



Cause Kit

The Brown Dog by Eric Khoo

What do you need to know?

There were about 7,000 stray dogs in Singapore in 2017¹ and the numbers are increasing. At Animal Lovers League (ALL) alone, there are over 500 rescue dogs and cats who were once abandoned or abused.

There is currently no public data on the total number of stray animals in Singapore. However, a 2018/19 annual report by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Singapore (SPCA) indicates that the organisation undertook 553 cruelty and welfare investigations and rescued 1,710 animals in that year.

To combat the ever-increasing numbers of stray animals, a five-year sterilisation programme has been rolled out by the Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS) in late 2018 to sterilise 70% of stray dogs to better manage their numbers². A sterilisation programme for cats has been in place since 2014³.

Why should you care?

Abandoned dogs live in harsh and difficult conditions. They face the risk of traffic accidents, starvation and disease. Stray dogs who return to their feral instincts can potentially pose a danger to the public, especially when in packs. They are also a potential carrier of diseases like rabies⁴.

And yet, when treated with care in a proper home, animals can provide comfort and solace. Caring for an animal combats loneliness, reduces stress, lowers your risks of diseases and illnesses such as heart diseases and allergies⁵.

Where is help available?

Animal Lovers League (ALL) is a registered charity and a strictly no-kill shelter to over 500 dogs and cats. Registered in 2002 by Cathy Strong and Mohan Div, ALL carries out tasks such as caring for the homeless animals, treating sick animals by bringing them for veterinary treatments, as well as sterilising and vaccinating them against illnesses.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals, Singapore (SPCA) is a registered charity and a shelter for stray, abandoned and unwanted pets. It provides various

¹ Straits Times (2017) [Joint effort to manage stray dog population in Singapore](#)

² Straits Times (2017) [AVA to roll out 5-year sterilisation programme to manage stray dog population](#)

³ Straits Times (2015) [Stray cat sterilisation programme to be rolled out by SPCA on June 1](#)

⁴ Straits Times (2017) [Joint effort to manage stray dog population in Singapore](#)

⁵ Reader's Digest [10 Incredible Benefits of Owning a Pet](#)

animal welfare services to the community including animal cruelty and welfare investigations, 24-hour emergency animal rescue, complementary veterinary care and spray/neuter surgeries for community animals, education talks, seminars and workshops and advocacy for wildlife.

Causes for Animals is a no-kill animal shelter. They provide animal-assisted therapy for the needy in society, as well as financial aid to pet owners-in need. Causes for Animals also provides long-term medical care for street and shelter dogs, and works towards their goal of a stray-free Singapore. They also run education programmes to help organisations and individuals in the community understand animal welfare issues in Singapore.

How can you help?

Support ALL by giving all animals a chance to be loved. Adopt or foster an animal or be a volunteer and/or donor. If you are unable to keep an animal of your own, consider sponsoring one instead.

Be A Volunteer

Volunteer at an animal shelter or foster an animal. A helping hand is always needed to clean and maintain the shelter facilities, as well as feed, shower and walk the dogs. Other kinds of help are needed as well, such as volunteers for events, transport services and design/writing/photography.

Be A Donor

ALL constantly needs donation to sustain the shelter and the animals. Monetary contributions, monthly pledges and in-kind food donations for the cats and dogs are needed.

If you are unable to adopt or keep a pet at home, you may choose to sponsor a cat or a dog. It entitles you visits to your chosen animal on a weekly basis, whilst providing for the animal with the necessities he or she needs.