



IPANews

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INDIA PROJECT FOR ANIMALS AND NATURE

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Animal therapy day at the Hill View Farm Animal Refuge

The children, staff and volunteers of Udhavi had a great time on their outing to IPAN. Nigel took us around the farm and explained the purpose of IPAN. We also got to know the background of each of the animals there. Nigel also showed the children the dispensary and explained the work done there. All of them were moved by the sight of the little kitten with a broken back. The kids loved brushing the one-eyed pony till he started protesting that he'd had enough brushing for the day!

Coffee, the little puppy, was the star of the day, and got the children out of their fear of the dogs. Even little Namita, who was hysterical when we arrived there, was thrilled with Coffee,



and by the end of the day was stroking and petting the other dogs as well. Johnson loved the donkeys and was most reluctant to leave their enclosure. We would like to thank Nigel, Ilona and all the staff at IPAN for making the day memorable for all of us, and especially the kids.

Pet Animal Health and Welfare

Dear Ilona,

Thank you for coming to our school and teaching us how to be a responsible pet owner. We enjoyed your talk. We learnt a lot. The first day when you explained the order it was helpful to us. We could think of questions to ask you. The first thing we learnt was, will the pet fit in our family. When we choose a pet we have to think if it matches with our family, if we have enough money to feed it and to take care of its health and if it has to be big or small. On the second day we learnt about reproduction and pregnancy. We have to decide whether we want the puppies or not before the dog is pregnant. If we don't want puppies we need to sterilize the dog. On the third day we learnt about dog behavior. The most important thing you taught us what not to do when you are near a dog. On the fourth day we learnt about taking care of the dog's health. There are many vaccination to prevent the dog getting diseases and there are many medicine to cure the dog after it gets sick. On the fifth day we learnt about euthanasia and when to say good-bye to our dog. It was helpful because you told us how to prevent suffering. We hope you come again and teach us something new.

With love from the soul-flowers
(The elementary class, Bluemountains School)

The sacred TODA– buffaloes of the Nilgiris



The first people to have inhabited the Nilgiris hills, the Toda-tribals consider certain buffaloes as holy and these Temple Buffaloes have a very crucial role in the Toda culture. With support from Dr. Tarun Chabra in Ooty, the IPAN veterinary team has been regularly visiting the community to vaccinate, deworm or otherwise treat these sacred animals. Common health problems among the Toda buffaloes are familiar from other domestic cattle in the area; plastic indigestion and generalized weakness due to parasites and lack of good nutrition.

Veterinarian in focus —Dr. Jencillin, IPAN



There is a new face in the IPAN team. We have been happy to welcome Dr. Jencillin as the resident veterinarian to join us. Dr. Jencillin, who graduated in 2007, has worked in private practices before joining IPAN after recommendation from her colleague and IPAN's

trusted ABC vet, Dr. Dhanabal. Dr. Jencillin is very caring and likes to help all creatures, great and small. She is very flexible and has adjusted well to the rural life in Mavanalla. We hope she will stay with us for long time!

Dr. Jencillin with IPAN's rescued ex-racehorses Cauvery and Badel.

Animal Field worker training



Farmers of the Appukoda village, near Ooty are participating in IPAN’s animal field worker training. Spread over

two months the project consists of 4-5 visits to the village meeting the farmers to discuss and teach about animal health matters they find important with their cattle. The project started by conducting an informal survey among the farmers of the issues they find most important and the training sessions were then planned accordingly.

This area is quite different in its tradition of livestock hus-

bandry and therefore also the diseases are different. For example, rearing cross-breed cows is more common in Appukoda than in the Masinagudi area and also herds are much smaller and good fertility is more important. IPAN’s vet student volunteers also participate in the sessions to gain some more insight to the specific animal health and welfare issues in rural India.

Vet student volunteers



The interest of vet students to come and volunteer at IPAN veterinary clinic and outreach programs has increased this year. The students usually stay for three weeks and participate



to all the animal health activities together with IPAN staff and resident veterinarian. “I’ve been happy to participate in treating so many different cases, especially the surgical



cases. This is very useful experience for me and I have learnt the importance of the ABC program which really makes a difference to the quality of life for so many dogs.”

Laura, from Finland

So many ways to help... so many people have found their way

We have been delighted to see many new people becoming involved in our work by volunteering in many different ways.

Sabina von Kessel from Bangalore has designed IPAN’s new beautiful logo that represents our motto: “Animal Welfare means Human Welfare.” Mr. Prit Konan from Bangalore him too, came to visit and observe our work to make a

documentary film about IPAN. Modern Stores in Ooty has promised to sponsor the publication of our newsletters. It is a wonderful way of getting involved by good will publicity. Mrs. Nagina Devi from Bokkapuram and Mrs. Sangeetha Aditya Kiran from Wellington have helped by donating old bedsheets and blankets etc. to be used in our inpatient rooms etc. The South Indian Kennel-

Club has, again, been kind to offer us an exhibition stall for free in the Ooty Dog Show.

Never question the POWER of volunteers: Noah’s Ark was built by volunteers—Titanic was built by professionals.

Visitor in focus:

Cdr Vishal Vatsa, Wellington

Being an ardent animal lover and proud owner of two dogs, knowledge of the existence of India Project for Animals and Nature (www.indiapan.org) in the Nilgiri Hills interested me. By the time the second tutorial ended, my curiosity levels had raised and I decided to visit IPAN.

IPAN is dedicated to prevent cruelty towards animals and to improve the health and welfare of domestic and wild animals. It is located in the Mavanhalla village on the Ooty-Masinagudi Road or more aptly, off road. The IPAN centre is around one km from the road and linked by a kuccha pathway full of wobbly stones. If I could film my drive on this stretch, which took me half an hour, it would have made a first rate advertisement for my Maruti Alto.

The outward appearance of this centre is sure to deter any visitor in obtaining treatment for his pet. The place looks like a large scale village house, modified to be a rudimentary clinic and nothing close to those plush and air conditioned vet clinics I had seen in Mumbai. But sure enough, appearances can be deceptive.

I was greeted by around 40 dogs on the campus and my heart went out to those who had a limb missing / plastered. These dogs were accident cases and had been abandoned by their owners, I was told.

I wondered if people would do the same with a family member. The place is also home for other animals such as discarded racehorses, sick cattle and abused donkeys. In addition to care at the centre, IPAN rou-

tinely organises animal birth control programs, antirabies vaccination drives and equine street clinics, as they believe that by improving the health of animals, the possibility of epidemic diseases is significantly reduced and this indirectly helps the human race.

I had the opportunity to meet the head of staff the organisation, Mr. Nigel Otter, a well-known animal activist, who received the prestigious Karmaveer Puraskaar in 2008. He is ably assisted by his wife, who is a qualified veterinary surgeon. I was fortunate to witness a spaying operation, which was performed with the utmost professionalism. Much to my surprise, the operating clinic was well stocked with medicines and implements.

IPAN completely relies on voluntary work and donations from individuals. Donations can also be given in the form of items that will help in the functioning of the animal welfare organisation. Every treatment meted out by the IPAN is a lesson in humane education, promoting respect and concern for animals, giving hope to their owners and relief to the creatures themselves.

Cdr. Vishal Vatsa L.No.684 Division C, Wellington

We do

- Animal Birth Control (ABC)
- Anti-Rabies Program
- Animal Field Worker Training
- Emergency veterinary service
- Equine Health Camps
- Animal Rescue and Refuge
- Animal Scouts
- Volunteer Program

Please donate

I want to be IPAN monthly supporter to help by donating:

- Rs. 200/ month
- Rs. 1000/ month
- Rs. 5000/ month

State Bank Of India, Udhagamandalam

10 834 913 474 Indian

10 834 913 939 foreign contributions

Pet Animal Health

MODERN STORES

in Ooty has an increasing supply of quality pet care products.

Welcome to listen when Dr. Ilona talks about pet animal health and

welfare in Modern Stores on the

1st June at 5:30 – 6:30 pm