



# Brambley Hedge

RABBIT RESCUE

## HOPpenings

July - August 2011

Summer FUN Issue!

**HAPPY**  
**FOURTH OF**  
**JULY**



*"We hold these treats  
to be self-evident..."*



# BHRR HOPpenings

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## Bunny *SUMMER* Travel Guide

The hot weather is here...and our bunny friends do NOT approve! Now is the time to plan a wonderful, hard-earned vacation for your favorite lagomorph. Exotic travel destinations beckon, guaranteed to delight your long-eared globe trotter. So cash in those frequent flyer miles and pack those bags, your bunny is sure to enjoy the following places:



### EASTHARE ISLAND

*off the western coast of South America*

Everyone knows about the monoliths on Easter Island, but lesser known are the ones on EastHare Island, several hundred miles south. The island's original human inhabitants mistakenly believed they were about to be invaded by a race of giant carrots, so they built hundreds of huge rabbit statues to scare them off. While they were busy doing that, the neighboring island sent a war party over and pretty much wiped them out. The rabbit statues remain, though, in case the giant carrots get any ideas.



### GREAT BUNNIER REEF

*Australia*

Right next to the Great Barrier Reef, this special spot is perfect for your scuba-diving bunny because EVERYTHING IS EDIBLE! Paradise for seafood-loving bunnies, your rabbit will enjoy a vast selection of undersea treats in every conceivable size and color. After a hard day of munching his way through the reef, Bunny can enjoy a Vegemite smoothie served by a koala bear back on shore. Throw in a couple of kangaroo races and, well, you got yourself a really great vacation right here.



### XEROX RESEARCH CENTER

*Palo Alto, California*

What could be more fun than your happy, playful, naughty house rabbit? How about hundreds of them! Xerox does so much more than just duplicate letters or garage-sale flyers. Their 3-D holographic copiers are so highly advanced, they can copy just about anything. So if you ever wanted to have a bunny for every day of the year (and you know you do) this is your big chance. Send your bunny to Palo Alto, and then be sure to go to the Brambley Hedge Rabbit Supply store and stock up on everything!

- Stephen Guida



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## Summer Of Love

### *How to Tell if Your Bunnies are Truly Bonded*

We try to bond our buns with the best intentions: a companion for those long days when bunny parents are out trying to make some hay money, a playmate, and a snuggle buddy. As those of us who have bonded bunnies in the past can attest to, you never know how bonding is going to go. Some bunnies bond right away. Some take up to six months or more. On these really long bonding projects, sometimes you start wondering "Will they EVER fall in love?" "Will she ever stop being a sassy-pants princess and groom him?" "Are they bonded yet?" Here are some signs that a summer fling may be turning into real love.



*Hopi & Pima*

#### Your bunnies are bonded if:

- **There are no fights.** Sure, there may be a squabble over the last of the salad from time to time, but there shouldn't be any truly aggressive behavior.
- **Humping has stopped or is infrequent.** If your bunnies are truly bonded, they will have established who wears the fluffy pants in the relationship.
- **They don't mind if the other rabbit is in "their" pen.** I assume that you are housing rabbits separately for bonding, but in pens that are side by side. When you have bunny free time and the pens are open, if they don't mind the other rabbit being in their pen, it may be time to shack them up together.
- **They have a favorite snuggle spot.** When your bunnies start to develop a routine together, such as a place to snuggle and groom, they are seeing life as a unit.
- **They flop over and sleep near each other.** If your bunnies feel safe enough with each other to completely relax and actually sleep, they have built enough trust to be considered "bonded."
- **They can play nicely in a large amount of space.** The more space you give bunnies, the more likely they are to fight. If they have tons of space to roam and there are no fights, you are in the clear.
- **Territorial droppings stop.** Bunnies that are bonded no longer mark their territory and regain litter box habits that you may start to think they have forgotten.
- **Intuition.** There is no way to truly know that your bunnies are bonded; there are only signs. Sometimes it takes a leap of faith (under great supervision, of course). You know your bunnies better than anyone.



*Jingle & Jovie*

If you are thinking of adopting a rabbit and this sounds like a lot of work, take it from us, it is. But we can also tell you that it is worth it. You may want to consider checking out one of our bonded pairs available for adoption. They aren't any extra work, any extra money (we have a great summer special), and they come with a built in companion.

*What's not to love?*

*- Emilia Prosser*



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## Lapine Lucy Explains the Holidays!



“Lapine Lucy here...I’d like to share with you humans how bunnies think and feel about your holiday celebrations. Sure, we have Easter, when we can pick up shifts at the mall posing with your children & enjoy idol worship when chocolatiers imitate our form in their molds, but what about those other, non-rabbit-centric festivities?”  
- as told to Wendy Frushon

**Fourth of July:** We celebrate independence as much as you do. We really do. Haven’t you seen us binky? As for you all though...must you make really loud noises and flash bright lights? “Fireworks” are to us like the anger of the gods for you – we wonder what we did to invoke the Big Bunny in the Sky’s wrath. Terrifying. Perhaps we can hide out in a quiet part of the house..?

Since July and August are a “dry period” for human holidays, I thought I’d give you the heads-up on how to spoil us when you are off globe-trotting:

### Lapine Lucy’s Guide to Pampering Your Bunny Prince or Princess

When our humans decide they need a break from the “rat race” (whatever THAT is), they usually decide to put some of their belongings in a huge box on wheels, make a few calls, and all of a sudden, we are either transported to a “bunnysitter” or we get a new human to train to follow commands in our own home. Either way, our needs and “trivial” wants cannot be ignored while you are off getting sunburned or enlarging your belly. Here are some ways “in advance” to make it up to us, but I offer these with one caveat – we will probably still be a little mad at you for the first few days once you get back. We have to make you feel guilty so that more sympathy treats and attention come our way. Kapesch?

- 1) Hire a quality bunnysitter, in home or theirs.** A “pet sitter” may not be familiar with the special needs of bunnies. We don’t want to be their “guinea pigs”, with our delicate health and temperamental disposition. A bunnysitter who knows how to give meds is even better. Best? A bunnysitter who lets us have “run time” and gives us massages and talks to us!
- 2) Leave a variety of our treats that we love.** This helps us to warm up to our new servants. However, this is not the time to try new treats, as gastrointestinal distress may result. I do not want “mud butt”, as one of our volunteers calls it...
- 3) Provide toys that you haven’t tried with us before.** Even hay or newspaper crumpled up in an empty paper towel holder is fun and cheap. So is a telephone book, a willow chew toy, a bell to ring (for our substitute bunny slave)...be creative and make sure it’s safe! Let the new bunny slave clean up the unholy mess.
- 4) Consider leaving the radio on.** It will make our home seem occupied, and if it’s on the classical channel, it may even soothe our anxious spirits!
- 5) Give us a general “good grooming” before you go off gallivanting.** It will help you to see if we have any health issues that need to be put “on alert” with the bunnysitter. It will also reduce the chances for GI stasis and ouchie paw fingers from too long nails. Finally, after a nice grooming session, we’ll feel like a million pellets!
- 6) This last item is a tip I learned from an animal communicator.** She told me that humans who are away from their pets should close their eyes once a day and imagine their pets surrounded in a pink light. She said it had a noticeable effect on the pets according to their petsitters. It might be worth a try!

- Wendy Frushon



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## Help Us Save More Bunnies!

Are you a bunny parent who has reached "bunny capacity" but wants to help save more bunnies? Or perhaps you are a person who just loves bunnies but you're not able to share your home with the fuzzy little lumps of pure love. There are other ways you can help save and support our sweet lagomorph friends, here are a few ways to help:



**Turn your trash into cash for bunnies!** Did you know that simply by saving specific parts of your trash you can not only save our environment but support BHRR? Terra Cycle ([www.terracecycle.net](http://www.terracecycle.net)) uses recyclable materials to make items like backpacks, totes, lunch bags and paving stones. Just collect hair gel tubes/jars, face soap dispensers/tubes, shampoo and conditioner bottles, mascara tubes, eyeliner pencils, chap stick tubes, cottage cheese containers and many more types of packaging. For a complete list see our website. BHRR also receives money for used ink jet cartridges, copy cartridges, old laptops, old cell phones, video games and consoles, PDA's, iPods, digital cameras, etc. Items can be dropped off at BHRR Thrift Store *during our hours of operations, please*. Also, please clean the containers before donating.

Is your key chain or purse full of credit, debit or loyalty cards? Put those cards to good use by registering them at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Follow the instructions on the website and enter **BHRR-151930348**. Participating merchants will donate to BHRR based on your purchases.



Order pet food and other top-quality products for your animal companions online at [www.gooberpet-direct.com](http://www.gooberpet-direct.com) (or call 480-668-4994). Goober Direct carries a large variety of pet food and supplies, they offer free shipping and for orders over \$20 your order can be delivered to your door at no extra cost (Phx

metro and outlying edges). What a great deal!

Next issue we'll have even more great ways for you to help Brambley Hedge Rabbit Rescue and at the same time do good for the environment AND make your wallet happy!

- Tina Tegtmeyer

### BRAMBLEY HEDGE RABBIT RESCUE WISH LIST

Brambley Hedge Rabbit Rescue operates a shelter housing over 140 abandoned or homeless rabbits. Maintaining the shelter takes a lot of work, and a lot of supplies! These are some of the common items we use extensively at our shelter. If you can help by donating some of these supplies, we and the bunnies would be very grateful. Simply drop off the supplies at the Thrift Store or at one of our adoption events, or call the shelter at (480) 443-3990.

- Bath Towels
- Flat Bed sheets (any size)
- Clorox Wipes
- Baby Wipes
- Paper Towels
- White Vinegar (gallon jugs)
- Hand Soap
- Trash Bags (13 gal & 30 gal)



# BHRR HOPpenings

**BACK PAGE**

July - August 2011

## RECENT ADOPTIONS

Augie  
 Barney & Bono  
 Billy  
 Blackberry  
 Bruno  
 Clancy  
 Finch  
 Houston  
 Katey  
 Keiki  
 Linus  
 Mimi  
 Pierre  
 Posh  
 Ralph  
 Raven  
 Savannah  
 Simon  
 Tigger  
 Trudy



## ASK DOCTOR BUNSLEY

*Dear Dr. Bunsley,*

*I've heard the humans talk of the "dog days of summer." I thought every day was a rabbit day. Do dogs really get their own days?*

*Date-Conscious Dutch*

Dear Dutchie,

Yes they do, but notice that they get the days when everyone is hot, sweaty, obnoxious and smelling bad. That was not an accident.

Dr. B

*Dear Dr. Bunsley,*

*Last year about this time the humans had a "Fourth of July" party. It wasn't bad until they started with the "fireworks," then it was like the end of the world. How can we get them to stop?*

*Sore Ears in Scottsdale*

Dear Ears,

It seems that humans can't have a good time unless they are blowing stuff up and setting everything on fire. Their history proves it. This is why we can't have nice things.

Dr. B

## Bunny Laffs



Bunny Model: Posey

**"Wow! I thought pink Day-Glo muumuus were outlawed!"**

**THE DOCTOR IS IN!** Do you or your bunny have a care or behavior question for Dr. Bunsley? Email it to: [hoppenings@bunnyman.net](mailto:hoppenings@bunnyman.net)



### There's always great shopping at the **BRAMBLEY HEDGE RABBIT RESCUE THRIFT STORE**

14644 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ

602-482-3990

Mon 12 noon - 5pm \* Tue - Fri 11am - 4pm \* Sat 10am - 4pm \* Closed Sunday

**Huge Selection! Fantastic Prices! New Merchandise Daily!**

**Questions or Comments about this newsletter?**  
**Email [hoppenings@bunnyman.net](mailto:hoppenings@bunnyman.net)**

**BRAMBLEY HEDGE RABBIT RESCUE** is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) IRS-approved domestic rabbit no-kill shelter and rescue organization. We have been saving the lives of unwanted and abandoned rabbits since 1986. We rely solely on donations and accept no public funding. Find out how you can help us save more bunnies by visiting our website: <http://www.bhrabbitrescue.org/links/fundraise.htm>

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