



Rabbit Ritz Ramblings

The Tortoise and the Bird

Shelley was a tortoise who was a survivor. She had lived happily in a vivarium until one day a rat managed to get into the tank and attack both Shelley and her tortoise friend. The other tortoise was mutilated but Shelley escaped with a broken and badly chewed leg. As a tropical animal she needed an expert and into the frame stepped Mr Paul the vet. He asked me to help with her care under his supervision as I am set up with heat lamps etc.

Initially, she was very sad and just not eating, her owner suggested grated carrot which was a new one to me! Even the warmth of a heat lamp wouldn't change her mood. The future wasn't orange...it wasn't even bright. One day, however, a client brought in a tiny bird she had discovered abandoned which was surely going to die. In my haste as I had clients waiting, I quickly popped the bird into the cage with Shelley the tortoise. A couple of hours later I peeked in, fully expecting a dead bird. I did smile at the sight that was before me.....Shelley for the first time, neck stretched out and basking in the warm glow from the lamp and sitting on her back, a bright and alert little bird. I left quietly.....

Some time later, I looked in again and this time the bird was nestled against Shelley and miraculously, the tortoise had begun to snack on some greens..... Whatever friendship had been forged was beyond the understanding of you or I. I began to feed tiny pieces of cat food to the bird using tweezers and he ate greedily,



then I noticed he had lost a foot in whatever skirmish had led to his downfall. I was fearful for his future. Cynics would claim that they were just sharing the heat but there was a definite air of understanding between those two creatures.

Sadly, there's no 'Disney' ending to this story, some days later the bird passed away in the night and I found him nestled next to Shelley.

HIS JOB WAS DONE! He gave her some of his sparkly dust and the energy to carry on. I like to think as I watched Shelley race (yes they do) across the lawn she had a little invisible bird angel on her back.

Shelley is now recovered and has met other visiting tortoises like Trott, Terence, Ginger, Pebbles, Horace and Fred.

Funny Photos



Skooby on his way to the gay Pride March



Peanut Pig Rambo....a legend



Vanilla-best behaved bunny-trying on his minnie mouse ears before he moves to America this year.

Daisy's Diet

One of the biggest problems I face is....FAT RABBITS!
The biggest piece of advice I give to people is IT'S A RABBIT!

Let me explain. Around 35% of rabbits are overweight because they are not fed correctly and given the correct exercise and stimulation. When was the last time you saw a fat wild rabbit?

Fat rabbits are prone to flystrike, strains on the joints, dental problems etc etc. If they can't reach their bottoms not only do they get dirty and attract flies but they cannot eat their caecotrophs which are vital for the nutrients contained therein. We know rabbits teeth are growing all the time and in the wild they would be gnawing all day. Not if you're having toast (yes, you know who you are) and sugary treats. Don't see many wild rabbits queuing at ice cream vans! So swap all that for veg, grass, good quality hay and perhaps a small amount of pellet food.

Daisy came to see me in the summer and she was a little sad as she had just lost her partner. She was also a little porky so I let her run around free each day and she enjoyed terrorising the cats but most of all nibbling all day on the garden vegetation. She soon regained her rabbit curves ,flirted with the boys and had a thoroughly good holiday.....



Eating the buzzy Lizzie's



Those tails look tasty



Who me?

2007 Awards

Ten Best Behaved Bunnies

1. George
2. Hahn bunnies
3. Lily
4. Carlos
5. Henry
6. Bob
7. Rupert
8. Clarabelle and Anni
9. Boz
10. Lily



Brian brave bunny has overcome nasty abscesses and remains sweet and gorgeous

Ten Naughtiest Bunnies

1. Miffy
2. Frodo
3. Guinness
4. Candy and Periwinkle
5. Turnbull Buns
6. Carter Girls
7. Angel
8. Snowflake
9. Ralph
10. Flower and Hagrid

Most Awkward Patient

Bling Gosen

Worst Diva Behaviour

Lucy Lou and Toby

Bravest Patient

Brian

Star Guinea Pig

Bubbles

Rescues



Laura meets Hartley and tries to steal the limelight



Flopsy meets Tam, first rehome of 07



black and white dutch lady aged one year



Lucky



silver lady aged approx one year



white girl age two years



Peter rabbit tries to be a statue

Mike the Duck

Do I have 'MUG' written on my roof???? One miserable day in Spring with the rain pouring in...or was that Summer.....no it definitely was Spring, I felt a pair of beady eyes peering in the window of the downstairs bedroom. Normally I expect this to be an ex boyfriend and get mildly excited but this peeping tom had a bit of a beak on him.....mind you I could name one or two exes that had.....



Mike looking wet and bedraggled



Mike fed and dry ish

Anyway I digress. I popped outside and there sat a soaking wet duck...I know what your thinking, isn't that the deal for ducks? To a point.....luckily I used to rescue and rear ducks and this duck was TOO wet.I sorted him a covered

shelter and quickly realised he was completely exhausted and starving. He soon dried off and tried to use the cat door much to the alarm of my cats. After a few hearty meals and drying and oiling of feathers he was strong enough to fly off and back to his wife with a bit of explaining to do. I had named him Mike after a local aviator as a bit of fun. As usual not a thank you or a friendly flap of his wingjust off he went. Now this is where it gets interesting , a month later I receive a phone call from a gentleman wanting to board his ducks. No problem to me I say , vast experience with ducks , can erect a baby bath for them to dip in etc etc. Took his details, name please.....Mike he said.....well do you believe in hotel inspectors for ducks?

Luke And His Two Brothers

One day a lady called Amelia dropped off three identical lionhead boys that she had discovered cowering in a field. Despite their ordeal they seemed okay but on closer inspection I found that one had been badly mauled down his back. In particular he was showing signs of shock and sat hunched and alone in one corner of his hutch. I began bathing the wounds every day, gave him a course of antibiotics and gradually the little chap regained his sparkle. In the time it took me to get him well, his brothers had been adopted and he was left behind.....



Luke's injuries

As he grew stronger so did his libido and I realised I would never bond him with a girl unless he went to see the big pair of scissors at Cambridge Street (vets). Cringing yet boys? As is tradition, I name unwanted after the vets. There was tremendous support for him being called Luke before castration and so it came to pass.....



Has she bitten my ear off-don't even think about kissing me!

After the op, he recovered with me and I am happy to say all the boys are happy, healthy and doing well.....



Whisky who is fourteen years of agea true superstar



Sara with Snow and Issac Visiting Santa



Muffin the harrod's bunny

Our Lost Little Friends

They have not gone , they're waiting for us at the rainbow bridge.

Goodbye for now to: Hazel and Wills, Bunny Angus, Shelby, Floss, Wacko, Ebony and Hazel, Marco, Ben, Brandy, Mrs Richards, Delilah, Harry, Jess, Puppy, Cuddles, Munchey, Sooty, Popcorn, Daisy, Bill, Badger, Caramel and Fudge, Biggles, Milky Way, Mrs Bunny Fizz, Lenny and Oliver James the cat.

Births - Peanuts Babies



Peanut pig and his newborn baby daughter

PEANUT PIG . . A LIFE IN PICTURES

I know this will come as a terrible shock to many of his fans but the legend that was Peanut pig –adventure pig, naughty pig, rambo pig, free range pig is no more.

He began as a rescue pig and stayed. I know you were all amazed when he'd amble past you in the garden , stride through the bemused cat's legs or trot confidently down the path. He died of old age and what a life he had!

His son and heir is Sweetpea. Peanut will be greatly missed by us and leaves behind his wife and four children.

I love and miss you Peanutmummy karen x



Raiders of the lost vegetable bag



Holiday romance with Lucky

A Big Rabbit Ritz Thank you.

Running out of space rapidly, but a big thank you to the vets, pet shops etc who support me. Thanks to Pets at Home, Desborough pets, General Pet Store and Wendover Heights pet store and Vets. St Jogs vets , Springwell, Clarke and Marshall, Crossroads Vets, Village Vets n London and all the vets and staff who help me to continue this valuable work. Massive thank you to Hampden Vets without whom I couldn't exist. We laugh and we cry together and we try to discover where Mr Paul hides his Prepulsid (sorry in joke)!!

I am very grateful and a big thank you to Mark and the crew on the Wendover Thursday Market who save me greens and donate veg to my unwanted.

Also a tremendous thank you to Rebecca and Andrew who donated to the animals instead of having 'favours' at their wedding.....what an generous gesture!

Madeleine McCarthy asked for donations instead of birthday presents for her birthday.....how wonderful !

Also, to the people who donate hutches, runs, food bowls etc....it all helps so much.

Thank you to the people who just drop some pet food at my front door and the donations in last years' Xmas cards. For every nasty person out there who dumps an animal there is someone like YOU who really cares....we can make a difference so.....the animals need you, let's do it EVEN BETTER IN 08!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Dan The Market Man

This is Dan the self styled lady killer. This is the only bit of fluff I've every seen him with! Contact Dan on www.Desperateforadate.com.



Stop Press!

Who needs homes... Currently;

white two year old female, black and white dutch female neutered age twelve months , two separate silver bunnies both female age about twelve months, Izzy and Muffin boy and girl who live together age around two or three years, Lopsy and Thumper boy and girl who live together age 12 months.



200 Wendover Road, Weston Turville, Bucks HP22 5TG
Tel: 01296 612 220 Mobile: 07752 336419

email: karen@rabbitritz.freeseve.co.uk www.rabbitritz.co.uk

Hours of Business : 10:00-11:45 Mon - Sat.

Outside these hours, by appointment only please.

