

# WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings

September 2021



Arrival of 5 Brush-tailed Phascogales.  
Photo: Sharon Brennan



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A larger boy rescued by  
WILVOS some years ago.



The Famous Five Phascogales  
growing up. 3 of them still  
had eyes closed on arrival.

## Welcome to our new WILVOS Management Team for 2021/22.

Not many changes in the team! Anyone willing to help out with administrative tasks is always very welcome. It is not the most rewarding part of helping our wildlife but it is a very necessary responsibility if we are genuinely concerned about the future of our wildlife.

Welcome to Cassie Bradley who is taking on the position of Safety Officer. If there is any field where you would like to assist, or learn, please email [secretary@wilvos.org.au](mailto:secretary@wilvos.org.au)

Personally, for my entire life, I have always loathed any type of paperwork or record keeping—except for reading or writing about wildlife! Now ‘admin’ tasks take up many of my waking hours, and ensure very little sleep! The difference is that technology has meant that our records are helping our wildlife, instead of being hidden in a government department’s filing cabinet or thrown in the bottom of a cupboard.

I could not keep up with the extra work if there wasn’t such a great team of people to work with. WILVOS are extremely fortunate in having such a loyal, skilled and supporting member group.

Thank you all. We look forward to another progressive and rewarding year.. .....Donna

Another reason we do what we do! Sharon picked up these 18–20 gram Brush-tailed Phascogale joeys from Kenilworth Unfortunately, Sharon’s work commitments meant they needed another carer after their first week stabilizing. Lucky me! The first couple of days were challenging, more like a battle of wills, as I was determined they were going to lap off my magic red spoon! If I can get a one gram feathertail glider lapping, I can get a 20 gram animal lapping.

Once achieved, the feed and toilet time was no longer an hour long process. I have only cared for single phascogales before so five little carnivorous marsupials meant much more time and effort. As a family of joeys they are probably the most stubborn species I have ever cared for .

More on these treasures next newsletter....Donna

**“Proudly Supported by the Sunshine Coast Council’s Environment Levy”.**

## Wildman Report September 2021

Hotline – 428 calls recorded in Wildman in September 2021. 111 of 120 shifts (92%) had data entered

Outcome	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	2021 - All Calls
MOP taken to vet	107	100	69	74	70	48	44	51	72	635
Advice Only	105	72	66	45	45	47	39	74	94	575
Other - See Notes	44	40	38	35	37	45	57	49	42	397
At Australia Zoo for treatment/observations	74	48	56	60	39	18	32	33	28	388
In Care	41	29	13	19	14	16	6	15	39	192
At Wildlife Rehab Centre Eumundi	35	28	15	14	16	14	12	22	26	182
Euthanased	27	26	20	13	18	12	18	18	17	168
Referred to Bat Association	44	25	24	21	11	5	5	9	9	154
Died	36	20	13	17	8	8	17	16	10	145
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	24	20	19	14	9	12	12	11	9	130
Referred to another organisation	14	14	14	9	13	11	15	6	16	113
Not Found	17	7	16	9	12	6	12	14	10	103
Released	11	12	13	13	8	6	8	13	16	100
WILVOS took to vet	23	9	15	8	8	5	10	10	9	97
Dead on Arrival	0	4	8	8	7	9	10	12	10	68
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	11	6	7	4	3	6	3	14	8	62
Escaped	8	8	5	11	2	6	8	6	7	61
Awaiting Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	9
Unknown	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
	<b>621</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>3582</b>

Reason for Call	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	2021 - All Calls
Enquiry for well being of animal	143	130	120	103	65	54	64	99	108	886
Injured - Cause unknown	163	126	114	109	87	70	59	70	73	871
Motor Vehicle Accident	47	38	36	39	54	36	65	51	53	419
Other - See Notes	49	28	33	28	27	45	39	34	36	319
Seeking Advice - See notes	24	18	19	19	14	14	16	28	21	173
Orphaned young	22	26	13	11	16	13	12	16	32	161
Out of nest	49	27	6	5	5	4	5	13	35	149
Needs carer	42	18	11	10	9	8	9	11	25	143
Seeking Removal - See notes	15	10	17	14	8	4	9	13	11	101
Hit window	10	14	11	13	10	10	4	8	9	89
Dog Attack	19	11	10	8	9	5	10	10	5	87
Cat attack	8	7	8	4	5	3	11	10	4	60
Caught in barbed Wire	15	7	6	6	9	1	0	2	4	50
Blown out of tree	9	4	2	3	1	4	3	4	9	39
Electrocution	2	2	3	0	0	2	3	1	1	14
Membership Enquiry	1	2	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	12
Malnourished	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	8
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	<b>621</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>3582</b>

**READ THE SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL FACT SHEET on Eel predation on waterbirds at urban waterbodies. (Thanks Kerry! Our Hotliners are often asked about eels taking cygnets or other waterbird chicks.)**

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=8ccc1120bd&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg->

[f:1713417125031286186&th=17c747cc118f95aa&view=att&disp=inline&realattid=d2f75da98811ce48\\_0.1](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=8ccc1120bd&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1713417125031286186&th=17c747cc118f95aa&view=att&disp=inline&realattid=d2f75da98811ce48_0.1)



## WILDLIFE HABITATS

Roslyn Leslie, our Community Awareness Officer, had a recent Zoom meeting with Peregian Springs State School.

Following this, the students created their own wildlife habitats. What wonderful imaginations!

The education of our young people is just so important. As we see so much development in our beautiful corner of the world, we need people to look out for our native animals in the future.

Yes, we are all living on a block of land that native animals once called their own! Nevertheless, it is very distressing to see people buy a forested block and then clear it. Every tree is important.

## DON'T FORGET.....THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL BIRD WEEK

Celebrate by registering for the 18-24th October  
Aussie Backyard Birdcount:

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

**C**heck out this webinar on finding and identifying koalas. 12 noon to 1pm  
Thursday 28th October.

Once registered, if you can't attend at the time, a recording will be sent to you.

<https://wildlife.org.au/talking-wildlife-koalawebinar/?v=13b249c5dfa9>

**M**embers of the public are often of great assistance, just by their powers of observation. There is a lady at Ninderry who calls me if she ever notices any kangaroo acting differently. It could be just the slightest change in behaviour but there is always a reason behind it. These observations have saved a number of animals over the years. As carers, just watching our injured or sick wildlife in rehabilitation will so often give us a chance to correct almost imperceptible injury or illness before it becomes a major problem. We should trust our instincts! Don't underestimate your carer skills. You know your animals.

DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR MOCCONA JARS FOR REFILL WITH WILDLIFE SUPPLIES. WE CAN THEN CONTINUE TO AVOID THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS.

PLEASE WASH AND DRY THE JARS. THEY NEED TO BE STERILIZED EACH TIME. YOU SHOULD FEEL YOUR EARS BURNING IF I HAVE TO WASH THE JARS!.....Donna

*What is your brushtail possums favourite plant?*

Email: [donnaswildlife@gmail.com](mailto:donnaswildlife@gmail.com)

**T**hank you to all who have reunited birds with their families this year. It makes such a difference. It is not always possible because of injury or predators, but it is sad to see animals come into care unnecessarily.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM 2021-22

(\*Executive)

* Chairperson	Sylvia Whiting
* Vice Chair (1)	Donna Brennan
* Vice Chair (2)	Joyce Thompson
* Treasurer	Mary Herd
* Secretary	Lisa Domagala
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Whiting
Minutes Secretary	Joyce Thompson
Data Returns Officer	Sharon Brennan
Hotline Secretary	Lisa Domagala
Assistant Hotline Secretary	.....
Fundraising Officer	Rosemary Dax
Workshops Co-ordinator	Helen Stewart
Community Awareness Officer	Roslyn Leslie
Media PR Officer	Donna Brennan
Newsletter Editor	Donna Brennan
Grants Officer	Donna Brennan
Release Officer	Jacob Champney
Assistant Release Officer	Liam Pratt
Environment Officer	Lyndall Pettett
Website Co-ordinator	Lisa Domagala
Safety Officer	Cassie Bradley
Netgun Officer	Keith Porteous
Wildman Training	Lisa Domagala

**ALL CARERS MUST BE PAID UP MEMBERS BY NOW!**

**B**efore responding to a call to care for animals from the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital or from RSPCA's Eumundi Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre or from a Vet Clinic:

- ◇ Have you researched this animal?
- ◇ Do you know how to care for this species?
- ◇ Do you have suitable housing for this animal?
- ◇ Do you have suitable food for this animal?
- ◇ Have you done the relevant training?
- ◇ Have you contacted the Data Returns Officer for a mentor near you?

## CHECK LIST FOR BIRDS WHEN THEY COME INTO YOUR CARE

You've picked up a bird from the vets or from a member of the public, and you don't know whether it really is healthy or if it has some well-hidden health problem.

If the bird hasn't been caught, stay back and do a visual assessment before capturing quickly and quietly: Are wings symmetrical, not hanging down?

If the bird is contained, take home and do a thorough checkover.

- Eyes bright, ear canal clear. (No maggots in sight!)
- Standing on both legs, can grip with each foot
- Do the wings spring back as you gently pull each one out and release?
- Is the overall feather condition good?
- Is the cloaca clean?
- Is the mouth gaping?
- Look inside the mouth for signs of gapeworm or throatworm.
- If an adult, does it have good uplift from floor level. Test its flight in a secure room/garage, with any glass windows covered and your net ready!



Record everything in WildMan, native or feral, even if in your care for just a short time for pick up or delivery, or you have given advice.

- ◆ Transfer if you send to someone else
- ◆ Record if an animal dies... Dead or alive statistics are equally important.
- ◆ Most records will match up with phone calls to the WILVOS Hotline. (or Facebook requests.)

**REGISTER FOR THE NEXT ONLINE WILDMAN TRAINING**

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