



wildlife matters...

Sydney Wildlife Newsletter

Winter Edition



Welcome to the Winter Edition of Wildlife Matters

Thank you for your support of Sydney Wildlife. I have lots of great news to share with you as well as a favour to ask. Recently I've been appointed as the Media, Marketing and Fundraising Officer. Part of my role is to ensure that you receive this newsletter 4 times a year. But I need your help. I, like most members want to hear about your rescues, funny stories, see your photos and anything that you can submit for the newsletter. See back page for more information.

Robyn Ball.

Are you helping out on the hotline?

Answering the hotline is both interesting and rewarding, exposing you to a wide range of rescue situations. Our hotline answers over 12,000 calls a year and we need your help.

Members are needed seven days a week, including overnight. Daytime shifts are in the Lane Cove office 9am - 1pm and 1pm - 5pm. Overnight shifts from the comfort of your own home with all information and lists provided.

If you haven't done a shift before then this is the best time of year to learn as the phones are quieter. You can be scheduled for a shift with an experienced operator to get the training necessary for the busy Spring months. Please check your diary to see when you can help.

Weekdays	Jenny Sistrom	9456 3069
Weekends/After Hours	Carolyn Martin	9440 8233

smwsweekdayroster@gmail.com
smwsweekendroster@gmail.com
smwsafterhours@gmail.com



Message from the Board

Welcome to the **Winter Edition** of **Wildlife Matters**. A big thank you to all members and, of course, our wonderful wildlife Vets who do so much assisting us with our beloved wildlife. After another busy Spring Summer season, I hope everyone is able to take a bit of a breather before the madness of Spring takes over again.

Sydney Wildlife is having a busy year with a multitude of projects on the go including:

- Development of an online computer system.
- NPWS commencing building of a Wildlife Interpretation facility at Kukundi.
- Ongoing Global Giving fundraising for Waratah Park Kangaroo facilities.
- Sponsorship for the installation of two aviaries for other wildlife on the grounds.
- An Environmental Trust grant to assist with administration costs.
- The expansion of our refresher training courses for members.

We are aware of the fantastic initiatives within our branches including fundraising and providing community talks about our incredible wildlife and the work we do. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.



What a cute chick!

The Spring season started early last year with a hot and windy October. Chicks were blown from their nests and in a Belrose garden a palm frond with its family of kookaburras was thrown to the ground. In the remains was a tiny Kookaburra chick.

When his rescuer Janelle rang, my first reaction was one of disbelief. "A 23gm Kookaburra, no way!" His first few days were touch and go as he struggled to survive. This shaky little bag of bones took tiny drops of fluid, then a few morsels of mince and Insectivore mix and within five days he'd doubled his weight. Two weeks later dark spikes covered his neck,



with wing fringes and a tiny tail emerging. His eyes were still covered but small slits were evident and by the end of October his eyes were fully open and this fragile bundle was now a vocal "monster" demanding food on the hour and whirring with great



enthusiasm. His constant companion was a Kookaburra soft toy which I hung over the basket and which emitted a fairly good impression of an adult when its tummy was pressed.

The plan was to reunite him with his parents, so in early November, I handed him over to fellow Sydney Wildlife member Devyani who lives near where he was found. As soon as he was fledged, several attempts were made to locate the parents but sadly the hollow was too badly damaged and his family were no longer around.

Devyani was now putting him in her garden for part of the day in a specially designed "Kookaburra Box" and a few local Kookaburras were visiting but were not interested in taking him. She handed him over to Barbara who also had a Kookaburra group in her garden and to our delight he was welcomed by them. Barb threw down food for the adults, but they scoffed

this down and then went off to get the youngster "real food", bringing back juicy worms and lizards which he took with great enthusiasm. A few days later, after encouragement from one of the adults, he flew across the garden and onto a low branch where he sat, looking like he had always belonged there. He is now a regular visitor to Barb's garden with his new family.



I am delighted to report that this was one of at least 20 fledglings in our Northern Beaches branch that were reunited with their parents or adopted by other same-species birds. It often takes a fair amount of persistence for this to work but to see these youngsters returning to the wild and growing up naturally is so rewarding.

*Carolyn Martin, Bird Co-ordinator,
Northern Beaches Branch.*



Who gets the news?

Ever wondered who receives copies of **Wildlife Matters**?

All members receive a copy as do all the vets that assist us.

It's also sent to all Local Councils in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan area.

So next time you are talking with someone at your local council or vet, check to see if they have read **Wildlife Matters**.

2014 Training Courses

Our Code of Practice requires all members to refresh Specialist Training at least every 3 years. Specialist Training refers to training other than the entry level Rescue and Care Course. It ensures you are kept up-to-date with current practices, trends and legislative requirements.

Please express interest in attending these courses by either contacting the relevant course co-ordinator or by phoning Sydney Wildlife to be added to the course list. Most courses are held at Northbridge.

Keep your training up to date or learn something new.



Course	Date	Contact	Phone number
Basic Rescue Course	9-10 August	Sydney Wildlife Office	02 9413 4300
Advanced Bat Course	31-Aug	Diane Jenner	0403 071 375
Raptor Rescue Course	23-Aug	Jodi Lewis	0407 813 149
Possum Course	06-Sep	Justine Steward	0410 409 134
Flying Foxes/Bats	21-Sep	Diane Jenner	0403 071 375
Baby Birds	18-Oct	Linda Wilson	0409 114 100
Reptiles/Snakes	TBA	Helen Kennedy	0414 319 737

As well as the courses listed above, the NSW Wildlife Council Inc offer training in all sorts of wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. Go to nwc.org.au/resources/training-calendar for more information.

Branching about



Inner West Branch held a cake stall at Bunnings Bankstown in June. We were allowed to take animals for education purposes and we took birds, possums, bats, lizards and turtles.

Unfortunately, the manager on duty had a fear of snakes so we didn't take any for display. We did however, manage to smuggle one in, thanks to its creator **Jenny Langenstrass**.

Sydney Wildlife has received a grant of \$5000 from the Environmental Trust to assist with our administration costs!

Safe House

The long-necked Turtle looks so cute, when his head pops out of his carapace suit.

Should he feel alarmed, he'll fold it back in, around to the side, and sort of under the chin.

Tucked-in claws and tucked-in feet, provides a splendid DIY retreat.

Peg Parish



Outside of Sydney and found native wildlife in trouble?

Sydney Wildlife is pleased to support a collaborative initiative of IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) and NSW Wildlife Council in the release of a new **Smartphone App** that identifies the closest licensed wildlife rescue group to where your phone is situated. The App has a post code or town search facility and it's Call Now facility will

directly link you via your phone for quick help for any sick, injured or orphaned wildlife. It also gives tips on how to initially deal with the animal until help is at hand.

The App, called **Wildlife Rescue** is downloadable from the Apple Store or the Android Market and also available for mobile devices from wildliferescue.ifaw.org

Send in your stories

Without your valuable support, the work we do rescuing and rehabilitating native animals would not happen. Thank you for everything that you do for **Sydney Wildlife**.

I have just been appointed as the Media, Marketing and Fundraising Officer for **Sydney Wildlife** and I have a favour to ask. I am currently working on the next newsletter and wanted stories from you, our treasured members.

Have you done a rescue lately or raised funds for **Sydney Wildlife**? Did you volunteer on the hotline and have a funny story? Are you

educating the public about our native animals or know of any companies that might sponsor us? Do you know some interesting animal facts, write poetry or have taken some great photos?

I am looking for all your wonderful stories and more. Please send to robysmws@hotmail.com.

Robyn Ball

NOTE: by sending your stories, you are granting the release of copyright of content and images as they may be published in the newsletter. They will only be used for this purpose. If we think your story will help us gain media interviews and publicity, you will be contacted directly.

Note for your diary

Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th November at 7.30pm.

Venue to be confirmed

Know your Board

Secretary	Helen Kennedy
Treasurer	Lindsay Bridgland
Statistics/Office Co-ordination	Trent Reed
Media, Marketing & Fundraising	Robyn Ball
Inner West Representative	Claire Newman
North Central Representative (& Chair)	Sonja Elwood
North East Representative	Carolyn Martin
North West Representative	Tony White
South West Representative	Kerry Ellis



Find us on
Facebook

Sydney Wildlife now has an official Facebook page. Called Sydney Wildlife (Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Services), it's the page with our Kookaburra logo. Please like and share with your Facebook friends.

Wildlife Matters is the newsletter of Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Services Inc (SMWS): DECC General Licence No 10045; Charitable Fundraising Authority: 15835. All rights reserved. The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of SMWS Inc, PO Box 78, Lindfield, NSW, 2070.

Hoo is calling?



Ever looked at your mobile, not recognised the number and didn't answer it? To find out that you missed out on a rescue?

Our phone system diverts outgoing calls to mobiles through 2 mobile numbers, helping to lower our phone bills.

Please enter these numbers into your mobile so you can recognise that the hotline is calling you for help.

The numbers are

0437 094 130
0438 194 137



PO Box 78,
Lindfield, NSW, 2070
Fax: 02 9413 4399
info@sydneywildlife.org.au