

Welcome to the **November 2013** edition of Rabbit Runaway Round-up, our quick monthly newsletter..

## Baby Update

Some great news this month is that little Yoda and 2 of Penelope's girls, as well as Joy's first litter of 6 babies have all gone to their new homes.

They have been placed under a temporary foster arrangement with their new owners until their vet work is completed at which time they will be formally adopted.

Joy's second litter is ready for adoption and Domino's litter are thriving and growing very quickly.

If you are interested in adopting any of the remaining babes then please contact the Orphanage Adoption coordinator at [adoption@rabbitrunaway.org.au](mailto:adoption@rabbitrunaway.org.au)



## Bunny Education

Christmas is coming - the silly season is nearly upon us and what better way to spread some cheer but to come and meet the bunnies and some of our wonderful volunteers at the orphanage.

Although we are open on weekends from 1 – 4 for visitors, from December we will be introducing adoption information sessions at 2pm on Saturdays where you can come in, meet the buns and hear about rabbit care. The sessions are most useful for people looking to adopt.

Watch our Facebook page for further info. And for those thinking of adopting over this period - remember, bunnies are for life and not just for Christmas.

Note: there is limited parking on the property so please park near the Mt Dandenong Hotel and take the short walk to the orphanage.

## House Rabbit Society – Australian Chapter

The Australian Chapter of the House Rabbit Society (HRS) has launched its Facebook page this month. The site is moderated by the only three current House Rabbit Society Educators in Australia.

If you have any rabbit related questions about health, behaviour or any other issue please post on our HRS FB page. Our experienced educators will endeavour to answer your questions when time allows. We also look forward to seeing pictures of your bunny setups on our page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HRSAustralianChapter?fref=ts>



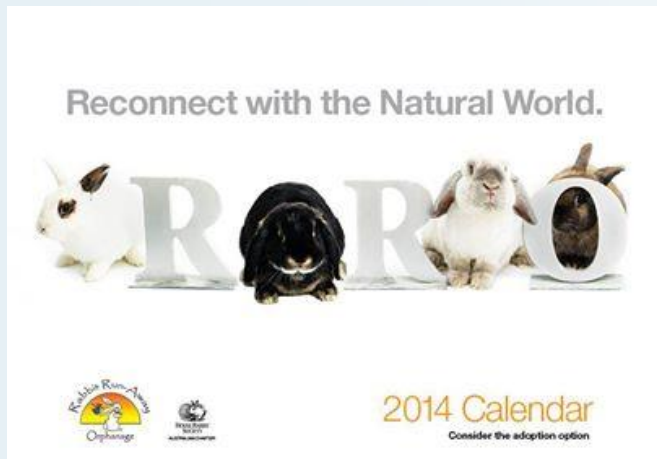
## Smiles for the Month

There have been 5 adoptions finalised in November—Charlie & Bambi, Buttons, Jackson and Clover have all been welcomed into their new homes. We also have potential homes for 8 of our babies! Thanks also go out to Bell's Tuck Shop who has sponsored a vet package for Loretta, one of our special needs buns.

**Celery Day** is held on the last Tuesday of every month, where we ask our supporters to gather up some change and donate \$2 to help with the ongoing costs of the bunnies. It's as easy as setting up a monthly direct debit - less than the price of a cup of coffee. Be sure to save the date!

## 2014 Calendar Reminder

A reminder that our 2014 RRO calendar is now available and would make a perfect Christmas gift for your loved ones. The calendar can be ordered through our [website](#) or purchased on-site at the orphanage.



## What to do with Bunny over Christmas?

As summer approaches, many of us may be planning a getaway with friends and family. If you find yourself looking to board bunny during this time, some things you may want to consider are where your rabbit will be housed, temperature control and if there is adequate

protection from mosquitos and predators. There are very few rabbit specific boarding places and these are usually booked out very early - however you may find that some cat boarding facilities and vets may also take rabbits. Just make sure to ask about their previous experience with rabbits and even make a visit beforehand to inspect the space. We are looking to post more information on the website soon to help rabbit owners, with a question sheet to take to your local boarding residence. Watch this space.

## Volunteer Drive

We're making a call out to any volunteers, friends or family members looking to bring some Christmas cheer to the bunnies over December and January. RRO must operate 365 days per year (the buns don't take holidays!) and as such we're looking for additional volunteers that can help over this holiday period, to ensure we have at least 2-3 people on site for cleaning duties every morning, and someone to help with medications and dinner duties in the afternoons and early evenings.

If you'd like to help, please contact our volunteer coordinator Emma at [volunteer@rabbitrunaway.org.au](mailto:volunteer@rabbitrunaway.org.au)

## Who's who in RRO?

This month we feature RRO's Volunteer Coordinator Emma Kieryczuk.

### How did you first hear about RRO?

It was about 2-3 years ago when I first heard about RRO. I used to work at an animal shelter that would transfer 'hard to rehome' rabbits and we used to recommend people wanting to adopt rabbits, to RRO.

### How long have you been a volunteer at the orphanage?

I have been volunteering for nearly 7 months now.

### What has been keeping you busy as a volunteer coordinator?

Updating the volunteer database, as well as recruiting new volunteers, and implementing new changes to the volunteer role.

### What do you find most rewarding about

### volunteering at RRO?

Helping the rabbits, and seeing the transformation they make, from when they first come in, to when they get adopted, and seeing them bonded with another rabbit, and going home to their new families.

### What challenges have you faced in the role?

Keeping volunteers interested in the volunteer role - some get bored, find the travel too long, find the cleaning too hard, don't regard the volunteer position as important enough, or many other reasons, which happens at nearly every volunteer organisation, however RRO is run STRICTLY by volunteer only personnel, and this makes it very difficult to keep the Orphanage running smoothly. So Judi, Bryce and myself, have been brainstorming ideas to keep everyone motivated, interested and excited about volunteering - STAY TUNED! :-)

### How can someone start volunteering at RRO?

To start volunteering at RRO, people can either contact me via email at [volunteer@rabbitrunaway.org.au](mailto:volunteer@rabbitrunaway.org.au) or head to the website <http://www.rabbitrunaway.org.au/volunteer/>, follow the links to the application and fill in all the details.

I will then contact you shortly to organise the next stages, so we can get you joining the Rabbit Runaway team!!



**Bunny Education - See the links below for handy information about caring for your bun:**

[Bunny Care Booklet](#) | [Responsible Bunny Ownership](#) | [The Myxomatosis Virus](#)  
[The Bunny Diet](#) | [Bunnies as Indoor Pets](#) | [Companion Bunnies](#) | [When a Bunny Needs a Vet](#)

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