

## FEATURE

# On a journey...

One night when it's raining hard, we hear a scraping noise and then a loud thud outside and find Pikachu on the ground outside. She's obviously just fallen off the roof and is crawling soaking wet along the ground, dragging her back legs behind her. She's just a couple of weeks off giving birth, so she's extremely heavy at her back end, which is probably the reason why she fell off the roof, as her sense of balance was altered and it must have been extremely slippery. I am nervous about her legs, but because she can put a little pressure

birthday. It's the last days of monsoon and the rain is now constant and the ground, soaking wet, something we used to face every year at her birthday when she was growing up in the different parts of the Himalayas we've lived in over the years. She wants to hold the party outside around a fire, but how are we going to do that if it's raining! However, on the morning of her birthday the sky clears up and after tidying up the area of all the debris after the rain at the end of the terrace at the level of the door of our house where we

the summer. He's now 5 months old and I'm surprised at how integrated he is with Luxa, staying very calm and close to him, often on his lap and not running off anywhere!

In order to find potential adoptees for our other kittens, we put up a notice in 'Bread of Life', a fairly new café located around 30 minutes from us, where many foreigners go to get their coffee, bread and bakery items. Run by a South American couple, one Bolivian and the other from Chile, the quality of their baking is of a much higher standard to that which you generally find here. This is understandable, as baking in the sense of making cakes and bread is not an indigenous culture of India, but one that of late has been successfully imported from the Western world, so that now many Indians are integrating it into their lives too. We leave a notice declaring 'Kittens for Adoption' with Alexi's phone number on it, but just a few days later, Alexi goes off on a motorbike with her friends, Luxa, Diksha and Prabal to visit Zanskar, Leh and more isolated parts of Himachal Pradesh where the phone reception is not so good. However, before reaching the remoter parts, she gets a call from a guy in a nearby village to us, who wants a cat for his homestay. He comes over to see the kittens and says he will take one of Tashima's or Darkie's little kittens, who are now only 1 month old, after 1 month when he gets back from a trip he's about to go on. Then within a few days, Alexi bumps into him in the main town of Zanskar! Soon after that, she gets another call from a family in Manali, who come over to choose a kitten and end up taking the little grey kitten that Jamyang had saved after his mother, Honey had gone a bit mad one night.

I am seriously thinking about going to Bosnia on my way over to the UK, to buy a house there with a little land. Wendy is there right now and says she can give me some advice. I am waiting for the funds to land any day now, but still don't have them yet and because I won't be able to make any decisions unless the money is on my account, decide to wait until it is. I am, however, extremely glad to hear that England is not going to introduce a vaccine passport there as had been previously planned. Phew! Well, for now at least, because they may still introduce it later on depending on the Covid situation. This is something that is making

me nervous about buying a house in the UK, as if such laws come into place, then going there and staying there even for short periods of time will not be fun. A new travel system however, will come into effect by the beginning of October, in which it will become much easier for Covid vaccinated people to travel without any restrictions, but harder (or rather the same as now) for unvaccinated people. This is annoying, but doable, but it's still so uncertain what will

my 'Universal Osmosis' book and get into working on the 'Circle of Immortality'. I have already fully described the in depth meaning of the 'Circle of Immortality' art piece in my book, 'The Pyramid Spiral, Dance of the Five Elements' and although the 'Circle of Immortality' is not strictly speaking a photo collage art piece and due to that, does not really belong in this book, I still need to have something about it in 'Universal Osmosis', because it is totally



Alexi on the back of a motorbike on a trip to Zanskar, India

on them and they're not completely limp, I am more immediately concerned that she'll have a miscarriage there and then that will involve internal bleeding. We bring her inside, but there's nothing we can do except wait to see what happens. For around 3 days she is still not able to really pick her body up from the ground, but then after the 4th, albeit limping badly, just gets up and walks.

Finally her kittens are born and seem absolutely okay, but like the lot in September last year, Pikachu rejects them, and wants to stay on the balcony with the older kittens that she is treating as her own kittens rather than the newborns. She's acting exactly the same as she did last year, but this time cannot jump up into the roof area of the house where she abandoned those of last year. We try to feed the three little ones with the powdered kitten milk we have in stock, but they cannot feed properly from the bottle and we lose them one by one. Usually when a mother cat rejects her kittens it's because she knows they cannot survive. Perhaps she knows what we do not know, that they are simply are too small, or whatever else?

Alexi organizes a party for her 25th

usually sit, she creates a place where the fire can go by demarcating it with stones and putting stools and other random seats from the house around the fire area where the guests can sit. When I go to Nagger in the morning, I get some snack items and Alexi makes a cake, then during the early part of the evening, Jeanne and I cook up two huge bowls of pasta (with optional chilli!), which goes down well. We blow up balloons and Reena's niece and nephew play around with them, popping them. Luxa brings Tashima's kitten, who's now called, Kotya (Russian for 'cat'), who he adopted from us earlier in



Susan's "Circle of Immortality" art piece, 2006



Susan working on her computer at the cafe in Naggur, Kullu-Manali valley, India

come in the near future with regards to more testing and quarantining. Now, I will just have to go slower when I travel!

After our 2nd Somatic Intelligence weekend, we're now put into small groups of 4, with 1 assistant teacher for each of our groups. For this month's assignment, I have to take a session from our assistant, Am-

intertwined into how I made my first two pictures, 'Two Keys, One Lock' and 'Pure Vision, transformed into Organised Confusion' around the same time.

This works out really well, because I am simultaneously working on updating the 'Installations' section of my website, finally creating a comprehensive description in which I explain what I am trying to ultimately achieve with my Installations. I call the page, 'Conscious Installation Devices' and explain that I want to create installation pieces that double up as beneficial devices that work together with our human consciousness. This makes me review the other installation pieces, including 'Crystal of Time' and 'The Magician's Jewel', in which I revise their descriptions as well as my aspirations for them as devices, and then add in some photos of the model of 'The Magician's Jewel' that Jamyang and I are currently making. Even though for a long time, I've already been defining these 3 pieces as 'Installation Devices', I haven't been able to really clearly describe what function they would actually perform and now it's becoming clearer!

Because my mind is focusing on these things these days, I also start working on my hypothesis regarding the upgrading of the 'Circle of Immortality' art piece into a device. To do this, I'll be adding a mirror upside down at its apex, which needs to be ordered, cut to size and then fixed on top of the apex of the existing art piece. But how on Earth to do that?!

To be continued...

For all previous editions of Susan's story, 'On a Journey...', please go to: [www.pyramidkey.com/readsusansarticleshere/](http://www.pyramidkey.com/readsusansarticleshere/)



Jamyang feeding Pikachu's tiny newborn kittens, Shanti Bhanan, Kullu-Manali

reet, who has already gone through the whole program last year, as well as give sessions to 2 of the 3 other members of my group. To discuss this, we get together on a short Zoom call to book up session times with each other and then do them throughout the coming weeks. In my session with Amreet, I raise the problem of feeling panicky about a trip to the UK and that I instinctively don't really want to go at this time. Actually this has been bothering me for a long time, but the fact that I feel I do not have a choice, is making me feel claustrophobic.

I am still going to Naggur every morning and during this period, complete this round of editing of the 'Pure Vision, Transformed into Organised Confusion' section of