



Newsletter 54

August 2010

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays
Association Inc.**

P.O. Box 806 Cannonvale 4802

Hotline: 07 4947 3389— ABN 60 931 156 282

Rocky Road for an Echidna – (Linden Baker)

It has been a tough couple of weeks for the echidna in my care. It was originally found after being forced out of a pipe by a water blaster (unknowingly of course). Luckily it received vet treatment promptly and was relaxed by a dose of valium so the vet could examine it. For anyone who has attempted to examine an echidna closely you will know that this is not an easy task. A really densely furred / quilled body that curls in a tight ball. The wounds were cleaned and treated with a course of daily antibiotic injections and topical antiseptic. Everything looked fine the wounds seemed to be drying up, antibiotics were finished and all looked good.



That all changed with a final vet exam, a new wound was found hidden in a fold of skin in front of the shoulder that was actually a very, deep wound that was packed tight (I guess

by the water pressure) with dirt, small rocks and dead skin. Quills were removed and this was given a good clean and another course of antibiotics. So it was back to daily injections and wound cleaning. Now this wound was deeper and more messy than any other I have dealt with. There was healing, dying and dead flesh as well as infection deep within the cavity, what should I remove and what should I leave alone? I was out of my depth. Luckily I was able to call on a lovely nurse Lynne from the medical centre I work at who came armed with equipment and skills, she began the daily cleaning process.

Cont. next page

In this issue:

pg 1 - Rocky Road
pg 2 - Rocky Road
pg 2 - New Members
pg 3 - Presidents Report
pg 4 - Presidents Report
pg 5 - Temporary Editor
pg 5 - Treasurers Report
pg 5 - Free Trees
pg 6 - Next Generation
pg 6 - Rotary Raffle
pg 6 - Reflections 1
pg 7 - Sausage Sizzle
pg 7 - Reflections 2
pg 8 - FRW Noticeboard
pg 9 - Contacts
pg 10 - Back Cover

Thank you:

JAN JARRATT'S OFFICE

printing of hard copies



Chucky – Col Forster

Rocky Road for an Echidna (from prev page)

With magnifying lens and head lamp she examined the wound deeply and found a few small stones well hidden inside and a 25mm broken quill laying across the base of the wound hidden way down deep, there was another hard object out of sight that could have been bone or another rock she couldn't tell. We decided another vet exam under anesthetic this time, was in order. We left that wound and checked the original wound on the back of the shoulder that I had been treating that seemed healed over but was now showing a fine crack that was glistening. To our disappointment we found that after removing the scab that underneath was still a quite infected cavity with more small stones deep in it. Luckily it wasn't as bad as the other and much easier to clean



I phoned Mark from Orchid Valley vet surgery, told him the history of the echidna and asked if he would anaesthetize it and give it a thorough check over and see if there was other debris in the wounds. He was happy to and under anesthetic gave both wounds a really good clean and searched for foreign bodies, he found 2 more fine quills and more stones. The hard object Lynne could feel was the shoulder bone, That's how deep this went.

Mark suggested I flush the wounds out twice daily with saline solution, spray with oticlens solution and of course give the antibiotic injections. This I did and over the next few days a few more small stones were flushed out. We wanted to keep the wounds open and allow them to heal from the inside out.

Now 2 weeks on, the largest wound that went to the bone has totally healed, nice new pink skin, the other smaller wound is nearly there but will need a day or two more to totally heal. There are spines growing through this one which has delayed the healing process a little. Antibiotics were finished 2 days ago so fingers crossed if all stays good he can be released in a week

This has been a great learning experience for me, I have never treated such deep dirty infected wounds. Learning how to clean them, what to remove and what to leave has been very interesting. I have also discovered a strap on head lamp is invaluable. Being able to see wounds clearly while having 2 free hands to use makes examination and cleaning more thorough. I would recommend anyone who examines animals for injuries have one. I have also discovered how to easily get heaps of termites without disturbing the colony too much. Luckily (or not) I have a few trees full of them that I take from daily.

Update!! The echidna is all healed and headed home.

Linden Baker

A big welcome to our New Members:

Marjorie Johndahl.

Marijan Freeth.

Suzette and Adrian Pelt.

Tamsyn Hogarth.

Jacquie Franklin.

Coal Stream Alliance

Bridget Thorn.

Marino Alvarez

Jill Wallace

Coal Stream Alliance is our latest organisation member and sent us the Echidna *Rocky Road*.

President's Report August 2010

Well this week has certainly been an interesting one for me, both happy & sad. I took a turtle to the dentist this week for a fractured shell repair. Thank you to Shamus and his dental assistants for helping Burger (as Kylee named him/her). Our little shelled friend is now in the capable hands of Kylee for recuperation ☺

My second trip was with a koala to the Vets. This female was picked up by some friends of Mari at Bloomsbury. She appeared to have an advanced stage Chlamydia, which was confirmed by Dr Mark Williams. On closer examination we found she was in poor condition, with worn down teeth, indicating an old koala. Unfortunately the decision was made to send her to koala heaven as prognosis for a satisfactory release at her age was not good ☹

The good part of this story, however, is that Ray & Jacqui who found her are interested in becoming members and may be able to provide a release site for wildlife ☺

National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference

This event was absolutely wonderful, I could have sat through days more of all the interesting information (see Conference report in this newsletter). We would like to send a huge thankyou to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for approving our grant application. The next conference is going to be held in Townsville in 2012, probably June or July. This will be much easier for more of our members to attend, so please keep this in mind and mark on your long range calendar, as honestly, it will be well worth attending.

Upcoming Workshops

The committee is currently organising two more workshops, another New Members Orientation on 12th September and a workshop with Dr Jim Pollock in October, topic and date to be finalized. I have also made some other contacts with trainers at the conference, so we may have further options to choose from down the track too, depending on finances.

Grants

We were successful in receiving the grant from the

Gambling Community Benefit Fund for two members, Wendy Adams and myself to attend the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference.

We were also successful in receiving a grant from The Whitsunday Regional Council to purchase Aviaries and Rescue Baskets. Thank you to Lola for submitting this one.

We have applied for another grant, 'Food for Wildlife' to set up an insect breeding colony. If successful we will purchase bulk mealworms, crickets, woodies and earthworms which Linden will be breeding, giving carers ready access to supplies. I have also spoken to Proserpine State School who will also be participating in this project, breeding extra earthworms and mealworms for us.

We are looking at applying for another grant to purchase more material/supplies to enhance our School & Community Education Project, such as bags, other goodies and relevant literature to be able to give out to the school children when we do our talks plus would like to get funding for more workshops. We would also like to obtain funding for some more workshops for members.

BP Fuel Vouchers

FRW would like to thank **BP** for their recent offer of fuel cards to volunteers. Some members did apply for these and were successful.

Sponsorship

Two areas we are currently looking at sponsorship for is the hotline and food supplies. I am currently liaising with a company on the hotline sponsorship, whilst Col is working on finding sponsorship for the food supplies.

Bat Vax

Linden Baker, Peter Basso & myself are now fully vaccinated against Lyssavirus and able to rescue and care for bats.

Possum Boxes & Possum Species Liaison Officer

Again this year I have organized for the students at Proserpine State High School to make more possum boxes. These boxes are for the possums that come into care and will go with them to the release site. If you do need any boxes please contact our Possum & Glider Species Liaison Officer, Barb Adamson. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank

President's Report August 2010 cont.

Barb for stepping up to this new role. Please ensure you keep Barb updated with the details of animals in your care and ring her should you have any queries regarding possums or gliders.

Macropod Species Liaison Officer

I would like to introduce to you our new Macropod Species Liaison Officer, Wendy Adams and say thank you to her for taking on this task. Wendy has had over 6 years experience with caring for macropods and has been trained by Lynda Staker. Wendy and her husband Roy have also just finished a release enclosure on their property for Agile Wallabies, partly funded by FRW. I believe Wendy has already been in contact with most of you, so please remember to keep Wendy up to date with all animals in your care and advise her of any changes as needed. If you haven't previously registered your interest to care for macropods or your situation has changed, please don't hesitate to give Wendy a call.

Small Animal Species Liaison Officer

We now also have Linden in this position. Small animals covers just that, the others critters that don't fit into the other categories such as bandicoots, quolls and the native mice & rats. Thanks to Linden for putting on yet another hat.

Other Vacant Positions

Just a reminder about other positions we would still like to fill. Maybe you are unable to care for animals but still like to find something to do to help our wildlife. If so one of these jobs could be for you!! These are currently being covered by committee members, but as we have enough on our plates with general committee business, animals in care and other things we would like to do in our spare time, we would really appreciate some help with these!

Newsletter Editor (Thank you to Col for filling in on this one until we find someone else).

Hotline Co-ordinator

Grants Co-ordinator

Fundraising & Events Co-ordinator

Site Inspections

Barb Adamson and I are currently conducting some

site inspections with the view of release sites for possums and wallabies. We have done two so far, recommended small enclosure for babies on one, and a larger release enclosure on the other. We do have another one to look at hopefully this week which is on 200 acres and sounds ideal. If you have a property or maybe know someone that has a property that you feel may be suitable as a release site, along with the time needed to care for some animals, please contact the appropriate Species Liaison Officer for further details and to organize a visit.

PetPep Presentations

Barb & Rebecca Adamson presented another talk to the Proserpine State School students on July 22nd plus we have another two more lined up at Bowen and Collinsville. This is a great opportunity for us to educate the children about our wildlife, their environment and the work that FRW does, as, after all, some of these children will hopefully grow up to become future wildlife carers themselves. Thank you, ladies for attending this important event.

I would like to say thank you also to Rebecca McRae who stood in for me while I was away at the meeting with Ros Giles from the PetPep Programme.

Flight Aviary

I have finally heard back from my insurance company, spoken to the builders and it is anticipated that work will start on replacing the aviary in about 4 weeks, so hopefully it will be up and running again by baby bird season this year!

Animal Records

Yes, I am going to nag again, but **PLEASE** ensure your animal records are submitted either to me via email or post or enter them yourself on our on-line animal record system. These statistics are important, as they will support many of our funding and grant applications. If you do have any queries or need some help with your records please do not hesitate to call either myself or your Species Liaison Officer.

Cheers

Jacqui

The Temporary Editor

As noted in the last newsletter we have a new Editor – me, Col Forster. Although I am also your Treasurer I am probably better known as Di Jessops partner.

First a big thank you to the retiring Editor, Sandy Cleeland. The newsletters she produced were a credit to this organization and are a hard act to follow.

You will notice in the Presidents report and elsewhere in this Newsletter that Editor isn't the only job up for grabs at the moment. A lot of work goes into the running of FRW and that workload is shouldered by too few members. I can just see many of the older members nodding their heads in agreement to that statement; most of them have done their time on the committee as well as in many of the other administrative/organizational roles within the organization.

I can't help but stress to all members the importance of attracting new members and then encouraging them to take an active role.

So, who is going to put their hand up to become Editor, Hotline Co-ordinator, Hotline operators.....?

Col – the temporary editor.

Free Trees

Christine Peterson of Whitsunday Catchment Landcare is again offering plants to FRW members. Christine says *It is important people contact us first so that they don't get peeved when we aren't there*, so give her a call. The offer:



Photo: Christine Peterson

Whitsunday Catchment Landcare is happy to offer 10 free trees to FRW members for habitat purposes or for material for animals in care. To redeem your trees call WCL on 4945 0267. Collection is by appointment only; on pre-arranged Thursday mornings. All plants supplied by WCL are local indigenous species grown by volunteers at the Whitsunday Land and Water Community Centre, a WCL and Whitsunday Regional Council project. If you wish to lend a hand in a fun social setting please give WCL call or email: wcl@whitsundayrc.qld.gov.au Volunteer activities usually occur on Thursday mornings and the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Precis Treasurers Report 19 07 10

Account Balances

The figures provided below are as at AM 19/07/10.

FRW Acct.

Balance \$2,398.02

Maxi acct.

Balance \$5,974.01

Expense claims

Food claims \$25

Vet and medications \$103.05

Stamps and admin \$149

Rescue baskets \$215.80

Bills to pay

Proserpine Vet. \$16.15 Medications.

Telstra Bill. \$65.47 due 27/07/10

Outstanding Business

Council Grant, aviaries. Funds paid still to process purchases.

NWRC Grant claim requires several invoices required for processing.

Lola to purchase brochure stands to \$50

Col

The Next Generation of Carers?

Barb McLennan received a Hotline call in May from the 121 Children's Centre Vacation Care in Cannonvale asking if someone would be able to come and talk about our native animals and the work FRW does. After speaking to Jacqui, Barb phoned around to find someone to go. On July 5th Kylee, baby and I (Sandy) attended.

There were 21 children ages ranging from 5 to about 8. They all appeared to enjoy the talk and loved the colouring in activities. There were coloured coiled snakes everywhere each colouring in with their own ideas. Some did diamond patterns another just plain black with a red head, they all looked rather good once they were cut and ready to hang. The children all had a lot to say with their little hands constantly in the air to ask questions. Each child was given a brown paper carry bag to take home with materials collected and printed relating to wildlife including FRW's new brochure. It was a few fun filled hours and I hope they have come away learning a little more about some of our local wildlife eg. that echidnas can and do swim and to stay away from snakes.

Sandy Cleeland

Reflections 1

I waited a long time to get to my present stage in life when I could devote lots of my time to the care of wildlife and in particular young wallabies.

After settling into my new life in the Airlie area I joined the local wildlife group (Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc), made some great new friends and fell in love with many baby wallabies. The responsibility and commitment are continually a wonderful and happy experience.

I wish I could share the stories of every member's experiences with every special creature that comes into care. For many of us that is what belonging to our local organization is about. For some people it is to contribute in lots of other ways. So I would just like to say to our amazing and committed carers in this area you are so special and what a wonderful difference you make in the world, helping injured, orphaned and helpless creatures.

Barb McLennan

Rotary Raffle



The Rotary Raffle was drawn at a dinner on the 21st of June. The dinner was attended by (From left to right in the photo) Geoff and Sandy Cleeland, Col Forster, Di Jessop, Rebecca and Cameron McCrae, Lola and Mel Mudie. Attendance at the dinner allowed FRW the possibility of further prizes. Unfortunately FRW didn't sell any of the winning tickets nor win any of the prizes on offer on the night. We didn't go home entirely empty handed as Di did win a bottle of wine and of course the raffle did raise \$1,880 for FRW. A big thanks to Rotary, Bec McCrae who organized it for FRW, and all the members who bought and sold tickets. Rotary plan that the raffle will only be bigger and better next year.

Col.

PS. A quick note as Treasurer. The total value of the Raffle was over \$80,000 that all went to volunteer organizations.

Sausage Sizzle

(Modified from Presidents Report Newsletter 53)

The sausage sizzle at the Airlie Beach Markets was a huge success. Thanks to Barb McLennan for not only the idea in the first place, but also putting the whole event together, organising the helpers for the morning, seeking and collecting donations, organising the signs and transporting some of the goods to the markets. Thank you so much Barb! Several members attended and participated, a big thanks to them.



Thanks to the Whitsunday Lions Club for their kind loan of the BBQ trailer, supplying the gas for the BBQ and the site on the day. Thank you also to our sponsors/donors, **Fausts IGA, Coles Supermarket, Brumby's Bakery, Master Butchers, Copy Connection, Airlie Beach Hotel/Capers Restaurant, and Di Jessop.** A total of \$560, was raised.

Editors Notes:

1. A simple idea and a great financial success; any other ideas out there?
2. Have another look at the sponsors and remember, *they have supported us it is now your turn to support them!*

A **New Members Orientation** was held on Sunday 18th July.

In attendance: Tamsyn & Nathan Hogarth, Jacqui Franklin, Bridget Thorn, Matthew Reed. Marino Alvarez, Carol and Richard Anthony. Also: Lola Mudie, Col Forster, Jacqui Webb, Barb Adamson.

Next New Members Orientation 12th Sep.

Reflections 2

It was a Saturday night, I was home and busy with the television on in the background. My attention was captured by an ad for a wildlife group on the television appealing for carers. As I was not really sure of what this entailed, I had an impulse to ring the telephone number being announced and find out more about what was excitedly racing through my mind. I had always been passionate about creatures and always new one day I would have the time to dedicate to helping wildlife babies and revel in the whole experience.

Within a week or so I had paid a small joining fee, completed the application form and I'd also met some of the members and felt good about my decision. Shortly after that I received a telephone call from the Secretary asking if could help sell some tickets to boost the club's funds. I thought, yep, I want to be an active member and not just a vocal member so off I went on Tuesday nights and really enjoying myself, whilst meeting more new club members. By this time I was reading everything I could find time for on the care of bats, possums, wallabies etc. My lack of experience and limited knowledge was daunting. However, they had faith in me and within a short time I had a call from a carer who asked if I would be interested in taking a little wallaby called Beau. I was beside myself with excitement. I honestly couldn't eat all day thinking about this little "baby" who was coming to live with me.

The next step of course was to visit Beau, organize pouches, liners, bottles and wallaby milk. This was all organized with Beau's original carers, with whom I spent the day, familiarizing myself with Beau and his daily routine.

So now, about three years on from that one telephone call I am looking back at one of the happiest times of my life.

Barb McLennan

FRW Noticeboard

Upcoming dates of interest:

Seniors Morning hosted by Jan Jarratt Wednesday 11th August 10am

The Flying Fox Summit & Expo to be held in Cairns on Friday 13th August.

http://www.ozarkwild.org/noticeboarddata/Flying_Fox_Summit.pdf

Committee Meeting: Monday 16th August

FRW stall @ Swap Meet Sunday 29th August 7am - 1pm, volunteers for stall wanted, contact committee

New Members Orientation 12th of September.

Committee Meeting: Monday 20th September

Workshop(s): Jim Pollock 15th & 16th October. All details (incl. dates) to be confirmed.

Positions Vacant:

- Hotline Co-Ordinator
- Hotline Operators
- Bat Species Liason Officer
- Newsletter Editor
- Fundraising and Events Co-Ordinator
- Grants Co-Ordinator

The Recent Past:

Wendy Adams and Jacqui Webb attended the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference in Adelaide 22nd -24th June. Their participation was funded by a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. Jacqui has written a synopsis that I will try to make available on the FRW website. Most of the papers are now available on the website www.nwrc.com.au, just click on the timetable link for access. The next NWRC will be held in Townsville in 2012.

Other Stuff:

Sandy Cleeland has a contact for hollow logs. If you need hollow logs for your aviaries / enclosures contact Sandy. Thanks Sandy.

Sponsors mentioned in this Newsletter

Fausts IGA	Coles Supermarket	Brumby's Bakery	Master Butchers
Copy Connection	Airlie Beach Hotel/Capers Restaurant		Di Jessop.

Thank you to

JAN JARRATT'S OFFICE

for printing of the hard copies of this newsletter.



Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

P.O. Box 806 Cannonvale 4802

Hotline: 07 4947 3389

FRW **Management Committee**

President

Jacqui Webb 4947 3308
0427 176 966
[Email: jacqui.webb@bigpond.com](mailto:jacqui.webb@bigpond.com)

Vice President:

Rebecca MacRae 4946 4988
0427 675 507
[Email: firstagency@bigpond.com](mailto:firstagency@bigpond.com)

Secretary:

Tamsyn Hogarth 0409 530541
[Email: frwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:frwsecretary@gmail.com)

Treasurer:

Col Forster 4946 1713
0439 762130
[Email: col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au](mailto:col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au)

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership Officer

Lola Mudie 4946 1281
[Email: melo@mackay.net.au](mailto:melo@mackay.net.au)

Linden Baker 4946 1198
[Email: james.chisholm@bigpond.com](mailto:james.chisholm@bigpond.com)

Barbara Adamson 4946 7572
[Email: barbaraadamson@bigpond.com](mailto:barbaraadamson@bigpond.com)

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS **SPECIES LIAISON OFFICERS**

Food Supplies

Linden Baker 4946 1198

Koalas/Birds/Raptor/Echidna/Hotline
Co ordinator
Jacqui Webb
4947 3308 0427 176 966
[Email: jacqui.webb@bigpond.com](mailto:jacqui.webb@bigpond.com)

Small Mammal Liaison Officer

Linden Baker 4946 1198
[Email: james.chisholm@bigpond.com](mailto:james.chisholm@bigpond.com)

Macropod Species Liaison Officer

Wendy Adams
4958 5661 0419 7438801
[Email: royle.wendy@bigpond.com](mailto:royle.wendy@bigpond.com)

Bats Vacant

Possums/Gliders:

Barbara Adamson 4946 7572
[Email: barbaraadamson@bigpond.com](mailto:barbaraadamson@bigpond.com)

Reptiles/Koalas:

Linden Baker 4946 1198
[Email: james.chisholm@bigpond.com](mailto:james.chisholm@bigpond.com)

Bowen Area: All species

Carol Cosentino: 4785 5497

Website Editor:

Gerry O'Connor 4947 3180
[Email: wallaby1943@gmail.com](mailto:wallaby1943@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor:

Col Forster 4946 1713
0439 762130
[Email: col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au](mailto:col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au)

FRW Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/FAUNA-RESCUE-WHITSUNDAYS-ASSOCIATION-INC/187303798354>

FRW Website

www.frw.org.au

FRW Animal Records

<http://www.frw.org.au/AnimalRecords/AnimalRecords.php>

QPWS Jubilee Pocket 4967 7355

DERM/EPA HOTLINE 1300 130372

INCLUDES MARINE STRANDINGS

POLICE

Whitsunday 4948 8888 (24hrs)
Proserpine 4945 1333
Bowen 4761 3500
Collinsville 4785 5377

RSPCA Mackay 4953 4265

WHITSUNDAY SHIRE COUNCIL 4945 0200

ALL SNAKES

Peter Basso (fee charged)
0439 478140

Kylee Gray (fee charged)
0424 456254

Brian Dawson (fee charged)
0439 331 035
(Bowen area)

POSSUM & SWOOPING BIRD **RELOCATION**

Peter Basso (fee charged)
0439 478140

VETERINARY SURGERIES

Whitsunday Vet Clinic
Julie Ruddell
29 Sugarloaf Rd
CannonValley
49461028

Orchid Valley Vet Surgery
Mark Williams
Cnr Shute Hbr Rd & Orchid Valley Rd
Cannonvale
49 461631

Proserpine Veterinary Surgery
Bill Bowman
Fay Elder
11 Waite St
Proserpine
4945 1878

Bowen Veterinary Clinic
156 Richmond Road
Bowen
4786 4864

Brolgas Rest Vet Clinic
36 Don Street
Bowen
4786 3166

FRW Newsletter 54 – August 2010

For those of you receiving a hard copy of this Newsletter:

If you are happy to receive it by email instead please email me col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au

Whilst the committee is happy to continue sending hard copies on request it saves the environment and FRW funds if we can email it instead.

Col

TO:

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays
Association Inc.**



**Caring For Our Native Wildlife
4947 3389**



From:

Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

P.O. Box 806 Cannonvale 4802

Hotline: 07 4947 3389