



CONTACT US

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Linda	0419 696310
John	0400 097960
Melissa	0407030457
Ray	0428156297
Beverley	0428156297

REGISTER HEADS

Bat Register

Dee	3206 8165
	0419105436

Macropod Registers

Anita	0428710684
Melissa	0407030457

Possum & Bird Registers

Linda	0419696310
Beverley	0428156297

Other Fauna/Reptile Registers

Linda	0419696310
Beverley	0428156297

Workplace Health & Safety

Vicki	0421347709
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RSPCA Wildlife Hospital
3426 9910

AUSTRALIA ZOO
Wildlife Emergency
1300 369652

Appointments
5436 2097

BIRO 0432507705
Seabirds 0404118301
Reptile Rescue
1300 878903



GRANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ONARR would like to take this opportunity to thank D.E.S.I. (Department of Environment, Science and Innovation) for their support of ONARR and its members through the funding of seven grants to purchase aviaries and food for our wildlife. Thank you, D.E.S.I.! Because of you, more wildlife will be rescued!

Presidents Report – September 2024

Hi everyone,

I cannot believe it is almost Christmas.

We have had our AGM and guess what? We are all back, for better or worse!!

We have applied for D.E.S.I. grants for carers who currently have animals in care – mainly food. Six of our members will be receiving new aviaries built to their own design and requirements. We discussed workshops with the first workshop on the 19th of October which is a bat workshop at 10.00. Venue to be confirmed.

Wires had also put a Pain Management course online which Bev is managing. Cost is \$20.

With the grant from D.E.S.I, we will be able to hold 4 workshops with Martin from Geckoes. Details will be forthcoming when they are booked.

Nicole Davies has been a big help with the new database, and we would like to thank her and Bev for the time they have spent on writing it.

Yours in caring

Linda D'Arcy

New DATABASE

We have a new database for recording our animals on. As you know, Susan ran the other database which used the History Sheets but due to the complexity of it, it was time for Susan to take a well-earned break and for ONARR to get something new. From now on, all members will record their own information into the database. It is not difficult and follows the format of your Caring Records. You will still need to keep your Caring Records as they are your personal information on each animal, and what you need to supply to D.E.S.I. should they come for a visit. The data base takes the place of the old History Sheets, and we will run workshops on how to use it. Further information will come out in an email shortly.

Upcoming Workshops

Flying fox workshop on the 19th October.
 Pain Management in Wildlife – WIRES online course \$20.
 December 8th
 Mammals with Martin
 At Beverley's place.

Species and numbers registered for the last quarter.

Possums

Brushtail Possums 17
 Ringtail Possums 17
 Mountain Brushtail Possums

Sugar Gliders

Squirrel Gliders

1

Feathertail Gliders

Other Fauna

Northern Brown Bandicoot 9
 Long Nosed Bandicoots

Birds

45 Rainbow Lorikeets
 8 Scaly Breasted L King Quail
 1 Willy Wagtail
 1 Noisy Miners
 90 White Throated HE
 1 Australian Magpies
 13 Ibis
 8 Bush stone curlew
 1 Wood ducklings
 50 Wood duck
 1 Little Corella
 1 Pale headed Rosella
 2 Kookaburras
 7 Crested pigeons
 2 Australasian Crow
 16 Masked Lapwings
 3 Pacific black duck
 2 Bronzewing pigeon
 5 Tawny Frogmouth
 9 Welcome swallows
 2 SC Cockatoo
 3 Butcher birds
 9 B.F. Honey Eater
 2 Currawong
 1 Galah
 1 Crested Tern

Macropods

Eastern Grey kangaroos 1
 Red necked wallabies 3
 Swamp Wallaby

Reptiles

Flying-foxes

1 Black Flying fox

D.E.S.I. Grants

Linda D – aviary extension
 Belinda K. – aviary
 Ruth & John – double aviary
 Charmain D. – 2 aviaries
 Beverley – aviary & Netting
 Randy & Judy – aviary, pen, netting
 Susan – netting for duck pen
 Food for wildlife – general
 Total = \$45,611.00



Interesting reading of the bird numbers this quarter – huge number of noisy miners in care and large numbers of ducklings! Rainbows are still high in numbers coming in, although a lot of these are young birds or nestlings. Masked lapwings are coming in, mainly found in drains.

Endangered Brushtails in central Australia

Perhaps you saw the report on television in regard to the relocation of some brushtail possums to Central Australia due to their extinction there? Well, this is happening not only in central Australia but also in our own backyard.

There has been a big problem out there in Central Australia with a lot of native animals, and the indigenous people have not seen brushtails in a very long time.

There have been too many feral animals – cats being the main problem - along with pigs, foxes, dingoes as well as wildfires which

When Geoff and I went to Kings Canyon, I could not believe the size of the cats up there. They are living on native animals. Talking to hunters there they told me when out spot lighting there are trees full of cats. No wonder there are no possums left.



There is a group trying to reintroduce the possum back - they have a place called New Haven Wildlife Park which is where they have released about a dozen possums. Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary is located in central Australia. Covering almost 262,000 hectares and located near the intersection of three central Australian bioregions, Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary is one of Australia's largest non-government protected areas. The native people call the possums pums and they held a special ceremony for the release of the possums. They hope to see more in the future.

Linda D'Arcy



Keep Calm and Carry On...KCACO the echidna puggle

Meet Kcaco – an acronym of Keep Calm and Carry On. I received an echidna into care who was carrying a puggle and was very excited by it. Not so excited the next morning when I found the puggle in the cold wet dirt. Mum echidna was snug and warm in the burrow, but the puggle was cold and wet. Not having raised one from such a small age, I rang RSPCA, where they had come from. Decision was made to give it go at raising Kcaco. Body temperature for a monotreme is lower than for other creatures we raise, so it was not a matter of keeping her warm but of keeping her cool. I decided on late lactation milk due to her weight (190 grams), and feeding commenced. One hour later after a quick wash down, Kcaco was put back to bed to await the next feed in 2 days!

Macropod Initial Care – Melissa Arkell

I have been reading an article written by the Dept of planning, industry and Environment NSW Government 2021. Guidelines for the initial treatment and care of rescued macropods. It has some great information that might help all carers.

Items that you could include in a rescue kit.

- Blankets and towels to cover animals. Dark colours are best.
- Multiple sized inner pouches and outer pouches
- Ropes, string or ties to secure the tops of bags
- Heat source, this is not always possible, but instant heat packs can be handy
- Wire cutters
- Sharp Scissors – you may need to cut the baby from a dead mum’s pouch and teat
- large nappy pins to pin a cut teat to the inner pouch is still in babies’ mouth
- head torch or alternate light source
- PPE such as a Hi-vis vest, gloves, sanitizer, disinfectant
- Bandages of all sizes

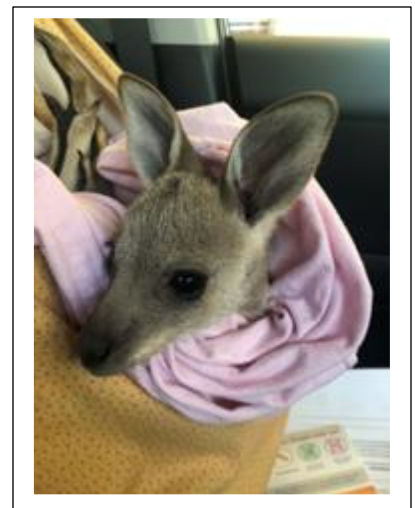
I keep this kit in a basket in the car. It suits possums and gliders too.

Capture Myopathy in Macropods has a high mortality rate. Please keep stress to a minimum. Avoid loud music and loud voices, pet noises and smells, smoking, excessive hot, cold or dramatic changes in temperature. When removing young Macropods from a pouch, once teat is secured, remove the joey with its back out of the pouch first. This prevents legs and tails being accidentally pulled or caught. If you are removing a larger joey, keep a firm hold on the base of the tail and direct their heads straight into your fabric pouch.

If you stop to check a Macropod that has been struck by a car, an elongated nipple suggests she has a joey that may have been thrown in the accident. If you are unable to locate the young, if you can, it is worth checking a few times a day over the next week. Young emerged joeys are still reliant on milk and may hang near the deceased mum for some time.

New to care babies may be dehydrates. Easy to see signs of dehydration include skin tenting, dry tacky gums and sunken eyes. Head trauma is a common occurrence in Motor Vehicle Hits. You might notice blood from the nostrils, mouth or ears. If a macropod will not suck, it may require medical attention as this may indicate head trauma. Irregular pupal size and tremors may also indicate a brain injury.

Always best to have a vet check to be sure joey is ok to come into care. Like all wildlife, their survival instinct is strong, and they will mask pain. This is trauma season. Please make sure you check any animals you see on the side of the road.



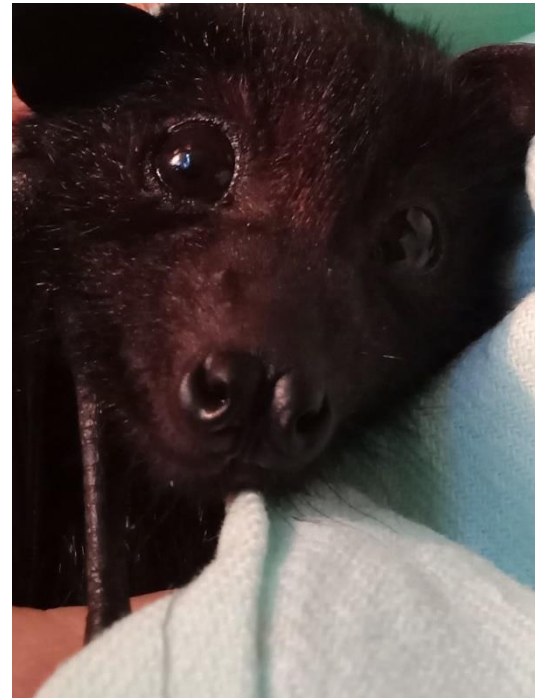
FLYING-FOX NEWS – Dee Smith

It's that time of year again when we make sure all our mumma rolls are ready to go, we have everything handy, wipes, lotion, bedding, scales, caliper/ruler, teats, dummies etc. I know one carer Nicole, who has been well prepared for some time.

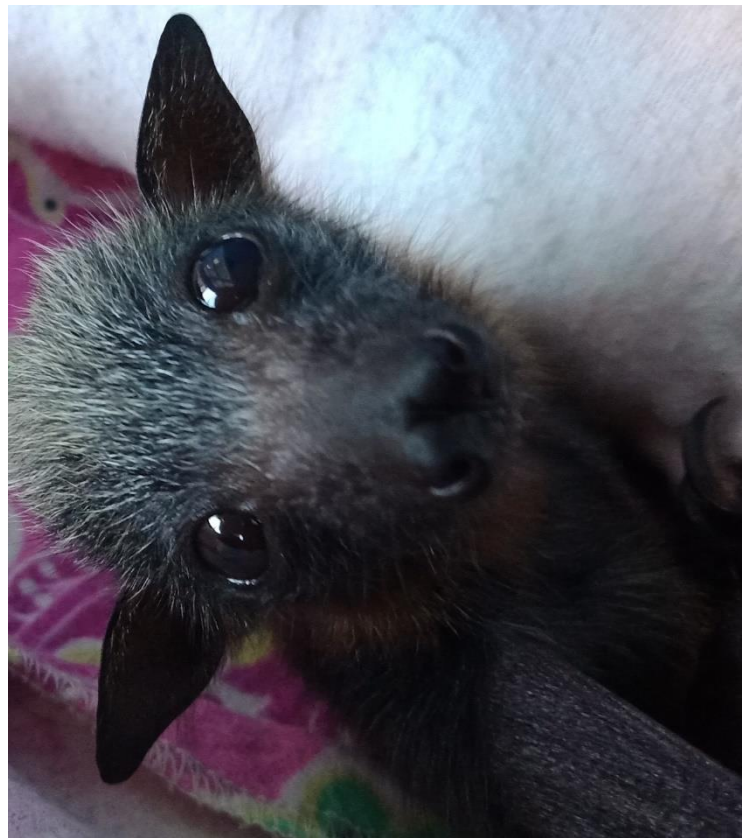
There haven't been that many rescues and all the bats seem to be in good condition so here's hoping the mum's are able to hang onto their pups.

Our Flying-Fox pup workshop will be held in October.

Just a selection of photos of pups from previous seasons.



Dee.



Logging in to the new website Members Only page....so that you can upload your records

Around six weeks ago, members were sent an email from the website, asking them to create a password and log in to the Members Only page. If you did not do that, then your time has logged out. A new email will have to sent to you to log in, and as it is timed, you will need to do it when received. The website tells me who has not yet logged in and created a password, and I am working on resending the link.

Have patience. I know who you are!!

Beverley

POISONOUS NATIVE PLANTS.

Dr Ross McKenzie is a retired veterinary pathologist and research scientist. He worked for many years in the QLD department of Primary Industry. He was also conjoint Senior lecturer in Toxicology at the University of Queensland. Dr McKenzie has written or co-written many papers and books relating to poisonous plants. The following information is from research by Dr McKenzie.

60% of the poisonous plants in Australia are native to Australia. Toxic natives belong to 70 of the 200 native plant families in Australia. Poisonous plants are understood by most people as a plant that causes harm, sickness or even death to humans and animals. There is no real common characteristic singular to poisonous plants which separates them from non-poisonous plants.

POISONOUS PLANTS IN THE NATIVE ANIMAL DIET.

Australian mammals depend on taste, smell and learning to avoid toxic species. They generally have a more broadly based chemical de-toxification process within their livers and other organs and in the microbes in their stomachs and intestines. These abilities to tolerate certain toxins have develop over time. Dr McKenzie uses the example of Western greys kangaroos, Brush tail possums and bush rats from the Southwestern area of Western Australian as happily tolerating and eating fluoroacetates containing plants (*Gastrolobium species*) which is fatal to livestock, Eastern Grey kangaroos, bush rats and brushtail possums on the east coast of Australia. Georgina Gidgee and Heart Leaf or Wallflower poison are examples of this plant species which is found in Queensland.

It is sad and unfortunate to note that because plant eating animals are so well adapted to their natural environments, poisoning of plant eating animals only occurs when their environments are seriously disturbed by factors like drought, flood and human destruction of the landscape and the animal is forced to a different area.

POISONOUS PLANTS IN GENERAL

Unlike some animals, human have not developed detoxification processes against poisonous plants. Toxic systems can present themselves in many ways from a slight eye irritation, a rash through to vomiting, diarrhoea and even death. There are quite a few common plants found around our back yards that are very toxic and caution should be taken when exposure to these plants is apparent. Below is a list of very popular and common plants that are toxic to humans and domesticated animals.

PLANT	TOXIC PART	SYMPTOMS
Agapanthus	Whole plant	Skin irritation
Peace lily, Madonna Lily	Whole plant	If eaten painful burning and swelling of lips, tongue, throat
Philodendron, Elephants Ear	Whole plant	As Above
Moreton Bay Chestnut	Seeds	Eaten- gastric, vomiting, dizziness
Duranta, Sheena Gold, Aussie Gold	Berries / fruit	Vomiting and gastric
Lantana	Whole plant	Eaten- severe gastric, vomiting, laboured breathing, lethargy. Symptoms can be slow to set in.
Cycads	Raw Fruit	Eaten- gastric, vomiting, headache.
Oleander	Leaves / flowers	Skin irritation If ingested severe vomiting, gastric. Can be fatal to children

This list is by no means a complete set of toxic plants in the backyard. Humans, and domestic animals should avoid these plants. Thorough hand washing, the wearing of gloves and other protective clothing should be observed when cutting, pruning, and working in the garden. In some instances, consideration should be given to the removal of toxic plants especially oleanders in the garden where small inquisitive children play, and mischievous pets dig and chew.

If you suspect that someone or something has been poisoned the number below is staffed 24/7 with advice and help.

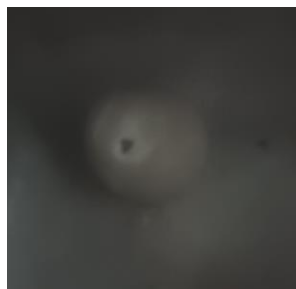
Qld Poison Information Line- call - 13 11 26

24/7 help and advise on poisoning from plants, animals, chemicals, and Medicines.

Queensland Ambulance- call – 000 (triple 0)

CHARLIE JUNIOR By Beverley Clarke

I happened to be at the RSPCA when a gentleman brought in a bag full of eggs – 13 wood duck, 1 rainbow lorikeet and 2 cockatoo eggs. I offered to take the eggs, knowing full well that the chances of survival for any of them was slim picking to nothing. This was the 4th of September.



I placed the eggs in a humidicrib at 37* with a glass of water for humidity. After 5 days, a friend and I candled the eggs, and decided the wood ducks were not viable, but there was a possibility for the rainbow and one of the cockatoo eggs (the other had a crack in it). Meanwhile, the tree the eggs had come from also contained two rainbow lorikeets nests, with hatchlings in. I took all four of those as well.

As the days wore on, I candled the eggs again. No movement in the rainbow egg, but the cockatoo egg had red veins showing! I was rather excited but not really hopeful of hatching the baby. On the 19th September, I was turning the egg, as I had done twice daily, and felt the shell had a pit in it. When I put the egg to my ear, I could hear a small peep going on! What excitement! Charlie Junior hatched on the 21st of September, at 22 grams. He now weighs in at 180 grams (now 14 days old) and takes 16ml of Neocare 4 times a day. Feeding goes up by a ml every day. Eyes are now opening and feathers appearing....

Are all Wallabies the same as Kangaroos? Science has the answer....

When asked the difference between Kangaroos and Wallabies, most people would answer “Kangaroo legs are really long between the knees and the ankles, which makes their legs oversized with respect to their body. The wallaby has more compact legs which are shorter.”

However, the answer lies in the scientific naming of our common macropods.

Marsupials are divided into 4 orders:

- Notoryctemorphia – marsupial mole
- Dasyuromorphia- carnivorous marsupials, such as quolls, antechinus, dunnarts, numbats, Tasmanian devil, Tasmanian tiger.
- Peramelemorphia -omnivore marsupials, such as bandicoots, bilbies
- Diprotodontia -mostly herbivore marsupials, such as: kangaroos, wallabies, possums, koalas, wombats, gliders.

The order Diprotodontia is divided into suborders which includes:

- Vombatiformes, koalas and wombats
- Phalangeriformes, possums, gliders
- Macropodiformes, kangaroos, wallabies, pademelons, bettongs, tree kangaroos, potaroos, quokas.

Macropodiformes are divided in the family Macropods (**Macropodidae**) Macropods, translates to big foot. They vary in size, but most have large powerful hind legs, small front legs and powerful tails. Most of the members of this family use a bipedal form of hopping. They are herbivores and can be browsers and grazers. All kangaroos and wallabies belong in this family.

The Macropodidae family is divided into 9 genera:

- Dendrolagus – tree kangaroos
- Dorcopsulus- forest wallabies (Papua New Guinea, West Papua, Indonesia)
- Lagorchestes – hare wallabies
- Onychogalea – Nail tail wallabies
- Petrogale – Rock Wallabies
- Setonix – Quoka
- Thylogale – Pademelon
- Wallabia – **Swamp wallaby (Wallabia bicolor)**
- Macropus –
 - Agile wallaby (*Macropus agilis*)
 - Black striped wallaby (*Macropus dorsalis*)
 - Tammar wallaby (*Macropus eugenii*)
 - Toolache wallaby (*Macropus greyii*)
 - Western Brush wallaby (*Macropus irma*)
 - Parma wallaby (*Macropus parma*)
 - Pretty faced wallaby (*Macropus parryi*)
 - Red necked wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*)
 - Antilopine kangaroo (*Macropus antilopinus*)
 - Back wallaroo (*Macropus robustus*)
 - Red kangaroo (*Macropus rufus*)
 - Western grey kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*)
 - Eastern grey kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus*)

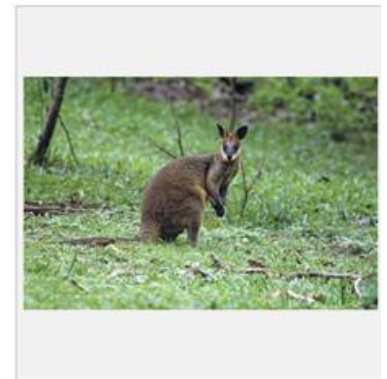


IMAGE: THIS IS A SWAMP WALLABY. [view more >](#)

CREDIT: © QUEENSLAND MUSEUM, GARY CRANITCH.

You may notice that there are many common “wallabies” that share the same genus name (*Macropus*) as kangaroos. However, the only true wallaby, at least in these parts, in my opinion is the Swamp Wallaby as it has a different genus name. This means it does have a significant difference between the genus *Macropus* and *Wallabia*. It’s all in the sex chromosomes, as a swampy female is XX but a male is XYY. Not so for male Macropods who are XY.

However, I recently read an article that states that there is genetic evidence that swampies should be in the *Macropus* genus.....so go figure.

Anita Thompson