

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



NOVEMBER 2018

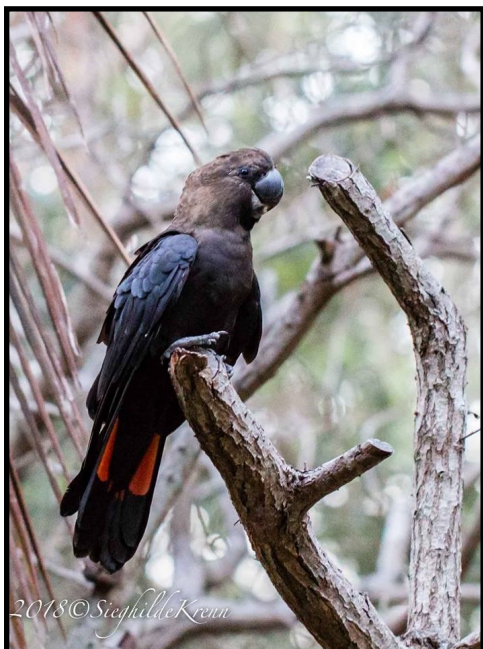
Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc (WILVOS)
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Ph: (07) 5441 6200 www.wilvos.org.au



Merry Christmas to everyone
*** * * All the very best for 2019 * * ***

Thank you all for your caring and compassion for our wildlife throughout this past year. This may have been in supporting WILVOS by being a member, or being a Phone Roster Volunteer, or an Active Carer, wildlife transporter, or helping out in the many varying fields. The demands of our wildlife are not diminishing and any help is most appreciated.





SUPPORT 'GLOSSY TEAM SUNRISE'.

Visit their Facebook page and help these beautiful endangered birds retain their habitat. You will also see more truly amazing photos by Sieghilde Krenn.

"Black glossy cockatoos are endangered and we are fortunate to have a good colony of them around Noosa, however, an area that includes significant numbers of food trees is being pegged out for clearing! We are not quite sure what to do yet as the development application was approved a decade ago & renewed last year, but this is why the Bluecare development at Sunrise must be reviewed! Renowned national and international scientists say this is one of the best spots to see glossies in the wild!" Glossy Team Sunrise Facebook



To find out more about these majestic birds visit www.glossyblack.org.au

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference."

This excerpt from the Serenity Prayer written in the 1940's holds as much significance now as it did way back then.

While people are signing petitions about some issues that are a 'done deal', energies could be better directed to pursuing achievable outcomes. Planning for the future should be the main objective. Get out and make a difference—don't just sign an online petition and think you've done your bit. Do more! Our elected representatives are obliged and happy, most of the time, to deal with people face to face.

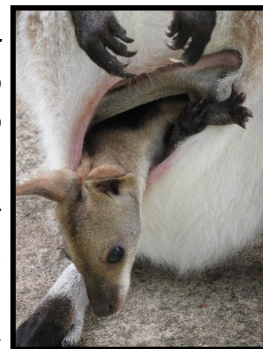
The controversy of the Pelican Waters kangaroos is a prime example. Do we hear anyone offering solutions for these poor animals? No, because there aren't any. They are going to die if they remain and have a high mortality rate where translocated. Is anyone responsible for monitoring and reporting on the translocated animals? Maybe depart from the electronic methods of protest and surreptitiously do this?

Changes are just happening too fast so there are no structures in place to deal with events. Recommended reading is the 'Translocation policy for isolated wild Eastern Grey Kangaroo populations in Victoria'. Queensland needs to catch up to the rate of development we are allowing to happen. The current excuse is, 'The development was approved up to decades before'. This may be the case but why can't 2018 stipulations be applied. If Councils can't adjust legislation to meet today's needs then our ratepayers money is wasted on them as public servants.

The damage is done. We need to prevent further irresponsible developments. We need to go back to areas that have been developed. The Sunshine Coast Council is looking at ways to provide fauna movement in areas where wildlife is being isolated or face death or injury from crossing roads. Under road wildlife culverts, as have been used successfully overseas for decades, along with overhead tunnels are a couple of the solutions needed to be activated now to prevent local extinctions.

A paper was published way back in 2003 showing success with culverts near Brunswick Heads NSW. (Taylor, Brendan L Goldingay. Ross. Griffith University) More research has been done since then—an interesting Google topicDonna

THIS IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT FOR WILVOS CARERS AND WILVOS HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS TO LOG EVERY ANIMAL, INCLUDING OBSERVED ROADKILL, ON THE WILDMAN DATABASE. IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF OUR WILDLIFE YOU WILL RECORD, RECORD, RECORD!



Echidnas

Thank you Roslyn for your many school visits!

Thanks to our visit from WILVOS, (to the Peregrian Springs C & K Kindy), there has been sustained interest in developing understanding about native animals.

Today Sophie spotted what looked like an echidna home in the bush.



We looked at pictures of real echidnas and found they do live in the bush.

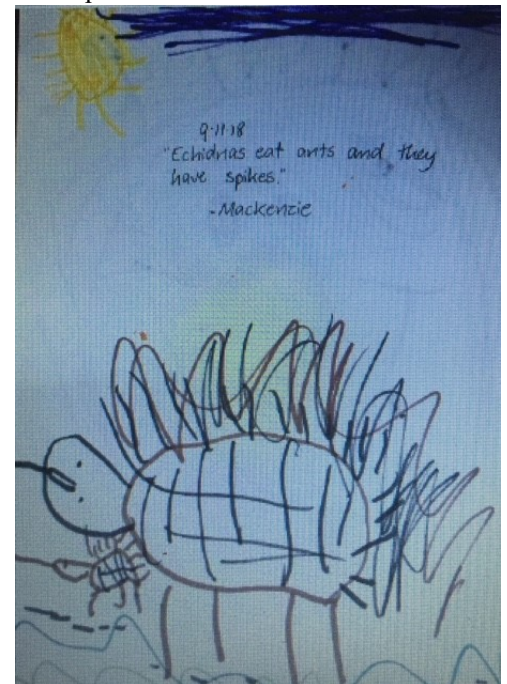


The children shared ideas and learned from each other. Some of their thinking is documented below.

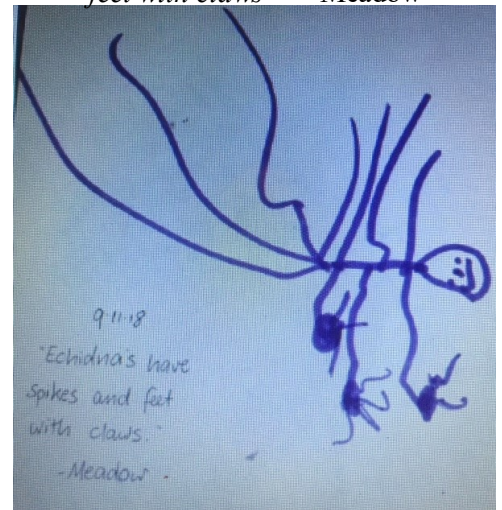
"I'm seeing an echidna with Mummy" - Dane



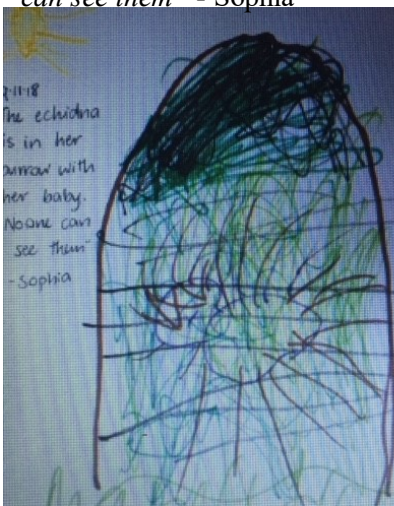
"Echidnas eat ants and they have spikes" - Mackenzie



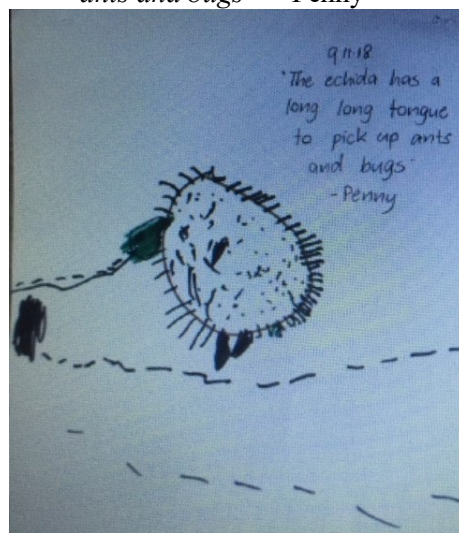
"Echidnas have spikes and feet with claws" - Meadow



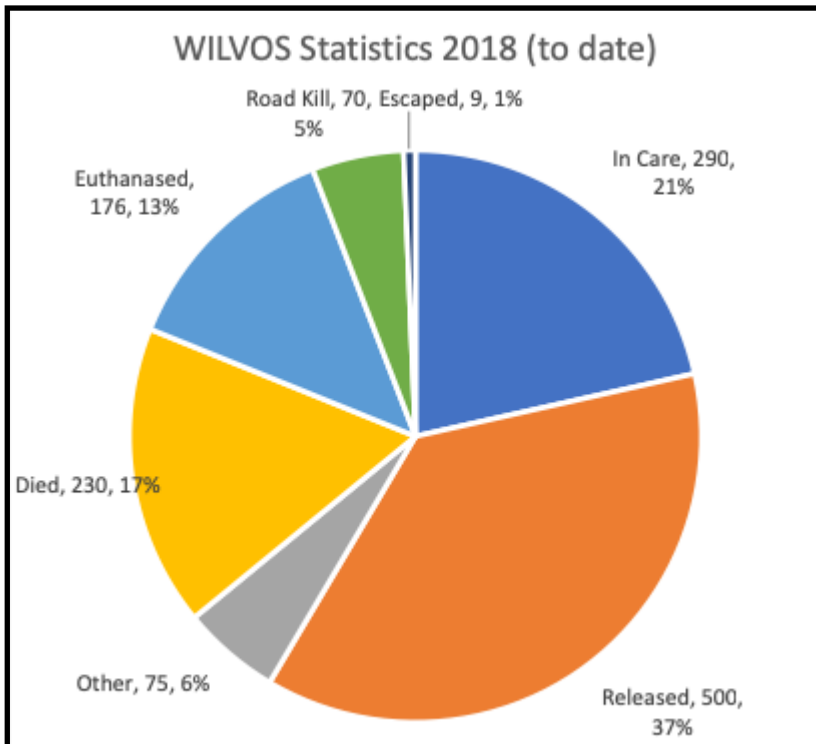
"The echidna is in her burrow with her baby. Noone can see them" - Sophia



"The echidna has a long long tongue to pick up ants and bugs" - Penny



* YOUR RECORDS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE *



Thank you to Lisa Domogala for this graph. Missing is the fauna you have not recorded on the WildMan database so our wildlife are missing out. Please update your records so accurate figures are available when statistics and locations of wildlife death and injury are requested by government authorities. Put aside ten minutes every night to keep your records current. Help save our native animals now and in the future.

TIPS FOR CARERS

*For identification and size purposes, encourage people to text photos of the injured or orphaned wildlife. Sometimes that 'possum' is a bandicoot, sometimes that 'adult' is a baby.

*At daily or weekly weigh-ins, use your phone to take a photo of your animal on the scales, showing the weight. Especially with birds it is a good record to go back to, as it shows you the weight, the stage of development and the date.



*A smear of oil on the black rubber of the syringe before each use makes it glide easily.

*The Sistema fruit/vege strainer container is a great sterilizing unit. The basket can be hooked on the side to drain the utensils.



*Encourage everyone to attach thick rope or shadecloth from the side of pool into the water to provide escape for animals falling in the water.

*Place a branch in the dogs water container to allow access out of the water for over adventurous animals such as feathertail gliders.

*Macropod carers: With weather conditions as they are it would be advisable to treat eastern grey kangaroos with piglet Baycox and antihelmintics.

One of the greatest rewards is teaching new wildlife carers.

Alina has done a wonderful job with her first, very challenging, young possum. The Fazey's are caring for their first little wallaby. Sadly the majority of the macropods at the moment seem to be dead or dying adults.

Anita's first macropod was the little 'pinkie' red-necked wallaby, Simba. He is a credit to Anita's caring skills, as are the two tiny gliders now in her care. Leesa and Rohan continue to do great work. With birds and possums.

Rachel and Esther have taken on possums, birds and gliders becoming very fast learners and efficient carers. Mike and Sharon have lightened the load for Coolum carers.

Belinda is taking on some fascinating birds, along with involving the local fire brigade on a ringtail possum rescue. Natalie and family have jumped in the deep end, doing a great job with possums and birds.

Kay and Nicci have expanded their admin roles to rehabbing! Those that do pickups are much appreciated—Judy, Mike, Kristin, Lisa and Susan have done a lot of travelling.

Thanks to Jaana and the Ranges carers. Kelly had an interesting rescue with a brush-tailed phascogale.

It's a big mistake mentioning names as I know I've forgotten some. (I'll get to you next time, or send me a story of an interesting rescue!) I'd be remiss in not mentioning those who have been doing amazing work for some years, or many years, and have been a great support to the newer carers. You are all wonderful—especially to the person on the hotline when you answer your phone and can help with a rescue!

The WILVOS Facebook page has been a great help in getting wildlife rescued quickly. Kay was on hotline one extremely busy night and found the members page a great help in arranging pickups and rescues. It also saves different members doing individual trips down to the Australian Wildlife Hospital to pick up wildlife. A message is sent out and someone will then pick up or deliver patients if required.

The feedback in regard to the website has been phenomenal to say the least. People say how much they learn from the resources in the Members section, others like to just read the Blog to find out what interesting animals are coming into care. Members of the public like to read the various wildlife information in the Fact Sheets.

Thank you for the continual updating.

Backyard Wildlife Discoveries by Alina Zwar

Some interesting wildlife discoveries were made at our property in Doonan over the last few months through the installation of three motion-sensor cameras which we use in our work when conducting fauna surveys (see article pg. 15, April issue 289). After several failed attempts to get a good close-up look at a pair of elusive ground-dwelling birds that we saw scurrying through tall grass along a swale-drainage line at our property, we were able to identify what species they were, along with some other surprising finds when sorting excitedly through the photos.

The birds turned out to be a breeding pair of Pale-vented Bush-hens (*Amaurornis moluccana*), and to our delight there was a photo of their cute little black fluffy chicks. There were also a number of other species captured on the cameras, some of which we were not aware were roaming around our backyard. We now have photographic evidence of a Short-beaked Echidna, Northern-brown Bandicoot, several Swamp Wallabies, a Bar-shouldered Dove, Eastern Whipbird, Pheasant Coucal, Brushtail Possum, Brown Quail, and a few concerning finds of a Red Fox and two domestic Cats.

Just when we were thinking we should start cleaning out the muddy swale and brush-cutting back the grass, we understood how important it was to keep these areas as protective habitat for these species. We also wanted to make sure they would not become dinner, and contacted the Council to set up a cage in attempt to capture and remove the unwanted Fox and Cats.

We decided to leave some areas of overgrown grass along the swale and invest more time and energy in staging the slow removal of more problematic overgrowing weeds (lantana, molasses grass, groundsel) in other pockets of the block. We engaged the great help of a small team from a local company - Bushland Conservation Management, and worked together to carefully remove weeds and help make way for the naturally occurring rainforest grasses, lomandras, hoveas, alphitonias and emerging eucalypts to provide habitat that should be naturally occurring here for the wildlife.

Now we are trying to be very patient with a pesky Brush-turkey scratching his way endlessly around our recently mulched garden beds and spreading it all over the driveway! But we are in admiration of his dedication and hard work, and look forward to meeting his fluffy youngsters soon too.

If you are interested in discovering what elusive wildlife might be wandering around your backyard, we have cameras for hire and also conduct habitat/biodiversity assessments, and if you would like, we can help share your findings on these green pages with all the other lovers of our local wildlife.

Contact: Alina Zwar 0404 210 245 and Kieran Aland 0423 918 470. Our website is currently under construction, but you can find out more about us and complete an enquiry form at www.wildwise.com.au.



Sometimes you have to think like a bird.

Eleven years ago Sylvia helped some people with a bandicoot problem. These lovely people joined WILVOS and have been members ever since.

Recently they had cause to ring Sylvia again. A nest of tiny willy wagtails had fallen to the ground. As advised, they reinstalled the nest back to where it was, up high under the eaves. After some time they called back to say the parents weren't going to the nest to feed the young ones. Time was crucial for these tiny birds.

After some pondering, Sylvia suggested that maybe the parents, as they do, had looked for their young but had given up after seeing the nest had gone. The next step Sylvia suggested was to try was hanging the nest down low where the parent birds could easily see the young.

The next phone call was that success story we wildlife carers love. The parents immediately saw the young in the nest and quickly began feeding the little ones. I'm sure it was a lovely sight to see. Thank you to the Munros!

Sometimes we just have to think outside the square and put ourselves in the shoes of the wildlife, whatever they may be and whatever the situation.

Carers/Hotliners: Always check back to see if the problem is solved if you are unsure.

Australia continues with its record of environmental vandalism, as shown by the governments amendments to the threatened species list in May 2018. These included the inclusion of 41 new species, the transfer of 6 species, (bringing them even closer to the reality of extinction), and the removal of 3 species. (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999) These statistics are tragic, even more so as new laws are not being brought in and enforced to protect our remaining fauna and flora.

The Kangaroo: A Love-Hate Story reiterates the lack of respect we have for our wildlife. There are always going to be the people that say, "But there's millions of them." The same was said of the koala as 10,000 licences were handed out to hunters. The Australia National University has estimated that there is now less than 1% of the original koala population. How did that happen? Their fur was very popular and dollars were involved of course. It was reported that at least 8 million koalas were killed for their fur between 1888 and 1927.

Queensland's 'Black August' of 1927 saw between 600,00 and 800,000 koalas killed to meet the demands for exported skins to Europe and America. The fact that any koalas survived can probably be thanks to Herbert Hoover, who was the Secretary for Commerce in the United States. He signed an order permanently prohibiting the import of koala and wombat skins. Go Herbert! (Courier Mail 11th November 2018)



These three lorikeet chicks have been trouble free so far but I'm glad to see their blue heads, red chests and green wings emerging after so many weeks.....and such characters! ..Donna



Carers often feel bad about not being able to identify species correctly. This Common Brushtail Possum and Short-eared Brushtail Possum show their distinctive traits quite well.

I thought my first short-ear (then called Mountain Brushtails) was a ringtail. I'd only seen Common Brushtails and Striped Possums (very beautiful) up north. We all learn each day....Donna

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. (WILVOS) Co-ordinating Team for 2018/19

Please direct your calls to the relevant people when making enquiries
ie Membership enquiries to Sylvia (Or advice, complaints, praise!)

THANK YOU TO ALL TEAM MEMBERS & HELPERS WHO GIVE SO MUCH OF THEIR TIME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. It may not be as rewarding as active caring, but it is a very necessary part of an efficient organization..

*** Management Committee		Monthly meetings are held second Monday of each month. All welcome to attend.	
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		Joyce Thompson	5441 7658
***Vice Chair (2)	info@wilvos.org.au	Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Community Awareness & Hotline Phone Training	awareness@wilvos.org.au	Roslyn Ann Leslie	5485 0056
WILVOS Data Returns & Wildlife Co-ordinator	returns@wilvos.org.au	Kay Dawson (Email Kay for group- ing of wildlife)	0412 671 846
WILVOS Environment	environment@wilvos.org.au	Lyndall Pettett	
WILVOS Enquiries	enquiries@wilvos.org.au	Nicci Purton	0404 459 939
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 & Passwords and Contact List Changes	membership@wilvos.org.au Email this address if you don't have your login details/ password.	Sylvia Whiting (Sylvia will pass on to Lisa Domagala)	5446 7760 0400 125 807
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 Cc neetyneets@hotmail.com	Ashley Trebilcock Anita Trimarchi	0413 315 207
WILVOS Social Media/PR	recruitment@wilvos.org.au	Nicci Purton	0404 459 939
WILVOS Workshop Bookings	workshops@wilvos.org.au	Helen Stewart	0428 991 026 5445 7762

For Bat & Raptor queries please call the following:

WILVOS Bats	bats@wilvos.org.au	Terrie Ridgway	0487 930 903
WILVOS Raptors		Jackie Fraser	5499 9057

***I** t is always encouraging to see people stay on as WILVO members even though they may no longer actively care for wildlife or volunteer on the hotline. You are true carers of wildlife. Thank you!*

***Carers:** Do you have your 2018/19 Rehabilitation Permit? If not, then check your bank account that the payment has gone into the correct account. People may often think they have paid by electronic funds transfer but it hasn't happened. It just isn't enough to think you've paid..... you still have to actually do it! The joys of technology!*

**WILVOS celebrate
over 25 YEARS
of rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing wildlife in
south-east Queensland**

**Please email your outcomes and transfers of
your wildlife from the Australian Wildlife
Hospital to:
hospital@wildlifewarriors.org.au**



They may have not been the most beautiful birds on arrival but these sulphur crested cockatoos were an absolute delight to rear. Before I knew it they were 'mini adults'. They weren't as noisy as my two Little Corellas last year.

Thank you to Lisa and Mike Domogala for taking them through on their next final release phase. I think Lisa and Mike are enjoying their antics as much as I did.....Donna

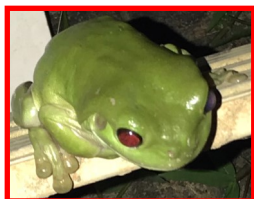


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WILVOS WILDLIFE WHISPERINGS
November 2018

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**



GOODBYE TELSTRA—HELLO TPG.

(Thanks to all who made this happen.)



A couple of months ago our hotliner tried to divert the phone to the next volunteer and it didn't work. Telstra advised, "Oh, we don't have that system any longer." A little forward notice would have been helpful! WILVOS have had this phone number for over 25 years.

The next couple of weeks were a nightmare, with Telstra giving different information from every consultant. They said to just call various numbers, depending on who they were fobbing the job off to, and the phone would be switched through for us—while they scratched their heads and worked out what system they could now offer. Our Chairperson, Sylvia, spent 4 hours a day on the phone some days, trying to get some sanity from someone. It really was quite unbelievable, just keeping our Hotline working.

It was truly amazing to contact TPG and get instant information, brilliant service, and an easy diversion system at less than 10% of the present cost. Meanwhile, elsewhere there are consultants still scratching!

ACCEPT WHAT YOU CANNOT CHANGE, AND CHANGE WHAT YOU CANNOT ACCEPT.

I hope everyone has read the papers from the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference held in Sydney earlier this year. These papers and all the past conference papers will give you so much knowledge. It's the next best thing to being there. <https://www.awrc.org.au>