



## **\$10,000 Reward raised by community for information leading to conviction of illegal kangaroo shooters**

In a disturbing act of outrageous wildlife cruelty, kangaroos were illegally shot dead in Victoria's Cardinia Reservoir Park, Emerald, on the evening of 3 November or the morning of 4 November.

Sarah Cooke, a volunteer wildlife rescuer, attended the scene. Four kangaroos were found shot dead, one wounded, and one was euthanised at the scene suffering from apparent stress myopathy. Three joeys were orphaned, two of whom did not survive. The surviving joey, 'Cardi', is now being raised by a wildlife carer. The violent attack can only be described as a disgusting thrill kill.

Police are investigating the incident, but the park's isolated location makes it difficult to find witnesses.

The Victorian Kangaroo Alliance (VKA), a volunteer community organisation, has teamed up with Gariwerd Animal Biodiversity Alliance (GABA) and Advocacy for a Kinder World (AKW) to raise \$10,000 as a reward for information leading to the conviction of the perpetrator/s. We are committed to finding justice for these kangaroos, and highlighting the importance of protecting Australia's unique wildlife.

Jane Gibb, spokesperson for VKA, GABA and AKW today said:

*"We cannot ignore acts of cruelty like this. Our community stands firmly against such heinous behaviour and demands accountability."*

*With the generous contribution from appalled community members, we are offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible for this horrifying crime.*

*We are hoping that the reward will encourage anyone with information to come forward."*

### **Reward Information:**

A \$10,000 reward is being offered for information that leads to a conviction. Those with any knowledge of the event are encouraged to contact Emerald Police (5954 0200), Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000 or [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au)), or [info@vickangas.org](mailto:info@vickangas.org).

### **Media Contacts:**

Jane Gibb, spokesperson for VKA, GABA and AKW

Phone:

Email

Sarah Cooke, Wildlife Incident Safe Haven Inc.

Phone:

**IMAGES ON NEXT PAGES – WARNING – SOME ARE GRAPHIC**



Wounded kangaroo. Credit: Vicki Clarke



Shot kangaroos. Credit: Vicki Clarke





Surviving joey 'Cardi' with police officer, shared on Facebook page for Eyewatch – Cardina Police Service Area - <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/H1foMtk1ngbPmYwJ/>