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Pawprint

ISSUE 121 | SEP - DEC 2023



Seniors Rule

Legendary TV Chef
Mrs. Lisa Fong and
her senior cats

From adopting
older pets to ageing
healthier together



Pet Inkspo

Meet those who honoured their pets with body art

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ziwi pets hk

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A huge misconception is that we are government funded when in fact only 1% of our funds come from the government. The majority of our funds come from our veterinary services, your donation, and our fundraising efforts!

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Fiona's Note

For animal lovers, we all want them to live as long as they can as our companions. Unfortunately, their precious lives are much more finite than humans. Yet, we know that if you look after their health and welfare, you can extend their quality lives for longer, and we hope to share our knowledge with you throughout the issue of owning senior pets.

Unfortunately, the recent adoption rate has fallen to its record low across all shelters in Hong Kong, especially among older animals. It's heartbreaking to see people abandoning them due to high medical costs or ill health. Pet ownership is for life, and we ought to respect their life and be thankful that they spent their best years with you. Therefore, in this issue, our SPCA professionals, including the vets, dog trainers, and homing assistants, will all come together to share tips on caring for your senior pets and celebrating their longevity. You will see that older pets are just as loving as the young ones, and they will love you 'til the end. Senior rescues deserve a home too. Please adopt to save more lives.

Executive Director

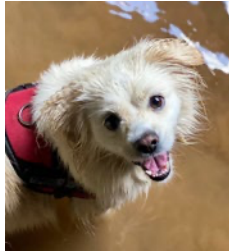
Ms Fiona Cumming

Pawprint Team



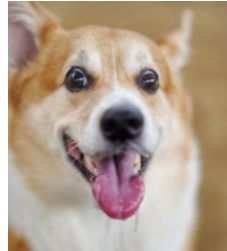
Jenmon Jenkins
Community Director

My favourite read would be Pet Inkspo - maybe time for a tattoo of Ronnie?! I am thrilled about the launch of #BringYourDogtoWork and hope more people can enjoy the benefits of these loving souls.



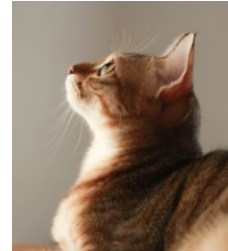
Stephanie Lown
English Editor

I really enjoyed writing up the Pet Inkspo article and learning the backstory of each of these meaningful tattoos. It was also a lot of fun capturing the owner's portraits and doing these tattoos justice!



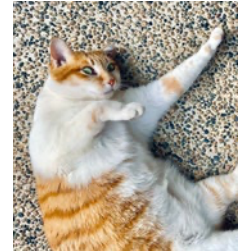
Kelly Chan
Chinese Editor

It breaks my heart that we generally pay more attention to purebred little puppies. Glad we can dedicate an entire issue to celebrate senior pets of all sizes and breeds. They deserve a loving home too.



Kitty Lau
Designer

I hope readers will acquire a deeper understanding of how to care for senior animals and consider adopting senior pets. Despite needing extra tender loving care, these animals equally deserve a loving and warm home in their later years.



Snowy Tse
Illustrator

I loved that article about tattoos because it was full of love. Although I still don't have enough courage to get a tattoo, for illustrators, being able to design pet tattoos for others is something I would love to do.

Front Cover

Shot by IG: @cmgallery_hk

CM Gallery is a renowned photography studio for weddings, fine art pet photography and has created some of the most memorable photographs in TVB's Hong Kong Super Pet Model Contest. CM Leung, the gallery's founder and principal photographer, is also a proud dad to 16-year-old Tasha and rescue dog Sophie, who gave birth to six pups who have found their forever homes. The SPCA is grateful for his craft for the cover shoot.

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Your Senior Pet

Contributed by the SPCA Chief Veterinary Surgeon
Dr. Jane Gray and the Vet Department

Pancake / 15 YO / F / IG: @lolameow_pepperpancake

Earlier this year in Portugal, a dog going by the name of Bobi amazed dog owners across the globe when he celebrated his 31st birthday, breaking the Guinness World Record as the oldest dog ever to have lived. This record was previously held in the 1930s by a 29-year-old Australian Cattle dog called Bluey.

The oldest cat ever recorded, was a domestic tabby cat called Creme Puff, who lived to the ripe old age of 38!

What all these animals had in common was a good upbringing, a decent amount of exercise and a healthy dose of nutritious food - though great genes also played a very important part!

And while not all animals can be blessed with good genes, the good news is that there is still a way to influence their expression. In other words, we can still help our companion animals live longer, happier lives by establishing a healthy behaviour, environment, and diet from the start! Here's how...

Diet

As pets enter their twilight years, their dietary requirements change, for example, they need fewer calories and adjusted protein levels in their diet.

So by changing the nutrition of your pet's diet as they enter their senior years, certain ailments and side effects of ageing can be prevented or at least slowed down.

Important nutrients in a senior dog's diet include:

- Good quality protein sources
- Glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate to help maintain joint and bone health
- Omega-3 fatty acids for joint, bone and skin health, as well as promoting a robust immune system. Please choose products that are veterinary recommended.
- Calcium and phosphorus (in the correct ratio) for strong bones
- Beet pulp and flaxseed for gastrointestinal health
- Special sugars (saccharides) to improve gastrointestinal tract health by increasing the number of "good" and decreasing the number of "bad" bacteria.
- Appropriate levels of vitamin E and L-Carnitine to support brain and cognitive health
- Dietary antioxidants such as vitamin E



Amber / 14 YO / F / IG: @labradorsinhongkong

Senior pets are far more likely to be healthier (and trimmer) if they are offered a diet tailored to their needs, which is not difficult bearing in mind the excellent range of diets available. In addition, certain old age-related diseases for example heart and kidney disease can benefit from specific veterinary prescription diets. If in doubt, please ask your veterinary surgeon for advice on the best diet for your pet.

Check out P.8 - 9 for more tips on how to help your senior cats!

As our pets age, they may also benefit from additional supplements for their heart, kidney, liver, or joints etc.

Check out our *Top Picks* on P. 30 to 31 for recommended products!

Activity levels



Luk Dau / 17 YO / F / IG: @luk_dau

Our companion animals lead such passive lives, and a large proportion of their activities revolve around us as pet owners. For instance, dogs eat what we feed them, go to the toilet when we take them out, and exercise as much as we do (or don't!)

Dogs depending on breed and age require a minimum of 30 to 60 minutes of exercise per day. This may reduce as the dog ages, but it is important to exercise your dog daily to provide them with the necessary mental and physical stimulation.

Here are some tips to help with your pet's physical comfort and mobility as they age:

- **Choose low-impact activities** such as walking and swimming, and for cats, invest in playtime using toys or provide climbers or scratching posts.
- **Check out physical therapy** such as water, massage, heat and/or cold therapy which can help relieve joint pain and discomfort.

Ensuring that your pet is a healthy weight can also help reduce the number of health problems in your pet, as well as decrease the physical strain on your pet's limbs (and back).

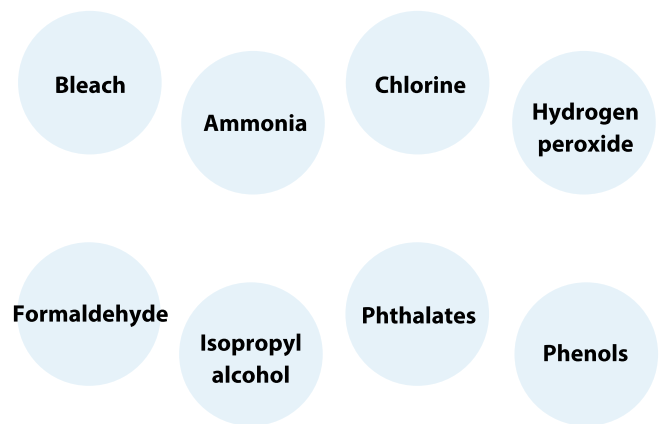
🐾 Environment 🐾



Dada / 14 YO / F / IG: @jojowy

Bearing in mind that your pet’s range of mobility will reduce with age, adjustments in the set-up of your flat can help them move around more comfortably. These changes include the addition of ramps or steps, and making resources more accessible i.e. bedding, litter boxes, and feeding locations.

It also goes without saying that maintaining a clean, hygienic environment free from stressors and irritants is also an important factor contributing to their overall health and wellness. When cleaning your flat, be sure to choose products that are free from:

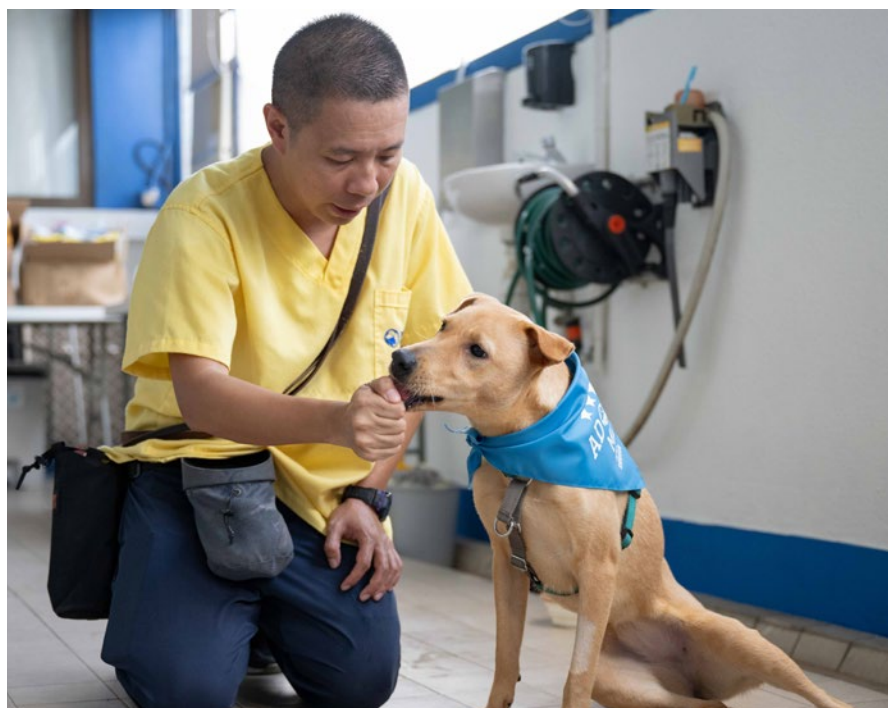


🐾 Mental Stimulation 🐾

Just like humans, pets experience cognitive decline as they age, and not surprisingly the most effective way to slow this decline is with mental stimulation. Puzzle toys or games that engage pets and encourage them to solve a “problem” or tap into their hunter-prey drive, are the best ways to do this.

There are plenty of enrichment activities that you can create at home, which won’t cost an arm and a leg. For example, a simple slow feeder or tunnel can be made with some leftover toilet rolls and cardboard boxes!

Check out P.18 -19 for tips on games and training exercises to play with your dog.



Egg Yolk / PN 538888 / 1 YO / F

Preventative Medicine and Wellness Checks

As with humans, pets are more prone to developing diseases in their senior years. Some changes are normal and don't represent disease for example greying of the fur - especially at the muzzle.

It's a sad fact that many diseases of senior pets may go unnoticed by the owner in their early stages. For this reason, it is strongly advised to visit your veterinary surgeon for a full physical exam every 6 to 12 months. In addition your vet may suggest the following for your senior pet:



A geriatric blood profile: a sample of blood is taken from the neck or leg and analysed. This can give a large amount of information about a pet's health together with providing a baseline for future monitoring. Often diseases in their early stages do not show any obvious external signs, and management and treatment are far more effective if started early e.g. kidney disease in cats.



Urine tests as with blood can help detect issues early e.g. diabetes and kidney disease.



Blood pressure measurement: early detection of hypertension (high blood pressure) is key and can be controlled by drugs.



Heart checks can include ultrasound, x-rays, and ECGs (electrocardiograms).



Eye pressure measurement to check for glaucoma.

Prevention is always better than cure, and it's impossible to stop the ageing process, but even if your senior pet has been diagnosed with a disease be it arthritis, heart, or kidney disease, it is still possible to help them live happy and healthy lives.

There are a myriad of treatments and medications available which can make your pet's senior years more comfortable depending on the individual disease:



Heart problems - numerous medications can help the heart function more effectively.



Arthritis - supplements (such as omega-3 fish oils or glucosamine), special diets, injections and oral pain killers can all help manage stiff and painful joints.



Dental disease - can be treated by descaling and polishing, removal of rotten teeth and antibiotics and/or anti-inflammatories to treat gum infections.



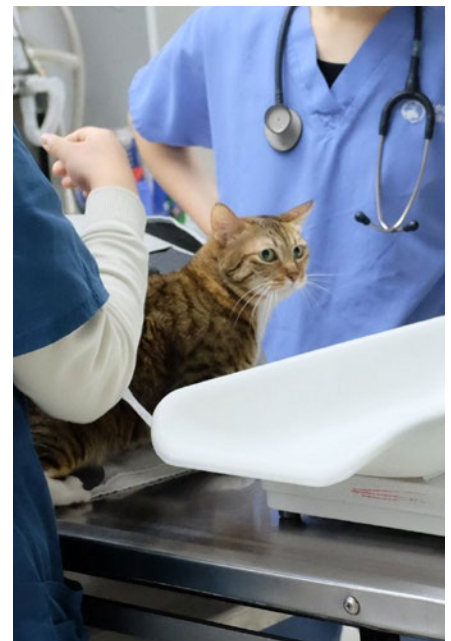
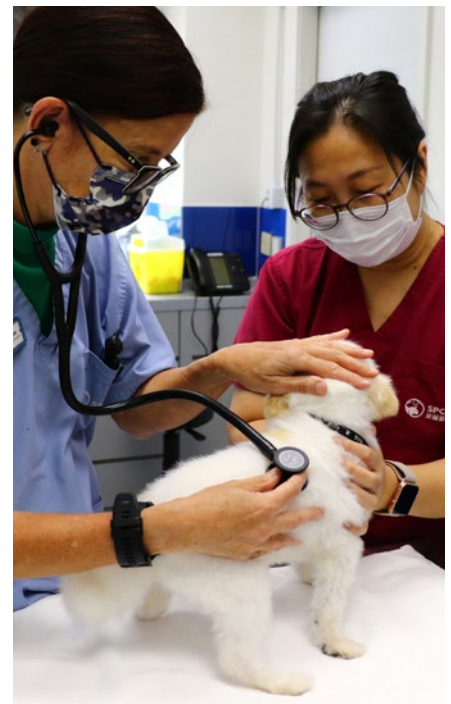
Brain activity can be improved by medications and supplements.



Kidney and liver disease - there are a vast array of drugs now available to help prolong and improve quality of life for pets suffering from these diseases.

It's a fact - often an owner does not realise how much their geriatric pet has been suffering until they start treatment and develop a new lease of life!

Remember old age is not a disease but part of life's natural process. With the right knowledge and care, we can all help our pets age gracefully, and live long fulfilling lives! 🐾



Scan to find your closest clinic and book an appointment with your vet today:





How to support your senior cat as they age ?

Did you know?

Cats enter their senior years at 7 years old! According to the Guinness Book of World Records the oldest living cat is 27 year old Flossie in the UK!

What does senior mean?

The senior life stage can be divided into two categories for cats; "mature" from 7-12 years and "geriatric" when 12 years and older. These categories are defined by some common changes that can occur in activity levels, metabolism, and ability to digest key nutrients, including fat and protein, which can affect body weight, lean body mass, immune system, digestive system, and skin.

Did you know?

Senior cats begin losing lean body mass (e.g. muscle) from 7 years of age. By age 15, cats may lose up to 1/3 of their lean body mass, on average.

Why does this happen?

Between the ages of 7 to 12 years old, cats are typically prone to becoming overweight. However, from 12 years on, cats can start to lose weight, **which may be caused by a reduced ability to digest fat and protein, and other metabolic changes.** This results in more underweight conditions, sometimes referred to as 'skinny old cat syndrome', than overweight conditions in cats over the age of 12.

The best way to combat this is through nutritional intervention!

In other words, tailoring your cat's diet to support the metabolic changes that take place as they age, can help them live longer and healthier.








A study by PURINA® found that generally cats aged between 7 to 12 years benefited most from a diet with reduced levels of fat and calories, and higher levels of fibre and protein to minimise weight gain. Whereas, cats from 12 years of age and up, benefited from a highly digestible diet with higher levels of protein and fat to help maintain lean body mass and ideal body condition.

A diet higher in protein, essential fatty acids, prebiotics and antioxidants (e.g. vitamins C and E) helps support an ageing immune system and overall health. To help combat this, PURINA® has developed two feeds for cats aged 7 years and above and encourages mixed feeding!








Cat Dry Food

PURINA®PRO PLAN®Senior CAT 7+, SALMON & TUNA is a dry cat feed which combines all essential nutrients including vitamins A, C and E, also Omega 3 and 6 Fatty Acids in a high-quality diet for cats.

-  Real Salmon and Tuna as #1 ingredient
-  Live probiotics BC30 for digestive and immune health
-  Contains "LONGEVIS" special formula blend, proven to extend healthy lifespan and improve quality of life
-  Specially developed to support brain function
-  Unique nutrient blend to help promote healthy kidneys
-  Supports healthy joints and good mobility
-  Scientifically proven antioxidants for immune defence

Cat Wet Food

PURINA®PRO PLAN®Senior 7+ wet cat food is scientifically formulated to be 100% complete and balanced, containing all of the essential nutrition your senior cat needs, including optimal protein and fat levels to help maintain a healthy weight and ingredients to support a strong immune defence for healthy ageing.

-  Made with real chicken in a tasty gravy
-  Contains inulin to support superior nutrient absorption
-  Prebiotic proven to enhance digestive health
-  Antioxidants to help support immune defence for healthy ageing
-  Balanced minerals and antioxidants to help protect urinary



In addition to the benefits of each feed, cats can thrive from mixed feeding of both as this best mimics cats' natural diets, whilst supporting healthy hydration in cats. To take good care and understand your beloved cats as they age, PURINA®PRO PLAN® supports them to live longer and healthier. 🐾

Scan here to shop now:



Exclusive promotion to SPCA members: From now till October 31, 2023, purchase PURINA®PRO PLAN®Senior Cat products^ can enjoy 20% discount. While stock lasts.

^ Products include PURINA®PRO PLAN®Senior 7+ Cat Dry 1.5kg, PURINA®PRO PLAN®Live Clear Senior 7+ Cat Dry 1.5KG & PRO PLAN®Senior 7+ Cat Wet Chicken Pouch 85g

If in doubt please check with your veterinary surgeon if PURINA®PRO PLAN®Diets products are suitable to manage your cats health.



Bella / PN 225669 / 14 YO / F

7 reasons why you should adopt a senior pet

1 They could make great first pets

Senior pets often make great companions for first-time pet owners, as they are in some ways easier to care for than puppies or kittens who might like to bite, chew and mouth their owners' hands, clothes or belongings.

Most older animals often wind up at shelters due to a sudden change in their previous owner's life such as the arrival of a newborn, relocation or death. They, therefore, often tend to be more reliable and have a basic understanding of what it's like to live in a house with other animals or little humans running around.

2 You would be giving a rescue animal a second chance at life

A common misconception is that rescue animals are "problematic" or have "behavioural issues", and - although, unfortunately, some of our animals do wind up at our centres as rescues from cases of neglect, mistreatment and sometimes abuse - it's often through the fault of irresponsible owners who haven't done their homework on what it means to take care of a pet.

All of our animals undergo assessment with our trainers and vets before becoming available for adoption, so if there were any physical or behavioural "issues" with a dog or a cat, this would have already been taken into account by our team and a solution will be provided to the adopter to help with the transition.

3 They are easy-going

Senior pets are often calmer in nature, and require less exercise, making them more suitable for people who work longer hours or have less active lifestyles. Although this may mean they are more likely to enjoy a snuggle in than a younger pet, they still require an adequate amount of exercise!

Bella, our 14-year-old rescue pup currently living with a foster family, enjoys an occasional short walk in the neighbourhood and playing on the soft grass for 30 minutes on cooler days. "The advantage of adopting a senior pet is that owners do not need to exercise them as much as younger ones, which may be suitable for some Hong Kong people's lifestyle. Going on a hike would be too much for Bella's inflamed joints," says Fong Chun Ho, Welfare Manager (Operations and Development).

Senior pets are great for retired folks, or even expats who are not planning to stay here permanently. You just need to make sure you time your departure sensibly!

4 They are full of life and personality

People tend to think that senior animals are "boring" or are less healthy and require more medical attention, but this isn't always the case!

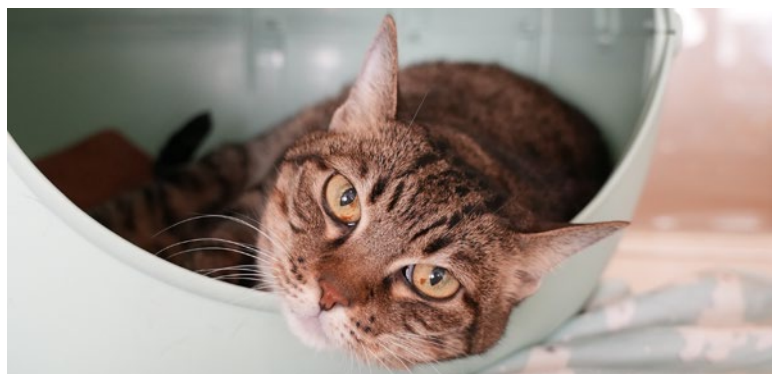
Some cats and dogs can live until 20 years old, have a clean bill of health and still have so much character - it all depends on the animal and how well they are taken care of, which brings us to our next point...

5 What you see, is what you get

The benefit of adopting a senior pet is the advantage of knowing their medical history, size, temperament, and personality beforehand. You wouldn't be rolling the dice on a younger animal without a fully developed personality, and you'll likely have access to the animal's medical history from the adoption centre and know what to expect.

If in doubt, you can always ask the homing assistants and trainers who have spent time with the animals for more details on the animal's background, including tips and advice.

Taking Bella as an example, our team would remind her foster family to gently pet her instead of picking her up as the latter could hurt her inflamed joints. A heads-up on how to take care of a senior animal can help the owner bond with the animal. "Giving her a mattress dog bed instead of a towel can help her sleep too," said Zizi, our homing assistant.



San Jar / PN 550255 / 9 YO / F

6 You would be saving not one, but more lives!

It's common for most shelters to hear that 6-month-old or 1-year-old cats and dogs are "too old", making the "demand" for rescues older than 6 months significantly smaller than their younger pen mates. Unfortunately, this results in some dogs staying months or even years in shelters, and never experiencing a family or home to call their own, which can be highly stressful and sad for the animal.

Sadly, our centres have reached full capacity as the recent adoption rate has dropped to a record low. By adopting a companion animal, you would not only be saving the animal's life, but also making room for us to rescue another animal in need. And last, but definitely not least...

7 Unconditional love and companionship

Older pets still provide you with unconditional love and companionship! At the end of the day, there is nothing quite like returning home to a wagging tail or the gentle purr of your companion animal. And if you've ever wondered if they actually do love us back, the answer is yes!

Scientific studies have proven that not only do our pets love us back, but they see us as family! So regardless of their age, health status or breed, companion animals love us unconditionally and without judgement, regardless of who we are! 🐾



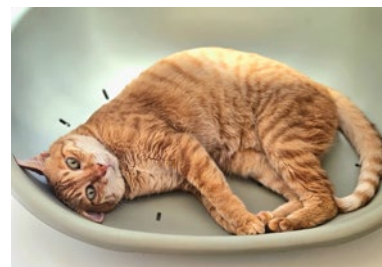
Pepper & Pancake / 15 YO / F



Pepper / 15 YO / F



Luk Dau / 17 YO / F



Biiru / 14 YO / F

Mrs. Fong & Her Fan Club

Hong Kong TV chef Mrs. Lisa Fong and her daughter, Bonita, have adopted five domestic shorthair cats from the SPCA over the years - Chillli, Minouche, Antonio, Michella and Gaga. Three of which reached their sweet sixteens, but only Gaga, who recently celebrated her 16th birthday remains. Thanks to the Fong's commitment to the cats, they all lived long and healthy lives. Here they share how pets can be human's biggest fans and reveal their secret to pet longevity.

As our photographer was capturing the most intimate moments of Mrs. Fong and Gaga in her apartment, Bonita shared a few anecdotes showing how their cats were Mrs. Fong's biggest fans, "if Mrs. Fong takes a bath, Gaga will wait at the door or sit on the edge of the bathtub. When Mrs. Fong brushes her teeth, Gaga will sit behind her and wait. When Mrs. Fong cooks, Gaga will be by her side to watch."

Gaga joined the family at one year old and has always been very protective of Mrs. Fong. "If our guests stay at our house later than 10:30 pm, Gaga will make them leave. One time a monkey tried to break into the house, Gaga ran to protect Mrs. Fong without hesitation."

Minouche, Mrs. Fong's other cat who passed away at the age of 14, never missed her owner's cooking show. "She watched my mother on TV every day until her famous closing line 'see you at the same time tomorrow'," Bonita said.

Now 16-year-old Gaga is enjoying her senior years with Mrs Fong. What's Mrs. Fong's secret to keep her happy and healthy?

"Owners must pay more attention as their pets enter different stages of their lives. Each of my previous cats had different diets and Gaga does not eat human food but her own kibble. She also drinks lots of water. In our family, we believe water is essential to maintaining good health," Mrs. Fong said. ☺



Gaga



"Actually, age is just a number. There are so many things we can learn from older animals. The biggest lesson is loyalty."

- Mrs. Fong

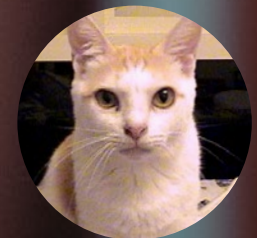


Minouche was a big fan of Mrs. Fong's cooking shows.



"People say that black cats bring bad luck but in the 16 years that Antonio was with us, he brought nothing but joy."

- Bonita



"Michella's leg was accidentally trapped in an escalator and was rescued by the SPCA. We were happy to be selected as her new family."

- Bonita

Have you adopted from the SPCA and want to share your experience? Email us at [✉ happyendings@spca.org.hk](mailto:happyendings@spca.org.hk)

Adoption Date

Adoption is at an all-time low post-COVID, with only 12 dogs adopted across all our centres in July 2023! There is a small demand for pets past two years of age, which is so unfortunate as they have a whole life ahead of them.

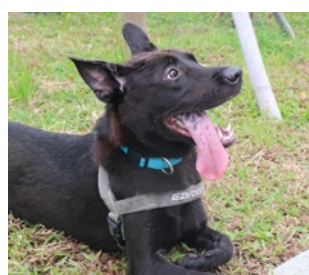
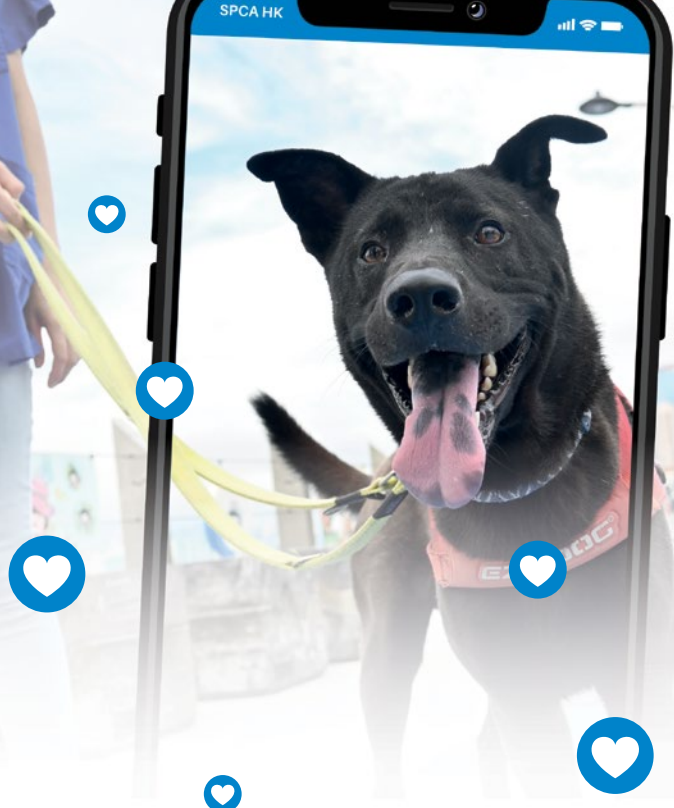
By adopting an animal, you help save two lives - your adoptive pet and the next animal in need!

Visit our centres during opening hours, and keep your eyes peeled for our Adoption Dates to find your *pawfect* match. 🐾

If you are unable to adopt, consider fostering!

✉ foster@spca.org.hk to get in touch with us.

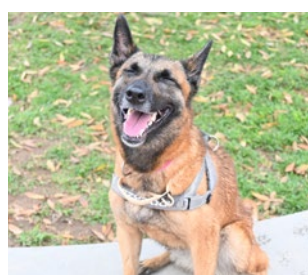
To learn more about the next Adoption Date, stay tuned to our social channels.



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 523781

Ron
1 YO | M | Mongrel

- ♋ Scorpio
- 🐾 Timid, Slow-to-warm-up, Playful
- * More confident with other dogs around



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 492137

Wu Tsui
7 YO | F | Malinois

- ♊ Gemini
- 🐾 Survivor of abuse, Active, Affectionate
- * Patience and love will win her heart



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 504855

Cola
2 YO | M | Mongrel

- ♊ Aquarius
- 🐾 Fearful, Playful, Energetic
- * Has spent his entire life at the centre and requires someone patient to build a relationship with him



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 502501

Thor
4 YO | M | Mongrel

- ♊ Aquarius
- 🐾 Active, Slow-to-warm-up, Introvert
- * Might bark at strangers but once you get to know him, he is the most affectionate dog you will ever meet

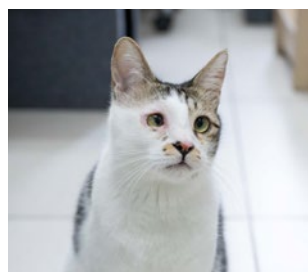
Don't forget our other friends at our adoption centres!



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 550255

San Jar
9 YO | F | Domestic Shorthair

- ♊ Gemini
- 🐾 Quiet, Mellow, Laidback



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 524857

Matty
1 YO | M | Domestic Shorthair

- ♋ Scorpio
- 🐾 Curious, good with cats & dogs, Slow-to-warm-up with humans



📍 SPCA Hong Kong Centre
PN 551920

Don
Mud Turtle

- ♋ Not sure, but probably a water sign
- 🐾 Calm, Quiet, Laid Back

To see more animals available for adoption, please scan here or call our Homing Department at 2232 5529 for more info!





你知道嗎
DID YOU KNOW ...

ONLY **1%**

of our funds come from the government

The remaining 99% relies heavily on your generous donations to maintain our ongoing animal rescue and welfare work that are free of charge!

愛協的經費中只有1%來自政府資助

其餘的99%是靠大眾捐款，我們的免費動物拯救和福利工作才得以持續。

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\$100



能為1隻動物
提供1劑疫苗
can supply
1 vaccine dose
to a rescue animal

\$300



能為2隻幼犬或
3隻幼貓提供
1星期所需奶粉
can provide 1 week's
supply of milk formula
to 2 puppies or 3 kittens

\$800



能資助1隻社區狗
或街貓的絕育手術
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1 community dog
or stray cat

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The importance of 'duty of care' in saving animals' lives

Founded in 1824, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) is the world's largest and oldest animal welfare organisation and works across England and Wales. Dermot Murphy, Inspectorate Commissioner of the RSPCA, shares his 29 years of experience working as an inspector and why the positive concept of "duty of care" is so crucial to the amendments of Hong Kong's animal cruelty laws.

Protection of Animals Act: The Pros and Cons



Dermot Murphy

When I became an RSPCA inspector in 1999, I was trained in the use and enforcement of Protection of Animals Act. Where people had caused suffering to animals it was straightforward taking an investigation and ultimately taking individuals to court. One case I had was a man that had violently and repeatedly kicked his dog in the street, witnessed by several people working in a property company. He was arrested by the police, I interviewed him, I obtained witness

statements, and got an expert opinion from a veterinary surgeon confirming that the dog had suffered. The man was convicted and banned from keeping animals for a period of time.

Although the legislation was 90 years old, in this type of situation it worked. The big gap was that **I had to wait until an animal suffered, I could not legally intervene before that happened**, even if I knew an animal would suffer. To someone passionate about improving animal welfare, this was a big frustration.

The Introduction of Duty of Care in the UK

For the RSPCA in the UK during 2007, the Animal Welfare Act 2006 came into being. As well as improving the wording in the 1911 act, it also set out a "duty of care".

This meant the enablement of enforcement action if the welfare needs of an animal were not being met, but not suffering. These five welfare needs were;

- 1 The need for a suitable environment
- 2 The need for a suitable diet
- 3 The need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour patterns
- 4 Any need it has to be housed with, or apart from, other animals
- 5 The need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease



“The introduction of duty of care has been such an improvement to animal welfare. No longer do we have to leave animals in a filthy environment, just because they are not physically suffering. Like humans, animals can suffer mental anguish and an unsuitable environment may not cause immediate physical harm, but it is detrimental to an animal’s wellbeing.”

- Dermot Murphy, RSPCA Inspectorate Commissioner



Scan to learn more about the proposed amendment of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) in Hong Kong:



If Hong Kong were to implement “duty of care”, what would that mean for animal welfare?

If duty of care were to come into effect, we would hope that authorised officers could issue an **Improvement Notice** to let owners or keepers know that they are at risk of committing an offence and extend an opportunity to rectify the situation, stating what needs to be corrected and a date to comply. Failure to comply with the Improvement Notice may lead to prosecution.

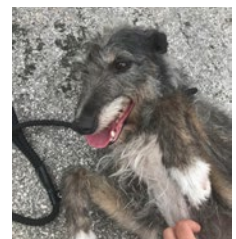
In the UK, this has been successful, with recent data showing 98% compliance. Very few of these situations need to be taken to court as a result, but animal welfare is improved.

Presently in Hong Kong, if the animal does not show any signs of suffering or physical injuries, it may be difficult for the law enforcement agencies to intervene or remove an animal. With the proposed amendment to the legislation to include a “duty for care”, an authorised officer would be able to encourage owners to improve the care of the animals and more easily rescue and remove an animal from a situation where suffering has occurred or, importantly, may result if the animal is left in situ.

It was also recommended that a **Disqualification Order** be introduced to ban persons convicted of animal cruelty from owning animals. These updates would help us to better safeguard animal welfare throughout the city.

Case Study

This is Milly and she was kept in a garden in England, which was overflowing with rubbish and an unsuitable environment to keep a dog. Her owner had started moving rubbish for people and much of it was dumped in his own garden. The RSPCA inspector issued a warning notice, giving him two days to improve the situation. The inspector stated that the dog could not stay there and the owner temporarily gave Milly to a friend.



The inspector returned and the situation had not changed. The owner admitted that he could not cope and he gave Milly to the RSPCA to find a new home. As the situation was rectified, albeit by the RSPCA rehoming Milly, there was no need for a prosecution. Under the previous legislation, this would not have been possible until Milly was suffering.

Cases such as Milly, show where duty of care can have a real positive impact for animal welfare **without having to wait until things deteriorate to an extent** that an animal suffers and a court case becomes inevitable. 🐾

The importance of training and enrichment for older dogs



Miffy / PN 542969 / 8 MO / F

It's a common misconception that older dogs "can't be trained" or there's "no point" in training older dogs. Seasick Steve even wrote a song titled *You Can't Teach an Old Dog New Tricks*, but our SPCA trainers are here to debunk that myth. Not only is it not true, but training your dog is a great way to strengthen your bond and engage with your dog mentally, which plays a huge role in your pet's well-being and can even greatly reduce or slow cognitive decline.

Here are a few simple exercises you can do at home:

How to get started?

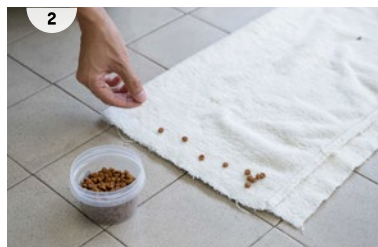
1. Nose and scent games

Older dogs are often incapable of walking long distances. So, a great way to keep them active and mentally engaged is through the use of mental stimulation or enrichment activities, such as puzzle toys i.e. Busy Buddy, Kong.

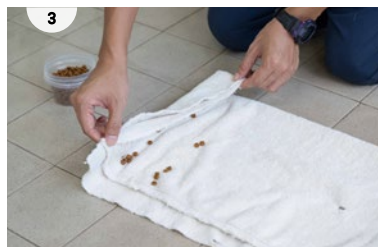
Here's a simple DIY scent game you can do at home with your dog, that only requires a towel and some kibble or treats.



Get a big towel and place on the floor



Scatter kibble and treats on the towel



Roll the towel as you scatter food on each layer



Present the towel to your dog and watch them slowly figure it out



Increase the difficulty by tying knots and hiding treats inside the knot and challenge your dog again

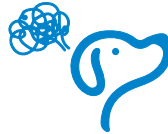
Here are some things to be aware of when training your senior dog:



Be patient



Keep it simple and easy



Do consider your dog's physical or mental abilities when choosing the right training



Take it slow, do not overdo it



Make it fun, no pressure

What about when facing behavioral issues, can old dogs still be trained?

Yes! It's never too late to train your dog. It might take longer compared to training a puppy. But it is still possible to train your older dog. Here's a few simple tips to get you started:

2. Change the routine step by step

Training is not just about requiring your dogs to follow instructions. We also need to take into consideration their well-being, which is why it is important to adjust your pets' daily routine in stages:



Decrease the walking time & increase the resting time



Small meals at shorter intervals



Fast changes to their routine may cause stress and behavior problems

3. Sensory training

We need to understand how dogs perceive the world via their senses : nose ➔ ears ➔ eyes, a reverse order compared to humans'. When one sense deteriorates, other senses can be used to assist during the training process. For example, if the ability of hearing becomes poor, owners can add gestures (visual stimulus) when they call their dogs to better help them understand the instruction.

Earlier, we spent a day training a blind dog with the stimulation of smell and sight. As we know dogs have remarkable ability to discern and remember scents. If we are in a downwind position, the dog can recognise you from far away.

Senior dogs may become more sensitive as they age, and not like being held or touched.

One great exercise for seniors is desensitisation to help reduce the stress caused by touch.



1 Gently touch your dog's back while feeding treats/food



3 Pet your dog first then feed treats



2 Repeat until dog's no longer reacting to the touch



4 Slowly increase the time and intensity of your petting (make sure your dog is comfortable as you increase the intensity)

Try to achieve small goals before going to the next step. Remember, training is supposed to be a bonding moment, if you get frustrated - take a break. If you are struggling to make progress in your training, do not hesitate to reach out to our behaviourist or trainers for help when needed. 🐾

Contact us at 📞 2232 5567 or email ✉ bt@spca.org.hk

Scan to learn about our training courses:



Dai Mui & Yi Mui

Age: Both 8 years old
Breed: Domestic Shorthairs
Gender: Both females
Issue: Overgrooming and fighting



Dai Mui



Before



Yi Mui



Before

Case details

Dai Mui (DM) and Yi Mui (YM) were adopted together and had always displayed overgrooming from a young age, though this worsened a year after they moved house in 2018. The second time they moved, their owners noticed that play fights turned into real fights, with DM striking YM whenever they crossed paths.

Lily's Notes

Structure - Our pets benefit from a daily routine and an equal distribution of resources within the home. To ease further disputes I suggested that the owners increase the number of food bowl stations, water stations and litter boxes and recommended possible locations for these key resources.

Consent test for interaction - It is important to respect your pet's boundaries so a consent test by taking a short pause from petting to see how the cat reacts is important. Does the cat move away to signal they have had enough or do they lean in for more?

Mental stimulation - through the use of puzzle feeders or activity feeding and appropriate play sessions, so a few activities were recommended for DM and YM.

Pheromone therapy and medication - As grooming is a self-soothing behaviour, the issue of overgrooming can be a result of anxiety so a Feliway diffuser was recommended with a prescription of anti-anxiety medication for both cats.

No punishment or yelling - Instead of punishment, I suggested distracting DM with funny sounds before he "attacked" YM.

Result

After a few weeks, DM and YM's owners reported that both cats had made some progress.

DM displays less aggression, and is more calm and relaxed, and willing to play with toys. She still grooms herself but less excessively, and owners are able to stop her from grooming by distracting her with toys or stroking her. YM on the other hand, required a buster collar most of the time to begin with, but is now able to be out of her buster collar as her owners can stop her from grooming by asking with a gentle voice.

Lily will continue to work with the owners and monitor the progress of both cats, and work towards weaning both cats off their medication when the situation becomes stable. 🐾

CASE ONGOING



Lily Leung, Senior Behavioural Support Technician

Qualifications:

- Postgraduate Certification Clinical Animal Behavior Course from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at The University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- The Academy for Dog Trainers
- Feline Behavior and Psychology from the Center of Excellence
- iCatCare Advanced Feline Behaviour
- Fear Free Certified® Professional
- Advanced Canine Aggression with Dr. Amber Batson



B&T Case Files



CANINE PHYSIOTHERAPY



Joint Dynamics is now offering physiotherapy & hydrotherapy appointments for your canine companions!

Physiotherapy Can Help Many Issues Including

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Back Pain | IVDD | Neurological Issues

Senior Dog Deconditioning | Safe Weight Loss



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All patients require a referral from the veterinarian prior to assessment

LOCATION

1/E, SPCA building
5 Wan Shing Street, Wan Chai

CONTACT

Charlotte Davies

27620528

charlotte.davies@jointdynamics.com.hk



Tasha / 16 YO / F / IG: @cmleung

Grooming for Senior Pets

You might not think that older pets require any special attention when it comes to grooming - it's no different to grooming them when they were younger right? Wrong!

Similar to humans, our pet's physique and energy levels start to deteriorate as they age, and they may become more prone to illnesses than before.

This may result in a change of behaviour and an entirely different body composition which requires special attention when it comes to bath time and other aspects of grooming.

Here are a few top tips from our Grooming Supervisor at SPCA Hair Force One, Kathy Lai.



Joints

Grooming is a great opportunity to check your pet's body and test their joint mobility, as senior pets may start to grow skin tags, lumps and experience stiffness or weaker joints.

If you notice that your pet is encountering difficulties in moving, it's important to learn how to massage these areas properly and gently move their limbs to keep them limber and comfortable.

These areas creating discomfort should also be taken into consideration when bathing and drying your pets, to ensure you don't hurt them.



Brushing & Bath-time

When it comes to cleansing, senior cats may no longer groom themselves as frequently as they used to, so owners may need to brush their cat's fur more frequently to get rid of dead fur.

It's worth noting that cats also become thinner as they age which means that their skin may become loose and saggy. Regular cleaning and grooming of the belly area is required to prevent tangling. Also, we advise seeking the help of a professional if needing to cut any matted hair on a cat's belly or under the armpit as these areas may be easily damaged due to the thin covering of skin. It is not recommended for owners to use scissors and cut the hair by themselves.

As mentioned above, senior pets may start to develop more lumps and bumps on their body as they age. As we bathe our pets and cleanse their skin, we should take extra care to feel if there are any lumps or bumps that might need to be checked by a vet. Also ask your groomer if they feel anything unusual on your pet's body. Sometimes these are just part of the ageing process and nothing to worry about. However, other times these can signal an underlying condition - particularly if you see redness, an opening or pus and fast growth, so it's important to monitor these closely.



Mani-Pedi

Well-manicured paws are not just about keeping up appearances, but also ensuring that your pet's gait is not affected.

Dogs will require more frequent trimming of the nails the older and less active they become, as less walkies means that their nails don't get filed down naturally or as often.

Nails that are too long can affect the way they walk and add pressure and stress on their paws and joints.



Bodily Fluids

As dogs get older, they may encounter issues with their eyes - not just weepy eyes, but also dry eyes, producing sticky tears - particularly flat-faced cats and dogs. These may require wiping more often with either lukewarm water or saline, and cotton wool to remove tears and prevent staining or moisture from accumulating.

Some pets may become incontinent as they age, and we would advise against the use of diapers if possible. These areas must be kept as clean and dry as possible and may require the occasional trim to prevent staining.

Use gentle vet recommended cleaning products for the area to prevent irritation or infection and use pee pads at night or in their beds to help soak up leakages.

If your pet starts showing signs of incontinence, we would recommend you speak to your vet, as there are medications available that could help.



Dental Care

Good dental care is vital for a healthy senior pet, as it can lead to a series of other health issues if left untreated, not to mention chronic pain and inappetence.

It is important to maintain a good oral hygiene routine such as the use of vet approved dental products for teeth cleaning at home to prevent rotten teeth - which would then need to be removed under general anaesthesia - a riskier procedure for older pets.

Regular dental checks can be done by owners by flipping the lip to look for inflammation, infection and or loose teeth and can save a lot of pain and suffering. If in doubt, please consult your vets if your pets have dental problems. 🦷

Need assistance?

Our team at Hair Force are fully certified with professional grooming qualifications from Hong Kong or Japan.

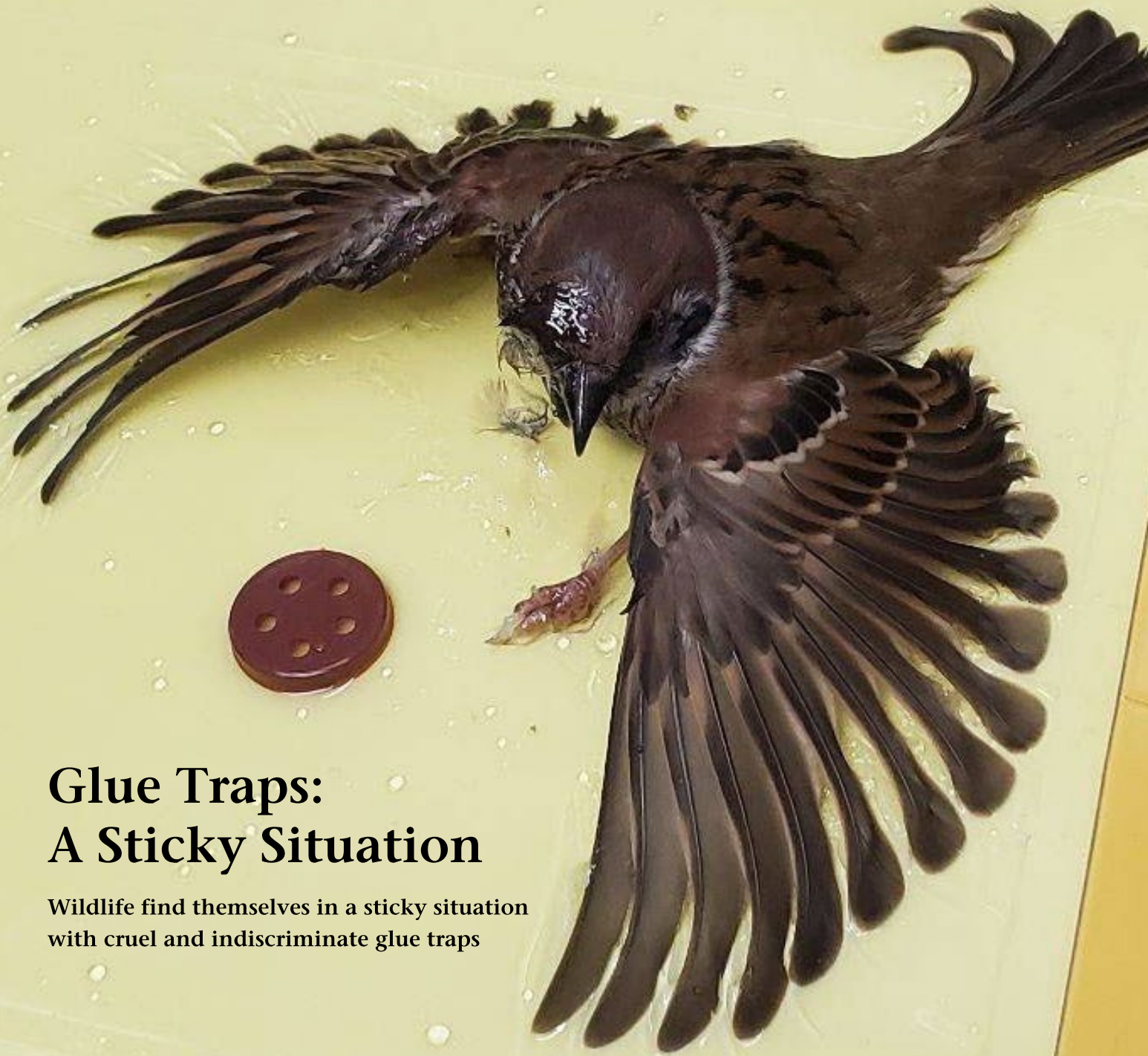


Kathy Lai - Grooming Supervisor has been working with SPCA's Hair Force grooming salon since 2007 and is a Certified Professional Groomer.

Our pet grooming services are available to both cats and dogs of non-members, though SPCA members can enjoy a 10% discount, and earn Hair Miles loyalty points.

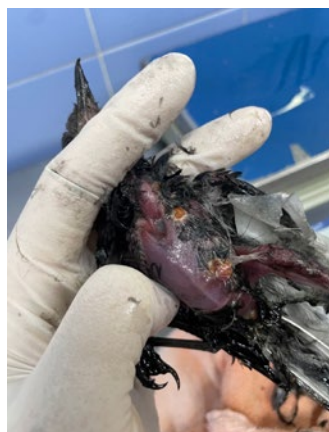
To book your pet a pamper session, call 2232 5532 and start earning Hair Miles today!





Glue Traps: A Sticky Situation

Wildlife find themselves in a sticky situation
with cruel and indiscriminate glue traps



In February 2023, Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG) called on the government to stop using glue traps after it found that at least 25 wild animals had been hurt by the traps - "an alarming increase" from previous years.

The problem with glue traps...

Glue traps are inhumane and can cause agonising pain for the victims. Trapped animals may try to escape which will end up damaging their skin, feathers or hair. Many animals are dehydrated and starved to death after the long torment of being trapped.

KFBG listed the species of 25 birds it has found trapped, including oriental magpies, spotted doves, Chinese bulbuls, Daurian redstarts, Eurasian tree sparrows, Chinese pond herons, dusky warblers and blue whistling thrushes - all of which are protected under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance.

Glue traps aren't the only problem... Improper use of any rodent control measures will also cause suffering in non-target animals. For example, there have been numerous cases of dogs being poisoned by rat bait due to improper placement and the lack of clear warning signage to dog owners.

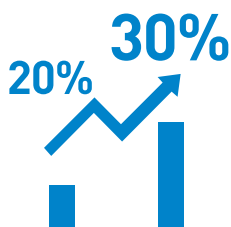
What's being done about it?

The use of glue traps is prohibited in New Zealand and Ireland, but yet to be banned in Hong Kong.

The SPCA has been discussing rodent control solutions with different government departments aiming to minimise animal suffering.

Some solutions include:

- A more humane rodent-control methodology focusing on the fundamental underlying issues that support and encourage rodent populations such as:
 - the elimination of food sources
 - maintaining tidy and hygiene environments which in turn reduces the hiding places of rodents should be the basis of any rodent control programme
 - regulation of the use of rodent control measures i.e. establishing a licensing system and clear guidelines



The no. of rat-glue related rescues by the SPCA has increased 20% to 30% each year between 2018 to 2021



In 2022 our SPCA inspectors rescued 93 non-targeted animals from glue traps



As of June 2023 our inspectors have already handled 92 non-targeted animals from glue traps.

Although these glue traps are intended to capture rodents, many non-target animals have become victims of glue traps, including cats as well as other small animals such as birds and lizards.

If you discover a trapped animal...

Cover any exposed areas of the glue surface of the trap with newspaper, paper towels or other nontoxic items. Place the animal (and trap) in a secure container and move it to a warm, dark, quiet location to reduce stress and shock. **Contact the SPCA 24-hour hotline at 2711 1000 or AFCD at 1823** for further advice and animal rescue assistance.

Please do not attempt to handle the animal by yourself, as improper care may cause further injury and suffering. 🙏

To support our inspector's animal rescue efforts, please scan and make a donation and mark "Inspector Fund" under "Others":



From Foster Fail to Pet Tech Guru

First-time pet owner, Joey Li, was so frustrated with the city's lack of resources for pet owners, and spent only five months developing an information-sharing platform specifically for pet owners and now has over 30,000 users.



Three years ago, Joey came across a Samoyed named Albie, who was looking to be rehomed, and agreed to foster him until he could find his forever home. From the start, Joey had an undeniable bond with Albie, which only grew stronger as time went on, and eventually Joey became a “foster fail”, officially adopting Albie in December 2019.

Like other novice dog owners, Joey searched online for pet parenting tips and discovered that there weren’t many comprehensive platforms for pet owners in Hong Kong. “I wanted to find different services for Albie, and research where I could take him out to explore and meet other like-minded dog friends, but the information online was sparse, so I had to go to different online groups before I could find the information I wanted.”

Eventually, Joey came up with the idea of setting up her own platform - “You have specific platforms to find restaurants or to book travel activities, but why wasn’t there a platform to do the same in the pet market? A website that can cover pets’ places-to-go, services, shops, and pet-friendly events –that’s when ‘PET-A-HOOD’ was born.”

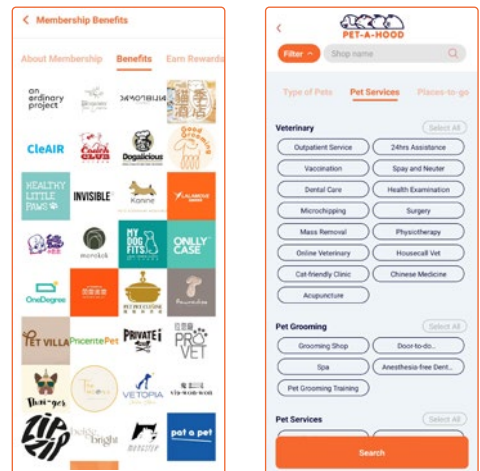
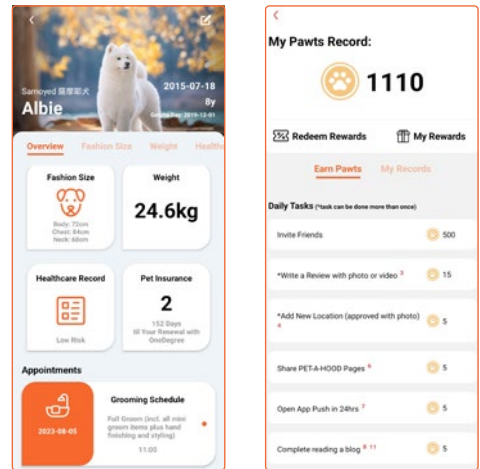
The platform was launched in April 2021, followed by the launch of iOS and Android app in June 2022. It is predominantly used by new “pet parents” who are also looking for pet services, offers, events and places of interest across Hong Kong, and has now grown to have over 30,000 members in just two years.

Joey’s goal is to simplify pet care by digitalising all things pet-related, allowing users to use the app as a healthcare guide by creating their own personalised pet profiles with information such as their pet’s health records, “Gotcha Dates” (also known as adoption dates), as well as a “Rainbow Function” to memorialise pets that have crossed the rainbow bridge.

Through Joey’s own personal struggles in finding the right services and information for pets, she has created the most comprehensive pet platform of over 4,000 pet services to help other pet owners navigate the ever-growing pet-inclusive neighbourhoods in Hong Kong.

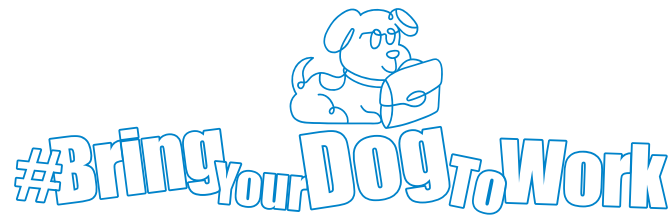
Members can even sign their pets up as “Pet Agents” to experience and review new pet services first-hand to share their experience with other pet owners on the platform.

To give back to the shelters that made the connection between Joey and Albie possible, PET-A-HOOD has recently launched a loyalty programme so that users can earn “PAWTS” by completing simple tasks and converting their “PAWTS” for donation to animal shelters, such as the SPCA, or redemption of vouchers, services or products. 🐾



Scan to download PET-A-HOOD and explore






Bring your dog to work Are you ready?

As dog owners, we dream of spending as much time as possible with our dogs and bringing them to work. In fact, there are many benefits to bringing your dog to work - not just for the dog and owner but to employees and employers too!

According to *LiveCareer*:

 **76%** agreed that having pets in the workplace was a positive experience.

 **51%** appreciated the increased socialisation with coworkers

 **33%** stated a more relaxed environment

 **28%** reported a reduction in stress

However, there are also important factors each party needs to consider before deciding to bring a dog into the office! At the SPCA, we advocate for pet-inclusivity however the animal's welfare should always come first. Here's a quick checklist to consider:



Employer

- ✓ Companies need to check if the office buildings allow dogs or require dogs to catch a specific lift upon entering.
- ✓ Employer can review their insurance policy to ensure it can cover any necessary liability.
- ✓ Although bringing dogs to work has many upsides to boosting morale and helping with employees' mental wellness, HR may be concerned with disruptions to productivity, therefore clear guidelines need to be in place to set expectations.



Dog

- ✓ Every dog has its unique personality and not everyone is suitable to be an office dog. The owner should carefully assess if the dog enjoys going to work - is your dog anxious to meet new people or will they be too vocal in a new environment?
- ✓ Dogs on average require at least 12 hours of sleep a day, which may be disrupted in a busy office environment. Consider if your dogs can truly relax with you at work.
- ✓ Appropriate advanced training may be required for them to adapt to a new environment and ease them into a new routine.



Dog Owner

- ✓ You will need to dog-proof your office environment, and prepare a safe space for your dog to settle.
- ✓ Also consider possible dangers to your dog's safety such as wires, office equipment and plants that may be harmful to your pet.



Other Employees

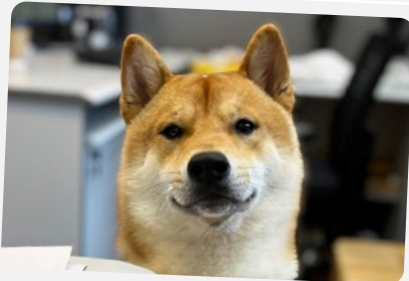
- ✓ Colleagues may have allergies or phobias, so it's important to work with HR to have respective measures in place.
- ✓ Not every co-worker is familiar with having a pet around and knows what foods and substances are safe or dangerous to dogs. An educational briefing can help bring everyone up to speed.

The SPCA is partnering with Whiskers N Paws to launch 'Bring Your Dog to Work'. If your company is interested in exploring how to bring your furry friends to work, the SPCA will be hosting a series of info sessions for you to find out more. 🐾

Scan to learn more about 'Bring Your Dog to Work'
bringyourdogtowork.sPCA.org.hk
or email BYDTW@sPCA.org.hk for more information



Meet the Pet-ployees at WHISKERS N PAWS



Age: 1 year old

Adoptaversary: 2022

Title: Toy Specialist

Job responsibilities: I am the expert on toys. I check out every toy before it goes on the shelf, and LOVE plush toys the most!

Paid in:

TREATS, pay me in treats and of course my favourite plush toys!

66

I enjoy my job, and my mum says she can save so much on buying me new toys with my new job responsibilities.



Age: 7 years old

Adoptaversary: 2016

Title: Delivery Pawficer

Job responsibilities: I help daddy to check everything and make sure the goods are in shape.

Paid in:

MEAT, MEAT, MEAT! I am a MEAT-AHOLIC

Ah Bo

I love running around and everyone feeds me MEAT snacks!



Age: 2 years old

Adoptaversary: 2022

Title: Beauty Expert

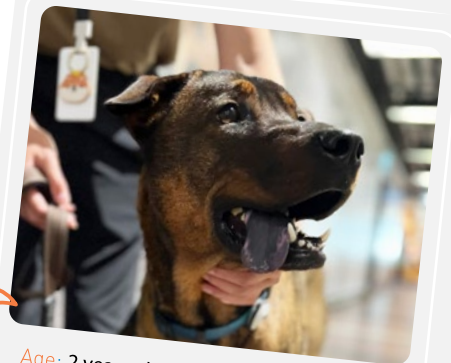
Job responsibilities: I regularly check in on our grooming service, and you can see my "before and after" photos there.

Paid in:

FOOD! I love meat! I also love to walk about the office to show how pretty I am after grooming to get everyone's praise *wink*.

Dai Dai

My groomer said I look super cute! Regardless of whether I have been to grooming or not - I think I am star material.



Age: 2 years old

Adoptaversary: 2021

Title: CDO (Chief Dog Officer)

Job responsibilities: I check on, and greet everyone in the office and store, and sometimes join in on the meetings too!

Paid in:

Endless pets and belly rubs!

Pasta

I love my job! My colleagues pet me and say I'm a good boy!

Together with the SPCA, Whiskers N Paws aims to build a community of animal lovers by fostering a deeper connection between people and their pets, and creating a pet-friendly workspace. If you would like to showcase your pet-friendly office in our next issue, please drop us a note at community@spca.org.hk



**FourFlax Flaxseed Oil
250ml / 500ml
(HK\$238 - \$380)**

This flaxseed oil by FourFlax is a plant-based omega supplement for pets with double the amount of Omega-3's than fish oils. It has a high palatability and has a number of health benefits such as supporting the immune system, promoting healthy skin and coat, alleviating inflammation in joints and protecting the cardiovascular system.



**FourFlax Flaxseed Oil +
Sea Buckthorn Oil 250ml
(HK\$268)**

If you want an extra dose of the omega supplements, FourFlax's Omega Up - which is a combination of flaxseed oil and Sea Buckthorn oil - is specially formulated for pets with an ideal Omega 3: Omega 6 balance. The sea buckthorn oil which comes from the seed and berries of the sea buckthorn plant contains a number of beneficial vitamins and antioxidants, as well as fatty acids, making it the ultimate protection for skin barriers.

Purchase any FourFlax oil through our online and physical store to receive a FREE BioRescue Spray 35ml (while stocks last).

SPCA's Top Picks: Health & Wellness

**“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”
Here are our top picks from our retail store.**

**Please check with your veterinary surgeon for the right preventives tailored for your pet's lifestyle*



**HOLY CAP Mushroom Powered Pet Supplement
(HK\$280 per tub)**

HOLY CAP are mushroom-powered, vet-formulated blends, designed to elevate pets' meals and support their overall health. Each blend - Immunity, Skin & Coat and Digestion - are formulated to tackle specific pain points for cats and dogs of all ages, size and breed, containing nothing but human grade superfoods and mushrooms.

With every tub sold, HOLY CAP will donate one tub to SPCA rescue animals.



BioRescue Spray

The BioRescue Skin Therapy spray is a non-steroidal, non-medical spray made in New Zealand. The active patented ingredient, Bioactive Totorol, is strongly anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant, and speeds healing. Perfect for soothing wounds, eczema, allergies and all types of skin irritations.

Get a free 35ml bottle with any purchase of FourFlax oil through our online and physical store (while stocks last).

Petrum Deer Milk Tablets (HK\$198)

Petrum Deer Milk is a great dietary supplement which boosts nutrition, as it is rich in minerals yet low in lactose. It also helps boost the immune system, whilst promoting appetite and recovery, making it ideal for pets with a poor immune system looking to gain weight, and strengthen muscle and bone.



Petrum Sea Cucumber Capsules (HK\$298)

Sea cucumbers are a delicacy in Asia and considered to have many health benefits to both humans and pets! They are often used as culinary and medicinal ingredients as they are believed to support vitality and longevity. Sea cucumbers can be a good supplement for senior pets as they support the immune system and aid mobility.



KiwiVital

Natural Immune Defense - OliveBoost (HK\$280)

This olive leaf extract powdered supplement contains 20 mg oleuropein per dose, and helps strengthen the immune system and providing a natural defence against infections. Olive leaf extract has been used as an ancient western herbal remedy and is an effective heart protection and anti-diabetic supplement, designed to relieve symptoms caused by ageing.



Dr. Klën Starter Pack (HK\$128)

Dr. Klën's cleaning products are specifically formulated for pets, and kills up to 99.99% bacteria and viruses. The Dr. Klën Starter Pack includes 30 disinfectant tablets and one 500 ml spray bottle, which can be used to wash pet toys, dishes and water bowls. One tablet can be diluted with two litres of water for large-scale disinfection and cleaning, or 500ml water for more concentrated sterilisation and disinfection. They can even be used to wash pet beddings - simply throw it in your washing machine and let it work its magic!

SPCA members can enjoy the Starter Pack for an introductory price of HK\$99 at our online and physical store (while stocks last).

PAW Osteosupport Joint Health Chews (HK\$400)

Joint Health chews can be used as a preventative measure for younger dogs or ideal for dogs with a predisposition to joint problems or showing early signs of arthritis. One tub provides 100 chews made with tasty salmon, with each chew delivering 500 mg of glucosamine sulfate to provide nutrition for joint cartilage, and 250 mg of chondroitin sulfate, which is required for cartilage and joint health.



Purchase through our online and physical store to get 20% off from 1 September to 30 November 2023



Scan here to visit our online store



PET TINKSPO

Tattoos have long been used to honour and remember those that are important to us, so it shouldn't come as a surprise that more and more people are getting tattoos of their pets, with many in this generation opting to have pets over children.

To learn more, we speak to a few pet lovers that got themselves inked to learn why they have chosen to honour their pets with this ancient art form.

Aljo, Garay's skateboarding dog tattooed on his wrist (left)

Shot by Thomas McRae

Garay Wong

Animal Trainer &
TVB's Hong Kong Super Pet Model Contest Judge

"I'd say 99% of my tattoos are animals that I have either trained, interacted with or raised such as seals, sea lions, otters, lizards, chameleons, frogs and the rest is my belief around respect."

Garay also has tattoos of his current dog, whom he adopted from the SPCA and taught how to skateboard (above) and Bajo, his beloved Corgi that passed away two years ago. "I just got a new one of a blind dog called Flash whom I trained whilst still at the SPCA. He is like my godson. I still see him and his owner and help him to adapt to any changes in life."



Flash



Bajo



Garay advocates respect for all animals
Tattooists' IG: @tattooerjan8, @davids_tattoo188

Gladys Tam

Veterinary Surgeon

Gladys has three tattoos dedicated to animals – one representing all the species of animals she has treated in her career as a vet, another of her cats (Barney, Darcy and Vincent) and finally a quote “I speak for those who don’t have a voice” referencing her work in animal welfare with the SPCA. “I always think tattoos are for things that you know you will align with for the rest of your life. These three cats are the first pets I ever owned since becoming a vet, and they also marked my irreversible transition to a crazy cat lady. At the same time, they remind me how important and meaningful my job is.”



Tattooists' IG: @cp.tattooohk, @tappymao and @torilitattoo



Megi

Gut Gut | Tattooist IG: @eat_my_pen

Vivian Or

Welfare Manager

Vivian got tattoos of both her pets after they had passed earlier this year, only months apart from one another. Gut Gut, a Husky, Schnauzer and Samoyed mix was “so traumatised when she first arrived at the SPCA, she hid at the back of her kennel and refused to eat”. Vivian eventually won her over with some treats before adopting her in 2006. Four years later, Megi, a pregnant Pekingese came to the SPCA through a prosecution case and was also eventually adopted by Vivian. The two dogs always tolerated each other and gave each other space, which is reflected in Vivian’s tattoos which are on opposite sides of her right forearm. “The whole process of planning the design was very special and now I feel like they are always with me.”

Ivy Ching

Project Manager & Content Strategist

“My colleague said her biggest regret was not getting the tattoo whilst her dog was still around”. This moved Ivy to have her three adoptive cats, CY, Tansi and Dingding, tattooed on her inner right arm. Tansi was actually Ivy’s first fostered kitten before she went on to foster four more kittens around the same age. After two months, Ivy became a “half-failed” foster and decided to adopt two kittens from the same litter, in addition to Tansi.



Left to right: **C Y, Tansi, Dingding** | Tattooist IG: @dorok.tattoo



Left: 15-year-old mini pinscher **Cola**

Right: Rescue dog **Suet Tiu** (“ice pop” in Cantonese)

Tattooist IG: @karmenatattooohk

Elizabeth Lee

Veterinary Assistant

Elizabeth has tattoos of her two dogs on her left inner arm – Cola, her first family dog, who had brought so much love and joy to the family for 15 years before she passed and her recent rescue dog Suet Tiu. Unfortunately, Suet Tiu was not so lucky as she was born the weakest of the litter and Elizabeth had to take her everywhere she went. Earlier this year, Suet Tiu had to be put to sleep when her condition worsened. Now, when Elizabeth looks at this tattoo, she is reminded of the amazing journey that she and Suet Tiu had with no regret. “Even though her time was short, she lived it to the fullest. She brought joy to all my friends, colleagues, and family,” Elizabeth says. 🐾

If perhaps you're not a fan of needles, there are other ways to pay tribute to your pet!



Pet owners can get custom made mosaics of their pets by donating to the SPCA's Mosaic Animal Wall Donation Programme, and display them at the soon-to-open SPCA Jockey Club Centennial Centre in Tsing Yi as part of a five-year exhibition. There are three sizes to choose from, and the best part is your contribution also helps the animal welfare efforts of the SPCA.

After the five-year exhibition period, donors may choose their next locale to display their personalised mosaic.

Or perhaps if you're looking for something a little more subtle, pet owners can now sponsor a plaque under the Paws for New Hope's donation scheme to get their pet's engraved paw on an upcycled plaque and proudly displayed on the celebratory wall of our new centre starting from HK\$5,000.

For enquiries [✉ donor@spca.org.hk](mailto:donor@spca.org.hk)



"Never Too Old to Love" Sponsorship Programme

One man's love for his beloved cat, Wai Wai, led him to help many other grieving pet owners. After Wai Wai had passed, Mr. Lee sponsored the launch of one of Hong Kong's first pet-bereavement websites, in a campaign called Never Too Old to Love, where other pet owners can celebrate their pet's lives via a Memorial Wall and gain access to a number of resources and workshops to help them through the grieving process.

This website is one of the first of its type and sits alongside bereavement art workshops to help with the grieving process as well as courses targeted at owners of ageing pets to help them understand and prevent chronic diseases. Both of these are delivered by certified trainers and counsellors.

The campaign also includes the support of two quiet rooms at the SPCA's new Tsing Yi Centennial Centre which will open soon. These will provide havens of tranquillity for pet owners in the immediate aftermath of losing a pet.

We hope our campaign will provide solace to those who have lost pets, helping them come to terms with the death while celebrating their lives. 🐾

To learn more about upcoming workshops and events, visit [🌐 petloss.spca.org.hk](https://petloss.spca.org.hk)



Would you like to leave behind a legacy of your own to help animals?

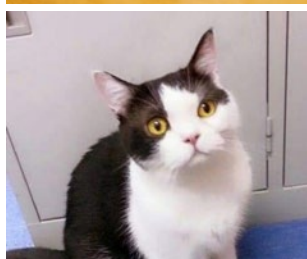


Created by ForeverGift.hk, the Legacy Giving Programme is to provide free will drafting service to those who would like to leave a powerful, lasting impact on the lives of animals once they have passed. Donors can choose to donate their legacy to an animal charity of their choice including the SPCA.

Your 'gift for tomorrow' ensures a hopeful future for the homeless and abandoned animals, by providing lasting medical support, food, shelter and dedicated care.

With your legacy, the SPCA can continue its vital work on animal welfare and ensure that animals in need receive the care they deserve.

Alternatively, the Policy Donation Programme, supported by The Life Underwriters Association of Hong Kong (LUA) and LUA Foundation, allows policyholders to donate a certain percentage of the sum insured for the designated charities by making them policy beneficiaries. 🌐



Scan to learn more about our donation programmes:

Our Welfare Work in Numbers - March 2023 to July 2023



Homing Figures

Dogs 71 Cats 257 Others 95

Total number of animals **423**



Sent to foster care

Dogs 59 Cats 300 Others 27

Total number of animals **386**



Desexing Figures

Total number of animals **4,461**



Inspectorate

Animals handled	Hotline calls	Rescues
2,739	10,607	427



Cat Colony Care Programme

Number of cats handled **671**

Complaints of cruelty investigated 504

Animal trading inspections 199

Advice given 104

Warnings given 14

Prosecutions instigated 33



Number of animals released or referred to government or outside agencies

Number of exotic species 69

Number of native species 1,419

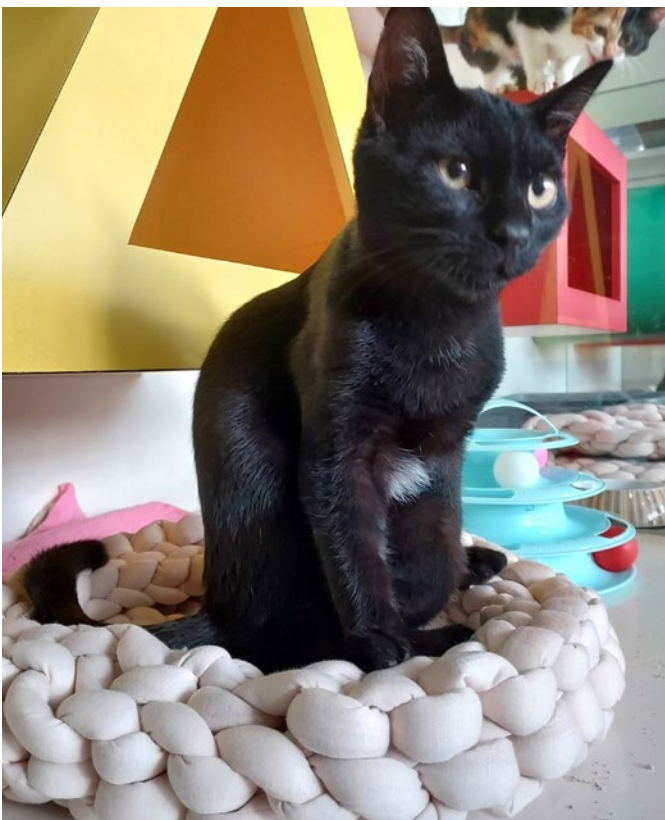
FÜNdraiser! Support our animal welfare work for the SPCA!

Did you know that 99% of our funds are generated through our veterinary services, your donations and fundraising efforts?

Sometimes it's not always possible to donate, but luckily we have some very creative supporters who find other ways to contribute to the SPCA!

Cat Nap

Three primary students Lauren, Anna and Cadis from Beacon Hill School, with a passion for helping stray animals handmade eight cat beds for their Primary Years Programme, and donated them to our rescue cats at the SPCA.



Scout's Honour

In March, the West Island Scout Group donated HK\$10,000 to the SPCA after an Animal Care Badge talk led by our Education Manager, Vivian Chu, in 2019. During the talk, the scouts learned more about SPCA's work and mission in helping animals, and also met our Education Manager's beloved dog Cici, and their Scout Leader's two family dogs, Rosie and Jim, also SPCA alumni. Want to organise an education talk at your school too? Email [✉ edu@spca.org.hk](mailto:edu@spca.org.hk)



Legends in the Baking

Upon hearing that shelters across Hong Kong were struggling, a group of Year 9 boys from South Island School wanted to raise awareness of animal welfare and dedicated a lot of their time learning about SPCA's work. The boys hosted a bake sale and managed to raise HK\$1,030, completing a total of 15 hours of service which touched the hearts of many SPCA staff with their dedication.



The Hong Kong Jockey Club's Volunteer Supporting Network not only donated equipment for our rescue animals, but also their time and effort in assisting us with various events!

One of which being our Cat Colony Care Programme (CCCP), in which they helped us trap and transport street cats to our SPCA Centres for desexing, in addition to sponsoring rabies and vaccines for the cats to safeguard their health upon their release.



HKJC also helped sponsor the "Animal Rescue On-The-Go" event at The Mills

To educate members of the public on the broad scope of work we carry out for animal welfare in Hong Kong, the HKJC not only sponsored the event, but also volunteered to help across four days, and did an excellent job in giving the tour of our Spay and Neuter Vehicle (SNV).



"Caring Lunch" Initiative at HKRSS Tai Po Secondary School

The Moral and Civic Education Team of HKRSS Tai Po Secondary School orchestrated the "Caring Lunch" initiative to deepen students' comprehension of animal welfare, whilst instilling an appreciation for food. The undertaking further centred around the theme of empathy and raised HK\$6933.10 online this year to support the SPCA (Photos were taken at pre-COVID events).



Legacy Giving Programme

It's heartbreaking to think that one day we won't be around to help protect our companion animals, let alone those in shelters, but 57 donors have generously included donations to the SPCA in their wills to ensure that the animals in need continue to get the help and support they need. This would not be possible without the help of ForeverGift.hk, who helps create your will for free to help you leave behind your legacy. Please refer to page 35 for more information about the programme.



If your school or organisation has a fundraising idea, please contact our Community team.

✉ community@spca.org.hk

Dog Dog Shipcation 29-30 April & 1 May

A historical fundraising event for pawrents to bring along their dogs on a Star Ferry harbour cruise with fabulous sailor outfits to celebrate the beginning of pet-inclusivity in the city.



Taro Pastry Workshop 21 & 26 May

The SPCA hosted a taro pastry making workshop, where guests learned to recreate the tasty Taiwanese desserts at home.



K11 MUSEA Socialisation for City Dogs and Daily Grooming for Pawrents 13 May & 24 June

The SPCA hosted two workshops at the K11 MUSEA in May and June. It was *pawsome* to interact with owners and pets of all sizes and help promote responsible pet ownership.



SPCA (HK) x Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Weekend Tour 15 & 22 July

In addition to a guided tour through Kadoorie Farm and the Wildlife Animal Rescue Centre, the animal care team from KFBG and the SPCA inspectors were invited to share their valuable experiences and processes in animal rescue.



Summer Fun @ Cyberport 22 July

The SPCA hosted our largest Adoption Date at Cyberport Arcade with over 17 rescue mongrels in attendance. Due to popular demand, our trainer Sunny Tang led another session for Socialisation for City Dogs and SPCA fur-mom Maggie from MessyJam hosted a Pet Tag and Coaster Making Workshop, followed by brunch at Interval Farmacy.



O'South Coast's LOL Summer Fiesta July - August

O'South Coast in Tseung Kwan O hosted the pet-friendly Laughing Sports Day Summer Market between July and August to help support SPCA's fundraising efforts. The market had stalls from SPCA selling our shirts and pet accessories. Highlights included a pet pool party and performance by stand-up comedian Indome that helped draw a big crowd of animal-lovers to the event. 🐾



*All proceeds from our events go towards the medical and daily expenses of our rescue animals at the SPCA.



INDULGE IN OUR DOG-FRIENDLY BUFFET FEASTS WHILE YOUR FUR KIDS SAVOUR DOGGY DIM SUM

- 🐾 *Lunch Buffet: from HK\$378 / Adult*
- 🐾 *Dinner Buffet: from HK\$688 / Adult*
- 🐾 *Doggy Dim Sum: HK\$48 / Basket*



*Special Discount
Book Now*



The Farmhouse, Hyatt Centric Victoria Harbour Hong Kong
2/F West Tower, 1 North Point Estate Lane, North Point
Phone: 3896 9896

THE FARMHOUSE

香港維港凱悅尚萃酒店
HYATT CENTRIC™
VICTORIA HARBOUR
HONG KONG

Exclusive Privileges for All SPCA Members

The SPCA membership grants you access to our veterinary services, boarding, grooming and other pet-related services at our centres. On top of that, you are also eligible for exclusive discounts on selected merchants - below are just a few!

Scan this code or visit our website for more. 📱

Member Privileges



Join Us



Successfully Apply for "Shell Card" or "Esso Card" to:



Save HK\$5 per litre on both Shell FuelSave and V-Power Nitro



Save HK\$5.50 per litre on both Esso Synergy Supreme+ premium petrol and Synergy Extra petrol



Wai Yuen Tong

Pets can enjoy a 10% discount on all ProVet products.

Pet owners can also enjoy a special rate of HK\$500 for one Wai Yuen Tong consultation service, with three doses of Traditional Chinese Medicine. (Various locations)



Buy one, get half off on your second at Silk

Purchase any drink at pet-friendly bubble tea shop Silk and receive a fantastic 50% off on your second cup.



- 📍 1) Shop G39, G/F Lee Tung Avenue, Wan Chai
- 📍 2) G/F Jade Centre, 98 Wellington Road, Central
- 📍 3) Shop 3, G/F 2J-2Q Sai Yeung Choi Street, Mong Kok

Free Dog Cupcake at Mei Ho Café

Redeem a free dog cupcake at Garden at Mei Ho Café in YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel by presenting a valid SPCA membership card.



- 📍 YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel, Block 41, Shek Kip Mei Estate, 70 Berwick Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon

Mei Ho House: 📷 mhh.yha 📘 YHAMHH

Garden at Mei Ho Café: 📷 garden.at.meiho



Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association

Enjoy an exclusive 15% discount when booking the **Dog Friendly Package** at YHA Bradbury Jockey Club Tai Mei Tuk Youth Hostel.

One room can accommodate up to four people and one 30kg dog or two dogs weighing 15kg.

- 📍 66 Tai Mei Tuk Road, Tai Po, New Territories
- ☎ 2788 1638

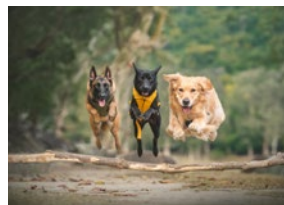


Obese Photography

Enjoy 20% off (discounted price HK\$2,000) on the 2-hour pet photography package (original price HK\$2,500) with Obese Photography. Each member can enjoy the offer twice, with each package including up to two owners and an unlimited number of pets.

*Terms & Conditions apply

- 📷 obesephotography
- ☎ 6758 7514



Shot by Howard Lam (IG: @obesephotography)



MOOJOO Lifestyle Cafe

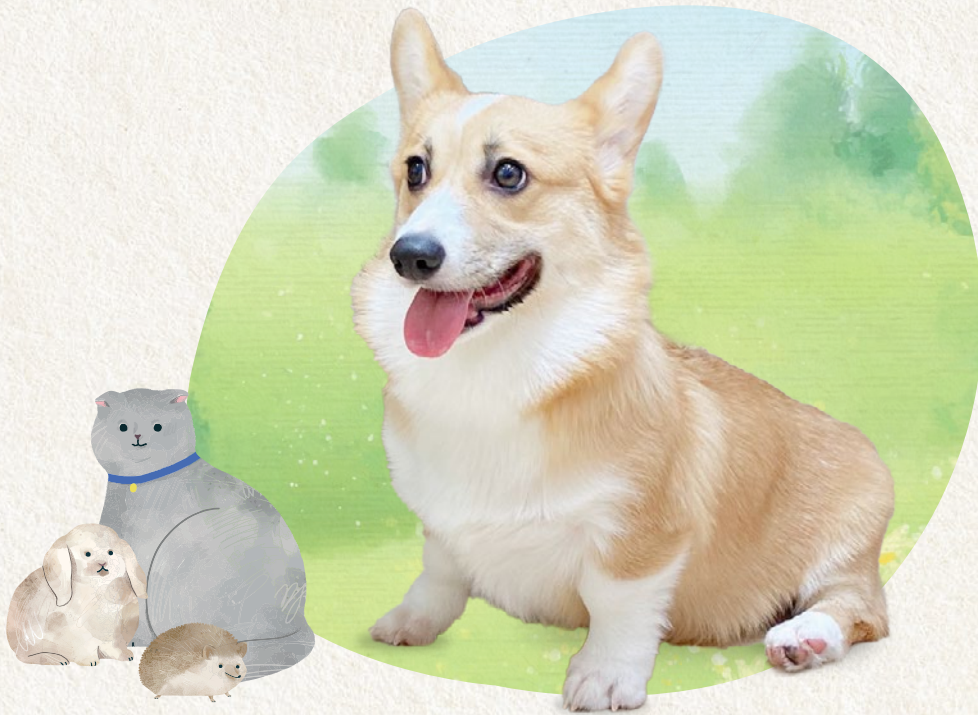
Enjoy 10% off dine-in at pet-friendly MOOJOO Lifestyle Cafe on Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays.



- 📍 Shop 1, 2 & 22, G/F, Two Artlane, 1 Chung Ching Street, Sai Ying Pun, Western District
- ☎ 3619 5779

*The above offers are all valid until 31 December 2023, and require that you present your SPCA membership card prior to redeeming.

Love Your Pets Strengthen Immunity



- 🐾 Strengthen the Lungs
- 🐾 Replenish Liver & Kidney
- 🐾 Relieve Asthma
- 🐾 Boost Vitality

Cordyceps
Mycelium Tablets



- 🐾 Improve Allergies
- 🐾 Relieve Constipation, Diarrhoea, GI Discomfort
- 🐾 Strengthen Digestion
- 🐾 Promote Oral Health

Enzymes & Probiotics
Capsules



Cruelty-free



Completely
non-Toxic



Preservative
free



Japan GMP

日本製
MADE IN JAPAN

Made in Japan



Buy Now

Enjoy an extra
5% off on whole bill

Promotion Code Pawprint95

Causeway Bay Fashion Walk | Quarry Bay Kornhill Plaza |
Tsim Sha Tsui K11 Art Mall | Mong Kok Grand Plaza | Kwun Tong APM |
Tseung Kwan O PopCorn | Sha Tin New Town Plaza |
Kwai Fong Metroplaza | Tuen Mun Town Plaza



DOGS



Walkies! Daily walks outdoors everyday help keep our dogs fit and healthy



Friends! It is important to allow your dog to interact and play with other pets frequently! Dogs are social creatures and allowing them to engage in their normal social behaviours is good for their body and mind.

Name: Bobi

Current Age: 31 years

Species: Alando Mastiff

Place of residence: Portugal



Did you know?

This is equivalent to 217 years for humans!

The average lifespan for dogs ranges between 10 - 13 years.

THE LONGEST-LIVING ANIMALS IN THE WORLD WHAT'S THEIR SECRET?

Generally the secret to longevity, often lies in a healthy lifestyle!

To help your pets live a long, healthy life, make sure they have...



CATS



Hygiene! Cats are very clean animals and will only do their business in a litter box, so it's important to help them keep this space clean!



Active lifestyle! Cats are very athletic and require mental and physical stimulation! To create this for your cats at home, add scratch posts and shelves to allow them to climb and play.



Fresh air! Cats also need to get fresh air. If they aren't able to go outside safely, then ensure you have installed protective measures to allow them to get some fresh air..

Name: Flossie

Current Age: 27 years

Species: Tortoiseshell

Place of residence: UK



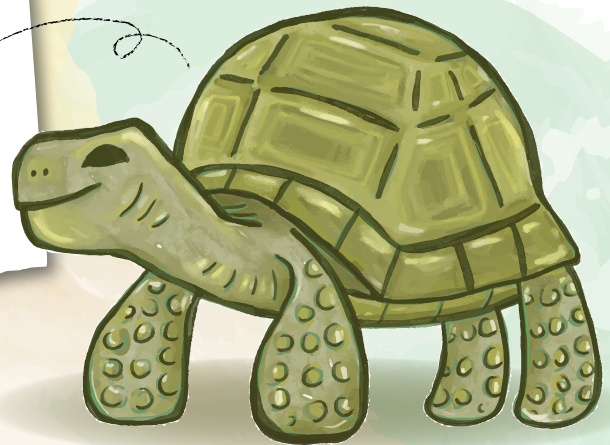
Did you know?

This is equivalent to 120 years for humans!

The average lifespan for a cat ranges between 12 - 18 years.



Name: Jonathan
 Current Age: 190 years
 Species: Seychelles tortoise
 Place of residence: Island of St. Helena
 Did you know the average lifespan of a tortoise is between 80-150 years!



TORTOISE



It runs in the family! Unfortunately for us, the secret to a long life in turtles and tortoises isn't something we can copy! Their DNA is programmed to age at a slower rate – they do this by killing off damaged cells quickly!



WORD SEARCH

CAN YOU FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS?

1. Vaccination
2. Check
3. Food
4. Outdoors
5. Play
6. Wellbeing
7. Comfortable
8. Relax
9. Interact
10. Enjoy
11. Nutrition
12. Health
13. Happy

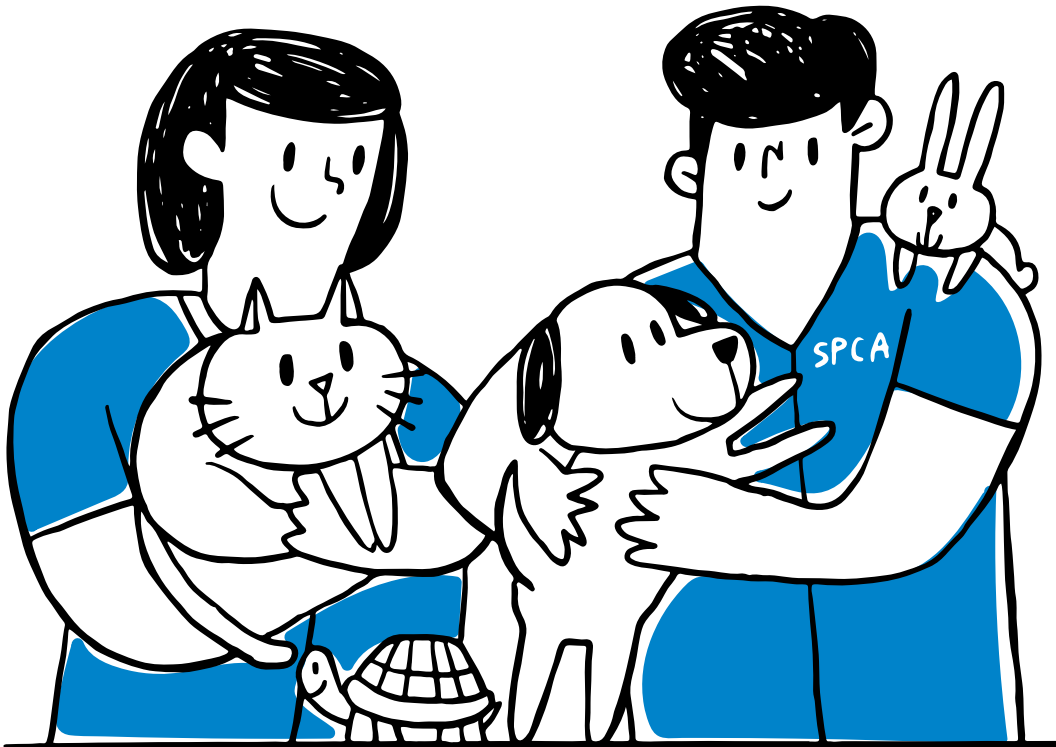
K T H V Q P X P Y R Y S B U D
 I E V A N V X Q P I Z O M C M
 Y R G C L U A U O M B J A P S
C H E C K O E Q Z Q W H S M J
 A F R I U F O O D N J Z T S L
 M F S N R L U Y T I J Q H K J
 C P L A Y E T A J P M C R Z Q
 Z B P T V Y D K G W V C K Z W
 K V O I R B O U I L D P W Q X
 F O C O M F O R T A B L E W K
 G S R N N K R P C B V Z L H J
 W E I L V S S M S V R E L A X
 D B G V T W K X I D W P B W U
 C Q P A I N E H N Y X W E E Q
 D Q W H W J N U T R I T I O N
 N Y U M Q E J L E I Z M N S Z
 A U L V L S O E R P L M G B M
 I J A L I K Y F A U E M G W V
 Y X E Y L P A S C F J Y N G S
 Y U H Q H E A L T H G L T J Q
 C F D Y A O G H D X J L K A S
 D F Y F P S Y N Z E H S J G C
 B A Z E P H K G W B Y P I D B
 Z L D V Y W D J R S W D P J A

JOIN US

DO YOU LOVE ANIMALS?

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT
IMPROVING ANIMAL WELFARE?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP
MAKE HONG KONG MORE
PET-INCLUSIVE?**



If you answered yes to all of the above,
then why not join the SPCA?

As part of Hong Kong's largest animal welfare organisation,
you can bring about long-term impact at scale!

- ▶ Positions range from:
Kennel Keeper, Homing Assistant,
Veterinary Assistant, Veterinary Nurse
To...
Customer Service (Receptionist),
Hotline Operator and Inspector

- ▶ Bonus:
You can enjoy staff discount on our veterinary,
pet grooming and retail services, and more.

Apply Now



Our Centres

Hong Kong Centre (Headquarters)

📍 5 Wan Shing Street, Wan Chai
☎ 2802 0501

Kowloon Centre

📍 105 Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin
☎ 2713 9104

Sai Kung Centre

📍 7 Sha Tsui Path, Sai Kung
☎ 2792 1535

Sai Kung Adopt-a-Pet Centre

📍 65 Man Nin Street, Sai Kung
☎ 2232 5599

Hang Hau Centre

📍 Flat B, 2/F, Block 5, Hang Hau Village, Tseung Kwan O
☎ 2243 0080

Mui Wo Centre

📍 Shop 14, Mui Wo Centre, Lantau Island
☎ 2984 0060

Cheung Chau Centre

📍 CX277 Tung Wan, Cheung Chau
☎ 2981 4176

Fairview Animal Welfare Centre

📍 Junction of Fairview Park Boulevard and Kam Pok Road, Yuen Long
☎ 2482 2770

SPCA Welfare Desexing Centre

📍 Junction of Fairview Park Boulevard and Kam Pok Road, Yuen Long
☎ 2593 5438

General Enquiries

☎ 2802 0501

24-hour Animal Rescue Hotline

☎ 2711 1000



Veterinary Services

Hong Kong Centre (Headquarters)
Kowloon Centre
Sai Kung Clinic
Hang Hau Clinic
Mui Wo Clinic
Cheung Chau Clinic
Yuen Long Fairview Park Centre
2802 0501



China Outreach Programme

Providing assistance to animal welfare agencies and veterinary surgeons in China through education and advice
✉ china@spca.org.hk



Other Services

Lost and Found Animals
2232 5553
Behaviour and Training Courses for Dogs
2232 5567
Pet Boarding **2232 5501**
Pet Grooming **2232 5532**
Pet Wellness **2802 0501**



Adoption Services

Hong Kong Centre (Headquarters)
Kowloon Centre
Sai Kung Adopt-a-Pet Centre
2232 5529



Education

Talk enquiries and arrangement
2232 5541 / 2232 5526



Animal Rescue and Report of Cruelty

2711 1000



Membership Services

Enquiries on membership status, benefits and activities
2232 5548



Volunteering

Volunteer Coordination
2232 5508
Foster Parent Programme
2232 5524



Spaying and Neutering

Spay & Neuter Vehicle providing low-cost desexing to target areas and clients
2232 5513



Donations

2232 5536 or scan this QR code



Spay/Neuter Assistance Programme
2232 5549

Cat Colony Care Programme (CCCP)
2232 5589

Mongrel Desexing Programme (MDP)
2593 5438

Community Dog Programme (CDP)
2232 5511



Animal Sponsorship Programme

A monthly donation programme that supports our adoption animals
2232 5510

Pawprint is published by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)

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我唔係人類

點識揀嘢食

I NEED YOU TO CHOOSE
MY DIET



動物福利企劃
Animal Welfare Project

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我唔係人類

點識睇醫生

I NEED YOU TO TAKE ME TO
THE VET



善待動物 →

做好醫食住行

DUTY OF CARE FOR ANIMALS: PROVIDE SUITABLE
HEALTHCARE, DIET, LIVING CONDITIONS & EXERCISE.