

Annual Report

2018

Bhutan Animal Rescue and Care



## Annual Report 2018

In pursuit of Gross Animal Happiness

July 2019

P.O. Box 120 – Thimphu – BHUTAN

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## Word from the President

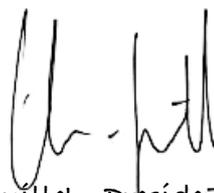
On behalf of the Board members of the Bhutan Animal Rescue and Care, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the many animal lovers who have brought sick and injured animals to our rescue centers. Without your compassion in action and pro-active engagement, the BARC could not have reached the growing number of animals in need, over these past many years. We are very grateful to have you as part of our growing network of animal-care volunteers!

I would like to also share my sincere gratefulness to my fellow Board members for their pro-active promotion of animal welfare in Bhutan and their voluntary contributions to growing and strengthening the BARC organization. The BARC has become more professional and stronger due to your heartfelt efforts and guidance.

The BARC Board endorses and is pleased to present the Annual Report 2018, which comprises an overview of key achievements and financial accounts of the BARC over the year 2018. BARC has been able to provide medical care and sanctuary to an ever-increasing number of animals. We have also presented our hopes for the near future, for the establishment of the Centre for Animal Happiness and taking up the community-based dog care and sterilization programs. We hope that we can raise adequate funds for the Centre for Animal Happiness and programs, so we can help more animals in need and further improve the care we give. With your support we can do so much more! I therefore hope that you will enjoy reading the Annual Report 2018.

Thank you for walking with us on the path of compassion-in-action for Gross Animal Happiness.

On behalf of the BARC Board,



Marianne Guillet - President



Rinpoche Mynak R. Tulku; Mrs. Chime Wangmo; Khandroma Dorji Phagmo Rinpoche; Mr. Kinlay Gyaltshen; Mrs. Peldon Tshering; Mrs. Yeshey Choden; Mr. Hendrik Visser.

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## Gross Animal Happiness

The vision of the BARC is to promote Gross Animal Happiness, which entails stimulating the progression of Bhutan's society towards Gross National Happiness (GNH), where animals are treated and cared for with respect, kindness and compassion, and where a healthy and happy co-existence of animals and humans is the norm. BARC conducts advocacy, awareness and education programmes to promote the importance of animal welfare and of practicing kindness and compassion-in-action towards all animals.

Our purpose is to promote the welfare and health of animals

We base our existence and actions on the intrinsic value of animals, independent from the utility value which animals may have for humans.

We protect the welfare of animals in the broadest sense; and

We promote the healthy co-existence of animals and humans

## How we came about

The Bhutan Animal Rescue and Care (BARC) emerged over the past 20 years from a personal initiative of Marianne Guillet (also known as "Rochi Ama" or "Mother of Dogs"), a French architect and geographer turned veterinarian and Hendrik Visser, a Dutch civil engineer and sociologist. With an increasing attention for animal welfare in Bhutan over the years, the number of animals in need of care kept growing and in June 2013 Marianne, Hendrik and their close friends and supporters therefore established the BARC as a civil society organization in Bhutan.

## Who we are

The Board members of the BARC are all animal lovers and promoters of animal welfare in their personal lives. The BARC is very grateful and pleased to have the following Board Members:

1. Mrs. Marianne Guillet - President
2. Mr. Kinlay Gyaltshen – Treasures/ED
3. Rimpoche Mynak R. Tulku
4. Mrs. Chime Wangmo
5. Khandroma Dorji Phagmo Rimpoche
6. Mrs. Peldon Tshering
7. Mrs. Yeshey Choden
8. Mr. Hendrik Visser - Secretary

## What we do

### Animal Rescue

The BARC is rescuing animals in need and provides sanctuary to those who have no chance to survive without our support. We have a 24/7 rescue service, pick-up animals in need and organize transport through our caring supporters. We strive to re-integrate or relocate recovered animals, but those who are handicapped or suffer from chronic diseases find a warm permanent welcome at our shelters

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### **Medical Care**

In our Intensive Care Unit with quarantine, our clinic with surgery and treatment rooms and our post-care facility, we provide medical treatment for wounds, infectious diseases, cancer/tumours, gastroenteritis and skin infections, as well as orthopedic surgery, prosthetics and cesareans.

### **Sterilization**

To support a small and healthy stray animal population, we also conduct weekly sterilization campaigns with DHPPI-L vaccinations. Our animal care programme is building upon a network of caring citizens who bring stray dogs from their neighborhood or assist us in catching them. This makes release of sterilized dogs back into the community and follow-up care also successful. We promote Animal Happiness in support to Community Happiness!

### **Advocacy**

Many people who visit us are interested to know more about animal care as well as how to genuinely practice humanitarian values and compassion in action. This often results in a lively engagement with mutual reflection and learning; and indeed an empowerment for doing 'good'.



## **Key Achievements over 2018**

### **Patient numbers**

The average number of in-patient animals at BARC Thimphu over 2018 was about 358, of which 295 dogs, 18 cats, 32 macaque monkeys and 13 others as birds, rodents and large animals. In 2018 we rescued 4 baby macaque orphans, which need(ed) intense nursing and care, bringing the total group size of macaques by end 2018 to 32.

Of the dogs in our care, about 40 are under Intensive Care treatment; 80 have chronic disease as e.g. epilepsy, diabetes or kidney disease; 25 are handicapped, as e.g. paraplegic, blind; 40 are abandoned or orphaned puppies; and 30 are geriatrics. The remaining dogs are recovered, now healthy, dogs, which have no other place to go. We were able to have 12 dogs adopted in 2018. Adoption rates are low in Bhutan, as most compassionate people already care for free dogs around their homes.

Over 2018 we provided out-patient care to about 625 animals in total, of which 218 were pets, 195 were rescued animals brought by people to our rescue centre and 212 were rescued by BARC itself. Out-patients are mostly dogs (552) and cats (30), but can be any kind of animal as birds, cows, bulls, mules, horses (others: 18).

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### Patient Treatments

Many thousands of patients have been treated by Marianne Guillet, starting in 1997 in Zhemgang, and over the last many years at the Bhutan Animal Rescue and Care facilities in Yoeselpang.



*Picture above:* Marianne performing an OVH.

### Surgery

The BARC conducts a variety of surgeries as part of its animal rescue and treatment services.

Marianne Guillet performed about 250 surgeries over 2018, of which 155 OVH on female dogs (removal of uterus and both ovaries); 90 testiclectomy on male dogs; 31 orthopaedic surgeries; 25 mastectomy (tumour removal); 9 eye surgeries; and numerous other small surgeries.



*Pictures left:* Tumour removal. In the absence of biopsy facilities, the removal of masses, lumps or nodules is the preferred option.

### Nursing/Care

In 2018 we nursed 4 baby macaque monkeys, 7 orphaned puppies, 10 kittens and 1 owl.



*Picture left:* rescued baby macaque monkey.



*Picture right:* rescued puppy, sleeping after feeding.

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### Medical Treatments

Over 2018 BARC provided medical treatment to many patients in need.

- 150 Pyoderma (skin infectious disease);
- 250 Scabies (contagious skin infestation by the mite *Sarcoptes scabiei*) and Mange (skin disease caused by parasitic mites);
- 190 Fungal infections of skin or ear;
- 120 Gastro-Enteritis;
- 600 Parasites (deworming);
- 90 Tick-Borne Diseases (Lyme Disease, Anaplasmosis);
- 32 Eye patients (e.g. glaucoma, cataract);
- 32 Arthritis;
- 24 Heart related diseases; and
- 3 Burn patients.

**BE AWARE! Tick-Borne Lyme disease** is increasingly prevalent in Bhutan and can affect different organs and systems within the body. Most common symptoms you might spot are:

- Recurrent painful joints that lasts 3–4 days, sometimes accompanied by loss of appetite and depression
- Reluctance to move, or a stiff, painful gait
- Swollen joints that are warm to the touch
- Leg pain or pain throughout the body
- Fever, fatigue, and swollen lymph nodes

Symptoms of Lyme disease may come and go, vary from mild to severe, and mimic other conditions. In many dogs, the signs may not appear for several months after infection. In severe cases, dogs may also develop heart disease, central nervous system disorders, or often-fatal kidney disease. [[www.pethealthnetwork.com](http://www.pethealthnetwork.com)]

### Horse Rescue at Royal Bhutan Army Head Quarters in Dechencholing

As an example of the animal rescues BARC conducts, two horses got pinned down on top of a fence of the RBA HQ in Dechencholing, after being chased by dogs. One sadly passed away from her



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injuries. The second was rescued and transported with support from Royal Bhutan Army to the BARC animal rescue centre in Paro, which is specialised in large animals. The rescue operation was conducted by BARC and staff from the National Veterinary Hospital, both called to the scene by Royal Bhutan Army.



**Pictures previous page and right:** Horse Rescue at Royal Bhutan Army Head Quarters in Dechencholing.

### Dogs caught in illegal wildlife traps - snares

A sad occurrence over the years is dogs being caught in illegal wildlife traps. The snares poachers use are meant to catch deer and wild boar, which is prohibited but still a regular feature of rural Bhutan. Dogs are regularly trapped in these snares and the lucky ones manage to escape. The very lucky ones are brought to, or taken by, the BARC for treatment. BARC hopes to develop an awareness campaign to prevent illegal traps and to therewith avoid such cases of dog injuries.



*Dog injured by wildlife trap (steel wire) being treated by Marianne*

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### Expansion of BARC facilities

To deal with an ever increasing (and overwhelming) number patients, BARC expanded its rescue and rehabilitation facilities over 2018 with 4 new dog houses and 2 wildlife cages.

## Key Achievements over the Years

### *Year 2017*

BARC further improved on functionalities of facilities. Three more dog cages/pounds were constructed to accommodate more dogs, and 2 open shelters were constructed for sheltering of the increasing dogs population at the center. BARC continued its animal rescue services, by providing animal ambulance service to injured and sick free dogs and occasional large animals (cows, horses, mules, pigs, goats).

Over 2017 BARC provided the following animal rescue and treatments:

- Sterilizations: dogs 258 and cats 18.
- In-patient dogs/cats: 412.
- Out-patients dogs/cats: 521.
- Large animals: 22.
- Total animal population at rescue center (year end): 329.
- Macaque monkey population (rehabilitation): 28.

The present animal rescue center in Yusupang is constructed on rented private land and has a temporary character. BARC agreed to over time relocate the centre, for which BARC identified jointly with Chang Gewog, Thimphu Dzongkhag, a new location. On the new location BARC will establish a Centre for Animal Happiness, for which a comprehensive program proposal has been developed for government support and fund raising.

### *Year 2016*

BARC received the **National Order of Merit Gold, from His Majesty The King**, on National Day 2016, which is the highest civilian medal for service to the nation. The medal was given to BARC “For volunteering time and effort towards promoting humanitarian values, our culture and tradition, and our national objectives; for working passionately and tirelessly for the benefit of others; for taking on the responsibility to provide support and assistance wherever the government is unable to reach, and for keeping alive the sacred values of compassion and empathy.”



National Order of Merit, Gold

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BARC participated in the CSO Fair with a stand to promote its animal welfare and rescue work, and provided a free pet clinic. The work of BARC was much appreciated by Her Majesty The Queen, who paid a prolonged visit to the BARC stand.

Over 2016 BARC provided the following animal rescue and treatments:

- Sterilizations: dogs 202 and cats 16.
- In-patient dogs/cats: 379.
- Out-patients dogs/cats: 456.
- Large animals: 16.
- Total animal population at rescue center (year end): 274.
- Macaque monkey population (rehabilitation): 25.



BARC provides a home to all animals in need



'Fendi', Dalmatian from the cruel puppy farms of India, chronic skin disease and genetic weaknesses due to in-breeding and malnutrition

### **Year 2015**

BARC was elected as a member of the CSO Core Committee, which represents all registered CSOs in Bhutan and which promotes the strengthening of civil society in Bhutan through dialogue and advocacy.

BARC conducted maintenance and repair on the animal rescue center at Yusupang, and improved on functionalities of facilities. Two dog cages/pounds were constructed to accommodate more free dogs, especially for paraplegic dogs (car accidents and neurological diseases). BARC also developed its website to increase outreach and transparency.

BARC continued its animal rescue services, by providing animals ambulance service to injured and sick free dogs and occasional large animals (cows, horses, mules, pigs, goats).

Over 2015 BARC provided the following animal rescue and treatments:

- Sterilizations: dogs 206 and cats 18.
- In-patient dogs/cats: 279.
- Out-patients dogs/cats: 384.
- Large animals: 10.
- Total animal population at rescue center: 233.
- Macaque monkey population (rehabilitation): 22.

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## *Year 2014*

BARC is utilizing the animal rescue center constructed at the location in Yusupang, which is provided for free by Hendrik Visser and Marianne Guillet. The center has a clinic/hospital, Intensive Care Unit, animal food preparation kitchen, washrooms, office, guesthouse and macaque rehabilitation center.

BARC continued its animal rescue services, by providing animal ambulance service to injured and sick free dogs and occasional large animals (cows, horses, mules, pigs, goats). BARC is also utilizing the three vehicles owned by Hendrik Visser and Marianne Guillet, for free, for animal rescues, daily dog food collection, weekly vegetable/fruit collection for the macaque monkeys staff movement and for daily operations.

Over 2014 BARC provided the following animal rescue and treatments:

- Sterilizations: dogs 181 and cats 10.
- In-patient dogs/cats: 211.
- Out-patients dogs/cats: 323.
- Large animals: 7.
- Total animal population at rescue center (year end): 186.
- Macaque monkey population (rehabilitation): 21.

## **The Future: Leaving no Animal Behind!**

### *The new Centre for Animal Happiness!*

The BARC hopes to finalise in 2019 the land lease for the land identified for the new Centre for Animal Happiness (C4AH). BARC also hopes to develop the facility designs and initiate a fundraising campaign over 2019, so construction can start by second half 2019. The C4AH area will have an integrated 24/7 animal hospital for in- and out-patient treatment, as well as an animal rescue and care facility and a sanctuary for animals that will not able to survive without support.

With the C4AH in place, BARC will also implement a community-based dog care and sterilization program, which is to **contribute effectively to controlling the stray dog population in Dzongkhags and major public and tourism areas**, starting in the capital city Thimphu. This will be achieved through sustained and closely monitored sterilisation, full-coverage vaccinations, and de-worming campaigns, coupled with awareness, education and advocacy programmes to create caring relationships between humans (local population and tourists) and dogs.

### *Outreach Programs for Compassion in Action*

BARC will also develop outreach programs for stimulating a society based on a happy and healthy co-existence of humans and dogs. Through the engagement with citizens, and especially children and youth, a large network of animal welfare actors will be established, which will create a larger outreach of the BARC. C4AH programs will include:

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- **Awareness programmes** and events for youth, citizens and hotels/restaurants on all aspects of dog welfare, as well as building a network of hotels/restaurants to look out for sick/injured dogs and to care for dogs within their environment;
- **Educational programmes** and events for schools on all aspects of dog welfare, including establishing school clubs;
- Provide programmes in collaboration with other CSOs, for an **integrated approach to caring for people with social challenges through interaction with dogs**, as e.g.:
  - Work opportunities for the less fortunate in society as e.g. women-in-need (RENEW), former drug-abusers under rehabilitation, interaction between differently abled children and handicapped dogs (e.g. Drak-Tsho, Ability Bhutan);
  - Provide in collaboration with RBP and the judiciary alternative punishment and sentences for juveniles, where they can work as volunteers at the C4AH in lieu of a prison term (we have already created a few opportunities in the past);
  - Training of dogs as special companion animals, e.g. for people suffering from severe anxiety or disabilities;
- **Tourist** visit and meditation programmes for practical exchange with dogs at the C4AH and more in-depth discussions on Gross Animal Happiness;
- Providing opportunities for **volunteer work** and organising events to create practical experiences with caring for dogs, to strengthen the bond between people and dogs;
- **Training of pet owners** on pet care and provision of pet-care services;
- **Behavioural adjustment programmes** for dogs with behavioural challenges and training people how to deal with 'aggressive' stray dog groups and pets (next to the sterilization programmes conducted);

## ***Funding and Sustainability***

The exact financial requirement for building the Centre for Animal Happiness is still to be worked out on detail as part of the design. We hope the Government of Bhutan and Municipalities will also be motivated to contribute to the programmes of the C4AH, considering its clear benefits to human health and animal welfare.

BARC will make every effort to implement a sustainable fundraising program for maintaining its programs and assets. Funds raised both within and outside the country will be utilized in a transparent manner in accordance with the laws governing Civil Society Organizations in Bhutan. The following are some of the elements of the BARC fundraising program:

- Establishing a (small) trust fund for animal welfare in Bhutan;
- Active fundraising through contacting animal welfare organizations and interested individuals;
- An annual membership scheme and targeted fundraising events;
- Collaboration with ethically responsible tourism businesses, by allowing donations through their websites, as well as 'tourist programmes' at the C4AH, to allow visitors to experience a meaningful connection with animals and to contribute to day-to-day care activities;
- A fee structure per sterilized and treated dog from Thromdes, who in essence have the responsibility to provide this service;

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- A fee structure for pet-care activities (e.g. grooming) and training for dog owners on dog care and behaviour;
- Collaboration on programmes with likeminded national and international organizations, who could support in terms of expertise, volunteers and financial contributions;
- Income generating activities, such as sales of animal inspired products.

Furthermore we see many opportunities for people to contribute in-kind to the functioning of the C4AH. Already at present we on a daily basis collect left-over food from larger hotels and restaurants, which is mostly sufficient for feeding our dogs. We also use e.g. hotel's disposed shampoos, bath foam, soaps for cleaning purposes at the rescue facility and e.g. unwanted bed linens, towels and uniforms for creating warm sleeping places for our dogs.

We have experienced a wealth of warmth from many people who help us in many different and important ways, such as running adoption programmes for our recovered dogs, developing PR materials, scouting for sick and injured dogs in town, volunteering for our animal rescue and care facility work, maintenance and programmes, as well as donating food items, buckets, building materials or any other items of use to us.

Building upon the evident compassion present in Bhutan's society, our goal is to create a self-sustaining organization, which over time can continue independently with rescue and care for dogs in need and promote Gross Animal Happiness.

## How you can help

With your help and co-operation, we can continue to provide animal rescue and care services to the numerous stray animals and wildlife in need in Bhutan. Your donations are directly and 100% helping animals in need!

You can volunteer at the shelter and participate in the daily care and rescue. You can also adopt or sponsor an animal and become a BARC member. We are always in need of: (used) blankets, clothes, fabric and buckets; soya chunks, dog dry food and goodies; floor cleaners and bleach.

## Financial Accounts

On the next pages the Financial Accounts of 2018 are presented, which have been audited by the Royal Audit Authority in June 2018, through appointment of the auditing company 'Jigme Audit and Financials Ltd'. The audit took place over May/June 2019 and BARC received the Audit report in July 2018. The RAA assessed that all financial statements of the BARC are in all material respects in accordance with the financial rules and regulations and RAA therefore issued an unmodified or clean audit opinion.

The BARC Board is pleased with the clean audit opinion and will strive to continue to further strengthen performance and transparency. The audited financial accounts for 2018 are presented below.

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### Statement of Receipts and Payments For the year ended 31 Dec. 2018

Receipts	Sch.	2018 Nu.	2017 Nu.	Payments	Sch.	2018 Nu.	2017 Nu.
<b>Opening Balance:</b>				<b>Operating Expenditure:</b>			
Cash in hand		18,747	20,781	Vehicle Registration & Insurance		17,634	10,920
Cash at Bank		748,917	332,773	Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance		61,257	169,202
<b>Sub-Total (A)</b>		<b>767,664</b>	<b>353,554</b>	Fuel Expenses	II	153,506	176,468
<b>Grants Received:</b>				Utility Bills		82,348	69,530
Hendrik Visser- Marianne Guillet		2,110,000	1,460,000	Telephone Charges		60,971	105,624
Other Donations	I	383,882	485,425	Dues & Subscriptions		10,010	3,000
<b>Sub-Total (B)</b>		<b>2,493,882</b>	<b>1,945,425</b>	Advertisement Expenses		5,220	16,851
<b>Other Income:</b>				Other Operating Expenses	III	636,311	215,105
Interest on deposit		39,885	19,039	Repair and Maintenance- Equipment		4,815	-
Income from recycling		9,256	14,946	Medical Supplies		34,648	8,910
<b>Sub-Total (C)</b>		<b>49,141</b>	<b>33,985</b>	Animal Food & Supplies		16,402	90,469
				Salaries	IV	1,045,111	634,221
				<b>Sub-Total (D)</b>		<b>2,128,233</b>	<b>1,500,300</b>
				Purchase of Fixed assets (E)	V	66,050	55,000
				<b>Prior Year Adjustment (F)</b>		<b>10,000</b>	<b>-</b>
				Closing Balance:			
				Cash in hand		15,647	18,747
				Cash at Bank		890,757	748,917
				Advance		200,000	-
				<b>Sub-Total (G)</b>	VI	<b>1,106,404</b>	<b>767,664</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)</b>		<b>3,310,687</b>	<b>2,332,964</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL (D+E+F+G)</b>		<b>3,310,687</b>	<b>2,322,964</b>

Prepared by:

  
Kinlay Gyaltshen  
Executive Officer  
Bhutan Animal Rescue & Care

Approved by:

  
Hendrik Visser  
Secretary  
Bhutan Animal Rescue & Care

Certified by:

  
Jigmi Rinzin (FCCA)  
(ACCA Membership No. 0283308)  
Managing Director  
JIGMI Audit & Financials Pvt. Ltd

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Statement of Fixed Assets as at 31 Dec. 2018

Fixed Assets	2018		2017	
	Unit/ Qty	Net Block Value Nu.	Unit/ Qty	Net Block Value Nu.
Steel cupboard	2	24,416	2	24,416
Cabinet with glass doors & locks	3	45,855	3	45,855
White board	1	2,775	1	2,775
Printer J430W	1	8,701	1	8,701
Computer	1	31,718	1	31,718
Washing Machine	1	46,750	1	50,525
Steel trunk	1	39,064	0	-
Weight Scale	1	8,886	0	-
Water filter	1	10,351	0	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>218,516</b>		<b>163,990</b>

Prepared By:



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