

Animals Asia Review 2016

Thank you for every story of hope
you wrote for the animals

Message from our board

2016 was a year of incredible progress for the animals. Fourteen more bears rescued and two more bear houses almost ready for occupation in China and Vietnam. The rescues and major building work were possible only with your generous help. Our sincere thanks to you for your support throughout this often challenging year. *From all the animals you helped in 2016, this review is for you.*

Board of Directors

John Warham Chairman

Retired pilot, author and founding member of Animals Asia.
Hong Kong

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Trustee of an animal foundation and long-time Animals Asia adviser and supporter. USA

Letter from Jill

THANK YOU

Welcome to Animals Asia's Review 2016 – written by you.

Every story of hope and inspiration. Every animal saved. Every mind changed. It's all thanks to your support.

It's your kindness that saved 14 bears from the lifelong horror of bile farms – and gave one little bear the chance of true freedom in the wild.

And it's because of you that momentous change is sweeping through China and Vietnam.

Many thousands of students are standing up for animals like never before. Officials are clamping down on the cruel dog meat trade, and zoos are introducing life-changing measures for the animals under their care.

What your support has achieved in just one year is truly phenomenal. **Thank you for writing so many stories of hope for animals who previously had none.**

Please never forget what your support means. To them it means the world.

Bear hugs and blessings,

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

PS It's 25 years since a boy's face lit up as my gentle golden retriever Max placed his big paws on the teenager's hospital bed and Dr Dog was born. Please take a look at pages 20-21 to see just how far your support has taken this incredible programme since then.



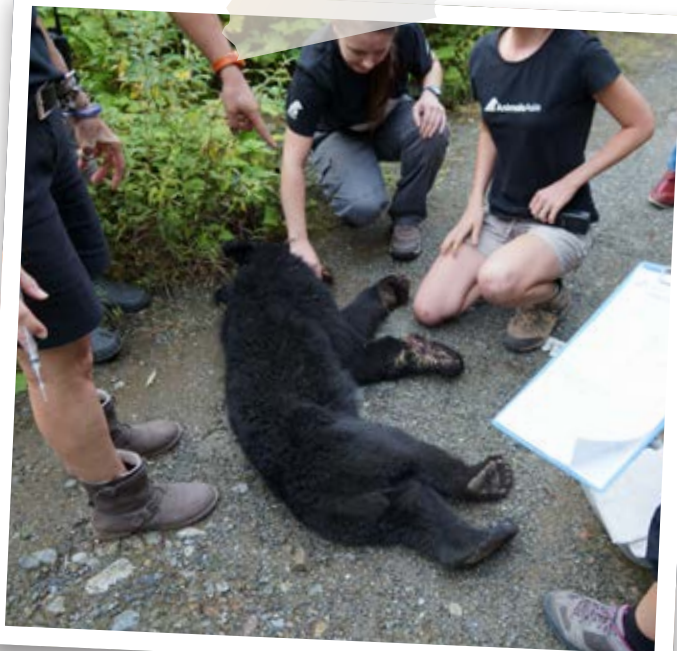
Stories of hope that you wrote for the animals in 2016



Their eyes say it all. Bright, alert and curious – happy to be alive for the first time in years. Thank you for bringing 14 more bears home and into our care, forever safe from the bile industry. No more pain, nor more fear, no more crushing frustration. From now on, it's grass, sunshine and the blue sky above for these beautiful animals who've been through so much.



Children touched a dog for the very first time. Thanks to your loyal support, our gentle therapy dogs are still changing lives after 25 years, bringing unconditional love and healing to those who need it most.



Thanks to your kindness, moon bear cub Rainbow has a second chance to live in the wild. When this little bear was caught in a vicious trap, her story could have ended there. Instead you wrote Rainbow a happy new ending....



A baby elephant can now run free, because of your support. Little Gold and new playmate Jun are out of chains and have a large area to roam in. Because you cared, these beautiful animals are safe, fenced-in and have a pool to splash in. Thank you for brightening their days.

More stories of hope and kindness, written by you



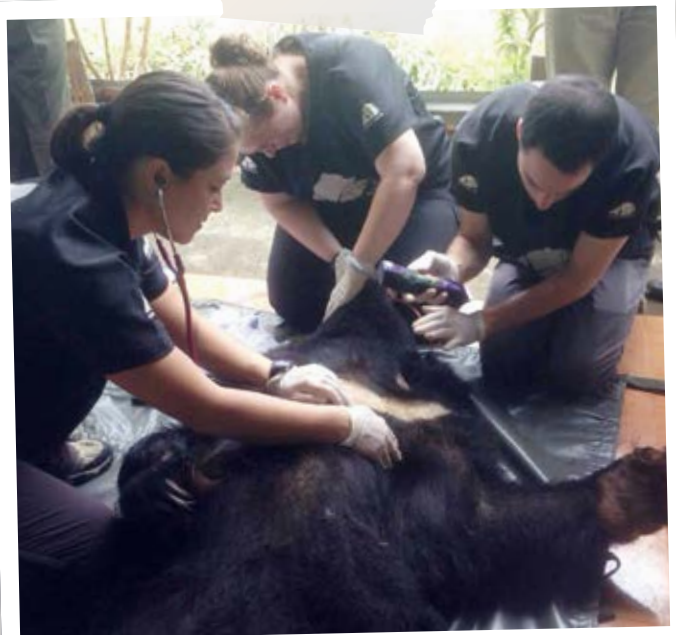
Our video of Tuffy the moon bear jumping for joy in his pool at our sanctuary, was viewed more than 2.3 million times. Thank you for helping to share his story and for giving this precious animal the chance to feel true happiness for the first time in his life.



Buffaloes in Vietnam have been spared indescribable terror and pain because of your kindness. Your support helped us continue our long-term campaign to end cruel festivals that use animals in sacrificial ceremonies. And now the government is acting. Gentle buffaloes are the first to gain from your kindness.



Tigers, chimps and other wild animals have new hope thanks to your support. Hanoi Zoo is one of many facilities in Vietnam and China that are implementing life-changing measures for their animals. It's thanks to you that we can provide zoo staff with the training and encouragement to bring simple joys into the lives of these animals – somewhere to climb, toys to play with.



Our rescued bears received over 230 health checks, taking away years of crippling pain. Most of the bears arrive at our sanctuaries broken in body and spirit. Your precious gifts ensure they get the best veterinary care in the world. Thank you for writing them new stories of hope.

A black bear is standing upright next to a large, weathered tree trunk. The bear is looking directly at the camera with a calm expression. Its fur is dark and shaggy. The tree trunk has several holes and a rough, textured surface. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with green foliage and a light-colored wall.

ENDING BEAR BILE FARMING

Once trapped in a story of shocking abuse, former bile farm bears like Galadriel now spend their days exploring, playing and snoozing on the soft, green grass. A happy ending.... written by you.

Home for Christmas

Thanks to your support, six gorgeous bears who suffered so long on a bile farm got the Christmas they deserved. Toys, treats and a family who loves them to the moon and back.

The bears arrived at our sanctuary two weeks before Christmas after a gruelling three-day journey from southern Vietnam. One was missing his tongue, most likely from a fight on a bear farm. These beautiful bears now have a new story of hope – written by you.

Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre
Tam Dao, Vinh Phuc Province, Vietnam



Vet: Mandala

Examination notes

DECEMBER 8, 2016

Snow is missing his tongue, and several long claws have pierced his paw pads. Winter is missing a front limb, most likely from a trap. Her teeth are black and fractured. Bi Xanh is skinny and frantically hungry. Poe is ravenously hungry and thin, and very scared of humans. Cranberry is scared too, lashing out even when food is offered to her. Ivy has painful, fractured teeth and is also quick to lash out. She's missing some toes.

JANUARY 6, 2017

Snow's claws have been clipped and his wounds cleaned. Finally he can stand without excruciating pain. Winter has seven badly fractured teeth removed. Her stump is badly scarred. Bi Xanh has put on some weight. His teeth are weak from years of bar-biting. Poe is still very thin at just 74kg – about half the weight he should be. Cranberry has three fractured teeth extracted. Ivy has a tooth extracted. It was rotting so badly it had infected her jawbone.

JANUARY 17, 2017

All six bears are moved from quarantine cages into adjacent dens where they can gradually get to know each other while having their own safe space to explore.

TODAY

By the time you're reading this, these six brave bears should be outside exploring and playing in the spring sunshine.

Dr Mandala Hunter-Ishikawa
Senior Veterinarian



Snow



Winter



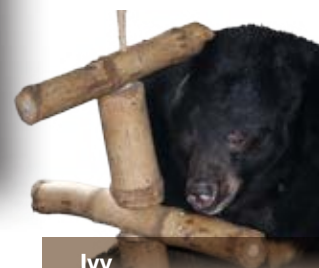
Bi Xanh



Poe



Cranberry



Ivy

Tuffy the moon bear says thank you in leaps and bounds!

Tuffy's sheer exuberance playing in his pool – just days after he took his first steps outside – shows just what your kindness means.

Over 2 million people watched our video of Tuffy jumping for joy in his pool at our Vietnam sanctuary.

This beautiful bear spent years in a tiny cage. Now, because you cared, his pain is gone and so is his stifling captivity. Finally Tuffy can be the bear he was born to be.



In case you missed it, here's the clip that made Tuffy an internet sensation: www.animalsasia.org/Tuffy

You're all rock stars!

Tanya Lee from Australia's CorriLee Foundation put together an amazing fundraising night for Animals Asia called "Beresford for Bears". In the line-up were Animals Asia Ambassador (and Australia's most recorded guitarist) Peter Northcote, emcee Mikey Robins and Andrew O'Keefe (who performed a tribute to his uncle – the late great Johnny O'Keefe).

Enormous thanks to everyone involved – and a big thank you to all you amazing entertainers around the globe who are making such an incredible effort for the animals.



Peter Northcote and friends – rocking it for the bears.



Our China bears slurped though
29,565 delicious
fruit and rice shakes in 2016.

‘I’m honored to be an ambassador for the extraordinary and very endangered moon bear. This little known and magical animal is in urgent need of our support now.’

Ali MacGraw
Actress and Animals Asia's US Ambassador

A big bear hug to Australian supporter **Bev Johnston** who named and sponsors Raymond, and also sponsors Emy. *“I told myself that however bear bile farming made me feel, it was nothing compared to the living hell the bears were going through. I knew I’d be no help if I tried to hide from this terrible knowledge.”*



Autumn (left) and Kay were among 15 rescued bears who went outside for the first time in 2016.

The legal lowdown

It's still legal to cage bears and extract their bile under certain conditions in China. It's also legal to sell bear bile within China, but not to export it. In Vietnam, it's illegal to sell bear bile or extract it from bears, but it's still legal to keep bears in cages as “pets” or to display to tourists.

Planting a kinder future

In 2016, you helped fund three traditional medicine gardens in Vietnam's Ha Giang, Tay Ninh and Vinh Phuc provinces to grow and promote 32 herbal alternatives to bear bile.

In total, the three gardens have more than 2,690 trees of nearly 30 types that grow roots, bark and leaves that can be used in place of bear bile.

China sanctuary goes full monty!

Our China sanctuary canteen, which serves daily meals for over 50 onsite staff, is now fully vegan.

But it's been a long road with many culturally accepted norms to overcome.

Chefs needed to learn new recipes, while staff had to be convinced a vegan diet was good for long-term health and would give them enough energy for physical tasks. That took a lot of explaining and encouragement. Sharing stories about vegan athletes helped too.

Our Vietnam sanctuary has been vegan for a few years.

Animals Asia joined Shanghai's first vegan festival, the Vegan Fiesta, attended by **3,000** people from across China.

Our Meatless Monday social media posts in China, inviting people to abstain from eating meat one day a week, were read **4.1m** times.



Chef Wang, who's behind fabulous vegan restaurant Jujubetree in Chengdu, helps our chefs with the new menu.

Superstars shine at Blue Moon Gala

Superstars, including Karen Mok and Olympic boxer Zou Shiming, joined almost 300 guests for Animals Asia's first annual Blue Moon Gala in December.

Movie stars, sporting heroes and models brought glitz and glamour to the evening at the Grand Hyatt Shanghai as much-needed funds were raised for our China bear sanctuary.

Karen, who is our Asia Patron, also held an online moon bear Q&A session in 2016, attracting an astonishing 250,000 comments.

A big thank you to Flexi (German dog leash maker) for their generous sponsorship of Blue Moon Gala.

Animals Asia has rescued **593** bears in China and **382** Vietnam since 2000. At end 2016, **382** were still living under our care, and one had been released back into the wild – see little Rainbow's story on page 13.

‘Sponsoring a bear means I can follow one bear's story, making it a bit more special. I chose Dick bear because he's a real character and a foodie like me.’

Lisa Herron
UK supporter



Karen with Zou Shiming and his wife Ran Yingying at Blue Moon Gala in Shanghai.

A week in paradise

Martina Schreiner from Germany and Carla Marani from Italy were among the dedicated supporters who joined our two “paying volunteer” weeks in Chengdu.

From early morning to night, they helped care for the bears – observing them sleeping in their houses, placing enrichment items like fruit and straw around their enclosures, making their meals, observing health checks and preparing their medications. They also heard talks from our staff.

Martina wrote moving daily reports about her experiences for our Facebook page and her local newspaper picked up the story. For Carla the best moment was meeting the bear she sponsors – handsome Mandela. Thank you Martina, Carla and all you amazing volunteers!



Martina wrote daily posts about her time at the sanctuary. “This week has changed my life.”

Our Vietnam vet team completed

70 dental procedures, ensuring the bears can chomp away in comfort.

We used

140 sticks of bamboo and **60** logs to make toys for the Chengdu bears, and gave them 450 hessian sacks for some extra fun.

Grateful thanks to **Dr Marc Bekoff**, Professor Emeritus of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado, USA. Marc is a long-term friend of Animals Asia and he’s named two rescued bears – BeaRtrice after his mother and Oscar after his father. “*I get teary thinking about BeaRtrice ... her life of suffering and her will to live. Oscar is doing well and likes hanging out with his bear friend, Apollo.*”



Amazing supporters like Carla are why Animals Asia is the organisation it is today.

Why bear bile?

Bear bile is used in traditional medicine and, if used properly, *it does have medicinal properties*. It contains ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA), which is also used in Western medicine. In the West it’s taken from the gall bladders of slaughtered cows or artificially synthesised. It’s commonly used to dissolve gall stones.

A very special thank you to **Marchig Animal Welfare Trust** for walking side by side with us through three very important years, giving support, friendship, faith and encouragement. Your funding provides nutrition, enrichment and veterinary care, ensuring our bears in Vietnam and China are happy, healthy and care free.

A big bear hug for **Denise Kirchen-Lorang** of Luxembourg, our loyal and hard-working supporter for 15 years who has organised countless events. Denise sponsors two lovely moon bears, Vicki and Prince.

To the moon and back

An inspiring new documentary, “Jill Robinson: To the Moon and Back” premiered in London in 2016.

Created by Orange Planet Pictures, the film shows the shocking scale of the suffering caused by the bile industry and the work of our founder and CEO, Jill Robinson, to end it.

“I felt it was so important to reveal how Jill, with nothing more than her resolve, created change from the inside out while working passionately, intelligently and peacefully.”

Andrew Telling
Film-maker

Before bear farming began in the 1980s, bears were

killed for their gall-bladders, which stores the bile.

Ending bear bile farming in Vietnam – village by village

Grassroots work is helping to end bear bile farming in Vietnam for good. One small village is notorious for its bear farms, but with your support things are changing for the better.

It's a rainy Saturday in September and 200 pensioners and 30 children are gathered in their communal house in Phung Thuong on the outskirts of Hanoi.

The children are drawing pictures of bears, while the elderly are treated by four traditional medicine doctors on behalf of Animals Asia. Most patients complain of back pain and arthritis – the usual after-effects of a hard life.

The traditional cure for numerous health issues in this village used to be bear bile. Phung Thuong is one of the last major bear farming areas in northern Vietnam. *This small village holds 200 bears across 37 households.*

And that's why Animals Asia is here.

We're helping villagers learn about alternatives to bear bile, and traditional doctors they trust are helping to explain and prescribe them.



Animals Asia works closely with the Vietnamese Traditional Medicine Association, which has ordered its members to stop using bear bile beyond 2020.

‘Most of the villagers were over 50. Their minds are often very difficult to change, but they listened and seemed genuinely interested in the alternatives and why they no longer need bear bile for their health.’

Tuan Bendixsen
Vietnam Director



Vietnamese seniors enjoy a free health consultation – and learn about herbal alternatives to bear bile.

What next in Vietnam?

Today, the question is no longer will bear bile farming end in Vietnam, it's when.

In 2005 (when obtaining new bears and extracting bile was made illegal) 4,239 bears were held on farms. Today, around 1,200 remain.

We're rescuing as many as we can and we're working with national government, forestry and local authorities to find a way to end bear bile farming humanely. *And to make sure it never starts up again.*

We've drafted a roadmap on how to end the industry for good. It's already been agreed by forestry, and we hope to hear back from other departments soon. Their agreement would be the green light needed to make the roadmap a reality.

Our grateful thanks to TV host **Dirk Steffens** who provided the German voiceover for our "Team Oliver" film and **Loftstudio Hamburg** for once again sharing their technology free of charge.

‘I feel richer than people who own millions. Helping those who are in need is the most beautiful thing in the world.’

Francesca Giorgetti
Italian supporter and
sponsor of moon bear Bubû

Our rescued bears cooled off with more than
28,000
delicious fruity ice pops
in 2016.

Sending big bear hugs to all our wonderful **bear sponsors**. If you'd like to sponsor your very own bear, please go to our website. Thirteen lovely bears are waiting to meet you there.



We're targeting Phung Thuong as it's one of Vietnam's last major bear farming areas.

Together we can make it happen

When we first started working to close the notorious bear farms at Halong Bay in Vietnam, it looked hopeless.

But perseverance, partnerships with the local authorities, and community outreach led us to the point in 2015 where we closed down the last farm and made the whole province bear bile free.

With your help, we can do the same in Phung Thuong.

Hands up who loves moon bears!

They sang, they cheered, they high-fived – hundreds more children awake to the beauty of moon bears and the pressing need to protect them.

The children are at Vietnam's Phung Thuong Primary School, in an area where over 200 bears are held on bile farms – an area we're targeting in our new campaign.

This is one of the most effective ways your support is helping to end the horror of bear bile farming – we're talking to the very young right through to university students throughout Vietnam and China. And we're inviting students to our sanctuaries...

In Vietnam alone in 2016, over 1,000 university and school students heard our presentations on bear protection. And more than 2,300 students from 41 universities and schools visited our sanctuary.



High fives and high hopes – Jill shares her love of moon bears with children in Vietnam.

‘It's clear that these children have an inherent passion for protecting local wildlife, and they see as plain as we do that bears should be free, not caged and exploited for their bile.’

Jill Robinson
Founder and CEO

69,000

That's the number of hours 42 bear workers at our Vietnam sanctuary observed the bears resting, tumbling and snoozing. Monitoring the bears' behaviour for subtle changes is vital for their health and well-being.



The bears at our Chengdu sanctuary chomped through over
213,000 kg of fruit and veggies in 2016.

‘I'm so pleased to be ambassador for a charity that's completely stolen my heart. Moon bears are wonderful.’

Peter Egan
Actor and Animals Asia Ambassador



Hong Kong calligrapher Sandra Pang and her uncle, traditional Chinese painter Yeung Chi Ho, raised much-needed funds and awareness for the animals in 2016 – creating and selling their artwork and running classes. Thank you Sandra and Uncle Ho.

Show and tell

Just telling people to stop using bear bile is never going to work. We need to show them why.

Your support allows us to do this. We're going into communities to explain why bear farming is so bad – for consumers as well as for the bears.

Then they can see for themselves that this cruel, unnecessary practice must end.

In 2016, we handed out in Vietnam's Phung Thuong village:

- 2,470 booklets promoting herbal alternatives to bear bile
- 1,200 brochures with information about laws protecting bears
- 4,000 children's brochures
- 1,000 bottles of medicinal herbal rub made from bear bile alternatives

Nanning update

Our Chengdu sanctuary team is busy preparing for the arrival of the bears from Nanning as we continue to wait for the official go-ahead to bring them home.

Work is now complete on an old bear house which had been vacant for years.

The “new” bear house will be home to 20 of the bears still on the former bile farm at Nanning. As soon as we have permission, all 122 of these bears will be on the road to their forever home at our Chengdu sanctuary.

Meanwhile the Nanning bears are getting the best vet care we can give them and a delicious, healthy diet.

They also get an array of “enrichment” to keep their minds occupied – toys, food puzzles, ice blocks, giant banana leaves, even their own paddling pools – and for those with mobility issues, hammocks.

It's your support that makes this possible.



Toys help to keep bears like Alex happy and occupied.

Nanning in a nutshell

In 2014, we took over the care of the bears on a former bile farm in Nanning, southern China. We plan to bring them to our Chengdu sanctuary as soon as we have the necessary permits.

How you're healing with kindness

On top of their regular work at our Chengdu sanctuary, our vet team makes regular visits to Nanning to assess and treat the bears there. Here's a look at what your support has allowed this amazing team to achieve for the Nanning bears up until end 2016.

- 93 bears health checked under anaesthesia
- 157 health checks in total (some bears needed follow-up checks)
- 10 bears' gall bladders removed
- 8 bears needed emergency health checks



The Nanning bears are getting world-class veterinary care.

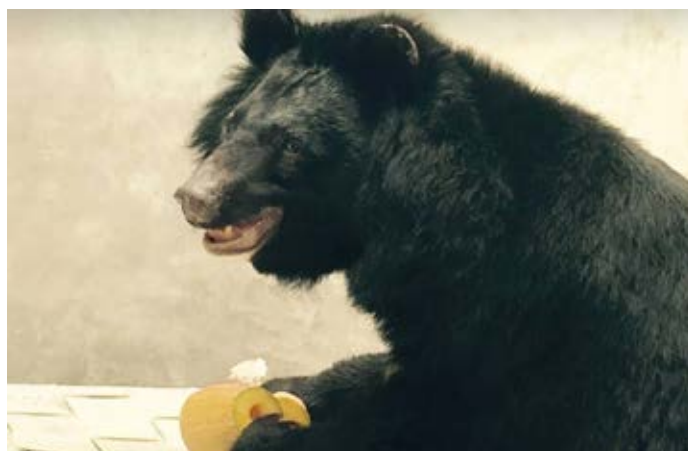
A Happy Halloween for Pumpkin

Bear Manager Ryan Marcel Sucaet has a special moment to share with you. Ryan and team dedicated their Halloween lunchbreak at Nanning to carving jack-o-lanterns for Pumpkin, Adithi, Harry, Sunny, and Pickle Nicol. These five recovering bears all show signs of stress through repetitive movement.

'Pumpkin stole the show. She sat staring at her treat, with her forepaws resting on the hammock. She then looked right into our eyes as the corners of her mouth stretched as far back as she could manage. A smile we'll never forget. Pumpkin loved her pumpkin!'



Did we mention that we love these bears? Here's Ryan with Zhou Feng Yu, Tina Tian, Cai Guang Lan and Liu Xiao Yan.



The smile that says it all – Pumpkin knows she is loved.



Healthy treats like these mean the world to the bears.

Somewhere under the rainbow

Rainbow's story will break your heart, but hopefully inspire you too ... because it's you who's given this little moon bear a second chance of freedom.

Rainbow was born in the misty mountains of Sichuan, growing up strong in the forests and learning to survive with her mother's loving guidance. But one day last August this poor little bear's life changed forever when she stepped on a cruel snare.

At just 18 months of age, her story could have ended there. Instead you gave her a happy ending...

We were called to help when this terrified little bear was found crying out in pain and fear. Her paw had been in the trap for days... she'd chewed part of it away in a desperate bid to escape. It's hard to imagine the terror and agony she endured.

Rainbow's mangled paw was literally rotting away. Back at the sanctuary our vets performed life-saving amputation, and her recovery began...

But what next for Rainbow?

We asked the experts – the very best in the world – and they said she had a good chance of surviving in the wild, but we'd need to hurry. The longer in captivity, the lower her chances.

So four weeks after her surgery, Rainbow, the little bear we'd come to love beyond words, was released...



One last look ... Because of your kindness, Rainbow has a second chance to live as a wild bear.



Rainbow was released back to the same area she was found. It has been swept for

traps

‘It was one of the hardest decisions we’ve ever had to make. But in the end we listened to the experts. We knew we had to give Rainbow her freedom.’

Nic Field
China Bear and Vet Team Director

The army to the rescue!

When rescued moon bear Zebedee developed serious coughing fits, the Vietnamese Army stepped in to help!

The local army hospital allowed us to use their digital radiography to examine Zebedee's lungs, revealing he had bronchopneumonia. A violent blow to his face as a cub left Zebedee with a hole from his mouth to his nasal passage, making him more susceptible to infections like this.

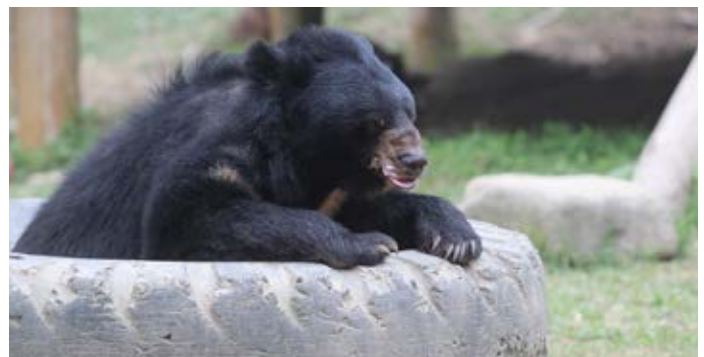
Thankfully we could treat his condition with antibiotics.



Zebedee was sedated and covered with a blanket to avoid panicking the human patients.



Who do you call when a sick bear has coughing fits? The army of course!



Before his rescue, Zebedee spent 14 years in a tiny cage in a Vietnamese couple's house.

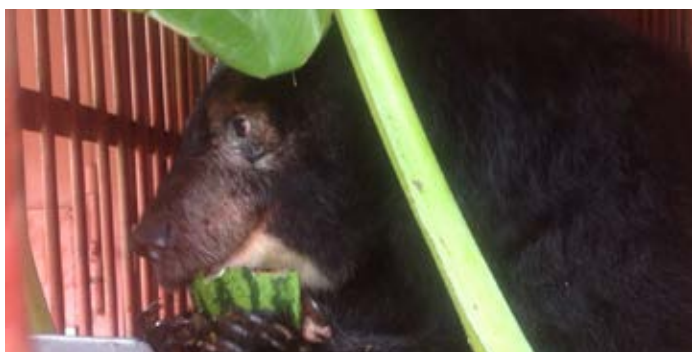
Our sincere thanks to **United Italian Corporation (HK) Ltd** for providing funds and medical supplies for the bears at our sanctuaries.

The four bears we promised not to forget

We discovered them five years ago on another rescue mission. Now after years of delicate negotiations, Su Su, Dau Phu, Binh Minh and Jarai are finally home at our Vietnam sanctuary. Their first night was spent under November's super moon. Thank you to the moon and back for giving them a loving home for life.



When we put banana leaves in Su Su's rescue cage she took to nest-building like a pro. This was after a decade in a bile cage. The other bears watched Su Su and copied her.



Jarai enjoys some juicy watermelon on her trip home. Her teeth were badly damaged and painful after 10 years of biting the bars of her cage, desperate to get out. Now she's getting lots of TLC along with dental care.

A big welcome home to these four brave bears too

Other lucky bears rescued in 2016 are moon bears Chau and Bao Lam (both female), and sun bears Kaffe (male) and Annemarie (female). These beautiful bears are all settling in well at our Vietnam sanctuary and couldn't be more loved.

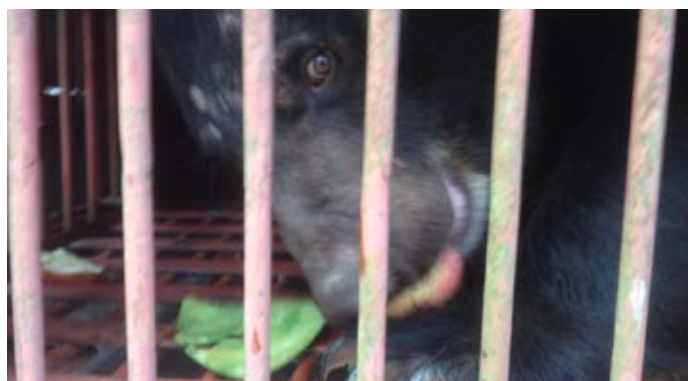
A big thank you to **Anne Ockwell**, Western Australia's Support Group coordinator for 10 years. "Sometimes I ask, 'Am I doing any good?' but I feel I need to keep chipping away." And that's exactly how it's done Anne! Amazing people like you are helping to end bear bile farming – step by step. Anne has helped organise countless events over the years and the WA Group has named two beautiful bears, Billabong (RIP) and Freo in Nanning.

‘That day I made them a promise that we’d be back. I’ve thought about these beautiful, gentle bears every day for five years.’

Tuan Bendixsen
Vietnam Director



Dau Phu was so traumatised when we came for him that it took a lot of coaxing (and tasty fruit) to entice him into his rescue cage. But soon he was learning to trust these humans who treated him so kindly and gave him such delicious food.



Binh Minh was desperate to escape his old cage, which had metal spikes jutting from the floor. In his rescue cage, on a bed of leaves, he lay down and slept.... and slept.



Your donations funded three classes on herbal alternatives to bear bile for over

100 students studying with the Vietnamese Traditional Medicine Association. These are the country's future practitioners.

‘Bears have bright minds and are inquisitive and often playful by nature. It means we’re kept on our toes ensuring we introduce novelty to their lives, giving them the choice to explore, discover, and remain engaged in their environment.’

Heidi Quine
Vietnam Bear and Vet Team Director

Remember Goldie?

The terrified sun bear cub? He's finally found a friend after such a sad start to life. Goldie and Murphy are among 48 lonely bears who were integrated into groups in 2016.

Six-month-old Goldie was torn from his mother by traffickers for a life of misery in the bile trade. But thanks to your kindness we were able to rescue him and give him a home for life at our Vietnam sanctuary.

Understandably Goldie was traumatised and angry when he arrived in 2015. But gradually he started to heal... meeting Murphy has been the icing on the cake.



Poor Goldie was terrified even of his rescuers.



Slowly this scared little bear started to smile.



Goldie (left) and Murphy, happy and loved because of you.



Thank you for turning Goldie's world upside down.

Build it and they will come!

With more bears expected at our Vietnam sanctuary in 2017, a new bear house with 13 dens and two outdoor enclosures is nearly ready.

The bear house itself has been built, the dens have been fitted out and the enclosure fences are up. We expect the bears will have moved in by the time you're reading this.

Our enormous thanks to some very special UK supporters for their gifts towards the new bear house – Sue Olsen and the Olsen Animal Trust, and the Covey family. The bears are grateful too – now they can spread out and enjoy their big new playground and cosy dens.



Contractors plant trees in one of the new enclosures.



Sincere thanks to Sue Olsen and the Olsen Animal Trust for their phenomenal support in 2016. As well as donating core funds and matching income for global appeals, Sue pitched in to help when we had to cancel a big fundraising event. She saved the day by running an incredible event at her home.



Mariana and Ian Covey, and Ian's parents Neil and June, are some of our very special supporters. This wonderful family has been by our side for many years, attending and sponsoring events, naming their own bears and giving talks to raise awareness.

‘I'm pleased to include a gift in my will since I wish to know that this good work will continue until the very last bear is released from these prisons of despair.’

Elaine Livesey-Fassel
Long-term US supporter

Sleep well brave bears

In 2016, we said goodbye to 21 beautiful bears. Thank you for giving these precious animals the peace and comfort they deserved in their final years, surrounded by those who loved them.

Best friends forever....

Jai Jai was rescued back in 2000. A few months later, her soon-to-be best friend Zoe arrived at our sanctuary too.

When these beautiful bears were ready to say goodbye to their long-term home and the people who loved them so much, the two stayed BFFs until the end. First we lost sweet little Zoe.... a few months later, beautiful Jai Jai too.

"Jai Jai was her own bear, feisty, but super loving too. She had a close bond with sweet Zoe." **Jill Robinson, Founder and CEO**

"Zoe stayed beside Jai Jai when she was sleeping in the enclosure to protect her. And we'd see them cuddling in a basket each morning." **He Qin, Bear Worker**



Everyone's favourite

Jasper spent 15 years in a bile cage, then 15 more at our China sanctuary. Here, he was known as our gentle peacemaker, often breaking up scuffles among younger bears.

"For me, bad days were put right simply by visiting Jasper." **Jill Robinson, Founder and CEO**



Other Chengdu bears loved and lost

Teddy who matched her name perfectly. *"This small bear, with a furrowed brow and squat little legs."*

Declawed and elderly Pippin who *"once climbed up to pull down the best branches on the mulberry tree, so that she and best friend Bronwyn could feast on the fruit."*

Panja (Bebe), who was famous for her yoga poses, *"including holding her toes for hours."*

Our curious bear, Chanel. *"Her lips were always moving, feeling, exploring, like an elephant trunk."*

Woody, our cute little bear who didn't like to be disturbed. *"She lived a regular life, eating and sleeping on time."*

Minnie, who's favourite thing was to sleep, and sleep. *"She also liked to scratch tree stumps."*

Our sleepy head Bali. *"Every day after foraging, she would make a nest with straw to sleep."*

Barri, who lived his new life to the full. *"You were a sunny and friendly boy even though you couldn't see the sunshine."*

Blue, a contented soul. *"Blue's startled, goggle-eyed expression was distinctly his own."*

Charly, who loved to hang out with his old friend Metty. *"On good days, they'd wrestle in slow motion."*

Hans, our big lad who was one of our originals. *"He kept us in stitches for so many years."*

Jakira, a happy bear who enjoyed her food, *"as evidenced by her round belly and plentiful bottom."*

Luna, who was always on her best behaviour. *"If this were a school, Luna would be Head Girl."*

Mac who often happily wrestled with her best friend Bamse. *"At times they would sit very close and look out at the enclosure."*

Metty who remained in good spirits in his final days. *"He had a lovely nest of dried leaves and he got a lot of spoiling with his favourite treats."*

Micky (Xie Sheung), the lovely face of Animals Asia. *"We'll remember him when we glance at our work shirts as the handsome silhouette of Animals Asia's logo."*

Quantock, who wore his past on his face. *"He'd rubbed it away on his bile cage bars and we all felt sad about those scars."*

Just one sad goodbye in Vietnam ...

Arkte, who died much loved and far too young. *"A small but feisty bear."*

...and one in Nanning

Kai Yue, who never made it onto the grass. *"He loved sports. The stairs, the yard and the hammock all were his playground."*



CAT AND DOG WELFARE

Funny, huggable Eddie was rescued from a dog meat market and became one of our very first Dr Dogs. Today we're celebrating 25 years of this inspiring programme and you're helping to write ever more stories of hope for animals like Eddie.

Dogs taken off the menu

One of China's largest food-delivery services Ele.me has banned businesses that sell dog meat. Almost 300 vendors and over 7,700 meal options have been deleted from the app.

Even though Ele.me cited food safety as the reason, the decision is a major win for animal welfare. It means many thousands of dogs will be spared the terror of theft from their homes or the streets, incarceration in cruel tiny cages and a horrendous death, often by bludgeoning with a heavy stick.

The Yulin dog meat festival (and why we won't buy the dogs)

Heart-breaking images from the bloody Yulin dog meat festival make world news for a week each summer. And then the sickening slaughter is over for another year.... only it's not.

Sadly the abuse and killing continues day after day in Yulin, and all around China. Right now terrified dogs are facing a brutal death.

That's why we're fighting for the dogs every day of the year.

We're doing all we can to end the suffering, but there's one thing we won't do. We won't buy the dogs.

Buying large numbers of dogs from traders might save those dogs (if there's a shelter to take them in) but others will just take their place – stolen from their families or snatched from the streets. The traders will win.

The problem would be overwhelming if it wasn't for your support.

But because of you, we have millions of Chinese people helping to end the suffering of cats and dogs. We have government officials asking for our guidance to deal with exploding stray populations. And we have over 150 animal welfare organisations working with us around the country.



Dog meat is eaten all year round in China.

Grateful thanks to actors **Oscar Ortega Sánchez, Erol Sander** and **Arnel Taci** from the thrilling German TV detective series "Istanbul Homicide" for supporting our campaign to end dog eating.



Shanghai Focus Neuter group's trap, neuter, return project is having a big

impact, with **70%** of street cats in several areas of the city now de-sexed. Just one of the many reasons your precious gifts are so vital.

‘Four years ago, 10,000 dogs were slaughtered at the annual Yulin dog meat festival. Today, thanks to your support, thousands fewer dogs are killed and local officials refuse to promote it.’

Irene Feng
China Cat and Dog Welfare Director

Friend and healer

Dr Huige couldn't be happier – among children dispensing his special brand of unconditional love. Huige joined a visit to over 30 children from poor rural areas of Sichuan province, where rabies control is a serious issue.

As well as learning how to approach dogs and care for them, the children were also introduced to the importance of rabies vaccination. Our thanks to local NGO, Tomorrow Sunshine, for organising the event.



Dr Huige shows disadvantaged children that dogs belong on their laps, not their dinner plates.



Rosina Maria Arquati of Hong Kong's Animal Talk has sponsored bears Snoopy and Harley for over five years. An animal communicator, Rosina is always happy to offer her services to help raise funds at our events for dogs and other animals. Thank you Rosina, animal whisperer and kindest of souls.

Just say no

Over 1 million people saw Animals Asia's "Say No to Cat and Dog Meat" ads in metro stations, bus stops, busy pedestrian streets and underground passageways in nine Chinese cities, including Beijing and Guangzhou. The striking artwork was provided by the winners of our China-wide Friends or Food poster competition.



Children are our future ... and thanks to your support, these children now see dogs and cats as friends, not food.

The purr-fect solution

Imagine the anguish of a sick mother cat living on the streets with kittens she can't feed. You're helping to end this misery.

We're working with animal protection groups around China to help them roll out TNR (trap, neuter, return) projects in their communities. In 2016, we trained five local groups in Qingdao and Ningbo and our TNR fund directly helped neuter and return 364 stray cats in Shanghai, Beijing, Qingdao and Guangzhou.

TNR is a humane solution to over-population and a method welcomed by communities with large cat colonies.



Your support is helping to neuter hundreds of stray cats in China. That's millions of kittens who won't be born into a life of misery and fear.

How your support is saving thousands of dogs from the dinner table

With your help, we're targeting the weak spot in the dog meat trade and saving thousands of dogs from slaughter.

The trade is rife with illegality, and many restaurants ignore the regulations. So we're reporting them and getting them closed down.

In 2016, our team reported over 1,000 illegally operating dog meat restaurants in 28 cities to the local Food and Drug Administration. By the end of the year, 79 had been ordered to stop selling dog meat or close down.

Despite the huge number of dogs slaughtered for consumption annually, China has no large-scale meat dog breeding facilities. Most dogs sold for meat are stolen pets, or strays snatched from the streets. **It's only thanks to your support that we can work with the officials to end this terrible trade.**



Millions of dogs are slaughtered in China every year for their meat. But dog eating is losing popularity – especially with young people. That's why we're engaging with as many schools as we can.

'China's youth are turning away from animal cruelty en masse. Once they hear about the illegality and suffering in the dog meat industry, they don't want anything to do with it.'

Carrot Chen
China Cat and Dog Welfare Manager

Our Professor Paws dogs taught nearly

8,000

students about animal welfare while showering them with affection. Many of these children live in public housing where dogs are banned, and often feared. Thank you for bringing some puppy love into their lives.



Officer Fan, head of Tangshan City Lubei District Dog Ownership Management Office, may be our next recruit! We reached out to Officer Fan in 2016, and hope this is the start of a long friendship. He's now considering joining our next dog management symposium.

Happy 25th birthday Dr Dog!

Our loveable therapy dogs are celebrating 25 years of tail-wagging visits to people most in need of kindness. This soul-lifting work has touched the lives of so many people only because of your loyal and generous support.

Thank you for every friendly paw offered to a sick and frightened child... for every earnest brown-eyed look that tells a lonely senior she is loved... and for the smile on the face of an orphaned child who's touched a dog for the very first time.

1991

A paraplegic boy's face lights up as two big paws are placed on his hospital bed – and Dr Dog is born. It's taken Jill Robinson many weeks to find a hospital willing to allow a "dirty dog" on the premises. Finally one allows Max, Jill's gentle golden retriever, to visit for one hour outside in the garden. Dr Dog is Asia's first animal-assisted therapy programme.



2004

Professor Paws launches in Hong Kong. Our therapy dogs become teachers, encouraging schoolkids to love and respect animals. Their furry professors are the first dogs many Hong Kong children touch. Our own board member Anneleise Smillie started this inspiring programme when she was our Education Director.



2006

Animals Asia's first China Companion Animal Symposium. Every two to three years, the gathering brings together officials and NGOs from around the country to look at ways to improve cat and dog welfare, particularly for the animals living in misery on the streets, or worse, targeted for the meat trade.



1998

Jill founds Animals Asia with a mission to end bear bile farming and dog and cat eating. Our Dr Dogs become ambassadors for our campaigns to help companion animals.



Dr Dog launches in Chengdu – and mainland China's first therapy dogs become instant media darlings! Later expanding to Guangzhou and Shenzhen, Dr Dog is hugely popular making a big impact in the community, by changing long-held attitudes to dogs and animals generally.



2007

Animals Asia starts working with many cities around China to bring about real change for dogs and cats. We provide officials with advice on all aspects of dog and cat population and disease management.



2001

Jill rescues Eddie from a meat market in southern China. This scruffy little dog becomes a Dr Dog and an instant favourite of Hong Kong children after "doing his business" on stage at a school assembly. Eddie may not have been our best behaved Dr Dog, but he was one of our most loved. His visits brought smiles and laughter to those who needed it most.



2005

Rescued meat dog Eddie stars in his own short film, Dr Eddie: Friend or Food, which uses Eddie's experiences to show why dogs should be on our laps, not our dinner plates. Chinese singer and film star Richie Jen narrates Dr Eddie's voice. The film was distributed far and wide throughout China.



Dr Dog launches in Malaysia with Dr Gideon one of the first dogs to share his healing brand of love in the country. Similar Dr Dog programmes in Japan, the Philippines, India and Taiwan are launched independently by local NGOs after training and advice from Animals Asia.



Animals Asia starts supplying free educational materials to NGOs, universities and individuals across China to help them run their own public awareness and education events promoting cat and dog welfare.



Professor Paws launches in mainland China. Our friendly canine teachers make their debut in Guangzhou schools, later rolling out in Shenzhen and Chengdu.



2014

Animals Asia's animated children's film wins a top award. "Cat and Dog Welfare around Us" was named one of China's Top 10 Public Welfare Videos at Vcare China Public Welfare Film Festival. In the film, Professor Maomao introduces cat and dog welfare to children around China.



2008

Stray dog Meimei becomes a Dr Dog. This sweet little dog was living on the unforgiving streets of Guangzhou, starving, sick and lonely, until a caring woman rescued her and gave her a loving home – and a new career in healing. Dr Meimei is one of many rescue dogs to join Dr Dog.



2009

"Meat dog" Dahei joins Dr Dog. Thanks to your support, rescued dogs like Dahei are changing attitudes to dog meat eating.



2015

Animals Asia releases a series of reports into China's dog meat industry. Four years of investigations into the trade reveal shocking illegality and cruelty. The findings get global coverage and are passed on to officials.



We started promoting TNR (trap, neuter, return) in China, first teaming up with local NGO Guangzhou Cats to neuter and vaccinate 130 cats living in colonies around the city. We've since worked with other NGOs and officials around China, rolling out kinder ways to control stray populations.



Animals Asia hosts China's first large-scale forum to help dogs in cities. Our annual China Dog Ownership Management Symposiums bring together officials and NGOs from around the country to find better, humane ways to manage street dogs and promote responsible dog ownership.



2016

Dr Dog and Professor Paws are stronger than ever, thanks to your loyal support. Here's Dr Piaopiao on her very first visit in Chengdu.



We provide emergency help to dogs left homeless by a tragic earthquake near our Chengdu sanctuary. 100 dogs are saved and rehomed. "Richter" pictured here with Jill is one of these lucky dogs. He now lives with our own Senior Vet Nurse Wendy Leadbeater at our Chengdu bear sanctuary.



2011

Animals Asia joins cyclists to launch China-wide campaign for dogs and cats. The annual event, Cyclists Love Animals, sees almost 2,000 people cycling through their home cities wearing our animal welfare posters on their backs.



Over 618,000 people have now received visits from their favourite tail-wagging doctors and teachers. Thank you for 25 years of healing love.



How you're empowering China's activists

Our China team now works with over 150 cat and dog protection groups around China. That's an amazing number given that just a few years ago only a few existed.

With your support, we're providing advice and materials for their events, as well as practical manuals on topics like shelter care and neutering. We're also bringing these groups together with local officials to encourage better understanding.



You helped thousands of desperate cats and dogs in 2016 by funding 24 shelters run by both the Chinese government and NGOs. Over

8,600 animals at these shelters benefited from your help. This includes the cats and dogs at Lanzhou Stray Animal Shelter in northwest China, who received flea collars and antibacterial shampoos.



It's you who's driving this explosion of passion and allowing these groups to grow and thrive.

‘Grassroots work is the only way to achieve lasting change for China's dogs and cats. When everyone understands the issues and the benefits for the community, then they're more likely to get behind the solutions offered.’

Suki Deng
China Cat and Dog Welfare Manager

A special thank you to **The Muriel Jones Foundation** for your incredible support, friendship and loyalty. Your generosity and faith have been cornerstones of our work and growth for a number of years. Thank you for walking this journey with us.



This is the moment a blind boy touched a dog for the very first time. Thank you for making this happen.

Puppy love

Dr Oscar is in his happy place, surrounded by children and dispensing his special brand of healing love. He sits patiently with 11-year-old Tsui Hiu-fung as the boy fidgets and pats his head, telling Oscar to pay attention to the storyteller.

This gentle golden retriever and his guardian Pinky Fok Yan-yin have been visiting Hong Kong's Hong Chi Winifred Mary Cheung Morninghope School for children with intellectual disabilities for four years.

Esther, a social worker at the school, says therapy dogs like Oscar are so special because they make the children feel loved – and the love is unconditional.

Pinky says children like Hiu-fung have grown up with Oscar and her other dog Donna, and grown to love them. The dogs visit once a week.



Tsui Hiu-fung gets to know Dr Oscar, Dr Sunday and Dr Donna as social worker Esther looks on. Photo courtesy of SCMP.

‘The presence of dogs is very calming. Children feel the affection of the dogs even though no words are spoken.’

Esther Chan Choi-wan
Social worker

We receive generous support from a number of **trusts and foundations**. This funding is vitally important and greatly appreciated. Our grateful thanks to all those who supported our work in 2016.

Big bear hugs to two very special German supporters who are using humour to help the animals, cartoonist **Uli Stein** and comedian **Bastian Pastewka**.

Dr Dog is very grateful for a generous donation from **Operation Santa Claus**, the annual charity campaign organised by the South China Morning Post and Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK).



Over
20,000 people
joined 100 cat and dog
welfare events in Hong Kong
and mainland China in 2016.

‘Seeing the smiles on children’s faces as they bond with the dogs is so rewarding – particularly when it’s kids who’ve been so lonely and withdrawn.’

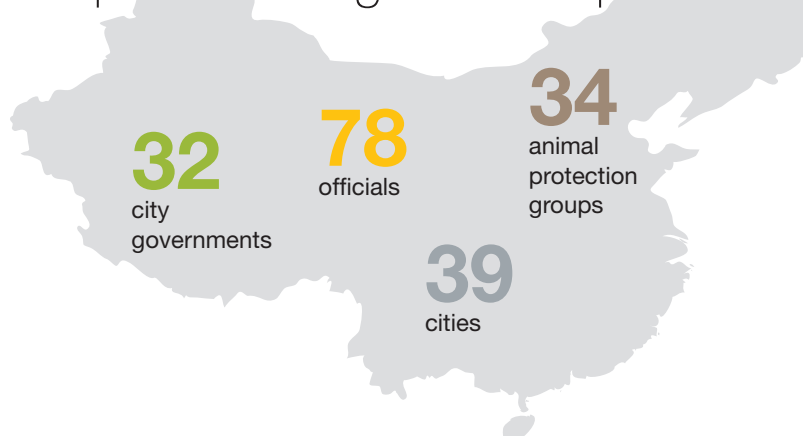
Cassy Mak
Dr Dog Programme Supervisor, Hong Kong

A big thank you to Hong Kong’s **Link REIT** for sponsoring 108 Dr Dog visits in 2016.

Vaccinating, neutering, caring

We hosted Animals Asia’s seventh China Dog Ownership Management Symposium, bringing together 152 officials and representatives of NGOs.

Thanks to your support, we’re finding ways to better manage street dogs and encourage responsible dog ownership.



‘I always ask my friends not to abandon their pets, not to abuse stray animals, and then they can influence the people around them. It’s like a snowball, making the idea of caring for animals reach more and more people.’

Lin Lishuang
Dr Dog volunteer, China

Charity begins at home for local dogs

Some of the poorest dogs in Chengdu are enjoying world-class health care and kindness thanks to your support, and the extra efforts of Animals Asia vet Dr Sheridan Lathe.

Sheridan already has her hands full caring for the bears at our Chengdu sanctuary, but she couldn't ignore the dogs that live nearby. Many live bleak lives – chained outside as guard dogs with little nutrition or affection.

That's why Sheridan and team are providing these dogs with love and care – treatment for wounds and diseases, vaccinations, de-worming, de-sexing, and usually a treat or two. Having earned the trust of the villagers over the years, they're now free to visit the dogs any time. They also encourage much-needed walks and discuss diets and proper animal care.

Sheridan says that by keeping the neighbouring animals healthy, a protective ring is created around the bear sanctuary, reducing the risk of diseases, such as distemper, spreading on site.

Thanks for the fun!

For seniors like Mr Zhou, a visit from our friendly Dr Dogs can brighten their whole week. Mr Zhou was so taken with his visitor, Dr Baobao, that he wrote to us to say thanks. *"Dogs are our best friends. The Dr Dogs have brought us so much fun! Thank you for your visit!"*

The visit to Guangzhou Yuexiu Elderly Care Centre was a joint event organised with the local "Information Times" newspaper. We invited seven readers to volunteer and join our special visit during the Chinese Lantern Festival.



Dr Baobao gives some healing love to his newest fan, Mr Zhou.

Over
430,000 people learned
from 40,000 leaflets, posters, banners,
stickers and DVDs on cat and dog welfare
that we gave out to the Chinese public.

Grateful thanks to the UK's **Tony Martin** and **The Anthony V Martin Charitable Foundation** for your incredible support of our cat and dog work in 2016. This included directly helping over 5,000 dogs and reaching over 10 million people.



Sheridan's visits are a highlight for poor Jade and the two have formed a special bond. Jade had a nasty mite infection around her ears and eyes which has now cleared up thanks to weekly injections and Sheridan's hugs and sausage treats.

Paw prints

In 2016, Animals Asia's volunteer therapy dogs reached

over **20,000** people in Hong Kong and three mainland Chinese cities – Chengdu, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.



Our Dr Dogs visited

131 aged and
special care facilities,
bringing comfort to over
12,411
people.



Our canine professors

110 made
visits to 89 schools and
organisations, teaching
7,904
students that dogs are
our friends.



Orphans from Qionglai in western China had a Mid-Autumn visit from Dr Xuegao (Ice cream) in 2016. He was the first dog they'd met who wasn't a guard dog, but it didn't take them long to realise he just wanted to be friends. For children who've never known a real family, affection from a sweet dog like Dr Xuegao can be life-changing.

CAPTIVE ANIMAL WELFARE

Your support is helping to end the terror and pain for wild animals forced to perform unnatural circus tricks in front of screaming crowds. For them it's the end of a horror story.



How you're ending the cruelty one festival at a time...

Shocking cruelty to buffaloes has stopped in a number of rural areas in Vietnam, thanks to your support of our campaign to end barbaric ritual slaughter.

The mountainous province of Lam Dong is one area that's standing up for its animals. Lam Dong has banned a bloody "buffalo stabbing" fertility festival that saw a buffalo tied to a pole then ritually stabbed to death with spears.

The Lam Dong Province People's Committee said the violent and superstitious rite was no longer compatible with modern life.

In 2016, buffalo stabbing rituals were also stopped at Buon Don, Hue, Nghe An and Chin Gian, and buffalo fights ended in Hanoi, Bac Ninh and Lao Cai.

This is all thanks to your support for our campaign which prompted the Vietnamese Prime Minister to announce that "old fashioned, superstitious and negative" festivals will end. In 2016, the government told provincial leaders to stamp out all such "out-dated" and "uncivilised" events. Many provinces are still ignoring the order, but *together we can end this cruelty*.

79%

voted against cruel animal festivals in a 2016 media poll in Vietnam.



Sadly, the initial target of our campaign, the barbaric annual Nem Thuong pig slaughter festival in Bac Ninh province continues. But with your support, we can end this too.

...and giving circus animals a voice

Your support allows us to work with local NGOs and officials to bring about real change for animals long abused for "entertainment".

Together in 2016 we...

- ✓ **CONVINCED** the Beijing Forest Police to close a travelling circus in Beijing.
- ✓ **STOPPED** a travelling circus in Inner Mongolia, after reporting it for not having a transport licence.
- ✓ **ENDED** the animal circus at Hanoi Zoo. This is after years of negotiations with the zoo.
- ✓ **EXPOSED** and stopped a travelling circus in Zhejiang by telling the authorities that it didn't have the correct permits.
- ✓ **STOPPED** a circus in Anshan City from using four tigers in its shows. The circus didn't have permits to use the tigers in performances.

Animals Asia has

1,257

registered volunteers in China helping to raise awareness of captive animal suffering. Many of them are university students.

40%

Almost of Chinese zoos and safari parks still force wild animals to perform circus acts, our recent survey shows.



Trainers often use fear and intimidation to force animals to perform unnatural tricks.



Performing in front of crowds is terrifying for wild animals. Most are just babies when they start.

Thank you for giving Gold and Jun a whole new world of fun

Baby elephant Gold and his friend Jun are now free from their chains and able to roam, splash in a pool and roll in their very own sand pit. All in a safe, fenced-in area that you helped to build.

Throughout 2016, Animals Asia worked with Dak Lak Elephant Conservation Centre in Vietnam to build Gold and Jun their new home. An electric fence around their 6,000sqm area protects the two wild elephants, keeping them safe without harming them.

Staff at the centre found and rescued two-month-old Gold after he fell into a well. Sadly, attempts to reunite him with his herd failed.

Five-year-old Jun was also found by the centre's staff. His trunk was hideously damaged and a long piece of metal was embedded in his leg from being trapped in the wild. Thanks to your support, our vets were able to treat Jun, but he remains permanently disabled.

Vietnam's elephants are critically endangered and the Dak Lak Elephant Conservation Centre could be their last hope.



Now little Gold is safe and cherished. He loves his new sand pit and frolics in it for hours.



Gold was rescued after falling into a well as a baby. He had lost his herd and was all alone.



Jun can now roam free, safe from the poachers who left him disabled and close to death.

‘This is the happiest we’ve seen Gold. His life has been tragic, but finally he has a taste of the childhood he’s been missing. To see him rolling in his sandpit and splashing in his paddling pool is a real joy.’

Nguyen Tam Thanh
Animal Welfare Officer

Fewer than
100 elephants are left in the wild in Vietnam and just 80 or so are in captivity, mostly used to carry tourists through forests.

You're simply the best

Where would we be without the generosity and dedication of our wonderful volunteer support groups?

From taking on crazy challenges and bringing in much-needed funds to supporting our campaigns and spreading public awareness, you're making an incredible difference for so many animals. A very big thank you to each and every one of you for your extraordinary passion and hard work.

You funded **25** events across China to spread the word about cruelty to captive animals. More than 15,800 people attended.

Animal cruelty sparks fury in China

Leaked footage of a young moon bear roughly treated at a circus has disgusted China's enormous online community, showing just how far opposition to animal exploitation has spread.

The traumatised young moon bear at Qingdao Safari Park, in Shandong, is shown being roughly forced out of the performance arena with a metal rod while a horrified audience looks on.

When the footage hit social media platform Weibo (China's version of Twitter), the condemnation was unprecedented, with users calling for a ban on animal performances and laws to protect animals from abuse. Over 1 million people watched the footage online.

One said: "I don't watch animal performances because I know the cruelty behind the 'happy' shows."



People in China are increasingly opposed to performing animal shows.



Our "Freedom" video highlighting the abuse of wild animals in captivity was seen by

150m

people in zoos, shopping malls, apartment blocks and car parks in 80 Chinese cities.

'The reaction was extremely heartening. Despite the video not being particularly graphic, Chinese netizens were outraged, which shows how far advanced concepts of animal welfare have spread.'

Dave Neale
Animal Welfare Director



Protestors gather at Beijing Stadium to voice their opposition to animal performances.

How you're providing better vet care

Your support enables our vets to train fellow vets working with wildlife in northern Vietnam.

Vets from Hanoi Wildlife Rescue Centre, Save Vietnam's Wildlife, The Turtle Conservation Centre, Bao Son Zoo, Hanoi Zoo and Endangered Primate Rescue Centres attended our training sessions in 2016, learning high-standard, practical techniques to improve animal welfare.

Vietnam's forestry department is working with Animals Asia to develop legally binding captive animal welfare standards to be presented to the ministry.

People watched our videos exposing cruelty, documenting our rescues, and sharing the happiness of rehabilitated bears more than

7.9m times.

Our posters at Guangzhou Library showed over

10,000 Chinese people how whales and dolphins should live in the wild not in captivity. The posters also generated over 1,500 online articles.



Chinese actor and singer/songwriter Xu Weizhou became our China Ambassador in 2016. Xu, along with five other huge Chinese celebrities, Mo Wenwei, Zhang Tianai, Chen Qiaoen, Huo Zun and Lv Songxian, promoted our work to their more than 81 million followers online.

Small changes making a big difference

Hanoi Zoo in Vietnam's capital and Hangzhou Zoo in eastern China are two of many captive animal facilities making life more bearable for the animals in their care – all because of you.

Your generosity is allowing us to show animal keepers simple, affordable ways to enrich the lives of the animals in their care. Here's how you helped some of these precious wild animals in 2016.

Animals at Hanoi Zoo now have some simple joys to help them pass the time



The macaques now have foraging boxes, extra boomer balls and puzzle feeders, new tyre swings and hammocks.



The lions have climbing/resting platforms and scratching poles. These encourage more natural behaviour.



The tigers have scratching poles. A simple, affordable change that means so much.



The gibbons have new bamboo hammocks, and ropes to swing from.



The civet cats have cosy sleeping baskets. Now they can snuggle up together.



One of the gibbons can see again after cataract surgery donated by our vets and a team of ophthalmologists from the UK.

20 zoo vets introduced new animal welfare practices following workshops with Animals Asia.

Popular Italian children's author **Giuliana Corea** writes enchanting books with animal welfare messages and donates the proceeds to Animals Asia. Giuliana also visits schools to read her fairy tales, spreading the message that animals are our friends. Thank you Giuliana.

Hangzhou Zoo chimps are no longer isolated



All eight chimpanzees have been integrated and they love it. Social isolation is very difficult for chimps. They also have puzzle feeders and more furniture to climb and rest on.

The 'world's saddest polar bear'

Pizza, "the world's saddest polar bear", was moved from a Chinese shopping mall to an ocean park thanks to a public outcry – but she's no better off.

Animals Asia met with the Guangzhou mall's bosses twice, advising them on Pizza's stress and also raising concerns about her living conditions in the indoor aquarium – bright lights, lack of privacy, and constant crowds of shoppers and noisy children.

But the move has not improved Pizza's welfare as conditions at the ocean park are similar to those in the shopping mall. Polar bears belong in the wild, not trapped in ocean parks on display to the public.

Far too many wild animals in China and Vietnam have stories like Pizza's, or even worse. Kept in barren concrete cells, sick from malnutrition and neglect, and literally losing their minds from stress and frustration.

But because of your support, hundreds of animals are now seeing real and lasting change in their everyday lives.

In 2016 your support helped to convince the Beijing Agriculture Bureau to end

2 sea lion performances.

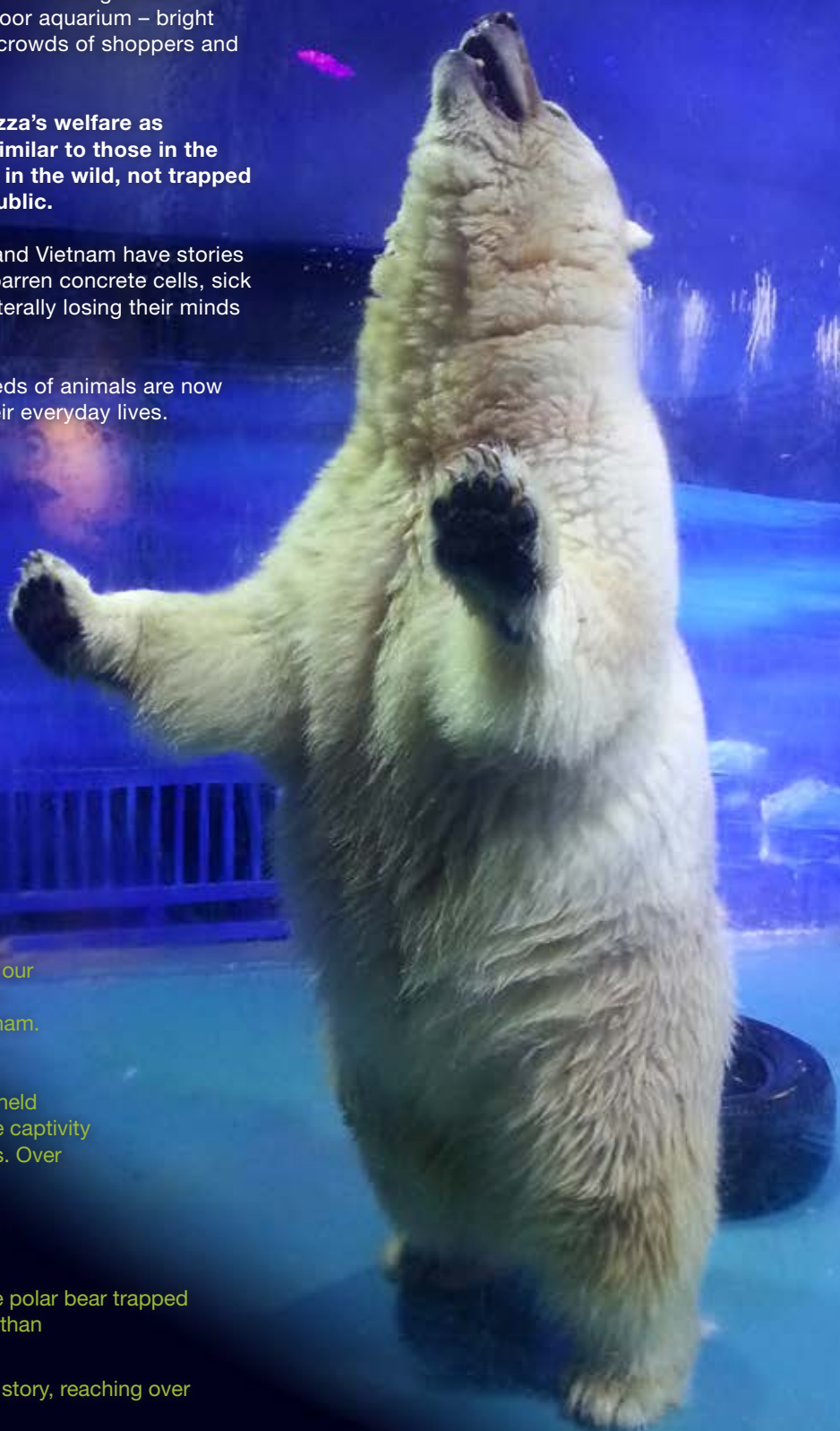
17,000 people signed our petition against a new dolphinarium in Danang, a popular tourist spot in Vietnam.

Volunteers at six Chinese universities held World Ocean Day events opposing the captivity of whales and dolphins in ocean parks. Over

4,000 students attended.

Our exposure of the plight of Pizza the polar bear trapped in a Chinese shopping mall saw more than

680 news outlets running the story, reaching over
1.7 billion people globally.



2016 financial overview

Another 12 months of life-changing progress for the animals – all thanks to your kindness and generosity.

Thank you for seeing us through this challenging year and helping so many desperate animals along the way. Together in 2016, we raised over US\$12.5m.

In 2016, Animals Asia received a four-star rating from America's top independent charity evaluator, Charity Navigator. This is the highest possible rating and you deserve the very best. We will always strive to spend your donations wisely and always put the animals first. **Thank you sincerely for another year of kindness in action.**

Global income

\$12.57m (All amounts in US\$)

Nearly
70c in every dollar
goes directly to the animals.

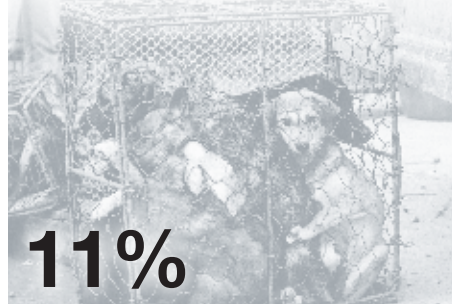
Programme expenditure

**End Bear
Bile Farming**



61%

**Cat and Dog
Welfare**



11%

**Captive
Animal Welfare**



5%

Public Education



23%

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

Capital
expenditure

\$298,469

Equipment
4%

Construction
85%

Sanctuary
refurbishment
11%

Running costs

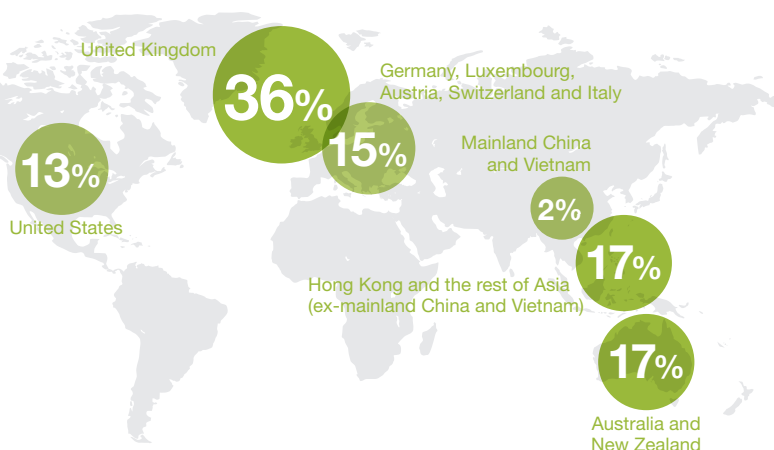
\$10.34m

Programmes
68%

Income generation
26%

Administration and
governance
6%

Source by region



The financial statements of Animals Asia's global offices and sanctuaries will be audited independently in their respective countries. As the audits will be completed after the date of this annual review, the above is a summary of the unaudited financial statements.

'Bringing these bears home is the best feeling in the world. Thank you for being there every step of the way.'
Jill Robinson MBE, founder and CEO



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Cover boy: Delaney is the gentle giant of our China sanctuary – long, lanky and adorably mischievous. He was rescued from a cruel bile farm in 2000.

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