



July 2011 Newsletter

www.fatfluffs.com Registered charity no 1124870

Issue 11

Busy, Busy, Busy!!

Summer is always a difficult time for the team at Fat Fluffs as we are so busy trying to attend as many events as possible to raise much needed finances to see us through the quieter winter months. We are all very tired but encouraged that the rehoming is going well and that we have managed to get our waiting list down to a more manageable level. We had a great Rabbit Awareness Week and were very pleased that the papers really got behind us. As a result we had many non - fluffers come along to our 'Love Your Bunny' day and get some good bunny advice from Rebecca (our Vet) as well as some chatting regarding potential new homes. Thank you to everyone who has helped us out recently; every hour offered is greatly appreciated, especially in this really busy season, and we look forward to seeing some of you at one of our forthcoming events.



The three orphaned bunnies that we talked about in the last issue are doing really well and currently back in my kitchen having been fostered by Kathryn for the past month, as the two girls went in for their neutering ops just last week. Hummer is refusing to "develop" but happy to spray, hum and generally be a bit of a terror but as soon as we can neuter him we will and then they will be off to their forever home! They are three beautiful, friendly and happy little buns and such a reward for all the hard work put into them by everyone involved with their upbringing.



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.

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Events Update

As always, the summer months are **non-stop** for events! May and June have been packed with fetes, fayres and other occasions, allowing us to fundraise, meet lots of new people and spread the Fat Fluffs message a little further. There was the North Worcestershire Amateur Rabbit Show in Kidderminster, The Big Pet Store's 20th anniversary celebrations in Halesowen, Solihull College's Open Gardens, Coppice Junior School's summer fete, Knowle Festival and Tidbury Green School summer fayre, to name but a few. In between those came talks to groups at Habitat Survival Trust, Vets4Pets in Redditch and Tanworth-in-Arden Rainbows not to mention our second successful 'Love Your Bunny' day at HQ. And, as you will see from the 'Dates for your Diary', there's still **LOTS** more to come!



We really hope to see you at our forthcoming 3rd Birthday Party on Sunday 17th July between 12 noon and 5pm. This year as well as bunnies galore to meet, the tombola to try your luck on, our trading range for you to browse and buy, the tea urn up to the boil and our legendary BBQ we also have the pleasure of welcoming our patron international artist Peter Smith. If you are coming along please let us know by completing our quick, online RSVP: http://tinyurl.com/FatFluffsRSVP.

Congratulations!



To the twelve bunny girls who ran 8km in the Knowle Fun Run to raise funds for Fat Flaffs. Your brilliant efforts raised an amazing total of £1200! Thank you!



Dates for your diary

JULY

Sat 9th St. Margaret's School Garden Party Sun 10th Hockley Heath Summer Fete Sat 16th Vets4Pets, Sutton Coldfield, Open Day

Sun 17th Fat Fluffs' 3rd Birthday Party @ HQ Sun 31st Sheldon Country Fayre

AUGUST

Sat 27th Vets4Pets, Dudley, Open Day

SEPTEMBER

Sat 10th and Sun 11th Black Country Boating Festival, Netherton

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'



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.

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Trea & Tom

Loving the sun in our new home!

We adopted Tom and Trea in April and they settled in straight away. They both enjoy being in the garden and love it when they can hop around at full speed! They love to lay full stretch in their litter tray and are never far from

one another. Tom is quite laid back and nosey

Whereas Trea is more feisty and definitely the boss! They are absolutely fabulous pets and are spoilt rotten!! Sally, Ben and Emma

I have been waiting a long time for a home!



At Fat Fluffs we see all shapes and sizes of bunnies through the door and they come to us for many different reasons. Unfortunately one of the most common reasons they come into rescue is due to mis-sexing (when a rabbit is believed to one sex but is actually the other) which leads to the inevitable un-expected, and often unwanted litters. Pet shops are the most common culprit, selling

bunnies at a very young age when they are the most appealing to buyers, but at an age when they are not sexually mature and are harder to sex.

Tarik was surrendered to us back in December 2010 by his previous owner for precisely this reason. His brothers and sisters managed to find homes via the previous owner before we had the space to take on the litter and he came to us very timid and nervous bunny, hiding away in the corner, startled by noise and the sight of us. His shy and nervous nature has meant he often gets overlooked for adoption, but he is a handsome and gentle boy who loves a fuss...once you can catch him!! He was re-homed as part of a group of four but unfortunately had a big falling out with the new owner's original bun and packed his bags to come back into us. Tarik has become a braver bun whilst with us at Fat Fluffs, both in the rescue and in foster homes during his longer than normal stay, but he is still on the timid side. Now living in a group of buns in a foster home in Kings Heath he is still gaining in confidence and we are sure the right bunny friend and new home is waiting for him.

Could that home be with you or someone you know?

JO FLUff

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 <u>Vickie@fatfluffs.com</u>.

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

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

to good use!



Volunteers needed urgently!

As you will have read summer is a very busy time for the Fat Fluffs team, and we desperately need volunteers to help at the many events we are attending. If you can spare a few hours for any of the events we have listed in this edition we would be very grateful! If you have some time please contact abi@fatfluffs.com

We also would like to make a plea for help from anyone who lives locally to the Fat Fluffs HQ in Solihull who would be willing to help out with vet runs to our vets in Coventry. This can be time consuming given the number of bunnies we look after so any help you can offer would be very much appreciated. If you are able to help please contact chloe@fatfluffs.com





Rabbit Awareness Week 23rd-29th May 2001

You can't have missed that it was Rabbit Awareness Week (RAW) back in May.

We, along with many other rabbit welfare focused organisations, vets and responsible retailers, had been

doing our bit to raise the profile of this much needed campaign to ensure that rabbits everywhere are having their welfare needs met in line with the Animal Welfare Act of 2006.

We were approached by Julian Phillips to attend North Worcestershire Amateur Rabbit Show (NWARS) and we were more than happy to go along to offer the necessary educational information and share our own rabbit-keeping experiences with others.



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Burgess Pet Care (BPC), kindly donated a competition prize for us to use to highlight RAW to our supporters. We decided we would run our second 'Love Your Bunny' event in support of the week and also received an invitation to give a talk at Vets4Pets Redditch's open evening.

It was an incredibly busy time promoting RAW! We were extremely fortunate to get our press releases accepted with various local papers so we received good press coverage for everything we were involved in. Several new visitors came to see vet Rebecca, many of whom had never before taken their rabbit to see a vet and also had

little knowledge of the complex welfare needs of rabbits. Similarly at our visits to Vets4Pets & NWARS we met fairly inexperienced rabbit owners, most having only a single bun, so we were able to offer detailed advice and guidance on responsible rabbit ownership to encourage owners to implement changes to safeguard the future health & happiness of their rabbit.

We managed the briefest of brief interviews on BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine Show when he held a debate on whether leaving a solitary bun in a hutch was cruel.

We understand from BPC that RAW 2011 has been a great success, gaining more hits on the RAW website on day one than the whole campaign achieved last year.

After this year's achievements we can expect the campaign to spread even further and here at Fat Fluffs we can't wait to get involved in RAW 2012!



Sally Fluff

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Fat Fluffs Trading

New for summer 2011 we have Fat Fluffs Polo Shirts and Vest tops available in a variety of colours. Polo Shirts come in both men's and women's sizes and are £12 plus P&P and Vest tops are £5 plus P&P.

Also we now have hay bags available, a great mess-free way to store hay. These are £5.50 or £7.50 (inc P&P) if you wish to personalise them.



Our events and website are becoming more popular every day and I can confirm that for the month of May our best selling products are:-

- 1 FAT FLUFFS LADIES T-SHIRTS ONLY £12.00 INC. POSTAGE
- 2 BURGESS EXCEL WILD APPLE SNACKS ONLY £2.80 INC. POSTAGE
- 3 BURGESS EXCEL GNAW STICKSONLY £ 2.60 INC. POSTAGE
- 4 LOVE YOUR BUN HOODIE ONLY £29.00 INC. POSTAGE
- 5 FAT FLUFFS TREAT PACK Only £5.30 INC. POSTAGE

Please visit the Fat Fluffs shop <u>http://www.fatfluffs.com/shop/</u> if you would like to purchase any of these items, or to see what else we have on offer! Happy Shopping!!



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 wont 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.
Name Address	
	Postcode
Email	
Signature	Date
	to gift aid this donation and any further donations to Fat Fluffs. 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



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?





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.



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