

April May June 2023

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



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[Click here](#) for the Code of Practice for Sick, Injured or Orphaned Wildlife in Qld.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS. WE HOPE YOU HAVE MANY YEARS OF CARING FOR OUR WILDLIFE, WHETHER REHABILITATING, OR BEING A HOTLINER, TRANSPORTER, OR A VALUED SUPPORTER OF OUR UNIQUE NATIVE ANIMALS.

WILVOS recently received a \$10,000 Wildlife Carers Assistance Grant from the Queensland State Government. Thank you for this grant to update and improve equipment used in the rehabilitation of our wildlife.

New incubators will be used for use with our orphaned and injured wildlife. It is that time of year when more 'pinkie' macropod, possum and glider joeys come into care, as there are more vehicle impact deaths in winter months. It is good that we now have more carers willing to take on these intensive care animals. Soon the bird nesting season will arrive in full swing, and tiny chicks need the warmth and humidity of an incubator.

Compact egg incubators will be purchased for incubating eggs that have sadly been brought to WILVOS for care. Removal of eggs is always a last resort when there is a risk of loss or damage to the eggs.

WILVOS have had a variety of eggs requiring incubation over the past couple of years. Plover, dusky moorhen, rainbow and scaley lorikeet, emu and brush turkey eggs. Who could forget Kerry's huge brush turkey eggs!

This grant is greatly appreciated, at a time when our native animals are in a continual fight for survival.



**CONGRATULATIONS
to ROSLYN LESLIE
For achieving a
2023 Noosa
Queensland Day
Award**

This award is so well deserved. For twenty years WILVO Roslyn has shared her passion for helping wildlife.

Roslyn recently arranged to talk at local libraries. This was followed up by getting Council permits to have information stalls in many towns over the coming months. This was all her own initiative.

Roslyn just shines in her talks to schools and community groups. That infectious enthusiasm is contagious.

Maybe less is known of this lady's skills in possum trapping and transporting of sick and orphaned native animals to wildlife vets and carers. Hotline volunteers also appreciate Roslyn's support when needing assistance.

You are a WILVOS legend, Roslyn!

"Proudly Supported by the Sunshine Coast Council's Environment Levy".

A big 'thank you' to our Hotliners. 96% of data was entered. When the Sunshine Coast Council began preparation of the Macropod Conservation Plan some years ago, WILVOS provided data from WildMan statistics. This indicates the importance of our Phone and Fauna statistics. They save our native animals.

Outcome	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	2023 - All
MOP taken to vet	66	65	63	53	247
Advice Only	72	57	43	46	218
At Wildlife Rehab Centre Eumundi	26	26	41	33	126
At Australia Zoo for treatment/observations	29	34	30	27	120
Referred to Bat Association	38	16	28	16	98
Other - See Notes	13	15	27	24	79
Referred to another organisation	14	18	15	11	58
Euthanased	9	6	9	20	44
Not Found	9	11	11	9	40
Released	12	15	6	5	38
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	11	10	5	11	37
Died	12	7	11	5	35
In Care	12	7	5	9	33
Dead on Arrival	5	4	8	8	25
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	12	1	7	3	23
WILVOS took to vet	4	7	3	7	21
Escaped	5	2	6	5	18
Awaiting Rescue	0	4	1	10	15
Unknown	0	0	2	0	2
TOTAL	349	305	321	302	1277

Reason for Call	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	2023 - All
Enquiry for well being of animal	106	90	95	78	369
Injured - Cause unknown	67	64	92	86	309
Other - See Notes	29	35	36	34	134
Motor Vehicle Accident	30	23	24	36	113
Seeking Removal - See notes	19	11	9	10	49
Orphaned young	15	13	10	7	45
Needs carer	13	12	6	13	44
Out of nest	18	16	3	3	40
Seeking Advice - See notes	10	9	11	8	38
Hit window	9	8	13	7	37
Cat attack	6	8	6	8	28
Dog Attack	10	4	9	5	28
Blown out of tree	11	3	1	3	18
Caught in barbed Wire	3	5	5	3	16
Electrocution	1	2	1	0	4
Membership Enquiry	1	2	0	0	3
Unknown	1	0	0	1	2
Malnourished	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	349	305	321	302	1277

Do you wish you had more room in your garden to plant seeding/fruitletting/flowering native shrubs to feed to your wildlife? Place plants in pots that can be rotated in and out of aviaries. Every Wednesday between 1 and 3pm Caloundra Council Depot Industrial Avenue has two free trees twice yearly for ratepayers. <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Pay-and-Apply/Tree-and-vegetation-management/free-trees> Another resource to check out: <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Environment/Education-Resources-and-Events/Environment-Resources-and-Publications/Book-and-App-Reviews/Online-field-guides-and-apps>

We take photos of our wildlife in care but how about some 'rescuing and rehabilitating' photos? Old or new! The focus is so much on the animal that we forget photos are part of education. Judy came up with this great suggestion to show people what being a carer actually involves. Ask someone to take a photo of you feeding, rescuing, etc. **Email to info@wilvos.org.au Subject: Wildlife photo**

Look up Birds Australia to find out more about backyard bird surveys. June and July are winter survey months. <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/getinvolved/How-survey>

CHECK THE [WORKSHOP CALENDAR](#) ON THE WILVOS WEBSITE REGULARLY. THERE MAY BE CHANGES. Thank you Susanne Scheuter for taking on the position of Workshops Co-ordinator. Bookings are rolling in for the Bird Workshop in Yandina on the 11th June. Please book through workshops@wilvos.org.au We would also like to congratulate Susanne on becoming an Australian Citizen. Australia is lucky to have you here, caring for our wildlife. Australian Swiss or Swiss Australian??? Either is good!



Python eggs found their way into Rob Siddall's care, looking like deflated soccer balls. After being placed in a cosy humid environment, the little reptiles soon began to emerge.

WATCH OUT FOR ECHIDNAS. IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR WHEN THEY ARE BREEDING. YOU MAY SEE AN ECHIDNA TRAIN!

I'm sure Kerry Roberts will hide if I phone her again this week. There were three tricky rescues in three or four days. The price of being a Magpie Queen!

The first magpie had a ghastly growth on its chest. The people had observed it for some time and noticed it was causing discomfort. The bird was not a daily visitor, so there was some co-ordination needed. It was great to hear from Kerry next morning. She had caught the magpie but sadly it had to be euthanized, as the lump had ulcerated and spread. It is fortunate that someone called so this poor bird could have its pain and suffering alleviated.

Next day a lady rang up after seeing a ringtail possum swallowed by a python. One little joey fell to the concrete, and was safely placed in a carton. The other scarpereed up the tree. Kerry to the rescue again, taking along partner, 'Damo'. Not having the equipment to reach the little one, Superman Keith was called. Keith manoevred a 12m pole, 'Damo' helped with a second net, while Kerry was Chief Director of Operations! The second little joey was quickly and quietly captured. The two little ringtails were happy to snuggle up together after such a traumatic morning.

Today another magpie with twine very tightly around its foot. Hopefully it will be caught, the twine removed and no permanent damage caused. Ever the optimist!

UPDATE: Kerry trapped this magpie within 24 hours. The twine was removed, and with no permanent damage, the magpie flew off happily, just sporting a slight limp.

These incidents are a reminder to let everyone know that calling promptly for advice is so important.

Thank you also to Nick Banbury (southern end of coast) and Keith Porteous and William Watson (northern end of coast) when netguns are needed to catch elusive birds. In the majority of situations, trapping these birds is no mean feat!



Hopefully everyone read the Sunshine Coast Council's Draft Macropod Conservation Plan and gave feedback. We need to show we care or this Plan could just become words. The macropod plan will then need to be implemented and everyone has their part to play. Having people put in the address of where they have seen macropods was also a source of information for the future.

The National Recovery Plan for Koalas 2022 was taking me some time to read. Thank you to Steve Chumbley for his summary. It would have taken me a long time to get through the 120 pages.

WORTH WATCHING ON ABC IVIEW.

THE SECRET LIVES Of OUR URBAN BIRDS with nature journalist, Dr Ann Jones.

The study of birds in a city environment is fascinating. Birds have to adapt as their landscape changes.

There were interesting facts such as the Australian Ibis grows from a chicken size hatchling of 50-60 grams to a kilo in a month. As wildlife carers we know the importance of weighing our birds as they do grow quickly. Feathers can disguise the real condition.

Amazing bird diversity can be found in cities. A quarter all Australian bird species have been recorded at Sydney Olympic park. The once industrial area, full of industries such as brickworks, was transformed. Thanks to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games an environmentally friendly environment was created with 430 hectares of parkland. It is now a haven for some endangered and vulnerable species. It's worth a journey up the Parramatta River.

Brisbane has 3 times the bird density of other Australian cities, with 395 species. In the middle of it all is the 120 hectare open space called the Oxley Creek Common.

There amongst factories and suburbs there are 223 species. It is hard to imagine there are more than on the Kakadu bird list. The Common is visited by rare birds including the Latham's Snipe, an endangered migratory bird. Oxley Creek is actually not a healthy watercourse but local community groups are doing an amazing job at improving the area.

Hopefully the Parks and Gardens department won't convert that unruly grass area into short lawn. The lovely grass birds, quails and finches would be lost.

So if you get the chance, watch these shows!

As always a big 'thank you' to all our carers, hotliners, transporters and supporters.

Looking at the phone roster reminded me that JULIE WATSON has been a hotliner (and carer) with WILVOS for sooo many years.

Thank you so much Julie for always being such a reliable and efficient phone operator. Regardless of your extremely busy life with work and family you still find the time to be on the roster saving our wildlife.

It is not easy filling that hotline roster. Couldn't help but notice that Nick Read was back from holidays barely one day and he was back on hotline duty. Thanks Nick!



This is always the worst time for macropods being hit by cars. People phone Hotline if they've hit a kangaroo that has hopped away, possibly injured. Thank you to Merete for all those kilometres walking through bush and long grass with her thermal imaging camera, looking for injured animals.

DON'T MISS OUT ON EVENTS AT THE MAROOCHY REGIONAL BUSHLAND BOTANIC GARDENS

<https://botanic-garden.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/see-and-do/whats-on/the-backyard-series>

These are part of the 2023 Backyard Series. Learn all the things you can do in your own back yard, from experts in their field. Registrations are essential for each event, which cost \$20 per workshop.

1 st July	<i>All About Native Grasses and Lawns.</i>	Shaun Walsh	Shaun Walsh Landscape Architect
5 th Aug	<i>Beautiful Groundcovers: Sun-lovers, shady spots, everything in between.</i>	Karen Shaw	Forest Heart ecoNursery
19 th Aug	<i>Designing Coastal Gardens: Wallum flowers and selecting for sandy soils.</i>	Tim Lang	Coolum Community Native Nursery
2 nd Sept	<i>Bring Birds into Your Garden: flowering plants for feathered friends.</i>	Suzie Pearce	Florabunda Bushcare

Being involved with wildlife can be mentally challenging at times. Two Green Threads is an organization set up to support those involved in wildlife activities. <https://twogreenthreads.org/>