



wildlife matters...

PP# 100020200

Sydney Wildlife Newsletter

Summer 2018 Edition



Lorraine Woodward

Do you love native wildlife?



Are you retired or between jobs with time on your hands?

Sydney Wildlife receives over 12,000 calls a year and we need your help.

We are recruiting people to answer calls on our Wildlife Rescue phones. We will train and work with you in our Lane Cove office situated in beautiful Lane Cove National Park.

Answering our calls is interesting and rewarding, exposing you to a wide range of rescue situations and native animals.

We operate seven days a week, including overnight. Daytime shifts are in the Lane Cove office 9am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm.

For more information email training@sydneywildlife.org.au

How to help our native wildlife

Heat stress, fires, young animals taking their first steps and snakes innocently terrifying people make summer one of the busiest times for Sydney Wildlife.

We love looking after our native wildlife however it would be better if they didn't need to come into care.

This is how you can help our native animals everyday.

- * Keep your cats and dogs in overnight, and always keep your dog on a lead if you are passing through an area with a lot of bush. Never take dogs into National Parks or State Reserves.
- * Leave water in your garden during summer for animals to drink
- * If you use netting on your fruit and vegetables, make sure that is wildlife safe so animals don't get tangled up in it
- * Drive carefully and if you see an injured animal report it. If you are outside Sydney, you can use the IFAW Wildlife Rescue app to find the local wildlife group.
- * Remember that marsupials hit by a vehicle may have babies in their pouch.

Outside of Sydney and found native wildlife in trouble?

Sydney Wildlife supports the initiative between IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) and NSW Wildlife Council with the Smartphone app that identifies your closest licensed wildlife rescue group. The app has a Search and a Call Now facility which directly links you to help for any sick, injured or

orphaned wildlife. It also gives you tips on how to deal initially with the animal until help is at hand.

The **Wildlife Rescue** app is downloadable from Apple or Android and also available for mobile devices at wildliferescue.ifaw.org

Sydney Wildlife Mobile Clinic



With so many dangers to face - vehicle-strike, entanglement, habitat loss, attack from feral and domestic animals, human interference and more, our wildlife is in desperate need of our help.

Sydney Wildlife is fully operated by hard-working, unpaid volunteers, 100% of donations is used to help our native wildlife, either in establishing the clinic or providing other essential care to wildlife in need.

When our pets get hurt or sick, we rush them to a vet and pay whatever it takes to make our furry, feathery, scaly family member better, right?

But what happens when our wildlife get sick? They don't have owners to rush them to a vet or pay for their treatment. Who takes care of them when they are in pain?

Sydney Wildlife is an organisation made up of volunteers who rescue these wild animals and care for them. We are not veterinarians and sometimes these animals need treatment that can only be provided by a veterinary surgeon.

At the moment we are burdening our local vets with injured wildlife and they are covering the medical costs, while our volunteer rescuers pay all other costs. Wouldn't it be wonderful if there was a service that helped our precious wildlife, as well as our volunteer rescuers and our wonderful vets?

We have the answer, but we need your help!

Sydney Wildlife's goal is to establish a brand new, state-of-the-art **Wildlife Mobile Clinic**. It's an ambitious plan and we need your help.

The **Sydney Wildlife Mobile Clinic** will provide first-class treatment to our injured and sick wildlife. The clinic will be staffed by veterinarians who are experienced at treating wildlife and it will also provide hands-on training for veterinary students who are desperate to learn how to treat our native animals.

Your donation contributes to the purchase of a van, fitting it out and the on-going running costs. The **Sydney Wildlife Mobile Clinic** will provide first aid and emergency medical treatment for injured animals and will be deployed to natural disasters, such as floods, drought and fires. Donations will also be used to provide training for future veterinarians.



A donation of any amount will help save our precious native wildlife.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible CFN 15835.

Donate to **Sydney Wildlife** online www.sydneywildlife.org.au and click on **Donate Now** button.

Thank you for saving their hurt paws, their sore bodies and their precious little lives.

**** BREAKING NEWS ****

The winner of the Northern Beaches Community Event of the Year was the Sydney Wildlife Mobile Clinic Fundraising Gala. The announcement was made on Australia Day. The award was accepted by Joan Reid and Lynleigh Greig. These amazing ladies had a dream that they are quickly on the way to making it a reality.

These amazing ladies are pictured with Northern Beaches Mayor, Michael Regan who spoke glowingly about Sydney Wildlife.



From Rescue to Release

Since opening the rehabilitation facility years ago at the old Skippy Park, we have had a variety of animals come through.

We received a call to the Sydney Wildlife hotline about a large eastern grey kangaroo that was in a suburban backyard. The member of the public said that it always appeared at 7:30am each day so suggested that was a good time for us to try to catch this poor kangaroo to relocate to a more suitable area. Early the next morning, we arrived at the location to be ready for the kangaroos visit. As it is a wild kangaroo, it was decided the safest way of capturing it was to use a dart gun to reduce the stress on the animal as well to ensure we could catch it quickly.



As expected, at around 7:30am the kangaroo appeared and we were able to dart her on the first attempt. Once the drugs took effect and she was sedated, we were able to put her in a large macropod bag and transport her to the rehabilitation facility allowing her to wake up in safety so we could assess her condition and behaviour.



After a few days of observation to ensure she was feeding correctly, in good health and not showing

any signs of odd behaviour she was able to be released into the company of a wild mob of Eastern Grey Kangaroos.

Our facilities have proven to be excellent for some species in their rehabilitation phase to the point where they never want to leave.

One bandicoot in the large aviary was unable to be found when we were trying to catch her for release. After two attempts trying to find the bandicoot with no luck, we were puzzled. We knew she was in there as the food was being eaten and there were small freshly dug holes around the floor of the enclosure from her searching for and eating insects. We decided to put a camera in the aviary to make sure that it was in fact the bandicoot eating the food.



The camera showed after just one night that it was in fact a very healthy bandicoot.

Now more determined than ever to catch the bandicoot three Sydney Wildlife volunteers spent well over half an hour trying to find the bandicoot and just when we were about to give up we disturbed her out of a very well camouflaged nest.

Being able to provide such a natural enclosure enabled the bandicoot to exhibit its survival techniques which resulted in her being able to evade capture for so long even though we knew she was there.

This is a testament to the work of Sydney Wildlife volunteers and the facilities we provide gives these animals such a good foundation for a success.

Black snake sees fire engine red

Bryn Kay

FIREFIGHTERS were seeing red after a venomous snake slithered into their Belrose fire station.

The red-bellied black snake—about 1.5m long—was spotted by Belrose Rural Fire Brigade volunteer Sam White on Saturday afternoon.

He immediately called Sydney Wildlife volunteer Georgie Campbell, who rescued the snake (pictured).

"The snake was dehydrated, extremely underweight and she had paralysis ticks on her," Mrs Campbell said.

She said while red-bellied black snakes were venomous they were generally non-aggressive.



"They are very common but because they are a very shy snake, they prefer to be well away from humans," she said.

Mr White said he wasted no time in contacting Mrs Campbell when he saw the snake.

"I was just walking around the equipment and

saw it lying on the ground," he said. "It was good to see somebody else show us the technique of what they do (to handle snakes) ... it's not something you see every day."

Mrs Campbell said the snake was recovering while in the care of another Sydney Wildlife volunteer.

According to the Australian Museum, red-bellied black snakes are usually found in moist places such as streams, swamps and lagoons.

They are also known to inhabit disturbed areas and rural properties.

» If you come across a snake that needs rescuing call Sydney Wildlife on 9413 4300 or 13 000 WIRES.

MANLY DAILY, Wednesday, December 6, 2017 03

HOW TO DONATE

A donation of any amount will help save our precious native wildlife. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible CFN 15835.

Donate to **Sydney Wildlife . Online**

www.sydneywildlife.org.au click on **Donate Now** button.

Direct payment

Sydney Wildlife, Comm Bank
BSB: 062028
Account # 10431932

Cheque

Payable to Sydney Wildlife.
Send with your address details to: Sydney Wildlife, PO Box 78, Lindfield, NSW 2070

Safe netting of your fruit trees

With the ripening of figs coinciding with a heat wave, native flying foxes are finding their way into suburban backyards to feast on figs.

Your choice of netting to protect backyard fruit trees can cause serious harm, not only to bats but to



many species of native wildlife.

The size of the mesh is an important consideration for wildlife friendly netting. Nets which are pulled tight cause serious entanglement if the mesh is too large.

If you love your fruit and care about our precious wildlife, remove your



nets and purchase a net with mesh as fine as a fly screen. Fine mesh excludes more animals and other

fruit pests (such as fruit fly) from destroying your fruit and doesn't get entangled on your tree. Fine netting means that wildlife don't get entangled.

Rule of thumb is if you can squeeze your little finger through the net, then it's unsafe. It's also important that any netting used is tied off at the base of the tree, or fixed at the sides so animals aren't trapped underneath.

If you come across an animal entangled in a net, never attempt to release it. Call Sydney Wildlife immediately. We will send a professionally trained bat rescuer to help you.

For more wildlife friendly netting and fencing advice visit www.wildlifefriendlyfencing.com



Check out **Sydney Wildlife** on Facebook (Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Services), it's the page with our Kookaburra logo. Like and share to find out more about **Sydney Wildlife**.



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