

# WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings

AUGUST 2020



*Thank you to the Sunshine Coast Council for their ongoing generous support through their Environment Levy Partnership Program.*

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**W**e are fast heading towards the 2021 year and I'm sure there are many people out there who can't wait to see the dawning of a fresh new year. Forever the optimist, I'm sure there will be a complete turn-around and 2021 will be a happy, healthy year for all.

Next newsletter will bring news of the new WILVOS management team. The 2019/20 team must be congratulated for their great work. A lovely group of people. As they step down at the AGM I'm sure we'll see the majority just step up again!

There have been so many progressive initiatives introduced in the past year and these will continue. Online training has been one positive from the Covid-19 nightmare. This is not only a flexible method of training for our many busy people, it also allows people to go back and refresh their knowledge at will.

The Annual Report will be on the website and everyone can read about the contributions made by all our wonderful volunteers.

Thank you all.....Donna

**A**mongst all the doom and gloom these days it is a change to read a good news story. The updates from the State Wide Integrated Flora and Fauna Teams (SWIFFT) are always interesting to catch up on.

There was a release of twenty captive-bred Regent Honeyeaters into the wild in the Hunter Valley in June. These birds were fitted with radio transmitters and will be closely monitored. Birdlife Australia has been very involved with all local parties in maintaining and initiating permanent protection for the habitat that is so necessary for the birds in this area. Providing habitat for future years to come is not an easy task in today's world of greed.

Prior to this, the captive release program had begun in the Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park in Victoria in 2015 with the release of 77 of these critically endangered birds, followed by more releases in 2017. The contribution by volunteers involved in the ongoing daily monitoring of these birds has been phenomenal.

It is always of interest why certain species become critically endangered. Monitoring has shown that nesting is not always successful. Failure at the incubation stage and predation after hatching appears to be significant with Regent Honeyeaters.

2020 has brought some very optimistic monitoring results with one bird released in 2015 being observed. Their leg band colours identify the birds. This male was seven years old so it was an exciting discovery. Another pair were the first pair of birds recorded as having stayed together for more than one breeding season.

Hopefully, the movement of the Regent Honeyeater Captive Release program to New South Wales will bring ongoing positive results.

Photo: Glen Johnson A 2017 released female collecting nesting material.



# Wildman Report July 2020

..... Lisa Domagala

Hotline - 345 calls recorded in Wildman in July 2020. 119 out of 124 shifts had data entered – **96%**. Outstanding effort.

Outcome	Ma y-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	2020 - All Calls	Reason for Call	Ma y-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	2020 - All Calls
MOP taken to vet	97	75	70	762	Injured - Cause	95	70	90	842
Advice Only	59	50	61	582	Enquiry for well	97	73	71	599
At Australia Zoo for	46	13	18	239	Abandoned young	50	28	35	382
Referred to another organisation	37	23	24	230	Motor Vehicle Accident	51	45	53	314
Other - See Notes	26	22	30	188	Other - See Notes	45	20	30	296
In Care	22	18	21	176	Seeking Advice -	20	8	12	122
Euthanased	24	19	18	151	Seeking Removal -	20	15	10	94
Aust Zoo Rescue Team	20	16	26	146	Dog Attack	10	9	5	82
WILVOS took to vet	18	8	13	144	Needs carer	8	3	7	80
Referred to Bat Associa-	17	15	12	119	Cat attack	10	8	9	72
Died	22	10	8	104	Out of nest	6	2	2	70
Not Found	9	13	21	80	Hit window	10	10	9	67
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	9	5	5	56	Caught in barbed Wire	6	3	3	33
Released	11	4	2	53	Blown out of tree	1	3	4	23
Dead on Arrival	10	6	13	49	Membership En-	0	3	2	23
Escaped	4	3	1	32	Malnourished	2	1	0	12
Unknown	0	1	0	3	Electrocution	0	0	3	5
Awaiting Rescue	0	0	2	2	Unknown	0	0	0	0
	<b>431</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>3116</b>		<b>431</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>3116</b>

## Animals in Care Summary

Species	New Animals in Wildman July 2020	Died, Euthanased, Other in July 20	Released in July 2020	Total in Care as at July 2020
Bandicoot	1	0	0	0
Birds	28	14	12	27
Echidna	1	1	1	0
Platypus	0	0	0	0
Possums	24	0	24	38
Gliders	3	0	0	7
Macropods	16	6	3	27
Reptiles	1	1	0	1
Dasyurids	0	0	0	0
Rats & Mice	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	74	23	40	100
Total released in 2020 to date = 676				

**WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS.**

**Wishing you a happy productive future in learning more about our unique native animals.**

- oOo -

Shopping time: As winter draws to a close, everyone has a tidy up and often discard polar fleece material. This is warm to wrap around baskets or can be cut up into wonderful cosy squares for our little animals that need warmth in summer as well as winter—and no frayed edges. Towels are good for placing over baskets but polar fleece is cosier and quicker to wash and dry.

- oOo -

If you have good ideas to improve WILVOS as an organization, and the willingness to jump in and contribute your time and expertise, then this is your year! We are waiting for your input.

- oOo -



**Does anyone care that this hollow in the centre of this photo is one of hundreds as forests are demolished across the State?**

These hollows take so long to form, so just revegetating isn't going to be the answer to all the animals' prayers! These hollows house mammals, birds and reptiles. The old rotting ones on the ground feed and house native animals such as echidnas. What do the wildlife do when the bulldozers come in. They can't just move to the next batch of forest—in the unlikely chance there is any habitat left nearby. The residents in nearby forests will not want to share their limited food and shelter resources with numerous displaced refugees.

As wildlife carers, we should be extremely worried when a change in laws will make it even easier for habitat to be destroyed.

If you are concerned, then please email relevant local, state and federal politicians with your concerns on legislation. Some points to mention could be as follows:

- ◇ Native animals hit by cars
- ◇ Native animals killed by domestic pets
- ◇ Native animals caught in barbed wire
- ◇ Native animals losing their homes
- ◇ Native animals losing their food supply



**Ban Deadly Plastic Dome/ Flat Lids and Plastic Ring Seals IMMEDIATELY and SAVE OUR WILDLIFE across the world**

- oOo -

*Finally don't forget that even the most insignificant looking animal still needs care and attention into the release of it. They are all just as important as each other in our ecology.*

*"Wildlife Release Protocols." Dr Lyndall Pettett*

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**CONTACT DONNA FOR ALL YOUR WILDLIFE FOOD SUPPLIES. PLEASE ORDER IN ADVANCE WITH A WEEKS NOTICE.** Thank you to the Rescue Collective there is still some Crittacare and Impact available, along with bandages and other medical items.

- oOo -

**WILVOS are most appreciative of the Federal Government Grant, through Ted O'Brien, MP Fairfax Qld, which has been providing nest boxes for our possums and gliders.**

# Help! I've Found a Baby Magpie... What Next?

I need your help **NOW!** Please contact your state wildlife rescue organisation for advice.

New South Wales - WIRES on 1300 094 737  
 ACT - ACT wildlife on 0432 300 033  
 Queensland - RSPCA Queensland on 1300 264 625  
 Victoria - wildlife Victoria on (03) 8400 7300  
 Western Australia - wildcare on (08) 9474 9055  
 Northern Territory - wildcare on (08) 8988 6121  
 South Australia - Fauna Rescue at (08) 8289 0896



by The Magpie Whisperer

Hatchling/nestling photo - Fort Wayne Children's Zoo

AM I INJURED?

YES

NO

Phewf!  
 what do I look like?

Hatchling



My eyes are closed, my skin mostly bald & pink, I have a red gape. I have a face only a mother could love. I'm between 1-10 days old.

**I BELONG IN MY NEST!**

Nestling



My eyes are open, black & white plumage beginning to develop, downy feathers. I'm about 2-3 weeks old.

**I BELONG IN MY NEST!**

Fledgling



I am able to flutter & hop around. You will often see me on the ground or perching on a branch. I have my 'Learner Plates' on. I'm about 6 weeks old.

**I'M LEARNING TO FLY!**

Juvenile



**I DO NOT NEED RESCUING!** I am old enough to be unsupervised. Thank you for caring :)

Gently pick me up and place me on a branch & stay with me until a parent returns.

Can you spot my nest?

YES

NO

Please build me a sturdy makeshift nest (you can Google how to make one) & place it in a safe & secure tree nearby where you found me. Stay with me until a parent returns.

If possible... cautiously & carefully try to place me back in my nest. (If unreachable try option to the left) **Please be careful of my parents**, they may likely try to swoop you as they will want to protect me! Stay with me until a parent returns.

Am I in immediate danger from traffic or predators?

YES

NO

Are my parents nearby?

YES

**I DO NOT NEED RESCUING!**

**REMEMBER when in doubt..**

NO

Please **give them time** to find me. Stay with me until a parent returns. They may be busy collecting my food or chasing away predators.