

That said, we are trying to cut the noise.
Johan Sathyadas

HOMEO AND JULIET

... Only this Juliet also swears by Chinese, Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha treatments as well, when it comes to treating pet animals



Juliet Decaestecker

Purnima.Sah@timesgroup.com

Do not cure your pet with pills and injection; understand their body condition and check their diet, says 35-year-old Belgian veterinarian, Juliet Decaestecker. Juliet, mother of three girls, married to Jean Francois,

trade commissioner, Belgian Consulate, Chennai, moved with her family to Chennai last year along with their two Border Collies, 13-year-old Illy and three-year-old Bandit. Today, Juliet is known for her Chinese medicine treatment like acupuncture, and combination of Indian folk medicine to treat ani-

imals in and around the city.
FIRST LOVE: ANIMALS AND NATURE

"My grandparents were farmers and my parents taught us to respect and preserve the ecosystem. As a 14-year-old, I often used to volunteer in the clinics of veterinary doctors and surgeons. I was given

IT SADDENS ME TO SEE THAT INDIANS BLINDLY LOOK UP TO WESTERN MEDICINES. WHAT SURPRISES ME IS THAT WHEN AN INDIAN TALKS ABOUT FOLK MEDICINE, NO ONE BELIEVES HIM OR HER, BUT WHEN A WHITE-SKINNED VET FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY TALKS ABOUT MEDICINES THAT HAVE BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR CENTURIES, THEY BELIEVE THEM

small jobs like holding animals and cleaning their cages. Later, I decided to take up Veterinary Studies at the University of Liege, Belgium. Today, I have a diploma in Allopathic Veterinary," shares Juliet.

HOW IT STARTED

"I once saw a dog being brought into a clinic; it was stiff and in acute pain. When it walked out of the acupuncture clinic, it had the energy of a young puppy. This amazed me, and I started researching on all the systems of medicine, be it homeopathy, Chinese medicine, acupuncture, naturopathy or food sciences," says Juliet. She called acupuncturist Dr. Emiel Vandembosch, one of the founding fathers of Veterinary Acupuncture in Europe, who also started the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society (IVAS) for certified courses in Belgium; and the Belgian Veterinary

Acupuncture Society (BEVAS) in 1990. Juliet went on to study Chinese medicine under him.

TRAVELLING ACROSS THE WORLD TO TREAT ANIMALS AND PRE-SERVE THE ECOSYSTEM

A world tour for nearly four years with her husband was enlightening – the more she travelled, the more she gathered knowledge about native and indigenous healing systems throughout the world. "The world tour was primarily to help protect endangered species in their natural habitats and to work with local communities to protect their ecosystems. I had the chance to work in remote areas and with locals who understood their terrain rather well. It became very clear to me that everywhere in the world, ancient traditional medical practices are being followed."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3