



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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From The Horse's Mouth



EVOLVE!

"Everything has to evolve, or else it perishes" ~ John Knowles

The last few months were testing. After one and a half years of numerous trips to the Assistant Commissioner of Charities' office, we finally managed to process our organisation's name change, and document our new name in various compliance departments. Although a couple of departments are still pending, we made it through to the other side of the tunnel.

Evolution takes time. In nature a small change takes thousands of years to manifest, sometimes more. But it's necessary, and it's a great teacher. The entire essence of the natural world is one of change, underscored with patience. We learnt to be patient too. We were evolving through a pandemic, and that in itself gave us ample time to process the changes we were going through.

We learnt to set small goals, and not become overwhelmed with the big changes that we would be tackling. We took things one step at a time. In so doing, our strategic planning skills improved – a valuable lesson indeed! We embraced our cliches, identified our faults, and took the chance to rectify them permanently. And we came closer as a team. Each one of us played their part and celebrated in the end as a team.

Every time we took a step forward, we practised gratitude. We realised we were being more grateful than we usually would be, and thanked the universe for giving us a chance to evolve and change.

We also realised that any change takes its own time. Worrying or agitating about the process is an exercise in futility. That time can instead be spent better to create awareness that will drive the change.

Both the Painted Lady Butterfly and Fox Moth become beautiful butterflies, one in 4 weeks, another in 5 years. Similarly, remember, for any aspect of the society to change too, complacency is counter-productive, but patience is key!

Best Wishes
Shreyasi

Highlights Of The Quarter

ADOPTIONS

Speaking of abandoned dogs, two of them fell onto our laps with the worst possible tell tale signs of abuse. This was the month of May 2022, and a Rottweiler and a cross breed Labrador were rescued from the streets. Hiding behind a garbage dumpster, the Rottie had multiple injuries, a visible limp and a deadly tick fever. We named him Badal. Tuffy was luckier, recuperated within a short time and found a Forever home. Badal is all set to go to his, as we write this story. Not all rescues are happy stories though. We have lost many of them who come to us in terminal conditions. Yet so many rescued from the streets get such happy homes. Don't be biased about the pedigree of an animal. Choose to adopt from your local shelter. After all, the best Option is AD-OPTION.



VACCINATION

In July 2021, the US CDC levied a temporary suspension on the import of dogs from "high-risk" countries like India. The concern, rightly so, was that the inadequately vaccinated stock might make a comeback of rabies which has been eliminated since 2007 in the US.

The concern is real, rabies is fatal once the symptoms appear. This fear leads dogs to be abused and abandoned. The US is one of the top destinations of our adopted rescued dogs, and enlistment of India as a country with the highest count of rabies in the world, will affect the adoption numbers.

Rabies is classified as one of the NTD (Neglected Tropical Diseases) primarily affecting the vulnerable populations. India has launched a National Action Plan for dog mediated rabies elimination by 2030. As the best methods of rabies elimination is feasible only through vaccination drives for street animals, and awareness about the disease for humans, Thane CPCA started the drives in the sunny month of April 2022 in support of the Action Plan.



Highlights Of The Quarter

MUSICAL NIGHT !

May 2022 was a fun month too !! After a back breaking two years of non stop public service during the pandemic, our team was treated to a Musical Night on the 15th. Dancing to the evergreen melodies of the iconic Father-son duo S. D. Burman and R. D. Burman, letting their hair down, eating tonnes of fast food – it was a well-deserved break for our amazing team !!



VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are vital to any non profit organisation. They give respite to the overworked staff in any institution. Sharing their professional skill sets, they can save an organisation's money by making expensive hirings unnecessary. In the process, they themselves have fun, learn valuable social skills and gain a sense of purpose and community. Volunteers are love in motion ! June 2022 saw a team of volunteers in our premises doing all sorts of sundry work – cleaning, cooking, assisting, playing, teaching. All with a smile on their faces. So Volunteer !!! “ Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can”.

Chip Your Pets



Dr. Rashmi Gokhale Commonwealth Scholar-2019, Research level student of MSc IAWEL, Uni. of Edinburgh, UK.

CHIP YOUR PETS

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Every month, abandoned dogs and cats make their way into our facility. While ideally, our number one priority would be to reunite the animals with their parents, we mostly fail to do so, even after following the routine of posting the details of the animals on social media and circulating the details with veterinary clinics.

What could be the reason that lost pets rarely find their way back to their families? Firstly because the families do not follow the routine for search – check social media, inquiring with local veterinary clinics and local NGOs, placing fliers in local community and ads in the newspapers with minute details of the animal. Secondly, Microchipping is not mandatory for ownership in our country. Yet, chipping has been proven to be the most effective way to reunite pets with their families.

India has the highest pet homelessness globally with the lowest score of 2.5 out of 10 (Mars Pet Care, 2021). A survey by Mars pet care has shown that 50% of Indian pet owners have abandoned their pets post-pandemic, compared to 28% of the global number. The cases of cat and dog abandonment in India were 32% and 34% respectively. Considering the alarming figures, Thane CPCA has launched an effort to make Corporations aware of the importance of microchipping and make it mandatory within their jurisdiction. The pilot project will be flag off in our own Municipal Corporation with a target of chipping 1000 pet dogs. Thane CPCA is looking for sponsors for this project. The Project Report will be made available to interested partners.

With your help and the participation of sensitized pet parents, more pets will find their way back home, safe and sound, and sooner!

Wish Tree



Wishlist from our Inmates

Our caretakers at the hospital spare no cost to give us the best food and medicines available. It will ease their purse strings if you could generously donate for our use :

- Newspapers
- Wet and dry cat, kitten, dog, and puppy food
- Training pads
- Clean towels, and lots of them
- Dog and cat beds or mats (washable)
- Small cat litter pans
- Examination Gloves (Medium Size)
- Room Heater for cat ward.



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