

## Finding the Perfect Pooch 搜寻你的完美宠物

It's no secret that Americans love pets. But there is a **darker side** to the world of animal ownership that many people aren't aware of. Of the eight million pets that are **admitted to** U.S. animal **shelters** each year, nearly three million are **put to death** because they are not **adopted**. That's why animal lovers throughout the nation have launched two **campaigns** to help these **adorable** creatures find homes before they are [euthanized](#).

美国人喜爱宠物这件事，一向都不是秘密，但是对拥有动物的这个领域来说，多数人都不知道其中更黑暗的一面。每年都有八百万只宠物被送进美国动物收容所，其中将近三百万只因为无人领养而被处死。这就是为什么美国的动物爱好者发起两项活动，希望在这些可爱的生物被处以安乐死之前，能帮助牠们找到各自的家。

The first campaign is the [Shelter Pet Project](#). It aims to educate people about the **plight** of animals **confined** in shelters and also encourages them to adopt an animal from a shelter rather than buy from a pet shop. To **get the point across**, the campaign uses funny, **animated** TV commercials.

第一项活动是「收容所宠物计划」，旨在让民众了解被关在收容所里的动物惨况，并鼓励民众从收容所里领养宠物，而非从宠物店购买。为了传达这样的观点，这项活动采用了滑稽逗趣的动画电视广告。

Another effort that helps pets find new homes is Adopt Your **Doggie Double**. Potential **pooch** owners can visit a special website and find their **doggie doppelganger** through [facial recognition technology](#). First, the person uploads their image to the website. Then, special software scans a database of available pets in the area and matches the person with a similar-looking pet. In a 24-hour period in March, over 170,000 people found their "**long-lost twins**" through this innovative approach.

另一项为帮助宠物找到新家所做的努力是「领养你的双胞胎狗狗」活动。想成为狗狗饲主的民众，可以去浏览一个特别的网站，藉由这个网站的脸部辨识科技，找到与自己长相极为相似的狗狗。第一步，网络用户先将自己的影像上传到该网站，接下来，一种特殊的软件就会扫描可供领养宠物的数据库，配对出与网络用户相像的宠物。在三月某一天的 24 小时里，这个创新的方法让超过十七万的人找到自己「失散已久的双胞胎」。

Hopefully these campaigns will **enlighten** people about the difficult **conditions** at many animal shelters in the U.S., and around the world. Maybe someday soon, **would-be** pet owners in Taiwan will have a similar resource for discovering their own doggie **doubles**.

希望这些活动能让民众更明白，美国和世界各地许多动物收容所的困境。或许不久以后，想成为宠物饲主的台湾民众，也能有类似的资源帮助他们找到自己的双胞胎狗狗。

— by Jamie Blackler

**pooch** [pu:tʃ] n. <美俚>狗, 杂种狗

**shelter** [ˈʃeltə] n. 收容所

**campaign** [kæmˈpeɪn] n. 活动

**adorable**: [əˈdɔrəbəl] adj. 【口】可爱的 delightful, lovable, and charming

**plight**: [plaɪt] n. 困境 a condition of extreme hardship, danger, etc

**confine** [kənˈfaɪn] v. 禁闭

**doggie** [ˈdɒɡɪ] n. 狗; 小狗

**doppelganger**: [ˈdɒpəlˌɡæŋɡə] n. 面貌极相似的人 match; identical part or thing

**long-lost**: [ˈlɒŋlɒst] adj. 遗失了很长时间的 a long-lost person, especially a relative, is someone who you have not seen for a long time

**enlighten** [ɪnˈlaɪtn] v. 启发, 启迪

**would-be**: [ˈwʊdˌbi] adj. 想要成为的 desiring, attempting, or professing to be

**double**: [ˈdʌbəl] n. 酷似的人或物 one that closely resembles another; a duplicate

## Idiom

**dark side of someone or something**: 黑暗的一面 the negative and often hidden aspect of someone or something

**admit to**: 允许(某人)进入... to allow entering some place

**put someone or some creature to death**: 处死 to kill someone or some creature

**get across**: (使)被理解 to make understandable or clear