



**The Bunnyjackpot
Foundation's Grant
Report - September 2025**



Thank you

A message from Heather, CEO of the Bunnyjackpot Foundation

It is with huge thanks to The Naturewatch Foundation that we have been able to help some rabbits in critical circumstances due to the pet trade.

Some of these rabbits have come into the rescue malnourished, with existing debilitating health conditions and in great need of basic veterinary care,

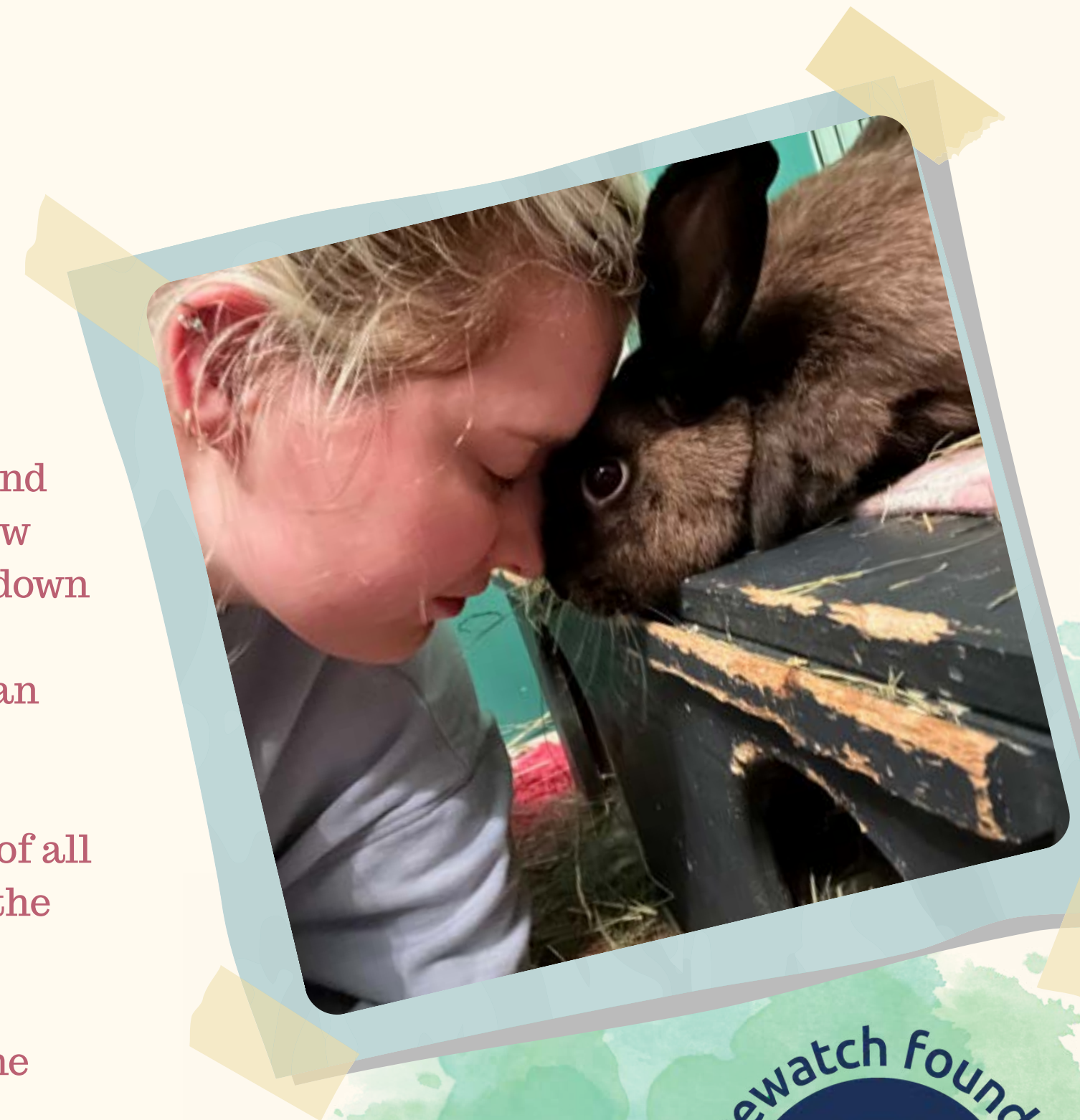
The grant gifted to us by Naturewatch has opened the door to several rabbits across the UK.

It has given us the space to reflect and speak to the general public about how some of these rabbits have been let down by the pet trade, and why it is so important to seek rescues rather than breeders and pet stores.

In this report you'll hear the stories of all of the grant's recipients and where the grant money has been spent.

Thank you again for helping us be the turning point for these little lives.

Heather



Naturewatch #1: Zeppelin

Zeppelin came into our care at the same time as his sister Aura, who was very unwell.

The pair although five years old, had never had a companion and were living in small conditions being let out for runs alternatively. Neither were neutered or vaccinated.

Zeppelin has come a long way in our care and is such a gougous, big, bolshy boy. Whilst neutering was a breeze itself, he has had some post

op complications which have meant he;s had to have a secondary surgery on his neuter site.

We're very lucky this has all been generously covered by The Naturewatch Grant,

Zeppelin has been rehomed and now lives with two rabbit friends.



Naturewatch #2: Captain

The second Naturewatch Rabbit is Captain.

Captain is a fantastic little rabbit who has had a lot of hardship in his life.

Captain was dumped at a vet in need of an immediate enucleation (eye removal), which was done and he flew through recovery.

His other eye needed a couple of flushes and some care, but now that he's neutered, vaccinated and ready to find love, that's exactly what he's doing!

He's gone from a small one eyed rabbit alone dumped at a vet practice to a happy chappy with a brand new home and a boyfriend (pictured)

It's been down to the generous Naturewatch grant that we've been able to cover Captain's care during this time with us.

Thanks for helping us get him ship shape!



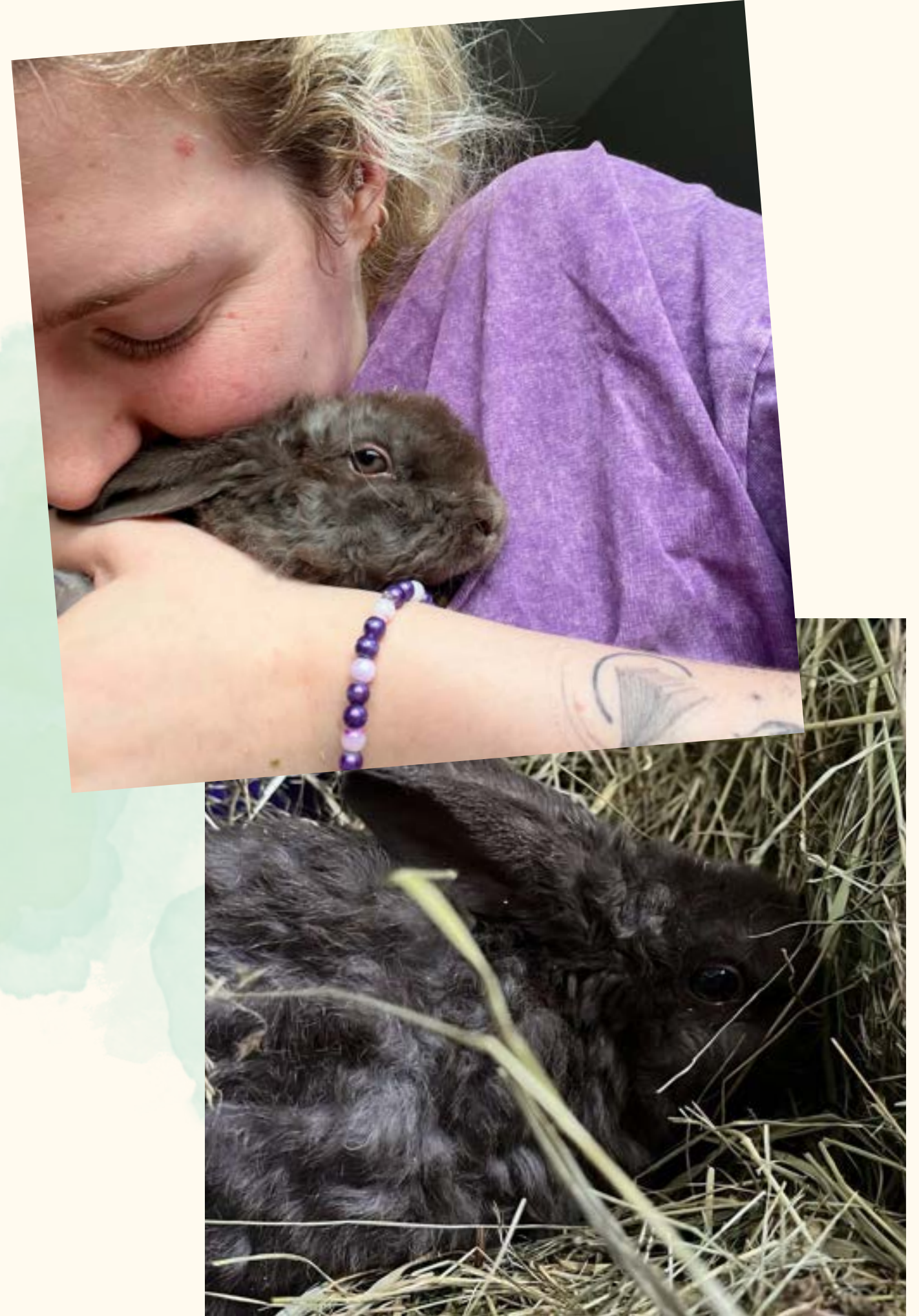
Lessons learnt so far: The Angus lesson #3

Angus is number 3 of the Naturewatch 10 and the valuable lesson he taught us is that sometimes a happy ending looks a bit different.

We thought every Naturewatch 10 rabbit would leave us in the arms of a gold standard guardian with a friend(s) to call their own. Angus sadly didn't make it to this point. This has been an especially hard lesson,

As a charity we're seeing more and more rabbits coming into our care that have more complex conditions and the illegal pet trade is in part fueling this.

Inbreeding, health conditions created by a lack of care and welfare standards and neglect are the perfect storm for some of the most complex medical cases we've seen to date.



Naturewatch #4: Astra

Our third Naturewatch rabbit is Astra. Astra is a particularly striking young rabbit due to his long, long fur!

Unfortunately, this breeding has not come without its health concerns. When Astra came in he was extremely matted.

he had been living in unsuitable conditions with guardians who had no idea how to handle his fur type. He had been sold by a breeder with no advice or support whatsoever, and so Angus was left very uncomfortable.

Astra had a full body clip once he got to us, and we were immediately rewarded with a much happier rabbit - finally not weighed down with sore matted fur.

Once neutered, Astra found love with a lovely friend - George - and the pair live happily ever after.

Thanks to Naturewatch, Astra will never again feel discomfort in the form of poor husbandry.



Naturewatch #5: Aura

Naturewatch rabbit number five may look familiar as she was Zeppelin's sister.

The pair were being housed in tiny cages in the same house together and it was due to Aura's poorliness that the pair were surrendered in the first place.

Aura came to us inappetent, lethargic and very very snotty. Rabbits are obligate nose breathers, meaning they cannot breathe through their mouths - having so much discharge blocking her nose was a serious sign of illness.

Over a course of weeks and several vet appointments, we did our best for Aura.

On what would be her final vet appointment, X Rays showed thickening around her heart, and indications of a mass. This, coupled with her inability to breathe properly and her anorexia led us to make the kindest decision for her: to say goodbye.

Without the support of Naturewatch, Aura would have continued to suffer. Whilst this may not be your traditional 'success story', this is one of care and compassion.



Naturewatch #6: Clove

Clove was rescued from a hoarding case in Salisbury.

The conditions at the site, where our founder attended and triaged the rabbits before beginning extraction, was filthy, smelly and many of the animals had injuries.

Clove was being kept by himself, being a single male, but had impregnated at least one of the other rabbits onsite. One of our first moves was to neuter him!

After being vaccinated and neutered, Clove was bonded into a big group of rabbits and lives with them and their guardian.

Clove is very lucky to be a Naturewatch rabbit, and we are grateful to be able to say that he was afforded the vet care he needed and subsequently found love in an amazing home.



Naturewatch #7: Saint

Saint is a lovely little rabbit who has found permanent sanctuary with us here at The Bunnyjackpot Foundation.

Captain was handed into us after his companion was killed by his previous family's dog. He was also living in a small hutch with dental disease that had been undiagnosed and untreated.

Saint is sadly a good example of how breeding can and does impact rabbit health - the Netherland Dwarf rabbit is bred to be small and cute but that comes with everything squashed

into a small head with no space to grow.

Saint's dental care is manageable with frequent health checks and frequent dental surgeries.

He lives happily and comfortably at our rescue headquarters with two friends.

NatureWatch helped us pay for his initial work.



Naturewatch #8: Fallon

Fallon is a giant rabbit who was dumped and handed into a vet practice we work with quite closely.

Fallon was vaccinated for free by the practice, but NatureWatch stepped in to pay for her spay which saw her ready to find her forever home!

The dumping of rabbits is a constant issue we face as a rescue. When people need to give up their rabbits, often rescues are full and point them to their waitlists.

Waitlists take time to work through and sadly people often don't wait for a safe space.

Instead, when faced with an animal they don't want, some people opt to dump their rabbits. Whether out of neglect or under some misunderstanding that they'll survive outside, the chances of a dumped rabbit's survival is slim.

Domestic rabbits are not the same as wild rabbits and don't have the ability to survive in the wild - they're different species.

Fallon was lucky.



Naturewatch #9: Orinoco

Orinoco is a stunning young rabbit who came from the same case as Clove.

Orin came into our care very shut down and it has taken a lot of work to build up his confidence.

Orin was recently neutered and has been vaccinated - he will be searching for his forever home once completely healed.

This case started with someone buying three rabbits from someone over the internet. The sale of animals goes unregulated and the consequences of it are huge - that is how people end up with uncontrollable hoarding cases like this one.

For Orin, this was a success story, but for many it is not.



Naturewatch #10: Burton

Just like Orin and Clove, Burton came from the Salisbury hoarding case.

Unlike his brothers/cousins, Burton's neuter didn't go without post-operative complications and he needed quite a bit of TLC after he had his snip.

Burton is recovering slowly from his neuter and once he's healed up he will be available to adopt.

We are so glad to say that Burton's rescue marks the end of the Salisbury hoarding case - all of the rabbits are safe, loved and receiving the veterinary attention they need.



Naturewatch #11: Gia

When we applied for the NatureWatch Grant, we aimed to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome ten rabbits.

Meet Gia - lucky number eleven, who we have managed to help on top of the other ten lucky buns.

Gia was abandoned at a vet practice with severe dental disease and flystrike. The vet practice who treated her dealt with her flystrike but not her mouth of awful teeth - which had her in critical condition.

We transferred Gia to our trusted vet practice, who performed an X Ray and an emergency dental.

This was successful and Gia is recovering successfully from her spay.

Unfortunately Gia's spay wasn't uneventful and we have had to send some samples away as she had suspected cancer - prevalent in unspayed ladies.

Gia is settling into foster care beautifully.



To summarise

The Naturewatch Ten are eleven (!) very lucky rabbits...

Here at The Bunnyjackpot Foundation we are exceptionally proud of our ethics and the work we do to help some of the most vulnerable rabbits out there.

Without the grant gifted to us by Naturewatch, some of our rabbits who've found their forever homes wouldn't be here today.

You can follow our rabbits on our social media - and you can support the work we do by heading to our website and learning about what we do.

Thank you,
Naturewatch

