



Rabbit Run-Away Chronicles



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Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage & HRS Australian Chapter



Welcome to the latest edition of Rabbit Run-Away Chronicles, our newsletter for Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage and the House Rabbit Society Australian Chapter....



The Bunny Bachelor

All of our little bunny bachelorettes have entered the bunny mansion and are eagerly waiting the arrival of the bunny bachelors. Who will get a rose petal and who will find their perfect husbun? If there are any bunny bachelors or bachelorettes looking for bunny love then you may apply to enter the bunny mansion now. Click on the link and fill in the application form to start your journey to true love: <https://www.rabbitrunaway.org.au/adopt-foster>

Meet Bunny Bachelor Tyrion: Like his name sake in "Game of Thrones", what Tyrion lacks in size and strength, he makes up for in mental acuity. He entered the bunny mansion with high hopes of meeting the love of his bunny dreams. His visit began with a few setbacks, but just as Tyrion was packing his little bunny bag to leave the bunny mansion, out hopped a little bachelorette called Sally. She had a natural beauty and a quiet presence about her, unlike the other bunny bachelorettes, who were all strong willed "young liberated women". She had been a neglected bunny, but this had not affected her happy self. Suddenly Tyrion appeared and took her aside, much to the disappointment of the other bunny bachelorettes. On the third day, Tyrion took her home to meet his family, and he is a happy bunny now that he has his Sally.



THE DATING GAME: Bunny dating can be tricky, as not all rabbits like each other. If you put two dominant rabbits together they can fight for dominance and cause injury. A de-sexed boy and girl are a more stable lifetime match, than same sex pairs. Siblings can work if the bunnies are de-sexed early. Do not attempt to bond a mature male rabbit until his hormones have settled (usually 3 months after neutering). Watch out for more bonding tips on our website soon.

FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Do you have a skill that you can use for fundraising? How creative can you be? There have been some wonderful initiatives from individuals wanting to help raise much needed funds for the bunnies. Apart from our GoFundMe Campaign Hutchinson Legal raised a fantastic \$2,400 in a bumper sticker promotion, while a creative yoga teacher is offering “Bunny Yoga”. Please call Judi if you have an idea for fundraising so that we can assist with promoting your activity. We will be putting ideas on our website soon under the fundraising link.



GoFundMe Campaign Update

Help Kokomo

We continue to struggle to catch up on our vet bills. We have restricted our intake of bunnies that need extensive vet work, however two buns have come in to the Orphanage recently, both did not have other options. Kokomo has dental issues that can be addressed with vet care.

We have made some great progress, but are still \$9,000 short of our goal. You can donate [here](#), all donations are tax deductible and are greatly appreciated.

\$15,590 of \$24k goal

Raised by 202 people in 4 months

Bunny Yoga: A Fun, Furry Fundraiser

Do you have a talent or skill that you can use to fundraise for the Orphanage. The talented India Barnard, is one of our volunteers and a yoga teacher. India is running the first Bunny Yoga class in Melbourne on 11 September 2017 in Fitzroy North. The lucky participants will be joined by the bunnies from Rabbit Runaway Orphanage. This event is sold out, but we hope that India will hold other “Bunny Yoga” classes in the future.



Hutchinson Legal Bumper Sticker Fundraiser

For the last few months, Hutchinson Legal have partnered with Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage to raise funds for the Orphanage through a Hutchinson Legal bumper sticker promotion. For each bumper sticker photo uploaded to the Hutchinson Legal Facebook page, the company donated \$50 to the orphanage. The fundraiser ended on 31st May, and raised a total of \$2,400, which has gone directly to pay of outstanding vet bills!

A BIG THANKYOU TO HUTCHINSON LEGAL AND OUR WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS.

Stress on Rabbits

The effect of stress on rabbits is very far reaching, and affects a wide variety of their body systems. This includes acute stressors (barking dogs, car rides, birds flying overhead for some!) and chronic stressors (living in a poor husbandry environment), though they affect different systems to different extents.

Possible effects of stress include changes in blood cell counts, decreased urine production, an increase in blood glucose concentration, gastric ulcers, and the dreaded gastrointestinal stasis. For this reason, it's always important to provide a calm, consistent environment for our rabbits, especially when recovering from illness, and make sure they have pain relief on board if they have any conditions which cause pain or discomfort. If you're concerned your rabbit is stressed or uncomfortable, organise a check up with your bunny friendly vet - Dr. Belinda Oppenheimer BVSc (Hons) - The Rabbit Doctors





Meet our Volunteer - Clare Anthony

What do you do at Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage Claire?

I'm a shelter attendant and supervise on some days. I also help with some administration duties and off-site events. I enjoy sewing and make the cute mats for the enclosures and other things.

What do you like most about rabbits?

What I love most is their funny fuzzy nature. They are a misunderstood pet, which I feel I can relate to.

Why did you want to volunteer for the Orphanage?

I wanted to volunteer because of my love of animals and I have not had the opportunity to spend real time with bunnies before. Now I can't get enough of them!

How did you find out about Rabbit Run- Away Orphanage?

I discovered Rabbit Run-Away Orphanage through a Facebook page advertising for volunteers and foster carers. I have been volunteering for 5 months and have loved every moment.

WARNING: Urban Foxes

This is a reminder to all rabbit owners, *never* leave your rabbits outside unattended. Within four weeks, we have lost 4 rabbits adopted from the Orphanage to fox attacks. This can happen to even the most vigilant of owners.

Foxes are extremely widespread throughout Melbourne, as [Agriculture Victoria](#) says that there can be anywhere between 3 to 16 foxes per kilometre in city areas. This time of year foxes are more prevalent, as John Matthews of Agriculture Victoria explained to [ABC News](#) that June to mid-July is breeding season for foxes.

With an influx of foxes this time of year, remember to never leave your rabbits alone outside. Outdoor time is great for rabbits, however accidents can happen. Rabbits can escape, a door can get left open, and rabbits can slip out without being seen.



The Orphanage does not adopt our rabbits to outdoor environments due to the greater risk. Always remember to take extra care of your rabbits when outside and never take your eyes off them during outdoor time..

Also see the following article from The Age: [Fox family at home in a Melbourne backyard](#)

Volunteer Shifts Available

Shelter Attendants: weekends 9.30am-1pm; weekdays 9.30am-2.00 pm

Various Admin Roles: flexible times, will require onsite attendance

Intersection Collectors (paid positions): Once a month on Saturdays

Please email volunteer@rabbitrunaway.org.au

Permanent Foster Carers Needed

Please complete a bunny wanted from our website

<https://www.rabbitrunaway.org.au/>





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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The Rabbit Doctors

Chi's Legacy

Chi's Legacy asks the Australian Government to develop welfare laws that will protect domestic pet rabbits from abuse, neglect and dumping in the Australian landscape or in pounds across the country. Where current laws do not protect them, they are euthanised in unacceptable numbers.

New laws would also help prevent the dumping of domestic rabbits, which currently contributes to the large feral rabbit population in Australia. As an exotic pet, they require regulations to restrict uncontrolled breeding and regulations to control ownership as with other exotic pets.

To help, [please sign this petition](#) to encourage our government to change our laws to include rabbit welfare.



R.I.P. Lucy-Lou



Our dear Lucy Lou has left this world. Lucy came to the orphanage from another rescue; it quickly became evident that this sweet girl had a big fight ahead. She fought to overcome head tilt, found happiness with Piro, then Darwin, and relished in the love she had from our friends at the Orphanage. Now, she has joined all the other bunnies gone before her over the rainbow bridge. We're sure Darwin and Piro were right there waiting for her.

Rabbit Run-Away Calendar

Event / Location	Dates
Bunny Yoga	2 Sept 2017
Melbourne Rabbit Conference	18 Nov 2017



A day to donate your spare change on the 28th of each month - save the date!

