

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



Thank you to MP Ted O'Brien, Federal Member for Fairfax Qld, for supporting the grant for the WILVOS nestbox program for possums and gliders. This project received funding from the Australian Government's Communities Environment Program.

THANK YOU TO THE SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL FOR EXTENDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY PARTNERSHIP GRANT TO WILVOS FOR 2020 -21.

This generous grant goes towards such expenses as running costs, the food subsidy scheme for carers, equipment for attendees at workshops, workshop training costs and the aviary loan scheme for carers .

What a tough time for Darwin organizing the 2021 Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference. All that work to organize a conference, then to have to restructure to an online event.

Deciding on an online conference is not an easy call to make, as some wildlife carers are unable to connect online. Nevertheless, it was a decision that had to be made with border closures and precarious travel plans.

So the AWRC Darwin 2021 will be held online from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th August: 9am -3pm daily. There will be a range of workshops and presentations. Keynote speakers are Dr Howard Ralph and Dianne Lucas.

If you miss a session the conference will be stored online for easy access. Registrations for the Event will open soon. The costs will be minimal for this years conference.

For more information go to
<https://www.facebook.com/WildConference/>
<https://awrcdarwin.weebly.com>

Check out: www.awrc.org.au for past papers.

We will all miss the physical attending of the conference as it is a good chance to catch up with other wildlife carers from around Australia again. It is usually a time when we organize 'babysitters' for our wildlife in care, and have a good break for a week or so. It is also difficult to juggle online learning with wildlife in care!

Unfortunately, I will be away and will miss this year.....Donna

My wildlife had to wait for their late night feed during the nail-biting Women's Singles Final at Wimbledon. Peach, the cute little swampy, and I cheered the inimitable Ash Barty across the line. The next wallaby will have to be called Ashleigh!

WILVOS has a well-deserved reputation for looking after members. Over recent years, wildlife carers have been subsidized for 25%, and then 75% of their food costs. This will now be extended to a full 100% subsidy.

Wildlife food will be provided for free. Of course, conditions apply! One of those: Records must be kept current on the online data system. Food requests must equate with wildlife in care. WildMan also contains the statistics that ensure a better future for our native animals.

This support of wildlife carers is possible due to the generosity of people making donations and supporting WILVOS in their quest to help native animals. WILVOS is seen as a sustainable, well-managed organization.

Smart contributors now do their research before donating money in these dire times. Too many unscrupulous people are out there 'begging' for money for wildlife or other causes. WILVOS is often congratulated on their responsible financial management.

If finances are maintained in an efficient sustainable manner, the focus is not on acquiring money, but on providing assistance to our wildlife. That is the goal and the whole purpose of a wildlife group.

Though run entirely by volunteers, WILVOS has always been fortunate in having a treasurer whose field of work is in accounting. It is necessary to have someone who understands the complex ever-changing regulations needed for account keeping by Not For Profit organizations.

Thank you to Mary, our treasurer, who is now in the busiest time of the financial year.

Wildman Report June 2021 ... Lisa Domagala

Hotline - 262 calls recorded in Wildman in June 2021. 90% of shifts had data entered ie 108 out of 120

<u>Outcome</u>	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	June-21	2021 - All Calls	Reason for Call	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	June-21	2021 - All Calls
MOP taken to vet	107	100	69	74	69	48	467	Injured - Cause unknown	163	126	114	109	87	70	669
Advice Only	105	72	66	45	45	47	380	Enquiry for well being of animal	143	130	120	103	65	54	615
At Australia Zoo for treatment/ observations	74	48	56	60	38	17	293	Motor Vehicle Accident	47	38	36	39	54	35	249
Other - See Notes	44	40	38	35	37	33	227	Other - See Notes	49	28	33	28	27	32	197
In Care	41	29	13	19	15	16	133	Seeking Advice - See notes	24	18	19	19	14	14	108
Referred to Bat Association	44	25	24	21	11	5	130	Orphaned young	22	26	13	11	16	13	101
At Wildlife Rehab Centre Eumundi	35	28	15	14	16	13	121	Needs carer	42	18	11	10	9	8	98
Euthanased	27	26	20	13	18	12	116	Out of nest	49	27	6	5	5	5	97
Died	36	20	13	17	8	8	102	Hit window	10	14	11	13	10	10	68
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	24	20	19	14	9	12	98	Seeking Removal - See notes	15	10	17	14	8	4	68
Referred to another organisation	14	14	14	9	13	11	75	Dog Attack	19	11	10	8	9	5	62
WILVOS took to vet	23	9	15	8	8	5	68	Caught in barbed Wire	15	7	6	6	9	1	44
Not Found	17	7	16	9	12	6	67	Cat attack	8	7	8	4	5	3	35
Released	11	12	13	13	8	5	62	Blown out of tree	9	4	2	3	1	4	23
Escaped	8	8	5	11	2	6	40	Electrocution	2	2	3	0	0	2	9
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	11	6	7	4	3	6	37	Membership Enquiry	1	2	2	0	1	2	8
Dead on Arrival	0	4	8	8	7	9	36	Malnourished	3	0	1	2	0	0	6
Awaiting Rescue	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	1	0	0	1	2								
TOTAL	621	468	412	374	320	262	2457	TOTAL	621	468	412	374	320	262	2457

Carers and Hotliners:

Could you all please get your records updated on WildMan by the end of each week so Lisa has the most current statistics, and information is correct for wildlife in care. Just a small effort by each of us makes life easier, and more rewarding, for those doing the much bigger tasks.

Ideally, a 2021/22 computer program will organize this so that anyone not up-to-date with records at the end of each month will be ejected into cyber space from FaceBook and other carer benefits. Keeping records doesn't mean just hitting the 'release' button on WildMan. Every animal, regardless of where it came from, has to be recorded with ongoing details. This gives the statistics so necessary for the future of our wildlife.

The rescuing and rehabilitating is the 'easy' part, providing records is the challenge. The 'R & R' provides for the animal welfare, but it is statistics and retention of habitat that will ensure a future life for our native animals.

Speaking from my own perspective—weekly recording also helps to keep me organized, and that is no mean feat!.....Donna

A poem from Sammy to Maleny residents, but appropriate for everywhere. So often lives are lost in the rush to be a minute earlier

Slow down Maleny

Slow down Maleny
There's a child on the road
A small feathered creature
A possum too bold

An old fella walking
A boy on his bike
Your neighbour's dumb dog
Or a small girl you like

Slow down Maleny
The journey's too short
The time that you're saving
Too small to report

You see them in your rear view mirror
The bones and the blood
The fur and the smear
Small dead eyes, small dead lives
Left behind in your race to be there
Did you save a minute speeding?
Did you leave a live thing bleeding?
Your eyes on the time
Their lives on the line
You hate to be late
You hate to be late
And the creatures before you
Must run from their fate

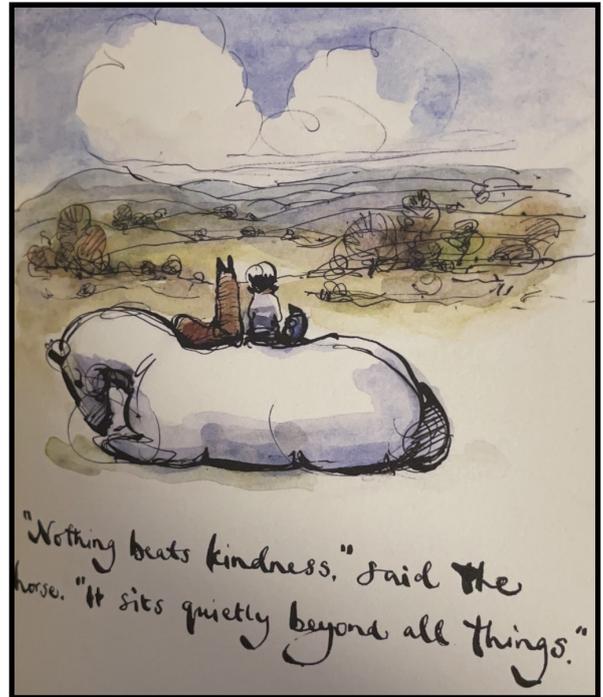
Slow down Maleny
There's a life near the road
A furred one, a pink one
Too young to be cold

A kid playing handball
A man out for his jog
A cyclist wandering
A girl lost in the fog

Slow down Maleny
There's a life on the road
Your speed can be fatal
If only you'd slowed...

You see them in your rear view mirror
The bones and the blood
The fur and the smear
Small dead eyes, small dead lives
Left behind in your race to be there
Did you save a minute speeding?
Did you leave a live thing bleeding?
Your eyes on the time
Their lives on the line
You hate to be late
You hate to be late
And the creatures before you
Must run from their fate

Sammy Ringer



The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse—Charles Mackesy.

Being kind to animals doesn't always come easy!

The ducks in this story weren't native, but they desperately needed to be saved. Of course WILVOS will help any animal in distress. Staff in businesses nearby were very concerned about the welfare of these huge beautiful ducks but they had been unable to catch them. This is a story from the intrepid wildlife rescuer, Keith Porteous.

"Comedy rescue tonight. Some charmer dumped this gorgeous pair of Muscovy ducks in a local industrial estate a couple of weeks ago. Invasive foxes, as well as crazy traffic, make this spot very dangerous.

Sharon Brennan asked for help with capture and relocation to a more suitable spot. Net in hand I asked Sharon to circle round and encourage them towards me as I crept forward..... only to discover what I thought was a puddle was a 1.2m open drain and I disappeared up to my chest. Soaked through, brand new boots too. Smashed my phone as well.

We got the ducks though and they will get checked over and rehomed safely!!!"

The worst part for Keith: Everyone was watching from their windows to observe the rescue!

Too many bindis to pull out by hand???

Jerry Coleby-Williams' (ABC Gardening Australia) bindi remedy, passed down to him from his Grandfather. He claims it will kill bindi inside 24 hours.

2 tablespoons of iron sulphate fertilizer

4 1/2 litres of water

Mix it all together and watering can/spray on the bindis -before the flower develops at ground level.

BIOLAC is still trading, regardless of the lockdown in New South Wales. They are classed as an essential service. Staff are kept to a minimum to protect workers. We have to be patient with delivery times. Lockdown sends many people into an online shopping frenzy so delivery times will be slower than normal.

Good news to hear that the Sunshine Coast Council has purchased another 94 hectares to make the Doonan Creek Environment Reserve in Peregian Springs the largest reserve of all their conservation estates. This reserve is now 474 hectares in size.

An easy way of making foliage containers, but always ensure they are narrow enough that animals can't pull out the foliage and climb in there. We don't want to drown our patients!



**Help our wildlife:
Please remember "Plastic Free July".**

HAVE YOU REJOINED YET? DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR INVOICE ALSO WITH ANY CHANGES, OR NOT, OF DETAILS. MANY THANKS.

Remember to ask people to remove animals off the road when checking pouches. If an animal is checked and a male, he still needs to be moved well away from road edge to prevent other animals from being injured. Family members of macropods will return to the dead one, and birds can be killed if they venture near the dead animal.

Don't forget to check with a vet before using any medications—even subcutaneous fluids. In disasters such as bushfires, this can make a big difference. Normal saline is preferred over Hartmann's. Hartmanns contain both lactate and potassium. If the animal hasn't been tested for these levels, which is usually not done immediately in emergencies, then serious issues could result if an animal is suffering from myopathy or dehydration.

https://www.awrc.org.au/uploads/5/8/6/6/5866843/awrc_2016_program_v1.130716.pdf



Congratulations to Tori and Jacob Champney on their cute baby boy, Alfred. Jacob does a wonderful job on the release team and takes great care of our possums. Now he has his own joey to care for!

Thank you to all who attended the possum training in June. Remember advice and support is only a phone call away. Have your flannelette bunny rugs, pouches, white snugglecloths, and heat source all ready in your basket. It's a good idea to print out your Ringtail and Brushtail Possum progress charts so you are all prepared.

Thank you to helpers at the Qld Garden Expo at Nambour Showgrounds—Bronwyn, Sharon, Roslyn, Jodie, Judy, Nick (twice with his noisy miner chicks), and Kerry (who went home to finish the day off by doing a Hotline shift and helping to organize a kangaroo rescue.) Thank you to all our wonderful helpers on community awareness stalls.

A Garden expo volunteer came to the WILVOS stall to report an echidna that was discovered under a pallet at one of the stalls. It moved on that night. Others visited to thank WILVOS for helping them with wildlife in distress.

Another stall holder recounted how he swam into a dam and rescued a wallaby as its head was disappearing underwater. People were standing around unaware they were in the only spot it could have exited. He promptly handed the poor animal onto a WILVO who arrived on the scene at that time. Well done.

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

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the WILVOS organization but all contributions are welcome. Please submit articles to newsletter@wilvos.org.au with "Newsletter Item" written as the subject, so it is lost in the laptop.