

# Burrowings

THE NOVEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER FROM BUNNY BURROWS

# BunnyBurrows

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1090006

[www.bunnyburrows.btck.co.uk](http://www.bunnyburrows.btck.co.uk)

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The usual complaint about the weather can't be the beginning of this article as Summer has been ace. The tortoises have had the best Summer for many years and the sun has certainly reached the parts warming them up just like solar cells. They have been super charged and trying to fill them up with food has been quite a challenge, especially with 7 of our own and Fred on his holidays. It has also made them 'bonking mad' thankfully no chance of breeding as only one is a girl and that is Marigold and she has not been able to go out much this year with such a deformed shell due to incorrect diet before arriving at the Burrows. Now the weather has changed, 5 are in hibernation and 2 are not fit enough to sleep for 5 months.

Although the weather has been fab, the one day myself and Audrey were due to attend a gala in Poppleton near York, there had been a deluge overnight and the event had to be held in the hall. That was August bank holi-

# NEWS FROM THE BURROW

FROM GWEN

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day Saturday. The day was great, we were made very welcome with rabbits and guinea pigs to hug and a fund raising stall; we must have behaved ourselves as we have been invited back next year and are looking forward to it.

We have done a few visits this year to guides, brownies and beavers and still another to fit in before the weather gets too bad (the way the animals are moulting I am expecting the worst.) It is very rewarding taking the animals to meet and talk to the youngsters; I just wish I had more time and lot's more energy with less aches and pains, but just putting that down to old age!

It is still full house at the Burrows having taken in 52 guinea pigs a few weeks ago and so many of the girls were pregnant. Up to date 20 + babies have been born. Thank goodness they are not all here, we are lucky to have many good Foster Homes, always on hand to help pick up the pieces. Also we have taken in 2 litters of baby rabbits that the RSPCA were unable to care for. One litter are lop eared x breed, so very friendly and the other litter is the cutest of lion heads in various colours.

The new member of the BB Geriatrics named Blind Jack (obviously because he is totally blind and a male) has fitted in very well within the group upstairs. A fitting existence for the rest of his life after living in a hutch on his own and now in the spare bedroom with 3 companions laid under the radiator snuggled up.

The count down for Christmas is up in the window counting down the days, hours and minutes until Christmas Eve and at midnight it will flash up Ho! Ho! Ho! This large snowman was purchased by my late husband John, the year before he sadly passed away. It gives mixed comments from jubilation from children (and myself) to Ba Humbug from the grumpies and horror from parents stating, "Oh no

that can't be right!"

I was sorry we had to cancel the Northallerton coffee morning in August but sadly we were so short of help with so many of the regular hands on having previous arrangements. These events have to be booked more than a year in advance and paid for sometimes, you just have to put it down to experience. Next year the coffee mornings in Northallerton are in June and October.

The Hot X Bunny Day is booked and the venue paid for. Next year we are holding the day in Richmond Town Hall and not the original venue of the Market Hall. Where, you ask, is the Town Hall? Well it's just a stride away from the Market Hall. It's a very beautiful building and I am quite excited but more about that in the next news letter.

The EBay is still keeping me very busy at night with the help of Tanner the bunny. It never ceases to amaze me just what sells and the various countries we sell the goods to. I thoroughly enjoy the challenge and continue to gain knowledge as to just what prices we get for the goodies. I have to take the opportunity to say a very big thank you to the kind supporters who donate their possessions to Bunny Burrows. I certainly get better money on EBay than I did sat in the market hall on a Sunday.

I hope you continue to enjoy the news letter and if you feel you would like to contribute with an article please do not hesitate to email them to Kaz at [furryhollow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:furryhollow@yahoo.co.uk)

Although it may seem a little early I would like to wish you all a joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

*Gwen*



# WILL A TABLET HELP MY HEADACHE?

FROM KAZ

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Or would an IPAD make it better?  
Do you know the difference between the two?

Tablet computers aren't new, they've been around for about 20 years, but nobody was buying them until April 2010, when Apple shook up the marketplace with the iPad.

The iPad was extremely popular with the public, perhaps because it bore a resemblance to the iPhone. Tablet computers are so easy to use and are extremely portable, with few built-in controls except for a flat touch-screen interface.

Like the iPad, Android Tablets have a touch-screen interface, which allows the user to activate icons with the tap of a finger or move objects around and scroll screens with a swiping gesture of their hands. Both Apple and the various Android manufacturers offer an online marketplace where programs, known as apps can be purchased and downloaded directly to the device. In fact, Android tablets are enough like iPads that at a casual glance a user unfamiliar with the two types of tablet might mistake one for the other.

So which is the better tablet? That's a tough question. It's not so much like comparing apples with oranges it's more like comparing one or two apples with a whole basketful of oranges. Only Apple makes the iPad and there are only two versions; the iPad and the iPad 2. On the other hand, any company that's able to manufacture hardware that will support Google's operating system can make an Android tablet and of course some companies will do a better job of it than others. But from information I have

found it's possible to compare the iPad against some Android tablets.

When the Xoom was launched Motorola knew that it would have to beat the iPad's specs, so it came with a dual core processor, allowing software to run twice as fast as on the iPad, and two built-in cameras, a 5-megapixel camera facing forward and a 2-megapixel camera facing backward toward the user to allow video chatting. This was a bonus as it was found that many people had been annoyed that Apple hadn't included a camera in its first iPad. The Xoom's screen measures 10.1 inches, which was slightly larger than the iPad's, and its 1280x800 display offered slightly higher graphics resolution. The Xoom comes with 32 gigabytes of memory, but this can be expanded using MicroSD (Secure Digital) cards.

It appeared Apple still had the advantage for most users because programmers had been developing apps for the iPad for nearly a year before the Xoom appeared and the Apple App Store stocked thousands of programs while the Android app store was almost empty. Apple swiftly replaced the original iPad with the iPad 2.

The iPad2 was released in March 2011, only a month after the Xoom appeared, and its up-graded hardware neatly eliminated the main advantages that Motorola's device had over Apple's. Like the Xoom, the iPad 2 has front- and rear-facing video cameras that support Apple's FaceTime video chat software. It also has a dual core processor and comes in a slimmer, lighter case than the first iPad, a feature that Apple likes to emphasize in its advertising.

# RECIPE FOR NOVEMBER

FROM JOHN TALBOT

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## WATERCRESS SOUP

8oz watercress  
1oz butter  
Small onion  
12oz potatoes, peeled & diced  
3/4pt stock  
1/2pt milk  
Salt & pepper  
Small tin evaporated milk,  
Cream or yogurt

Wash watercress, keeping a little for garnish.

Remove thick stalks & chop the rest.

Melt the butter in a saucepan, saute onion & watercress for approx 15mins until soft.

Add potatoes, stock & milk and season.

Bring to the boil & simmer for 30 mins, stirring occasionally.

Sieve or puree in blender. Reheat, add cream, yogurt or evaporated milk but do not boil.

Garnish with coarsely chopped sprigs of watercress.



## DID YOU KNOW?

FROM KAZ

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Just like humans, rabbits become bored if their environments remain the same, so they can benefit from variety and occasional change of scenery. However, too much change can have adverse effects. A wild rabbit's survival depends on an intimate knowledge of its surroundings in order to escape from predators, so structural changes to the house of a rabbit kept as a pet should be kept subtle, such as changing their toys and regularly providing new ones.

Not many people know that rabbits can be trained. Those kept as pets can really benefit from reward-based training. For example, they can be trained to exercise and go over small jumps, which in turn is great for their health. Being active reduces the risk of rabbits becom-

ing overweight and even obese, as well as providing physical and mental stimulation.

The rabbit is one of the 12 animals in the Chinese Zodiac. It represents graciousness, kindness, sensitivity, compassion, tenderness and elegance.

Although typically very quiet, rabbits do communicate vocally, with varying types of vocalisations communicating different messages, e.g. low humming when running around an individual is a signal of affection.

More than half of the world's rabbits live in North America.

# AWAY IN WALES

FROM JENNIFER ROBERTS

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My sister and I have just come back from a week away in Pembrokeshire. The bunnies, guinea pigs, degus and budgies were also on holiday at Bunny Burrows as usual. With them safely away, we drove the six and a half hours to where we used to spend our holidays as children.

We booked a holiday cottage very near the coast path just outside Solva, not far from Newgale, so we could enjoy long walks. We packed our walking gear and our binoculars with the hope of seeing some great wildlife along the way.

On the first walk we turned right out of the cottage, hit the coast path and headed towards St David's, the smallest city in the country. The weather was warm and the butterflies were plentiful; peacocks and speckled woods danced over the last of the autumn flowers. Parasol mushrooms were dotted on the grass verges and brambles were abundant which made a tasty on the foot snack. As it was such a beautiful day, we decided to press on to St Justinian's further along the coast, rounding bay after bay in glorious sunshine. And we were so glad we did. As we moved into view of the Ramsey Sound that separates Ramsey Island from mainland, we were delighted to see young seal pups basking in the warmth and their parents watching whilst bobbing in the sea. They move gracefully through the waters and watch inquisitively as their youngest wait to be fed. Every small isolated bay we then saw had seals occupying it. They obviously knew all the best spots.

On the second walk we turned left and headed

for Broad Haven, this would take us past the long beach of Newgale and the smaller coves of Little Haven and Nolton Haven. The day started with a heavy mist but soon burnt off and was as sunny as before. This time en route, we were greeted by the sight of the wonderful chough. A rare bird with less than 500 breeding pairs in Britain, they can only be found on the West coast in this country. It is easily identifiable by its black plumage as a member of the crow family but distinguishable by its red beak and legs.

Having been to South Stack on Anglesey looking for this elusive bird, it was a pleasure to see them so easily as they pecked at the grass for food. They call to one another whilst in flight with a sharper call than crows and this soon becomes easily recognisable. But this was not the only wildlife highlights of the day; rock pipits, stone chats, buzzards, gannets and kestrels, a young slow worm sliding across the path in front of us, as well as bumble bees and more butterflies enjoying the sunshine as much as we were.



# AWAY IN WALES

CONTINUED ...

Of course, our walk was rounded off by Welsh Cakes, Barra Brith and a cup of tea. We did deserve it!

The walks may have got shorter after our first two thirteen milers, but the sightings were still to be had: more choughs, a juvenile Buzzard, porpoise in the bay and an array of sea life whilst rock pooling in the afternoons. We were certainly reliving our childhood. It was a fabulous week and a coastline well worth visiting if you do not know the area.

In a world where we can now travel anywhere at anytime, our own doorstep is so often overlooked. It is all too easy to go somewhere by car and yet if we had not walked the coast path, we would not have seen the spectacular wildlife that Pembrokeshire has to offer. There is no such thing as bad weather just the wrong



clothes, so can I suggest that a walk will bring you into direct contact with nature and remind you how beautiful and diverse our country is. Oh yes, we did see lots of wild rabbits as well; nearly a busman's holiday!

## SPOT THE BUNNY

FROM KAZ

P V F B O E Y L A T P H B H N  
U S S R D W A R F L O P L H E  
T N C I A M R H M E L F I N H  
N E R H L O H Z H C T U D A R  
A C C C I V N E S H D Q P Y E  
I P F Z A N E I X U Q M N A X  
G U Z J E S C R M U L E C L R  
H J K A J C H H M O S L K A F  
S X U H X Y H M I A L N S M H  
I Z Q H B M V R E L R A K I P  
M Z B M B K D V E R L T P H P  
E H T H V O U A Q D E A E F M  
L M H A R L E Q U I N H R N N  
F N B O X O F R E V L I S R N  
X A J G Q W Q S N L K Z W V G

CASHMERE  
CHINCHILLA  
CZECHRED  
DUTCH  
DWARFLOP  
ELFIN  
FLEMISHGIANT  
HARLEQUIN  
HIMALAYAN  
PALOMINO  
REX  
SILVERFOX  
SILVERMARTEN

# THE BEDROOM BUNNIES

FROM GWEN BUTLER

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Having a three bed roomed house would make you think having visitors to sleep over would be no big deal. Nothing is quite that simple at Bunny Burrows. I wake up to visitors sleeping downstairs on the sofa bed as the furies have priority over the bedrooms!

The small bedroom is the room used for the EBay; it stores the items to be sold and all the packaging. The larger bedroom is kitted out for Twilight, Mercury and Darling-B, known collectively as, the three bedroom bunnies.

Twilight came from Selby, my late husband John collected him, a bit of a mercy mission I suppose. The tiny little rabbit was only a few days old and I had to hand rear him as his mother had died. That was four years ago. Poor Twilight has all kinds of health issues, problems with his bladder making him incontinent, which in turn makes his under carriage quite sore.

He is on many different medications every day and lots of Vaseline to keep his skin as supple as possible. However, he does eat well and enjoys very much the company of Mercury and Darling-B.

Darling-B, that's a name that makes you think. She is a golden coloured Dwarf Lop, different to Twilight



*Twilight*

who is an English X Breed. I hasten to add that all these bunnies are neutered; we don't do breeding at The Burrow.

Darling-B came to us a couple of years ago; a councillor in Darlington had been told that a rabbit was straying in his ward. He contacted the RSPCA to ask if they could help and he was asked if the rabbit was on an A road or a B road. He told them it was on a B road. He was then told they would only take it if it was straying on an A road. He contacted us and we took her in and here she has stayed, living happily with Twilight and Mercury.

Mercury is a large grey Dwarf Lop, he came from Stockton four years ago. He was a mature rabbit when he arrived and that was another mercy mission that John made after a 'phone call. We had just lost Moto, a rabbit that lived happily in the bedroom with Precious his girl friend. Mercury has been a pleasure to own, he has loved all the rabbits that he has met up with. He also has health issues and is totally blind. His favourite pastime is sleeping under the radiator when he's not eating and he enjoys the company of the other bedroom bunnies.



*Mercury*

Now this is where 3 becomes 4. A few weeks ago we had a call from the

# THE BEDROOM BUNNIES

CONTINUED ...

Northallerton area to say an elderly gentleman, in his 80's, had died of smoke inhalation when his house had set on fire. Four rabbits, as well as his other pets were left behind and the RSPCA couldn't take the rabbits so, YES, they came to Bunny Burrows. One of the rabbits, a black and white Dwarf Lop was totally blind, a bit lame and needed a bit more weight on him. We knew he was not rehomeable and he hadn't been neutered or vaccinated so I took him to see Trudi, the vet in Leeds.



*Blind Jack*

The concern was, was he fit enough to be neutered or was he doomed to lead a lonely life if his 'dangly-bits' couldn't be removed. Trudi did blood tests and found he had a dicky ticker (heart problems) and his kidneys are not the best. His front teeth were a mess, probably

from chewing on the bars of his hutch. He was however, neutered that same day and we brought him home to recover and wondered where he would fit in.

Of course, fingers crossed, he would go upstairs with the geriatrics.

What a whole new life he has now, we have named him Blind Jack as many years ago I met a couple who now run the inn and hostelry in Knaresborough called Blind Jacks.

He has three friends and they hug up together and groom each other.

Darling-B sometimes gets a little irritated; well you know how it is when you have untidy males about that forget their manners.

## SPOT THE PIGGY

FROM KAZ

S	A	T	I	N	P	N	E	F	N	V	W	E	Z	I
C	N	E	G	F	T	B	J	U	J	A	J	J	L	M
K	B	T	E	X	E	L	T	C	J	L	O	W	S	M
B	Y	X	W	E	X	N	A	I	V	U	R	E	P	L
H	P	A	E	A	Y	R	A	K	N	U	L	Z	C	F
T	A	L	F	Q	A	D	E	I	T	L	E	H	S	L
O	K	P	G	F	B	Y	V	X	D	F	M	S	W	R
Z	Y	A	N	V	Y	L	R	U	C	T	I	U	T	I
R	V	C	J	R	S	N	Q	I	Q	W	F	A	C	Z
T	J	A	H	T	S	Q	C	B	S	S	G	O	Z	W
F	W	R	E	X	I	O	X	E	H	O	R	J	Q	R
I	F	D	V	T	N	R	A	U	U	O	H	O	I	A
K	D	K	K	Y	I	W	N	T	N	X	K	Y	B	F
Y	E	S	Q	F	A	B	I	E	I	S	A	R	D	S
X	T	G	A	Y	N	I	T	N	I	W	D	L	A	B

PERUVIAN
SHELTIE
CORONET
ABYSSINIAN
TEXEL
ALPACA
REX
SATIN
AGOUTI
BALDWIN
SWISS
TEDDY
LUNKARYA



# SPONSOR A PET

## AND HELP BUNNY BURROWS

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Sponsoring a pet is a super way of helping Bunny Burrows. Sponsorship lasts for one year and costs £20, the equivalent of only 39p a week.

You will receive an A5 sponsor certificate card with a colour photo, an Easter card, Christmas card and an updated photo in the form of a fridge magnet. Also our newsletter, four times a year.

Take a look at the long term residents who will never be rehomed because of on-going health problems. If you are interested please let us have your name, address and who you would like to sponsor.

Please send your details with a cheque to  
Bunny Burrows  
68 Whitefields Drive  
Richmond  
North Yorkshire  
DL10 7DL

GIFT AID is tax relief on money donated to UK Charities, please tell us if you will allow us to claim this back from your £20.

**THANK YOU.**

**SPONSOR A PET**



**TYSON**



**CHARLIE**



**HEIDI**



**MERCURY**



**BARNEY**



**DIZZY RASCAL**



**CLARISSA**

# TALBOT BUNNY NEWS

FROM JOHN TALBOT

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In the last issue of Burrowings, I wrote an article about Nettle the little wild x and her 3 brothers. We are so pleased that everything is now back to normal.

All the fur where her eye had been removed has now grown back as you can see below and the loss of the eye has not affected her confidence or behaviour at all. She is by far the most mischievous of the four. If there is any digging under, or climbing over of fences, she is the ringleader. Often she will be the only one to

have had many more large flies around than usual. Obviously this is a worry as our two dwarf lops, Twig & Charlie were a bit 'messy' at one stage in August, possibly through eating too much fresh garden food. We reduced the amount of their morning & evening food and this cleared up the problem. Simba, our lion head had a dental in September as he started leaving food. Apart from this, all our other bunnies have been in good health.



*Nettle*

escape into a different part of the garden. Unless there has been heavy rain, they will burrow every day when they come out. The burrow will often be 4 or 5 feet into the ground, in the 2 or 3 hours that they are out. Once they have been put away, I fill in the burrow using a small shovel and a length of timber to ram the soil back in.

For those of you who enjoy Summertime, 2013 has been a good one. In our area we seemed to



*Love from*

**The Talbot Bunnies. X**

I am always looking for articles for this newsletter that goes out four times a year. February, May, August and November.

Email them to Kaz:  
[furryhollow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:furryhollow@yahoo.co.uk)

# AutoBUNography Part 13

FROM GWEN BUTLER

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Through all the heartaches and sadness I suffer with these special creatures that have taken over and changed my life I have to hold my hand up and admit they have given me the opportunity to experience occasions that could never ever have been possible if it had not been for Bunny Burrows.

I have spoken in the past of the wonderful experience meeting Mark Evans and Wendy Turner Webster when being involved with Pet Rescue. The television radio and newspaper coverage was a definite experience I thoroughly enjoyed and continue to enjoy.

The year John, my late husband, celebrated his 60th birthday and the same day we celebrated our Silver Wedding, we were invited to appear with Phillip Schofield and Fern Britton on the morning programme. That was 2005 March 15th.

We drove down to London and stayed in a new hotel in Grenwhich and with us we had a very large French lop female rabbit called Phoenix. She was allowed to stay with us in the hotel room, it was so posh. The chef made us a very fancy cake at the hotel.

The reason we were invited was they were doing a programme about overweight animals and although Phoenix was not particularly overweight she sort of made the point about size. We actually travelled to the studio in a chauffer driven white Mercedes with Phoenix on the back seat. Toast, croissants, tea and coffee in the green room. Mingling with celebs from soaps like Eastenders as well as many of the various presenters on the show. such as the chefs, doctors and interviewers. Whilst waiting



to go on camera there was such things as makeup to be done. Several phone calls were made from radio programmes throughout Great Britain and the continent talking to me about the large rabbit Phoenix also asking about Bunny Burrows. When we eventually went on set there was a vet on and they asked me to put Phoenix on a set of scales. They were fake scales but hey! ho! that's T.V. for you. We left the studio to go to the grounds of parliament to do another T.V. interview for a northern news programme. Phew! that was a bus day. Phoenix weighed at that time of her life, 6.3 kilos. This experience was followed by filming in April with a programme called Animal Roadshow, this was filmed in a large marquee in Manchester at Wythenshaw Park. This was another event to be televised and involved us taking rabbits. I am not sure if this has ever been show on T.V. but a second filming session was done in Newcastle where Bunny Burrows guinea pigs had the star treatment. The last I heard it had been canned I think the term was and not been shown.

# AutoBUNography Part 13

CONTINUED ...

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Not all was good news at this time I had previously sold all my blue and white Wedgewood Jasper Ware to buy a trailer for transporting food , bedding and other items for Bunny Burrows .The trailer was parked on the drive full of books that had been donated to the charity to fund raise. In the middle of the afternoon on the 27th April the trailer was stolen lock stock and full of goodies never to be seen again.

Over the many years of Bunny Burrows we have had and still do get lot's of holiday rabbits and guinea pigs that holiday with us and return on a regular basis. Kellog was a very special visitor a gorgeous golden rex boy. What a character he was, special and he just knew how to work the facilities. His coat was just begging to be smoothed but he had a way of looking at you if he could have spoken he would have said " You can look but don't touch the royal fur". He was gorgeous, when ever he left here he always left with what John would call a Red Cross Parcel, all Kellogs favourite fruit and vege. Thank you Justine for allowing us to take care of Kellog.



In the June of that year an adorable female rabbit came to B.B. she was a black and tan we called her Hazel she took up residence with a

white albino Netherland Dwarf male we named Toy Boy. Hazel was not with us very long before she had to have one of her back legs removed. She gained the nick name Hazel Hop & Hide. The disability didn't bother her she would hop around the garden and play hide and seek.



There seemed to be know end of new additions moving in to the Burrows, in August two wild rabbits arrived from different circumstances. One girl had been attacked by a stoat and she had nasty wounds, one on her throat and the other on her lower ear. This girl, although wild, was a soft grey and very special. The next arrival came via the R.S.P.C.A. She needed syringe feeding and special care. She did survive and we named her Easby. They both spent there lives with our resident wild boy Grainger. Oh! how I love my wild bunnies they are perfection.



# THE PARTY BUNNIES

FROM LIZZIE

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Presents From The Rabbits Or Have They Been Having A Party?!

With our garden joining countryside we have had the joy of seeing wild rabbits running around, early morning and from late afternoon into the evening.

For quite a few years we have been jealous of our neighbours as a family of rabbits had made a burrow under their garden shed at the bottom of their garden. We have seen the delight of seeing the tiny young ones making their first appearance on the lawn and not impressed that they favoured our neighbour's garden to our own! And because we would be able to see better what they were getting up to!

So early this year we were thrilled to suddenly see the entrance to a burrow in our garden, no one had seen it being dug, so the rabbits have been very secretive in the construction. We noticed they were often in our garden, we have an old ha-ha running across the garden (this was originally built to keep the cattle away from the house) but the rabbits were not bothered by this. I've measured it and it's height is three foot six inches and they would easily jump up and down it



without a care in the world, or use the bridge.....!

The entrance to the burrow is in a very shaded spot, near the edge of the ha-ha and under a willow tree and by a holly bush. Whilst getting ready to leave for work in the morning I've been trying to peep and see if I can see any movement around the entrance but I think they know when I'm looking and so far I haven't seen anyone going in or coming out.

How many rabbits?

I've honestly no idea but on an evening approximately four adults can be seen in our garden and more in the neighbours and more again in the field. The rabbits have never given us any trouble, it was only once at the start of early Summer one was caught tasting a rose bush! But apart from that they stick to grass and the willow tree.

One of the rabbits that lives in our garden is quite stocky, with shortish legs and to me he looks like a bull when he runs! I've called him Teddy and I'm very fond of him, I

think I was influenced in name by a certain Teddy who lives at Bunny Burrows who I'm also very fond of!

One day towards the end of August I was in the garden with my mum and I went to have a peep at

# THE PARTY BUNNIES

CONTINUED

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the burrow, keeping very quiet as the last thing I would want to do would be frighten them. I suddenly saw glass at the entrance, and my first reaction was, I've got to get rid of this or they will cut themselves, but then looking closer I realised it wasn't broken glass but tiny glass

bottles and these were dotted around the entrance. We picked them all up and took them inside to wash the soil off them. There were six bottles in total, measuring six centimetres high by two centimetres wide and all in perfect condition!

We couldn't quite believe what the rabbits had dug up, my mum remarked that she wished that they would dig up some gold coins!

I said no, you've got it the wrong way round!

They've put their empties out and are expecting

to be left coins by us!

Since finding the bottles, whenever I've been passing near the burrow I've had a little peek to see if there were anymore; but no.



Also, over the last couple of months I've noticed piles of soil appearing under a shed near the burrow that we use to keep a lawnmower in and at one side there are piles of soil and at the other side I can just make out the entrance to another burrow.

Maybe they connect up? And it is becoming one large burrow?

How lovely!

## IMPORTANT ... PLEASE READ FROM KAZ

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**From February 2014 when our next newsletter is due out, we will be sending it via e-mail.**

**This will save on paper, ink, envelopes, stamps and wear and tear on printers, all resulting in more money being available to help the animals. So would you please send your email address if you want to continue receiving our newsletter to**

**[bunnyburrows@tesco.net](mailto:bunnyburrows@tesco.net)**

**Your email address will not be passed on to anyone else.**

**Thank you ☺**

# ERIC and ERNIE From Guernsey

FROM SOPHIE WEBB

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Eric and Ernie are two Herman tortoises who live on the Island of Guernsey which is off the south coast of England. They arrived at their home when they were only 18 months old and the size of a chicken's egg.



They are now 8 ½ years old and as you can see by the photos below, have grown quite a bit!



They spent their first four years in a terrarium (similar to the vivariums used at Bunny Burrows) and spent the days outside in a pet playpen when the weather was warm enough. This was because of their vulnerability to the cold due to their age and the fact that it was advised by a vet that they did not hibernate until they were at least four years old. As a result of this, during the Winter, their owner kept them in a wooden house (once they had outgrown the playpen) in her basement. She put their house under a heat lamp to ensure that they did not get too cold, as this would encourage them to

hibernate.

They were let loose in their owners garden for the first time when they were 6 ½ (their fifth year on Guernsey) and this was also the first time they hibernated. They hibernated in their



wooden house which, as there is no frost on Guernsey, their owner wrapped in bubble wrap. They buried themselves in the straw and did not emerge until the following Spring.

They have lived outside permanently ever since, but still get wrapped up every winter. They get fed a bag of mixed salad leaves every day and are so used to their owners, they know the sound of their voices and come to the same place for their food every day. Of course, like all tortoises, as well as their normal food, they also like helping themselves to whatever plants they fancy in the garden.



*With thanks to Mrs Morgan, Eric and Ernie's owner.*

# MORE ABOUT TANNER

FROM GWEN BUTLER

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Well poor Tanner he doesn't know what we are going to remove from him next. That poor lad has gone through the mill in the one year he has been at Bunny Burrows. His mother, if you recollect, mutilated him when he was only a couple of weeks old. She bit off half of his ear and damaged his right back leg so badly it had to be removed.

He, bless him, had hang-ups and decided his other leg wasn't needed so he tried chewing his groin area! After medication and a time wearing a buster collar, it was sorted but that was only a short fix. He then decided to chew his toes off on his left back leg! In the mean time we had his 'boy bits' removed so he was castrated. That was all sorted after a search to find one of his testicles. (Nothing simple where Tanner is concerned). The final straw was his front teeth were a mess, so out they had to come.

Thank goodness all this has been worth while, he is adorable, eating well and loved up by the many guinea pigs and eight other rabbits he

lives with.

When you mention his name and he can hear you his ears prick up and he comes to you for a fuss. I tell him all the time he is a lucky boy but really we are lucky to have him; he has been such an education. The best time is in the evenings when he comes and sits on the settee with myself and Hetty and Hannah the two dogs. He snuggles up and falls sound asleep with eyes and nose twitching in the land of nod.



He does earn his 40 winks as Tanner is EBay king, the advice he gives on a night while I am listing items is very important.

Many may think it is impossible for a bunny with such problems to have a quality of life; my advice is just come and see Tanner. He sure can

move, he eats like a gannet, never stops grooming himself and all his rabbit and guinea pig companions.

I don't just love him, I adore him, as I do all the 'special needs furies' in the care of Bunny Burrows.

## HOW TO CONTACT BUNNY BURROWS

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