



CONTACT US

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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REGISTER HEADS

Bat Register	
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	0419105436
Macropod Registers	
Anita	0428710684
Melissa	0407030457
Possum & Bird Registers	
Linda	0419696310
Beverley	0428156297
Other Fauna/Reptile Registers	
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Workplace Health & Safety	
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RSPCA Wildlife Hospital
3426 9910

AUSTRALIA ZOO
Wildlife Emergency
1300 369652
Appointments
5436 2097

BIRO 0432507705
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Presidents Report – June 2025

Hi everybody – I cannot believe the cool weather we are having starting off with all the wet causing our lorries to come down with LPS and we are still getting the occasional few coming in, also some of our little ones having to have them upstairs a little longer.

Our AGM is coming up fast towards the end of August and it would be really nice to see everyone there.

We have had some good workshops since January having our last one for the year at the Botanic Gardens which covered diseases in macros, possums and birds. It went over really well I thought. People joining in on the discussions at the time made it relaxed and friendly.

Bev has done a lot of work again for ONARR members with grants from DETSI - acquiring 7 aviaries plus food. Ipswich City Council and Brisbane City Council with food as well it certainly helps to keep the cost down for carers.

There will be another Martin workshop on the 10th August – venue to be at Shorncliffe.

Yours in caring
Linda D'Arcy.

GRANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Ipswich City Council

ONARR would like to thank the Ipswich City Council for supporting us once again with funds to purchase food for our wildlife in care.

Your support is very much appreciated!

DATABASE – update your records now! It is time to add your records from this quarter or update your records from the last quarter.

This needs to be done as soon as possible please, and definitely by the 20th of July so that we can look at gathering the information from the database. At this point I can tell you that as a collective we have cared for over 1300 animals and birds since the 1st of July when the database started running.

You will now see that we have a **second database** ready for the **new financial year** – animals registered **after** June 30 2025 are entered in that one, and previous records that haven't been finalized are finished off in the previous database 2024-2025.

Nicole D. Thank you most sincerely for your support this year with the database.

Upcoming Workshops

August 10th
Birds and Reptiles – Martin will be running this workshop – no cost to members this time around as we received a grant to cover the cost.
Venue will be at Linda's place in Shorncliffe.

We are what we protect – this is what defines us.

Species and numbers registered for the last quarter.

Possums

Brushtail Possums 7
Ringtail Possums 25
Mountain Brushtail Possums
Sugar Gliders
Squirrel Gliders 1
Feathertail Gliders

Other Fauna

Northern Brown Bandicoot 2
Long Nosed Bandicoots
Bush rats 4

Numbers of rainbow lorikeets are down from 175 last quarter to 35 this quarter. Hopefully Lorikeet Paralysis Syndrome will stay in abeyance this coming season.

Birds

35 Rainbow Lorikeets
8 Scaley Breasted Lori
3 Noisy Miners
4 Australian Magpies
4 Ibis
10 Wood ducks
1 Little Corella
5 Crested pigeon
3 Torresian Crow
6 Pacific black ducks
1 Tawny Frogmouth
6 Double bar Finches
1 Purple Swamphen
1 Brush Turkey
1 Pheasant Coucals
6 Welcome swallow
1 Pale headed Rosella

Macropods

Eastern Grey kangaroos 1
Red necked wallabies 2
Swamp Wallaby 1
Red-necked pademelon 1

Reptiles

Flying-foxes

Possum season will be beginning soon – I have a pouch baby in care now due to the mother falling from a tree.

Ringtail possums are very definitely colony animals, and you need to ensure that you have more than one but preferably no more than 6 in one colony.

Gliders are also colony animals and do better raised with others of the same ilk.

Brushtails are naturally solitary animals in the wild, only the joey and mum together.

Flying-fox season will begin around September. Carers for these beautiful creatures have received puppy pads and calcium to help with their raising. Pups do better if raised with other flying-fox pups, and are creched before release.

Macropods and warts – Anita Thompson

POPPY's WART STORY 1.

Warts in Macropods.

I rescued Poppy on the 11th November 2024 (hence her name) and I have to say she has been the most trouble-free joey I have ever raised. No diarrhoea, no feeding issues- just healthy and progressing nicely. In April, I noticed a small wart on her front leg.



Upon research, I found that warts are common in macropods and usually self-resolve, so I wasn't worried.



From Wildlife Health Australia:

“Poxvirus in common ringtail possums (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*), was caused by an Orthopoxvirus [2]. Novel, unclassified poxviruses have been sequenced from free-ranging eastern grey (*Macropus giganteus*; EKPV) and western grey kangaroos (*M. fuliginosus*; WKPV)[

Clinical signs

Lesions in macropods may be solitary or multiple and vary in size from a few millimetres up to 5 cm. While they can be found anywhere on the body lesions are most common on the extremities tail, face, limbs [7, 9-12, 20]. Grossly, lesions can appear as an umbilicated firm papule containing creamy exudates of keratinised debris and purulent material or, more commonly, an irregular wart-type mass with a hyperkeratotic surface that becomes darker and hairless as it enlarges. There is no associated pruritus and lesions regress spontaneously over about three months, leaving a pigmented or non-pigmented hairless scar”



However, over the next few weeks, warts appeared on her hind legs and face. I applied some wart paint to the face ones, and they dropped off. No such luck with the ones on her leg. I did not apply to the big one as I was concerned it would hurt too much.

Then it started to look nasty, so I called the vet, who came and took a biopsy. (29th May) It looked inflamed so we gave her some antibiotics and Metacam.

Biopsy came back clear- no cancer or infection just a wart, so I left it. She did say we could start a course of antivirals, but this involved sedation and injections, which I thought would be too stressful for her, as by now she was 12 kgs and free to come and go as she pleased. I felt it was safer to see how they went.



She is otherwise fine- very relaxed in fact.....

The vet was happy with that, but now the warts are NOT self-resolving (although I am not sure what this looks like..) – photo from 29th June) and I am left with a difficult decision- wait a little longer to see if they improve, or undergo the anti-virals..... Stay tuned..... Anita Thompson

A Message from The Safety Officer – Vicki Harmsworth

Welcome to Winter 2025.

Well, another financial year is coming to a close. The year seems to go by quicker every year.

In the world of ONARR we can be thankful for a past year of non-events. Sadly, this cannot be said for many parts of the world, whilst in our own backyards many Australians have been battling floods and wild weather, and for many others the relentless drought in other parts of the country continues to break hearts and spirits.

During the year we have continued to provide small safety snippets at the beginning of workshops to help keep safety in our minds whilst we go about our daily activities and continue to care for our animals. Thank you for listening and hopefully, even if it was just once, you may have reconsidered an action or process because you thought differently about the potential safety of that activity.

Via newsletters we also briefly touched on Diseases in Animals in care, Poisonous Native Plants, The Relationship between Chocolate and animals, Bat handling Protocols and laws, Safety When Foraging and we looked at aspects of Bird Rescues.

Again, I hope you all got something out of these articles or at the very least encouraged you to do further research of your own.

Stay warm and enjoy the crisp air and beautiful blue skies.

Vicki Harmsworth- Safety Officer ONARR.

Blue Faced Honey Eater Chicks – Linda D'Arcy

I received two little honeyeaters on the 30.5.25 never asked the weight (silly me) and to my shock one was 17grms - 3days old - the other was 13grms, eyes closed no feathers – pinkies - and I thought oh no they will not survive - which they have.

Using first aid, hardboiled egg and tiny bits of heart, feeding with tweezers - began feeding every time I came near them, I also made sure the mixture was a moist slurry. Going to bed that night and I thought they would not

I had them in the important to regulate night and kept going to 40 grams and they then small meal worms, small bits of heart with giving the water by small from small meal worms mix as well with the 80grms and still doing well.



humidity crib which was temperature - they survived the feeding well until they got to 30 did not want the slurry. Went to peas/corn/small bits of grape and Wombaroo - also very important syringe about 3 to 4 times a day, now to giant mealworms, lorries peas/corn/fruit they are up to

Things to be aware of this quarter...

Membership is now due and if you haven't already submitted your membership forms, please do so as we need to submit our numbers to D.E.T.S.I. shortly. Your license covers you from the 1st of July until the 30th of June in the financial caring year, so if you haven't already submitted your forms, then your license has expired....

The Raffle is being drawn this month, in two weeks' time. Please ensure that all funds have been paid into the ONARR account or handed to a committee member, and that the raffle ticket stubs have been returned to Beverley.

The Database needs your final input for this past quarter. Please ensure all your records are up to date and finalized. You will notice that we (meaning Nicole) have uploaded a new database for the new financial year – so take care which one you go into. Any animals registered before June 30, 2025, go in the old database, animals after that date go in the new one. All records of animals still in care are in the old database and still need to be completed when the animals leave home.

The Season is starting ... little ones are coming into care now and numbers will only increase over the coming months. Please, we ask that you let us know what you can sensibly take into care at this time to save us making 15 phone calls and getting 15 knock backs before we give up and take it ourselves. Check your facilities and equipment – some may need washing or sorting out.

DETSI GRANTS will be available soon. DETSI – Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation were very supportive of ONARR last year, and our total of grants received for members was seven. If you desire a new aviary, or humidicrib or chook tractor, particularly new carers, DETSI is a good support source. The grant application is a little protracted but manageable, and we are always here to help you with it.

Batty Ladies please do not forget to submit your titre levels for this coming year. It is a requirement of your license with ONARR that your titre levels are checked yearly. This is for your own safety.

Last but not least...Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever ...we call those people cops...

The trouble is, you think you have time. Buddha

And that is the truth of it.

We all know that there are no guarantees in life with our wildlife. We get them in, we do the best we can, and if we are lucky, we get to raise them up and put them back out there. We always have the best of intentions – but even the best of intentions will do you no good at all if you do not have your own health – both physical and mental. You cannot support the wildlife if you are struggling physically or mentally with the total number of animals that you have in care.

Be sensible. Yes, I know that there are many little ones out there needing care, but you are not the only carer in the world (and I know I am a fine one to talk about this). You can only take what you can **sensibly** raise, what you **sensibly** have time for, and what you **sensibly** have aviary space for. You must plan ahead. I feel that the maximum number of brushtails you should have in care at any one time is 5 (five). That would mean 1 or 2 outside in aviaries (remembering of course that brushtails are SOLITARY animals in the wild and should not be forced to co-habit), 1 or 2 inside in cages, and a baby in a basket. On top of that, 1 or 2 sets of ringtails would also be acceptable, but no more than that, and ONLY if you have as many aviaries as I do! (I have 5 outside aviaries.) Foraging for these many animals is enough to send anyone berserk, particularly in the dry season when tip is hard to come by. You are of no benefit to the animals if your own health suffers.

No shortcuts either. We do not feed our brushtails fruit – only forage, a handful of guinea pig food + a handful of rolled oats.

We do not feed our ringtails **anything but forage**.

It is very hard to say no when the RSPCA call, but believe me when I say, they will persist with other calls and carers until they find a home for the little one that you cannot **sensibly** take. There are carers out there who may actually need the little one you say no to, so do not take more than you **sensibly** can.

Are you getting my drift?? The key word here is sensible. Don't knock yourself out trying to do too much because then we will be one carer less in the long term – and in case you haven't noticed, caring is long term. The babies do not stop coming. We get times when we get a bit of a break, which is the time to clean aviaries, sort out your gear, tidy up the draw where you keep everything, and generally sort yourself out for the new season.

Which is starting. New joeys are coming now, and by the end of July, beginning of August we are in full swing.

Just remember: the trouble is, you think you have time. **Look after yourself first.**