



JULY 2026

KALIMPONG ANIMAL SHELTER

MONTHLY REPORT



ANIMALSHELTERKALIMPONG



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TOGETHER, WE
CAN CHANGE
THEIR LIVES

MONTH IN REVIEW

READING ROOM FOR SHELTER DOGS

This month, Kalimpong Animal Shelter launched its Reading Room for Shelter Dogs, an enrichment initiative that promotes the emotional well-being of resident and rescued dogs through calm, positive human interaction. By providing a quiet and reassuring environment, the programme helps reduce stress and anxiety, encourages positive socialisation, and builds trust between people and animals.



The first reading session was led by a student volunteer from Army Public School, Kalimpong. In addition to enriching the lives of the dogs, the initiative offers young volunteers a meaningful opportunity to develop empathy, compassion, and a deeper appreciation for animal welfare.

As the programme grows, it will continue to welcome volunteers of all ages, creating enriching experiences for sheltered animals while fostering a more compassionate and animal-friendly community.

FREE EYE AND EAR HEALTH CAMP

A free veterinary health camp was organised at Kalimpong Animal Shelter, providing eye and ear examinations, deworming, and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV) for owned pets, community animals, and resident shelter animals.



FREE EYE AND EAR HEALTH CAMP



The programme was conducted in collaboration with Entod Pharmaceuticals (eye and ear care) and Veko (deworming support), helping improve access to preventive veterinary services for the local community.



ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL (ABC)/STERILISATION PROGRAMME

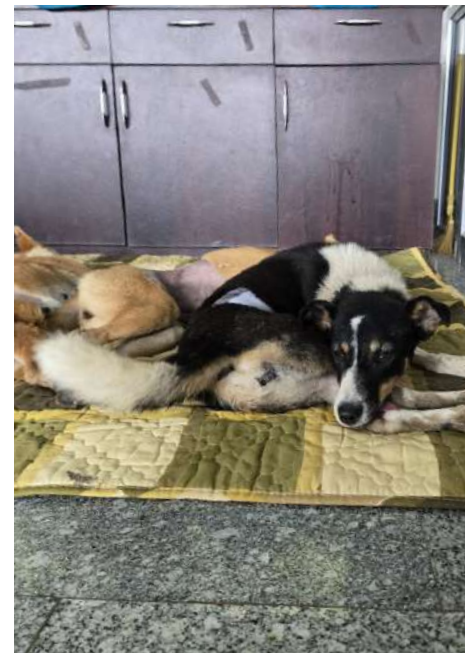
Heavy monsoon rainfall throughout July significantly affected field operations. In the hills of Kalimpong and Darjeeling, the monsoon season typically begins in late May and continues until early October, often disrupting field-based programmes.

Despite these seasonal challenges, the shelter maintained uninterrupted in-house sterilisation services throughout the month. Although torrential rainfall limited outreach activities, weather conditions permitted the successful conduct of two Animal Birth Control (ABC) camps at 6th Mile, Kalimpong, and Sittong.



ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL (ABC)/STERILISATION PROGRAMME

A third outreach sterilisation camp, planned for Kaffer, Kalimpong, was cancelled due to prolonged heavy rainfall, which resulted in landslides, fallen trees, and the closure of access roads. The team had already travelled halfway to the site but was required to return after road safety concerns and blocked roads made it unsafe to continue.



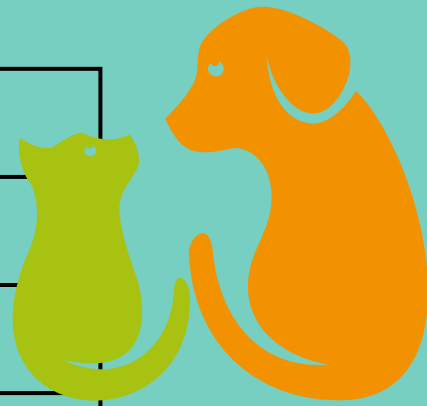
During the reporting period, 101 dogs and 28 cats underwent sterilisation through the programme. Most were free-roaming community dogs humanely captured from urban areas, while others were owned pets brought in for sterilisation.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Marchig Animal Welfare Trust for its support of the Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter's Dog Sterilisation/ABC Programme. Their support enables the continued implementation of humane dog population management while contributing to improved animal welfare and public health.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

SPECIES	CASES TREATED
DOGS	283
CATS	86
GOATS	2
PIGS	15
COWS	9



TOTAL CASES - 395

EMERGENCY CASES	10
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STERILISATION/ABC (ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL)

DOG ABC	101
Cat ABC	28

TOTAL ABC-129

RESCUE	29
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ADOPTION	2
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Impact Story

When One Tragedy Changed the Community at 6th Mile, kalimpong

Of the two outreach camps conducted during the month, the camp at 6th Mile, Kalimpong, held special significance. It brought back memories of a tragic rabies incident that occurred in the same community nearly a decade ago, claiming the lives of both a calf and its owner following exposure to a rabid dog.

At the time, a stray dog bit a family's calf, but the wound was treated using traditional home remedies instead of immediate veterinary care. The dog was later confirmed to be rabid, and the calf had to be humanely euthanised. While caring for the infected animal, the owner, Mr. Lepcha, was exposed to the virus and later succumbed to rabies. The incident remains one of the community's most painful memories and a stark reminder of the devastating consequences of delayed intervention and inadequate rabies awareness.



Camp site at 6th Mile, Kalimpong

Today, 6th Mile tells a different story. Where fear and uncertainty once prevailed, there is now greater awareness, trust, and community participation. Residents increasingly seek timely veterinary care by bringing their animals for vaccination, sterilisation, and treatment before health problems become emergencies.

This positive change is the result of years of sustained veterinary outreach, awareness programmes, and community engagement. Through the continued efforts of the Kalimpong Animal Shelter team, led by Dr. D.P. Pandey, essential animal healthcare services have become increasingly accessible, even in remote communities. A total of 21 dogs were sterilised and numerous companion animals were vaccinated at this camp.



A Bond Beyond Words

Sometimes our work leads us to remarkable people. During a dog-catching operation, we met someone whose compassion for animals touched our hearts.



During one of our dog-catching operations for the Sterilisation Programme, the team responded promptly to complaint-based calls regarding a pack of dogs in the area. As they arrived to catch the free-roaming dogs for sterilisation, a few dogs came wagging their tails with curiosity in their eyes, while others, frightened by the unfamiliar faces, ran away.

At that moment, a local porter affectionately known as Kancha Daju, who is well known in the neighbourhood for his kindness towards community dogs, stepped forward to help. The dogs immediately recognised and trusted him. With patience and gentle reassurance, he was able to calmly catch the frightened dogs and carry them to the ambulance for transport to the shelter.



As the ambulance doors closed, he smiled and softly said in Nepali, "Ja, jati vayera aaija la!" ("Go, get well, and come back.")

His simple words reflected the deep bond he shares with the community dogs. They also serve as a reminder that humane animal welfare is a shared responsibility. The support of compassionate community members like Kancha Daju plays an important role in the success of the Animal Birth Control Programme, helping ensure that dogs are handled safely, humanely, and with the trust they deserve.



Bovine Obstetric Emergency

A pregnant cow in Tari Gaon, Bong Khasmahal, had been unable to stand or calve for four days, placing both the mother and her unborn calf at risk. Dr. D.P. Pandey, Senior Veterinary Officer, and the Kalimpong Animal Shelter team immediately travelled to the village to assess the animal.

Before reaching out to the shelter, the family had sought assistance from local para-veterinary personnel. Despite their efforts, the cow's condition had not improved. With each passing day, the family's anxiety grew as they feared losing both the mother and her unborn calf.

On examination, the cow was found to be severely weak and suffering from acute calcium deficiency, which had prevented her from standing and progressing with calving. Intravenous fluids, calcium therapy, multivitamin supplements, and supportive medications were administered without delay.



The Team on the Ground to Help a Cow



An obstetrical examination also revealed inadequate cervical dilation, and appropriate treatment was provided to support the calving process. Additional medications were prescribed, and the cow remained under close observation through regular follow-up visits by our team member, Mr. Lil Thapa.

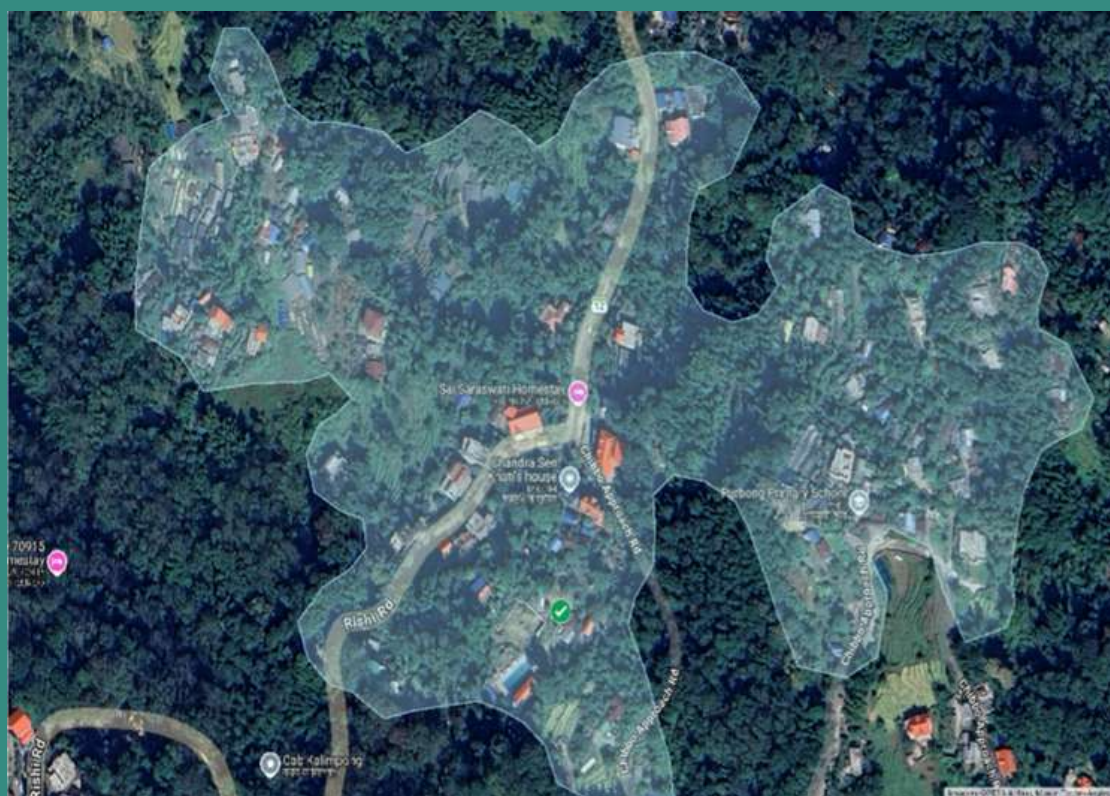
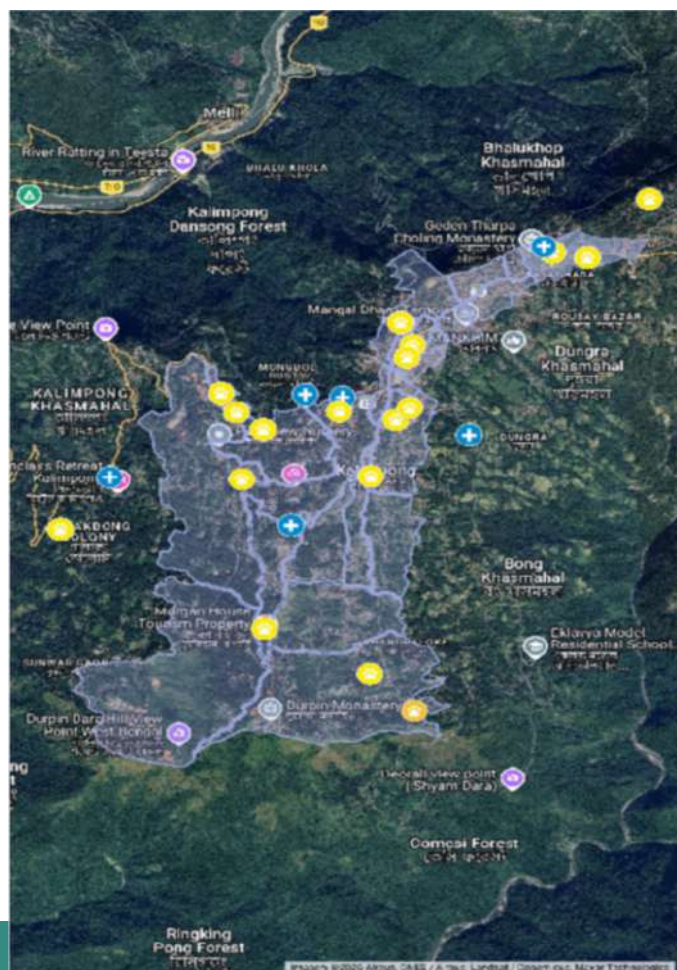
For the family, who depend on agriculture for their livelihood, the cow represented far more than livestock, it was a vital source of income and household sustenance. The timely intervention of the Kalimpong Animal Shelter team brought reassurance and renewed hope during a time of great uncertainty.

Mapping Communities, Guiding Action

As the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme continues to expand, mapping and data collection have become essential tools for identifying priority areas, monitoring programme coverage, and planning timely interventions across the district. By documenting every rescue, sterilisation, vaccination, and community visit, the shelter can monitor programme coverage, identify gaps, and direct resources where they are needed most.

More than a record of completed activities, these maps provide a roadmap for informed decision-making, helping the Kalimpong Animal Shelter plan future interventions and strengthen long-term community animal welfare.

These maps below illustrate the locations where humane dog-catching operations were carried out for free-roaming community dogs across urban settlements and remote forest areas of Kalimpong District.





RESCUE

Several puppies born to free-roaming dogs, along with a few cats have been rescued and are currently under the shelter's care, awaiting suitable forever homes. Their mother was also brought in for sterilisation, helping prevent further unwanted litters and the cycle of suffering.

The shelter also responded to other rescue cases, including dogs suffering from maggot-infested wounds and transmissible venereal tumours (TVT), while continuing to provide medical care and rehabilitation to animals in need.



Internship

This month, Vanessa from Kalimpong joined the Shelter as an intern. She is supporting daily animal care activities, including behavioural enrichment sessions, dog walking, socialisation, and learning about animal first-aid.

Visitors Spending Time with Our Animals



*Thank you to our donors
for standing with us in
our mission to help
animals in need.*

