.

It's **working together** that makes us the strong, kind and capable organisation that we are today. And it's *your faith, generosity and loyalty* that holds our big Animals Asia family together.

Together, we're kindness in action.

So a very loud and proud "Happy 21st, Team Animals Asia!" And **thank you** to the moon and back for your support during the special year just gone and the challenging year ahead.

Warmest wishes,

Jill Robinson MBE, Dr med vet hc, Hon LLD
Founder and CEO, Animals Asia



MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

Many thousands of animals felt your love and kindness in 2019. From the bears you helped bring home (and nurture every day) to the dogs and cats (big and small) whose lives you turned around, a very sincere **thank you**. Your generosity means the world to every single one of these animals. Whether it's freeing bears from captivity or making captivity bearable for zoo animals, you really are their lifeline.

BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Shu

Chairman

Communications specialist who managed the Asia Pacific operations of leading PR and marketing agencies. Formerly a print and broadcast journalist. Actively supports animal welfare causes.

Jonathan 'Joe' Hancock

Former senior finance executive and long-term Animals Asia supporter. Joe currently provides solutions for health and wealth.

Anneleise Smillie

Former Animals Asia Education Director and long-term supporter. Anneleise has 20 years' experience working in the non-profit world.

Kirvil Skinnarland

Retired trustee of an animal protection foundation and long-time Animals Asia adviser and supporter.

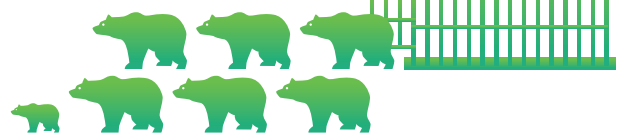


- 7 Frightened moon bear Kim makes a friend
- 10-12 Meet the bears you saved in 2019
- 13 Meet our friendly mascot, Moonie
- 15 Supporters who go the extra mile
- 16 Our plans for a second bear sanctuary in Vietnam
- 17 See what bear carers do to team-build
- 22 The street cats that owe you their lives
- 24 How togetherness is helping our best friends
- 25 Tara's story. From drowning stray to a loving home
- 27 Spotlight on Indonesia's dog meat trade
- 30 Take a look at "baby" elephant Gold now
- 31 Ending cruel festivals, one step at a time
- 33 See how you're easing animals' pain
- 34 Animals Asia's 2019 Supporter Awards

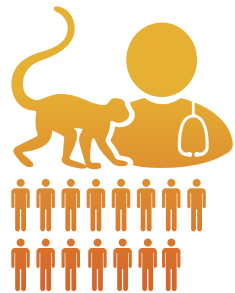
CELEBRATING 21 YEARS

And what a difference we've made to abused animals... and to people.
Thank you on behalf of every one of these beautiful souls

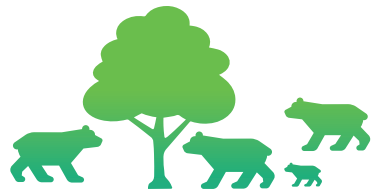
600+ bears rescued from cruelty, mostly from bile farms



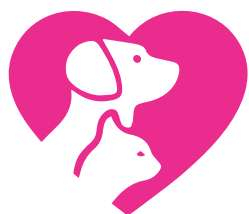
1,500 animal managers and vets trained in animal welfare concepts. This means better care for animals in 37 zoos in China and Vietnam



400+ more suffering bears on their way to sanctuary soon, thanks to our 2017 agreement with the Vietnam government to end the country's bile trade... and thanks to your kind help in building them a new home



30,000 shelter dogs and cats have felt your love, with beds, blankets, food and health care



38 zoos in China, Vietnam and Indonesia no longer force wild animals to perform in cruel circus-style shows. You did that too



660,000+ people in mainland China and Hong Kong have now felt the unconditional love of our gentle therapy dogs – Dr Dogs and Professor Paws – all because of your kind gifts



3 bear rescue sites where broken bears feel your love every day. These include our award-winning sanctuaries in China and Vietnam



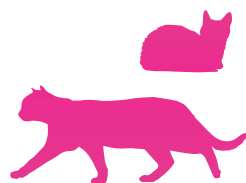
10,000 songbirds – so vital to the pollination of Indonesia's jungles – taken from smugglers and released back into the wild



60% of China's 200+ local animal welfare groups receive our support. Because we receive yours



1,200+ stray cats given better lives through our trap, neuter, return projects with local NGOs. Thank you for ending their misery



TOGETHER FOR BEARS LIKE MEMA





At the end of 2019, Animals Asia had rescued **629** bears from lives of cruelty.

FRIGHTENED KIM FINALLY MAKES A FRIEND

Thirteen years of cruelty on a Vietnamese bile farm left moon bear Kim too scared to play, but now she splashes in the pool with her new best friend.

Unlike many of our recovering bears, Kim had no fear of going outdoors, but for months she was scared of other bears. We tried introducing her to different bears, but she just wasn't ready... until she met Little Jane, and finally learned how to play.

Our rescued bears live in groups of up to 21 individuals. And finally we'd found a group just right for Kim... Little Jane and just two other middle-aged bears who prefer a quiet life.

"It was a real struggle for Kim to find a community of bears she was comfortable with, but as soon as she met Little Jane it was love at first sight. Little Jane instantly started sniffing and nuzzling Kim and they spent a lot of time wrestling and playing with each other."

Since then, their relationship has gone from strength to strength and it was beautiful to see them explore their bubble-filled paddling pool together when we gave them special enrichment – they looked like two friends having a spa day!"

– Amanda Catspell, Bear Team Manager



Poor Kim had been caged alone for 13 years. She was terrified of other bears...



... but then she met Little Jane, and suddenly life was full of fun and bubbles.

RAINBOW OF COLOURS

Gone is the dull yellow wall that used to greet visitors to our Vietnam sanctuary

Now, thanks to Los Angeles Artist Ekaterina Sky, there's a stunning bear mural right at our gates. Thank you to the moon and back, Ekaterina.



We've named our colourful bear "Rainbow" in honour of our very own Rainbow in China, the only bear we've been able to release back into the wild.

In 2017, Animals Asia signed a ground-breaking agreement with the Vietnam government to rescue all remaining bile bears. We have the momentous task of rescuing and homing all bears still suffering in bile cages. The official count is now

496 bears.



Jonathan was one of 12 lucky bears seen by dental specialist Dr Cedric Tutt in a marathon four-day effort at our Vietnam sanctuary. Cedric's patients received treatments including extractions, root canals, fillings, and widening the gaps between teeth to stop food getting stuck. Big, handsome Jonathan needed a root canal filling replaced. (He'd knocked it out during rough play with friends). Our sincere thanks to Cedric (once again) for donating his time and exceptional skills to the bears.

FESTIVAL TIME IS ALL ABOUT THE BEARS

Our bear carers love preparing special surprises for our rescued bears

So when it's festival time, everyone shares the spirit of the season. And whether it's local or Western festivals, our residents are always happy to join in the celebrations.



Your support helped provide **27** surgeries for our rescued bears in China and Vietnam in 2019 (19 minor operations like minor wound repair and eye removal, and eight major operations like hernia repair and forelimb amputation). Thank you for every healing gift that helped our dedicated vet teams with this life-saving work.

Fu An with her Chinese New Year gifts (full of delicious fruit treats). Red lanterns lit up the bears' enclosures at night and soon-to-be-demolished nut-filled red packets hung from the trees. It's safe to say that with your continued support, the bears had a very happy Year of the Pig.



Hiep and Long (right) make a special bear version of banh chung, a popular rice cake at Tet, Vietnam's Lunar New Year. The bears loved their special treats of nuts, seeds and other goodies wrapped in edible leaves.



What's that delicious smell? Poupou, our gorgeous Tibetan brown bear, sniffs out a delicious ghoulish treat. She and her friends loved their special Halloween afternoon of trick or treats. Thank you for filling their tummies with nutritious goodies and their hearts with wonder and joy.



On Tomb-Sweeping Day, Chinese families traditionally clean and decorate their ancestors' graves. Here, Rocky does the same for the brave bears resting in our sanctuary graveyard. Each bear's grave is marked with their name on a wooden crescent symbolising the yellow chest crescents that our stunning moon bears are known for. Our very first bear, Andrew, was the model for the shape of the wooden crescents.



Little Goldie the sun bear was over the moon with excitement on Christmas Day. So much to enjoy (and destroy). Baubles filled with dried fruit and nuts... Christmassy ice blocks... and brightly wrapped gifts with more yummy treats inside. Each a gift of love from you.

YOUR LOVE BROUGHT US HOME

Every gift of kindness you sent helped bring them sanctuary

And helped to fill their tummies with wholesome food... treat their wounds... and mend their broken hearts. **Meet the 10 brave bears your love brought home in 2019.**

SUGAR AND SPICE

Trapped in snares in the wild, these poor babies were forced to perform at a Vietnamese circus. And if it wasn't for you, they'd almost certainly still be there. Muzzled.... forced to walk on two legs... to carry buckets on a pole from their shoulders... and to ride motorbikes (and when they fell off, they were simply grabbed by the neck and thrown back on).

This is little Sugar and Spice in the barren cage they shared between performances... but your love brought them home.



It took time for them to recover. Sugar (right) was particularly traumatised, but today they're happy beyond words... safe and loved because of you.



SCOOPY, PHUONG, LILY & SWEET PEA

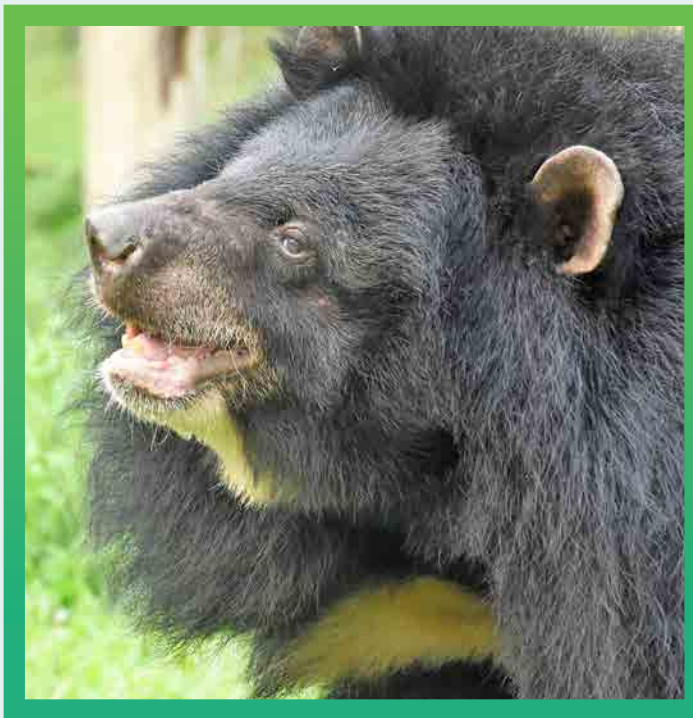
Welcome home, Scooby and friends. This special group had been held at a Vietnamese tourist resort. When the resort decided to close its bear display, we knew we had to get them quickly in case they were sold to a bile farm or circus. It was your generous donations that gave these bears sanctuary.

Scooby is a small bear, possibly stunted from a poor start in life. But he has a BIG personality. He's already showing his cheeky, playful nature and love for water. When he first arrived, he was so excited by honey that he tried to steal the spoon.



Phuong is such a lovely bear... gentle and shy. Sadly her vision is poor and she arrived needing many tooth extractions. We're hoping a visiting ophthalmologist might be able to restore her sight. Meanwhile she's pain-free and loving her new life.

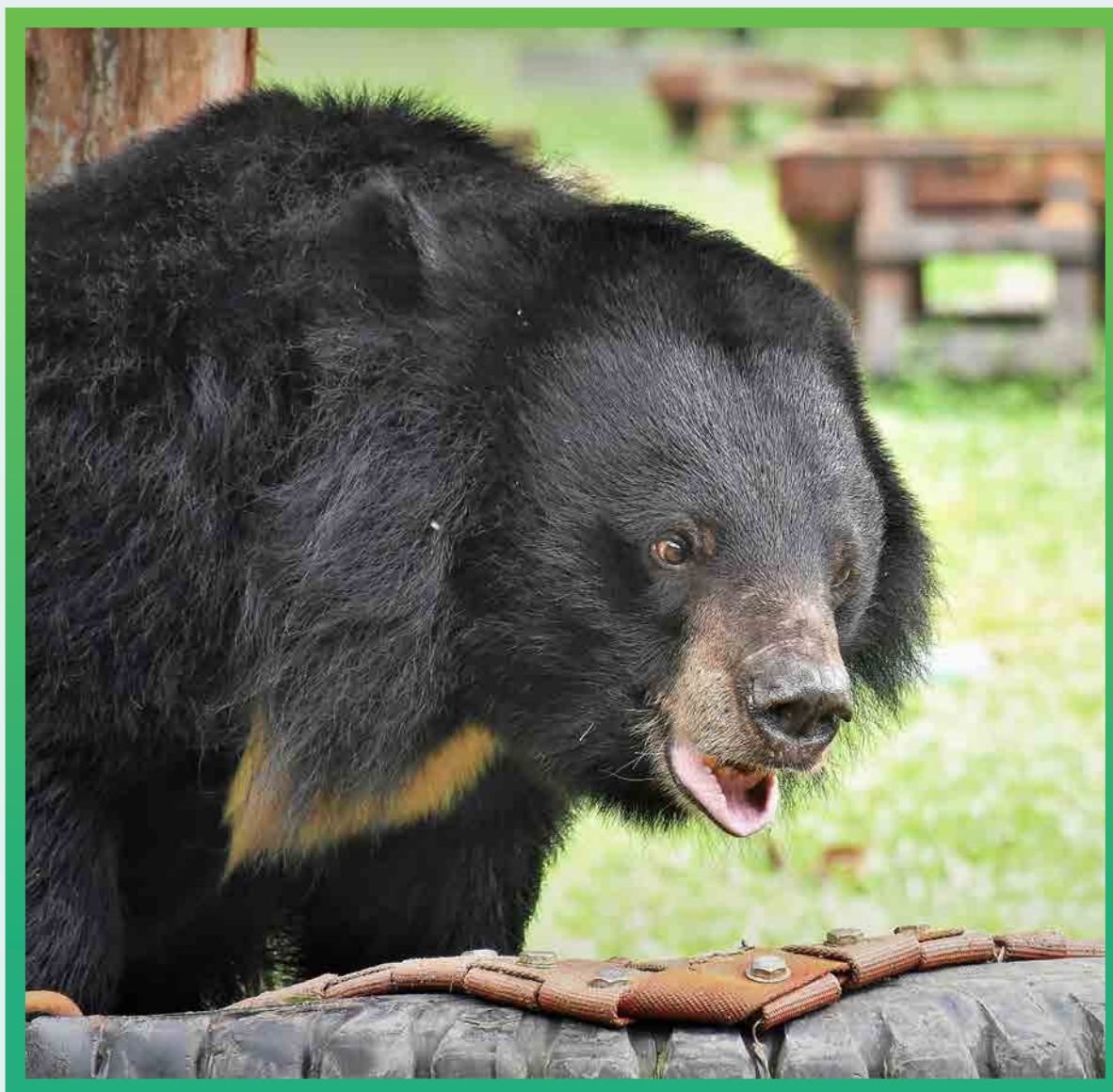




With her sparkling eyes and tiny pink ears, gorgeous little Lily looks like a pixie... even with the horrific scar that runs right around her torso from an unimaginably painful snare injury. Thankfully the physical pain is long gone... and with each new day your healing love shows in every sweet smile.



Our sweetest little Sweet Pea... she needed an urgent dental that took away years of gnawing pain. She also needed surgery to remove a mango stone that she couldn't pass. She'd eaten the mango at the resort. (We always remove the stones when the bears are given mango.) Now this dear little bear is well and happy. She loves her life of sanctuary.



Caged and abused for 11 years for her bile, and abandoned on a noisy construction site, poor Phoenix was despondent and ill. She had no one. Until there was you. After surgery to remove her damaged gall bladder, and months of wholesome food and kind loving words, this precious bear is finally "home."

AMY, THE LITTLE BEAR WE LOVED AND LOST

Severely underweight and dehydrated, missing a paw and half her tongue, little Amy lived for just 33 days in our care

It broke our hearts that we couldn't save this precious soul after she'd endured nearly 15 years of abuse in a bile cage. But at least we know that, thanks to you, Amy finally knew love.

"Since arriving at the sanctuary, her coat changed from sparse and coarse to luscious and fluffy. Her eyes, so sunken on arrival they looked like they were missing, shone with delight as she was given treats. She loved to be showered, she loved to roll around and she loved to play and nest with fresh leaves."

– Sarah van Herpt, Senior Bear Team Manager, Vietnam

In 2019, our Vietnam veterinary team completed 129 health checks on the bears, **42** of which required dental treatments.



Because you care, little Amy didn't die a painful death, frightened and alone in this cage...



... instead she had pain relief. She played and made nests. All the time surrounded by your love.

VALERIE

Valerie was hunched in her tiny cage when we came to rescue her from a Vietnamese circus school. She'd all but given up. The first thing we noticed was her sunken right eye. She also had a diseased molar that had probably caused her years of pain. But true to her name, this brave and valourous bear is trusting her instincts and slowly learning to become a bear.

This was Valerie's entire world (when she wasn't being forced to perform unnatural and terrifying circus tricks). Your kind gifts broke open her cage.



Valerie still has dry calluses on her head from rubbing it along the bars of her tiny cage. But with lots of TLC and good nutrition, these, along with her broken heart, are healing over time.

TUAN

For 15 long years, Tuan lived on a pig farm just 20km from our Vietnam sanctuary, but for this poor bear it was a world away from the paradise he would come to know. Tuan was morbidly overweight from an inappropriate diet of commercial pig food. He was weak and his muscles had atrophied.



Such a large bear and such a tiny cage... thank you to the moon and back for getting our lovely Tuan out of this hell-hole.



Now that he's getting lots of exercise, Tuan is gradually getting in shape. He still has a big appetite, but now all his food is healthy and delicious.

Our China bears had **159** health checks under anaesthesia in 2019 – 90 at our Chengdu sanctuary and 69 at our Nanning rescue site.

FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVE

Two very special families have honoured the bears in their lives... now we'd like to honour them



Lovely supporter Lola Webber and partner Derek named their twin babies "Mia Sun Bear" and "Eloise Moon Bear". Prominent in the animal welfare world, Lola is obviously a huge fan of the bears. Welcome to the world little cubs, our newest and cutest Animals Asia family members.



When Pearl Coatsworth said a final goodbye to her husband Ken just short of his 93rd birthday, he was wearing an Animals Asia bear T-shirt and clutching one of our leaflets to his heart. This very special couple from New Zealand worked tirelessly at stalls and events, and spoke relentlessly to the media. They lived and breathed the goal of ending bear bile farming. Our love and condolences to Pearl, and daughter Denise, who also cares so much for the bears, even visiting our sanctuary in Vietnam recently. What a truly incredible family.

WHO IS MOONIE?

You might have seen our "Moonie the moon bear" ambassador popping up of late

Moonie was created for us by a group of Beijing designers in 2015, and has become popular in China, with over 10 million shares on social media. Now Moonie is helping to share the Animals Asia message of kindness, empathy and bear hugs all around the world.



Our grateful thanks to veterinary ophthalmology specialist Dr Claudia Hartley for donating her time and expertise to our rescued bears. Claudia checked **14** bears over five days in Chengdu and Nanning. And she's been helping the bears since 2008.



Please see over for a sneak peek at our plans for a second bear sanctuary in Vietnam

YOUR LOVE WILL BRING THEM HOME

They wait in desperation. Crammed in tiny cages, abused, hungry and distraught

If only we could let them know our plans.

Thanks to your love and compassion, hundreds of traumatised bile farm bears will have their own piece of paradise within the next few years.

Our plans for a new sanctuary, possibly in the stunning Pu Mat National Park, are going ahead, although slightly delayed due to the impact of Covid-19. Your kind support has already helped us with all the preparatory work needed to start building – plans and permits, architects, drainage experts and environmental reports.

We're now hoping to break ground on our new sanctuary – our second in Vietnam – in mid-2021.

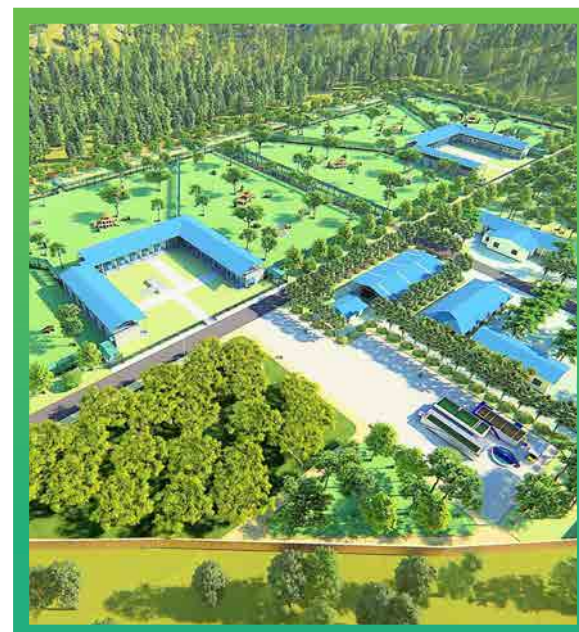
We're also planning a **third** bear sanctuary in Vietnam to take in the country's very last bile bears. This will likely be in Yok Don National Park in Dak Lak Province where we already co-manage an elephant sanctuary.

Animals Asia is the Vietnam government's official partner in the historic rescue of all remaining bears on farms... and the end of the cruel industry for ever. Never forget your special part in this incredible achievement. We're doing this together.

Animals Asia's first Vietnam sanctuary, opened in 2006

The likely site of our second sanctuary, due to open in 2022

The possible site of our third sanctuary, due for completion in 2024



An artist's impression of our soon-to-be-built second Vietnam bear sanctuary. The 5.5-hectare rescue centre will be home to 200 bears now suffering on bile farms.



They'll live in bear houses with comfy dens attached to their outdoor enclosures. At night they'll snuggle up in hanging basket beds or on the grass under the stars if they wish. A typical enclosure will have grass to play on and trees to climb. There'll also be swimming pools, wooden structures, and bear-sized toys. What a paradise awaits these poor bears.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Meet handsome lookalikes Baruffa and Georges



Baruffa



Georges

Moon bear brothers Baruffa and Georges, with their distinctive pale muzzles, are among eight sets of siblings who made the most of our Miomojo Bear House in 2019. Part-funded by ethical Italian fashion designers Miomojo, this special bear house also had our biggest group of bears, with 21 in total. Moon bears live solitary lives in the wild, so to see all these bears getting along and playing happily together (or happily watching others at play) really is extraordinary. **It's your kindness in action.**

WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD

What do our devoted bear carers do to team-build? They test new toys and games for the bears, of course. Welcome to the Bear-lympics!

To get into the mindset of the bears, they explored like a bear would, with curiosity and playfulness. They foraged for prize tickets hidden like bear snacks and competed in games like coconut-cracking and toy-building.

"The Bear-lympics was a great way of getting together and focusing on the bears' needs in a fun and playful way."

– Sarah van Herpt, Senior Bear Team Manager, Vietnam



Yes, this looks sturdy enough for little bears... and they'll have a ball destroying it too!



Our enormous thanks to **Aya Fujisaki** who single-handedly started Japan's first Animals Asia's Support Group. We're so grateful for all your hard work, Aya.

YOU GAVE THEM 254 YEARS (AND 33 DAYS) OF JOY

Thank you for every precious moment of love and care you sent the 28 precious souls we lost in 2019

TOGETHER UNTIL THE END

Possum and Canberra died as they had lived, together

From the very first day they arrived at our China sanctuary in 2006, these beautiful bears were inseparable. Two peas in a pod, they often slept in the same basket bed, and always snuggled up to snooze through the long cold winter months together.

So, as sad as we were, when these best of girlfriends chose the very same day to let us know it was time for them to say goodbye, it seemed the most natural thing in the world.

Possum and Canberra had both seen a rapid decline in mobility, despite extra pain relief and other treatments. Then, on the very same cold morning in December, it became apparent that we had to end their suffering and let them go. We buried them side by side that same afternoon with their favourite toys and snacks, and flowering trees either side of their grave. You gave these bears a life they could never have dreamed of during their time of terror. Because of you, they grew old together in comfort and peace.



33
days

"Even in the short time she was with us, the change in this special little bear was amazing. From sad and dejected to curious and playful. Amy relished jam and loved to arrange banana leaves into a nest just so."

- Heidi Quine, Vietnam Bear and Vet Team Director
(See Amy's story on page 9)

5
years

"Cumbrae, our little singer. I'll miss hearing your loud clucking down the corridor. I'll miss your stunning fox-face."

- Ryan Sucaet, China Bear and Vet Team Director

19
years

"When the water in the metal pool was replaced, Frank would take a dip in it right away. In winter he especially liked hessian sacks and dried banana leaves."

- Li Ping, Bear Team Leader, China

11
years

"Gypsy was a total sweetheart. She liked playing and wrestling with her boys, lanky Bodo and squat little George."

- Rocky Shi, Bear Team Manager, China

19
years

"Seeing Marta's gorgeous upturned nose squeezing through the bars for a treat was a great way to start the day."

- Rachel Sanki, Resident Veterinarian, China

9
years



"We often saw Bombo sharing a basket with best friend Kollo in the early morning when we were about to start a new day."

- Binh, Bear Team Leader, Vietnam

10
years



"Bamse was a lively ray of sunshine and handsome. After foraging and a sound sleep, he liked to play with Peter, running and wrestling and bathing in the big pool."

- Ma Jing, Bear Team Leader, China

10
years



"Bill, I really felt that you knew when I was around and that is just the most wonderful feeling... that I had such a contact with you."

- Sue Cuthbertson, who named Bill and visited him in China each year with husband Steve

14
years

"Every morning after foraging, Billy would sleep soundly under the wooden table. His snore mixed with birds chirping sounded like a symphony to us."

- Lu Wen Juan, Bear Team Leader, China

9
years

"Erdi was the 'weirdo' of her group. She would often play by herself for hours with just a twig or a leaf, and other months would obsess over boyfriend Jonah."

- Ffion Johnson, Vet Nurse, China

16
years

"Walking backwards, frothing mouth, tongue hanging out, breathtakingly gorgeous cream-coloured face."

Ginger was beyond unique."
- Ryan Sucaet, China Bear and Vet Team Director

5
years

"Kleopatra really loved the giant logs we gave her. She'd swing them around, over and over, until they rolled under the hammock and she had to work out how to retrieve them."

- Molly Feldman, Bear Team Manager, China

5
years

"Nicola Jayne enjoyed splashing water in the pool a lot. And she would lie and bathe in the pool if she was tired of splashing."

- Ou Jun, Bear Team Supervisor, China



14
years

"Margeaux had a good friend in Claudia. When going out into the enclosure, Claudia was often waiting for her at the front, making the other bears envy their relationship."

– Li Ping, Bear Team Leader, China



12
years

"Mara loved to nap on her favourite swing. It seemed the swing movement was the perfect lullaby for her."

– Chien, Bear Team Manager, Vietnam



14
years

"Squash, you were a very gentle and adorable bear. Your limbs were short but you remained very beautiful."

– Yang Li, Bear Team Supervisor, China



2
years

"Wendles... this sweet and exquisitely beautiful little bear had just over two years with us, but two years filled with love and contentment."

– Jill Robinson, founder and CEO



9
years

"Monkey, we'll remember the tree parties you enjoyed with your band of rogues – Birrigai, George and Eclipse. And you playing in slow motion with three-legged Harley."

– Jill Robinson, founder and CEO



5
years

"Penny would quickly blink her tiny eyes when I talked to her as if I was blowing gusts of air onto her face. She was an over-exaggerator, like me."

– Ryan Sucaet, China Bear and Vet Team Director



5
years

"Every day after eating, Princess would rest or sleep. When it was hot out, she would play with water in the pool, and sometimes even sleep in it."

– Ou Jun, Bear Team Supervisor, China



8
years

"St Bic enjoyed being particular in all manners, including being the only bear at the sanctuary to insist on pineapple jam with her daily medicated marshmallows."

– Rachel Sanki, Resident Veterinarian, China



6
years

"The first time I saw Xuan Xuan she was lying on her back, playing with a giant log. Walking past several hours later, she was still contently playing with her log."

– Dr Emily (Eddie) Drayton, Senior Vet Surgeon, China



9
years

"There was no other bear like our dear little Poppy (Inas/Trix). Humongous Mickey Mouse ears that grew Shrek-like out from the side of her head, and her perfect Buddha bear pose."

– Jill Robinson, founder and CEO



9
years

"Early on, Smart often wanted to stay outdoors. Once she hid under bamboo leaves in the bamboo forest. We took a long time to find her."

– Rocky Shi, Bear Team Manager, China



5
years

"Pumpkin never got to feel grass or run long distances or fully submerge her gorgeousness into a body of water. But she did feel love."

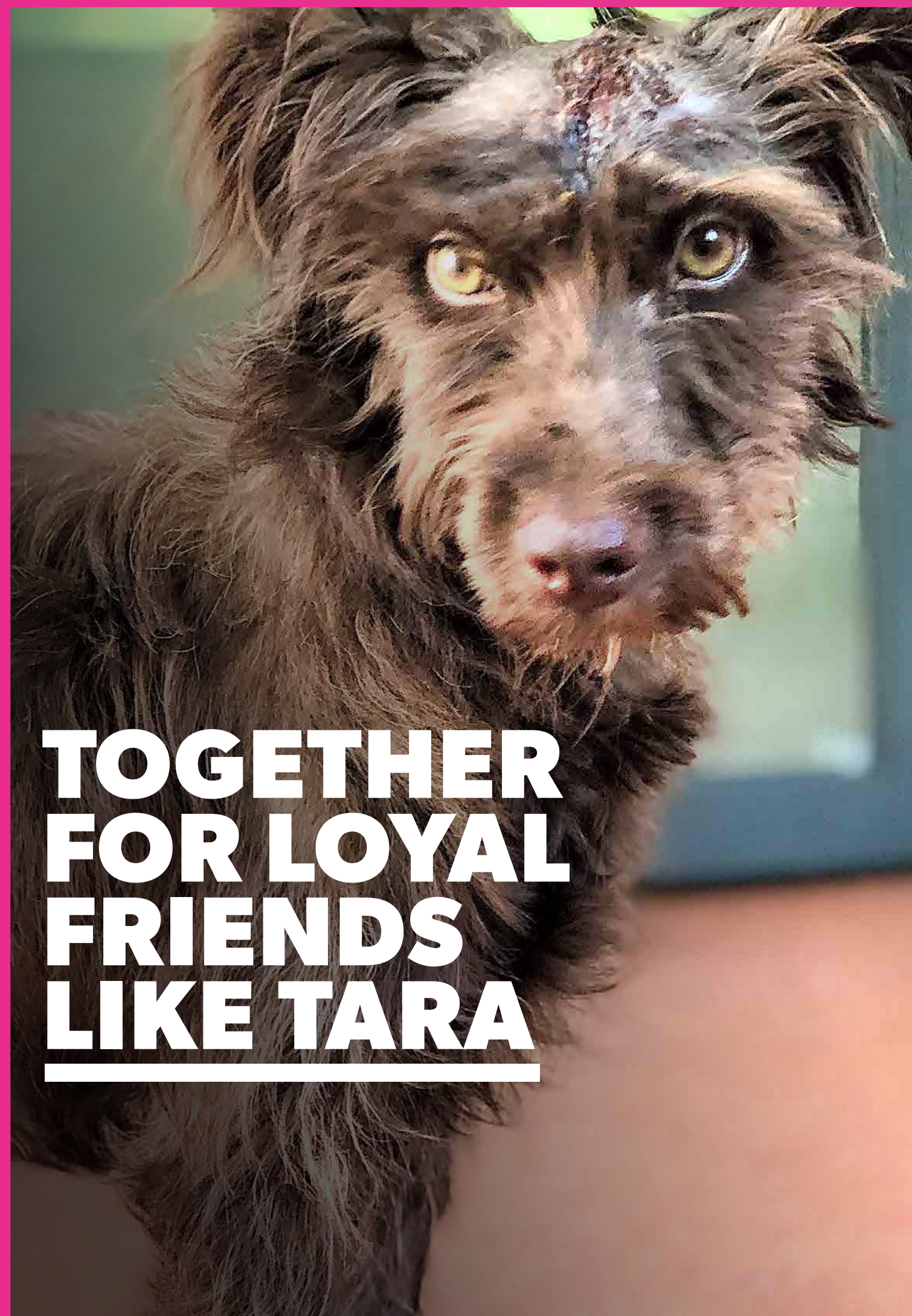
– Ryan Sucaet, China Bear and Vet Team Director



14
years

"Weston Super Bear was always the biggest male bear in my heart. He was greedy and playful. He had his own territory and majesty, especially when he was eating."

– Rocky Shi, Bear Team Manager, China



TOGETHER FOR LOYAL FRIENDS LIKE TARA

TRAP NEUTER RETURN (REPEAT)

Ginger, the tubby tabby who lived on the streets, now has a loving family (and a new healthy diet) all thanks to your kind support

Ginger is one of 292 stray cats to be neutered, and one of over 50 to find forever homes, through humane population control projects that you helped fund in China in 2019.

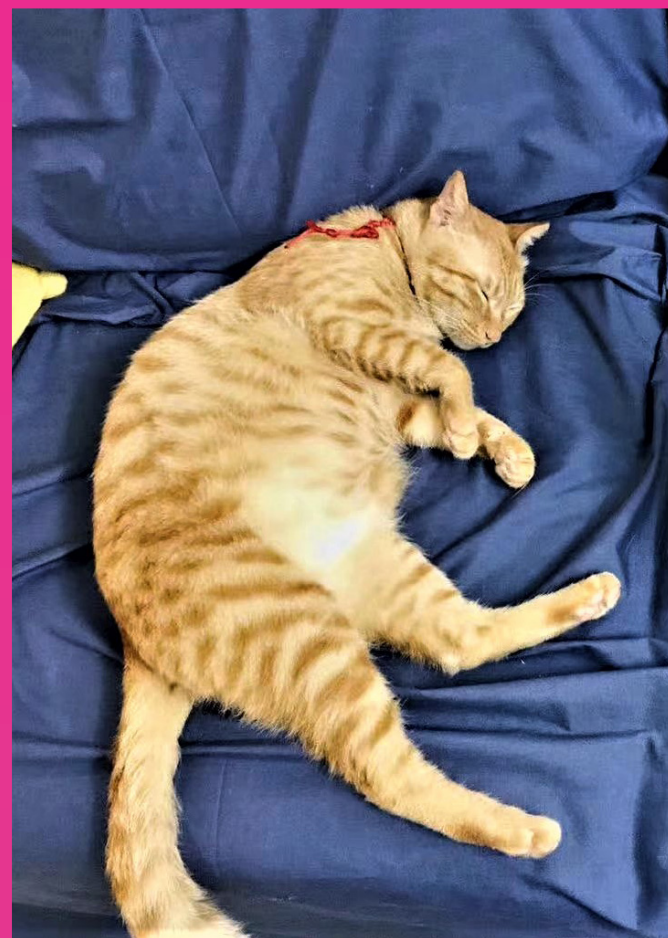
Your gifts allowed us to fund trap, neuter, return (TNR)

projects for 12 NGOs in Guangxi. Volunteers trapped, neutered, vaccinated, de-wormed and returned or, where possible, found homes for the cats.

We also held two stray cat TNR training courses with Beijing organisation Lucky Cat, one in Fujian, the other in Hebei.

"TNR is not just great for cats living on the streets now. It means there'll be fewer cats living tough lives in the future."

– Saber Zhang, Senior Cat and Dog Welfare Manager, China



Ginger, the tomcat, is one of our happy clients. While he won't be fathering any more litters, he has a warm and loving home in compensation.



Volunteers in Hebei learn to set traps in a park that has many stray cats. The cats were sent to the vet for de-sexing and returned after surgery.

So far, Animals Asia has helped 320 volunteers from **37** NGOs learn about humane population control for cats, with in-depth TNR training. We've also helped to de-sex over 1,200 cats and donated vaccines.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DR DOGS

And to their lovely guardians...

Our gentle therapy dogs brought comfort, love and laughter to thousands of people in 2019.

They healed hearts and changed minds, without having to say a word. They deserve our endless thanks, as do their lovely guardians.

Throughout four mainland Chinese cities – Chengdu, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Nanning – and Hong Kong they dispensed their special healing medicine in the kindest way possible. With unconditional love.

Our Dr Dogs brought happiness to 9,395 people on 257 visits to hospitals, senior homes and centres for people with disabilities.

Our Professor Paws visited 5,762 school students in 99 activities. And our Cat and Dog Welfare teams held 70 public education events attracting over 4,400 people.

Our educational film **Cat and Dog Welfare around Us** has been played in **27** Chinese cities reaching **15,282** people in 2019.



Dr Moli brightens these children's day at a Chengdu orphanage.



All our Dr Dogs undergo a thorough health and safety check to ensure they have the calm, accepting qualities needed of a therapy dog. Gentle Bonbon passed with flying colours and now he's on a mission to spread love and kindness in care homes throughout Chengdu.

WHERE CATS AND DOGS ARE ALWAYS ON THE AGENDA

NGOs from over 50 Chinese cities joined our 7th China Companion Animal Symposium in 2019.

Our symposiums, held every two to three years, are where many of China's animal welfare groups meet to discuss issues affecting their work and how to

overcome challenges.

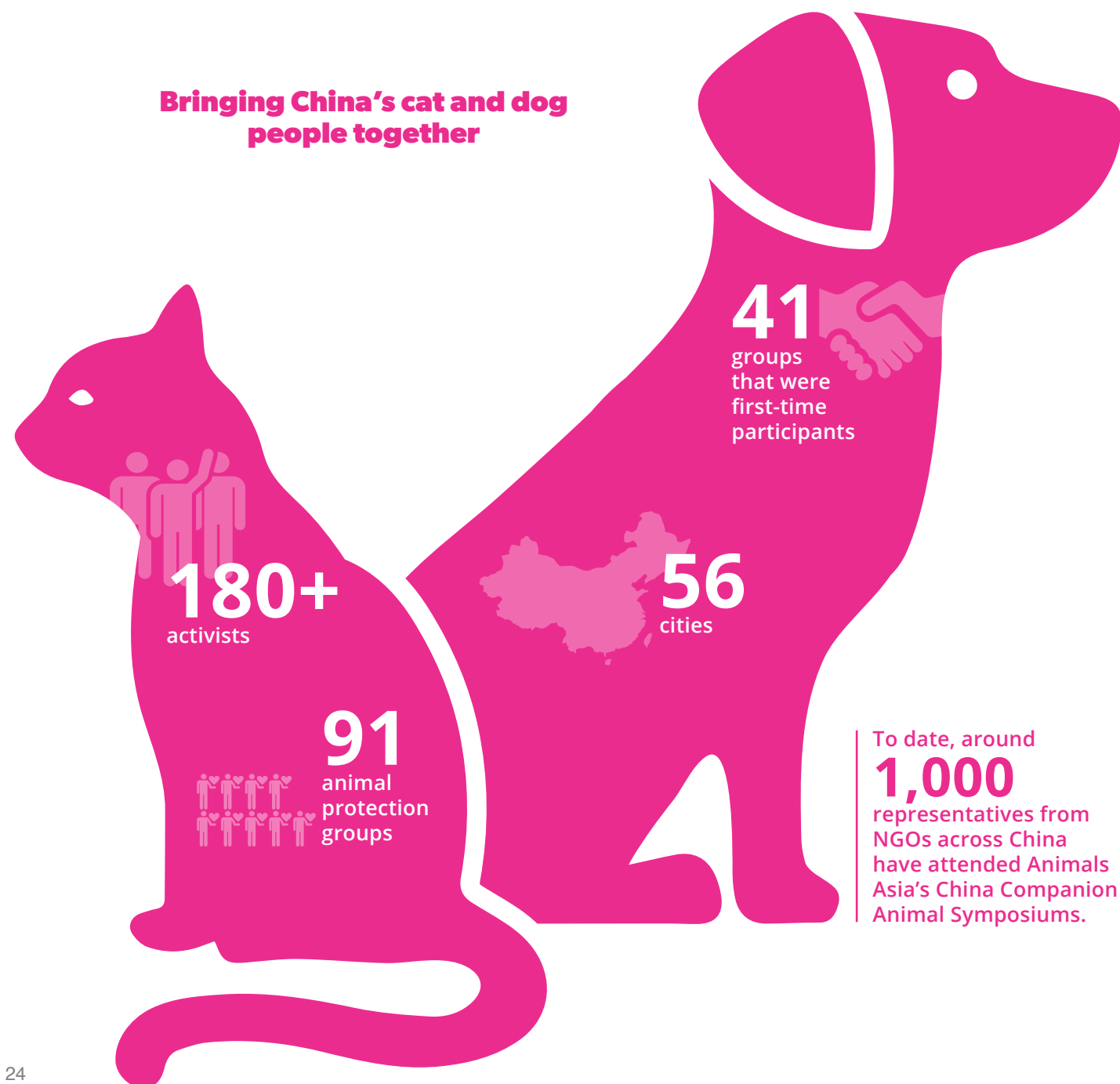
These include raising enough money to fund their shelters, working effectively with local officials, and organising volunteers.

We bring in experts to help, in 2019 inviting speakers on rescue

methods, shelter management and capacity-building.

One great thing about our symposiums is the long-term relationships formed between NGOs. This is how long-term change is made.

Bringing China's cat and dog people together



NOT JUST A SANCTUARY FOR BEARS

We're not sure if they're the *luckiest* or the *smartest* strays in China...

... but the lost cats and dogs who wander into our China bear sanctuary couldn't have found a better refuge.

Tara was hauled from a stream by our kind security guards. This poor dog was struggling so hard, her long limbs thrashing in the water, she could easily have drowned. But happily, her story ends well.

Thanks to a growing online network of animal lovers, Tara and the 20 other stray animals found at our sanctuary in 2019 now have loving homes.

Most were puppies, but we had some other adult dogs and kittens too. All animals we care for are vaccinated and neutered before going to their new families and, if they're too young to be de-sexed, we offer this free at a later date.

Rake-thin... filthy... matted fur... and trembling. Tara was a sorry sight when she was dragged from the water.



But after just a few weeks of tender love and expert vet care, a new and confident Tara emerged.



And now this gorgeous, gangly girl has a silky coat and her very own forever home. Another life saved, all because of your support.

PUBLIC SPEAKING UP FOR 'MEAT DOGS'

Targeting the illegalities of dog meat restaurants

While it's not a crime to sell or consume dog meat in China, many restaurants are breaking the law by not having the required documentation like quarantine and transport certificates. So volunteers can report them to the authorities via our online campaign platform.

In 2019, three restaurants were forced to close thanks to these reports and 23 received warnings from the authorities.

Volunteers are also reporting animal abuse footage/dog meat products on popular online platforms like Taobao.com, Iqiyi.com and Tik Tok.

42 dog meat products were removed from sale on Taobao.com in 2019 after they were reported by volunteers. (Taobao promised to ban dog and cat meat products in 2011.)



The Chinese public – concerned about the welfare of animals and also their own health – are increasingly reporting dog and cat meat restaurants that ignore quarantine and hygiene regulations.



Events like this in Hanoi, where families bring along their much-loved dogs, are one important way we're spreading the message throughout Asia that dogs are our friends, not food.

THEIR SAD EYES SAY IT ALL

The pleading eyes of dogs and cats trapped in Indonesia's meat markets will probably haunt Animals Asia Ambassador Peter Egan forever

But the Downton Abbey star is determined to expose the "sickening horrors" he witnessed at some of the country's most notorious live animal markets.

In 2019, Peter joined filmmaker Andrew Telling and campaigners from the Dog Meat Free Indonesia Coalition (of which we are a member) to document the cruelty at markets in North Sulawesi.

A year earlier, the coalition secured a pledge from the government to ban the trade in cat and dog meat. But a lack of enforcement means the industry is still thriving in some areas.

Thousands of dogs and cats are killed each week at the markets in North Sulawesi alone.

Thank you, Peter, for speaking up for these desperate animals.

Despite the size of the trade (around a million dogs and cats are killed each year), only around **7%** of Indonesians eat dog or cat meat.

Around **80%** of Indonesia's "meat dogs" are imported from other provinces, which is illegal under the country's anti-rabies laws.



Most of the dogs and cats are slaughtered in front of their cage mates.



Meet fabulous **Jan Murphy**, our US Andrew Supporter Award winner for 2019. Jan helped create awareness of our work by participating in VegFest Seattle. She also co-chaired our first online auction, helping to make it a huge success. Thank you, Jan. You're one in a million.

STILL MUCH WORK TO BE DONE

Widespread misunderstanding of cat and dog trade

Our 2019 online survey suggests that around 64% of Chinese people still believe (wrongly) that farming is the main source of cat and dog meat.

And more than seven out of 10 of the 1,500 people surveyed said they wouldn't consume dog and cat meat if they knew the meat was from poisoned pets or stolen strays (as most of it is).

So, with your kind support, this is an issue we'll be campaigning on more in future.



These poor trusting dogs don't know the horrors in store for them yet. Most dogs who end up in meat markets are stolen pets or strays. However the public still believe most meat dogs are bred on farms.



In 2006, there were just 30 animal welfare groups in China. Today there are more

than **200**. Animals Asia funds or mentors 60% of these organisations.

To date, more than **30,000** shelter animals in 67 government and NGO shelters in China have benefitted from your kind help. This includes food, vaccines, dog beds and shelter improvements.

"Introducing legislation to protect animals in China is proving extremely difficult, but we can influence the public and alert them to the urgent need to protect dogs and cats, consider their welfare, and stop animal cruelty in their communities."

Suki Deng, Cat and Dog Welfare Director

TOGETHER FOR CAPTIVE WILD ANIMALS



LOOK WHO'S ALL GROWN UP

The little elephant who fell down a well is not so little now

"Baby" Gold is now four years old and what a handsome young bull he is.

At just two months of age, he fell into a well and was abandoned by his family group. Thankfully, our partners at Dak Lak Elephant Conservation Centre in Vietnam were able to save him and offer him a home.

Attempts to reunite Gold with his family sadly failed. But he's happy with adopted brother Jun, who was rescued with horrible injuries from a snare.



Cute as a button, Gold soon came to realise he was safe with us. And he had a sandpit and dug-out pools to wash and splash in.



Now four years old, he's a handsome juvenile, with a whole fenced-in forest to roam. Your kind gifts help animals like Gold every day of the year.

TOURISM WITH HEART

First they were forced to carry tourists...

... now tourists carry them in their hearts. Our ethical elephant tours in Vietnam's Yok Don National Park are attracting visitors from around the world. And they're loving what they see...

... six beautiful elephants, who once were forced to carry tourists and were chained alone when not working, now roam free in the forest. They wash in muddy pools. Forage for leaves. And interact by touching each other's faces and trunks and by rumbling so low that we can't even hear them.



Bun Kham couldn't be happier with her new life. And her original mahout (carer) was invited to join the ethical tours, so he still has an income.

Our enormous thanks to **Olsen Animal Trust** for their very generous support of our ethical elephant tours programme.

MORE SMALL STEPS

Progress is slow and steady like the buffalo

For the first time in years, Vietnam's annual Do Son Buffalo Fighting Festival was *not* broadcast on national TV.

And only half the number of buffaloes will be used in future events compared with previous years.

"Of course any progress is good, but this doesn't go far enough. Even one buffalo caused unnecessary suffering is too many. We won't stop until all these gentle, innocent animals are safe."

Nguyen Tam Thanh, Animal Welfare Department Manager

Vinh Phuc Province didn't hold its annual buffalo fighting festival in 2020 because of the coronavirus outbreak. We're hoping public pressure will discourage the province from holding the event again in future.

Before they fight, buffaloes are deliberately goaded and made angry by their owners, and their horns are sharpened to cause maximum damage.



To help change public attitudes to buffalo fighting and other cruel events like ritual pig slaughter, in 2019 we ran an art competition open to everyone in Vietnam. The top 15 entries, including 27-year-old winner Ms Nguyễn Cẩm Anh's striking work here, were sent to relevant officials and festival organisers in Vinh Phuc Province, Hai Phong City and Bac Ninh Province, all places where buffalo fighting or other cruel spectacles are held.



We're so grateful to the kind-hearted people at **VZUT** in Switzerland. Each year at Christmas they prepare handmade goodie bags, including a vegan version, to sell and raise money for Animals Asia. This is on top of their regular fundraising activities throughout the years. VZUT are our European Andrew Award winners for 2019.

HE WAS ADVERTISED FOR SALE

That's when we rushed in

Thanks to you, when a social media post offered male macaque Lit for sale, we were able to step in.

And when someone found female Tet in their garden with a leg wounded so badly it had to be amputated, you allowed us to offer her a home.

Now, because of your kindness, both Lit and Tet are safe at a shelter we co-manage in Yok Don National Park. They live happily with five other rescued macaques.



Poor little Tet. She'd recently lost her leg when we came to give her sanctuary.



Today she lives in a large enclosure with best friend Lit (left). They have toys to play with and platforms to climb. And best of all, they have a family.



Maureen Gerrard of Hong Kong is one of our quiet achievers. Over the years, Maureen has given generously, both of funds from her own pocket and beautiful items from her lifestyle store. She always has a donation box in her shop, holds annual sales for Animals Asia and encourages her customers to become supporters too. Mo, it's good, kind people like you who are our rock. Please know how very grateful we are for every precious gift.

Vietnam is home to five macaque species, all at risk from illegal hunting and habitat destruction. Poached macaques end up as exotic pets or circus performers.

"Tragically far too many macaques are poached for the exotic pet trade. They uniformly suffer from neglect, stress and malnutrition as owners are simply unable to provide for their welfare needs."

Dave Neale, Animal Welfare Director

Your kind support allows us to fund and mentor young groups like Indonesia's Scorpion Foundation, which was set up in 2015. The group has since worked with the Indonesian Wildlife Authority to rescue over **50** protected animals including orangutans, gibbons and birds.

YOU'RE EASING THE PAIN FOR ANIMALS

Our vet teams – considered world experts in pain management – are sharing their knowledge and experience with vets and vet students throughout China and Vietnam

And the outcome will be happier animals, no longer forced to endure unnecessary pain, sometimes for many years. All thanks to your generosity.

We asked our trainees to take a survey before they started. The results show just how much your support is needed. Here's an example from 2019:

Jiangsu Province, China

- 75 of 150 vet students had heard of animal welfare
- 0 of the 150 had heard of the five freedoms (the universal checklist for animal welfare that includes freedom from hunger, thirst and discomfort)
- Most vets (in a group of 60) used some form of pain-relief pre-surgery, but were inconsistent in using it during and post-surgery
- There was zero understanding of pain management for chronic pain (long-term)

Your support of our vet training courses means less pain for animals throughout China and Vietnam.



FLIGHT believes up to **10,000** protected species of songbirds are trafficked into the Indonesian capital of Jakarta each week, where they are sold in markets.

Did you know? All sunbirds are songbirds, but not all songbirds are sunbirds. Songbirds include around **4,000** species and make up nearly half the world's bird population.



Animals Asia's partner, FLIGHT, rescued over 1,000 sunbirds from smugglers in Indonesia in 2019. These particular birds are crucial to pollination in the country's forests. The latest rescues bring to over 10,000 the number of birds rescued and returned to the jungle by the group since it was set up two years ago.

When the UK's **Silvana Sgarbini** lost her job a few years ago, instead of wallowing in self-pity, she opened a shop to help animals. Sadly, Silvana recently had to close "Cisky's Helping Animals In Need", but not before raising a lot of much-needed funds for Animals Asia and other animal charities. Silvana is our 2019 Andrew Award winner for the UK.

ANIMALS ASIA SUPPORTER AWARDS 2019

In recognition of those very special people who gave so much for the animals in 2019

Andrew Award

For exceptional innovation in fundraising and/or advocacy

Cisky's Helping Animals In Need/Silvana Sgarbini, UK (See Silvana's story on page 33)
Jan Murphy, US (Meet Jan on page 27)
VZUT, Switzerland (See their story on page 31)

Jasper Award

For raising the most funds for the animals

Maureen Gerrard (Hong Kong)
Christiane Krumnow von Sponeck (Germany)
Peace Fur Paws (US)
Penny Thompson (UK)

Rupert Award

For raising the most funds for the animals in 2019

Gold

ISF Academy (Hong Kong)
Peace Fur Paws (US)
Animals Asia Groupe De Soutien (France)
Surrey & Hampshire Borders Support Group (UK)

Silver

Aya Fujisaki/Animals Asia Support Group Japan (Japan)
Animalia Ry (Finland)
Worcestershire Support Group (UK)

Bronze

Gruppo Di Supporto Di Animals Asia/Emilia Romagna (Italy)
West Yorkshire Support Group (UK)
British School In Tokyo (Japan)

Oliver Award

For exceptional fundraising and advocacy

Leslie Byron (US)
Paul and Dawn Hendy (UK)
Giuliana Corea (Italy)
Silvia Mariotti (Italy)
Roland Müller (Switzerland)
Sally Rodd (Australia)
Seex family (UK)
Helen Crabb (UK)

Certificate of appreciation

For outstanding support

AUSTRALIA: Anne Ditton
GERMANY: Helga Körnig-Reis
ITALY: Pasqualina Colombo, Claudia Pievani/Miomojo
NETHERLANDS: Ciska de Hilster/Stichting Save The Moonbears
SWITZERLAND: Katharina Büttiker/Animal Trust
UK: Suzanne Clough, Debi Henderson, Ann Markowe, Joan Stuart, Alex Todd

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

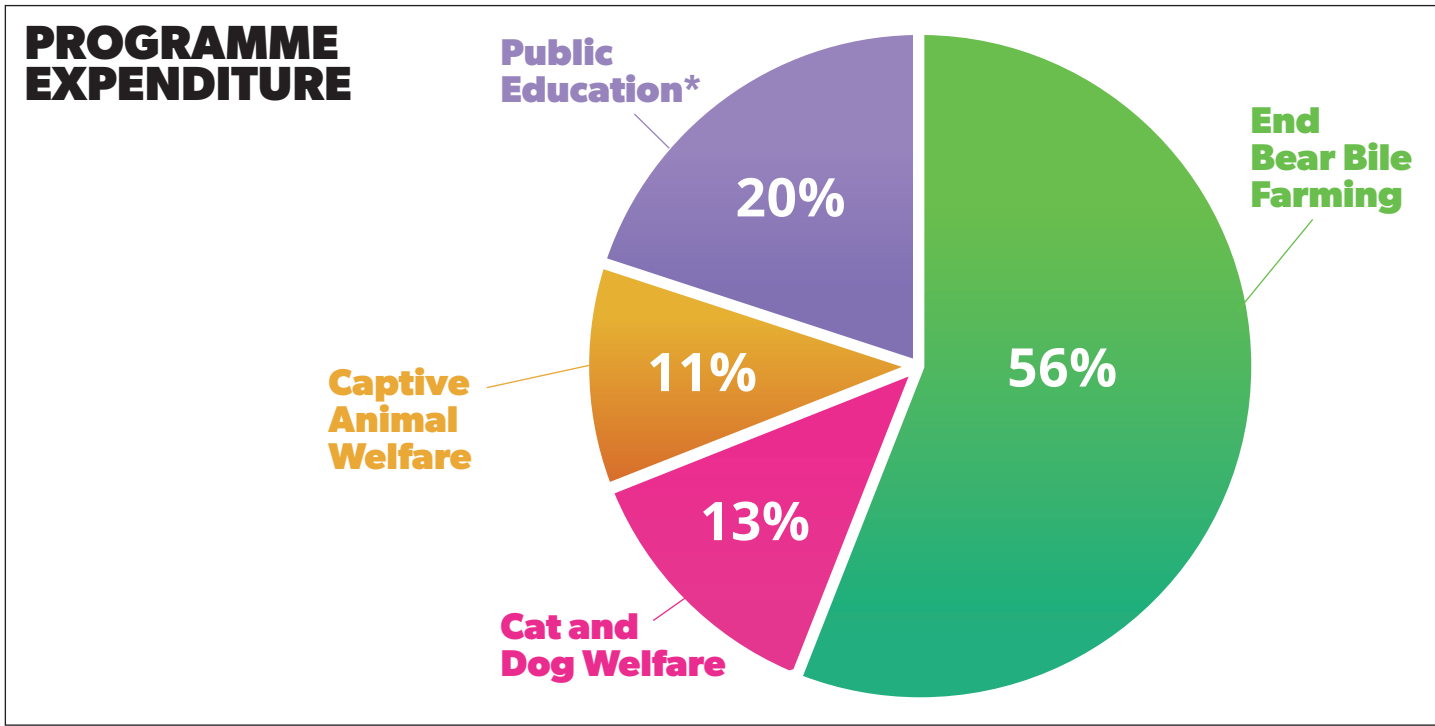
We didn't know it then, but as 2019 came to a close, an unprecedented crisis was looming, one that would make the previous year's enormous challenges look like a walk in the park.

Thank goodness for loyal supporters like you. Your kindness touched the lives of thousands of

animals, big and small, in 2019. Some were healed and some were homed, and some were saved from horrific abuse. Each one of these precious souls has a better life because of you.

Thank you sincerely for every generous gift sent with love from your heart to theirs.

GLOBAL INCOME \$11.187m (all amounts in US\$)



Capital expenditure

\$263,297

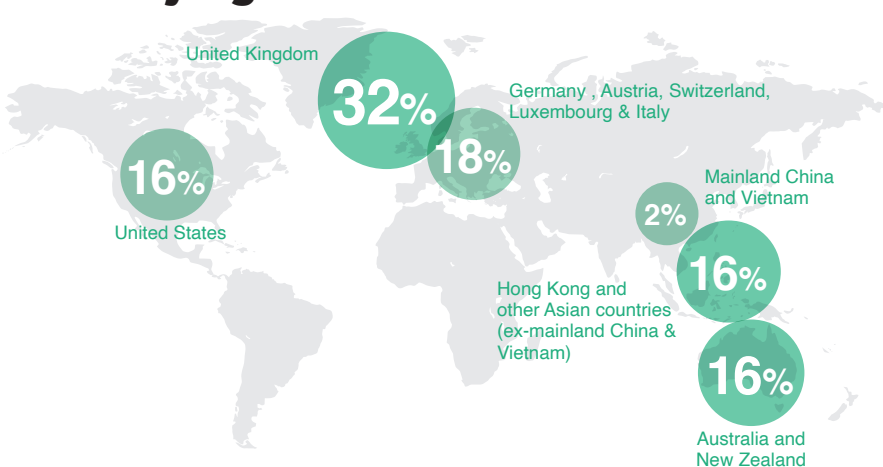
Equipment	9%
Construction	37%
Sanctuary refurbishment	54%

Running costs

\$11.528m

Programmes	\$7.72m
Income generation	\$3.12m
Administration and governance	\$0.69m

Source by region



*Supporting our three main programmes is our critical community education work, which is changing hearts and minds throughout Asia.

'Together, we can change the world.'

– Moon bears Gero and Chom Chom

HONG KONG:

Room 1501, Tung Hip Commercial Building,
244-252 Des Voeux Road Central,
Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
REGISTRATION NO: 642411
TEL: (852) 2791 2225
FAX: (852) 2791 2320
EMAIL: hkqueries@animalsasia.org

CHINA:

Longqiao, Xindu District, Chengdu,
Sichuan, China, 610505
TEL: 86 28 8307 8033
FAX: 86 28 8306 9340
EMAIL: info@animalsasia.org

AUSTRALIA:

PO Box 275, Blackwood SA 5051, Australia
Animals Asia Foundation ABN 53 107 630 357
TOLL-FREE NUMBER: 1800 666 004
EMAIL: australiaqueries@animalsasia.org

NEW ZEALAND:

PO Box 6679, Victoria Street West,
Auckland 1142, New Zealand
TOLL-FREE NUMBER: 0800 728 323
EMAIL: nzqueries@animalsasia.org

GERMANY:

Animals Asia Foundatin e.V,
c/o Eversheds Sutherland (Germany) LLP,
z.H. Stephan Dunkhorst, Brienner Str. 12.,
80333 München, Deutschland
CHARITY NUMBER: VR17355
TEL: +49(0)89.383.77.130
EMAIL: info@animalsasia.de

ITALY:

Animals Asia Foundation Italia ONLUS,
c/o Lexia Avvocati, Via dell'Annunciata, 23/4,
20121 Milano, Italy
CHARITY NUMBER: IPSO90326003
EMAIL: info@animalsasia.it

UK:

Office 17, Mary Seacole Road, The Millfields,
Plymouth, PL1 3JY, United Kingdom
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1086903
TEL: +44 (0)1752 224424
EMAIL: ukqueries@animalsasia.org

US:

6060 Center Drive, 10th Floor,
Los Angeles, CA 90045, USA
TAX ID #31-1802788
TEL: (424) 282-5305
EMAIL: americaqueries@animalsasia.org

VIETNAM:

Room 301, 97 Tran Quoc Toan Street,
Hoan Kiem, Hanoi, Vietnam
TEL: 84 24 39289264
FAX: 84 24 39289265
EMAIL: vietnamqueries@animalsasia.org

COVER BOY: Lovely long-legged Binh An likes to spend his time playing with friends and sniffing out treats like dragon fruit. He lives with his friends at our Vietnam sanctuary.

Animals Asia Foundation is a registered charity in Australia, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Luxembourg, the UK and US. Donations are tax-deductible in all these countries.

Follow us    

animalsasia.org

