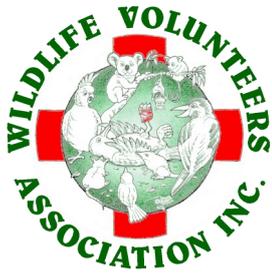


WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings

APRIL 2020



Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc (WILVOS)
PO Box 4805 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Q 4560
Ph: (07) 5441 6200 www.wilvos.org.au

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL
WILVO VOLUNTEERS & TO THE
AUSTRALIA ZOO WILDLIFE HOSPITAL &
TO OUR LOCAL VETERINARIANS FOR
CONTINUING TO CARE FOR OUR
NATIVE ANIMALS DURING COVID-19**



Photo: Anita Trimarchi

The past weeks have been hectic but our wildlife can't sit back and wait till we humans forge our way through the Covid-19 pandemic. When orphaned or injured wildlife need help, they need help NOW.

WILVOS are very grateful for those who are helping out where they can in this unprecedented time. Time is of the essence when wildlife need help, so we have been trying to fast track the process as much as possible. With RSPCA Wildlife at Eumundi not receiving wildlife, they had instructed people to take animals to their local vets. Don't forget our local vets get no recompense for dealing with all the extra wildlife coming through their doors. Their time and effort is always appreciate but we don't like to overload them! WILVOS have been happy to transport animals through to AZWH.

Thank you to those WILVO members who have been travelling many kilometres transporting animals to and from the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital. Also to those who have taken these same animals into care once they have been assessed and treated.

Update: RSPCA Wildlife at Eumundi is now open for wildlife admissions from 9am to 5pm.

**FOR ANY CHANGES/UPDATES TO YOUR STATUS ON THE
PHONE CONTACT LIST PLEASE EMAIL:
membership@wilvos.org.au**

**RECORD KEEPING IS NOT OPTIONAL. IT IS A REQUIREMENT OF HOLDING A WILDLIFE REHABILITATION
PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION.**

RELEASES.....Anita Trimarchi

Hi everyone. These are the things that will help Ash and I with releases. It may seem like an easy process but it takes a lot of time, planning and thought as to where we go for each animal. There are a lot of important factors to be considered, as this is what we all strive for, (although a little sad), and this is what it's all about! Native animals being where they belong. We have to do what is best for the animal.

- Contact me, Anita, on the release email address releases@wilvos.org.au Please cc neetyneets@hotmail.com
- Advise animal/s in need of release. Please do this a couple of weeks ahead of time so we can advise you re foliage to be fed. Plans are made to go to certain areas on the same day. We have to plan the time around releases carefully, as we both work and are caretakers for a Scout camp so we don't have a lot of time on weekends.
- Details that need to be advised: Species/Weight/Sex/Time in Care/Nature of animal/Housing i.e. 3m aviary or larger/What foliage is being eaten.
- VERY important...exact location of where animal came from. All possums must be released as close as possible to the area they have come from. It is up to the carer to find out all this information prior to release. This information should have been sourced and entered into WildMan when the animal came into care. The exception to releasing in their original area is with colony species such as ringtails and gliders, or paired animals such as short-eared brushtail possums. It is unlikely they would come from the same exact location.
- Please update your WildMan records ASAP after they have been released.



PREPARATION

- With Ringtail dreys, make or obtain a bag to put around the drey with the chain and hook **hanging out the top**. A single sheet doubled over and sides sewn up make a perfect bag. You can pick one up from us a couple of weeks before if you don't have one. (Please tie the top of the bag so the chain and hook **STAY** outside the bag. They are escape artists and can't wait to get out into the wild! The drey full of possums is sent up to Ash and he connects the hook/chain and then takes the bag off up in the tree. The least disturbance the better. If their drey is well woven with foliage, disguising the entrance holes, then they won't be so prone to spring out with excitement before Ash makes it to ground!
- With bobucks (short-eared brushtail possums) and common brushtail possums, please ensure the pin is in to keep the lid closed (so we don't end up with a frightened possum on our heads while we are looking for our release spot! Box should be in a bag.) Ash removes this pin once the box is installed.
- Make sure there is wire on the box for attachment to the tree.
- Use tape and cardboard (with some little air holes) to cover the hole in the front of the nest box. (we use and swear by tape called 'cloth tape') this tape can be torn by hand and adheres very well. **DON'T** wrap the tape around the box! Remember...Ash is in the tree... I send the box up on a rope...we do not want the possum to fall out/come out on the way up! When he is up there securing the box Ash then needs to remove tape and pin, doing that whilst hanging 4 metres up in a tree and trying to not scare the possum. If tape is wrapped around and around the box it is more work for Ash and you can imagine the noise inside as it is being torn off. The possum may be stressed enough without that added racket.
- If you would like to give us a little bunch of their favourite foliage we can put it on their box so at least their first meal isn't so hard to find on their first night out in the big wide world. Also you can put some yummy foliage into the box for their car ride. **NO FRUIT OR VEGETABLES**. They should not have had contact with our human food during rehabilitation and also it would attract ants.
- Thank you all for getting these beautiful creatures to this stage—the ultimate goal.

THANK YOU ASH & ANITA (and thanks Anita helping a macropod carer by doing poo pick ups!)

PLEASE...If you need any advice, or have any queries it is important that you obtain this information from within WILVOS, not from Facebook or other organizations. Our animals in rehabilitation need consistent care, not random methods plucked from here and there. We have members with many years of non-stop caring who continually research and investigate new proven rehabilitation techniques. We also have members with extensive field research experience. Try to resist the urge to continually look elsewhere for the answers. Every wildlife organization has aspects of wildlife caring that are relevant to their particular area. Consistency of care gives our animals security, and minimizes stress while in captivity....Donna

Wildman Report March 2020 Lisa Domagala

Hotline - 402 calls were recorded in Wildman in March 2020. 109 out of 124 shifts had data entered – almost 88%.

Outcome	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	2020 - All Calls	Reason for Call	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	2020 - All Calls
MOP taken to vet	188	138	87	413	Injured - Cause unknown	193	155	101	449
Advice Only	170	92	77	339	Enquiry for well being of animal	106	96	77	279
Referred to another organisation	54	36	29	119	Abandoned young	92	56	51	199
At Australia Zoo for treatment/observations	50	25	29	104	Other - See Notes	83	47	37	167
WILVOS took to vet	26	25	32	83	Motor Vehicle Accident	43	50	41	134
In Care	31	31	20	82	Seeking Advice - See notes	27	14	16	57
Other - See Notes	33	29	19	81	Needs carer	19	19	14	52
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	23	34	15	72	Out of nest	25	11	8	44
Euthanased	28	22	11	61	Dog Attack	14	15	14	43
Referred to Bat Association	12	29	19	60	Cat attack	12	10	13	35
Died	12	19	18	49	Seeking Removal - See notes	8	12	13	33
Released	11	5	13	29	Hit window	14	11	7	32
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	8	8	6	22	Caught in barbed Wire	3	11	3	17
Escaped	6	8	6	20	Membership Enquiry	13	1	2	16
Dead on Arrival	8	2	6	16	Blown out of tree	9	3	2	14
Awaiting Rescue	0	7	8	15	Malnourished	2	4	1	7
Not Found	4	6	5	15	Electrocution	1	0	1	2
Unknown	0	0	2	2	Unknown	0	1	1	2
	664	516	402	1582		664	516	402	1582

ANIMALS IN CARE SUMMARY

We are still awaiting data from those outstanding 15 shifts. Lisa puts much time and effort into these statistics so please do your part.

Species	Came into Care in March 2020	Died, Euthanased, Other in March	Released in March 2020	Total in Care as at 31 March 2020
Bandicoot	0	0	0	3
Birds	62	33	65	61
Echidna	0	0	0	1
Platypus	0	0	0	0
Possums	32	3	14	84
Gliders	2	0	1	6
Macropods	3	3	0	23
Reptiles	4	0	3	2
Dasyurids	0	0	0	0
Rats & Mice	1	1	0	0
TOTAL	104	40	83	180

Total released in 2020 to date = 317



FEEDING LORIKEET CHICKS.

This chart, adapted from kcbbs.gen.nz, will give you some idea of a feeding schedule for rainbow lorikeet chicks of different ages. Please note this is just a guide.

Day 1—7	2—2 1/2 hourly—last feed at midnight, first feed at 5—6am
Day 7—14	2—3 1/2 hourly—last feed at 11pm, first feed at 6am
Day 14—21	4 hourly—last feed at 11pm, first feed at 6am
Day 21—28	4 hourly—last feed at 11pm, first feed at 6.30am
Day 28—35	4 1/2 hourly—last feed at 10.30pm, first feed at 6.30am***
Day 35—42	4 1/2—5 hourly—last feed at 10pm, first feed at 7am***
Day 42—49	5 hourly—last feed at 9.30pm, first feed at 7am***
Day 49—56	5—6 hourly—last feed at 9.30pm, first feed at 7am***
Day 56—63	6 hourly—last feed at 9pm, first feed at 7am***

THE GOLDEN RULES OF HANDREARING

- ◆ Never feed if the crop has food remaining from the previous feed.
- ◆ Use a reliable, good quality handrearing formula, and follow the quantity instructions of water to rearing food. Handrearing mixes get thicker when left to stand. Let the food stand for a minute after mixing and add more water if its too thick before feeding.
- ◆ Don't mix chicks of different types in the same container (within reason). This was learnt by personal experience. One rainbow lorikeet at 7 weeks of age chewed the toes, legs and wing tips of 3 x 4 week old baby king parrots. Causing a blood bath of missing toes and injured babies.
- ◆ Don't change your handrearing food. Stay on the one you started with. If you have to change, introduce the new food into the diet gradually over the next few days by mixing the 2 formulas together gradually until the bird has been reverted to the new mix.



TEMPERATURE GUIDELINES FOR BROODERS IN DEGREES CELSIUS

Day 1— 7	34 - 36
Day 7 - 14	30- 33
Day 14—21	28—29
Day 21—28	27—28
Day 28—35	26—27
Day 35—42	25—26
Day 42— 56	23—24
Day 56—63	Room temperature 20 -23



IMPORTANT NOTE: Place a small container of water in the brooder setup to create humidity in the environment. If this is not done the dry heat will dehydrate your chicks very quickly.

I found the above information invaluable in rearing chicks from hatching in the brooder stage.....Donna

***These are approximate feed times and do not fit in exactly to the schedule. The crop has to be empty before a feed is given. If the crop goes for an extended period without empty, then this could indicate a problem such as a crop infection. Record every feed and note any peculiarities.

Read the directions on the Handrearing Mix packet. Use a thermometer to check the temperature of the food before crop feeding or spoon or syringe feeding the chick. **FOOD HAS TO BE FED WARM.**

HOTLINERS & CARERS: There is no such thing as 'we can't help'. Ring a committee member to help with a solution. This may be an 'out of area' animal or a feral animal. Our Useful Numbers list on WILVOS website has most answers. Read, read, read....

The Sunshine Coast Council's Feral Animal Team undertakes control of invasive species such as the Indian Myna to reduce impacts on native animals and the environment. To improve and expand the program, the team is looking to identify Indian Myna roost trees and to implement more effective control measures.

We would like the community's help in identifying Indian Myna roost trees within the Sunshine Coast Region by reporting property locations, type of tree or buildings, and the approximate size of the colony.

Roost sites will then be mapped and investigated by Feral Animal Officers for further action.

Community members can report findings directly:

Phone Ben on 0447 927 617

Email: ben.field@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Customer Call Centre Phone: 07 5475 7272

GREY IS GOOD



BROWN IS BAD

Our native noisy minors (grey) might be annoying little creatures sometimes but the introduced Indian Myna (chocolate brown) will destroys bird nests, kill chicks of any size and even throw glider joeys out of their nesting hollows.

I love getting pre-release possums that enjoy their foliage. Thank you McPhies!

I've recently received a brushtail possum that devours every variety of foliage offered. He hasn't been fed fruit as part of his diet so he will have the best chance out in the wild. He won't be looking for the nearest supermarket!

It is so obvious if a possum has been fed fruit and vegetables. They look at their foliage, and look at their new carer with that look that says, "THAT'S IT???"Donna



Darrian has shown an incredible level of dedication and commitment in rearing very young wildlife—birds and mammals.

Darrian must also be commended for the amount of research she does on each species—from reputable sources.

A good carer is one who knows all about the species she takes on.

Thank you to Keith Porteous for always being there for our wildlife and for our carers. Picking up wildlife at all hours of the night and taking to the hospital. Yep, word gets around, Keith!

10 PEACH
17th May 2020 8am
TOTALLY WILD

Sylvia and I provided a number of animals while Antony was spokesperson — along with his ducks! Don't miss this TV program.

Thank you Antony for doing this at such short notice.



HERE IS A GREAT FUNDRAISER FOR ALL TO GET INVOLVED IN. DETAILS ARE ON THE WEBSITE.

<https://wildlifewarriors.org.au/get-involved/backyard-campout/register-your-interest>

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those held by the organization but all contributions are welcome. Closing date for next newsletter 14th May 2020.
Please email to newsletter@wilvos.org.au Subject: Newsletter item.

WHAT is the WILVOS FOOD SUBSIDY?

There are two parts to the WILVOS FOOD SUBSIDY that you may benefit from:

DISCOUNTED WILDLIFE SUPPLIES (currently 75% discount) – eg Marsupial formula, Neocare Hand rearing mix, Lorikeet & Honeyeater Mix, Insectivore, AND Oxbow Critical Care are sold to WILVOS members at a discounted rate.

CLAIM UP TO 75% of the cost of Beef Mince and Ox Heart



WHAT is NOT COVERED in the WILVOS Food Subsidy?

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! Similarly, with fruit/vegetables, carers should seek out sources from local fruit and vegetable suppliers. As these only form part of the diet of some bird species, they should not form a major part of the diet of any wildlife in care. It is best to source natural wild food. Marsupial carers will not receive a subsidy for items such as Impact.

WHO is able to claim the subsidy?

WILVOS members who satisfy the **ALL of the following requirements:**

- *Be an active WILVOS' 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'
- *ALL wildlife must be immediately entered onto the WildMan database on arrival in care. Wildman Records must be updated on a weekly basis by each Monday.
- *A minimum of two WILVOS workshops per year are to be attended (for the full duration of the workshop) by the carer, as this is necessary to retain a wildlife rehabilitation permit with DEHP. These are approved WILVOS training workshops in the species for which we care.
- *The Release Officer must be informed prior to release of wildlife.

HOW do you claim the subsidy?

Please keep your receipts so you can apply for a food subsidy if you qualify for same.

- *If you wish to apply for a subsidy, please request a food subsidy form through treasurer@wilvos.org.au
- *Please fill in the form and email **copies of the form, receipts and list of wildlife in care** to treasurer@wilvos.org.au
- *Please submit in the first week of the month so it can be passed through the monthly meeting and have a prompt turnaround.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

It would naturally be expected that those receiving any 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.

- BEING A WILDLIFE CARER IS NOT JUST ABOUT 'HANDS-ON' CARING FOR WILDLIFE—

It is being involved in all environmental aspects to help our native animals.

Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc. (WILVOS) Co-ordinating Team for 2019/20

Please direct your calls to the relevant people when making enquiries

ie Membership enquiries to Sylvia (Or advice, confidential 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.

JUST TO STATE THE OBVIOUS: All meetings and training workshops are cancelled until further notice. Should you need any items such as gloves or disinfectant please contact Donna.

The workshop calendar will keep you up to date with any changes.

I hope that you all watched the video that Lisa Domagala sent through. Wildman recording, wildlife rehabilitation and hotline response and recording needs to be refreshed regularly. Go to the members page on the WILVOS website and read up on the resources there. If you want to do the right thing with wildlife in care or on hotline, you have to read, research and use the resources that WILVOS provide. If you don't know anything about a particular species then you need to study up on them before that precious animal arrives into your care.

Monthly meetings are usually held the second Monday of each month. This routine was 'out of sync' with Corona virus this month but back to normal time next month, though meetings will continue to be electronic for the moment.

***** 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	Sharon Brennan	0409 755 572
***WILVOS Secretary	secretary@wilvos.org.au	Lisa Domagala	5313 3173 0418 193 137
***WILVOS Vice Chair (1) & Minute Secretary	Info@wilvos.org.au	Joyce Thompson	5441 7658 0417 873 481
***Vice Chair (2)		Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Community Awareness	awareness@wilvos.org.au	Roslyn Ann Leslie	5485 0056
WILVOS Data Returns & Wildlife Co-ordinator	returns@wilvos.org.au	Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Environment	lyndall_pettett@hotmail.com	Lyndall Pettett	
WILVOS Enquiries	enquiries@wilvos.org.au	Donna Brennan	0413 861 757
WILVOS Fundraising		Rosemary Dax	5475 4455
WILVOS Grants	grants@wilvos.org.au	Irene Krajewska	5459 1400 0407 126 750
WILVOS Hotline Roster & Training	hotline@wilvos.org.au	Lisa Domagala	5313 3173 0418 193 137
WILVOS Website Members Page Registration & Passwords and Contact List Changes	membership@wilvos.org.au Email this address when joining or if you don't have your login details/password. (Sylvia will check membership status & pass on to Lisa Domagala)	Sylvia Whiting	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 Please email both addresses	releases@wilvos.org.au cc neetyneets@hotmail.com	Ashley Trebilcock Anita Trimarchi	0413 315 207
WILVOS Workshop Bookings	workshops@wilvos.org.au	Helen Stewart	0428 991 026 5445 7762



UPDATE ON the Federal Government’s Communities Environment Program Grant—with thanks to Ted O’Brien Federal MP Fairfax Queensland.

Thank you to Bob Whiting for the incredible amount of possum boxes he builds. Of course, a big thank you to apprentice Sylvia! Bob is glad to now have his shed back as boxes are moved to the container.

Thank you Roslyn for continuing to educate children about wildlife, using emailed videos of our wildlife and technology such as Zoom and Skype



GET WELL SOON, CLAUDE

Washing your hands properly is one of the best things you can do to protect yourself from novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

This is a link to the Australian Government COVID-19 website <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/what-you-need-to-know-about-coronavirus-covid-19#protect-yourself-and-others> that we encourage you to review

Sender:
Wildlife Volunteers Assoc Inc (WILVOS)
PO Box 4805
Sunshine Coast Mail Centre
Nambour Q 4561



APRIL 2020

THANK YOU TO THE SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL FOR INCLUDING WILVOS IN THEIR THREE YEAR ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY PARTNERSHIP. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ELECTED MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF OUR LOCAL COUNCILS.

Our council elections were rather a ‘non-event’ in the midst of the Covid-9 disaster. This is unfortunate as it is our local councils who can make a difference in our area. That is why we must make ourselves heard.

IT IS UP TO US: Please—call the council to report anyone destroying habitat. Just one tree can hold a multiple number of species. It is tragic to see people buy land with trees on it, and then clear it in total ignorance, or disregard, of what lives there. Often these same people totally remove all habitat and then when the novelty of sitting on their ride-on mower wears off, they return to their urban lifestyle—leaving a trail of destruction behind them.



Please—call the council if there are stray cats or dogs in your suburban area, or foxes or wild dogs in your rural area. Traps are available and these animals should be caught as our wildlife have had enough to contend with in the last year. With the recent emptying of animal shelters, the future looks bleak for wildlife.