



A Busy Summer!

Summer is always a very busy time for us with lots of events and activities going on. The rehoming has been slow but steady but sadly the waiting list has again started to build up and a lot of rabbits we have been called about haven't even made it onto the list. The sad thing is that people try and rehome their rabbits over the summer simply because they are going on holiday and have not made provision for them for while they are away.

The good news is that Kezia, Eliza and Hummer have gone off to their new home finally!! We had a little sendoff party for them for all the surrogate mums and dads that had helped feed, nurture and care for them from the age of five days, it was a sad but happy day for everyone. Good Luck Kids!!

Other great news is that we have been awarded a small grant by the Animal Defence Trust so we are now in a position to give our tired HQ a makeover – date is yet to be confirmed but if you're up for a day's work(payment of food and good company) keep an eye on your e-mails!

Boarding is going really well; we have been completely booked for some weeks over the summer. It has been a real privilege to see some of our buns come back for their holidays looking so happy and well with their new families; it makes everything we do worthwhile.

We have potentially got five new sanctuary buns to add to the band of merry buns based here at HQ. Arnold has ongoing teeth problems, Nosey has jaw abscesses, Ben is a very snotty boy, Hoppy has a chest infection and Dawn ongoing health issues. We are looking forward to a big bunny bond once neutering ops have taken effect.

As always thank you to everyone for your ongoing support both on the front line and behind the scenes, we really appreciate all the help and really couldn't do it without you.



Chloe Fluff



Events Update

As always, the summer is a whirlwind of events to attend, St. Margaret's School Garden Party, Hockley Heath Summer Fete and Sheldon Country Fayre to name but a few. However THE event of the summer had to be our 3RD BIRTHDAY PARTY at FF HQ on Sunday, July 17th!

We weren't as blessed by the weather as we have been in previous years, but the rain didn't arrive until 3pm and even then, it didn't deter our dedicated supporters who sheltered happily with a cuppa and a burger under our new events shelter. It was fantastic to see friends old and new exploring the barn, meeting the buns, trying their luck on the tombola and browsing our wide range of trading products.

We were thrilled to welcome numerous special guests throughout the day. First local MP Lorely Burt popped in to meet the fluffs ... and have 2 lovely rexy bunny girls named after her! Then we were after her! Then we were honoured to greet the Mayor of Solihull and her escort, both of whom were captivated by the bunnies and thoroughly enjoyed a piece of our delicious birthday cake. The Mayor made two presentations for us – one happy and one sad. First we congratulated Karen and her new addition Squirt for being our 600th adoption! 600 bunnies rehomed in 3 years ... an achievement that we are very proud of! Then we bid a fond thank you and "bon voyage" to our fostering co-ordinator Sophie who has emigrated to Australia. We know our "Doctor Fluff" will keep in touch but we will all miss her, especially the baby buns and foster mums and dads that she has supported over the last three years.



As if all this wasn't enough, we were also excited to welcome our patrons Peter and Jayne Smith to present Carrie with the limited edition print, donated by Castle Galleries, that she had been lucky enough to win in our recent competition. And Peter and Jayne went home with something new themselves ...

having fallen in love with continental giant Aaron they arranged to bring Iona and Jura back a week later to be reunited with their brother for life of bunny luxury as a trio!

Looking ahead we hope to see you at our forthcoming LOVE YOUR BUNNY afternoon on Sunday, September 18th between 12 noon and 4pm. SHIZZLE AND STUFF on Friday September 23rd at Olton Friary (B92 7BL) and finally our First Fat Fluffs Charity Quiz will be on Thursday October 13th at the Highwood. Full details are on our blog: www.fatfluffs.com

Dates for your diary

SEPTEMBER

Sun 18th Love your Bunny #3, Fat Fluffs HQ 12 noon - 4pm

Fri 23rd Shizzle & Stuff, Olton Friary B92 7BL 7.30-9.00pm

OCTOBER

Thurs 13th The First Fat Fluffs' Quiz Night @ The Highwood

DECEMBER

Sat 3rd Fat Fluffs' Festive Fundraiser @ HQ

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

Welcome To Our New Fosterers...

Fat Fluffs would like to say a big thank you to our newest fosterers Trupta Sali, Jenny Mosley and Jackie Lee. If you too are interested in fostering bunnies while they wait for their forever homes please contact foster@fatfluffs.com.

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.



Susan



At Fat Fluffs we never know what kind of calls or e-mails we are going to get from people wanting us to take on their unwanted rabbits. As we generally work down an often lengthy waiting list for rabbits coming in to us, with

the rescue's limited spaces, we try to prioritise according

to circumstances etc. Sometimes it seems like people are making up these incredible stories just to tug at our heart strings and take pity on them for us to take in their rabbit/s!! After a weekend off I had a message from Chloe that there was a rabbit coming in because her owner, who also keeps a massive pet snake, couldn't handle her anymore! I was a little worried to say the least!! The day in question arrived and a frightened agouti girl bun arrived at HQ in a small indoor cage and we tentatively put the cage straight in the run and left her to settle in for a bit. Feeling brave I slowly opened the cage, to meet Susan, who I would say was more nervous than vicious. She was certainly territorial and vocal but not aggressive with it (I still have all my fingers!). With a little more handling 'the snake bun', Susan, has settled down really well but is still a little grumpy at times. She has been with us since May and is currently living with husbun Tarik (who is another long timer at Fat Fluffs). Although she isn't your standard cuddle bun, she does have her own charm and is becoming a lot more inquisitive, coming up to you to sniff you and is learning that charging and grunting doesn't get you any nose rubs or cuddles!!

Can you give Susan a home? If so please get in touch with me at team@fatfluffs.com.

Jo Fluff

Dunlop and Pirelli



Dunlop and Pirelli came home with us the afternoon we returned from holiday (we couldn't wait!). The girls (Jess, Ellie and Rachel) decided to rename them Dandy and Lion to fit in with their fur colour. The bunnies were understandably nervous to start with but have settled in really well. We have attached their hutch and run together with a Runaround tunnel which they LOVE. We have had loads of entertainment hearing them scuttling backwards and forwards and seeing their cute noses poking out of the end!

The buns are really easy going and love snuggling with each other, though Lion is most definitely in charge when it comes to finding the best spot for sunbathing! Rachel said the day they arrived was the best day of her life, and we already can't imagine life without them!

Thanks to all at Fat Fluffs for making it possible.

Joanna

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.

fatfluffsrr.easysearch.org.uk



Great Big Small Charity Draw

Great news is we've had 290 paper sales stubbs returned so far and sold nearly 40 on-line. After FSI deductions Fat Fluffs will receive £1.90 per ticket so we have raised £598.50 so far. We are trying to raise enough to buy a Bunnymobile to help get our buns to the vets, so it is really important we raise as much as we possibly can. If you would like to help by buying a ticket, then please visit <http://www.smallcharitycardraw.co.uk/tickets.php?id=ffrr>

Carrie





Myxomatosis and Vaccination

By Cat Henstridge BVSc MRCVS

Myxomatosis is the most common viral infection in rabbits and also the one most people have heard of. It causes a severe upper respiratory tract infection, like a really bad case of the flu. The rabbits suffer from a thick, snotty nasal discharge and their eyes become so swollen they can't see. They also develop a characteristic swelling of the ears and genitals.

Myxomatosis is spread by direct contact between rabbits and by fleas. The fleas pass the infection between the wild rabbits to the domestic ones. They can either go directly from one to another, more often seen in rabbits living in rural environments, or be passed by dogs or cats picking up rabbit fleas while they are out and about.

Vaccinations against Myxomatosis can be given from 10 weeks old and only a single injection is needed to give full protection. Most vets advise vaccinating against Myxi every 6 months; in the Spring and in the Autumn. In order for the vaccine to work correctly, some has to be injected into the skin (intra-dermally) while the bulk is injected under the skin (subcutaneously). This means that your rabbit may develop a small lump in their skin after the vaccine but it will go down within a few days.

There is no cure or effective treatment for Myxomatosis. Infected rabbits suffer greatly and any treatment given is usually unsuccessful. Vaccination is the only way to protect them.

Fat Fluffs Volunteering

I started volunteering for Fat Fluffs in 2010 after seeing that they needed help with cleaning out the runs, cuddling, basic health checks and the all important dinnertime.

Cuddling bunnies can play an important part in helping the bunnies become more socialised and used to being handled by people, especially if they've not had much interaction before. Another of my tasks is helping to groom the bunnies by giving them a brush over and for the more fluffy residents de-haying their fur. It's also a good way of giving bunnies a quick check over to see that they're in a good condition i.e. looking for any lumps or bumps and checking their eyes and noses are clear.

At dinnertime I help to make sure all the bunnies are eating, especially anyone who is recovering from their neutering operations or from any other illness.

I am also a home-checker for Fat Fluffs. This involves visiting the homes of potential adopters or fosterers to review the type, size and condition of accommodation they can offer bunnies, ensure they will be in a safe environment and also to answer any questions the adopters/fosterers may have.

I also take part in fundraising events for the Rescue Centre. This year I am helping to co-ordinate Fat Fluffs participation in the FSI's "Great Big Small Charity Car Draw". This is to help raise funds for a new Bunnymobile for the rescue. I have helped to recruit volunteers to sell tickets on our behalf, kept an audit of ticket sales and sent updates of our progress.

Being a volunteer for Fat Fluffs is a great experience and I have learnt a lot from my time helping out and am enjoying every moment.

Carrie

Any Spare Hutches?

Hello all Fat Fluff supporters, volunteers, adopters and fosterers! I'd like to introduce myself my name is Sarah Hebblethwaite (aka Sarah Foster Fluff to avoid confusion with Sarah Fluff) and I have been trusted with the task of taking over from Sophie as Fostering coordinator for Fat Fluffs. I'm gradually trying to contact everyone to say hello by email and am getting there slowly. If there's anything fostering related please feel to contact me at foster@fatfluffs.com and I'll do my best to help.

Talking of help ... we are in desperate need of hutches to loan to new fosterers; we have fosterers and bunnies waiting but no hutches and runs to put the buns into! If anyone knows of any spare hutches and runs (or sheds) which comply with the Rabbit Welfare standards (hutches 5 foot and over or runs 6 foot and over) then please let me know as we'd be really pleased to have them. Also if anyone has or knows people who can help with moving hutches around the West Midlands (trailers, vans or horseboxes etc!) then you'd make yourselves very popular with me and would be a friend for life!

Appeals and grovelling over ... I look forward to catching up with everyone at the next Fat Fluff events.

Sarah Foster Fluff



Fat Fluffs Trading

Check out our on-line shop at www.fatfluffs.com/shop. We have been working hard to improve it ready for our winter collection.

Pre-Order your Fat Fluffs calendar by emailing sarah@fatfluffs.com. The team at Fat Fluffs are busy planning the 2012 calendar and it will be leaving for the printers any day. Following the same format as previous years the calendar will feature our much loved rescue buns. Price to be confirmed... Orders taken NOW for our Fat Fluffs followers.

Time to get out your winter woollies and a chance for us to remind you of our old favourites here at Fat Fluffs. Our Fat Fluffs hoodie is still our best selling product and a must have for winter months. Just £22 including postage, available on the website now!



Our "Shizzle & Stuff" event September 23rd will launch the start of our fleeces and body warmer range. It's early days yet, so no pictures or prices, but keep checking the website or email sarah@fatfluffs.com for more info.

If you can't seem to find the colour or size you want on the website please email sarah@fatfluffs.com and she will help meet your needs.

Are you longing for that Fat Fluffs item that does not exist? Be it clothing, gifts or rabbit treats let us know and we'll see what we can do!

Sarah Fluff

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

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