



# Annual Report

## Our activities in 2007

Initiate ABC Project

Animal Welfare Campaigns

Stray Dog Rescue

## 2007 Highlights:

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*-Volunteers with sponsor Martin Schoenmakers at a health camp and vaccination camp during Kukur Tihar  
-Kadootje, a rescued male puppy taking a well deserved nap*

## 2007: Waiting Year and New Initiatives

2007 will probably be remembered as the waiting year. After Maoist rebels signed a peace agreement with the government, the Nepalese people waited for its leaders to sort out its differences, to re-announce elections, to emerge the Nepal Army and People's Liberation Army, in short: to build true peace. Till now this has not happened. Animal Nepal's work was hampered by the illness of its secretary Lucia de Vries. When she returned in

October new programmes were initiated and our campaigns revitalised. Our dream of establishing a community based Animal Birth Control project in Lalitpur District has come closer with the authorities deciding to support.

From all of us at Animal Nepal:

**Thank you for your support in 2007, and wish you a Barking 2008!**

## Patan Rescue: Helping Stray Dogs, One by One

Our Patan Rescue Programme did not get up and running until October. The first puppy to be rescued was **Maria**, a tough female dog suffering from severe scabies and worm infections. She quickly recovered and was spayed. **Maria** turned out a black beauty, and one vet remarked she probably has Labrador ancestors! She was adopted by **family Thakuri** from Dobighat.

Try to burglar my owner's house and I'll eat you! That is what **Kali** must have thought when during Dasain thieves tried to enter the house of **Ganga Karki**, a cleaning lady. Brave **Kali** put up a fight but got her hip slashed with a *khukuri* knife. Supported by Animal Nepal, she was stitched up by the vet and recovered. Nowadays she is out there barking at thieves again!

**Rusty and Dusty**, two female siblings, were abandoned on the street in Bagdol. A few days later they were so malnourished we thought they wouldn't make it. After we

started feeding and treating they were adopted by a carpenter family. Unfortunately bad luck returned when **Dusty** was hit by a car, breaking a rib. Thanks to some extra nutritious food she is recovering quickly.

Male puppy **Kadootje** was taken from Baisepati by a family who later abandoned him on the street. Not knowing how to fend for himself his health deteriorated fast. He was provided with food on the street. Two weeks later he was adopted by **Esther Rai**, who was so happy with him she called him **Kadootje**, Dutch for **Gift**.

**Putali**, a tiny female puppy, lived with a homeless mentally ill woman in Bagdol. Her owner tied the puppy so tight that she developed open wounds around her neck. **Putali** managed to escape and was rescued by a volunteer. Her physical and mental wounds are recovering quickly - holding grudges is not in her books!



## Campaigning for the Voiceless



1. Dr Thapa and a neighbour in front of ABC land at Nakhu
2. Amar holding rescued puppy Maria
3. Phil Privett and Dinesh Shrestha preparing
4. Poster advertising free health check up and vaccination camp

In 2007 we continued our existing campaigns and expanded the new one: **Elephants Aren't Made to Play Polo Campaign**, criticizing the use of elephants in the entertainment industry. Nepali Times published a critical piece by our chair Jiggy Gatton.

Our campaign **Animal Welfare Legislation for Nepal** failed to reach a decisive phase. With another change of government the members of the drafting committee lost their positions. The new Minister failed to send the draft to the Cabinet.

The **Monkey Business Campaign** continued with 7 partner organisations, this year chaired by

Watch Group (WWG). In November Jane Goodall released a novel campaign report called **"There's Some Monkey Business Going on Here."** At the same time brochures in Nepali and English and a website ([www.stopmonkeybusiness.org](http://www.stopmonkeybusiness.org)) were released.

The **Worship Without Cruelty Campaign** saw its highlight during Dasain festival when a relative large number of people publicly criticised sacrifice. Animal Nepal put up posters showing goddess Kali carrying a headless goat at clearing houses for goats and temples where animals are being sacrificed. Disappointingly, the new government, including secular Maoists, continues the cruel practice of publicly beheading buffaloes and other animals.

## Healthy People, Healthy Dogs in Rabies Free Patan

A district with an estimated 20,000 stray dogs and only one animal welfare organisation... Following the example of Kathmandu Municipality and **Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre** ([www.katcentre.org.np](http://www.katcentre.org.np)) Animal Nepal aims at establishing a community based Animal Birth Control/Anti Rabies project in Lalitpur District. You will find the proposal on our website.

We will work together with the **Patan Sub Metropolis Office** and implement the work jointly with **Mobile Vet Clinic**, Jawalakhel. Land has been allocated in Nakhu. Architect **Prakash Chand Pradhan** and **Phil Privett**

came up with beautiful designs for kennels, office and surgery rooms, as well as a small shelter area.

Our vision is to work closely with the Sub Metropolis office and other authorities in an integrated project that includes registration of pets and livestock, education to pet owners and community members, vaccination and neutering drives, and monitoring of stray dogs.

Do you want to be part of a novel, exciting stray dog project? Your inputs are warmly welcomed! We need volunteers, sponsors for kennels, OT, office, toilets, guard room, etc.

Contact us at [animalnepal@gmail.com](mailto:animalnepal@gmail.com)

## Animal Nepal re-registered as NGO

In order to implement 'Healthy People, Healthy Dogs in a Rabies-Free Patan' project Animal Nepal this year closes down as a non-profit company. It will reopen next year as a community based Non-Governmental Organisation.

The NGO will be headed by Dr N.P.S. Karki, a former Director General of

Department of Livestock Services. Having retired recently Dr Karki is the perfect person for the job: not only developed Dr Karki a clear vision for animal welfare legislation, he also has ample experience in implementing welfare activities for all creatures great and small.

**Welcome Dr Karki!**



## Animal Nepal

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Volunteer Sanjeeb Rana with rescued puppy Putali

## *A new website!*

You might have noticed that our logo got a fresh, contemporary look and our website, <http://www.animalnepal.org>, a complete overhaul. Jiggy Gatton developed a fast, well-organised, fun to read site, which offers something for everyone. Students can download resources, campaigners have access to a forum and donors can download proposals and reports.

Please visit and join our yahoo group, a forum for anyone interested in animal welfare issues in Nepal (link is on our website).

*"A society that treats animals so brutally will also be brutal towards fellow beings."*

## *Nepalese Authors Speak Out Against Animal Cruelty*

BY DAMBER K SHRESTHA

We celebrate Dasain by appeasing the goddess Kali so that she will chase away the demons and bring us health, wealth and victory. After all, this is a festival of the triumph of good over evil. This is also the festival of blood-letting as thousands upon thousands of goats, sheep, buffaloes, chickens and ducks are cruelly slaughtered on our streets and temples. Our idols are made of stone, but they drip with the blood of our fellow beings. It is now time to think about what this means in a festival that celebrates the victory of good. Why are we exhibiting such cruelty, and how does this reflect on our society? If we are indeed human beings, why can't we learn to be a little more humane during a national festival? A society that treats animals so brutally will also be brutal towards fellow humans.

BY ARUN GUPTO

The scene of a dead black goat under a huge white plane and a man approaching towards a white goat with an open khukuri is politically incorrect and aesthetically shocking. The scene hurts the sentiments of those who are vegetarians and animal lovers. Even to those eyes who are non-vegetarians, who relish meat and momos, the reconciliation of bestiality and benediction mars the aesthetic sensibility of our times.

Whose culture Shekhar Basnet (September 6, Letters to the Editor) is talking about? Do all Nepalis follow the culture of animal sacrifice? Aren't there millions of Nepalis who take other sacred paths for grace and blessings? I know sacrificial ceremonies have holy nuances of primordial kinds and those who followed it in the past bore the spirit of innocence too. But now in a public place, for a public well being if you are axing a goat you are making ethnocentric claim of a parochial kind by announcing that it is "our" tradition. Who is that "our"?

BY SUDESHNA SARKAR

Amidst growing protests by animal rights activists, a group of Buddhist monks has begun silent prayers to pray for the souls of the animals sacrificed during the festival.

Hundreds of red-robed lamas - Buddhist monks - led by the Nepal Ahimsavadi Bouddha Dharma Vishwa Shanti Chakra Sangh stopped speaking from Thursday in monasteries across 22 districts to issue silent prayers for the welfare of all creatures of god.

The soundless prayers started from Lumbini town in southern Nepal, where the Buddha was born.

