

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



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



A HAPPY CHRISTMAS & 2025 TO ALL FROM WILVOS

It has been a fast and furious year. In WILVOS thirty-one year history of incorporation, this past November had a record number of calls to our 24 hour Hotline. Often we are the only help that people can reach, and everyone is so happy to get to talk to an actual person in today's impersonal world. Not all calls are straightforward so it can be very challenging to be that first port of call.

These animals are given a second chance because of the compassion shown the initial member of the public through to, hopefully, release. Our thanks to our generous donors and supporters. Funds go to feeding, housing, training and transporting wildlife.

Our WILVOS volunteers have all been truly amazing this year. Many of those four hour Hotline shifts have been hectic. Our transporters do a wonderful job and are a great help to our carers. Rescuers and rehabilitators have excelled also. Thank you to Biodiverse Environmental who have released our possums and gliders in the security of their nestboxes and dreys.

Thank you as always to the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital and Rescue Team, RSPCA's Eumundi Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre and our local Veterinarians for the care given to our native animals. Our local emergency services Police, Fire Services and Energex have been of great assistance where their expertise was needed.

Thank you to all who have helped and supported WILVOS in any way. A safe, happy Christmas and holidays to everyone and the best for 2025.

Wildlife Training in 2024

Being a wildlife rehabilitator involves training in the latest methods of care. WILVO carers learned from the experience of two of Australia's top wildlife veterinarians.

Dr Derek Spielman spoke on a variety of wildlife topics—so much information. Then there was a weekend of training from Dr Howard Ralph, another highly esteemed wildlife vet.

Gisela Kaplan inspired us with her 'hands on' knowledge of birds, especially tawny frogmouths and magpies

These training courses are much in demand around Australia and WILVOS were extremely fortunate to have them visit. These courses are seen as a valuable resource and investment into the future care of our native animals.

Susanne, thank you for arranging these weekends. There are always many 'behind the scenes' arrangements to be made throughout the year.

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

Thank you to Hotliners and carers for recording wildlife data. It helps our native animals in the future.

Reason for Call	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	2024 - All Calls
Enquiry for well being of animal	117	110	165	221	1474
Injured - Cause unknown	74	112	146	170	1179
Motor Vehicle Accident	51	62	53	58	532
Other - See Notes	35	25	30	29	312
Orphaned young	23	22	35	41	255
Out of nest	7	36	49	45	187
Seeking Advice - See notes	10	14	19	23	162
Dog Attack	12	14	13	10	115
Seeking Removal - See notes	7	11	10	13	107
Needs carer	7	10	14	18	96
Blown out of tree	5	10	24	24	92
Hit window	7	8	14	10	85
Cat attack	5	6	5	9	65
Caught in barbed Wire	0	5	5	4	65
Electrocution	0	1	1	0	8
Membership Enquiry	0	0	0	1	6
Malnourished	0	0	1	0	4
Unknown	1	0	1	1	3
TOTAL	361	446	585	677	4747

Wildman November 2024 – 100% of shifts had data entered

Outcome	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	2024 - All Calls
MOP taken to vet	67	92	121	139	974
Advice Only	66	92	148	157	861
At Australia Zoo for treatment/observations	40	46	55	80	511
At Wildlife Rehab Centre Eumundi	22	30	63	58	381
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	19	35	28	33	280
Referred to Bat Association	9	9	10	40	269
Referred to another organisation	18	20	28	26	240
Other - See Notes	31	14	13	11	194
Euthanased	13	15	23	18	166
Died	14	17	16	19	154
Not Found	11	17	13	10	144
WILVOS took to vet	9	7	5	15	109
Escaped	8	14	12	13	102
In Care	12	8	17	11	101
Released	9	7	7	4	77
Dead on Arrival	5	7	8	5	69
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	5	6	5	11	62
Reunited	2	6	8	16	32
Awaiting Rescue	0	3	3	11	17
Unknown	1	1	2	0	4
TOTAL	361	446	585	677	4747

Congratulations to Georgia on her first kookaburra release. That little one flew up to its cackling parents very quickly!

Lorikeet Paralysis Syndrome has again reared its ugly head. This condition surfaces around October to June and the most affected areas are southern Qld and northern New South Wales. Yes it can be treated, a slow process over weeks, often months, but early intervention and treatment is imperative.

The birds are usually found on the ground, weak and unable to fly, with advancing paralysis where they are unable to blink or swallow. They are usually very sedate—unusual for a lorikeet!

Dr Claude Lacasse, from the Eumundi Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre has done extensive research on this disease, with input from fellow practitioners. Wildlife Health Australia is funding a 2025 research project by Dr Lacasse. This will involve LPS vaccine research, and is wonderful news for our wildlife that are facing ever-growing challenges.



Congratulations to Dr Claude. Our native birds need this research.

WIRES provides the following free course for everyone of all ages. Just sign up for an account with your email address and then log in. The course gives valuable basic knowledge on our Australian native animals.

<https://wirestraining.org.au/community-course-enrolment/>



Far left is Community Awareness Officer, Roslyn Leslie, representing WILVOS at "Stand Up for Nature Day" held the end of July.

Don't forget to 'follow', 'share', and tag

@queenslandwaterandlandcarers
#landcare

QWALC provide our insurance needs and are involved in much great work around Queensland.

FERAL ANIMALS are an ever-increasing problem for our native wildlife. Report feral sightings to your local council and arrange for trapping. You can also record feral activity in you're area.

<http://www.feralscan.org.au/>

AVIAN INFLUENZA IN WILD BIRD POPULATIONS

There are different strains of the bird flu and it can be confusing. The links below gives a little more information. There was also an informative webinar on the subject. Wildlife carers need to be aware of the dangers to themselves and to other wildlife when dealing with dead and sick birds. Safety is a priority to protect yourself and other animals. Incorrect handling may exacerbate a situation. Hopefully the current highly pathogenic strain of 'bird flu', effecting other continents, will not hit our birds in Australia. Water birds have been severely impacted, but raptors and other birds coming in contact with the virus are also effected. Crossing to other species is always a concern. So much is unknown with a new virus.

<https://wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au/Portals/0/ResourceCentre/FactSheets/Avian/>

Yes, we humans found that out!

<https://www.doherty.edu.au/news-events/news/update-on-avian-influenza-in-australia>

It would benefit our wildlife and all wildlife carers to become a member of Wildlife Health Australia. It is easy to join for free online. There is so much information on diseases and emerging health issues in our Australian native animals. People are also encouraged to report any mass illnesses or deaths of wildlife. There are numerous Fact Sheets on all species and there is an August update to their Fact Sheet on 'Avian Influenza in Wild Birds in Australia'. https://wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au/Portals/0/ResourceCentre/FactSheets/Avian/Avian_Influenza_in_Wild_Birds_in_Australia.pdf

Regardless of impending virus's, wildlife carers always need to be extremely diligent with their hygiene practices and contact with all animals in care. Wear gloves and a mask when cleaning out cages and aviaries. Spray the paper at the bottom of the cage before removing. This will minimize the amount of dander and dried faeces rising into your airspace. Are you aware of the zoonotic diseases you may come in contact with?

<https://www.michaelandnorma.com/animals/normas-books-and-manuals/>

If you care for birds, possums, sugar, squirrel and feathertail gliders or other small mammals, these books give you plenty of good information. They are practical books dealing with identification, diet, housing, release and common diseases. How is your knowledge on Bandicoots, Native Rats and Mice, Antechinus, Dunnarts, Phascogales and Planigales? Fascinating animals.

Some information may differ from WILVOS rehabilitation guidelines but most of what you read is reiterating what you have already read in WILVOS literature, and elaborates further on some topics of good general knowledge on developmental stages and release. It is important, as a wildlife carer, to continually expand on your knowledge.

The 2024-25 WILVOS Management Team.

*CHAIR Sylvia Whiting
*SECRETARY Lisa Domagala
*VICE-CHAIR (2) Donna Brennan, Roslyn Leslie
*TREASURER: Susan Ryland
*Executive committee members
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Sylvia Whiting
FAUNA RETURNS OFFICER Sylvia Whiting
VET & HOSPITALS CO-ORDINATOR Sharon Brennan
HOTLINE SECRETARY Lisa Domagala
WORKSHOPS CO-ORDINATOR Susanne Scheuter
COMMUNITY AWARENESS OFFICER Roslyn Leslie
NEWSLETTER EDITOR/MEDIA/PR Donna Brennan
SOCIAL MEDIA CO-ORDINATOR
GRANTS OFFICER Donna Brennan
ENVIRONMENT OFFICER Lyndall Pettett
WEBSITE CO-ORDINATOR Lisa Domagala
WILDMAN CO-ORDINATOR Lisa Domagala
SAFETY OFFICER Nick Read
NETGUN OFFICER Joshua Fisher

TIME TO REFRESH THE GARDEN?

Check out this 6 part YouTube videos. It covers many aspects of making our gardens wildlife friendly.

[Habitat Gardening for Birds from Birds in Backyards](#)



Two days of wildlife training from Dr Howard Ralph kept wildlife carers mesmerized once again. Howard's compassion for our native animals, and his skills at working on injured wildlife are inspirational.

Without habitat our wildlife have no future.

Greening Australia and impact investment firm Conscious Investment Management are partnering to deliver biodiverse environmental planting projects across Australia, backed by an innovative financing model. We've made our first investment as partners by purchasing a 755-hectare property for restoration on the edge of the Monaro region in southern NSW. It's a beautiful place by the Murrumbidgee with areas of remnant woodlands and native grasses.

We are already working on plans to plant 140,000 native trees and shrubs here in 2025, with a species palette designed to benefit several nationally-listed woodland bird species, and to help the recovery of the critically endangered Monaro Tableland Cool Temperate Grassy Woodland vegetation community. Greening Australia.

CARERS: PLEASE STORE YOUR WILDLIFE FOOD IN SEALED CONTAINERS IN FRIDGE.

RECORD TOAD CAPTURES.

An excited user of the TOADINATOR trap in Queensland kindly sent us the image of what we think is a record single operation cane toad capture using the TOADINATOR trap with the ACTA-ATTRACTA unit (this croaks and has a UV light to attract both insects and toads). The trap was placed near to a waterhole and captured 108 toads in one night. Re-use of the trap nearby on following nights captured 40 more toads. While we are proud of the toad control method developed in conjunction with experts at James Cook University (JCU), we could hardly believe this number of toads in one trap in one night.

Animal Control Technologies Newsletter.

Please report sightings of koalas with location by phone, relevant websites or on the koala sighting app:

<https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/wildlife/animals/living-with/koalas/report-sightings>