



MARK THE 13TH AND 14TH
SEPTEMBER 2014 IN YOUR
CALENDAR.

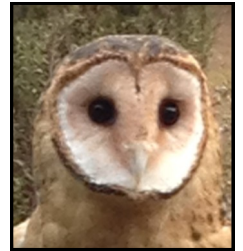
Not to be missed: Dr Derek
Spielman training workshops.

*Where is a
kookaburra's crop?*
(See back page for answer.)



Blue-winged
kookaburra
Dacelo leachii

Removing Spotted-tailed Quoll from a road
in Tasmania. Sadly, we saw a number of
dead macropods, a wombat and a
Tasmanian Devil that day.



JULY
2014

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc (WILVOS)
PO Box 2555 Nambour West Q 4560.
Ph: 07 54 416200 www.wilvos.org.au

Dr Anne Fowler
has a 'catch cry'
at every wildlife
conference.
This year it was
"PICK UP THE
POO" - a good
reminder for
macropod carers!

Visit this site for information on wildlife health issues. There are numerous
fact sheets to read, which are extremely relevant to wildlife caring, and a
weekly digest can also be received. This is highly recommended.

www.wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au

Tiggy Grillo, National Co-ordinator, Wildlife Health Australia, was most
informative at the Australian Wildlife Conference in Hobart, encouraging wildlife
carers to subscribe and become part of this very important network.

While searching my computer for something else I found this from some time ago, and thought I would share with our readers. Thank you Angela!....Donna

I have a touching story to tell about my family of wild Kookaburras—actually there are 2 stories here.

The first one starts sometime ago when our rather tame group of kookaburras came to enjoy the very occasional supplementary feed at our deck (15') high above the ground. I noticed the big ones eye was injured, so, as per vet instructions, I mixed up some medication and fed it to him. In a few days he was happy again and as if to thank me he has since come right into our home and allowed us to stroke him. That was just temporary so we could really assess his eye!

This was a year or so ago now and we have all been great friends s i n c e t h e n . The miracle that has occurred today is this same kookaburra has accepted a kookaburra chick that I picked up from nearby Maroochydore Vets. The baby may have been hit by a car, but he was feisty when I brought him home and I had to learn how to force feed him (thanks for the

instructions Vanessa). Eventually, that brought some success.

After his small feed at breakfast the adult kookaburra had come back to be with him. They had met through the cage the night before, when the young one was so desperate to get out of the cage that I had to resist the urge to let him out then. The baby wouldn't eat at first and the big kookaburra took a piece a piece of meat and held it up to the baby and then swallowed it. He encouraged the little one to eat. This he eventually did and once the chick started he couldn't stop and all fear vanished.

The amazing thing is that the other kookaburras sat back, something they don't normally do, and left the food there for the young one. Of course there was a bit of competition and all the other meat eating birds had a good feed of Ox heart this night. It is so endearing how the big fella waits for the baby to have his fill before leading him into the trees where they roost. A happy Wilvos heart tonight! Angela.



A Weekend in Charleville

with *Macrotis lagotis*—The Greater Bilby

Recently, I was very privileged to travel to Charleville with a remarkable man. Frank Manthey is the man who introduced the plight of the endangered Bilby to Australia.

He is remarkable, yet he is a very ordinary man - a man who was captured by the Bilby on first seeing one at Charleville. From then on Frank decided that he had to save them. To do that, Australians needed to know that Bilbies wouldn't be around for our children if we didn't do something about it immediately.

Frank Manthey started a fund to build a fence out near Charleville - raising money to build it panel by panel—to protect a captive breeding colony. He also had a fundraising agreement with Darrell Lea Chocolates and every Easter the push was on to get Australians to buy a Bilby not a 'bunny'. The first time I met Frank was at the Plaza (part of the Darrell Lea Easter promotion). He gave a presentation about the Bilby and the Foundation and at the end he took a Bilby out of its box to show us. Like Frank, I was enchanted by this fragile yet feisty marsupial. It's grey pelt, fine and delicate, and huge pink, almost transparent, ears. Then just when you thought you knew what a Bilby looked like, it turned around to reveal a long black tail with a white fluffy tip. More like it had been added as an after thought...from another animal! When you get a chance to meet one, if you haven't already done so, then you too will be enchanted.

His work promoting the Bilby was one thing, but then Frank's eye turned to the actual problem—feral predators. Feral predators are a massive problem, having wiped out a whole Bilby colony in one foul massacre. As we know, much of our work with WILVOS is because of feral predators. Frank said one of his most important wins was only just recently. This was to get an Australian wide feral pest management symposium here in Queensland to pull everyone together. It is only just the start.

The reason we were travelling to Charleville was that Frank was, sadly, giving his last Bilby talk. He had started there many years ago and now he wanted to finish there too.

Many other people had come out to mark the occasion and many others wanted to be there but couldn't. It was a coming together of people Frank had brought along with him in his Bilby journey

from all walks of life.

Frank wouldn't be retiring if it were up to him. His doctor has insisted that he slow down so he has reluctantly handed over the reins of the Save the Bilby Foundation.

He is disappointed that we are handing over a world to our children that may be without some of its creatures. Frank sees the answers in seriously tackling the feral predator problem. He also sees the need to introduce Bilbies to children, because one day they will be the future Director-Generals and politicians who will put in place effective feral pest management programs to save not only the Bilby but all native animals.

Imagine our children saying to their children, 'I remember seeing a real Bilby'. What a loss!



Through history ...and very recent history...it has happened again and again and again.

Frank is inspiring because he is just an ordinary man who set out to make a difference. There aren't many people in Australia who haven't heard of the Bilby now.

Frank also brings a reminder that 'No' doesn't mean 'No'. He has had many more 'No's' than most people, and he said just because they said 'No' doesn't mean anything. The answer is to just try again or try someone else. He is famous in multiple levels of bureaucracy for this. I think that people see Frank's passion and commitment, but he is also a thinking man, strategic and measured. Frank Manthey loves it when people see a Bilby for the first time, he knows he's got one more endangered species ambassador!.....Julie Watson.

**AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE
REHABILITATION
CONFERENCE HOBART 2014**



Tasmania can be very proud of themselves for the quality of their conference. The presenters and venue were excellent. The food during the day was delicious and the company great. It was so good to catch up with other wildlife carers and to put faces to names of others with whom emails and phone calls may have been exchanged in the past years. I loved hearing that people as far away as W.A. read our newsletters. (Thanks for that Marg!)

There are always new ideas and knowledge to be gained in such a variety of subjects. I found Dr Anne Fowler's 'Pasture management for growing kangaroos' to be particularly interesting, having an interest in all things 'macropod'. So in a varied pasture, clover isn't a problem and it is good for putting nitrogen into the plants, which leads to muscle growth. We were told that the weight of a male kangaroo at 18 months determined his ability to reproduce well. Another reason not to hold them back in paddocks for too long. Preferred supplements are good quality lucerne and grassy hay which are expected to have a content of 15% protein, high fibre, low starch, vitamin E and a minimum of selenium. Grains are not recommended as the low fibre may lead to enterotoxaemia and lumpy jaw—the latter of which has always been of concern with such products as cracked corn.

Dr Rosemary Austen imparted her incredible compassion and knowledge in the treatment of macropods. She has the good fortune of having Dr Howard Ralph as her vet. It was no surprise that Howard received a standing ovation at his presentation!

Dean Huxley spoke on 'The rescue and rehabilitation of native ducklings of W.A.' Hopefully by now everyone has been reading the papers presented at this and past conferences. Dean did get a chuckle from all by beginning his presentation with, "Yes, I am older than 12!" He was a little younger than the average age of most of the delegates! It is great to see youth so well represented at such a conference.

There was much to be learned about the Tasmanian Devils, especially concerning the insidious Devil Facial Tumour Disease. We were told the presence of Devils has a

strong negative impact on cats which leads to less predation on animals such as the Eastern Quolls. Less Devils, more cats, less Quolls!

Rob Pennicott, from Bruny Island, Tasmania, inspired everyone with his history and his funding of the Cat Eradication program on Tasman Island. This young philanthropist is an amazing example of what one person can do to make a difference.

Meg Good from the Barristers' Animal Welfare Panel provided interesting thoughts on wildlife and the law. I enjoyed Desley's talk on the role of wildlife spotter catchers in the construction and mining industries. Afterwards, a number of people asked how we Queenslanders fitted it all in with our wildlife caring! I had to explain that spotter catching was a paid occupation! It was a reminder to tell carers that if ever approached to perform the duties of a spotter catcher, that this work is done by people paid to do it, and we should not do them out of a job—not to mention letting someone cheapen the lives of our wildlife by expecting a free service!

Peggy Rismiller, Derek Spielman, Catherine Herbert, Andrew Tribe, Marg Lerner, I could go on and on and on about the presenters and varied subject matter but I'll leave you all to read about it!

I can guarantee that you will be very impressed with the Dr Derek Spielman workshops in September. This is an opportunity not to be missed and we are extremely privileged to have him come up to the Sunshine Coast.

On the Thursday of the Conference there were optional field trips. Craig Webb's Raptor Refuge was well worth the visit, with an interesting presentation and history of birds in care. Not open to the public, this facility concentrates on rehabilitation and education of school children and other groups.

A great conference, I was mentally fatigued by the end of it but that wasn't as tiring as trying to teach Sylvia how to crochet during the long flights. Now that was a failure!.....Donna



Loved the Hobart Museum!

An interesting method of transport used for raptors at the Craig Webb Raptor Refuge outside Hobart. There are holes in the pipe to allow air flow. If the pipe is the correct size for the bird, the bird is comfortably contained and no feather damage occurs.



“Donny” the whiptail wallaby basking in the sun on a cold winter’s morning. Those at Dr Howard Ralph’s workshops in March would remember him with his fractured legs and fractured tail.

It is always good to see released macropods doing well. Roobee (brought to one of our meetings by local police last year) and friend Clover are very happy with their grey kangaroo herd out in the big bad world.

It was great to hear that adorable “Riddle” and “Libby”, the rambunctious swamp wallabies, are still venturing out from the forest and occasionally frequenting the grass around Jane Little’s house. In such a perfect swamp wallaby habitat they are very contented macropods.

Thank you to all who have renewed their WILVOS membership so promptly and also a big ‘thank you’ to the lovely people who sent donations along with their membership renewals. It is most appreciated.

If you haven't returned your ‘Invoice Form’ please do so. It makes our Membership Secretary’s job that little bit easier if forms are returned with payment, or posted in when an EFT payment is made. Please return the form intact...it doesn’t help if people cut off the section with their name/address on and post the remainder of the form to the PO Box. Sylvia isn’t totally psychic yet!!!

Please call Rosemary Dax now on 54 754455 if you can help out at any of the following events:

Sat 6th Sept Collectorama Nambour
7.30am to 2.30pm

Rosemary needs help on these fun occasions.
Community awareness helps our wildlife.

On this day there is also the 125th year celebrations for Yandina State School, where there will be a Bat Awareness stall along with the general WILVOS Community Awareness stall.

Sunday 17th August is the Yandina Fair

Call Donna if you can help at Yandina 0413 861757

WILVOS AGM

8th September 2014. 7.30pm

60’s & Better Hall Nambour

Supper provided

All those holding positions on the committee and management team will stand down and members will then be elected for the 2014/15 year.

Attached please find the Proxy/ Nomination forms. Nominations need to be in at least two weeks prior to the AGM date. Return these to the PO Box address or scan and email to secretary@wilvos.org.au

Please check the attached Workshop Calendar and email your booking to Cathrin ASAP—and mark the dates on your calendar, or put a reminder in your phone. The vegetation workshop is to be confirmed but book now. If you book now, by email, Cathrin will send you an email in the weeks prior to the workshop giving all relevant details. There is a **Bird Training Workshop at the Australian Wildlife Hospital on Sunday 17th August**. If you wish to attend this please book direct with the Wildlife Hospital as soon as possible.

Lysine provides a protein essential for feather growth. Continual research of bird diets helps us in the rehabilitation of our wildlife. For example: though a common practice in years gone by, it is now known that a seed only diet does not provide optimum nutrition for seed-eating birds in care.

Our record keeping and research notes will help us for years to come in learning about diet and nutrition in our native animals.

RECOMMENDED READING:

In the Australian Natural History Series there are some great books.

Tawny Frogmouth Gisela Kaplan

Australian Magpie: Biology and Behaviour of an Unusual Songbird

Gisela Kaplan
CSIRO Publishing

‘Have you seen a koala, platypus or echidna lately?’

(WE ARE SO OFTEN ASKED WHERE PEOPLE SHOULD REPORT WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS, SO HERE ARE THESE DETAILS AGAIN.)



**PLEASE SEND THEM THROUGH TO:
faunawatch@wildlife.org.au**

We are all aware that the expanding urban footprint and conversion of native forests to agricultural land on the coast and hinterland has put extra pressure on our native wildlife. Adding to this problem is the isolation of the natural habitat that reduces the ability for wildlife to move through continuous corridors. This puts them greatly at risk to the dangers of roads and car strike, dog attack, and reduces available seasonal food sources. To get an understanding of past, present and future fauna species population and distribution Wildlife Queensland Sunshine Coast has been running a citizen science monitoring program over the last 15 years. It is aimed at gathering a comprehensive and ongoing database of all animals on the Sunshine Coast including Moreton Bay to the south and Mary River to the north. This database currently holds over 650000 records of animal sightings but with the rate we are losing our natural environment and climate predictions it is now even more important to build the database and fill in the gaps to enable the best possible models of fauna distribution.

Because of this Wildlife Queensland SC is asking anybody who has seen a koala, echidna or platypus to email the location, date and time to their Faunawatch coordinator at faunawatch@wildlife.org.au This information will then be forwarded to several groups including dedicated researchers, universities, council environmental departments, and state and national fauna databases. Alternatively if you have any old fauna records or bird lists taken in the past, or if you are thinking about doing a regular survey on your property or local park they would love to hear from you and put all that information to good use. You can find more information about the program at

<http://www.wildlife.org.au/projects/fauna/>

.....Paul Smith

CRAZY CASEY!

There are plenty of people out there who ‘want to save the world’ but not so many are ‘doers’!

We thought our ex-secretary Casey Murtagh had excelled herself with her volunteering at the Matang Wildlife Centre, fund-raising for the Orangutans here on the Sunshine Coast, followed by the 900km trek across Borneo that again raised in excess of \$22,000 for Orangutan conservation.

Casey has now been selected to be the adoptive mother of a young Malayan Sunbear, Ori, during his release in the middle of the Borneo jungle. For the next twelve months spent in Borneo, at least six months of this will be out in the middle of the jungle, two hours away from any civilization— at the beck and call of young Ori as he learns to adapt to the wild. Where Ori sets up camp for the night, there Casey will be. Aside from such dangers as poachers, cobras and pit vipers, Casey sees her main challenges as finding enough fresh drinking water, and avoiding the inevitable dengue fever and malaria. Eight to ten hours a day will be spent following Ori around, as Sunbears have ‘an insatiable need to be on the move’. It is expected that there will be a minimum of 25 kilometers walked each day.

Good luck Casey...we look forward to hearing about your incredible adventures!



I don't think Casey will have room to take her snake catching equipment with her..but the knowledge gleaned won't go astray!!

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. (WILVOS) Team for 2013/14

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

If you have trouble contacting anyone on the list call Sylvia or Donna.

***If you can help in any way, please contact the appropriate people...all help is welcome!
Sylvia, our Chairperson, is always available to anyone who has any worries or complaints, or just
needs advice.***

*** Management Committee**

*Chairperson:	Sylvia Whiting	54 467760 0400 125807	chairperson@wilvos.org.au
*Vice Chairs:	Joyce Thompson	54 417658	joyglynn@bigpond.com
	Donna Anthony	0413 861757	donnalenoreanthony@hotmail.com
*Secretary:	Leslie Ayling	54417421 0437 637404	secretary@wilvos.org.au
*Treasurer:	Annette Buchanan	0418 194695	treasurer@wilvos.org.au

Co-Ordinating Team

Community Awareness/Schools:	Roslyn Leslie	54850056	pomonarozzie@bigpond.com
Co-Ordinators:	Birds: Sarah Powell	0402 369 057	slp007@student.usc.edu.au
	Marsupials: Rose Nation		wilvomarsupials@hotmail.com
	Reptiles: Jill Zimmerman	54781315 0411558827	wild_spirit5@yahoo.com.au
	Raptors: Jackie Fraser	54999057	

Data Returns Co-Ordinator: Tammy Read 54469205 0402806568 returns@wilvos.org.au

(Please email all electronic fauna and phone returns to returns@wilvos.org.au)

**Please send an email to this address or to Enquiries to request an electronic Returns Form template.
Post handwritten forms to WILVOS PO Box 2555 Nambour West Q 4560)**

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

Environmental Officer: Lyndall Pettett lyndall_pettett@hotmail.com

Fundraising Officer/Stalls Co-Ordinators: Rosemary Dax 54 754455

Media PR Co-Ordinator: Donna Anthony 0413 861757 enquiries@wilvos.org.au

Membership Secretary: Sylvia Whiting 54 467760 0400 125807 membership@wilvos.org.au

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

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

Phone Roster Co-Ordinators: Rosemary Dax 54754455

Julie McLeish 0433 308851 julesmc12@gmail.com

(If you can't do your rostered phone time—either swap or find someone else to do the shift. 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.)

Phone Roster Training: Roslyn Leslie 54 850056 pomonarozzie@bigpond.com

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

Workshops Education Officer: Cathrin Thodock 0499 739990 education@wilvos.org.au

TELL ALL YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS TO PUT HOTLINE NUMBER 54 416200 IN THEIR MOBILE PHONE.

MILK FORMULA & FOOD

Milk Powder, Teats, Bottles, Bags for possums and macropods. Phone or email Donna.

Please show your Membership Card when buying food for wildlife. Pet and produce shops may give a discount.

The best food we can give our animals is what they would be eating in the wild. **Supplements are just that!**

10% discount Mad About Pets, Nambour

20% discount Petstock, Noosaville

These discounts are for wildlife food purchases. Show your membership card.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WILVOS organization but all contributions are welcome.

A kookaburra's crop is between its legs!

*To become part of the Queensland state body for rehabilitation of wildlife, join the
Queensland Wildlife Rehabilitation Council www.qwrc.org.au*

Please read the following regularly: The Code of Practice under which all wildlife carers work:
www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/caring-for-wildlife

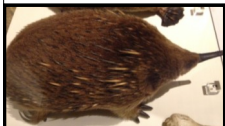
**DON'T FORGET: ALL FAUNA AND PHONE RETURNS TO BE IN BY NOW FOR ANNUAL REPORT.
Email: returns@wilvos.org.au or enquiries@wilvos.org.au to request an electronic return form.**

Please take the time to visit this site and read past papers from Australian
Wildlife Rehabilitation Conferences www.awrc.org.au

**IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE??? IF NOT PAID BY 31ST JULY 2014 YOU
MAY HAVE TO ATTEND ANOTHER INDUCTION TO REMAIN AN ACTIVE CARER.**

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

Print Post approved
PP100019524
Wilvos Wildlife Whisperings
July 2014



Echidna in museum
at Hobart. Hairier than
northern echidnas.

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

Products containing loperamide (Imodium, Gastro Stop) used for diarrhoea, may cause dry eyes. Use of Lacrilube or similar may be needed in the eyes. As always check with your vet.)



PHONE ROSTER VOLUNTEERS

If on phone roster duty, please answer the phone professionally:

“Hello, Wildlife Volunteers, Lucille/Fred/Whoever speaking, May I help you please”.

If you are unable to get to the phone and someone else in the family is answering it, please instruct them to answer in this same way, until you reach the phone. Just a ‘Hello’ is not good enough for an organization priding itself on its efficient, polite and professional standards....and our phone roster volunteers are all of the latter. At the recent Nambour Garden Expo I had many positive comments from people who came to our stall, thanking us for the service we had provided to them.