

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



Let's drink to
WILVOS
25 years!

APRIL 2018

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PLEASE NOTE POSTAL ADDRESS CHANGE.



CONGRATULATIONS SYLVIA! *It's a long way from Eromanga to Government House!*

Have you heard of the town of Eromanga in far western Queensland? It is famous for three things. It's the town that is furthest from the sea in Australia, and it's where "Cooper" the largest dinosaur in Australia was discovered. Thirdly, and **VERY** importantly, this town which sports a population of 45 was the birthplace and hometown of WILVOS Chairperson Sylvia Whiting OAM. Well you wouldn't have become lost there, Sylvia!

No doubt everyone has heard of our Chairperson, Sylvia Whiting OAM, attending a very prestigious reception recently. This was held for the Prince of Wales, at Government House in Brisbane. Of course, you would not have heard this from reticent Sylvia, but the rest of us let the world know!

Not only did Sylvia get this special invitation, she was also one of a select group chosen to personally be assured of shaking hands with, and speaking to Prince Charles. His interest in environmental issues is well known. This night was an acknowledgement of Sylvia's contributions to wildlife and to the environment.

A true wildlife carer, this lady cares for all wildlife and their habitat. A more committed and dedicated wildlife saviour could not be found and we are all proud of you, Sylvia. You are an inspiration to all wildlife carers.

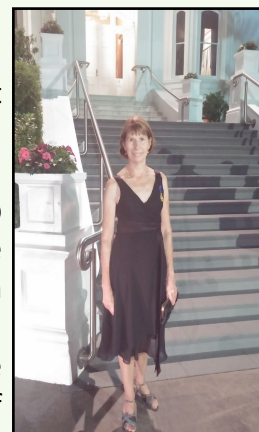


Photo: Sylvia on the steps of Government House.
Oh, dear. Do we have to curtsy now?

Thank you to Ben Atherton, of Ausgraphics, for his continuing backup service, patience, and source of advice and support on any technical details with the WILVOS website. His website design has also led to increased involvement from carers in visits to the Website and Members Page for helpful carer information.

**Meeting with Jason and Michelle and Terrie at
The Ginger Factory, Yandina
Thursday 15/03/2018 10am.**

Re – wildlife proofing fencing around property.

I called The Ginger Factory and spoke to Michelle on Monday 04/03/18. I referenced the number of animals I have rescued from this fence and the horror of the suffering involved. Also the situation with the upcoming flowering of the trees along this fence line (probable a couple of kilometres in total) and all this years young flying-foxes making their first flights. Michelle was wonderful, right from the start. Very receptive, she said she would talk to Jason (maintenance) and call back soon. Michelle called back a few days later and we made an appointment for 10am, Thursday the 15th.

First I called and spoke to Carmy about this. She was very keen on the project and immediately saw where this could lead re other major barb-wire surrounded facilities. I picked her brains about all the different and preferred ways of wildlife proofing barb-wire and then I went to various hardware and agri supply companies and priced the various products and took photos etc. I put all the photos in one file in my laptop (a lender from WILVOS – thanks Donna – a godsend and I use it all the time for wildlife projects) and made a hard copy of the pricing and a brief description of our experience of the various materials and their effectiveness etc.

The options we offer the property owners must be tailored to their needs. With that in mind I considered the visual amenity of the entrance to their business and the insurance parameters they may be under so I had multiple products to cover all eventualities. Great meeting. Both Jason and Michelle were determined that something permanent needed to be done to protect the wildlife from injury. I did stress the multiple species that can come to grief on these fences.

The entire fence line is in pretty bad shape and, as it happens, a major upgrade is in the pipe line. The outcome of the meeting was that, in the short term, they will immediately put up the 40mm wide Poly tape used on electrified horse fences, in the problem areas, (which I pointed out as I did a bit of a survey and took pics before the meeting) but in the long term they will push for a single, non-barb, high visibility white 5.2mm Horse Sighter Wire for the top strand on the fence, all the way around. The most preferred solution by far.

Keep an eye out everybody for when the short-term Poly tape solution is put up – and on their Facebook page, email or text, give The Ginger Factory a big THANK YOU from all of us who have to remove the poor creatures from this dreadful stuff and try to heal them, and from the multitude of animals that don't get caught – a massive THANK YOU.



Here is a list of the different products that I researched -

A) Poly tape – (used in electrified fencing)
WHITE 40mm wide x 100m - \$65.95

This is the easiest to install. Just stretch it between posts alongside the top strand.

B) Horse Sighter Wire – solid plastic. WHITE.
4mm x 625m - \$355.00

This product is light and easy to handle. Is not a good substitute for a top strand as there is some elasticity in the product. Strainers not needed to install this product.

C) Horse Sighter Wire – PVC coated Galv wire.
5.2mm x 400m - \$199.90

This is the best product to replace the top strand entirely. Very strong, Heavy and takes some knowledge of fencing to install. Needs strainers.

D) Strainers or Tension Clamps - single unit
\$4.95. Box of 50 \$139.00.

E) Construction Tape - fluorescent. Multiple colours, but white is always best for night vision. About \$5.00 a 100m roll

High visibility at night. Very light and moves in the slightest breeze. We recommend this for non-industrial fences where there is no intention by the owners of going to a more permanent solution, or of employing any of the other more expensive solutions. It works very well but needs to be replaced every season when the trees by the fence line are flowering or fruiting. It also means this plastic eventually finds its way into the paddocks and roadways. We recommend a length of about 1 m be tied off on the top strand and let to hang down. These need to be at least every metre along the fence or closer together than the wing span of a flying-fox. When a flying-fox is coming into a tree they could hit that barb-wire at up to 30kph. Frightful injuries. If they hit it on the way out, less immediate injuries but they try to chew their way off which utterly destroys their mouths and the twisting shatters and splinters bone and flesh.

Thank you Terrie for your initiative and work on such an important project.

Throatworm? Gapeworm? What is the difference?

THROATWORM

Species affected:

Magpies, currawongs, and pelicans

Cause: A nematode: *Cheilospirura Gymnorhina*

Transmission: It is believed that snails in particular can carry this worm. In some states, carers are told that they must not feed snails to hand-reared magpies.

Clinical signs: Trouble swallowing food, the bird often has its mouth partly open. Gaspings may be seen if the burden is heavy and the glottis is partly obscured.

Diagnosis: Look for lumps at the back of the throat NEXT TO the glottis. The raised lumps contain coiled white worms, about 2 cm in length.

Treatment:

Remove with tweezers. (Not recommended.)

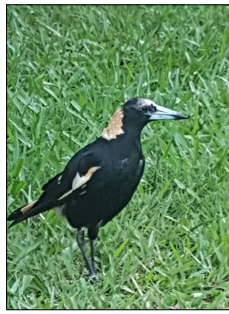
However, this can be very traumatic for the bird. There is an increased likelihood of death (probably capture myopathy from prolonged restraint) and bleeding.

Ivermectin can be given by mouth at 0.2mg/kg and repeated in 2 weeks and again at 1 month if required. Using ivermectin means that all of the worms are killed, including those that are difficult to see and thus remove. Ivermectin will also address any other internal parasites (capillaria) and external parasites (feather mites and lice).

Levamisole, although effective, is not recommended due to the high risk of causing toxicity. It also damages on growing feathers something that most orphaned birds have!

Oxfendazole (Wormout gel, Vetafarm), or **Fenbendazole** (Panacur, Intervet) are also likely to be effective.

Often orphaned magpies will have other concurrent issues. Ensure that they are on a balanced diet, with access to other magpies, sun shine and natural foods.



WARM

DARK

QUIET

FLUIDS

Don't forget to pass on the AWH pink slip if you pass wildlife to another carer.

GAPEWORM

Cause: *Syngamus tracheae*.

This worm lives in the trachea.

The female is about 2cm long and the male is closely attached to her (making a Y formation), and is only about 0.5cm long. Both worms are bright red in colour. The earthworm is the immediate host.

Species affected: Waterbirds, currawongs.

Clinical signs: These birds in a greater degree of respiratory difficulty compared to those with gapeworm.

They may show open mouth breathing, inability to fly, changed vocalisation and noticeable respiratory distress.

Examination does not reveal the presence of worms next to the laryngeal mound. But on rare occasions, a red worm INSIDE the trachea may be seen.

Treatment: Ivermectin at 0.2mg/kg PO is also effective

Prognosis: Much more guarded. Death of worms may result in the segments occluding the respiratory tract.

Dr Anne Fowler



Orphaned magpie

(If you have any queries on wildlife issues, write them down now, so you don't forget, and ask Anne when she is up here on the 8th and 9th September 2018. Anne loves questions! New wildlife techniques are constantly emerging so attendance at these training days is so necessary to keep ourselves informed.

If you haven't already booked for this training day, book well in advance now, and mark the date on your calendar.)

AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE HOSPITAL DETAILS:

When receiving wildlife from AWH please follow up by advising them when an animal dies, is released, or is passed to another carer. Quote Accession no. from pink slip and details of next carer. Pass your pink slip on along with the animals.

hospital@wildlifewarriors.org.au or phone 5436 2340

Ringtail possums are a delight to rear as they are independent little creatures that are not demanding or 'needy' and they thrive on their natural diet and love to have their aviary environment mimic their wild habitat.

As with all wildlife in care we should know how these animals exist in the wild. Without similar conditions provided, problems will occur. Caecal stasis is a not uncommon problem with ringtail joeys, but as with all health issues, prevention is the secret.

The research on Oxbow was done by Sydney Wildlife. They deal with a huge number of ringtails, so I appreciate their extensive research and documenting. It's not coming from an instant expert on the internet.

I use Oxbow till weaned on all ringtail possums that come into my care. Don't wait till a possum is ill. Oxbow Critical Care is a good nutritional supplement for all animals, but in ringtail young it should be part of their standard diet. Please don't tell me your possums don't like it. I have seen amazing recoveries with Oxbow.

It cannot be emphasized enough that there is plenty of good information on the internet from experienced wildlife vets. Spend your time researching wildlife in a productive way. It is a matter that can mean life or death,.....Donna

Go to Past Conferences on the www.awrc.org.au website. READ these papers.

AT THE RISK OF REPETITION - PLEASE READ THE PAST AWRC CONFERENCE PAPERS. www.awrc.org.au

HERBIVORE NUTRITION SUPPLEMENTS

Helping Wildlife in Care

Paper for the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference, Adelaide, June 2010

By Beverley Young OAM, Sydney Wildlife, with research assistance from the Sydney Wildlife 'Treatment and Care Study Group'.

The above past Conference Paper gives even more case studies.

USE OF OXBOW CRITICAL CARE WITH RINGTAIL POSSUMS

INTRODUCTION:

Sydney Wildlife is a volunteer organization which rescues and cares for native wildlife that is injured, sick or orphaned. Animals are rehabilitated and released to the wild. The organization specializes in the problems of urban native animals, its field covering the greater metropolitan area of Sydney. Public education, information and in-service training are part of its services. There is a 24hr. assistance line to the public which takes about 14,000 calls a year. Currently Sydney Wildlife has about 400 members.

There is a high concentration of Ringtail Possums in the northern districts of Sydney – some 600 coming into care each year, 400 of those are babies. The following notes are prepared by Beverley Young who has been the Coordinator for Ringtail Possums for 8 years and keeps detailed records of treatment and care.

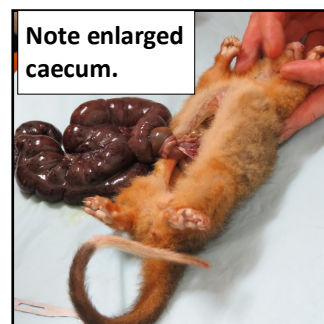
USE OF OXBOW:

Carers in Sydney Wildlife became aware of Oxbow Critical Care only early this year, so we cannot supply any long-term statistical information about its use. However our experience to date has been very positive. These are outlined below:

CASE 1 – (Sydney Wildlife #43898) Male ringtail baby 120g. This possum had come into care at 60g.

He had a poor history - feeding problems, fluctuating weight gain/loss, poor sparse fur development. His 3 buddies who received the same care had none of these problems. At 120g. he was starting to develop a 'spongy' enlarged abdomen and his tail and head in particular were showing signs of malnutrition and weight loss. Our concern was that he was possibly in the early stages of Caecal Stasis and a regime of treatment was put in place, with comprehensive record taking. The main thrust was in the use of Oxbow Critical Care. He was at this stage feeding himself with formula and fresh native leaves, along with his buddies. However he was taken out 3 times a day to be hand fed with diluted Lactade (hydration and electrolytes) with a sprinkling of Oxbow (about ¼ teaspoon in 10mls fluid). We found this the best way to have him take the Oxbow, it also gave him extra fluids which is part of our treatment regime. This was kept up for 3 weeks. Towards the end of this period he was filling out in the previously skinny areas, his abdomen had decreased in diameter and his fur was thickening up very well. We now started to put the Oxbow into the regular formula feeds (which meant the buddies would get it too), still supplying some extra weak lactade in the cage. The possum went on to be healthy and fit and was eventually released with his buddies at the usual 6 months of age. The rationale in using the Oxbow was to increase nutrition input, and provide fibre to assist in moving material through the caecum, and incidentally to give extra fluids. We have had many babies with similar symptoms in the past who have gone on to develop Caecal Stasis and died.

We were very impressed with the results of Oxbow use.



To become a wildlife carer you must hold a rehabilitation permit and meet standards described in **Code of Practice—Care of Sick, Injured or Orphaned Protected Animals in Queensland**

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

<http://wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au/Resources.aspx>

Visit & subscribe to this website for the latest in wildlife information and resources. All wildlife carers would benefit from subscribing. WHA has the most up-to-date information available on wildlife health.

We can cut down on our waste products around the house. Take note of how much garbage goes out into the bin each week and look at how you can cut this down to the bare minimum. **BY HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT WE HELP OUR NATIVE WILDLIFE**

- *No canned or bottled soft drinks. (Do people actually drink that junk?)
- *No water in plastic bottles. (From the tap is cheaper and healthier—buy a permanent drink container, and carry cups with you)
- *No coffee/tea in disposable cups.
- *No disposable plastic razors and blade cartridges.
- *No takeaway food in disposable containers—if this happens then reuse them.
- *Buy your honey/jams/sauces from people who will refill your containers.
- *Return egg and reuseable containers to the vendors at the farmers' market for reuse.
- *No plastic shopping bags - bring your own reusable bags when grocery shopping (preferably paper bags made from recycled material—we will see the end of single use plastic shopping bags in July)
- *Cancel magazine and newspaper subscriptions and read online.
- *No junk mail. (...but I love my junk mail!)
- *Use reusable cloths for everything - cleaning, drying, dusting etc
- *Politely asking restaurant servers to take away paper and plastic napkins, placemats, straws, cups and single-serving containers. Email the restaurant later explaining why this is good for the environment and for the customers. (Oh, dear....I don't think you would be welcome back there!)
- *Try to ignore those junk food take-away retailers and all their paper and plastic wrappers. (Why is it when there is rubbish dumped on roadsides and walkways, it is nearly always from those very popular famous or infamous outlets?)
- *Don't buy health bars, candy bars, gum, lollypops, yoghurts, fruits or ice cream that are individually packaged—NO disposable, over packaged items—fresh, bulk, unpackaged food from the farmer's markets is best. Take your own containers to refill. Buy in bulk and decant into small containers.
- *Overly processed food is not good for us. Keep it basic—cook simple nutritious snacks and meals. You will see that grocery bill shrink and the imagination run riot!
- *Make your own household cleaners to avoid all the throwaway plastic bottles. (Amazing that people still buy all those uneconomical and unenvironmental spray cans full of lethal chemicals.)
- *Use baking soda from a recyclable container to brush your teeth.
- *Use baking soda for a deodorant to avoid the plastic containers that deodorant typically comes in. (Must try that!)
- *Using baking soda for shampoo to avoid plastic shampoo bottles. (Mmmmm....I do like my shampoo!)
- *Keep that worm farm composting your food scraps into natural fertilizer for your gardens. (Doesn't everyone have their pet worms?) *Grow your own veggies - it only takes a small simple garden to provide many veggies for the family.
- *Use cloth baby nappies.....(yes we have all seen the marketed arguments saying disposable nappies are possibly more environmental, but who believes it—only those having to wash the darn things!)
- *Give your second-hand clothes and household items away to charities—don't just throw them away.
- *Buy clothes from the 'op shops' if you want to dress to impress!

I HAD TO RECYCLE THIS ARTICLE WHEN THE PRINTERS LET ME KNOW THAT I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH PAGES TO COMPILE THE NEWSLETTER IN THE USUAL FOLDED A3 MANNER. OOPS I'D EXTENDED TO TEN TO FIT IN THE CONTENT BUT NEEDED 12 !

WILVOS FOOD SUBSIDY

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. Note new post office box address.

*Please fill in the form and attach **receipts and a record of animals in care** for the time the subsidy is claimed. Otherwise there will be no response.

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.
- Record of fauna in care to be attached to the claims. (Records to be still entered on WildMan 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.

Some wildlife supplies such as milk formula and insectivore are already subsidized if you have purchased through WILVOS.

EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES :

Milk Powder, Teats, Bottles, pouches/ car carry bags for possums and macropods, Oxbow Critical Care, Wild Forage (brilliant product for any recovering wildlife) or Charcoal Powder. Phone/Email Donna.

Possum Boxes/ Dreys available when animals reach size requiring same. Phone/Email Sylvia.

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

The best food we can give our animals is what they would be eating in the wild. Supplement foods are just that! Needless to say there are supplements such as Calcium that are necessary.

Supplements are just that.

With winter approaching the Snugglesafe microwaveable heat discs are a great product.

Ideally, release your birds at the natural dispersal time for the young. Know what weight your birds should be before releasing, as well as what behavioural traits they should be displaying. Observe birds in the wild.

FREE CAGES

Before you get animals into care it is necessary to be set up and be prepared.

Sylvia Whiting sometimes has cages to give away. Please call and take advantage of some free advice at the same time!

At the moment, the discount store in Howard, Nambour, up near Aldi, has the plastic rescue baskets in stock.

Rachel Aspinall saw the rewards of her labour of love when three of her eastern grey kangaroos went off to their pre-release site recently. Though always a sad day, it was lovely to see them integrate into a mob.

Gemma, Tyson and Nibbles were Rachel's first macropods so it was a big achievement. Gemma and Tyson (who initially spent some weeks in Rebecca's care) were under a kilogram in weight, and though larger, Nibbles was the most challenging because of her history of care over a couple of months with a member of the public who did not seek advice on correct care of macropod joeys. Rearing joeys through the three kilograms to the twelve or more kilograms stage is the most challenging, as they are susceptible to a range of diseases in this period of their life. Rachel saw these three through to a very successful outcome.



Thank you to Ash for all his help in release of our rehabilitated possums. Partner, Anita, is a passionate wildlife carer. Besides the many possums and birds helped back to the wild, Anita enjoyed rearing her first two little flying foxes until they moved to a creche with others of their own kind.



Photo by Warren Lynam in Coolumb & North Shore News



Photo: myreptile.ru

Is that a frog in my yard or a toad?

People often think that any brown coloured frog is a toad. On closer inspection there are many differences.

The above tusked frog has a patterned brown back with a butterfly shape on top of its head. Looking underneath, there is a black and white belly with bright scarlet inside the back thighs.

The tusk-like teeth are unmistakeable. Preferring to be in a dense habitat close to water, they are often found in suburban gardens, though numbers are dwindling. The usual story!

I was surprised and delighted to find one behind my fridge soon after moving into my house some years back.

.....Donna

Workshop this weekend 29th April 2018.

This day is for all wildlife carers who are interested in the rehabilitation and release of all wildlife. Hopefully, that is **ALL** carers.

How we rear our orphaned animals from day one means the future survival, or not, of our wildlife. Handling 500g possums as cute pets ensures a short life in the wild. A non-native diet and enclosures that are too small create problems. It is very stressful for both the carer and the animal if we are presented with such wildlife that are clingy and not interested in their natural diet at the pre-release stage. It is really inexcusable for anyone calling themselves a wildlife carer. Release is something that should be in a carers mind from the moment of rescue.

Learn about all aspects to be taken into consideration at Dr Lyndall Pettett's training day. If you wish to help out with releases, or do your own releases, then this will give you the knowledge needed to ensure best chance of survival of your native animals out in the wild.

**To book, please email Helen
workshops@wilvos.org.au**

If you have a 4X4 and can help with transport to release sites, please email info@wilvos.org.au

VISIONARY WILDLIFE WARRIOR REPORTER

Hi, my name is Esther McPhie. I am 12 years old and I love animals.

In 2016, I participated in Australia Zoo Wildlife Warrior's Readathon, and from then, no one could stop me from making a difference and helping wildlife. Since then, I have joined the Visionary Wildlife Warrior program, participated in Backyard Campout and read for a total of 50 hours in this year's Readathon – it's my favourite fundraising event!

I love craft and getting my hands dirty, so I decided that, as a way to raise funds, I could make cards and slime to sell at the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital.

Our local Lions club asked me to do a presentation for them about the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital & Wildlife Warriors. It was my absolute pleasure and I thoroughly enjoyed educating our local community about a cause I feel very strongly about.

At home, my mother is a registered wildlife carer and I help her in caring for orphaned native animals. When we received our very first animal it was amazing and I thoroughly enjoy every minute of it. At the moment, we have a 6-month-old baby brushtail possum and a baby pale-headed rosella.

I also had the privilege to release Mueller, a beautiful koala, back into the wild near my school after he was treated at the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital for a laceration to his left eye.



It's so important that other people know how much we need to look after our local wildlife, because once they're gone it's too late.

Visionary Wildlife Warriors and working alongside Wildlife Warriors has been a life changing experience and I wouldn't change it for the world. I'm so proud of what I've been able to achieve in a year. Each and every Visionary has done an amazing job and should be extremely proud. I will certainly be part of the team next year and I strongly encourage others to join. Don't hesitate, whether you raise \$1000 or \$50, you are still changing the life of an animal for the better.

Yours in conservation,
Esther McPhie

As you will find when reading the article from the 'Crikey' magazine, this young WILVO is an inspiration to all. Esther and her mother Rachel have proven to be very competent carers.

For a person of Esther's age it is admirable that she has been able to rehabilitate both orphaned and adult possums and birds with that mature awareness of the eventual release into the wild. Esther has that natural instinct in knowing when to withdraw the mothering, so the possums do not become over handled and emotionally compromised.

At the Nambour Collectorama Esther turned up to help on the stall with lovely gift cards she had made for a raffle. A very skilled raffle ticket seller also!

Our native animals are very lucky to have this guardian of their future. Thank you, Esther!



Recently moving to the Sunshine Coast from Melbourne I was looking for an organisation that I could volunteer with where I could continue my passion for wildlife. Having been working on a boat for many years in shark research, my plan was to continue with the underwater world, but then I stumbled across WILVOS and met Sylvia and Donna and I knew I had found the organisation I wanted to volunteer for.

While I have some experience in marketing (from many years ago!!) I thought this might be able to assist WILVOS. As many of us know, social media plays such a pivotal role in marketing nowadays for any business or organisation that if you don't have a presence on these platforms, you're essentially missing out on a huge audience.

Many of you would have seen my emails requesting stories of the wildlife that you have in care. These stories play such a massive role in giving the community a real look at what you all do, because let's face it, most people have no idea what goes in to being a carer/releaser/relocator/hotliner! Many callers never know the outcome of the animal they have called in about and many would always wonder, "what did happen...?".

This is where having these platforms are such an invaluable source for WILVOS. It's where we can interact with the community and share the outcomes and stories that we have, quickly and easily. Additionally, as some of you might have seen from some recent posts, we can use these platforms as an educational tool where the community can gain vital, important information which can be used in times they find an injured animal.

So to help in getting the message out to the wider community, we urge you all to take 5 minutes when you can and send through any story you might have. Whether it be about an animal in care, a release, a remove and relocate or even something you saw. It could be a call you received, anything! If there's some important information you feel would be a great addition, then send it along.

Everything helps our cause and I know the followers of WILVOS would love to hear about it! So if anything comes to mind then please send it through to recruitment@wilvos.org.au

Thanks everyone and I'm glad to be on board with you all -
Nicci



Thank YOU Nicci. WILVOS are lucky you found us. I put these photos in so everyone will know who you are when they see you around gathering wildlife stories!

Don't forget to read the wildlife posts and see those lovely photos on WILVOS Facebook and Instagram. Check out the Co-ordinating team inside the back page of this newsletter—a dynamic, cohesive and amazing group of people. Thank you all!

* DON'T FORGET TO BOOK FOR ANN MORAN'S VEGETATION *
* WORKSHOP ON 20TH MAY. NUMBERS LIMITED. *

LIST OF CARERS TO TAKE NIGHT CALLS

Not everyone is able to take night calls from the hotliner for advice or rescue so to help these volunteers we'd like to give them a list of those carers willing to do so.

If you are available to take calls during the night/early morning hours, please email hotline@wilvos.org.au

There are very few calls late at night or in the early hours but hotliners would like to know who is available for them to call for advice or rescue. These calls would come direct from the hotliner and then those willing to be on the list can sort out the situation.

Rachel and Phil are willing to take macropod calls, and Sylvia and Donna are always happy to have the hotliner call them at any hour of day or night.

A reminder also to new members: Always know you are welcome to call for help or advice at any time. Texting is probably more convenient for carers.



Further to Terrie's story on barbed wire: this poor Little Red Flying Fox needed barbs removed from its mouth and its flying membranes. No animal should have to suffer this brutality.



Lindsay Hingston discovered a new flat-tailed gecko visiting their house at Eumundi recently.

An interesting phone call came through on the hotline a couple of weeks ago. Josh called from Guam, asking how he could arrange to have some training to help their endangered fruit bats over there. Of course, we immediately notified Terrie who was very happy to talk to him. It was very interesting reading up about the Mariana Fruit Bats on this Micronesian island in the Pacific Ocean.

DON'T FORGET WE ARE FEEDING A "WILDLIFE REHABILITATION FOR RELEASE DIET" **NOT** A ZOO DIET.

There are many different ways of caring for wildlife. Our Community Awareness Officer, Roslyn Leslie, visits many schools and community groups in the region. School visits are also done in conjunction with the Australian Veterinary Association's PetPEP program. This Pets and People program teaches children about responsible pet ownership.

Schools were given rescue baskets containing everything needed for the basic rescue of a native animal. The rescuers are then able to keep the wildlife comfortable until a WILVO collects the animal.

Recently, a teacher from one of the local schools rang with an adolescent ringtail possum. He remembered everything Roslyn had told him and had done all the right things.

At last week's induction a family joined because of a visit by Roslyn to their school. The children were so impressed that they were able to convince their parents to become involved with caring for wildlife with WILVOS.

Thank you, Roslyn!

Email hotline@wilvos.org.au for Phone Roster preferences, or to make temporary changes to the Contact List i.e. you are away on holidays or unavailable. Cc to membership@wilvos.org.au

If WILVOS have given you an aviary on loan **PLEASE DO NOT PASS IT ON.** You need to contact Sylvia.

The form you sign states that you are responsible for that aviary. Should it not be returned to Sylvia then you are liable for the replacement value.

These are not the flimsy type aviaries. They are good quality and built locally, so replacement value is close to \$1000.

NOTE FOR HOTLINERS & CARERS

The goal for the call log, is to have all **CALL STATUS** set to **CLOSED**.

If a call is resolved by providing information, then the Hotline Volunteer can set the status to closed.

If the Hotline Volunteer has spoken to a carer who is on their way to collect the animal, the hotline volunteer can change the call status to "Awaiting Pickup".

The call is then assigned to the carer responding.

When a carer collects the animal they will need to:

1. enter add the animal to the Wildlife Management System.
2. edit the call log,
 - a. enter the Animal Id
 - b. change the CALL Status to Closed. (The animal is still in WILVOS care even when the CALL Status is closed).

The carer can change the animal status as required ie transferred to another carer/vet, released, died, euthanised etc.

When species come into your care, research everything you can about them. Diet, habitat, diseases, and medications—it is all knowledge that helps you provide the best care. These recent wet conditions affect different animals in different ways. Find out how and what preventative measures you should take. Talk to experienced carers in your group. Ask questions. Don't believe everything you read on the internet!

CHECK THE EVENTS CALENDAR ON THE WEBSITE. IT IS A BUSY TIME OF YEAR. RING ROSEMARY AND LET HER KNOW WHAT COMMUNITY AWARENESS STALLS YOU CAN HELP OUT ON. 5475 4455

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. (WILVOS) Co-ordinating Team for 2017/18

Please direct your calls to the relevant people when making enquiries

ie Membership enquiries to Sylvia (Or advice, complaints, praise!)

THANK YOU TO ALL MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBERS & HELPERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.



*** Management Committee			
FUNCTION	E-MAIL	OFFICER	PHONE
***WILVOS Chair	chair@wilvos.org.au	Sylvia Whiting	5446 7760 0400 125 807
***WILVOS Treasurer	treasurer@wilvos.org.au	Annette Buchanan	0418 194 695
***WILVOS Secretary	secretary@wilvos.org.au	Leslie Ayling	5441 7421 0437 637 404
***WILVOS Vice Chair (1) & Minute Secretary	enquiries@wilvos.org.au	Joyce Thompson	5441 7658
***Vice Chair (2)		Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Community Awareness & Hotline Phone Training	awareness@wilvos.org.au	Roslyn Ann Leslie	5485 0056
WILVOS Data Returns	returns@wilvos.org.au	Kay Dawson	0412 671 846
WILVOS Environment	environment@wilvos.org.au	Lyndall Pettett	
WILVOS Fundraising		Rosemary Dax	5475 4455
WILVOS Grants	grants@wilvos.org.au	Keith Campbell	0408 457 601
WILVOS Hotline	hotline@wilvos.org.au	Rachel Aspinall	0407 881 008
WILVOS Website Members Page Registration & Contact List Changes	hotline@wilvos.org.au	Lisa Domagala	5441 6200
WILVOS Membership	membership@wilvos.org.au	Sylvia Whiting	5446 7760 0400 125 807
WILVOS Newsletter Editor	newsletter@wilvos.org.au	Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Releases	releases@wilvos.org.au	Paul Smith or Ash	5443 8315 Paul
WILVOS Social Media/PR	recruitment@wilvos.org.au	Nicci Purton	0404 459 939
WILVOS Workshop Bookings	workshops@wilvos.org.au	Helen Stewart	

Co-Ordinators

WILVOS Bats	bats@wilvos.org.au	Terrie Ridgway	0487 930 903
WILVOS Birds	birds@wilvos.org.au	Marie Walton	0419 753 736
WILVOS Hotline	hotline@wilvos.org.au	Rachel Aspinall	5478 6389 0407 881 008
WILVOS Macropods	macropods@wilvos.org.au	Sylvia Whiting	5446 7760 0400 125 807
WILVOS Marsupials	marsupials@wilvos.org.au	Mae Connor	
WILVOS Raptors		Jackie Fraser	5499 9057

FASCINATING READING ON THESE WEBSITES

<http://anpsa.org.au/APOL14/jun99-6.html> The section on seed dispersal by birds is especially interesting

<https://researchcommons.waikato.ac.nz/bitstream/handle/10289/6252/Molan%202009%20Debridement%20JWT.pdf> Interesting article on debridement of tissue with honey. Doesn't have to be expensive honey—just raw honey.

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/> <http://www.australianbirds.net.au> <http://www.birdlife.org.au>

<https://blog.csiro.au/atlas-of-living-australia/>

Thank you to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council for their grant to WILVOS for the next three years as part of their Environment Levy Partnership Grant.

**Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation
Conference SYDNEY
2/3/4/5 July 2018
sydney.awrc.org.au**

NOTE FOR ALL WILVOS CARERS

The time has come to cut down on paper use! WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings will, as always, be on our website, as is the current Phone Contact List on the Members Page. **These will no longer be posted unless you specifically ask for same.**

Thank you to the Hotliners who now go onto the Members Page and have the Contact List there ready to consult when the phone is switched over. Others print the list out just before their phone shift so they know they have the most up-to-date information. Well done!

It's always great to be able to give advice to other wildlife carers around Australia with wildlife queries. There was exciting news from one carer this week who had just hatched out four plover eggs after the parents had been killed.

If undelivered please return to:
Wildlife Volunteers Assoc. Inc
PO Box 4805
Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Q 4560

Print Post approved
PP100019524
WILVOS WILDLIFE WHISPERINGS
April 2018

SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Many thanks to all those who attended the recent induction. We are sure you will have a long and wonderful association with our unique Australian wildlife, and all that it entails. Caring for wildlife is just a small part of actually being a wildlife carer. There are so many ways we can promote awareness of our wildlife and their habitat—or lack of!

To allow coordinators to have your correct email address, could everyone who recently joined as a carer on the contact list, or on the hotline, please send an email to each of the following. Just put New Member and your name in the Subject section. The coordinators can then ensure you are on their lists with the correct email address.

birds@wilvos.org.au marsupials@wilvos.org.au

membership@wilvos.org.au hotline@wilvos.org.au

To access the Members Page for Username and Password.

Email hotline@wilvos.org.au for instructions in same.

ADVISE DONNA A FEW DAYS PRIOR

to Workshops if you wish to purchase Milk Formula, Syringe Teats, Insectivore, Possum Pouch 'caves', or WILVO Car Magnets (\$10 ea). **HAVE CORRECT MONEY.** Pick up some WILVO business cards to hand out at rescues.