

WildNews



ISSUE 81

Education

**A very hungry
Possum**

News

**What are you
waiting for?**

Discover...

All News & Events

 **Species Coordinators' Reports**



President's Report



By Karen Scott

Welcome to another edition of Wildcare's regular newsletter, WildNews. A very warm welcome to those of you that have joined Wildcare in the past few months. I hope that you find your journey into 'everything wild-life' is a rewarding one.

Wildcare Australia Inc

PO Box 2379
Nerang Mail Centre,
Qld 4211

24 X 7 Emergency Phone
Service **(07) 5527 2444**

www.wildcare.org.au

Whilst the cooler months have brought a slight reprieve for some of our volunteers, it has sadly been busier than ever for others. It seems as though some of our bird species got their timing wrong and starting breeding well before Spring started, as seems to be more common as each year passes. Sadly, the past few months have also seen a huge increase in the number of 'trauma calls'. The shorter days bring more traffic at dawn and dusk when our wildlife is still actively moving around. This has unfortunately resulted in an increase in the number of macropods being hit by cars, many of which have not survived their injuries. The past three weeks have seen our Gold Coast trauma carers attending these calls every single morning. My sincerest thanks to those volunteers who respond to these calls at all times of the day and night. I feel blessed that we have such a remarkable team of dedicated volunteers. It is not an easy job; it is emotionally and physically taxing but your willingness to undertake the role is a testament to your compassion for animal welfare. A special thank you to Ashley Fraser and Rachel Lyons who have responded to a large number of calls in their local area recently.

Sadly, the past few months have also taken a tremendous toll on our local koala populations. We have seen an increase in koalas hit by cars as well as quite a

few dispersing young getting into dangerous situations. A special thank you to Natalie and Jasmine Rasmussen and Jan and Brenda Nilsson who have helped tremendously over the past few months with koala rescues.

Please remember when driving, particularly in wildlife areas, to remain vigilant. Obeying the speed limit and remaining observant when driving will provide a better opportunity to see wildlife near the road. Native animals don't have much road sense and sometimes they are accidentally hit. Please remember to report injured wildlife through to the Wildcare Hotline on 07 5527 2444 or the RSPCA Queensland 1300ANIMAL (1300 264 625). For our wildlife volunteers, stay safe and sane this Spring.

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OUR MISSION

To protect and enhance the environment by providing a high standard of rescue, care and rehabilitation for sick, injured, orphaned and displaced native fauna with the goal of successful release into the natural environment.

EMAILS

enquiries@wildcare.org.au
education@wildcare.org.au
news@wildcare.org.au
records@wildcare.org.au

MAIN COMMITTEE

President Karen Scott
Vice-President Lewis McKillop
Treasurer Tracy Paroz
Secretary Caitlin Raynor
Committee Members Rachel Lyons,
Brigitte Blakeway

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Eleanor Hanger & Deborah Bianchetto.
Submissions can be sent to
news@wildcare.org.au
Cover photo: Freepik

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A Warm Welcome to our New Members

Wildcare Australia welcomed the following new members:

David Pettigrew; Natalie and Glen Smith; Jacky Overington McKenner and Tim Morrison; Ann Maree Pantoja; Glenda McCully and family; Cathrin Thodock; Deborah Keay; Kate Duncan; Robyn Willis and Sally Cooper; Will Dock; Daemon Singer; Charmaine and Daniel Bell and family; Lucie Klijn; Renai De Martin and Elisha Sanderson; Michele McCarthy; Sara Hicks; Tennille Bankes; Starr and Nick Ladell; Steve and Maree Rowell and family; Karla Jarvis; Camilla Anning; Grace Hornstra; Samantha and Deborah French; Tiffany Collins; Mariska Kerkhoff; Kayla Kraut; Joan Lewis; Warrick and Dominika McCorkell; Bronwen Zande; Belinda White; Joanne and Rachel Slattery; Susanna Doyle; Sam Delve and Delphine Legros; Joseph Wheelhouse; Tully Boundy-Collis; Sigi Edwards; Jamie Pappas; Bernardine Warmerdam, Hendrik Van Broekhuizen and family; Tommi Okita and Christian Purnell; Sebastian van Osta and Brent Taylor; Isobel Cash; Kelly Stroud and family; Rhonda Welch; Melissa Johnson; Coralee Edwards; Lee Gear; Donna and Dion Warwick; Amanda Carter; Rosemary Abraham; Kerrieann and Ireland Tivey; Jessica Randall; Jennifer McDonnell; Stacey Blanch and family; Peter Cahill and Ann Haines; Emma Morris; Katrina and Brenton Wills and family; Janis Nicklas; Rosalinde Brinkman; Laura Fernandez; Heidi Cuschieri; Amelia Soutar; Leah Soutar, Martin Stevenson and family; Karen McCarthy; Ben and Debbie Murray; Anne Hornstra; Deborah Anderson; Amy and Philip Keed and family; Georgie Braun; Janet Leishman; Tabitha Brown; Chris and Kerrie Harris and family; Angela Ison; Meghan Halverson; Candy Gambin; Stephane Long; Kristie Woodford; Lainie Grigg, Ralf Regeer and family; Sarah Gleeson; Dan and Janette Haddon; Bo Svenning; Joshua Pemberton; Amanda Edmunds; Mackenzie Congreve; Meg Jackson; Stephanie Da Donesca; Shane and Rachel Greenaway and family; Ashleigh Carney; Tricia Harrod; Jason and Karen Laming and family; Sonya and Mark Sanders; Aleta McGrath; Prue Gillespie; Graeme and Lisa McKellar; Jaimi Raveneau; Melanie Hilder; Rod Smith; Angela Blake; Jo Garner; Talitha Shaw; Jeffrey and Desley Salmon; Brooke Baker; Scott Dimond; Greta Hayhoe; Alisha Sherden; Elise Hilder; Colleen Blums; Courtney Wright; Jack Williams; Lauren Leggate, Ken Roney and family; Julie and Emilee Wood.

By joining Wildcare Australia you are demonstrating your commitment to the welfare of Australia's native animals. Please don't hesitate to get involved in this, your organization. If you are unsure of where your personal niche may be, contact us and I'm sure we will be able to help you. We hope you have a long and happy association with Wildcare Australia.

Thank you to all those members who have renewed their Wildcare membership subscription for another year. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

NEXT ISSUES SUBMISSIONS DATES

Issue 82 : 15th December

Issue 83 : 15th March

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Wildcare Australia or of the editors.



Education Report

The second semester of our 2018 education program is well under way and we encourage members to avail themselves of the opportunity to attend workshops not only to upgrade their skills, but also to meet fellow carers and share ideas.

Workshops are not only of value to carers and those working in whatever capacity, in the wildlife industry, but also to those with an interest in wildlife, the problems they face, and ways to mitigate those problems. With a better understanding of wildlife and the very different needs of different species, we can speak with more authority on their behalf.

Many of our workshops are filling quickly, so it is important that you register your interest as early as possible. We have been able to schedule additional workshops for some species but even those have filled quickly. We do have limited resources with regards to venues so it is best not to wait until the last minute.

Please remember that if you can no longer attend a workshop, pay the trainer and your fellow-volunteers the courtesy of cancelling your registration as early as possible. Many of our workshops have a waiting list and your consideration in this regard is appreciated.

Permit Requirements

A reminder that all members licensed under Wildcare are required to attend relevant training each year for the species that they are caring for. The Wildcare permit runs in line with your membership (July to June of the following year). We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last minute to fulfill your training requirements as you may not be able to secure a booking. Also remember that some workshops are only offered once or twice a year.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

We often receive requests from members asking for exemption of the training requirements based on their current or past studies through TAFE or other wildlife organisations. Whilst we appreciate that many of these programs are a great opportunity for you to further your knowledge, we have no means of assessing the content of such study programs. An important aspect of attending the Wildcare training workshops is that you will meet the Species Coordinators who will be mentoring you as well as provide an opportunity to network with other local carers. They also provide you with a clear guideline as to Wildcare's procedures for that particular species which you are expected to uphold. These connections are important in your journey to become a great wildlife carer.

If you are unsure about what training you need to complete to maintain your Permit, please contact Karen Scott via email at karen@wildcare.org.au.

Being Prepared

By Karen Scott

Do you travel at night?

Maybe you are on the road heading to or from work when it is dark?

Maybe you periodically go out for dinner, to the movies or to visit friends or family?

Are you prepared if you found an injured animal?

Do you have a torch in your vehicle?

One of the most important elements of helping injured wildlife at night, is the ability to keep an eye on the animal until appropriate help arrives. Surprisingly, most people do not keep a torch in their vehicles, which makes this difficult to do. Whilst our fancy smart-phones are a treat with their built-in torch feature, the light generated is not sufficient to track an injured animal that may disappear into the dark.

It is recommended that anyone who travels at night should have a reliable hand-held torch in their vehicle – not only in the case of a wildlife emergency but also in case of a human emergency or your vehicle breaks down.

Invest in a good quality torch with a long battery life and keep a spare set of batteries in your glove compartment. Many of our rescuers have found that a good quality headlamp is the most useful and most relied upon item in their rescue kit as this frees both your hands. Re-chargeable models are ideal as even though the original purchase cost will be higher, the ongoing expense of replacing batteries is not required.

Perhaps an item for your Christmas Wish List?

NaturallyGC Ambassadors

In this issue we feature two young people, Jasmine Rasmussen and Patrick Brabant, who have been appointed Naturally Gold Coast ambassadors for 2017-2018. Congratulations to both of you.

Jasmine and Patrick are passionate about protecting the natural environment and work tirelessly to educate and encourage others to do the same. As Naturally Gold Coast ambassadors they are well placed to further the aims of the Naturally Gold Coast program, to foster an appreciation of the Gold Coasts wonderful natural assets and the importance of preserving them for present and future generations.

NaturallyGC workshops and activities are for people interested in connecting with and exploring our city's wonderful natural environment.

For more information visit: cityofgoldcoast.com.au/naturallygcmember

NaturallyGC ambassadors

Enviro Warrior Patrick Brabant

Hi, my name is Patrick but you can also call me the Enviro Warrior.

It is fantastic that the City has the NaturallyGC program and I am honoured to be one of its ambassadors. I am passionate about protecting our natural environment and encourage everyone to get involved with the NaturallyGC program events.

Through taking simple actions and making small changes everyone can help make a difference to protect and restore the unique and diverse Gold Coast environments. By taking part in the various NaturallyGC activities you will be part of that action, such as, planting trees, beachcare regeneration and many various workshops to learn about everything from frogs to how to grow native plants.

I am really looking forward to taking part in some of the events and posting blogs about them throughout the year. The environment needs us all to be nature advocates and be part of the positive change. To learn more about our amazing natural environment follow my blogs.

W patsendangeredanimals.com
F facebook.com/envirowarrior



Wildlife Warrior Jasmine Rasmussen

Hi, my name is Jasmine Rasmussen and I'm from Wildcare Australia.

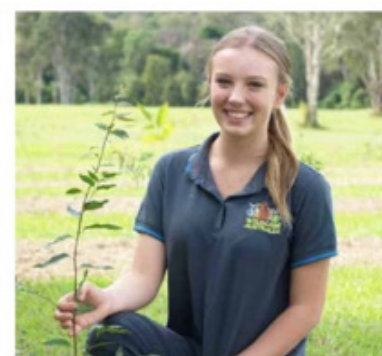
Becoming an ambassador for NaturallyGC is an incredible opportunity to turn the passion that I have for our local environment into widespread action.

On platforms like this one, the youth of Australia is able to unite for the cause of preserving and regenerating the ecosystems that make our land home to thousands of species.

Too often we underestimate the impact of the little things we do, which can be used every day to make a difference to what we as Australians should cherish – the wonder of our natural environment.

I look forward to not only connecting you to our environment and native wildlife, but connecting with all of you to help make a change for the better. So join myself and Patrick on our journey to conserve our environment.

W cityofgoldcoast.com.au/naturallygc





What are you waiting for?

By Karen Scott

One of the most enjoyable aspects of my volunteer work with Wildcare, is training new members at our Orientation and Basic Wildlife Rescue workshop. We offer this training every two months or so and generally have 30-50 members in attendance each time.

My observations from these training sessions are that many of our new members are waiting until the 'ideal time' for them to become involved. Some members comment that they are undertaking their training ahead of time and hope to be able to get involved once their personal situation changes. Perhaps they are moving to a larger property, or waiting for their work situation to change, or perhaps when their children are older and more independent.

The reality at the moment is that there is only a very small percentage of new members that are actually signing up to become actively involved.

But did you know....

- Most of our wildlife volunteers work full time and contribute periodically on weekends or in the evenings, when they are able to. You are not expected to be available every weekend or evening or to be able to accept every rescue call, but helping with a simple rescue or transportation once a week in your local area has a profound effect on our wildlife. That could potentially mean that you could help 52 animals a year!
- Most of our members do not live on large acreage properties in the bush. Many of our members live in residential houses in urban areas and many also live in units. Although this may limit what species you can rehabilitate at home, there are many species that only require small enclosures that will not take up too much space.
- Many members are in the rental market and do not own their own homes. Renting does not prohibit you from rescuing wildlife. You may be restricted with caring for certain species and you would need to discuss this with your rental agent. As sick and injured wildlife should be always contained in appropriate enclosures/aviaries, the risk of property damage is minimal.
- The financial cost of rescuing and caring for wildlife can be considerable but you will never be asked to care for something for which you are not financially able. Several local Councils offer funding opportunities for wildlife volunteers to claim expenses relating to their volunteer work which can help with the purchase of equipment. Wildcare also has a

selection of equipment that can be loaned to members. We also frequently have donated items, such as pouches, which are available to distribute to active members. If the financial cost of caring for wildlife is a hindrance to you starting out, please speak with us.

- Have you considered offering your assistance in areas other than the rescue and care of wildlife? We always need help at workshops, with administrative tasks and at wildlife displays and expos. The Wildcare Hotline is a fantastic way to get involved and make a direct contribution towards helping our wildlife

REMEMBER - All of our wildlife volunteers started out with limited knowledge and even less confidence. Our Hotline volunteers will never ask you to undertake a rescue that is outside of your experience or confidence. With some basic knowledge from attending the Wildcare training courses, you should be able to jump in and start doing simple rescues and transports. Confidence will come with time and experience. There is a whole team of people behind you waiting to offer you help and support – from our Species Coordinators, Hotline Volunteers, Committee members and wildlife hospital staff and volunteers.

So, what are you waiting for? Jump in and get involved.... You may just surprise yourself!

There was a joey in the Pouch

"While traveling to work one morning in July I passed a wallaby on the side of the road. As I drove past I noticed the belly seemed quite large, so I called 1300 Animal to seek assistance. The lady on the phone asked me to check to see if there was a joey and to my equal sadness and joy, as I walked towards mum who was deceased, I could see movement inside.

As the lady was coaching me on what to do and how to remove baby, a gentleman walked up from a nearby house and offered to take both mum and baby to the local vet to reduce the stress of removal for the baby joey.

The day after this I sent in my Wildcare membership, so that I could learn more about what to do in situations like this and when I can, I tell family and friends about this day so that they too will think twice about checking for signs of life instead of just driving past."

By Leah Soutar

The Importance of Understanding Nests when Rehabilitating Birds: Kingfishers and Kookaburras

By Allison Roberts

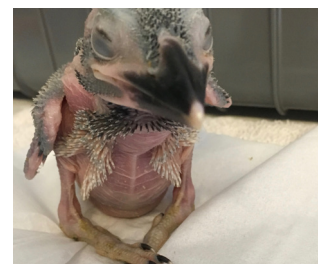
When nestlings come into rehabilitation it is always important to try to replicate their normal nesting situation to the best of your ability.

Nests offer the nestlings security and reduce stress, but they also provide the best growing environment for that species. Most of the species I raise regularly are honeyeaters and small insectivores, which have round cup nests of different sizes, so I have quite the collection of knitted round nests and various lined cups and baskets that I use, depending on the species. These nests work quite well for the noisy miners and other honeyeaters as well as the willie wagtails and silvereyes.

However, last year I was given two young kookaburras to raise. Now I know that kookaburras use hollows, but at the peak of baby bird season when I received these two, that fact was at the back of my mind. I prepared them a large basket style nest. Now the basket had a flat bottom, but I lined it with a hand washer which altered the shape to more cup-like. A couple of days later when I was changing the kookaburra's nest tissues and inspecting the birds I realized I had made a dangerous error. Both chicks had developed bad posture in a surprisingly short span of time. Kookaburras and kingfishers actually stand much earlier than other forest birds and should stand with good erect posture independently (See Photo 1). Both of these two nestlings were leaning and crossing their legs. The better of the two is shown in Photo 2 as the other could not stand without being braced. I was shocked, very upset, and knew there was no time to lose, as if their development continued in this way they would be more and more deformed and crippled as they grew.

I immediately contacted someone with more experience with kingfishers and sent photos of the leaning birds to confirm my fears. Yes, the curved shape of the artificial nest was to blame, so they were moved to the floor of my incubator and supported into a more natural standing posture. I then did physiotherapy with them at each feed to help them regain their proper posture and balance. Since I caught the problem quickly, remedied the housing problem, and worked with them to get their proper posture back, the birds eventually made a full recovery. However, it reminded me that birds are so very diverse both in their appearance and also in their requirements. When you take on a new species, it is critical to take the time to learn about that species and review what you know. Even if you are a coordinator, it is a good idea to talk to others who are more experienced with that species. Rehabilitation is a constant learning process at every level.

Rehabilitation Tip: Kingfishers and Kookaburra nestlings need to be raised on a flat surface without any curvature to promote healthy posture. This replicates the bottom on the nest hollows where they are raised in the wild.



Coordinator Reports

KOALAS

By Karen Scott

To say that the past few months have been devastating for our local koala population is an understatement.

The cooler, drier months generally result in more unwell koalas being rescued and we have seen a number of these cases. Sadly though, it seems as though "trauma season" started much earlier this year resulting in a tremendously high number of koalas being hit by cars and attacked by dogs. As the koala population diminishes, this surely is going to have an impact on numbers particularly when most of those rescued have been otherwise healthy, nondiseased animals.

Due to the high numbers of koalas coming into care and the need to have koalas transported for care and release between the vari-

ous wildlife hospitals, we recently put a call out to ask for assistance from members to help with transportation.

Thank you to everyone who has responded as this has been a tremendous help. Assisting with the transportation of our precious wildlife is a great way to contribute towards helping them.

Despite the high numbers of koalas coming into care, thankfully we have also had the pleasure of releasing some back to the wild following their rehabilitation. Tsuki and Bobo were both hand-raised by two of our wildlife volunteers and released back to their original rescue site. All the while, Kev is enjoying some R'nR with one of our wildlife volunteers while he is treated for Chlamydia.



Tsuki in care



Bobo

Kev

REPTILES *By Brigitte Blakeway*

Firstly, a big thank you to all the reptile carers who have helped us over the last season and communicated with the coordinators, working together to rescue, rehabilitate and release our rascally reptiles. You are all special and as coordinators, we appreciate the tireless hard work and effort you have contributed to healing and helping our reptiles. Thank you all.

Cool nights and crisp mornings are now upon us, as I said goodbye to Autumn and I reluctantly welcomed Winter (I swear I have morphed into a reptile – the cold makes me long for the Bahamas or at least somewhere the temperature is in the high 20's) As the reptiles out there were trying to fill their tummies and seek out a nice thermoregulated brumation spot, some were still finding themselves in a spot of trouble and coming into care.

Most of the time we don't like to have our reptiles brumate (a behaviour similar to hibernation in mammals) in captivity, as it adds another long stint in a captive environment which brings its own unique challenges. In saying this, there are those that are still needing to be medicated, or are just starting on the road to recovery and have to remain in care over winter.

Keeping in contact with your coordinator over these months is vital to ensuring that these patients come through winter and are fighting fit to be released as soon as the weather warms up and the food sources are around.

Miss Piggy, the Green Tree Frog

He came into care with a very sore nose and needed a course of antibiotic medicine to make it better. Miss Piggy was off his food and was just not feeling very well. After a few weeks of tender loving care and some warm autumn sunshine he started to feel much better, his appetite returned and he will soon be ready to go back home.



POSSUMS *By Nat Rasmussen*

Spring has arrived early so it seems, and we are busier than ever with orphans. We have had a mix of everything; road traumas, those displaced due to loss of habitat, dog and cat attacks, rat poisonings and lots of cases of dermatitis. Everyone is doing their share which is making an extremely heavy workload seem a little less stressful.

As wildlife carers it is really important to remember that whilst we are tired and see very upsetting things, there are many positives in doing this. It will never get boring to watch something that we have rehabilitated have that second chance and be released. We all win some and lose some, but the successes make all of this chaos a little easier on the soul.

We also need to be aware that everyone has a life behind the wildlife care scene, and if someone is on edge or not as cooperative as usual, they may be having a stressful day. It is more important that we support each other on this journey, than find a reason to put each other down on what could already be a really hard day.

I believe we are all doing the best that we can with our possums and gliders, I'm very happy with the level of care that is being given to some very sick little creatures that are coming in and being pulled through.

Remember to refer to your notes if you have a problem, or contact your coordinators if you need advice. Facebook can be great for networking but as far as advice is concerned you may receive loads of feedback, but also some very confusing and conflicting information. It is far better to talk to your coordinator and get the right advice, rather than to fumble through and make mistakes. Coordinators don't necessarily have all the answers, but we do know many knowledgeable people whom we can ask and we will always get back to you, as soon as we sort out a solution.

On the Gold Coast, Alice and I are a good little team. If you can't get on to one of us, the other one will be there to help.

Try to get some sleep throughout this crazy season. If we lean on each other we will get there. Thank you for everything you do to help out.





Little Rossi

By Kerry Johnston

Little Rossi, a rock wallaby, was found on the ground in February. He was beautifully furred and bright. We never will know why he was found on the ground. Did his mum reject him because there was something wrong?

His first week in care was tricky but then he picked up and thrived. He was different from other rock wallabies in that he never liked to leave my side. He would not sit in a pouch in a basket, he had to sit on, or with me. He was my constant companion.

Eventually he had to go outside and seemed to enjoy his time in the enclosure, but was always delighted to come back in and sit with mum, preferably on my shoulder.

Unfortunately, in July, he died from stress myopathy. I had been leaving him in his enclosure for short periods after dark to get him ready for release, as he was of an age to be left out. We don't know what caused his stress and will never know. We did nothing wrong. I have lost others in care, we all do, but this one will stay with me.

The life of a wildlife carer is full of joys and sorrows; however I think the joys far outweigh the sorrows.



A Very Hungry Possum

By Eleanor Hanger

I will tell you a funny story, which reminded me of the book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle (for ages 0 – 4 years). Have you read it?

My experience with a possum called Luna, whom I released, reminded me of it and this was a bit of a surprise, as the possums reared by Luna's carer were very well brought up, ate their native vegetation with relish and didn't like me at all.

So, with apologies to Eric Carle and a bit of poetic licence, here is the tale of her first four nights of freedom.

On the first night she ate all the African violet flowers. On the second night she ate all the strawberry flowers, some tomato leaves and a little oregano. On the third night she polished off the rest of the oregano, the remaining tomato plants and a geranium. On the fourth night she ate all the parsley, mint and kale.

What will she eat next? Well, whatever it is, I'm sure she won't turn into a butterfly, and hopefully she doesn't have stomach ache!

Luna's trail of destruction reminded me of a child let loose in a lolly shop. I couldn't help smiling, though not surprisingly, John, who grows these things, didn't seem to think it was quite so amusing.



Common Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)
Note the tail is used as a fifth limb and, unlike the koala, the possum climbs down head first.

Mature Trees

Two beautiful, mature trees found in the Gold Coast hinterland. How many of these do you see in our forests? Most fell to the chain saws over a century ago and ongoing clearing is ensuring that few will attain this age and stature in the future.



Photos: Kirby Roulstone (Earthstone Restorations)

Observations of an Enthusiastic Naturalist

By Eleanor Hanger

On one of the bush tracks is a jumping ants' nest, fiercely guarded by a watchman who calls for reinforcements from within at the slightest hint of disturbance. The entrance to the nest is about the size of a five cent piece, so is easily seen and avoided by those in the know.

It was noticed about a week before Cyclone Debbie was on the radar, that the entrance had been sealed. Obviously the ants became aware of the pending weather event well before we did and made preparations for the deluge.

The system moved south of us at some time after midnight on a date, which I failed to note, and the following morning the ant colony reopened the entrance and were busily engaged in restoration work.

If they can do it, why can't we?

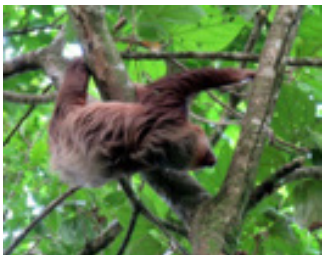
Costa Rica, a small Central American country sitting neatly between Panama and Nicaragua, may have its economic and social problems, albeit not nearly as severe as some of its neighbours, but in many respects it puts our country to shame. It has set an admirable goal of becoming the first carbon neutral country by 2021. Its energy is 100% sustainably sourced, using hydro-electric power, wind and solar power. More than 25% of the country is protected for its natural assets and extraordinarily rich biodiversity.

Education is a priority and after the abolition of the military in 1949, more money was funnelled into education, health and social services.

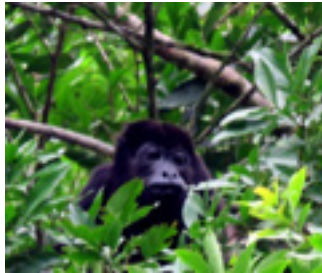
Costa Rica is on the move in more ways than one, straddling as it does the Pacific and Caribbean tectonic plates. It has more than 100 volcanos with around six or more active at any one time. Although it stretches from 8° to 11° latitude, its climate is tempered in many areas by the extremely mountainous nature of the country, which in turn results in an enormous variety of ecosystems, from cloud forests to tropical rainforests. These give rise to the exceptionally rich diversity of flora and fauna that present the visitor with a kaleidoscope of colour and beauty, the likes of which it is hard to find anywhere in the world and added to this is the pleasure one feels in the knowledge that the natural environment is valued and protected. Hopefully it will remain so into the future.



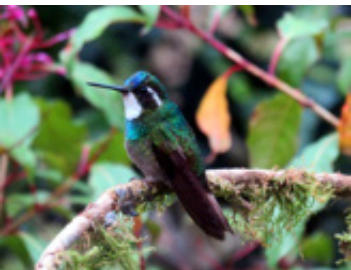
Rainbow Toucan



Three toed Sloth



Mantled Howler Monkey



White-throated Mountain Gem



Magnificent Hummingbird



Scarlet Macaw



Green Iguana



The magnificent Resplendent Quetzal

Grants

As a non-profit organization, we rely heavily on the generous support of the community as well as the funding opportunities provided by local councils, private businesses and corporations. Wildcare kindly acknowledges the following councils, businesses and individuals who have provided essential support for our volunteer work.

AND ALSO...



NOOSA CITY COUNCIL - Funding received of \$4,778 under the Noosa Council's Community Grants Program to help cover consumables associated with attending trauma calls in the Noosa area as well as construction of a mobile release aviary.



AURIZON COMMUNITY GIVING FUND - Funding received of \$3,890 to fund the purchase of a trailer and construction of a mobile release aviary to be used for all species of wildlife to enable successful release back to their natural habitat.



SUEZ - Our application for funding for a mobile release aviary, to the value of \$3,830, was successful under Suez's Community Grants program.



CITY OF GOLD COAST - Funding was received from the City of Gold Coast under their Community Grants Program to support Wildcare's work with wildlife rescue and rehabilitation in the Gold Coast region.

Mobile Release Aviaries



After many years of having mobile release aviaries on the Wildcare "Wish List", we were recently able to secure funding to have three aviaries constructed. Wildcare also contributed towards an additional aviary being constructed from donated funds.

Applications for grant funding were submitted to the Noosa City Council, Aurizon Community Giving Fund and Suez for a mobile release aviary. Never did we expect to be awarded funding from all three! Hence, our desire to have six mobile release aviaries got a great kick-start.

These aviaries provide wildlife carers with release opportunities for rehabilitated wildlife in the most appropriate habitats and at low densities, which will greatly increase their chance of survival following release. This also allows for members of the community to be more involved in the successful release of animals that they originally reported.

Thank you to Rachel Lyons for the many hours that she devoted to the funding applications, obtaining quotes, liaising with the trailer manufacturer and organizing the aviary construction, to finally getting the trailers 'on the road' and put into use. Thank you also to those members who helped Rachel get the trailers 'fitted out' with branches, ropes etc.

Support Wildcare's Members & Supporters



Our sincerest thanks to Greenleaf Images for the use of several of their beautiful photographs in our promotional material. The quality of the material would not be what it is, without the use of these professional images.



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Note: UQ Small Animal Clinic St. Lucia has now moved to the UQ Gatton Campus.