



WILD TIMES AUTUMN 2018

New bat crèche a great success

Our first season of having a bat crèche in the Airlie Beach region, hosted by Kylie Gray has been a great success.

Baby fruit bats that were rescued in the Whitsundays throughout September and October were gathered together in a custom-built crèche in late December (post weaning) where they spent time, learning to feed on large pieces of fruit, forage through cuttings of local flowering natives, fly and bond as a family unit.

Four juvenile bats from the Mackay district joined them in early February to make a group of eight, enough to provide a suitable size group for a slow release. Now they are finally making their transition back into the wild.

The door on the crèche was opened early March and they come and go from the safety of their current enclosure into the nearby fruiting trees and back in again for a sure feed and a sense of security.

Over time they will completely merge with the local camp and live out their lives as Whitsunday locals.

Fruit bats, like bees, help drive biodiversity, and faced with the threat of climate change, land clearing, and other human-caused ecological pressures, we need them more than ever.



Multi-hat-wearer Kylie Gray is our Bat species liaison officer, local snake catcher and a mum!



Welcome to the new look Fauna Rescue newsletter

Put together quarterly by volunteers, it's only as good as your contributions.

We'd love your input to continue, it's a big job so all input is appreciated. If you would like to contribute an article in the next edition, please email your proofread text and pics to cathi@whistlingmoose.com.au by June 1st.

Key dates coming up – see page 6 for more details

APRIL 8TH – Members Information workshop; Basic Birds half-day workshop

MAY 6TH – AGM – 10am

JUNE 2ND – 3RD – Bats: Presenter Connie Kerr two-day workshop

AUGUST 11TH – 12TH – Dr. Anne Fowler

AUGUST / SEP - Members Information workshop; Basic Birds half-day workshop

OCTOBER 14TH – Members Information workshop; Basic Birds half-day workshop

President's report - By Jacqui Webb

As another wet season is bearing down on us and it seems the monsoon trough has finally dropped I would like to urge all carers to ensure your food stocks for animals in care are kept topped up. No doubt we will experience some flooding and road cuts, inhibiting access to supplies and suppliers.

I would like to thank Emily for doing a marvellous job of Editor for past newsletters. I would like to thank and welcome Cathi Zanevra who has kindly volunteered her services as our new newsletter editor. This new look newsletter, *Wild Times*, looks fantastic. This will be a quarterly publication. Cathi would appreciate any photos, stories, hints and tips you wish to share so please drop her a quick email with your article about the critters in your care or hotline calls or rescues you may have dealt with.

Cathi has also done a great job of editing our school booklets, in line with all of our new branding. These look absolutely amazing and can be viewed at Lola's or at our meetings/workshops.

We have a new face to help Barb Adamson with our School and Community Education Project. Many thanks to Gingie Johnson for coming on board. **We are looking for another volunteer to assist Gingie too.**

Sadly we say goodbye to Lesley Knight who has been on our committee for some time. Lesley is leaving the area and we wish her all the best for her new venture. **Thank you for your time on the committee Lesley, we will miss your assistance and input.**

We recently received funding from Aurizon, which we have used to purchase some more humidicribs. **Thanks to Michelle and Gillian for working on this one.** Further grants are currently in place for educational materials, workshops and aviaries.

We would like to say thank you to Judy Dower, who has been sewing possum pouches for our baby possums. These have



Mugshot of recently released Ruby.

been circulated to our possum carers and are currently in use.

Barb McLennan continues to run sausage sizzles at Bunnings with her band of trusty helpers and worked hard to host a couple over the Christmas break at Adventure Whitsunday Caravan Park. All proceeds from the sizzles go directly to the costs of food for animals in care. **If you can help out once a month, on a Sunday, with this please contact Barb on 4946 6400.**

We are lobbying government to change land clearing legislation after the disastrous clearing at one of the solar farm sites near Collinsville. Over 200 birds, microbats and one possum were taken into care by Nth Qld Wildlife Care as a result of this clearing until the spotter catchers on site were able to put a stop work on the site to allow any further birds to fledge from nests.

There have also been concerns raised about the QCoal clearing 5kms out of Collinsville

at the Coral Creek diversion. We would like to thank Patricia Julien for her assistance with these issues and her report on the solar farm land clearing incident which is being sent along with another letter to the government departments.

Queensland has one of the worst land clearing histories in Australia with current legislation offering no or little protection for common species. **Please support the push for land clearing reform by writing to the government and signing any petitions we share on line.**

Wallaroos were introduced to Daydream Island many years ago and have been breeding well on the island. There were quite a few reports that they were starving after the cyclone as the resort had been closed down and lack of rain dried up the food source. Our permit does not allow us to intervene unless the animals are sick or injured. We therefore referred to The Dept of Environment and Heritage Protection who have been monitoring this situation and have been working with the owners to address the situation.

We have finalised training dates for 2018, please check Page 6 and mark the dates in your diary.

It is important to keep up with your training. I always come away with something new each time I attend. It also gives you the opportunity to put faces to names of other wonderful people involved in our organisation.

If you are interested in going to the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference (www.awrc.org.au/) please fill in the form sent out with this newsletter and you can go in the draw for funding towards costs of the conference.

Fauna Rescue collectable cards for kids

FRW has produced 16 different educational cards for kids to collect. They feature an attractive photo on the front and on the reverse side interesting facts and ways in which we can assist the animal if in distress.

If you have a child in your life who loves animals then pop down to the next Fauna Rescue sausage sizzle at Bunnings and see the volunteers for your free (one) card. They are also given to kids during the FRW school educational visits.



Got a wildlife story to tell?

If you have a story or some information that you would like to have included in the next newsletter, please email cathi@whistlingmoose.com.au along with photos by June 1st.

SLO Reports *Updates from our Species Liaison Officers*

Possum and glider report – Barbara Adamson 0458 525 700

Number of animals currently in care: 15.

Animals taken into care in the last quarter: 10.

Main issues affecting them: Dead mums or road accidents.

Number of animals released in the last quarter: 4.

Peak season: We were very busy in

February.

Number of active carers: Six in Airlie Beach, one in Mackay.

Highlights of past quarter: We welcomed three new carers who have their first babies - and still loving it! Thank you Olivia, Lia and Debbie. Keep up the good work! Olivia just took her second baby.

Current requirements:

Volunteers to help with school talks Community Education. New release sites for possums please. (We use the release cage so people do not need to have a cage on their property).



Reptile report – Neil Cutten 0429 425 773

Number of reptiles currently in care: 1

Reptiles taken into care in the last quarter: 9

Main issues affecting them: Car strikes, cat/dog attacks.

Number of reptiles released in the last quarter: 5

Number of active carers: 2 (known).

Peak season: Wet season.

Highlights of past quarter: Rehab and release of a 1.8m Eastern Brown snake after being hit (as opposed to being run over) by a car.

Current requirements: I would like to see more carers for reptiles. I know it is a tall ask of anyone to care for

animals that can be unforgiving (and potentially dangerous) when handled, but I have to put it out there for consideration.



Bird report – Jacqui Webb 0427 176 966

Number of birds currently in care: 21.

Birds taken into care in last quarter: 91.

Main issues affecting them: Hit by car, orphaned, attacked by cat or dog.

Number of birds released last quarter: 30.

Peak season: Spring/summer.

Number of active carers: 11.

Highlights of past quarter: Baby bird season was quiet over the last couple of months compared to previous years. This could be due to loss of birds, nesting habitat and food sources after Cyclone Debbie.

Current requirements: We need more rescuers and carers, especially for baby birds. If you can help out please let me know. We are in the process of getting funding for more aviaries.

If you would be interested in putting up an aviary to help care for birds please let me know. Just a quick reminder regarding the New Members Orientation and Back to Basics with Birds on April 8th. Hope to see you there



Koala report – Ian Gottke 0478 618 859

The majority of koalas in care were the result of vehicle impacts, one from down a mine blast hole and one from the middle of a cane field at Eton.

2 Died from Injuries before we could help; 3 were euthanized due to injuries; 7 Released back into their home ranges; 1 In-care.

122 Reports for the mapping, 45 dead majority of these on the highways, 32 reported alive in trees, 7 Released and 38 alive recorded by the University project.

Highlights of past year:

The mapping has been progressing in leaps and bounds with over 400 records so far to date, the map now also includes photos.

Work has been completed on the 4 replacement timber bridges on the Peak Downs Highway, all of these will have the koala underpasses and Wildlife exclusion fencing installed in coming months. The Eton Range Realignment project is progressing with the Wildlife exclusion fencing now installed, the remaining wildlife

underpass will be installed as the project progresses.

Again this year with the help of TMR they have put up the Video Message signs displaying "Koala Breeding Season, Watch for Wildlife and Drive Carefully" on the Peak Downs Highway, a very good result, a total of four were installed on the Peak Downs Highway for the duration of the breeding season.



SLO Reports *(continued)*

Bat report – Jacqui Webb on behalf of Kylie Gray (SLO)

Number of bats currently in care: 2.

Bats taken into care in the last quarter: 8.

Main issues affecting them: *Tangled in barbed wire, electrocution*

Number of animals released in the last quarter: 6.

Peak season: *spring/summer*

Number of active carers: 5

Highlights of past quarter: *Kylee's bat crèche has been up and running this year and she has released her first colony of bubs.*

Current requirements: *Just a reminder that all bat carers and rescuers must have been vaccinated for Lyssavirus and provide the*

committee with a current copy of their titre levels. We also would like to hear from you if you know where any of our local camps are.



Echidna report – Jacqui Webb 0427 176 966

Number of echinas currently in care: 2.

Echidnas taken into care in last quarter: 3.

Main issues affecting them: *Hit by car, attacked by dog.*

Number released last quarter: 1.

Peak season: *Spring/summer.*

Number of active carers: 2.

Highlights of past quarter: *We have one juvenile still in care, the other two that came in were adults. The juvenile, Jan, was caught by a dog and had nasty wounds to back and leg. After some veterinary care and intensive nursing, this echidna is now nearly healed and ready for release.*

Current requirements: *I am looking for a deep plastic tub, approximately*

80cm high x 80cm square or round, suitable for indoor or outdoor use to house extra large echidnas that may come into care as the latest one, Zoe who weighed in at a healthy 4.5kg can climb out of my large echidna tubs.



Marine turtle report – Libby Edge 0417 642 815

Number of turtles currently in care: *None in care at present.*

Turtles taken into care in the last quarter: *One.*

Main issues affecting them: *Float fishing line and marine debris.*

Number of turtles released in the last quarter: 3

Peak season for care requirement: *Winter/Spring.*

Number of active carers: 20.

Highlights of past quarter: *Releasing three turtles we successfully rehabilitated over several months.*

Current requirements: *Nil.*



Macropod report – Kate Purvis 0408 191 277

Number of animals currently in care: *25 Agile Wallabies, 9 Eastern Grey Kangaroos and 3 Proserpine Rock Wallabies (37 in total).*

Animals taken into care in the last quarter: 27.

Main issues affecting these animals: *Hit by car, dog chase and found abandoned.*

Number of animals released in the last quarter: 13.

Peak season for care requirement: *All year round.*

Number of active carers: 10.

Highlights of past quarter: *This quarter saw our very successful, first ever soft release of Proserpine Rock Wallabies. After having to postpone this for months to allow tree cover to regenerate after Cyclone Debbie, we were very happy to see Dougie, Aimee, Allana and a baby born in care, back where they belong...wild and free! Considerable preparation went into this project, in consultation with QPWS, due to specific considerations when dealing with release of an endangered species. Many thanks to Sandy Cleeland and Brodie Reynolds who have both*

played a major role in the raising and release of this very special little family of macropods!

Current requirements: *We will be looking to pull down, move and re-erect a large chain mesh macropod enclosure around mid July...this will be a big job and help would be very much appreciated. I could always do with a hand picking up poo, mowing, raking, etc in the half-way pen if anyone is keen. :)*



SLO Reports *(continued)*

Small mammal report – Jacqui Webb

Number of animals currently in care: 1.

Animals taken into care in the last quarter: 2.

Main issues affecting these animals: Most of the quolls that come into care are usually just found in odd places and need relocating.

Number of animals released in the last quarter: 0.

Number of active carers: 5.

Highlights of past quarter: The little Quoll was doing really well in care until it sustained an injury which he is still recovering from. We wish you a speedy recovery Simba.

Current requirements: We need to hear from any of our carers who are interested in caring for baby bandicoots, native rats and mice.



Everyone loves a barbie!

Our loyal volunteers have a lot of fun working at sausage sizzles, and of course the fundraising and information sharing is vital.

Sausage sizzles provide a great opportunity to connect with the community, recruit volunteers and importantly, encourage kindness to our local wildlife; all while raising much needed funds.

We are heartened by the general show of compassion by the community towards our native wildlife as so many people stop to share their stories and seek information on how they can help to make a difference.

Fauna Rescue Whitsundays is most grateful for the equipment provided by Bunnings which enables us to just turn up on the day, with our food, have fun, raise funds and share as much information as we can.

Upcoming Bunnings barbie dates: 18 March, 15 April, 11 May, 9 June, 24 June, 22 July.



New billboard raising awareness

FRW has funded a new wildlife rescue billboard on the Peak Downs Highway to help raise awareness for injured wildlife.

We also have a few smaller signs installed by TMR on the highway.

These join the other billboards and signs already installed to help remind locals and visitors of the vital service we offer.

These billboards were carefully chosen for maximum exposure by our volunteers from a very small selection of **available** billboards.



School education program teaching kindness to our next generation! - Barb Adamson

Thank you to Gingi Johnson for helping with the program, and as I semi retire I would love to say a **huge thank you** to Lorelle who has been a teammate for over four years. Nothing is too much trouble for her and she gets into those hot costumes no matter the weather.

We have been a great team and for the past three years have seen 1000 kids each year by attending most of the schools and pre schools here and Bowen and all of the expos we have been invited to.

Lorelle and I did our last gig together a couple of weeks ago when we did our Wendy Wallaby play for the pre school kids in Cannonvale.

Four weeks ago I was asked to talk to grade two kids and when I asked how many bags I would need (*thinking between 20 and 30*) she said about 100, as it will be all the grade two kids in Cannonvale State School. I had four days to pull a program together and then when I got there was told there was some grade one kids that had to come as well!

The session for 140 kids went really well. Good job I have a sense of humour and was able to round up another 40 bags in the following week. The kids were really good kids.

Wendy Wallaby and Max Magpie at Cannonvale School expo 2015



Upcoming events

Dates and presenters may change if the stated time, presenter or venue is not available.

APRIL 8TH

Members Information – Back to Basics half-day workshop – 9am–noon

Basic Birds with Jacqui Webb half-day workshop – 1pm–4pm

Parks and Wildlife – Shute Harbour Rd, Jubilee Pocket

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea catered.

RSVP 4th April Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

MAY 6TH

AGM – 10am

Parks and Wildlife – Shute Harbour Rd, Jubilee Pocket

Morning tea catered.

RSVP 4th May Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

JUNE 2ND – 3RD

Bats: Presenter Connie Kerr two-day workshop

Parks and Wildlife – Shute Harbour Rd, Jubilee Pocket

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea catered.

RSVP 31st May Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

AUGUST 11TH – 12TH

Dr. Anne Fowler - INFO TO BE ANNOUNCED - check www.frw.org.au

Parks and Wildlife – Shute Harbour Rd, Jubilee Pocket

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea catered.

RSVP Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER - date to be decided - check www.frw.org.au

Members Information – Back to Basics half-day workshop – 9am–noon

Basic Birds with Jacqui Webb half-day workshop – 1pm–4pm

Padaminka Walkerston

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea catered.

RSVP date to be decided Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

OCTOBER 14TH

Members Information – Back to Basics half-day workshop – 9am–noon

Basic Birds with Jacqui Webb half-day workshop – 1pm–4pm

Parks and Wildlife – Shute Harbour Rd, Jubilee Pocket

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea catered.

RSVP 10th October Lola 4946 1281 melo@mackay.net.au

Welcome to our new members

We are very grateful to welcome new members Jodi and Ella Harker, Joanne Barrett and Rachel Hackett - thank you all for becoming valued FRW volunteers.

Volunteering for our native wildlife can be very rewarding and interesting. We are more looking for volunteers to rescue or transport animals, answer the hotline, care, construct caring facilities, do presentations, sew pouches, help with marketing, grant writing and run workshops. Support and training is provided for all positions.

Contact FRW on 07 4947 3389, frwsecretary@gmail.com or fill out the membership form on www.frw.org.au.

Important info regarding contacting Lola

When needing needing to contact Lola please always ring the home line **4946 1281** or email melo@mackay.net.au

As Lola doesn't have mobile reception at home she often does not receive messages and texts.

First thing in the morning or after 3pm are the best times to call, and she's available most weekends.



Free items available from Lola:

- Towels
- Blankets
- Pillow cases
- Pouches
- Paper towels rolls
- Sheets
- First aid supplies: I.V. fluids, syringes, needles, instruments and dressings

Loan items available from Lola:

- Library books
- Stocked rescue baskets: (two towels, a heat source, first aid supplies, and a blanket)
- Cages
- Animal housing
- Porta cots (for ambulant joeys)
- Mammal pouches



Lola's Wishlist!

Donations these items, or the funds for the purchase of:

Stationary items

- DL envelopes and stamps
- Reams of A4 paper
- Ink for printer cartridges

Caring items

- Paper towels
- Cages and aviaries
- Carry baskets
- Animal housing
- Heavy rope and sturdy logs for possum aviaries

Education materials

- Brochures and booklets
- Writing materials for children's education packs (pens, pencils, rulers, erasers etc.)
- Manuals for carers

Stay up-to-date with FRW Volunteers' facebook page!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/865887710182056/?ref=group_header

(click the www address to go to)

Contact info

COMMITTEE

President – Jacqui Webb
T: 4947 3308 0427 176 966
E: jacqui.webb@bigpond.com

Vice President – Lola Mudie
(Membership, food supplies, events and merchandising officer)
T: 4946 1281
E: melo@mackay.net.au

Treasurer – Michelle Hosking
T: 0407 386 601
E: jormonau@gmail.com

Secretary – Ian Gottke
T: 4966 8020 or 0478 618 859
E: frwsecretary@gmail.com

Committee – Andrea Gottke
T: 4966 8020 or 0478 618 859
E: a_igottke@westnet.com.au

Committee – Monika Gabor
T: 4946 7178 or 0439382366
E: monikagabor34@yahoo.com.au

Committee – Neil Cutten
T: 0429 425 773
E: sniper.neil@gmail.com

CO-ORDINATORS

Sausage sizzles – Barb McLennan
T: 4946 6400

Food supplies, bugs and small rodents – Linden Baker
T: 0429 651 962
E: james.chisolm@bigpond.com

Food and first aid supplies, (Wombaroo products) – Lola Mudie
T: 4646 1281
E: melo@mackay.net.au

Publications and website editor Cathi Zanevra
T: 0419 922 426
E: cathi@whistlingmoose.com.au

SNAKE RELOCATORS

Neil Cutten (fee charged) – 0429 425 773
Kylie Gray (fee charged) – 0424 456 254

SPECIES LIASON OFFICERS

Small mammals, birds, raptors and echidnas – Jacqui Webb
T: 0427 176 966
E: Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com

Koalas – Ian Gottke
T: 4966 8020 or 0478 618 859
E: frwsecretary@gmail.com

Bats – Kylie Gray
T: 0424 456 254

Macropods – Kate Purvis
T: 0408 191 277
E: k8purvis2@gmail.com

Possum and gliders – Barbara Adamson
T: 4946 7572 0458 525 700
E: barbaraadamson@bigpond.com

Reptiles – Neil Cutten
T: 0429 425 773

Marine turtles – Libby Edge
Marine Turtle Hotline: 0456 826 228
T: 0417 642 815
E: libby@ecobargecleanseas.org.au

Vet clinics in the Whitsundays

Please note, we are not affiliated with or endorse any particular vet clinics, this information is provided for your reference and may change in accuracy.

NORTHERN WHITSUNDAYS REGION

BOWEN VET CLINIC – 156 Richmond Rd, Bowen. 4786 4864

BROLGAS REST VET CLINIC – 36 Don St, Bowen. 4786 3166

CENTRAL WHITSUNDAYS REGION

GLEN'S MOBILE VET SERVICE – 0433 554 097

WHITSUNDAY VET SURGERY – 29 Sugarloaf Rd, Cannon Valley. 4946 1028

ORCHID VALLEY VET SURGERY – 58 Shute Harbour Road, Cannonvale. 4946 1631

PROSERPINE VET SURGERY – 11 Waite Street, Proserpine. 4945 1878

SOUTHERN WHITSUNDAYS REGION

VALLEY VET SURGERY MACKAY – 36 Brisbane St, Mackay. 4951 3799

NORTHERN BEACHES VET HOSPITAL – 1/15 Carl St, Rural View. 4954 6258

BETTER PET VETS – 16 Central Dr, Andergrove. 4955 6000

VALLEY VET SURGERY WALKERSTON – 14 Dutton St, Walkerston. 4959 2099

STABLER AND HOWLETT VET SURGEONS – 31-33 Peak Downs Hwy, Ooralea. 4952 2522

ANDERGROVE VET CLINIC – 195a Bedford Road, Andergrove. 4955 6438

PERT, PERRY & EVENS VET SURGERY – 58 Nebo Rd, Mackay. 4957 6992

CLERMONT VET SURGERY – 29 Laglan Road Clermont. 4983 1172

SARINA VET SURGERY – 83 Broad St, Sarina. 4956 1897

BETTER PETS VETS NORTHERN BEACHES – Shop 1 10 Elmeo Rd, Rural View. 1300 238 837



What FRW does

- We rescue, rehabilitate and release sick, injured or orphaned wildlife as appropriate and in accordance with the Carer's Code of Practice requirements.
- We promote and support endangered wildlife.
- We encourage and support efforts to protect the natural environment and its inhabitants.
- We work with other animal rescue groups, vets, QPWS, Council and other environmental protection groups.
- We encourage the valuable participation of members of our community in all of our aims and activities.
- Through our school and community education project we give informative talks and displays to local schools and any other interested community organisations.
- We provide a 24 hour wildlife hotline services. This service is manned by our volunteers on a roster system and is a valuable community aid as well as being instrumental in animals receiving timely and appropriate care.

Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference

Since 2003 Australian wildlife carers have gathered to meet, learn and share their experiences. Each conference has been held in a different location, and has featured presenters from around Australia and beyond. The goal is to help raise the standard of wildlife care in Australia through education and collaboration. The conferences are the only national conferences delivered for and by wildlife carers.

The conference gives carers the opportunity to learn from each

other and from experts in the field including researchers and veterinarians. Topics range from the latest hands-on treatment for wounds to emergency response, fund-raising and lobbying.

If you are interested in going to the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference (www.awrc.org.au/) in Sydney this year fill in the form sent out with this newsletter and you can go in the draw for funding towards costs of the conference.