

WILVOS Wildlife Whisperings



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THANK YOU TO PROFESSOR GISELA KAPLAN

It's been five years since Gisela's last WILVO visit. It was great to have her back up on the Sunshine Coast again. Such passion for our native birds, with so many stories and so much knowledge gleaned from observation of many species.

It is interesting to hear of the different animal behaviour. Our Queensland magpies cohabit very well, whereas apparently in some places they are not so agreeable. When reared at different stages of development, the older chicks may become aggressive to the younger. The magpies that visit Inez on a regular basis, meeting together in the canefields, are certainly social, many having been raised together as youngsters.



Magpie Meeting 5pm Tuesday Maroochy River!



A huge 'thank you' to workshop co-ordinator, Susanne Scheuter, for organizing this wonderful day.



Photo: Sylvia, Sharon, Lisa, Gisela, Donna, Louise

These books are great reading, full of fascinating information on bird behaviour, which is an integral part of rehabilitation. The books are available at your local library or at bookstores. There is a second edition of the 'Australian Magpie'. The Tawny and Magpie books are nice and compact to take if travelling. It's always good to grab one of them off the bookshelf if doing a train trip down to Brisbane or elsewhere.

WATCH OUT FOR WORKSHOP UPDATES ON THE WEBSITE.

Wildman March 2024 – 95.2% of shifts had data entered (6 missing)

Outcome	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	2024 - All calls
MOP taken to vet	92	142	87	321
Advice Only	73	64	68	205
At Australia Zoo for treatment/observations	55	66	48	169
At Wildlife Rehab Centre Eumundi	38	44	36	118
Referred to Bat Association	31	38	41	110
Referred to another organisation	26	22	27	75
Aust Zoo Rescue Team to attend	15	28	20	63
Other - See Notes	24	14	14	52
Not Found	16	18	8	42
Died	14	16	6	36
WILVOS took to vet	5	22	9	36
Euthanased	13	11	11	35
In Care	7	14	7	28
Escaped	6	7	11	24
Released	12	9	3	24
Contacted Wilvos member to provide phone adv	7	7	5	19
Awaiting Rescue	1	6	9	16
Dead on Arrival	4	2	1	7
Unknown	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	439	530	411	1380

Reason for Call	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar -24	2024 - All Calls
Enquiry for well being of animal	140	170	128	438
Injured - Cause unknown	102	143	118	363
Motor Vehicle Accident	36	40	33	109
Orphaned young	29	34	24	87
Other - See Notes	31	26	26	83
Seeking Advice - See notes	16	21	17	54
Dog Attack	11	13	17	41
Out of nest	20	11	6	37
Seeking Removal - See notes	8	14	14	36
Needs carer	10	17	5	32
Hit window	12	8	7	27
Caught in barbed Wire	5	15	6	26
Blown out of tree	9	10	2	21
Cat attack	7	5	7	19
Electrocution	2	1	0	3
Membership Enquiry	1	2	0	3
Malnourished	0	0	1	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	439	530	411	1380

WILVOS Community Awareness Officer, Roslyn Leslie, visits many kindergartens, schools, TAFEs and community organizations. The 'kindy' kids especially love these visits.

Recently, one of the teachers sent Roslyn a message to pass on what one young lad told his mother. "Today I met one of the most beautiful ladies in the world, Rizzie Wozzie." He absolutely loved her. Roslyn does get called some funny names at the kindies!



Don't miss out on the drey and drop net making workshop coming up this Sunday 5th May 1 - 4pm.

Bob has all the materials cut to size and ready to assemble. You take home your masterpieces! It is a very social afternoon and a great chance to meet others. Bring along a plate of 'goodies' to share for afternoon tea. Book now: workshops@wilvos.org.au

Volunteers are being sought for the Queensland Garden Expo—4 days this year 8am to 4pm.

WILVOS are once again part of the wonderful Living Backyard set up by the Sunshine Coast Council. Other exhibits in the Living Backyard include native bees, native plants including delicious bush food plants (all at a great price!), native bird organizations, a great council display and so much more. The council landscapes the area for the expo and it always looks such an inviting corner of the huge exhibition of plants, garden furniture, pools, ponds and all kinds of hardware.

Judy set up these times last year for the roster and they worked well. With two people rostered on at each shift, you can venture off for a coffee break or look around.

Shift broken into 2x4hr times - 8-12 & 12-4pm with a 10-2 shift for extra helpers assuming that will cover the busiest times - but we'll be very grateful for any offers! Email Judy judy.malc@bigpond.com

Welcome to our new WILVOS members.

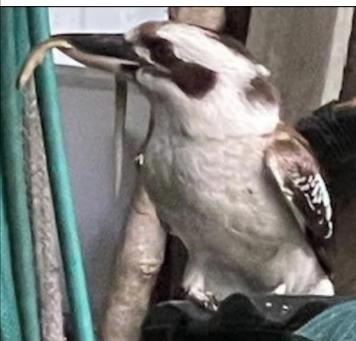
There are some great workshops being organized in the next couple of months so keep an eye on the ever-changing workshop calendar on the website.

Congratulations also to new members over the last year who have achieved rewarding results with their rehabilitation of our native animals. Often there are negative comments on the success of wildlife rehabilitation but if it is done correctly our native animals have a high success rate in survival and future breeding which is the ultimate.

Many bird species will adopt those of their own kind if the youngsters aren't too old. Louise, whose interest in birds had brought her to WILVOS, had her first kookaburra chicks come into care, soon followed by another two.



The local birds spot the growing orphaned chicks.....



...and come closer with their gifts.

As they grew, two local kookaburras started showing interest and began arriving with food for the young birds—snakes, skinks etc. Lou observed this for a time and then rang Sylvia on next steps to take. With some

trepidation Lou fed the birds up early one morning and let the fledglings fly up to the trees in the National Park behind the house. The local kookaburras couldn't wait to take on the feeding process. A very successful release.

This wasn't the end of the story. Further down the track, as another two kookaburra fledglings came into care, the previous fledglings began the same feeding process. Observing these releases in wildlife is very rewarding. Well done, Louise!

Meanwhile, fellow Marcus Beach resident and friend Abby was busy rearing her first ringtails. These went to Judy for pre-release and are now hopefully living the best life out in the wild. Yaay!

A huge 'thank you' to Laurie and Tom Wall, who have invited us to participate in **Collectorama** for so many years. It is an amazing day at the Nambour showgrounds.

Collectorama was also a great source of funds when WILVOS were working hard to stay ahead of expenses. The annual cost with Telstra for the Hotline was over \$2000 a year. Now with new technology and TPG it is about \$250 a year.

Unfortunately, the time and helpers needed to attend Collectorama has stretched the usual band of volunteers to the max! Wildlife caring, transporting, manning the hotline, and training our volunteers has become more demanding and volunteers have to realize their limits!

WILVOS will always be extremely grateful for Laurie and Tom for inviting us to be part of this incredible event.

STORIES PLEASE

Ruby would love your stories and photos for her Facebook posts. Just a little information with the photo and Ruby will create! It may be a native animal in care, or in the wild, or one you've been called about while on Hotline. If no photo, then we will have one in our files. This is an opportunity to educate people about our native animals.

Email Ruby: editor@wilvos.org.au

Jennifer Berry is compiling a list of Frequently Asked Questions, with Answers, about possums when they come into care. If you have any to add, contact Jennifer.

Please return your large Moccona jars. If restocking, take out the remainder and put in one of your containers. Then wash and dry your glass jar and return. As wildlife carers we don't want to be packaging in plastic bags.

If passing animals on, keep an emergency supply in freezer, but give your remaining food supply to the next carer. You will then always have fresh milk. Don't use wildlife food that has been sitting in a cupboard for months.

**A NON-ANIMAL RECIPE.
ATTENDEES AT GISELA KAPLAN'S RECENT WORKSHOP
REQUESTED BARB'S DELICIOUS RECIPE FOR
BROWNIES & IT'S A PACKET MIX!**

Easy Decadent Walnut Brownie

Heat oven to 160 degrees fan forced.

Grease a 21cm square baking pan and place a cut out sheet of baking paper on the bottom of pan.

1 pkt of Greens Brownie mix

2 eggs

160g melted butter

2/3c roughly chopped walnuts

2/3c sultanas

1tsp vanilla essence

Mix ingredients together, pour into baking pan.

Bake for 40-45 mins

Leave in tin for 10 mins and then run a knife around the slice and tip out onto cooling rack

Icing

20-30g butter

1 heaped tablespoon cocoa

1-1 1/2c icing sugar

1tsp vanilla essence

Approx 50-60mls boiling water

Place butter and cocoa powder in bowl and pour in boiling water, mix to a paste

Add icing sugar and vanilla

Mix well

Ice when slice is completely cool

Decorate with walnut halves if you choose

Serve and enjoy.....DELICIOUS!

Great to see Inez back wildlife caring after a nasty accident in the surf. 'Goldie Poss', a sad 335g orphaned brushtail possum arrived. He has doubled his weight, and was lucky to be in Inez's care!



WildMan fauna records need to be accurate and up-to-date at all times to meet the requirements of the D.E.S.I. Records are also required for carers to be eligible for the WILVOS food subsidy.

Thank you to Queensland Water and Land Carers. Their provision of advocacy, representation and arranging insurance is most appreciated by their members across the State.

When planting a balance of trees, shrubs and grasses in the yard, don't forget to include a dense habitat for the very small birds. The wrens and finches will soon come nesting. Water dishes, up high away from domestic pets, and native planting bring birds into the yard.

Include a large variety of foliage for your possums. A little bush walking adds different species to the collection. Possums need to be familiar with plants other than suburban plantings.

Have a few potted varieties to rotate in the aviary.....in a wide based pot that won't fall over and squash them!

There is always a plant species that is a favourite. It may be the time of year. At night, the ringtail possum colony attack the *Banksia spinulosa* leaves first before other foliage in their aviary. The birds are feeding on the lovely golden flowers in the garden during the day. Growing all along the eastern coast, the seeds propagate easily too, which is a bonus.



Let's hope the three eggs in the incubator hatch as well as these previous four. Though late in the season it will then be a search for a masked lapwing family with young of the same age. They usually adopt new youngsters very well.