



On Yer Bike!!

It was a beautiful sunny morning, crisp but the sun was out and it promised to be a beautiful day! This was completely missed by eight bleary eyed (potential) cyclists who were now really starting to wonder what they had let themselves in for when they agreed to cycle 100miles for Fat Fluffs!!

After encouragement all round and commitment to the cause by being photographed there was no going back and reluctantly we pushed off. As we gradually started to cycle the chill off, spirits were lifted and we got into a rhythm and even started to enjoy ourselves.



This though was short lived as areas started to ache, legs started to give way and the hills seemed to get steeper. But we made it and it was a massive achievement by all. Amy and James had gone ahead and done an amazing job of marking out the route with our cycle logo so we only got lost the once.

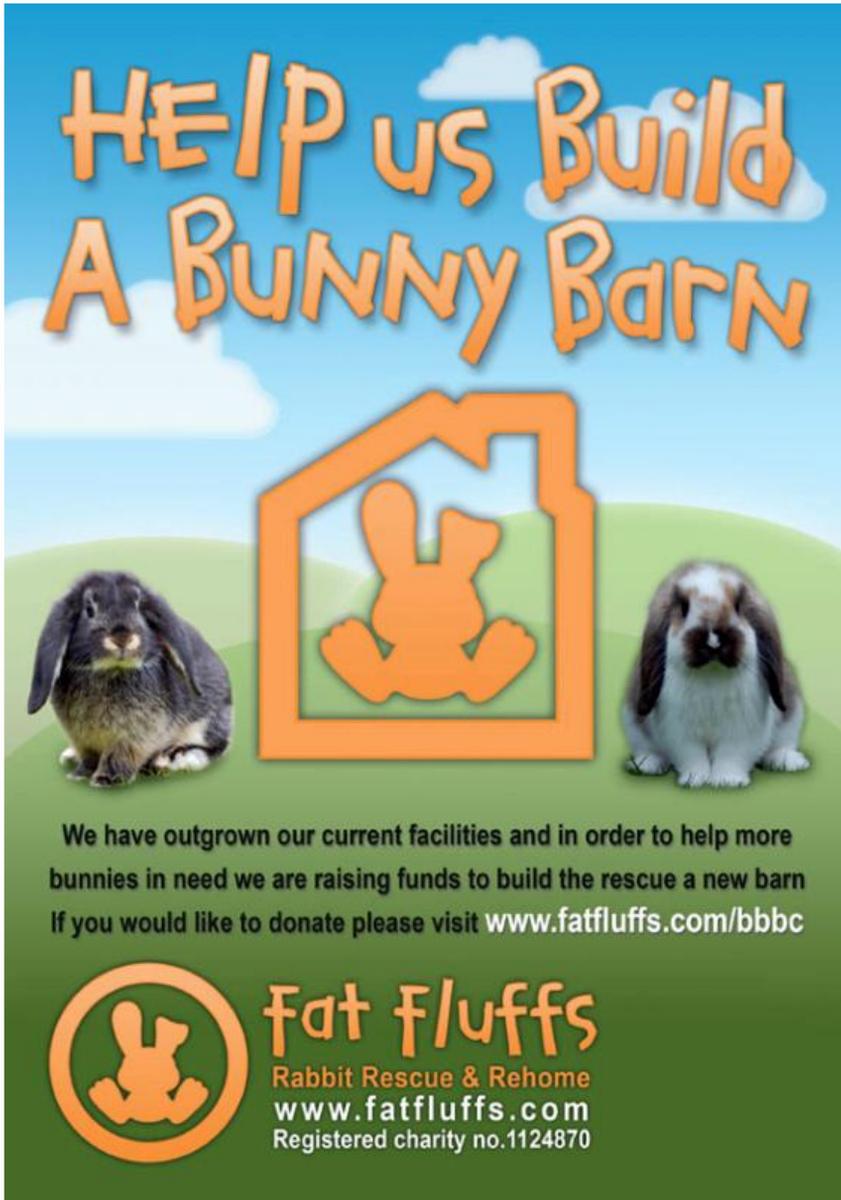
Thank you to all the lads and lasses who took part and thank you to everyone who sponsored us and made the pain worthwhile. We have raised almost £1000 so far and if you would still like to sponsor us then the weblink is still up or alternatively we are collecting for a white elephant stall and tombola to raise further funds and all donations would be gratefully received!

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

Chloe Fluff



Help Fat Fluffs Build a new Bunny Barn!



HELP us Build A BUNNY BARN

We have outgrown our current facilities and in order to help more bunnies in need we are raising funds to build the rescue a new barn
If you would like to donate please visit www.fatfluffs.com/bbbc

 **Fat Fluffs**
Rabbit Rescue & Rehome
www.fatfluffs.com
Registered charity no.1124870

Dates for your diary

November

Thursday November 22nd – A Taste of Christmas – St Michaels, Rowley Regis 6pm-9pm

December

2nd December – Fat Fluffs Christmas Party

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 team@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 connectpr@fatfluffs.com. It would be great to hear how your buns are doing. More stories can be found at fatfluffs.com/articles.

Fat Fluffs Trading

It's been another busy month for the Fat Fluff Shop and our best selling products have been:-

Our Gildan Unisex Zipped Hoodie available in a variety of colours £25 each or £27.27 inc P&P

Excel Apple Snack Treats £1.99 each or £4.19 inc P&P

New Runaround Green Keyrings - £0.50 each and available at all fat fluff events.

Our festive fundraiser is fast approaching and we have decided to have a SALE for the first time and its right before Christmas! All in stock clothing will be at least half price and selected gifts will be too, so come along and grab a bargain!



Sarah



Volunteer News

I would really like to begin by conveying my heartfelt thanks to each and everyone of you who has sent kind thoughts and good wishes following my mum's acute stroke in July. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our Trustees and my fellow ESM's, for their unwavering support, at what has been an incredibly difficult time for me. Chloe and Andy in particular, have given me huge emotional support for which I am forever indebted. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Although nowhere near recovered, my mum is now well and making amazing progress in an intensive stroke rehab program. Having struggled for two months to fulfil my role as volunteer co-ordinator, I am now in a position to take hold of the reins once more and get back up to speed with the team.

I must stress that Lucia has done an amazing job in my absence, which is an incredible feat considering she is very new to her position and was promised and deserved the complete support of her volunteer co-ordinator as she settled into her new role. Well done Lu and huge thanks to you for being so incredibly hard working and understanding in my absence. You can breathe a sigh of relief hun, as I now intend to provide you with the full support required to allow you to flourish as our new site manager!



On to the Volunteer of the Month awards . . .

Under the circumstances, I am going to abandon the individual award for August, instead awarding the whole team the title of 'Volunteers of the Month'!! You have really pulled together and worked very hard, supporting Lucia as she took over from Jo as manager. Well done and thank you to everyone. Choccies are in the conservatory at HQ for everyone!!

The September award goes to a young lady who at only 12 years old demonstrates the dedication, ability & maturity of any adult volunteer.

Volunteer of the month for September is **EMMA AVERY**.

Emma, you are an absolute star. Both you and your parents should be very proud. You are an asset to the weekend team!

Having appointed Volunteer of the Month for September, I would like to give a special mention to my weekend team leaders who do an absolutely fantastic job of running the show on a Saturday & Sunday. Jackie and Lisa are both absolute stars,

and I would really like to stress my gratitude for their unquestionable hard work and commitment!

We are currently recruiting to fill various volunteer positions and the response to appeals has been very successful indeed. Interviews & appointments will be taking place during October and I wish our new volunteers the best of luck as you take on your new roles & duties.

Remember that as your volunteer co-ordinator, please do feel free to contact me at any time and I will do my utmost to support you. Similarly, I would also like to hear positive feedback or any suggestions you have too, so do let me know!

Thanks,

Deb

Welcome to New Volunteers

A big welcome to our new fosterers Kevin Satterthwaite, Rachel Barton and Andrew who have joined the foster team and are great supporters of Fat Fluffs in many other ways too! If you like the idea of caring for our foster rabbits whilst they're waiting for new forever homes then feel free to contact me to discuss how you can help the buns. You can email me at foster@fatfluffs.com or call me on 07563 758787.

Sarah



A Mite-y problem!

By Cat Henstridge BVSc MRCVS

Just like cats and dogs, rabbits can pick up parasites on their skin and fur and these fall into two broad categories; fleas and mites. Mites are much more difficult to spot on your pets themselves but (thankfully in a way!) the other symptoms they cause tend to be quite obvious.

Fur Mites

The most common mite found on rabbits is called Cheyletiella but it is much easier to say 'Walking Dandruff' which is its common name! This is because the mite is quite large and if you comb them out onto a dark surface, although they look like skin flecks, you can see them moving. They cause a thick scurf to form in the fur, often around the back of the neck, patchy hair loss and they can be very itchy, to the point where the rabbit can scratch themselves raw. It is usually difficult to say where the mites came from but it is often something like a bad batch of hay or bedding. Also, there is a variation in how sensitive rabbits will be to the mite and it is not unusual for one in a group to be very badly affected but the others are relatively fine.



The treatment for these mites is a spot-on preparation for the back of the neck, which is available from your vet. This will be applied every week for 3 in a row to fully clear the infestation. If there is other damage to the skin, then your vet may also prescribe anti-inflammatories and antibiotics to help them to heal. You should also clean out the hutch thoroughly after each treatment.

Ear Mites

Thankfully, I don't see many ear mite infections in rabbits because when they get them they can cause very nasty problems. Infestations can be in one or both ears and the main clinical signs are a thick, black wax in the ear and discomfort with head shaking or ear rubbing. In some bunnies a thick, flaky, scabby crust will form in the ear which can be very painful. Again these can be treated using spot-on drops but often your vet will prescribe medication to put directly in the ear.

Veggies!

Just a reminder that if anyone has spare veggies on their allotments or even on friends allotments, then the FF bunnies are always happy to oblige and eat up any surplus. Please ask around at work and see who you know who has green fingers and encourage them to donate some of their extra veggies to our lovely but always hungry bunnies!



Sarah

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 Vickie@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.

fatfluffsr.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

