



Rabbit Run Chronicles

Spring 2010

Issue 3

The Winter Angels Wept...



WINTER cast its shadow over many bunny families this past winter and Rabbit Run was not immune, leaving a veil of sadness over the bunnies and the carer's at Rabbit Run. As the winter mists shrouded the property, and with heavy hearts, angels wept as we buried our much loved Chi and Lori. Myst and Luke, featured in our last edition, also lost their battle to overcome their respective illnesses. This was followed by a vicious attack on our charity and personal abuse of the bunny carers'. The stress of these events contributed to Bryce having a heart attack. He has recovering but needs to cut back on his workload.

With the first signs of SPRING, daffodils line the hills and the rhododendrons buds burst forth as a ray

Index

Business News	2 - 4
Health and Wellbeing	5
Rabbit Runes Research	6 - 7
Tributes and Celebrations	8
Classifieds	8

of sunshine breaks through the clouds to fall on Rabbit Run. When you next visit, you may see from the corner of your eye, bunnies playing and binking on the hillside amongst the spring blooms. It is our beloved Chi leading, followed by Lori, Myst, Luke and little Ebony who was only with us for a short time. This edition is dedicated to their wonderful spirits and all those bunnies who have joined them, who have brought such joy into our lives and now rest and binky amongst the spring blooms and the forests surrounding Rabbit Run. A tribute to these bunnies is included in this issue.



Angels now guard Rabbit Run, posted like sentry's at intervals around the borders of the property to protect the bunnies and carers from harm. Can you see or feel their presence? Or is it just the bunnies welcoming the Spring?

VIB Bunnies

No one is perfect - We have never come across a perfect human so why should we expect this of our pets. Our Very Important Bunnies deserve a chance at life like all creatures on this earth.

Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage sees no point in euthanising a happy bunny that is inquisitive and full of life because they may or may not require vet treatment into the future. Can you open your heart to provide a loving home for these bunnies? Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage is willing to provide support (for current or possible conditions identified by our vets) with veterinary care for identified conditions for these VIB bunnies if needed in the future.

Rabbit Run - business update

Rabbit Run
Caring for Nature's Creatures

Permit Update

As the season change yet again, we sit and wait. To date we have submitted two applications to build our house and two applications to keep the bunnies on site. The last submission was a combined permit for the house and the bunnies.

If the permits are passed, we hope to start building in the New Year. The design of the house is a cute loft style design that suits the character of the Dandenong Ranges. The house will be located beside the current building and will have an entrance into the building where the bunnies are located.

We have been informed that the latest applications have generated a number of objections from neighbors. In discussions with the planner, we are lead to believe that these objections hold weight at the planning level and we are therefore pessimistic about the outcome.

With 11 objection to date, this means that the process becomes more complex and we have asked the planners to separate the house and bunny permits, so that we can at least start to build the house over summer. We can only surmise from our experience that people who do not know the nature of a pet rabbit consider all rabbits to be feral pests. We asked the planner if your letters of support meant anything, and the reply was that they indicate a need for what we are doing, but neighbour objections hold more weight.

Should the permits be rejected, we will consider pursuing them through other channels, such as VCAT. This is for the sake of the bunnies as the alternative is that our pets will be taken from us as well as the orphans and

probably euthanized. Thank you to everyone who submitted letters of support for our application and to those who continue to support us through a rather difficult time.

Postscript: *The house permit as passed and the bunny permit rejected. Stand by for further updates...*

Visitors

Access to our property over the next few months will be challenging, so we are asking any visitors to please phone us so that we can meet you off the property. Please call us on 9751 1229 when you arrive and we will meet you there.

Bunnies in Summer

As the weather warms up it is a timely reminder that our furry little friends cannot perspire and will overheat in the summer sun. Bunnies in the wild would retreat to cool burrows and it is unnatural to have them confined in hutches or cages outside, where they cannot cool themselves.

Remember to always bring your bunny inside in the summer months and supply cool fresh water in a flat bottomed bowl, as a drink bottle is not sufficient in summer.



Increase in Mosquitoes & Myxo

We have had a very wet winter and with the recent humidity and the release of myxomatosis this year to reduce the number of wild rabbits, this summer is shaping up to be a very dangerous time for pet bunnies. Vets across Victoria as well as the RSPCA

are reporting a marked increase in pet rabbits presenting with myxomatosis carried by mosquitoes. To minimise the risk to your bunny, please ensure that your outdoor enclosure is thoroughly mosquito proofed and place some mossie strips in the hutch. Better still house your bunny indoors. Avoid having your bunny outside at dawn and dusk when the mosquitoes are more prevalent.

Toxic Plants to Bunnies



The hills are a mass of color with the beautiful rhododendrons in full bloom and ivy forming a carpet of green across quaint houses. When planning your spring and summer garden, remember that these and other plants are toxic to bunnies. Bunnies are curious and will taste, they do not know what is poisonous to them.

Plants include belladonna, hydrangea, calla lily, celery leaf buttercup, Chinese lantern, chrysanthemum, climbing nightshade, common buckthorn, Daphne, star of Bethlehem, English bluebell, ivy, unripe cranberry bush, honeysuckle, foxglove, horse chestnuts, hyacinth, iris, lily of the valley, lobelia, marigold, may lily, mistletoe, onion, poppy, peace lily, rhododendron, snowdrop, tomato leaves and stem, yellow iris. These and many other plants considered toxic to bunnies can be reviewed on the Medirabbit website, www.medi.rabbit.com

Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage

Orphanage Under Attack...

In late July just after our 1st year celebrations, Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage fell victim to a vexatious attack from a departing committee member. The attack was designed to severely disrupt the operations of the charity and to stop its work. This is not an isolated incident, in fact it is common for this to happen to charitable institutions.

Our New Committee...

On a brighter note we welcome to our committee, two wonderful people who were Rabbit Run clients and have adopted bunnies and have also volunteered for us in the past. Jess Hall has taken on the challenging role as treasurer,, and Rhian Jamieson, as secretary. Judi remains as president and Bryce as vice president. Judi and Bryce wish to thank Jess and Rhian for their support during a difficult transition.



Foster Carer's Network

Our fosters carer's network consists of caring families who foster one of two bunny orphans until a permanent home can be found. The foster cares are provided with an enclosure, litter and hay trays and water and feed dishes. Full training and support is given to the foster family and all vet costs are covered by Rabbit Run Away Orphanage during the fostering period. Foster families must house the bunnies inside.

If you would like to become a foster carer, or you have any questions about membership or adoptions please contact Judi or Bryce on (03) 9751 1229.

Membership Renewal

We appreciated the support of all of our members and advise that annual membership falls due in January 2011.

If you would like to become a member or renew your membership, please complete the attached membership form also found on our website and email or post to us. Membership also allows you to vote at our annual general meetings. Single membership is \$30 and family membership \$45.

Membership Payment

Memberships can be paid through the Paypal link on Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage website. Alternatively you can do a bank transfer, the details are on our Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage website.

www.rabbitrunaway.org.au

1st Anniversary Celebrations

The children that attended Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage's 1st Anniversary Celebrations in July 2010 at Charinga Restraint in Olinda joined into the spirit by designing a range of unique bunny houses. The houses were judged by our volunteer Emma Long, who found it a most difficult task. Emma said that all the houses deserved a prize, but she had to choose one.



L -R Matisse, Emma, Malachi and Arran and William

The winners were also the bunnies, who has the task of trying out the houses and judged them a second time. They enjoyed running, jumping and chewing the designs, and all were proved to be winners when judged by the bunnies.



Winner: William with his winning bunny chew house

The bunnies gave three big binkies to all of the children for making such fun houses for them.

Orphan Tales

Max needs an operation

Max is ready and waiting for his an operation to fix a dislocated hip. We need to raise \$1000 for Max's vet care. If you can help please visit our website. Donations are tax deductible and can be made through the PayPal link.



Humans and the Natural World

Have you ever thought about how you treat the natural world and the creatures entrusted to your care? Judi researched this area as part of her PhD and she explains the concept in regard to our bunnies.

We could divide the majority of people by their environmental values into those with human centered and nature centered views. Anthropocentrists consider that nature was put on this earth to serve the needs of humans. Ecocentrists, on the other hand recognises that nature has value in its own right and has a right to exist and lead a fulfilling life outside of human use. There are also those who sit somewhere between these two extremes and are considered to be weak anthropocentrists. These people are concerned about nature to some extent but are not willing to make lifestyle changes to protect it, which is left up to others. We have two orphan tales which illustrate the anthropocentric and ecocentric view.

Bobby

Bobby is a 5yr old placid and gentle house bunny, and much loved by his previous owners who relocated overseas. Bobby had multiple health conditions that were not evident to the previous owners. After two months with us and under the care of the Rabbit Clinic, Bobby was on his way to better health, although he would

require dental work into the future. He bonded with a gorgeous girl Rosie and has gone to live with his new family. This family is loving and caring towards Bobby and are willing to support his health issues into the future. To allow Bobby to live out his bunny life in a caring, peaceful and loving home shows an ecocentric view of bunnies. The angels smile on Kylie and her family for opening their heart to Bobby.



Chloe

It was 8.30 in the morning when the phone rang. A voice asked me if I wanted a small 5 month old Netherland dwarf. The little girl, who we named Chloe, was brought from a breeder with her sister, as a toy for a 6 year old child. Chloe was assertive and started to object to the child grabbing her, and would scratch at the carpet and give baby nips. The child did not want the bunny anymore and told the mother she was scared of it. The breeder would not take the bunny back and told the mother to hit Chloe on the face when she "misbehaved". Of course this made Chloe more anxious and her negative behaviour escalated. The breeder then asked the mother if there was someone in the family that could take the bunny out the back and dispose of it.

As we can only rehome bunnies that are desexed and vaccinated, I asked the mother if she would contribute to the cost of desexing Chloe.



She responded by saying "why should I pay when I can have the bunny euthanized for \$30 at the vets". I was shocked and after hanging up the phone, I rang the vet, who confirmed that the woman was on her way. The vet was pleased to be able to pass Chloe over to us to care for and rehome. Chloe is an example of an anthropocentric (human centered) view towards bunnies, where they are considered property and easily disposed of when they no longer serve a human need.

News from Misty Grove

update on the
Inglis's bunnies
from the paws of Mali,
Tai and Fleur (on location)

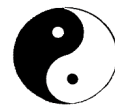


A sad winter past

A dark cloud enveloped Rabbit Run with the sudden death of our chief bunny Chi and persisted for a further two months with the death of little Lori. On the day that Chi died, Tulip followed Chi and sat nearby watching him as he struggled to breathe. Some time later Lori was sick and she went away and did not return. We all cried in our bunny hearts for Chi and Lori and saw the sadness in our carer's eyes. We gave our carers' special bunny kisses. Just prior to these sad events, Luke and Mist also died. We pay tribute to our bunny brothers and sisters in further pages of this edition.

Spring brings new hope

We all missed Chi and Lori, but Tulip and Gia were very lonely without Chi and looked at us all with such sad eyes. Hiro was very concerned and visited Tulip and Gia often in Apple Valley and tried to cheer them up. In time love blossomed again for Tulip and Gia. Hiro has taken the girls to look after them and they have all moved into Bunny Towers where there is lots more room.



Wise Master Chi

Answers to all your
very important bunny
Matters in the spirit of
Wise Master Chi and in his memory



What do I do if I find a bunny?

We are inquisitive creatures and we often try to escape from outdoor enclosures when we are bored, neglected, hot or cold, frightened or if we do not have enough room to binky. If you find one of my brothers or sisters you can, try to catch it and put it in a safe place such as a laundry with a litter box, hay, a bowl of water and an upturned box to hide in. Speak to your neighbors and do a letter box drop to see if anyone has lost their bunny. If no one claims the bunny you can either keep it or take it to your local animal shelter. Your local council will be able to direct you to the shelter for your area. If you decide to keep the bunny then you can contact Rabbit Run away Orphanage who can assist you with what you need to care for the bunny and other information.

Will the bunny be killed if it goes to a shelter?

The sad truth is that many bunnies do not survive the vet check at the shelter. If they have anything wrong with them, they will be euthanized. Bunnies are also euthanized if there is no room for them or if the shelter cannot rehome them.

DID YOU KNOW

Baby Bunnies

- ⇒ Rabbits will not reject their babies if you touch them
- ⇒ A mother rabbit will only nurse her litter for a few minutes once or twice a night
- ⇒ Wild bunnies do not have a scent and will not attract predators except by sight or sound
- ⇒ The mother bunny (doe) will leave the nest to eat and draw attention away from the nest most of the time
- ⇒ Baby bunnies need to be kept in a controlled temperature between 18 and 21 degrees
- ⇒ Baby bunnies open their eyes at about 2 weeks old



Rabbit Runes

Bunny research

Desexing Proposal

Prior to the November 2010 State Elections, the labor government put out a election promise for the compulsory desexing of dogs and cats. We contacted the Minister for Agriculture, Joe Helper, whose portfolio includes animal welfare issues. We asked him to include rabbits in his election promise. He was interested to hear that we had developed a proposal for the compulsory desexing of domestic pet rabbits and asked us to forward the proposal to his office.

Prior to the defeat of labor in the election the proposal has been forwarded to the Bureau of Animal Welfare within the Department of Primary Industries for consideration when reviewing the legislation and the Code of Practice for operation of Pet Shops.

We believe that to break the cycle from breeder to pet shop, to impulse purchase, to rabbit surrender to shelters and then death, requires legislative changes to be introduced both at the retail and breeder level to compulsory desex rabbits prior to sale.

It is expected that compulsory desexing will reduce the number of rabbits surrendered to shelters after cute babies become hormonally driven teenagers. Backyard breeders, the main cause of the over population of pets will be prohibited from selling intact rabbits. Irresponsible breeders (often young children responding to cool ways to make money) selling on the internet will withdraw from the market.

Shelters are reluctant to give official kill rates for rabbits, during two separate conversations with another shelter – the conversation established that the shelter rehomed about 500, however there were 5,000. This is not an official figure but our perception from the conversation. Rabbits are the third most killed species after dogs and cats (I refuse to use the E word as I feel that it misrepresents the situation). The proposal for compulsory desexing of domestic pet rabbits is available on Rabbit Run and Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage websites. We would be pleased to receive your feedback and comment on the proposal.

Mystical Beings or Feral Pests?

Bryce has made a significant contribution to research regarding the views of rabbits as domestic pets across the world. Bryce has contributed the Australian sector. The research is being conducted by the House Rabbit Society, which is one of the oldest and most respected animal welfare associated in regard to domestic rabbits in the world. The research paper is an interesting read, as rabbits are revered as mystical, spiritual beings in some regions of the world and as feral pests in other countries.

The paper will be published by the House Rabbits Society and will be available on our website once published. The paper is titled, *Lagomorphs in the U.S., Australia and Japan: A Comparison of Attitudes toward and treatment of Rabbits* by Charlotte-Ann Chenery, House Rabbit Society Educator 2010.



Photo by www.fond-ecran.net

The Australian View

A paper has been written by Bryce on Attitudes and Aspects of Keeping Pet Rabbits in Australia and is available on Rabbit Run a and Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage websites.

Current projects

An assessment of local laws (Victorian councils) regarding rabbits is underway and the findings so far are showing a lack of science and logic. Local laws at council levels need to be reviewed. An influx of rabbits surrendered to Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage recently has been identified as partly due to international students returning home. A pamphlet offering the option of fostering rabbits instead of purchasing them will be distributed to universities to counter this.

Micro chipping

All rabbits without owners are classified by the Department of Primary Industry as feral, whether they are domestic or wild. Vets are obliged to euthanize rabbits brought to them if found and there is no one to claim ownership. Micro chipping proves ownership.

The Enemy Within - charities under attack



The Dark Side of Volunteering

Each year thousands of dedicated people put aside their lives to volunteer for worthy causes. These earth angels work silently to make a better world.

Research has shown that people volunteer for a range of reasons and the majority are altruistic. Most volunteers gain fulfillment from the knowledge that they are making a difference to a disadvantaged world in a real and tangible way. Volunteers enjoy the social interaction with like minded people, whilst others gain experience which they can take into their future careers. Other volunteers care and just want to support the carers.

One motivation that is not in synergy with a charitable institution is recognition, self interest and self advancement for financial reward. These people have a better fit with a for profit business, where skills and achievements are rewarded through fiscal rewards and public recognition.

When the motivation of a volunteer is mismatched, with the vision of the organisation there can be devastating consequences for the charity. Many non profits have suffered attacks and take overs from the enemy within, severely disrupting the operations of the charity and putting the charity's work at great risk.

Since the attack on Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage, we have heard of two other animal welfare charities that have suffered at the hands of a mismatched volunteer. One such attack took place at a wildlife shelter on the Peninsula, the other on an Equine charity. These two charities mirrored the experiences that Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage was subjected to. The attacks were perpetrated by either committee members or volunteers with the aim to disrupt the work of the charities.

When committee members left they subjected the charities to behaviour such as:

- ◇ Attempting a takeover of the committee
- ◇ Refusing to pass over to the new committee passwords to PayPal, websites and emails.
- ◇ Verbal and written abuse of volunteers
- ◇ Withholding emails and charity contacts for personal use
- ◇ Using email to destroy the reputation of the charity and personnel in an attempt to push their own agenda
- ◇ Attempted theft of trademarks and logos
- ◇ Attempting to register the charitable organisations websites in their personal names
- ◇ Unauthorised withdrawals from bank accounts and PayPal

Small charities are easy targets and charities that are attacked in this way have little defense or recourse. Criminal charges are hard to prove and civil actions are costly and time consuming. Lawyers are not interested in pursuing claims from small charitable organisations. The nature of the work of a charity is such that both time and finances are scarce and must be used wisely. People under attack in the charities, often just walk away and start their work over again.

Intruders that have taken over charities, by removing the people that started the charity often do not last more than six months as they lack the expertise and dedication to care for the animals on a day to day basis. They also have inadvertently removed the heart and soul of the charity.

Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage is slowly getting back on its feet with the help of our new committee members and dedicated and caring volunteers and supporters. The website has been reconstructed and the charity has control back of its email, Pay Pal and bank accounts. The sad fact is that the rehoming of the bunnies has stalled.

Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage is run through the goodwill of volunteers and no one is in paid positions. We value the contributions of our volunteers and supporters and without their encouragement and support and hard work we would not be in a position today to continue rehoming the bunnies.

SUPPORT NEEDED

Are you website savvy? Can you help us in an advisory capacity from time to time with our website?

Can you take control of fundraising projects?

If you can assist please call Judi on 9751 1229

In Loving Memory *you are invited to share your special memories or place a special tribute to your bunny*

To all those little creatures that we knew,
and those that remain unnamed, those that
have touched our lives and hearts and have
since returned to the arms of Mother Nature
all to soon

We remember and will always be touched by
your pure joy and love of life and boundless
energy. Rabbit Run is where your spirit
dwells and where you are remembered. Free
to play and binky where the wildflowers
bloom in Natures Garden



In loving memory of...

Chi, Lori, Luke, Myst, Alaska, Ebony, Greg, Bruce, Shadow, Hunny, Frost, Joey, Zac, Stitch, Juanade and Amelia and all those bunnies that remain unnamed. All these little creatures were taken from us to soon and now rest in natures garden. We give each of our bunnies a special hug in your memory.

RIP Bruce Mayne-Fitzgerald May 2005—21 October 2010

I/ bunny-mummy Steph will miss the curled ends of your ears, your chubby cheeks and sweet nature. You charmed everyone who met you from all over Australia. Rosie could not resist your charms either and also missed you and your gentle bunny kisses.

RIP Stitch

Farewell but not goodbye to our gorgeous boy Stitch who was happy to the very end. Love always and Dutch carrot tops, Dave, Eve and Bunnski



Tributes can be submitted at any time in memory of your bunny

RIP Zac

Zac was very much loved and part of our family. He was a sticky beak and wanted to know everything that was happening in his back yard. He will always be remembered by us with love.

Shaun, Pam, Liam and Cassidy



RIP Myst & Alaska

Myst put up a courageous fight against his aggressive cancer. He fought to stay with us. He is sadly missed. The spirit of this gentle, happy and courageous bunny now dwells in the gardens at Rabbit Run. Alaska, Myst's brother also died recently from myxo after being rehomed. They were both such gently beautiful boys.



Postscript: *In an effort to arrest the cancer, Myst, was involved in a cancer trial that had very good results in animals. The treatment worked, but the cancer had already progressed and pierced an artery and as the cancer shrunk it caused internal bleeding.*

RIP Luke

Luke was courageous and brave in his short life. His heart condition became extremely difficult for him as it sapped his energy and life force. This gentle creature was much loved by his sister Lily and all of us at Rabbit Run. He is now in his forever home playing with the other bunnies in the gardens of Rabbit Run.



Luke with his 5 brothers when they were babies



Luke with his sister Lily who he loved dearly and who was his earth companion.

Postscript: Luke was under vet care and his condition slowly deteriorated over the months that followed the diagnosis of his heart condition. Fluid would gather around his heart and he was on medication to control this. Unfortunately it was a balancing act between keeping him hydrated and controlling the fluid. He was in and out of gut stasis and never gained his former weight. One day he let us know that he was ready to leave us as survival had become too difficult. He slipped into unconsciousness at the vets.

Chi's Legacy...*Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage*



Chi in his favourite spot in his bachelor pad, Bunny Towers



A young Chi at 3 months old

It was a warm summer morning in 2003 when I wandered out to the garden in the sunshine to have a break from a harrowing part of my PhD research which was examining the relationship that people have with the natural world. Bounding across the back lawn leaping for joy was a small bundle of

energy.... and Chi our first orphan bunny came bouncing into our lives, lifting our spirits and filling our hearts with joy. We were mesmerised by his antics as he leapt for the joy of living with perfect figure eights in the air with a flick and a twist of his small agile body. Chi taught us about bunnies, how precious and unique these creatures are, he taught us trust and rewarded us each day tenfold for caring for him. From this chance meeting our future was determined to protect and help these creatures.

In July 2009 we opened Rabbit Run Away Orphanage, a dedicated sanctuary for lost, abandoned and neglected domestic bunnies. Reflecting on that warm summer morning six years ago, we honour Chi's legacy as we celebrate the first anniversary of Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage, a bunny sanctuary dedicated and committed to the rescue and rehoming of these precious creatures.



Chi in his favourite stance watching over the other bunnies

Chi was also a fundraiser and posed with his girls Tulip and Gia for Christmas photo's in 2009 to raise money for the orphaned bunnies.



Chi with Tulip and Gia at Christmas 2009

We mourn the loss of Chi, our beautiful, majestic head bunny and the reason our charity exists today. Chi was also known as "Wise Master Chi." He ruled over the other bunnies with kindness, gentleness and non aggression and the other bunnies respected him as their leader.

Chi succumbed to pneumonia and was under vet treatment when he died on Friday 3 July 2010. We all mourn his passing with grief in our hearts.

Lori... *also gets her angel wings*

In our early bunny days, before we knew much about bonding, we decided to choose girlfriends for our two big boy bunnies Hiro and Chi. And so Lori and Tulip came into our lives., adopted through AAPS. When we arrived home, Hiro and Chi had other ideas, unbeknown to us, they we confirmed young bachelors and did not like the idea of having girlfriends.



Lori liked to periscope

Lori was very cute with a cheeky personality. She grew into an independent young lady and had her eyes and heart set on securing the love of Hiro or Chi. Instead she had to settle in the girls quarter with Tulip and a very young and mischievous Gia. As Gia grew it became clear that there was rivalry for Tulip's affections between Gia and Lori and in time the astute and intelligent Tulip was forced to choose to protect the young Gia. The stoush between Gia and Lori was never resolved.



In happier times, Gia, Tulip and Lori

When Chi found love with Tulip and Gia, Lori still kept trying to win Chi or Hiro's affections. There was one other cute little lop boy that came to stay. He liked Lori and this was the only other bunny that she showed any interest in. He was intact, and took great delight in showering her with his scent, she would nuzzled down hoping to receive a bunny kiss. After he left her attentions moved to Chi and Hiro again.



Chi, began to contemplate accepting Lori . He would move the girls away from Lori if it looked like there was any fighting. Sadly, just as progress was being made, Chi died suddenly. Then two months passed and the unthinkable happened and Lori died

The angels wept with the sudden loss of our little girl, Lori, she was innocent and sweet but very assertive. Lori suddenly was diagnosed with a blockage in her stomach. With only a 5percent chance of recovery, we held her and talked to her as she was gently put to sleep on Thursday 2 September 2010. As we passed her into the hands of the angels, our hearts are heavy with the loss of this sweet, assertive spirit and she is will be eternally missed.



Lori 2009 taking part in the fundraiser for the

Binkies and Thumps

All the bunnies give three big BINKIES to...

All of our supporters who have offered us moral and financial support during a very difficult year... our heartfelt thanks.

A special thankyou to Cathrin and Michael, for a donation of \$500 given so generously towards Bobby's vet care, and to Kerry for her generous donation of \$300 towards Max's operation. You are bunny treasures and the angels smile warmly on you and your families.

To Jess and Rhian, our committee members and their families who have been a stoic support during a turbulent year.

To Narelle and her staff at the Melbourne Rabbit Clinic for their kindness and ongoing support of our orphans and their carers.

The bunnies send binkies and bunny kisses to each and every one of you.

All the bunnies give a big THUMP to...

Persons who made a concerted effort to tear down the work done by the orphanage and cause severe disruption to the rehoming of the bunnies.

Objectors to the permit to keep the bunnies onsite. These people have shown a selfish, self centred nature with no understanding of the consequences of their actions on the bunnies or their carers.

To the woman who would rather euthanise her healthy baby bunny than to contribute to having it desexed. We are appalled and you should hang your head in shame.

Classifieds

FOSTER CARERS NEEDED All bunny housing and equipment supplied. Please call us on 9751 1229 if you can assist.

Wedding Belles

The bunnies are doing lots of binkies and their carers are breaking out the champagne in celebration when they heard the news...



Emma and Carl are married

Emma is a volunteer at Rabbit Run Away Orphanage. Emma and Carl were married on the 6 December 2010 at a beautiful ceremony at Lyerbird Falls in the Dandenongs.. Emma and Carl are the proud parents of Charlie and Jazz. Jazz was recently adopted from the orphanage. We will feature some photos in our next edition.

Rhian and Marley are engaged

Rhian is our secretary at Rabbit Run Away Orphanage and she and Marley are also the proud mum and dad of four gorgeous bunnies, Princess Loppy, and Harry, and Monty and Rosie, who are all rescue bunnies.

Judi's mum dies

Aileen Moore died on 17 November 2010. Aileen was married to Mark and together they raised 10 children. Aileen was a passionate gardener and historian and instilled in her children the need to help those less fortunate. The family home was always welcoming to strangers and the disadvantaged. Although they had 10 children, Aileen and Mark also fostered children with behavioural problems. In more recent times Aileen was captivated by the bunnies, after staying with Judi whilst recovering from eye surgery. She would always ask about the bunnies and took great delight in hearing our bunny tales. Although very frail, she made it to the orphanage's 1st anniversary celebrations and came for a drive recently to see the beautiful rhododendrons and camellias in bloom in the Dandenongs. Aileen died 2 weeks before her 90th birthday. She supported each and everyone of her family to the very end of her life.

