

NOVEMBER

2014

WILVOS WILDLIFE WHISPERINGS

Thank you to all
our wonderful
vets during 2014

Sunday
30th November
2014
1.30pm to 4pm

Thank you
to all our
WILVO
members.

Thank you to
Peter
Wellington's
office.



Afternoon tea
provided

Christmas Party



Thank you to
all our
supporters in
2014.

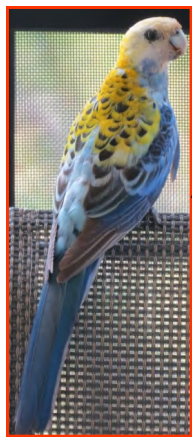
Merry
Christmas &
safe happy
holidays.

I'm off
to Jackie
Fraser's
Raptor
Centre

WELCOME TO
ALL OUR NEW
MEMBERS

*Come and meet your fellow
-WILVOS and co-
ordinators for a social
afternoon.*

Please RSPV to Cathrin by Friday 21st
November at education@wilvos.org.au
for catering and to confirm venue and time.



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

Thank you Nambour Print
Centre for printing our
newsletter so well.

Lisa and David forgave Alice for robbing
their strawberry patch when she returned
briefly to show off her first joey!



Blue Tongues

Jill has been very busy the last few weeks, mainly with Blue Tongue rescues from local picnic parks where blue tongues have learnt that humans have food and they may get scraps. Unfortunately, most families take their dogs—which is great- but please keep them on a leash as they attack our local blue tongues and due to the deep puncture wounds most of the rescues have been euthanased.

Lizards and Baby Oil

Jill Zimmermann, our Reptile Co-ordinator, has found baby oil very useful in helping out a 3 lizards that found themselves in sticky situations recently.

Jill's first rescue was a Blue Tongue which had walked thru wet concrete, and much to Jill's amazement baby oil proved to be the best way to remove the wet tar. After 3 days of baby oil treatment the adult Blue Tongue was successfully released.

Jill's second rescue was a juvenile Eastern Water Dragon which had been wandering around in a garage in Nambour and was found in a tin of opened white paint. The family took the Dragon to the wildlife hospital and named him Taubmans. Jill was called to collect the dragon and keep him in care until he shed his skin, as a white water dragon cannot camouflage and hide away from predators. As the baby water dragon was quite stressed in captivity Jill felt it important to return him to nature as soon as possible, so out came the baby oil and after a few days of gentle treatment our dragon was no longer white, and quickly released back at Nambour. Luckily the family was home and the children were able to watch Taubmans' happy release.

The third lizard was one of the most unusual rescues Jill has ever had for a Blue Tongue. She was called to a house at Mooloolaba where the couple had recently returned from a trip to Indonesia where they purchased a very unusual Sticky Rat Trap. It was like a flat round disk covered in a very strong glue. The young BlueTongue had walked over the trap and was well and truly stuck. As Jill tried to lift the lizard off, the strong sticky glue stretched out remaining attached to the Blue Tongue.

'Sticky' traps are lethal to wildlife!

Even after freeing him from the trap his legs stayed glued to his body. It took days of attending to the sticky Lizard with Baby Oil.

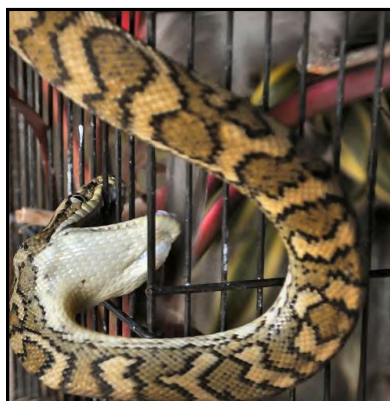
Eventually, he was happily released and the couple threw out the traps and promised to feed the blue tongue if they saw him hanging around in their garden.



SNAKE "CATCHERS"

DEHP are no longer providing a 'snake catchers list' so please use those on our contact list with an "S" beside their names.

These people have the relevant mitigation permits. Please advise members of the public that these people may or may not charge for the service. Often advice and education is all that is required and our Reptile Coordinator has said that that is the ultimate and most humane goal. To unnecessarily relocate a snake may lead to injury to the snake in its quest to return to the area.



YUM, YUM!

Yes, it is perfect weather for the pythons to come checking out cages and aviaries.

They may visit possum aviaries but because possums just have their foliage

diet they don't attract the additional delicious mice. Pythons really love to check out bird cages and aviaries which are even more enticing to them. So if your bird/possum cage or aviary isn't snake proof then put it in an enclosed area, still ensuring of course that the wildlife get their quota of sunshine.

As wildlife carers we have a duty of care to our native animals, indeed to all animals in our care.

If picking up animals from a wildlife hospital or vet, we still have to check the animal over for anything that may have been missed, or any behavior indicating an underlying problem. We have the experience to know the behavioral attributes of wildlife.

For example, a fully furred wallaby came into care recently with sutured gum and broken tooth. This little redneck wallaby was very, very sedate and demeanor indicated that it could be pain related, and not just from its jaw problems.

Further investigation showed broken ribs. So don't just take diagnosis as stated, as wildlife are very good at hiding their injuries when they first come into care. Their life depends on that in the wild. It is up to us, as carers, to be diligent observers once we bring the animals home.

If a bandage is on too tightly, it is our responsibility to note that, and return to the vet. Swelling can continue after the limb is bandaged so observation is the key. At one of our workshops we saw images depicting the damage to limbs, and consequent euthanasia, due to carers neglecting to monitor their animal's casts.

Splints used should be well wrapped to prevent rubbing and consequent infection. Look for signs of discomfort in the animals. An ill-aligned bone can mean extreme pain and possible future euthanasia.

Use anchor tapes at the top and bottom of the bandaging and it is then much easier, and less stressful, to change bandaging. Think of that splint/bandage as on our own limb and what we would want. Animals deserve the same consideration.

There is no excuse for lack of knowledge in this day and age. Bird carers have all the information in the bird care manuals you received on induction day or at the bird caring workshops. These are to be read, read and read again. Don't just look up something on the internet and think that is right. Someone recently said that they read on the internet that young birds didn't need calcium supplementation. Doesn't common sense tell us otherwise in a fast growing animal? The site on the internet was discussing captive parrots fed a balanced specially formulated pellet diet. Totally irrelevant information for what we need to know, so stick with the information you have and please ring experienced bird carers sooner rather than later if you need some advice.

If looking for wildlife information on the internet then go to experienced rehabilitators sites. If you visit Norma Henderson's site www.michaelandnorma.com and go to 'downloadable PDF documents and presentations' there is free information on antechinus, bandicoots, seabirds along with bird care. There are also books for sale on chick identification. Even as new inroads are made into wildlife care, as we keep up with new methods, it is still necessary to read and absorb as much knowledge of different species as possible. Knowledge of behavior and habitat is very important.

Natural foods are always best so make use of those grasshoppers appearing everywhere at the moment!



THE FIRST NESTING TURTLE HAS APPEARED ON OAKS BEACH.....

The Bundaberg Regional Council is accepting submissions up until Friday 28th November on their proposed planning scheme. Though out of our immediate area, the sea turtles along this coastal area need to be protected by strict regulations on lighting.

For further details email donnalenoreanthony@hotmail.com and Donna will send you the submission form and draft letter which can be emailed to the Council.

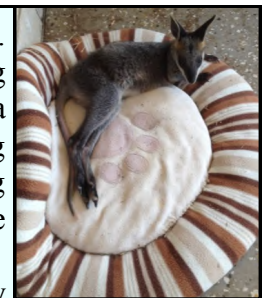
I love swamp wallabies. Even at a diminutive 1 kg they begin acting like a miniature adult, disappearing into the garden or laying around like they own the place!

By the time they are 4kg they are 'itching' to be out in the forest and should be released within the next kilo or two. If carers think this weight is too small, then the release site isn't safe to release!

To keep a swamp wallaby to 10kg is cruelty. They are independent, intelligent little characters who tell us when they want to go, and to miss this window of opportunity does not improve their chances of survival.

Keeping macropods in care for too long gives them a false sense of security. They need to be out developing their natural instincts.

Size doesn't ensure survival—natural instinct is more important to their well-being and safety.



The wonderful **Suncoast Social Dance Club** has again invited us to cater for their dance with funds raised going to our food subsidy for carers. Please call Rosemary if you can help in any way..help at the dance, manning the door or serving supper, at **Kawana on Saturday 29th November, 2014**. Otherwise you could make a cake/biscuits/sandwiches/anything delicious????

Please keep your receipts so you can claim a food subsidy if you qualify for same. If you wish to apply for a subsidy, please request a food subsidy claim form through enquiries@wilvos.org.au or post in a request for a form to the PO Box.

***Please fill in the form and attach receipts and a copy of your fauna returns for the time the subsidy is claimed. Otherwise there will be no response.**

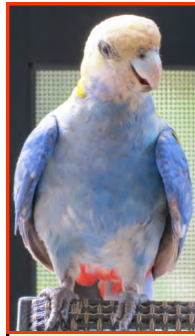
(Send your original fauna returns in via email or post, as usual).

PLEASE NOTE: To qualify for the food subsidy the following guidelines must be followed:

- Species Co-ordinator must have been advised when animals came into care—**see their details in this newsletter**.
- Release Officer advised prior to release.
- Copies of fauna returns to be attached to the claims. (Originals to be sent in normally, for WILVOS records.)
- The minimum of two WILVO workshops per year to be attended by carer, as is necessary to retain permit.
- The person claiming must be an active WILVO carer listed on the Contact List. People may belong to any number of wildlife care organizations but must decide with which one they are 'active'. This has been done at the request of other major wildlife rehabilitation groups in Queensland. Unfortunately, people were joining and sourcing benefits from a number of groups, but were accountable to none of them. Animals were not being registered with co-ordinators and release details were not recorded.
- A minimum amount of \$80, and maximum amount of \$300 has been spent over a 3 month period. The subsidy does not cover costs of expensive extra items such as mice, mealworms, crickets etc It is the responsibility of carers to grow their own, or entice someone else to grow them for you! Similarly, with fruit/vegetables, carers should seek out sources from local fruit and vegetable suppliers. As these are a supplement only with most species, they should not form a major part of the diet of any wildlife in care. Marsupial carers will receive subsidy for their formula, not for items such as Impact.
- Subsidy will be assessed at the cheapest available price for the product.

It would naturally be expected that those receiving the subsidy reciprocate in some way to show appreciation to the organization ie doing at least one shift a month on the phone, as all carers are expected to do. We are all extremely busy but it lightens the load when the chores are shared.

Formula or food is not to be passed on to anyone outside WILVOS.



HOLIDAY SEASON APPROACHING AND WE NEED TO GET OUR ACT TOGETHER!!!

I have had an email from a lady who is a Friend of WILVOs. She has not been on the Carer's

Contact List since 2013 yet has received two separate calls to pick up birds in the last week. Aileen has not been on our Carer's list since 2013. There is no reason why anyone would be using a list that is not up to date. If you don't have the NOVEMBER 2014 Contact List in your hot little paw today, then email Lyn Lovell to email or post you out a NOVEMBER 2014 CONTACT LIST.

We can be sure that as soon as Sylvia has done up her new Phone Contact List, the changes start rolling in! Lyn kindly emails/advises all phone roster volunteers of updates. These are numbered so it is easy to keep track. Mark these Updates on your Contact List immediately, and file away electronically or manually in case needed at a later date.

Members of the public are genuinely concerned when they find injured or orphaned wildlife. They need to be able to get help without making numerous unproductive calls.

ALSO, while on the Contact List you are obligated to pick up **any** wildlife. It's not a case of "I don't do birds/reptiles/possums/macropods" We need to get all injured or orphaned wildlife from the vets or members of the public as soon as possible. Then call the respective species co-ordinator or someone on your list if you are unable or unqualified to care for the animal. The main thing is to get the wildlife to a 'WARM, DARK, QUIET' environment as soon as possible.

Pillow slips turned inside out, so there are no loose threads, are invaluable to have in your car with your rescue baskets.

Being a Hotline Volunteer can be frustrating when trying to contact Carers so please return messages as soon as you can and help out whenever possible. If you don't do Hotline Duty then please phone Rosemary so she can roster you on, and you can be enlightened!

Hotline Volunteers: If you are besieged with calls, allocate a few of the calls to other carers. We know what it is like and are happy to help!

Don't forget to put a ramp, shade cloth, gutterguard or thick rope in your swimming pool so if animals fall in they can get out again.

POSSUM CARERS, POSSUM CARERS, POSSUM CARERS.....

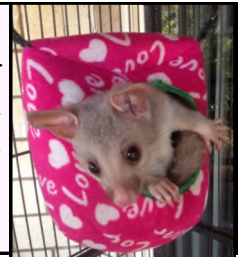
On the subject of possum boxes, much research has gone into building the best design of possum box for possums in our local habitat....and I have just been pondering on the subject!

Do **NOT** put extra holes in the box. Why????

- Possum really **can** fit through that hole..have you seen the size of the openings through which they squeeze to access our ceilings?
- Large holes and extra holes leave the possum feeling exposed and stressed. They like dark in the day.
- Large holes and extra holes make it very easy for birds to harass the possums and pick out the young possums and carry them off.
- If they don't want to use the hole they can lift the lid. The nail holding the lid shut is **ONLY** for during transport. These nails are taken out while the possums are in the aviary and when the box is put up at the release site.
- An extra hole doesn't give the possum an escape from a snake. If the snake wants that possum it will still get it before the possum can exit past its left ear!
- With the ringtail dreys you can cut out a piece of wire on opposite sides and cut out two holes in the lining if lining is used, but it is a different story altogether. Those wire nesting baskets and liners then have foliage woven all around them so they resemble a big leaf ball. The openings are barely discernible—but the 'ringies' know where they are! It really only makes us feel better!

While on the subject of possum housing.....Thank you Misty for introducing us to those amazing hanging possum houses—hammocks, hanging beds or whatever they call them on Ebay! They are so easy to hook up on the baskets and cages and aviaries with those little clips. Some possums find it hard to leave them for a box! "Cutie" loved hers.

It's best to get the 'non-furry' ones in case possum ingests furry fabrics/lambswool.



Flying Fox Hero

Gabrielle Makeig 2014

My friend the flying fox is a hero through and through
With mouth of shiny little teeth to suck on fruit and chew
Two clever hands manipulate, four fingers and a thumb
To scratch his lovely silken fur while hanging in the gum

At dusk he flies with outstretched wings and mango lust upon the breeze
The strongest bravest foxes forage furthest to the tallest trees
In clouds of twittering allies the nectar gatherers swarm
The stronger help the weaker, returning with the dawn

The baby flying foxes are cuddling up to Mum
And soon they will be big enough to manage on their own
They live in kindergarten while they learn to feed and fly
The colony supports them till they take off in the sky

So have a thought for nature and the honour of the clan
As flying foxes gather they *may* come close to man
And as they feed they pollinate and keep the trees alive
While humans steal their habitat and plan to take their lives.

(Thank you for sending in that lovely poem, Terrie.)

Some of our newer carers are an inspiration to all with a good solid grounding of commonsense.

Jane and Chantel are a great addition to the WILVOS organization, showing their skills in care of both adult and very young possums.

Colleen showed initiative in caring for all wildlife not just the cute little ones. A possum was stranded on a branch and being viciously attacked by birds. Colleen climbed on the hood of her car, quickly and carefully captured the possum with a thick towel and kept it in care until its return home after sundown. Well done Gina with the two little 40 gram ringtail possums found in your front yard. Now over 60 grams and powering on. Well done girls!

Why would Leslie Ayling call a little possum "Puss Puss"? The little 'furball' came into someone's house on the back of their cat. Not a very bright little possum but fortunately it picked the right cat!

<https://www.change.org/p/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp-ban-ceremonial-balloon-releases-due-to-the-negative-impact-on-marine-and-wildlife>

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WILVOS organization but all contributions are welcome.
Send in photos and stories of your wildlife. Closing date 15th January 2015.

WORKSHOP TRAINING

Well, what can I say—and still remain polite! Really, I just can't understand the lack of interest that people have in our wildlife. This isn't a hobby, our wildlife isn't a disposable item with which we make an effort to save. They are a commitment that we have to give 'our all' to save. Yes, some die and some have to be euthanized but they deserve respect, dignity and the very best care.

Knowledge is being continually expanded upon, research updated, and care practices changed as more is learned from carers, scientists and veterinarians. We need to keep up with it all. Animals that were euthanized five years ago are now able to be saved and released 100% healthy.

Cathrin, who has taken on the role of workshop bookings, was almost speechless at the pathetic numbers for workshop bookings. Shaking her head, Cathrin said it is beyond her comprehension that wildlife carers show such a lack of interest. With over a hundred carers on our contact list, continual mustering has to be done to get just 35 attendees for a world-class wildlife veterinarian such as Dr Derek Spielman. That is pathetic! "Oh, but we'd like a workshop on this, or a workshop on that." So we organize these requested workshops. Do those who wanted them turn up?—noooooo, the expected feeble excuse is emailed through. What about the vegetation workshop that so many carers wanted? Where were you?

Then we have those who just want a cute fluffy animal to look after—"I don't want to do birds". Well, sorry, if you don't care about the species that most come into care, then you don't care about wildlife. Wildlife are not pets! Feathered, furred, scaled, whatever, they all need our help.

Length of time as a wildlife carer does not denote a good carer. WILVOS have new members who have gained more knowledge in six months than some 'old' carers will ever have in their lifetime. All because they think they know it all??? Nothing more to learn???

Dedicated and committed caring for all wildlife is the priority.

Thank you to Lani and Troy and family for welcoming us to their lovely property for Troy's Vegetation workshop. The simple description of plant parts and the keys used in identification were explained so well and there was a huge amount of foliage collected for us to study. It was a lovely spot under the shelter shed. I can understand why that young koala joey chose your driveway to venture up!Donna



A few people want to know where they could buy these WILVO shirts. Just find your favourite photos of wildlife in care and get them put onto jackets, shirts, mugs etc online—on sites such as Zazzle, Vistaprint or such. They have 50% discounts and free shipping from time to time.



Julie, our wildlife on the Sunshine Coast will miss you, but all the best for your move a little further south. We are just glad you won't be far away, and aren't completely deserting ship!! Thank you for still being available for possum caring and hotline duties. Your experience, commonsense and sense of humour are much appreciated!(Our other Julie (McLeish) is definitely moving way TOO far north!)

There are still carers out there who haven't rejoined which means you do not have a rehabilitation permit. How difficult is it to receive that invoice and then **send it back** intact with your payment? It would save Sylvia a lot of work, and the phonecalls—"I don't know if I've paid yet?" Oh, what a worry!

I was asked to put my CRICKET GROWING CRICKETS tips in the newsletter again...so here goes..works for me....

A plastic storage box with square cut in lid and fitted with gauze to allow airflow, but prevent escape. Otherwise, just a plastic fruit basket from bottom of a fridge, with a cardboard lid with holes stabbed in it! Veeerrry high tech! Held down with the spray bottle of water needed to spray the cotton balls and sand each day.

- * Line the bottom with paper towel—in layered squares so it can be removed with minimum disturbance.

- *Put in jar lids containing my home-grown cotton balls, sprayed with water.

(When I change them next day I put the old cotton balls in a plant pot to grow more ‘cotton trees’!) (Crickets drown in water dishes.)

- *Put in jar lid of fine chook mash, and another jar lid of vegetables....eg chopped up carrots.

- *Along with egg cartons, rolls from paper towels are good for them to hide in and I bend the ends down so crickets can go and hide, but I can quickly close ends, and throw the roll in with gliders or birds! They grab the poor darlings as they come out.

- *Put in a Chinese food container full of sand which is sprayed with water each day. This is where eggs are laid and must be kept damp. (Females identifiable by long proboscis.)

- *Once chirping and breeding, keep track of the time and move the sand dish to another container after about 2 weeks, and keep spraying till they hatch. In a couple of weeks tiny weeny little crickets appear by the hundreds! Put another sand dish in your first container and off you go again.

Sooooo simple..and I love the sound of crickets!....Donna



REQUEST FROM AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE HOSPITAL

WILVOS receive numerous animals from AWH and as we need to record details of wildlife in care, so do they. The end result, either death or release or passed to another carer needs to be recorded.

When we receive wildlife from the wildlife hospital we get a ‘pink slip’ with an **Accession Number** and the details about the animal and .

At the end of each month, when you do your **WILVOS Monthly Fauna Return**, if there is any wildlife there that came from the wildlife hospital please email (preferably) or phone the wildlife hospital and give them the **Accession Number** and details—‘died’ or ‘released’ ‘or passed to another carer’. Please give the next carers name and details so this is noted on the hospital records. This means that that person is then registered on their database as a wildlife carer.

The pink slip should be passed on with the animal when it is passed to another carer, even if it goes through a number of carers.

Please try to get into the habit of doing this. It will mean more accurate records for the wildlife hospital. Otherwise they have to send each of us a list of accession numbers for animals that they have passed on to us, asking us what was the outcome. This could take you a long time to track down all these animals through your records.

In our world of disappearing wildlife we need these statistics. It is not just ‘paperwork’, it seriously affects the future of our Australian native animals.

Many thanks....Donna

AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE HOSPITAL DETAILS:

hospital@wildlifewarriors.org.au
or phone 54 362 066

Heard it on the Grapevine...

I hear there are two brand new little babies arrived into WILVO families, and they are not furry, feathery or scaley!



Congratulations to Natalie Sheppard, partner and family, and to Bethany Firth and your partner and family. Sorry, don't have any more details yet!

If there are any more new joeys out there—welcome also! Sarah?

USE OF PAINSTOP DAYTIME IN MARSUPIALS (From Dr Howard Ralph's 2014 Training Weekend)

(Not recommended for use in birds and reptiles)

Check Strength of Preparation

Painstop Daytime – Paracetamol 120mg Codeine Phosphate 5mg in each 5 ml ie Paracetamol 24mg/ml and Codeine Phosphate 1mg/ml

Doserate—1 ml per 2.4kg This doserate is not to be used in neonates.

Not be be used closer than 12 hours apart. This gives pain relief until you get the animal to your vet and their expert advice.

Transporting an animal to the vets either for treatment or euthanasia is a very painful experience for the animal, especially in cases of long distance. Pain relief is necessary. Advise the vet if you have given wildlife any medication.

As always check with your veterinarian or call an experienced carer if you have any queries.



SNAIL TRAP

Put small amount of beer in bottom of container, bury the container a little so snail can get in, but sides of container high so can't get out.

Monitor so snails don't have to suffer once trapped.



Thank you Allora Garden, and all the wonderful people who take the time to knit pouches and sew up liner bags. We joey carers, and our possum and macropod charges are most grateful. Your time is most appreciated.



Sylvia, Roslyn and Donna visited the Noosa Arts & Crafts at Noosaville (after Donna found her lost shoe in the car. She had been contemplating bandaging her foot to explain only one shoe!) and were presented with boxes of beautifully knitted pouches and liners. Their gift shop is amazing! Exquisite hand made clothes, jewellery and artwork by extremely talented people. It is an arts & crafts extravaganza!

Thank you to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council for approving our grant through the Environment Levy Partnerships 2014.

We had chosen not to apply for grants, feeling that there are more needy community groups out there (...and yes, I knew it would land in my lap and Sylvia's. and nothing is ever as simple as it seems!) Nevertheless, the Council wouldn't take "No" for an answer and by the time I finished I'm surprised I didn't ask for a million dollars!

Details in next newsletter.....Donna



It's that time of year again when all the native fruiting trees are bearing profusely. These freeze well and are great for our wildlife. They are part of their natural diet (though not usually frozen!) which is what we want. The grasshoppers are also very numerous at the moment!

A loooong hot summer....

This is what we keep hearing is ahead of us. I hope everyone had their aviaries ready before the latest hot weather. We had plenty of warning.

Hot iron on the roof should be covered with either sleepers or something like palm fronds or leafy tree branches. To leave the hot iron exposed to the sun makes the heat inside intolerable. If you don't have the iron on your aviary roof covered, then go and stand under it for a while in the next hot weather.

Some people say palm fronds would look messy!!! What!!! This is more important than an animal's welfare!!!! Anyone with palm trees curses those fronds and would be happy for someone to collect them. Arranged so the leaves hang over the sides and weighted down or covered unobtrusively with chicken wire they can look like a Balinese hut, and when hosed down it really cools the aviary. Use that imagination! Don't hose hot iron and risk scalding your animals.

Wine cask bladders half-filled with water and frozen are great to wrap in wet towels and place on top of the possum box also.

Birds just love their sprinkle every day. They love to cool down under a shower. If there is ample water a sprinkle of the whole garden at daybreak makes it cooler for everyone. The little skinks are ecstatic!

If you can't guarantee comfortable temperatures for your animals outside, then bring them inside. Water is another issue. Our animals in care don't have access to the same amount of moisture on vegetation in an aviary compared with what they would get at night foraging in the wild. So please don't restrict your animals clean ample water supply each day.

Captive situations are completing different to a life in the wild. We do our best, but wildlife miss out on so many natural benefits they would encounter in the wild.

CONTACT SYLVIA IF YOU NEED RINGTAIL POSSUM DREYS OR POSSUM BOXES.

CONTACT RELEASE OFFICERS BY THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER IF YOU WANT ANIMALS RELEASED BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

IF YOU HAVE A WILVO AVAIRY AND ARE NOT GOING TO BE USING IT, PLEASE RETURN ASAP.

For ten years or more Sylvia has been telling wildlife carers that 90% of misdiagnoses are made from 'not looking' rather than 'not knowing.'

Our carers liked hearing these same words at the bird workshop at the wildlife hospital earlier in the year and it is so true. We should spend time observing our wildlife each day, and if something looks 'not quite right', then there usually is an impending problem.

Don't procrastinate asking for help. If that possum hasn't settled down to a good routine within 48 hours please go to an experienced carer with the animal for assessment. If the animal gets on track early it saves a lot of pain, suffering, sleepless nights and endless circle of medications that wouldn't have been necessary if the possum received help early.

Speaking of sleepless nights, how good it was to go on a week's cruise and stay up till the early hours listening to music instead of trying to stay awake for the next feed!

The only stressful moment was seeing kangaroo on the menu but after casually mentioning that no one would eat kangaroo meat if they knew how many worms they carried to naturally digest their food, no one at dining table ordered skippy!

Cruising should definitely be an annual R & R event!
.....Donna

If aviary size possums aren't putting weight on, then there is a reason for it. They put weight on very quickly if given plenty of fresh foliage, preferably at least 8 different varieties. Don't discount internal parasites. Get a faecal check and worm the animal if necessary.

Some weeks ago, I received a phone call from a lady asking if I could pick up a Noisy Miner that looked like it had some sort of 'gunky' wounds on the head and it could hardly see. Arriving there the lady told me her 6 year old son had been determined to catch it. When he finally did catch it, he came running in yelling "I've caught it, I've caught it – call WILVOS". He had had a visit from Roslyn in kindy, so he knew exactly what to do.....Cathrin.

Thank you to the ever-generous Billie for the donation for Animal Repellers for cars. These were distributed to people in areas where they will lead to less road kill. Thank you so much!

Milk Powder, Teats, Bottles, pouches/car carry 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. Please show your membership card.
Should you need anything such as Wild Forage or Charcoal Powder give me a call. Charlotte, at Woombye Vets, gave me Wild Forage for a debilitated macropod some years ago and it was an excellent mineral supplement. Since then I've used it on a number of animals—macropods, possums and birds, that needed that extra boost in their recovery.....Donna

Please read the following regularly: The Code of Practice under which all wildlife carers work:

www.ehp.qld.gov.au/wildlife/caring-for-wildlife

To become part of Queensland state body for rehabilitation of wildlife, join the Queensland Wildlife Rehabilitation Council www.qwrc.org.au
The Membership goes from January to January and costs \$20
This covers registered wildlife carers for personal accident insurance.
Check out their website for more details.

Animals don't 'just die'. Monitor and weigh regularly. How do you know how much to feed if you don't know an animal's weight?

Our sincere sympathies to our valued WILVO carer Patricia Whiles, and her family, on the loss of her husband, Ernie, on 7th November, 2014. Our thoughts are with you Patricia.



This little noisy miner was found on the ground cold and wet after a storm one night. After getting him dry and in a warm spot it didn't take him long to recover. Frantically searching the room he was discovered camouflaged and chatting to a stuffed kangaroo!

Warm Dark & Quiet does wonders. After some food and TLC he and his voracious appetite were returned to his welcoming parents.

Please take the time to visit this site and read past papers from the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conferences

www.awrc.org.au



What an adorable photo of this little brushtail possum joey suckling on Mum's teat. Photo: Denise Nicholson.

Dr Derek Spielman's training was fascinating. We were privileged to listen to someone who deals with wildlife diseases on a daily basis. Besides lecturing in veterinary pathology at Sydney University, Derek also volunteers at a wildlife clinic and is involved in wildlife research projects.

A reminder to people that Derek said that any pure, raw unprocessed honey has the most outstanding healing qualities, so forget the expensive brands. Science speaks!

'Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.' Albert Einstein

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. (WILVOS) Team for 2014/15

***** 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 pomonaroozie@bigpond.com

Co-Ordinators: Birds: Sarah is due to have a baby soon so who wants to be bird co-ordinator?

Marsupials: Mae Connor 0467 877444 wilvomarsupials@hotmail.com

Reptiles: Jill Zimmerman 54781315 0411558827 jill@wildspiritsnakes.com.au

Raptors: Jackie Fraser 54999057

Data Returns Co-Ordinator: Cathrin Thodock 0499 739990 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

Lyn Lovell 0421 853007 lynlovell@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 pomonaroozie@bigpond.com

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

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

Welcome to the new 2014/15 team and thank you to last year's team for all your great work. Thank you Tammy and her inputting team Sammy, Zoe and any other helpers for data returns in past years. We wish you well in your new adventures Tammy and glad you are staying on as a WILVO. I think Cathrin is enjoying organizing it all and taking on the challenge of getting carers to get their phone and fauna returns in each month. Now that is a challenge but it's worked for me. I've never been so constantly up to date with my Returns before!

Julie McLeish, another lady who was a godsend to WILVOS, was such a major help to Rosemary with sending out the phone rosters and emailing the updates. While Julie was doing the job, we could just forget about it. It was just done. Lyn Lovell has stepped into those shoes brilliantly and again it is so appreciated, as any administration task is always a hard thankless slog compared with the rewards of hands-on wildlife caring.

Mae Connor is kindly filling Rose Nation's shoe as marsupial co-ordinator and Sarah we await news of your baby's arrival. All the best. Thank you all again. Your work has been most appreciated.

CATHRIN THODOCK IS OUR FAUNA & PHONE RETURNS CO-ORDINATOR
ALL FAUNA AND PHONE RETURNS TO BE IN BY THE FIRST WEEK OF EACH MONTH.

Please, please, carers Cathryn is very passionate about these statistics. She knows how they can help our wildlife—**IF THEY ARE ACCURATE!** If you don't send in returns then it is that many animals and their exact location that are not recorded. It also saves Cathrin the cost of phoning you.

Just this once, for those receiving a printed newsletter, there is a printed Fauna Return Form and a printed Phone Return Form. Please copy these yourself if you use them. Electronic forms are preferred.

Email: returns@wilvos.org.au to request an electronic return form. (Filling in directions included!) This is the simplest and fastest way to get your monthly returns in. Use these new forms from December.

There are a few minor changes, but please use these forms from DECEMBER. Discard/delete old form templates. Read Cathrin's letter and you will see the picture from her viewpoint. Follow her instructions. Please record any roadkill with location, as close as you can determine, you observe on the road. A dead echidna, magpie, reptile.

If you haven't sent your Fauna or Phone Returns in, in the first week after the end of the month, then Cathrin will be contacting you. Cathrin wants these records all current so she can send out quarterly reports on what wildlife has come through our hotline and into care. Thank you Cathrin for your time and effort. These statistics are becoming very important as development encroaches on wildlife habitat and WILVOS are consulted for statistics of species being impacted upon in the different areas of the Sunshine Coast and hinterland. Please help our wildlife by submitting these forms. **ALL** animals get recorded, if they die, get handed on, or are dead on arrival! Many thanks.

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

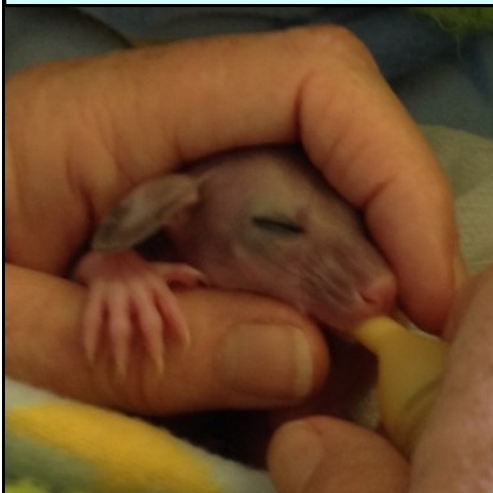
Print Post approved
PP100019524
Wilvos Wildlife Whisperings
November 2014

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**



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



Denise's Pride and Joy!

After coming in as a very sad dehydrated little brushtail possum of 50 grams on the 20th July, Pierce is now over 900g.

It was his lucky day, the day he found his way into the Nicholson household. Denise is renowned for her care of these very small possums that thrive on that one on one care.

