



June 2012 Newsletter

Welcome to our new Volunteer Co-Ordinator

As summer approaches we are starting to get very busy again with many events both locally and internally; we have been privileged to be invited back to many we have been to in the past and new ones too. As we continue to build relationships and promote the work we do we are really excited to welcome a new team member on board.

Debbie and her daughter Lana foster for us but have the special role of looking after our very poorly rabbits and now Debbie has kindly agreed to be our volunteer co-ordinator. She has already proved herself to be invaluable to us at HQ having taken over the enrolment of new volunteers as well as ensuring our current ones are happy and being well looked after.

At Fat Fluffs we are always looking to expand our ideas and broaden the way we work so if you think you might have some spare time to support us then please do drop Debbie an email at volunteer@fatfluffs.com and she will be more than happy to hear from you.

Chloe Fluff

On Your Bike!!



On the 15th September 2012 16 workers from Birmingham Airport are putting foot to pedal to cycle 100 miles to raise some money for the Fat Fluff bunnies. Please take a look at their fundraising page and consider sponsoring them or even joining them!!

<https://www.charitygiving.co.uk/bhxbikers>

Call for volunteers

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers, with a mixture of skills, backgrounds and qualities, who might like to be involved in a new and exciting Fat Fluffs fundraising campaign.

If you are interested and would like more details please contact sarah@fatfluffs.com

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.



Events Update

On Bank Holiday Monday, May 7th Team Fluff descended on the marquee at Hatton Country World for our annual Fat Fluffs' Bunny Bonanza. The weather wasn't smiling on us, sadly, but that didn't deter us as we packed the space with bunnies, fundraising games and our trading merchandise. Thanks to some willing volunteers donning the suit, Rocky, our huge bunny mascot, circulated around the Shopping Village encouraging



people to pop in and say hello to the sanctuary and rescue buns. There were lots of tombola and lucky box winners whilst Lucy painted numerous faces and made fabulous balloon models. The trading stall sold gifts for bunnies and 'two-foots', whilst Kat and Crafty Miss Kitty ran a competition to guess the weight of the bracelet. There was a steady stream of visitors during the day and we were thrilled to discover that we had taken around £600 for the bunnies. A long but very successful day, thanks to the support of some great volunteers!

Then on Friday, May 18th we hosted our 3rd charity pub quiz at The Highwood in Solihull. Almost 60 quizzers were there, exercising their grey matter and, perhaps most importantly (!), enjoying a delicious fish and chip supper, supplied by Solihull Fish Bar. There was plenty of excitement with the Irish Bingo and raffle too. As always, it was a close-run-thing, but Team 'Tastes like Chicken' were victorious! This fun event raised a brilliant £274 for Fat Fluffs and we will definitely host another quiz in the autumn, so keep an eye out for the date!

Don't forget - if you want to know about forthcoming Fat Fluffs' events then remember that www.fatfluffs.com/donate/events is kept updated!

It's hard to believe that yet ANOTHER year has flown by, but it has! So we would like to invite you to join us for our 4th birthday celebrations on Sunday, July 1st at FF HQ in Solihull between 11am and 4pm. There will be a BBQ plus lots of bunnies to meet, plenty of shopping for you and your bun plus some fundraising fun too. Full details are on the blog: www.fatfluffs.com/blog and if you plan to join us, please RSVP via

www.tinyurl.com/FF4BP

so that we can cater appropriately. Thanks!
Really hope to see you there.

Abi Fluff

Dates for your diary

July

Sunday July 1st Fat Fluffs 4th Birthday Party (and open day_ at FFHQ, Solihull. 11am-4pm

Saturday July 7th – St Michael's School Summer Extravaganza, Rowley, Regis

Sunday July 8th – Hockley Heath Summer Fete, Hockley Heath Recreation Ground

Saturday July 21st – Vets4Pets Halesowen, Olympic Pets Day

Sunday July 29th – Sheldon Country Festival

More dates to be confirmed

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

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'

twitter www.twitter.com/fatfluffs

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.



Fat Fluffs Calendar Competition



This year Fat Fluffs is looking for some photogenic buns to feature in our popular calendar for 2013! We have 12 months to fill, as well as our front page, and it could be your bun taking the spotlight!

We have 12 different categories, one for each month, and you can enter as many different categories as many times as you like. Each entry is £1 a go and the winners of each category will be the bun of the month as well as receiving a prize. The overall winner will feature on their month, as well as the front page, and receive the top prize of their picture on canvas courtesy of Christabel Photography.

So get your camera out and get snapping – we look forward to receiving your entries. See below for “T’s and C’s” and payment details.

January – Snow Bunny
February – Somebunny to Love
March – Easter Bun
April – Binky into Spring!
May – Big Bunny Bond
June – Cheeky Bun

July – Friendship Buns
August – Summer Bun
September – Play Time!
October – Autumnal Bun
November – Sleepy Bun
December – Christmas Bun

The “T’s and C’s”

- All titles are open to your own interpretation – there is no right or wrong.
- All photos should be submitted via email to comp@fatfluffs.com
- All photos must be submitted by the photographer or with their owners permission
- All winning photos must be available as originals with a minimum dpi of 150 - any queries contact Christabel on christabel@christabelphotography.co.uk
- The judges decision is final and will be Christabel from Christabel Photography
- Payment can be made by cheque to Fat Fluffs Rabbit Rescue, 9 Moat Lane, Solihull, B91 2LN – please note the competition on the back of the cheque and any relevant names / user names.
- Payment can be made online via this link - <https://www.charitygiving.co.uk/ffcalendarcomp>
- Please include the reference number you receive as a receipt with your photo entry.
- The closing date for final entries to be submitted is 17th August 2012 and the winners will be notified via email by the 31st August 2012.

Storage Space Needed

Fat Fluffs are really struggling for storage space at the moment, in particular for storing spare hutches for fosterers. If there is anyone local who could offer us some space to help us out we would be extremely grateful. If you can help please email us at team@fatfluffs.com

Unwanted Gifts Always Gratefully Received!

Please think about donating any of your unwanted gifts or other items to the Fat Fluffs tombola as this is a very successful fundraiser for us. If you have anything you can donate please e-mail team@fatfluffs.com.

Thank you!

Can you spare a little time?

We have lots of events planned. 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!

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



Our Fat Fluffs sanctuary is home to numerous bunnies who cannot be rehomed for medical or social reasons. Arnold, Charlie Too, Dawn, Stripe and Nosey will live in the barn for the remainder of their natural lives. Dental bunnies Laurel and Beckham live in long-term foster care. All seven of these bunnies are looking for generous people to sponsor then through our “Sponsor-a-bun” scheme.

To sponsor a long-term bunny we ask for a £24 donation for the year – this can be a one-off payment or you can set-up a standing order for £2/month. You will receive a welcome pack including a 2012 FF calendar, details of your chosen sponsor bun, a coaster, a keyring and a FF badge plus your bunny will send you a surprise on your birthday and at Christmas. Throughout the year your chosen bunny will then e-mail you new photographs and updates of what they have been up to

Sponsoring a bunny makes an unusual gift for someone who has everything – and they're always very welcome to come along to FF and meet their bun!

For more details click on ‘Sponsor a Bun’ on the website menu or go to: www.fatfluffs.com/donate/sponsor





A Big Step Forward In Rabbit Vaccines

By Cat Henstridge BVSc MRCVS

Vaccinating your rabbit regularly is vital; it gives them protection against Myxomatosis and RHD (Rabbit Viral Hemorrhagic Disease), both of which are fatal diseases. There are 12,000 reported cases of Myxomatosis every year and although RHD is less common it does occur sporadically and is probably under recognised as it often causes sudden death with no other symptoms. Previously, keeping the vaccines up-to-date has meant at least two, if not three, trips a year to the vets but now a new vaccine is on the market which gives 12 months protection against both diseases in a single jab.

This new vaccine has been launched by MSD Animal Health and is now widely available in the UK. It can be

given to all rabbits, even those who have been vaccinated by different makes of vaccine in the past. It has passed several safety tests with very few problems reported and has been



shown to provide high levels of protection against both RHD and Myxomatosis.

I am very excited about this new injection as I am hopeful it will encourage more rabbit owners to vaccinate their rabbits and keep them up to date. Only 46% of bunnies get their primary jabs and even fewer are given them annually. However, the one advantage of the previous vaccine scheme was that it did mean the rabbits that got them came for check-ups at least twice yearly. So, my advice would be that if your vet does move to the combined vaccine, ask if you can take your bun for a once over half way through the year. Many practices offer this sort of service free and as rabbits are so good at hiding illness, having a professional health check to ensure they are as healthy as they look is a very good idea!

Bimble and Clova

Adopted by Evelyn – November 2011

I had never had a rabbit before, as I grew up with many cats, so I did a lot of research on the internet into various breeds and breeders. After talking to a few it became apparent that a lot of the bunnies that were available from breeders were “spares” left over as they weren’t pretty enough or the correct colour. Eventually I came across Fat Fluffs Rabbit Rescue and I knew that this was the place for me!

I adopted Bimble and Clova from Fat Fluffs last November (2011) and since then they have gone from strength to



strength. Happy in their bunny mansion (they have their own shed and a 10 square metre run) they have become much less skittish and are now

much happier being handled, they even sit on my lap every evening to eat their dinner. Since moving to our new house in January they have been able to roam the whole garden and they have really enjoyed being able to run around on the grass. They particularly like lounging on the patio slabs outside their shed in the sunshine.

Thank you Fat Fluffs for bringing my two fluffy friends into my life, they are wonderful and bring me a great deal of happiness. Thank you also for all of the help and support you have given me from start to finish, it has helped no end for a bunny novice like me.

To any Mechanics out there

Fat Fluffs are hoping to purchase a van at some point in the future to help with transporting multiple bunnies to the vets and to help with the general day to day running of the rescue centre. We would really appreciate it if there was a mechanic out there who could spare some time to help us select a safe and reliable van. If you think you could help please contact us at team@fatfluffs.com. Thank you.



Fat Fluffs Trading

We have recently added some new items to our range which include our new Fat Fluffs Mug priced at £5, Rabbit Keyrings priced at £3.75 and our sunglasses/phone pouch priced at £3. Prices do not include postage.

From May 2012 we are pleased to be able to offer you the opportunity to purchase goods directly from our HQ. Next time you are in the area please pop in and see Jo as she has lots of Fat Fluffs Merchandise and bunny treats at hand.

Our top 3 selling items for May were:-

- 5kg bags of Science Selective Pellets
- Fat Fluffs Keyrings
- Fat Fluffs Fridge Magnets

Thank you for your continued support.



Everyone knows it's a hard life being a bunny and everybun needs a holiday now and again, be it a romantic weekend away or a few weeks in the sun...



If you need somewhere for your rabbits to put their paws up for any length of time and for whatever reason, why not give Fat Fluffs a call?

We provide expert care for your rabbits. Experienced staff are on hand at all times to tend to their needs and you can relax knowing they will be well cared for.



Giant breeds and groups are all welcome and will enjoy a relaxed stay with time in the sun and space to kick up their heels!

What are you waiting for? Pack your bunny bags and call Fat Fluffs!

For more details about our Bunny Boarding service, call 07737 218 035

For any other info visit the Fat Fluffs website.



For more information visit our website or email us on team@fatfluffs.com

www.fatfluffs.com

Registered Charity No. 1124870

Sarah Fluff

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 £24.

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