



The KAT Times

Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre's Newsletter

Issue #2
February 2006

Welcome to KAT – from Jan Salter

It is over a year since KAT put out its first Newsletter. It's been a roller-coaster year, with times when we wondered whether we would see ourselves through the following month. (For those that have not read our first issue please go to our website) But - here we still are!

With the help of so many people (some who wish to stay anonymous) we are not only here – but also KAT is definitely here to stay!

We have received wonderful news from World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA). They have been watching our struggle for survival, and have now come in to help us with funding for January 2006 - December 2008 on a sliding scale. If



KAT surgery & kennels

The success of KAT and the Animal Birth Control programme is due to many factors. The obvious one; that there was a need for such a programme. But, nothing can hope to succeed without a good team. Under the excellent management of Khageshwaar Sharma, the vet Dr Jha and all the staff of KAT have filled their role with so much dedication and care. This work is not easy – we sometimes have to deal with very sad and sometimes horrific cases. It can be very heartbreaking dealing with suffering animals. But there is joy in seeing a previously emaciated female dog that had to cope with having litter after litter, become an accepted; much loved healthy creature within the community.

few of the many dedicated people involved.

The initial purpose of the charity is to manage humanely the current population of many thousands of street dogs who exist in the Kathmandu valley. They live by foraging in rubbish heaps or on what can be spared by local inhabitants. They have no veterinary care or owners. The weak, ill, and old dogs suffer greatly. Additionally some of the dogs are rabid and around 200 people die from rabies each year.

KAT aims to continually reduce the stray dog population, eliminate rabies as quickly as possible and bring a more compassionate relationship with the street dogs of Kathmandu. This can be achieved by the Animal Birth Control (ABC) project, by vaccination of all dogs against rabies and by a public education programme.

At present KAT is situated in rented premises on the outskirts of Kathmandu. There are 18 kennels, an



Jan Salter – KAT's founder

possible, we have the future view of expanding our facilities within the next 3 years, bringing our Animal Birth Control programme and treatment for dogs to other areas of Kathmandu.

About KAT – from Barbara Webb

This seems an appropriate moment to restate the main aim of the charity as well as to update you with progress reports and to introduce a

operating room and an isolation unit of three separate kennels for infectious animals. It is staffed by a full time manager Khageshwaar Sharma, a vet Dr Jha, four dog handlers/compounders, a nightwatchman and a delegated staff from the Kathmandu Municipality (his salary is paid by the Metropolitan Council). We have been assisted this year by two helpers Selina Horn and Miriam Blytner who have generously given time to the centre during their stay in Nepal.. Funding comes from Nepal and the U.K.



Selina (L) & Miriam (R)

It is only through the strenuous efforts and goodwill of KAT supporters everywhere that we have made such significant progress over the last year.

And it is only with your continuing support that we will be able to mitigate the burden of animal suffering that goes on every day throughout the year.

KAT People

KAT was founded in 2004 by Jan Salter, an English-born artist who has lived in Nepal for many years. It is registered as a charity in Nepal and its patron is Dr. Charlotte Uhlenbroek.



Dr. Charlotte Uhlenbroek

The board members are:

Mr. Hari Bamsha Acharya (Chair)
 Mr. Madan Krishna Shrestha
 Mr. Kanak Mani Dixit
 Dr. Baburam Gautam
 Ms. Neeta Pokhrel
 Mrs. Durgesh Nandini Bhattachan
 Mr. Gaurinath Rimal
 Mrs. Laxmi Sharma
 Mrs. Lotti Weise

The manager is Mr. Khageshwaar Sharma who ran an animal shelter in Kalimpong for 5 years and was involved in an ABC programme through "Help in Suffering" in Jaipur before joining KAT.

The vet is Dr. Jha, a Nepali who trained in Bangladesh and later in Jaipur with "Help in Suffering".



Dr Jha and the surgical team



The KAT Team

The dog handling team are Bharat, Bal Krishna, Ram and Rajendra.

The key helper is Linda Sherpa who co-ordinates and assists the Calderdale Support Group in the U.K.

Jay Singh, President of the Nepal Kennel Club is Advisor to KAT.

The U.K. co-ordinator is Juliette Cunliffe, a well known dog judge, author and journalist.

KAT will go through the process of registering as a U.K. charity in 2006 and the trustees will be;

Miss. Juliette Cunliffe
 Mr. Steven Green
 Mr. Robert Greaves
 Ms. Barbara Webb

Fund Raising in the UK

The Calderdale Support Group have been very active over the year and contribute their own account below.

Anne Clarke, a textile designer who travels regularly to Nepal has provided money and the contact with Digit Works.

Digit Works have remodelled the website free of charge to the professional new version which you can visit at www.katcentre.org.np

Wetnose has provided £350 and hopes in the future to be in a position to donate some medicines.

The Mayhew Animal Trust have sent medical supplies.

Worldwide Veterinary Services have donated veterinary medical supplies, as have Pfizer, Dogs Trust and Leo Laboratories.

Additionally Juliette has enrolled members and life members who have held a series of fund raising events.

Notable among these are;

Mrs. Irene Chamberlain who is so highly enthusiastic in her support of KAT and has donated numerous



**Mrs. Irene Chamberlain
 overseeing the Tombola she
 organised**

raffle prizes and organised a tombola.

Sponsored obedience "stays" organised by Jill White at a Tibetan Terrier function and Gillian Weston, the latter through K9 Manners.



Sponsored obedience "stay"

A lottery with the assistance of many helpers, including Denise Barney, another ardent supporter of KAT who has also organised a tombola at a Cocker Spaniel event and who, with her sister Stephanie, has raised additional funds in various different ways.

Many canine breed clubs in the UK have also been generous in their support, amongst them, The Midland Lhasa Apso Association, The Lhasa Apso Club, The Tibetan Terrier Association, The Lhasa Apso Association of Scotland, The Tibetan Spaniel Association and The Tibetan Mastiff Club.

Finally there are donations from individuals all over the country who are the essential and much appreciated people on whom we rely.

The Calderdale Support Group – from Shirley Daniel

Whilst in England in 2004, Linda Sherpa, living in Kathmandu for much of the time since 1988, told friends and neighbours about the plight of the street dogs of Kathmandu and of Jan Salter's vision for "Humane Management of Street Dogs for Community Benefit". A small group of us decided we wanted to help, and in April of that year the Calderdale KAT Funding Support Group was born, our first project being a Pub Quiz. We don't fundraise on a "grand scale" – a few more quizzes,

coffee mornings, "Jacob's Join" lunches, Flower Arranging Demonstrations, "small change" piggy banks – even a Hedgehog Evening (the little rescue creatures enjoyed the attention as much as we enjoyed handling them!) Bric-a-brac stalls at fetes and craft fairs play a big part, and at some of these we are able to sell silver jewellery and other craft goods from Nepal. A small but regular income is made from sales of second-hand books in local pubs, coffee shops, vets, etc. We are always open to ideas for new ventures (short of stripping for a calendar!) If you live in the Calderdale and have bric-a-brac or unwanted gifts to spare, these would be gratefully received, and we'd be delighted should anyone like to organise an event of their own – we can probably help out with supplies of books or bric-a-brac.

In this relatively short time the total paid into the bank is an amazing (to us) £11,000 – not all due to our efforts, it has to be said, as almost £3000 has been in the form of donations paid directly into the bank. But to our dismay we are unable to acknowledge these personally as the bank, as a matter of confidentiality, is unable to pass on names and addresses. So, if you are one of these anonymous donors, many thanks for your generosity.

We only hope for our efforts to continue and the bank account to grow!

Progress Report - from Selina Horn

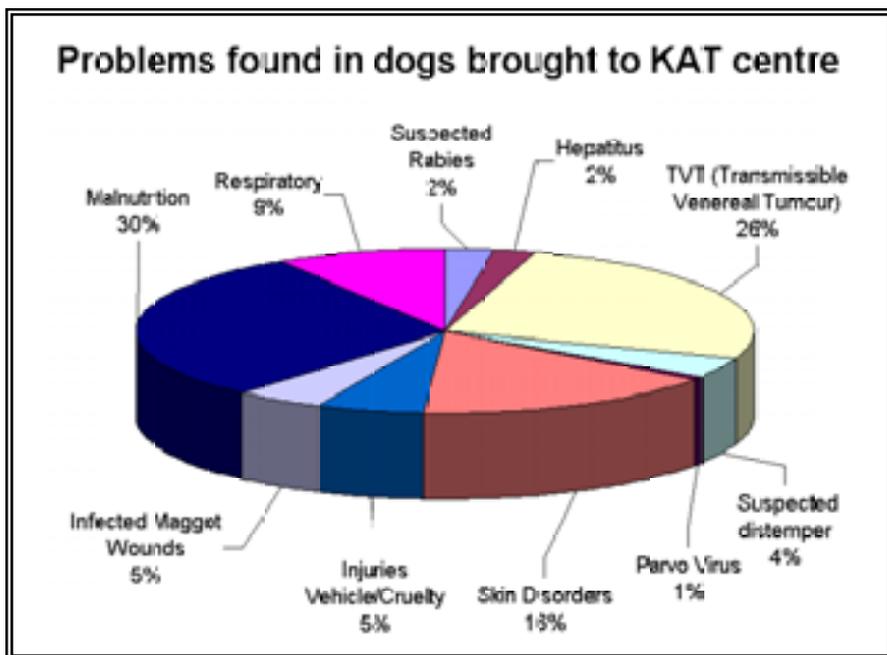
Over the coming months KAT plans to conduct an up to date census of the street dog population with the guidance and finance from the World Health Organisation - Nepal.

Up to 13th January 2006 KAT had received 1726 dogs into the centre for the ABC programme

1552 female dogs have been successfully spayed, vaccinated and released.

Each female dog produces, on average, 4 pups per litter and 2 litters per year so, to date, this work has reduced the potential street dog population by over 12,000 animals – per year!!

Apart from those on the ABC programme, a further 184 dogs have been received. They were mostly suffering from transmissible venereal tumour, severe mange or malnutrition. Where possible they were treated and released or, sadly, euthanased on humane grounds. Thirty of these rescue dogs were treated, vaccinated and castrated prior to their release.



Special happenings in 2005 – from Jan Salter

In March, our manager Khageshwaar Sharma was invited and financed by Humane Society International (HSI) to spend one week observing and learning dog management at the Capital Humane Society (CHS) in Lincoln, Nebraska. He then went on



Khageshwaar is presented with the CHS microscope by Dr Robin Dishman & Bob Downey

to participate and to give a presentation about KAT at the Expo in Atlanta, which was organised by HSI. This experience gave Khageshwaar a tremendous boost to his enthusiasm for working with and for animals in Nepal.

Whilst there, CHS very generously presented KAT with a high powered microscope. This excellent diagnostic tool is proving to be of huge assistance.

In May, we were delighted to have

Australian Diana Mcphee, an experienced Vet in developing counties, join us as a helper for 1 month. Her knowledge and expertise gave KAT that needed extra encouragement at a difficult period. Realising our financial plight at that time she personally donated 100,000 rupees to help keep us going.

In June, the British School, staff and pupils gave a generous donation to extend our facilities and build an isolation unit, plus a more substantial shelter and fencing for our in-house dogs.

In September we conducted a free anti rabies vaccination camp at Pharping. This was at the request of



The Pharping Camp

Ani Choying Dolma. Kit Haward and Damian, two experienced British vets who were helping Kat at the time participated in this camp. Before the camp started, our vet Dr Jha and our manager gave a talk to

the enthusiastic students of Junkiri School. Although the dogs at Pharping had never been vaccinated or given de-worming medicines before, they appeared to be mostly in a healthy condition. We concluded from this, that it was because Pharping is a rural area, they do not need to scavenge on the filthy rubbish in the way city dogs do.

In October, Ms Miriam Blytner from Denmark joined KAT as a helper for two months. Her experience as a dog behaviourist and her dedicated hands-on work was very much



Puppy house generously donated by Miriam Blytner

appreciated by us all. We look forward to her return later in the year.

In November, two of our staff, Bharat and Bal Krishna, travelled to Jaipur for further two week training at Help in Suffering. They returned full of enthusiasm and vigour, with more skills to carry out their work.

In December, our UK co-ordinator Juliette Cunliffe came to Nepal and gave KAT the benefit of her knowledge about dogs. Juliette is a committed and well known member of the UK Kennel Club. As her passion is the study of the Himalayan dogs, she gave an extremely informative talk to a very interested audience for the Nepal Kennel Club on the Tibetan Mastiff. Singhie, owned by Doug and Kate Clendon did himself proud by behaving perfectly during the whole event. Juliette also donated money to buy better lighting and a stainless steel table for the operation theatre.

Juliette will contribute her own account of her trip in the next newsletter.

How much does the ABC programme cost for one dog?

1000 Nepalese Rupees – that's just £8 or \$14



This includes:

- Spaying Operation
- Anti-rabies Vaccination
- De worming
- Flea and Tick Treatment
- Collar/Ear notch/Ear Tattoo Identification
- Housing, food and water

It's your donations that make our ABC program possible

Improvements and changes

As described above, we now have an isolation unit and a fenced-in area rotunda and warm shelter for the in-house dogs.

For the winter season, we have now canvas blinds on all the kennels. These blinds were skilfully designed by Mr. Shyam and our long-standing supporter Linda Sherpa and then manufactured by his company, the Himalayan Tent and Equipment Manufacturer Pvt. Ltd. Mr. Shyam, as well as giving us a very reasonable price for the 18 blinds, also donated three of these blinds with special observation panels to the isolation unit kennels for the very sick dogs. They not only have proved very good in keeping the dogs warm during the cold nights, but also have the double benefit of sound insulation. Thank you so much Mr. Shyam and Linda.

Although our main work revolves around our Animal Birth Control programme, we are finding that as we become more well known, we are getting many more call-out situations to help dogs in distress. Our busy staff are both dedicated and caring. We do our best to attend to all calls made but find it an extra strain on finances if there is no sponsorship offered for the dog concerned. In this ever increasingly busy city there are many dogs being injured by motors. There are so many problems endured by the dog population and KAT has seen over this last year severe malnutrition, skin diseases etc as well as cruelty cases. We found 'ear dog' that had been slashed with a knife on his ear and neck, which had become infected with maggots. There was also 'tail dog' where his tail was cruelly severed and left with the bone exposed and bleeding.

Just a few of the personal stories.

From Baneshwar, a Mr Poudel called frantically for help. The Municipality had referred him to us. A stray dog that lived outside his gate, he felt, was showing signs of rabies and was getting extremely aggressive. Alarmed, our staff rushed to the spot.

The dog was salivating a lot and indeed looked bad. It took some time before we could trap and catch this dog. When finally it was caught ... we noticed that this poor creature had a bone stuck in her teeth creating a distressing situation where she could neither swallow or close her mouth causing the salivation. We sedated the dog and removed the bone.

If this case had not been reported to us, the dog would have surely died painfully of starvation. Or the scared residents, assuming the dog to be rabid, would have stoned the dog to death. The happy outcome - a relieved community and a saved dog.

Gaida being rhinoceros in Nepali - this dog was named 'Gaida'. A Japanese national Mrs Yasumoto, saw this dog daily and felt pity for it and requested us to help treat it. The condition when brought to KAT was



Gaida – before treatment



Gaida – after 4 months of treatment

horrendous – not single hair on its coarse ugly and bleeding body. It took a series of treatments over a six-month period at KAT for this dog showed any improvement. After

spaying - today under the watchful eye of Mrs Yasumoto, Gaida is now a normal and happy, hairy little dog.

Aysha to the rescue.

I was playing at my friend Lisa's house, when we suddenly heard a dog crying in the distance. At first we ignored it and continued to play. The crying got louder and louder. We did not know what it was, so we went up on to Lisa's porch. From there, we could see outside. Some children were kicking a bag like a football, so we ran quickly down and



Aysha with Lucky – her back leg in plaster

out the gate. Seeing us coming, the children ran away. The bag was very hard to open, as it was wrapped in wire, which cut my fingers. When we finally opened it, we saw it was a whimpering terrified puppy. It was covered in filthy trash and sticky wet cement. I picked it up and ran back into Lisa's house. On the way back to my own home I was crying. I could not imagine anyone doing such a cruel thing to such a helpless emaciated creature. When later that evening I took it to the Vet, the puppy was found to have a fractured back leg. She has now been with me for over a month and I have called her Lucky.

A message from our staff. (Bharat, Bal Krishna, Ram, and Rajendra)

We feel very happy working at KAT. We are mostly involved with

catching dogs for the sterilisation programme. But we also do a lot of rescues. People in the areas where we work know us now and wave. They are happy that the dogs in their area are not having lots of puppies.

But we are often sad, because we see many dogs with mange and other problems when we are dog catching. The community does not treat the dogs with mange kindly. We notice they kick, throw stones or throw hot water on these dogs. We ask them not to do this. Sometimes they even ask us to take them away and drop them somewhere else. Dogs have territories and we explain we cannot do that. No one likes the mangy dogs. We wish we could do more to help them. But we only have 3 isolation unit kennels and they are always occupied.

A message from the manager, Khageshwaar Sharma

I feel the difficulties we have faced over this past year have strengthened us. We have learnt so much in a short space of time.



Khageshwaar Sharma

Our relationship with the community where we work is improving all the time. They notify us if they see a sick or injured animal. The numbers of dogs coming through our facility is raising every month. We are also receiving calls from many people requesting us to start our ABC programme into their area. This is a good sign, as it indicates those people like and respect our project and understand the impact of a well-

run sterilisation and vaccination programme. The local communities hate the indiscriminate poisoning campaigns that the municipality previously undertook to control the dog population. (Later dumping the decomposing bodies in the river) They know this endangers themselves and the health of their children.

Unfortunately our facilities at the moment are limited and we cannot solve all the dog problems we face. But this is only a beginning. In the next year we will be trying our best to locate a larger piece of land so we can expand our facilities and be active in other areas.

I would like to thank the Humane Society International for giving me the admirable opportunity to attend an Animal Care Expo 2005 at Atlanta and a week's internship at the Capital Humane Society in Lincoln, Nebraska. My sincere thanks to Bob Downey and his team for their kind support and hospitality, which they extended during my stay at the Capital Humane Society. Indeed, this Expo and Internship has given me a lot of enthusiasm, confidence and more knowledge.

Two dedicated young supporters from Switzerland.

Daria and Aisha raised money for KAT by selling some of their toys.



Aisha & Daria on their stall

At the same time they explained the work of KAT, by making a display using KAT brochures and photos of KAT mascot Mango. They collected a grand sum of 6500 NP rupees.

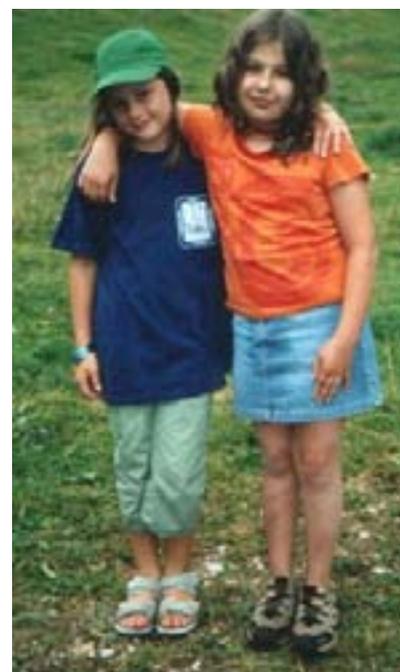
When Daria had her birthday party in August 2005, she requested all her friends not to buy her presents, but to



Daria handing her collected birthday money to Mrs Lotti Weise, KAT Board Member

give money for KAT. She collected a grand sum of 15,000 NP rupees.

Both sums were handed over to KAT by Board Member Mrs Lotti Weise. Three cheers to Aisha and Daria.



Aisha (10yrs) and Daria (11yrs) Star fundraisers!

Khukur Puja at Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre – from Miriam Blytner. Denmark

Khukur Puja, Monday, October 31st 2005.

On my first trip to Nepal last July, I met by chance the Vet Dr. Jha who works with KAT (Kathmandu Animal Treatment centre). Later he

introduced me to the founder of the KAT, Ms. Jan Salter and the manager, Mr. Khageshwaar Sharma.

Being an animal lover myself, I spent time looking how KAT was run and became so impressed with the dedicated work being done at KAT with the street dogs. When returning to Nepal for a second stay, I decided to give time to assisting with the work at the centre.



KAT mascot, Mango, wearing garland for Dog Tihar festival

As luck would have it, I arrived back in Nepal just in time to take part in the Puja Khukur and it was explained to me the how this puja took place each year at Tihar throughout Nepal. Mr. Khageshwaar Sharma described how this special day would be celebrated at KAT.

On arrival today at the KAT Centre, preparations were already being made for dog Tika's and Mala's to honour each individual dog. Mr. Khageshwaar Sharma and Dr. Jha were already there. Ms. Jan Salter and Linda Sherpa (strong KAT supporter) arrived a little later with special gifts to enhance the day for the dogs. All the KAT staff were very excited about celebrating this day, plus there was a lot of wagging of tails.

Most of the dogs garlanded had already been spayed, inoculated against rabies and treated for worms fleas and ticks. For local people to identify the dogs treated at KAT, ears are notched, and then last but not least, mature dogs are equipped with a red collar.

Each dog looked very beautiful with its Tika's and Mala's and a feast of food was laid out for them.

Kathmandu Supporters Can you help us with our Wish List?

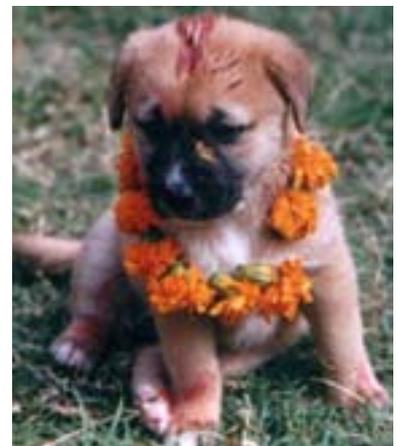
- Dog Feeding Bowls
- Dog Foods
- Brooms / Mops
- Old Curtains/Old Carpets / Rugs
- Old Clothes / Bed sheets / Sacks
- Dustbins
- Old furniture
- Stationery
- Cardboard / Cartons
- Hose / Pipes
- Water filter
- Fan
- Buckets / Containers
- Electrical equipment- eg: Torch /Emergency Lights
- Collars/Leash, Muzzle
- De-freezer
- Towels
- Cleaning Aids (bleach / phenyl etc)
- Locks
- Surgical equipment: Gloves, Medicines etc.

At about 1.00 pm, after playing and celebrating with each other, the dogs lay down to rest in the sun in the grounds at KAT, full of food and impressions of being celebrated this Khukur Puja.

After a couple of days, these same dogs will be released into the streets again - back to the same area they came from. These dogs will never have puppies again, which will keep the stray population down, without the horrendous cruel poisoning of the past. Which was never a healthy solution and put human health at risk also. To date in such a short time, KAT has given family planning to some 1500 females dogs since it opened only 18 months ago. Which I think is an incredible achievement.

Although KAT is not a shelter – a number of puppies and dogs initially not in a condition to be

released back to the street stay in the in-house rotunda.



And the puppies join in too

These dogs and puppies are now healthy, and ready for adoption. So, if you feel you could give a treated dog a good home, please contact KAT or come to see for yourself .

Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre, Chapali Gaon, Budanikantha,
PO Box 13684, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: (+977-1) 4373169

A huge thanks to EVERYONE who's helped KAT, and with a special mention to the following:-

Ani Choying – For her continued support, for sponsoring one month's operational costs for the centre and sponsoring a free treatment and anti-rabies vaccination camp in Pharping.

Palmer Family – For their continued donations with which we have built an isolation unit.

The British School – For raising funds to provide the centre with a rotunda for in-house dogs.

Linda, Selina and Nare - For working with the Calderdale Support Group last summer with their fund raising activities in the UK with her Calderdale Support Group. A big thank you again for all the time Linda Sherpa gives, being replacement driver and helping the manager with improvements and developments of the centre. For providing UK bed and board for UK helper, Selina Horn for four months.

Fire & Ice Restaurant – For giving us their leftover food, which the street dogs like a lot.

Beverly Waymark – For buying for us a shaving kit.

Mrs. Laxmi Sharma – for her annual support of Rs 12,000.

Bill and Tina Warren – For sponsoring a kennel with their monthly donations.

Flo Chrusciel – For donating lots of plants, cushions, furniture and medical supplies to us.

Mera Thompson – For her continuing supreme interest to help KAT

Dr.Kit Howarth and Dr.Damian – For each spending two weeks at KAT and sharing their expertise with the KAT team.

Miriam Blytner – For giving so much of her self to the dog's welfare in a very 'hands – on' way. Plus sponsoring anti-rabies vaccines for 100 dogs and her purchase of a puppy house.

Selina Horn – She has given the management a lot of support for office work plus setting up the office and reception area in a way which we call, at the centre, the 'lady's touch'.

Human Society International - For sponsoring Khageshwaar to attend Animal Care Expo 2005 in Atlanta.

Capital Humane Society (Nebraska, Lincoln) – For taking the manager for an internship. Plus for donating a microscope and medicines to the centre.

Help in Suffering (India) – For taking in Bharat and Bal Krishna for further compounders training. Special thanks to Dr.Jack Reece for arranging this training programme.

Dr Michel Ronco (KAT France Co-ordinator) – for his continued support.

Zita Weise (KAT Switzerland Co-ordinator) – for encouraging Aisha and Daria.

BANK DETAILS IN NEPAL

Account Name: Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre
Bank Name: Nepal Investment Bank Ltd.
Bank Address: Durbar Marg, Kathmandu
Account No: 2110340
Swift Code: NIBLNPKT

IN UK

Account Name: Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre (UK)
Bank Name: Barclays Bank PLC
Bank Address: 44/46 Castle Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 2BU
Account No: 20610178
Sort Code: 20-77-85

For further information please contact our UK co-ordinator:-

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*All those involved with Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre
we wish to thank you for your valuable support,
all of which helps to bring a wag to the tails of the dogs that need our help so much,
and a smile to the faces of the Nepali people.*



Together, let us create a city ...

... where cruelty is eliminated.

Web: www.katcentre.org.np

Email: katcentre@wlink.com.np