



# PETS' MEWS

The MewsPaper for Instagramming Pets, Plushies and their People

## Welcome



Hej! Welcome to a very Swedish-feeling issue of Pets' Mews and a bit of a

baa lambkin, chickadee & bunny take over. There are so many reasons to celebrate; it's coming up to Passover and Easter, and spring has most definitely sprung. Find out how our Swedish cousins celebrate this time of year with [@thelifeofbaa](#) and learn some more about Swedish bunny,

[@maxi\\_the\\_rabbit\\_lovely\\_ears](#)'s name, and about some wonderful daffodillies. Grab yourself a hot cross bun or perhaps a semlor, and get stuck right into April's Pets' Mews. You'd be a fool not to!

Lots of love, Topsy xxx

## Also inside

- ◆ [@norty\\_sid](#) has been out spotting the Easter Bunny
- ◆ It's birthday time for the Easter (grown up) chicks [@\\_suzannefrances](#)
- ◆ More of your good Mews photos

Благодаря [@douka - supercow](#) газеты Pets' Mews теперь можно читать на русском -



## Fluffy Plushie Easter

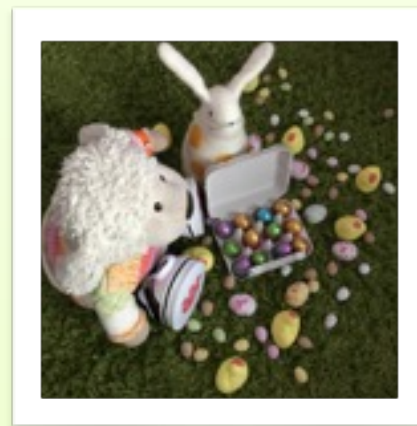
By: [@thelifeofbaa](#)

What does Easter mean? Bunny time, funny time? We have two bunnies in our house, and the funny thing is, traditionally in Sweden, and especially here in Gothenburg, we have no easter-bunnies! Can you believe it? No bunnies at Easter? That's bordering on plushie-discrimination! But we do have something called "påsk-kärringar" / "påsk-gubbar", which roughly translated means, "Easter witches" or "Easter sorcerers".

Tradition has it that on Maundy Thursday eve (the Thursday before Easter) they fly on their brooms to a special place called the Blue hill, invited by the devil. But why are they going to a party on that day you may wonder? It was precisely on Maundy Thursday night that Jesus was betrayed by Judas, and just like most traditions around the world, this festival stems from religion.

One tradition that is almost gone in Sweden today is the one where children dress up like witches and sorcerers, sneaking around, delivering hand painted letters stuffed with candy. The sneaking part was very important - no one was meant to notice their secret deliveries.

The specifics of the tradition varies between the counties. We also have giant bonfires spiced with firecrackers, the fire and the firecrackers are supposed to scare of the Easter witches and sorcerers.

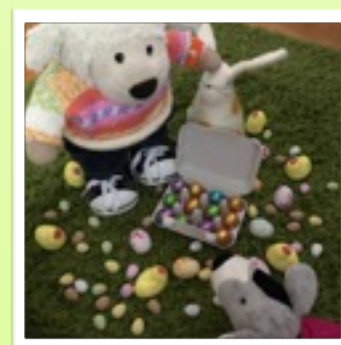


Indoors we have a bundle of twigs normally made of birch twigs, dressed in colourful feathers. In the old days, long before I or even Bappa was born, this bundle of twigs were to be used to whip your family to remove any evil spirits that would cause harm - sometimes I'm really glad traditions change over time!

Another fine tradition we have in Gothenburg, and most of Sweden, is the absolute obsession with eggs during Easter. We eat them, we paint them, we decorate our houses with them and give them as gifts, both real and paper ones - the paper one is usually stuffed with candy.

The obsession doesn't end with the egg. It transcends to the chicken, small yellow cute fluffy chickens - just like a plushie.

Me and my humans wish you a Happy fluffy plushie Easter! // **The life of Baa** //



## A Tête à Tête with Maxi

By [@maxi the rabbit lovely ears](#)

Happy Easter, everyone!

Your Swedish Pets' Mews' correspondent Maxi here! Our wonderful Topsy has asked me to write something for this April issue, and I am so thrilled about it! I feel ever so honoured, thank you Topsy!

Recently, there have been many #10factsaboutme posts on IG, and I for one have loved to learn more about so many of the beautiful, friendly and kind personalities that are our plushie community. I hope this #10factsaboutme will continue!

Now, I'd like to share how I came to my mummy, and how I got my name! Mummy's got two nieces, and when they were just little girls, mummy invented a game called "Auntie Rabbit." Mummy's got two rather big, square front teeth, so she pretended to be a rabbit, chasing, tickling and hugging the girls, who would run around, screaming and giggling. They absolutely loved that game, and would ask for Auntie Rabbit every time they met!

One Christmas, or maybe birthday (we don't remember anymore) about 20 years ago, the girls decided to give their Auntie Rabbit a bunny of her own, and that was me! Mummy loved me from the very start, partly because she thought I was cute, but mostly because she loves her nieces and was deeply touched by their thoughtful gift.

As mummy didn't want me to have just any name, she thought long and hard about it. Finally, she decided to mix parts of the nieces' names and her own, so Maxi comes from Maria, Alexandra and Inger!



Today, Maria and Alexandra are adults (25 and 27), but they still occasionally call mummy Auntie Rabbit! (In the picture, taken just a few weeks ago, you can see me cuddling with Maria!)

As I am a flower loving rabbit, and as it is Easter season, I'd also like to tell you a story about daffodils, the most popular Easter flowers there



are, I think!

A long time ago, in 1997 it was, mummy went to Cornwall, UK, for the first time. She instantly fell in love with the place, and still a part of her is always longing to go back! In the small village of Paul, near Mousehole, she became friends with Flomay, a lovely, old lady with a great sense of humour and a warm and big heart (and with the habit of mixing ridiculously strong G&Ts!)

Flomay's late husband Alec was a horticulturalist, and the daddy of many prize-winning daffodils! He and Flomay often went to Spain and other places, to collect daffodil seeds, so Alec could create new varieties of these wonderful flowers! One variety he named after his wife, but mummy's yet to find the 'Flomay' daffodil bulb, it seems to be quite rare.

Anyway, the daffodil that became the most popular is the miniature variety called the "Tête-à-Tête", which probably is to be found in every home in Sweden at Easter! Mummy says that this pretty flower makes up some 30% or more of the total Dutch daffodil bulb trade! Do you know it? I'm sure many of you do! And the next time you look at a Tête-à-Tête, you'll know that its ancestors were born on Scilly Isles, off the Cornish coast, in the 1940s!

I hope you enjoyed my little stories. I just want to finish by saying that I am a truly blessed bunny, having so many wonderful fluffy and non-fluffy friends! Neither I nor mummy could ever dream of finding so much love, support and kindness as we have! Thank you all! Love you all! Happy Easter and MUMMY – where's my chocolate egg?

XXX Maxi

# Good Mews!



## It's Spring-time!

Here's [@sheepsi\\_adventures](#) definitely enjoying the glories of the season.

### Happy Birthday!

### Happy Gardening!

### Happy Travels!



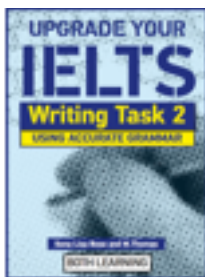
Happy Birthday to the (now slightly older) Easter chicks, Clementine & Rosalind @ [suzannefrances](#) who have recently turned one year old.

I wonder what the green-pawed [@kumpelauskoeln](#) is growing. Paws crossed we can come back to see what's grown.

And [@iamsheepo](#) has been off travelling. What fun!

Advert

Is your pet studying for the IELTS? Then, why not buy them an [interactive iBook](#) for iPads, iPhones and Macs? Available to download from the [iBookstore](#).



## Is this the Easter Bunny?

We did ask for an interview, but a source @ [norty\\_sid](#) told us that the "Easter bunny" wouldn't allow that. Sigh. It's so hard tracking down these super-secret agents, especially at this time of the year!

