

WILVOS WILDLIFE WHISPERINGS

October 2011



Congratulations to our 'new' Management Team—there are many familiar names there again!

Sylvia Whiting, our quiet achiever, has done a wonderful job of leading WILVOS in past years and we welcome her election back to that position. Sorry Sylvia, we just can't find anyone else to equal your high standard! Thank you for your dedication and commitment to endless hours of thankless administration work on top of your caring skills.



WILVOS & Friends.... Thank you to all who attended the WILVOS AGM. As it is not usually a very big gathering, and our regular hall is being renovated, I offered my home as the venue.

We actually had a very good roll-up, almost forty people, and thank you to Heather's hard work we had the most delicious food, with enough to feed twice as many! I, for one, did not need dinner that night.

Once again we have a Management Team who are dedicated, energetic, and enthusiastic. WILVOS are extremely lucky to have this group of people who not only maintain the standing of our organization in the community, but they are continually striving for higher goals. I am proud to be part of that team.

We look forward to another busy year of caring for wildlife, and performing the more mundane but necessary administration tasks. Input is always encouraged from members, so any suggestions are always welcome.

Thank you all for choosing to be a WILVO!

Happy caring.....Donna

Christmas Party 4th December Check website for details closer to the date!



Rest In Peace Justin



We all know Rosemary Dax, our long-time WILVOS treasure. I will always remember her husband, Justin, as her gentle giant. It was a very sad day on the 12th August to hear that Justin had passed away. In earlier years, Justin had been a wonderful stabilizing force on the WILVOS committee. Though of late his health had deteriorated, he still came to workshops, was always interested in wildlife and always offered his help to set up the hall.

Because the Minister had known the Dax family for many years, it was a very personal and meaningful celebration of Justin's life. The minister's words had significance for everyone. *"Everyone needs a purpose in life"*. How true these words are. Without purpose and direction we would all be wandering around aimlessly through life.

The minister went on to say that Justin's purpose in life was volunteering. No matter where he worked, volunteering was also always a major part of his life, in such ways as fostering children with Rosemary for many years, and helping people with disabilities. Needless to say, transporting injured and orphaned wildlife around the countryside for Rosemary was always in his volunteering job description.

Justin, we were all very fond of you, and you will be missed. We will remember to cherish the wonderful Rosemary!.....Donna



Rosemary would like to thank everyone who phoned, or sent messages, cards or flowers. They all helped support her and her lovely daughter Jennifer through such a sad time.

Jill Underdown, Thank you for being secretary for WILVOS for nearly ten years, after initially just 'helping out' temporarily! You have been a wonderful secretary—dedicated, efficient and finding time in your incredibly hectic life to perform these secretarial duties.

I know what a time consuming job it must be, especially at membership renewal time. When filling in while you were on holidays, I dreaded visiting that WILVOS PO Box, as it was always overflowing with work to be done. Yet you still find time to volunteer on phone roster. Many thanks. We'll also miss your sense of humour at meetings.....Donna

CLAIRE'S ALPHABET CHALLENGE FOR 2011/12

- A** is for ACTIVE CARER - this is you, you signed up for it!
B is for BIRD CO-ORDINATOR
C is for CALL OUT - yes, you are obliged to do these and also CHAT - get on line
D is for DONNA - esteemed 'senior' WILVO—as in senior experience, not age!
E is for ECHIDNA -these go to Donna
F is for FACEBOOK— also Fundraising - you will be expected to help
G is for GOANNA - yes you might have to rescue one
H is for HOSPITAL - you may have to make trips to the Australia Zoo hospital, don't complain how far it is
I is for IDIOTS!
J is for JELLY...where my brain is at the moment
K is for KNACKERED - is how the few WILVOS feel like when they are carrying the burden for many.
L is for LAME EXCUSES - can't go out on a pickup/rescue—drinking at 4pm, the weather looks a bit wet, sorry my favourite TV programme has just started.....
M is for MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - let her know if you no-longer wish to be 'active'.
N is for NEW members - get educated, attend workshops, ask for help, get set up, don't just wear the T shirt
O is for 'Oh, not again!'
P is for POSTHUMOUS AWARD (OAM) - you only get this by dedication and hard work
Q is for QUOLL- should have been at the workshop shouldn't you!
R is for RETURNS - is it so hard?
S is for 'SIGN here to become a WILVO' BUT don't sign up unless you are going to be dedicated
T is for TIME and TRAVEL - lots of this is necessary if you are an active carer
U is for UNRELIABLE - don't sign up if you think you fall into this category
V is for VET - ring first before you take anything to them, it's polite and they do it for free
W is for WORKSHOPS - all carers attend them. How else are you going to learn, and continue to learn?
X is for XTRA duties are involved in being a member of WILVOS
Y is for YES the answer you give when asked to pick up an injured or orphaned bird / animal
Z is for ZZZZZZZZZZZZ something you won't get a lot of when caring for baby joeys...be prepared!



All forms are available for download off the website



- *PLEASE ADVISE BIRD/MARSUPIAL/MACROPOD/REPTILE CO-ORDINATOR WHEN ANIMALS COME INTO CARE.
- *PLEASE GIVE ALL FAUNA THAT COMES INTO CARE AN ID NUMBER. THIS IS IMPORTANT.
- *PLEASE FILL IN THE WILVOS ANIMAL RECORD SHEET, SO THIS SHEET IS PASSED ON FROM CARER TO CARER UNTIL ULTIMATE RELEASE.
- *PLEASE KEEP YOUR OWN CARE NOTES AND WILDLIFE HOSPITAL SHEET FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. (EVEN IF YOU HAVE A HOSPITAL ACCESSION NO. YOU STILL ALLOCATE YOUR OWN NUMBER TO THE ANIMAL.)
- *PLEASE WRITE DOWN THE RESCUE SITE IN AS FULL DETAIL AS POSSIBLE, (NUMBER AND STREET ROAD NAME), SO THESE SITES CAN BE RECORDED ACCURATELY.
- *PLEASE IT IS A WILVOS REGULATION THAT ANIMALS NOT BE HANDED OUTSIDE THE ORGANIZATION UNLESS APPROVED BY CO-ORDINATOR.
- *PLEASE DO NOT PASS ANIMALS TO CARERS WITHOUT A WILVOS ACTIVE CARER'S PERMIT. NON-COMPLIANCE MEANS LOSS OF PERMIT.



WHAT GREAT NEWS!

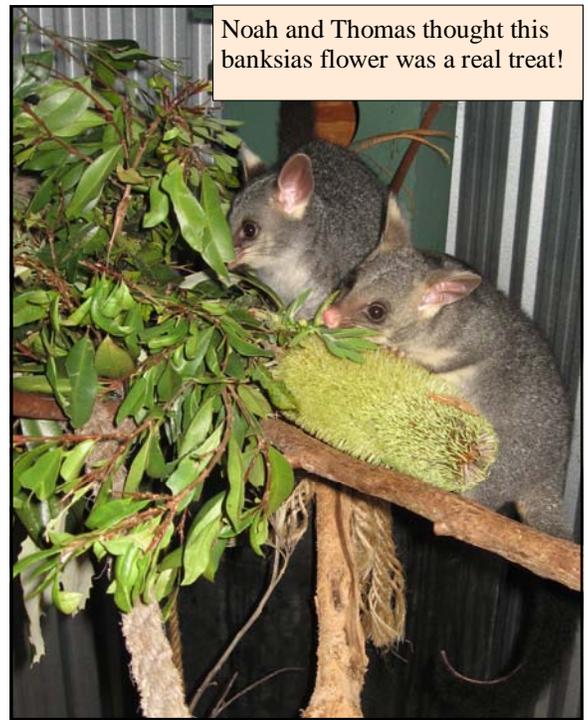
It has been reported that motion-sensitive cameras have filmed a Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat emerge from a burrow with her mother, out at the hundred hectare site at St George. (another pouch young has also been observed). Fifteen of these endangered wombats were moved from Epping Forest National Park a couple of years ago. In the 1980's numbers were down to 38 left in the wild. There are still less than 200 out there. (ABC News)



A Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat's burrow tunnel can be up to 20 metres long and three-and-a-half metres underground. But it's only just wide enough for a wombat to pass - at a little less than half a metre. The temperature in the burrows ranges from 12° to 28° Celsius. (Photo & information Qld Gov D.E.R.M.)

Thank You Ann

Ann Moran's Vegetation ID Workshop was a resounding success, with over forty people attending. Thank you to Kylie, Lisa and Casey for helping to answer the many questions on the day. Also, thank you to other members who shared their expertise. It was most appreciated, as the roll-up was even more than expected. Great to see youngsters there also. Ann's booklet is wonderful for the less knowledgeable of us who want to know what plant is what. We can get to know exactly what we are feeding to our wildlife! It is easy to research what foliage is preferred by different species, but it's the ID that is the difficult part. This book helps immensely. If you missed out on buying this book on the day, I do have another couple of copies. We did enjoy the excuse of birthdays for Denise Nicholson and Tracy Dickson, to allow us to eat a little extra cake!.....*Donna*



Noah and Thomas thought this banksias flower was a real treat!



CONGRATULATIONS

Wendy and Tony Cole on the birth of their new baby girl.



Jade Peta Cole, born 14th September, 2011.

Editors note: Yes...the month when the very bestest babies are born—both mine arrived in September and are still as precious as the day they were born!

The dates for the next Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference have been confirmed for 16th to 20th July, 2012 in Townsville. Don't miss the opportunity of attending one of these conferences being held in our own state.

Watch this website for updates:

www.2012awrc.org.au

Old conference papers can be found at:

www.awrc.org.au

(These papers have information from experts in their field, and are great reference material.)

WILVOS WILL HAVE AVIARIES FOR LOAN. *3.0m L X 1.5mD X 1.8mH and 1.5mL X 1.0mD X 1.8mH* These will be flat-packed ready for you to assemble with a pop rivet gun. The aviary must be returned to WLVOS when no longer required or if you do not renew membership.

If you are interested then please email Sylvia Whiting. These must be used for wildlife and not just 'once in a while I'll look after a bird or marsupial!'. Dedicated, committed, proficient, common-sense carers, please.

To be eligible you must:

- Be on the Contact List
- Respond to all calls, where possible, and be available at most times to care for wildlife.
- Advise Co-Ordinator when animals (Yes, this means birds also!) come into care
- Attend workshops
- Keep records of each animal
- Send in Fauna Returns, using details as needed i.e. ID number, location etc.
- Advise Release Officer well before animal is ready for release.
- Sign your life away!



More wonderful news: An article on the Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld's website. If you visit the site you can see some of the infrared images of the gliders coming to feed. You can see how our WILVOS donation is helping these exquisite animals.



Photo © Daryl Dickson

**IS THE
54416200
HOTLINE
NUMBER
IN YOUR
MOBILE ?**

“Mahogany Glider with 2 pouch young: an exciting sign of hope” Daryl Dickson, Mungarra Lodge Sanctuary

“Today an exciting sign of hope was found when Department of Environment officers checked one of their post cyclone mahogany glider monitoring sites just north of Cardwell in tropical north Queensland. At first light, in a small patch of damaged remnant woodland, where remaining trees struggle to sprout new green growth, the vegetation is fighting through the tangled cyclone debris with new shoots and new life striving to recover.

This is one of the sites where a ‘den pair’ of endangered Mahogany Gliders were located by a team of international research students, led by wildlife ecologist, Dr John Winter in the aftermath of tropical cyclone Yasi. The gliders progress has continued to be monitored at this site regularly during the last 5 months. Today, while checking the health of the female mahogany glider, two tiny baby gliders were found in her pouch. A wonderful and promising discovery! – ‘Mum’ is a little lighter weight than we might ideally like to see but all three precious gliders appear to be in good health at present.

In a normal year, pouch young would be expected but under the current condition, nobody has been sure if the gliders would manage to breed this season. We still don't know just how they will cope through the remainder of the year or if they will find enough food in their depleted forests to rear their young but it would appear that they are feeling strong enough to try.

The mahogany gliders are proving to be amazingly resilient little north Queenslanders. They are indeed an iconic species that truly epitomize the resilience of all the survivors of the storm.” *** (WPSQ)

The Mahogany Gliders are a perfect example of why Councils across Australia have to get their act together and eradicate feral animals.....ie All non-native species not under someone's direct control.

We should not just sit back and allow so many species to become extinct because of uncontrolled domestic and feral animals.

- *If you see feral animals in your area—notify the Council and keep nagging until something is done.*
- *If you have stray cats or dogs in your yard, contain them and call the Council. ****

Apparently a slice of orange every couple of days can replace water when farming crickets. Otherwise cotton wool placed in a self-watering ‘chook’ dispenser will do the job.

I am growing my own ‘cotton balls’ on my cotton bush so if you want some seeds to propagate, just email me...Donna

Life is a gift, and it offers us the privilege, opportunity, and responsibility to give something back by becoming more.....
Anthony Robbins

It's that time of year again. The hotline will be running hot, hot, hot with calls for shearwaters (muttonbirds). Please ask caller if they can take these to Jackie Williams at Mudjimba or call her on 54 487680 for Jackie to collect.

How can we help wildlife in our backyard?
-plant native fruiting and flowering trees—plant native bushfoods-plant groundcovers-plant native grasses –plant a birdwing butterfly vine-install nestboxes-build a frog pond-install a native beehive-know your plant pest species-trap that cat-notify Council of Indian mynas, foxes, feral cats and wild dogs.

You want identification of an animal and have the technology ???
Send a photo from your mobile phone to one of the co-ordinators.

Thank you to the Suncoast Social Dance Club, WILVOS have once again been invited to provide supper, serving of same, and a lucky door prize (in this case 2 tickets to Mary Poppins in Brisbane) in exchange for their door takings.

These funds provide our very welcome food subsidy for which you are eligible if you follow the same criteria as set down on page 3 of this newsletter for eligibility for Aviary Loan.

If you intend to be involved in this subsidy scheme, it is hoped that you either cook some goodies for the supper, or come along and help on the night.

Ring Rosemary to offer help for Saturday 29th October, 2011.

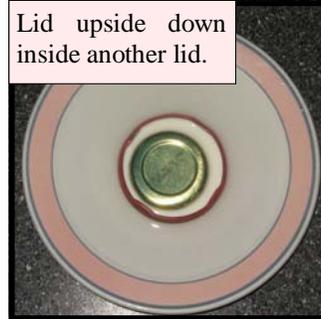
HEAD DOWN.....

Someone asked about feeding feathertail gliders. Well, if they need some supplement just grate some sweet potato into a wallaby bottle lid, and they will make short work of it! As I am feeding six at the moment and they are big enough to lap themselves, without my help, I put a lid inside a bigger lid so they can just drink the milk without climbing in it.



When getting feathertails to lap, which they will do even at 2 grams, it is best to just touch the milk to their lips and then take it away a little. Their tongue is quite long and they lap the milk as if it is going through a straw. This prevents putting their nose in the milk and risking inhalation pneumonia.

Lid upside down inside another lid.



A black teaspoon is best used with feathertails. You can see the milk, and their little tongues, better.

All changes to forms and paperwork are done with the betterment of our wildlife in mind. Precise addresses are ideal, where possible, when recording the location of orphaned/injured animals. This is necessary for a project which Paul Smith is working on. GPS co-ordinates are also recorded for our released wildlife, as they should be.

Aha...I have found a friend, though only a squirrel glider!

"Great minds have purpose, others have wishes."
Washington Irving



ALLROUND EMERGENCY BIRD RECIPE TO HAVE ON HAND.

It can be fed to magpies, honeyeaters, cuckoo shrikes! Ring Sylvia for details of use. (From "Introduction to Bird Caring" by Ailsa Watson)
1/4 cup finely grated apple, 1/4 cup finely grated carrot, 1/2 cup quality mince or finely chopped ox heart, 3 tablespoons of Egg & Biscuit mix, 2 tablespoons Insectivore with added vitamins and calcium.

Roll up into little balls and place in a container in your freezer now! Write date on container.

NEVER FEED MINCE TO KOOKABURRAS. IT CAN LODGE IN THEIR LOWER BEAK AND CAUSE MAJOR PROBLEMS.

I hope everyone made a submission to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council towards the new local laws. These laws will affect us for a long time to come. My submission was concerning my own personal passion: laws on control of domestic animals ie

- cats and dogs on the same playing field, no special laws for either. Any domestic animal outside of its yard, and unrestrained, being treated as a feral.
- Non-registered breeders of cats and dogs should be fined heavily. It is not difficult for authorities to track through advertisements from non-registered breeders.

I actually don't see any laws relating to breeders so must look at the website more closely.

WILVOS also want to see Veterinarians be able to dispose of wildlife carcasses at no cost to themselves, regardless of what company they may regularly use for carcass disposal.

MILK FORMULA & FOOD

For Milk Powder, Teats, and Bottles, for possums and macropods, and for our specially designed car carry bags, which can be used for all species:

Email Donna at newsletter@wilvos.org.au or phone Donna at 0413 861757.

The best food we can give our animals is that which they would be eating in the wild.

- SUPPLEMENTS ARE JUST THAT—(nag,nag,nag....)

*****To be eligible for any subsidy, regulations must be adhered to*****

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. Management Team 2010/11

***** Please try to direct your calls to the relevant people when making enquiries *****

This list helps to guide people in the right direction for help and advice, as well as showing activities with which you may be able to help.

If you can help in any way, please contact the relevant people...all help is welcome!

***Chairperson:** Sylvia Whiting 54 467760 email: chairperson@wilvos.org.au
***Vice Chair:** Donna Anthony 0413 861757 email: donnalenoanthonny@hotmail.com
Annette Buchanan 54 421734 email: abbk@inet.net.au
***Secretary:** Claire Smith 0432 310556 email: secretary@wilvos.org.au
***Treasurer:** Annette Buchanan 54 421734 email: treasurer@wilvos.org.au

Community Awareness/Schools: Roslyn Leslie 54850056/0409598437 email: pomonarozzie@bigpond.com

Co-Ordinators: Birds: Vanessa Starkey 54 422970 0416219725 email: starkey66@bigpond.com
Marsupial: Heather McMurray 54149196 or Lynn Moye 0438 765946 email: jaslynn2@hotmail.com
Macropods: Sylvia Whiting 54 467760 email: membershipwilvos@iprimus.com
Reptiles: Jill Zimmerman 54781315 / 0411558827 email: wild_spirit5@yahoo.com.au
Raptors: Jackie Fraser 54999057

Data Returns Co-Ordinator: Tammy Donlen 54469205 / 0402806568 email: returns@wilvos.org.au

Electronic Fauna Returns: Tammy Donlen 54469205 / 0402806568 email: returns@wilvos.org.au

Enquiries: Donna Anthony 0413 861757 email: enquiries@wilvos.org.au

Posted Fauna Returns: Zoe Jung 54 350164 / 0411129866 TO WILVOS PO BOX

Electronic Telephone Returns: Sammy Ringer 54943812/0410833981 email: returns@wilvos.org.au

Posted Telephone Returns: Tammy Donlen 54469205 / 0402806568 TO WILVOS PO BOX

Fundraising Officer/Stalls Co-Ordinators:

a. Rosemary Dax 54 754455
b. Desley Salmon 54 961824 / 0407 240365 email: des4wildlife@bigpond.com

Grants Application Officer: Claire Smith email: grants@wilvos.org.au

Media PR Co-Ordinator: Donna Anthony 0413 861757 email: donnalenoanthonny@hotmail.com

Membership Secretary: Sylvia Whiting 54 467760 email: membership@wilvos.org.au

Minute Secretary: Joyce Thompson 54 417658 email: joyglynn@bigpond.com

Newsletter Editor: Donna Anthony 0413 861757 email: newsletter@wilvos.org.au

Phone Co-Ordinators: Rosemary Dax 54754455 Laura Tandy 0421176900 email: loz_tandy@hotmail.com

Phone Training: Roslyn Leslie 54 850056/0409 598437 email: pomonarozzie@bigpond.com

(If you can't do your rostered phone time—either swap or find someone else to do the shift. In other words—PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE....ORGANIZE IT YOURSELF! When you have changed your rostered times—advise the person before you on the roster so they know who to switch to, advise your replacement on who they should switch to, and advise Rosemary on 54 754455 for her records.)

Release Officers: Paul Smith 54 438315 email: releases@wilvos.org.au

Paula Savage 54 739479 0411 334846 email: surfdazy@gmail.com

I.T. Co-Ordinator: Karl Gallant 54 149196 email: webadmin@wilvos.org.au

Workshops Co-ordinator: Donna Anthony 0413 861757 email: donnalenoanthonny@hotmail.com

Workshop Confirmation Contact: Heather McMurray 54 149196 email: education@wilvos.org.au

**DON'T
MISS
BIRD
W'SHOP**

**IS OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY PSYCHIC????...noooo
IS SHE GOING TO BE PSYCHIC THIS YEAR...nooooooooooooo**

Please, please, and please again, if you want to change your details as listed on the Contact List.....RING or EMAIL SYLVIA WHITING.

(These are the instructions at the top of the front page of the Contact List.)

DON'T tell the phone roster person, or the milkman, or the postman—ADVISE SYLVIA WHITING—details on list above.



PS: Anyone who goes on WILVOS Chat knows that this little cartoon of someone banging their head in their plate is my favourite way of expressing my feelings! It makes me laugh every time...and we must retain a sense of humour! Remember, **“With a sharp tongue, you can cut your own throat!”...hahahah.....Donna**

**A TRULY GREAT
ACHIEVEMENT**



FRIDAY 30TH September, 2011, Sylvia Whiting OAM officially received her Order of Australia Medal from Governor Penelope Wensley AC. It was an inspiring occasion at Government House.

If undelivered please return to:
Wildlife Volunteers Assoc. Inc
PO Box 2555
Nambour West Q 4560

Print Post approved
PP424022/1446
Wilvos Wildlife Whisperings
OCTOBER 2011



Poss

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

Thank you to the generosity of our supporters, and our money management skills (thank you to our wonderful Treasurer Annette)!, WILVOS are able to help wildlife across Australia. Many organizations in all fields lack the expertise and forethought in distributing their funds without ending up back in 'the poorhouse'!. WILVOS want to help their carers meet their costs along with helping wildlife in crisis. Carers do need to realize that there are costs involved in raising wildlife, and that is because our wildlife have a value. They are worth it! WILVOS are presently planning the donation of equipment to the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital at Beerwah. This has helped them tick off items on their wish list. Their vets do a wonderful job there in helping wildlife. As you will have read earlier in the newsletter, our donation to the Mahogany Glider project after the floods has been so helpful in the research and monitoring of this endangered animal. Rainforest Rescue was another worthy cause for WILVOS to support after the floods in North Queensland, as they are continually planting and restoring critical corridors for cassowaries in the Mission Beach area, where the cassowary numbers have plummeted increasingly rapidly over the past few years.

Once again the WILVOS membership fee stays at \$15 per year for a family, the same since 1993! Our subsidized workshops will continue, with an amazing group of presenters planned for 2012.

IF YOU REALLY CARE, BE THERE!