



July Newsletter

Fat Fluffs is a rabbit rescue and sanctuary based in Solihull in the West Midlands. We take in all sorts of rabbits and, as far as possible, we find them loving forever homes. For those with more challenging personalities, or continuing health problems, we provide sanctuary for them here and they stay as part of our family.

www.fatfluffs.com

Please remember to check out our website and blog for regular news and updates. We also have an online shop



Recycle your Mobiles & Cartridges



As well as helping the environment, Fat Fluffs can benefit from recycling your mobiles and printer cartridges.

Contact vickie@fatfluffs.com for more details



Please support Fat Fluffs on ebay

ebay sellers can support us by donating a percentage of the item sale to support FF. We now have official charity status through 'Mission Fish'

Half Marathon Success

A big thank you to Gillian & Matt for their fundraising. They raised over £500 for Fat Fluffs.

[twitter](https://twitter.com/fatfluffs) www.twitter.com/fatfluffs

Dates for your diary 2009

Sheldon Country Park

Sheldon – July 26th

Asda Bag Pack

Asda Small Heath – 19th September

Solihull Festival

Brueton Park – September 27th

Kenilworth Tin Shake

Kenilworth – 17th October

Rocky Rabbit Fun Run

Mercia Mile – October 25th

More dates to be confirmed

If you know or hear of any events we could attend during 2009 we'd love to hear from you. Please contact abi@fatfluffs.com

Fat Fluffs First Birthday Party



Saturday 27th June was forecast to rain from 13:00 onwards but it turned out to be a lovely day and we celebrated our first birthday with warm weather, great food and great company! Thank you to everyone who accepted our invite and came along to enjoy the day with us and the Fluffs it was lovely to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

Toby and Lucy manned the BBQ and delivered some gorgeous food, Abi and Lea kept the kids entertained with party games and face-painting, Vickie's tombola was very popular and most of the bunny treats went home to be enjoyed.

Pride of place was our gorgeous birthday cake, made especially for us by Andrea of Hot Cakes. Not only was it beautiful it was absolutely scrummy too and just what was needed with a large cup of tea after such a busy day!

We are delighted to say we raised over £800 on the day but even better is that eight bunnies were reserved and, pending home-checks, will be off to their new homes in the not too distant future which is great.

Thank you again to everyone who came and even bigger thank you to everyone who put time and effort in behind the scenes to make the party happen - we couldn't have done it without you.

Chloe





Rocky Rabbit Needs You!

Rocky Rabbit has recruited a team of 9 intrepid adventurers to take part in the Fort Dunlop Abseil Challenge with him on 18th/19th July to raise funds for Fat Fluffs.

Since signing up the team have been working very hard to seek out sponsors to support their madcap adventure. To date, Rocky & his 9 fellow team mates have drummed up a total of £1239 between them!!!

On top of this the group effort has so far raised £102 of a £250 target. That's a serious amount of cash to help Fat Fluffs progress the work we do. The overall aim is to reach £2500 so although we've tipped the half-way point we still have quite a way to go and not much time left until the BIG day, which is where **YOU** come in. We need the help of our supporters to get us to our goal by sponsoring the team effort so please visit our fundraising page and make your pledge now at www.justgiving.com/teamfluffabseil



A few clicks are all it takes to make a donation using a credit or debit card. Whatever amount you can spare will make a BIG difference to the Fat Fluffs bunnies.

We're still recruiting daring participants & if you feel you can take the Fort Dunlop Challenge to help the team raise even more money please contact sally@fatfluffs.com for sign-up information

Sally

If you've adopted and wouldn't mind sharing your story, we'd love to hear from you. Please send your story and, if possible, a photo to abi@fatfluffs.com. It would be great to hear how your buns are doing. More stories can be found at fatfluffs.com/articles.



Poppet

pudding is the perfect house bunny, he sits on our lap, licks us and chills out on the rug...but we realised he was lonely when we had to go out for work everyday!

That's when we discovered Fat Fluffs; we instantly found Poppet (then named Jackie) and absolutely fell in love with her.

After lots of e-mails, we finally took Pudding to go and meet her. It wasn't quite love and first sight...there was a lot of chasing over the first couple of weeks but they've finally settled together and now never lie apart-they're always licking each other and binkying together!

We've still got quite a way to go to get Poppet as confident as Pudding is but I'm sure we'll do it with time. She already gives us little nose rubs and licks, and she loves sprawling out on the rug too with her husband!

Fat Fluffs have constantly been there through the whole process-in person, by email, by text and telephone. We have recommended Fat Fluffs to everybody and will continue to do so! Thank you Fat Fluffs for our "kids"

Fat Fluffs 200th Bunny Adoption



Ellie was very unhappy and quite aggressive when she got here, but calmed down a lot after her spay and plenty of TLC from the Fat Fluffs helpers. She's still a girl with attitude though!

Ellie's new loving home is with Deb who traveled from Stockport to Solihull after seeing Ellie on the Fat Fluffs website, www.fatfluffs.com.

Deb had a single rabbit, Harry, and was looking for a new friend for him. She bought Harry down to Solihull to meet Ellie. Vickie, a Trustee at Fat Fluffs, spent time gradually introducing them to ensure that they were happy and confident in each other's company.

Vickie said *'The bond was very easy. For the first 12 hours Harry wouldn't leave Ellie alone, but there was no aggressive behaviour. Once Harry got used to having Ellie around they loved to flop alongside each other, with no chasing or nipping, so I was quite happy to let them go back together to their new home as best friends'*.

As a bonus, www.thehayexperts.com had kindly donated a 200th adoption celebration gift, which contained lots of healthy rabbit goodies, which was presented to Deb when she collected them both.

Deb now has the rabbits back in Stockport and confirmed that they're getting along wonderfully together.

'My setup allows them to pretty much do as they please, without too much interference from me if they don't want it. They have a large two-storey hutch, and a huge outside run. I now have a very happy bunny couple who have greeted me this morning eager for their breakfast'

Ellie arrived at Fat Fluffs in a cardboard box with 14 other unwanted rabbits. She became the 200th Fat Fluffs rescue rabbit to find a new home.

Chloe described how Ellie arrived. *'The previous owners had 15 unwanted rabbits and asked me if I could take them in.*

They didn't have a car so they boxed them up and bought them on the bus and the train. The bottom fell out of the box on the journey, so they had to turn it over and tape it up during their trip.

The bunnies didn't know each other and I didn't know who had been living with whom and none of them were neutered. They were taken to be checked over by a vet, vaccinated and neutered or spayed where necessary, before being featured on the Fat Fluffs website to hopefully find new homes.

Get Knitting!

An easy way to support Fat Fluffs if you can knit. If you would like to try a bunny pattern, please contact vickie@fatfluffs.com.



Name the Mascot Competition

Congratulations to Helen from Stoke who entered our "Name the Mascot" competition during the Ultimate Pet Show at the NEC. Our Fat Fluffs mascot now christened ROCKY, after her own rabbit.

Raise funds as you search

Use easysearch every time you search the web and Fat Fluffs will get 50% of the fees paid by sponsors. fatfluffsrr.easysearch.org.uk





Fat Fluffs Events Update

We're just over half way through 2009 and what a busy year of events it has been for Fat Fluffs!

The French lops - Spring, Autumn, Simeon and Moses attracted lots of attention, not to mention Rocky Rabbit playing football and dancing!



In May we were given the most amazing opportunity – an invitation to appear at The Ultimate Pet Show at the NEC! Marc Abraham of thepet.net asked us to share his stand and after a few frantic weeks of planning we enjoyed three fantastic days at the show.

Each day we took Fat Fluffs bunnies with us and chatted to literally hundreds of people about the rescue and re-homing work that we do. We certainly raised the profile of Fat Fluffs that bank holiday weekend and raised a few funds for the bunnies too through donations and keyring sales.



Later in May the "Black Country Fluffs" braved a rainy weekend at Hawne Canal Basin, near Halesowen.



Sadly Fat Fluffs' appearance at the Solihull Carnival was a complete wash-out but the following day at Solihull College Open Day was a great success. Again the big buns entertained and the tombola went down-a-storm.

Knowle Fete followed on June 20th. The new pop-up gazebos flew up and we enjoyed a great day of face-painting and badge making, alongside the ever-successful tombola, the French lop kids and Rocky. There were rain showers throughout the day, but that didn't deter a huge crowd from visiting our stall.

July began successfully with a visit to Tidbury Green School fete. Again the tombola was a great fundraiser plus the children loved making their own Fat Fluffs badges. This month also sees the North Solihull Festival in Chelmsley Wood, Hockley Heath Fete and an event at Sheldon Country Park. And already the calendar is filling up with events for later in the year ... see the dates for your diary section for more details.

Abi

Vets Corner



Flystrike – Protect your rabbit

The warm weather is finally here & so is the deadly risk of flystrike. The fly season is usually between April to October, although flystrike can happen at any time of the year. Flies lay eggs on material to provide the maggots with food, this is usually around the rabbits hindquarters.

Eggs can hatch into maggots in as little as 12 hours. They eat into the rabbit's flesh within 24 hours & this is often fatal for the rabbit.

Any rabbit can get flystrike but those at a higher risk are the ones who suffer from dirty bottoms, wet fur, wounds, overweight, dental problems, large dewlaps, runny eyes, old rabbits, & rabbits living in dirty conditions. These rabbits should have their bottoms checked twice a day. All rabbits should be checked at least once a day.

If you find your rabbit has maggots, telephone your vets immediately as it is an emergency.

Pick off any maggots with tweezers but do not bathe the rabbit as the fur may need to be clipped off.

You can protect your rabbit by using Rearguard from your vet his prevents flystrike for up to 10 weeks. Remove soiled bedding everyday, check your rabbits rear end daily, fit fly-screens to hutches.

Flystrike is a very serious condition, rabbits are in severe pain & shock. Make sure you protect your rabbit today!

Our vet's corner section is written by Sarah Overy, who has worked in veterinary practice for 12 years. She is presently employed as a ANA at the Beeches Veterinary practice in Wiltshire and kindly will be writing an article for each newsletter. Thank you Sarah!

Can you spare a little time?

We have lots of events planned for 2009, and if you could spare us an hour or two to rattle a tin or help support the team, please email abi@fatfluffs.com and we'll be sure to put you to good use!

Thank you for helping our rabbits

Some of the rabbits that come to us are either too unwell to be rehomed or have some emotional scars that just won't heal, so they stay here to be looked after and live happy lives. They are all neutered, as long as they are well enough, vaccinated routinely and given the vet care they need.

If you would like to help support us in looking after these bunnies then please consider sponsoring a bunny for a year. It only costs £15.

It is easy to do, just hit the donate button at the top right of the home page at www.fatfluffs.com.

Alternatively, please complete this form and send it to us together with your donation. It could also make a great gift for someone who loves bunnies or for someone who already has everything!



- I enclose a cheque for £..... as a donation.
- I would like to fundraise for Fat Fluffs. Please contact me.

Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Signature Date

- I wish to gift aid this donation and any further donations to Fat Fluffs.
- If you do not wish to receive any future Fat Fluffs information please tick here.

Please make your cheque payable to 'Fat Fluffs Rabbit Rescue' and send it to :
Fat Fluffs Rabbit Rescue. 9 Moat Lane, Solihull, West Midlands. B91 2LN

Donate today