



NEWSLETTER 64 SEPTEMBER 2012

Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

P.O. Box 806, Cannonvale 4802

Hotline : 07 4947 3389 – ABN 60 931 156 282

WALLAROO

*PHOTO : Michelle
Coates/Jack
Strickland*

Daydream Island has their own population of wallaroos and about a month ago now a little Joey was found by Management.

The poor fellow was emaciated and given into the care of a couple from the Living Reef Department, Michelle Coates and Jack Strickland. It was later found that unfortunately his mother had been in an accident which had left him to fend for himself.

They took him in as one of their own and with time and care nursed him back to health. Both grew to love the cute little guy as they shared a room and their lives with him.

After having tripled his weight it was decided by management that he was to leave the island. Michelle & Jack are strongly hoping that one day he will be released on the island with the rest of his population.

Michelle is now a member of Fauna Rescue and being a passionate wildlife lover she is in the midst of progressing her career in the animal industry.



**Wallaroos are found in variety of habitats usually
where there are rocky outcrops with caves or
overhangs to provide shelter**

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*Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not
necessarily those of Fauna Rescue Whitsundays
Association Inc.*

WELCOME

FRW would like to thank all our members for their ongoing support which is greatly appreciated. We would also like to welcome the following new members :

Michelle Coates

Marjolein Meyer

Michelle Muscat

Sue Currie

Carole & Trent Mulholland

Janine Sanders

Faye Paterson

Jo Bell

Matt Dunlop

Matt Neal

MEDICATING OUR ANIMALS

Sandy Cleeland

Recently I attended the National Wildlife Conference in Townsville and a QWRC Wildlife Rehabilitation Training Weekend at Padaminka Wildlife Refuge near Mackay. Some things that came out of these meetings that I felt were pertinent to me (and may be useful to other carers) are noted below.

Most of us dislike giving medication and injections but we must remember we have, and our children had, vaccinations when available for tetanus, whooping cough, chicken pox etc. We need to do the same for our charges where vaccines are available.

When multiple animals are kept together it is probably wise to worm them the same as you would do for your own cats and dogs. Ordinarily macropods can handle large burdens of parasites, but if the animal has been under stress with strange surroundings, different noises, being without mum, these stressors can trigger a lowered immune response and parasites can then become a problem.

One of the more serious intestinal parasites associated to macropods that have been compromised over a period of time is Strongoloides. These can be eradicated with the simple oral use of Ivermec. Linden has Ivermec in stock for worming, which is taken orally, just pop the syringe in the side of the mouth and bingo done.

The **5 in 1 Vaccination** for sheep & cattle, although it is not specifically for macropods, is a very cheap way of treating bacteria *Clostridium tetani* (Tetanus) and bacteria *Clostridium perfringens* (Enterotoxaemia) to which macropods are very susceptible. Nth Qld Wildlife Care vaccinates all of their animals and all animals transferred to them are tested to see they have been vaccinated (they will have antibodies).

FRW has stock of the 5 in 1 vaccination available from Linden (4946 1198). There is also a stock in Mackay available for our Mackay carers thru Marjolein Meyer (4959 7043 or 0427 677 9550). If you are not confident in giving subcutaneous injections to your animals mention this to Linden as we have many members who can assist you with this.

Recent studies on the 5 in 1 vaccination, presented at the wildlife conference, indicate that following the recommended course of vaccination, including a pre-release vaccination, gives very good protection to our wildlife while in care and following release. Our FRW committee strongly recommends that all macropods in care should be vaccinated & wormed and that these are provided free to our FRW carers. This was discussed at the last committee meeting (1/9/12).

Some animals such as Eastern Greys, Pretty Face (Whiptails) and Black Stripe are susceptible to Coccidiosis which usually has a 100% mortality rate. Coccidiosis seems certainly to be exacerbated by having a lot of animals in pens over a long period of time – especially if poo is not cleaned up several times a day.

To prevent Coccidiosis a medication called Amprolin was widely used in macropod pellets. This preventative has been removed from pellets so alternative prevention should be sort such as a single dose of Baycox every few weeks (would probably work if given once a month). As well it is recommended dosing animals prior to movement to a pre-release facility and between carers. Treatment means two doses 24hrs apart, but prevention can be a single dose. It should prevent a build-up of oocysts in the environment.

Some diseases can be prevented by good management e.g. myopathy. A joey that is confined in a small pen too long cannot build its heart and leg muscles. Once released it may have a heart attack the first time it is asked to run fast, though more likely the deterioration will be more gradual with death occurring within 18 months of release.

Toxoplasmosis

You might say my animal has no contact with cats so how can it get toxoplasmosis. Do you know where your hay, sorghum, grasses, comes from and are you sure that no cat defecated on the bales? Most produce suppliers have cats about to clean up the mice which often lounge around on the bales or maybe the producer had cats around his barn. The disease is often the result of contaminated cats defecating on food, such as Lucerne, while in storage, or on grass within an enclosure or from grasses collected for food. It's not like the animal's eating a lump of cat poo - the poo is as a dust is rotted down and in a dry dust like form.

I always said I was cat free, which we are, but I have neighbours who have cats. These cats are not confined at night they possibly roam into my compound as we have found paw marks on our car windscreen. All it takes is for the wallaby or kangaroo to eat some contaminated food.

Macropods are extraordinarily sensitive to toxoplasmosis possibly from not being exposed to this disease prior to the introduction of the domestic cat some 200 years ago (Blyde 1999). Infection is not always accompanied by the disease as it often lies dormant in tissues awaiting a period of immunosuppression due to stressors from illness, aggression, transfer, other animals added to enclosures etc. An attempt at making a vaccine has been unsuccessful to date.

Margaret Neihoff has produced a paper with dosages that they in Townsville have found successful. Can be found online in papers presented to conferences.
www.awrc.org.au/uploads/5/8/6/6/.../nwcc-neihoff-040727.pdf

Papers presented at the last conference are available on line.
<http://www.awrc.org.au/townsville-2012.html>



Patty is a healthy and happy Bettong after being vaccinated
PHOTO : Sandy Cleeland

FAUNA RESCUE WHITSUNDAYS INVITES YOU TO



THE



LINDA DENNIS WILDLIFE TRAINING WEEKEND

Linda will be presenting
WILDLIFE AWARENESS
and
A GUIDE TO THE CARE OF MACROPODS

WHEN : 27TH & 28TH October 2012

WHERE : QWPS (Cnr Shute Harbour & Mandalay Rds, Jubilee Pocket –
Mandalay Road entrance)

TIME : 8.30am til 4pm

**COST : Members Free, Non Members \$20 per day including
refreshments. Course CD \$ 20**

**RSVP (frwsecretary@gmail.com or 4959 1901/4947 3389) by
20th October 2012**

**All FRW members or anyone interested in helping our native
wildlife is invited to attend**

LINDA DENNIS' WILDLIFE TRAINING WEEKEND PROGRAM

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2012

8.30am – 4pm

WILDLIFE AWARENESS – A general introduction
to wildlife rescue and care

Identification and Spot the Difference Taxonomy

Rescue

Short Term Care

Living with Wildlife



SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2012

8.30am – 4pm

A GUIDE TO THE CARE OF MACROPODS

Meet the Macs

General Biology and Development

Rescuing

Hydration

Raising Orphaned Joeys

The Unwell Joey

Housing

Caring for Adult Macropods

Release and Living with Macropods



THANK YOU

FRW WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO KINDLY
OFFER THEIR ASSISTANCE AND WHO HAVE MADE
DONATIONS INCLUDING

**Coles Cannonvale, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Ono's Liquor,
Whitsunday Regional Council, Bunnings, Brumbys, The Bunnings BBQ Crew,
Ellen Paroz and Jason Costigan's office (for the printing of our newsletter)**

"SUPPORT THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED FRW AND OUR WILDLIFE"

ARCHIE & HARVEY

WORDS & PHOTO : Sue Bell

On the 3rd September, 2012 I was asked by Barb if I would take on 2 little agile wallabies that Betty had raised from Pinki's. Of course the answer was yes. So, Harvey and Archie arrived via Andrea .

The bigger of the two, Harvey about 1.5kgs, was a nightmare the first night, as he was so keen to be out of his bag. We had him tearing thru the house nonstop, even ending up in the bath !! Little Archie at 1kg wasn't so active, and a bit easier to control.

They both love their bottles and, from the get go, always have had good amounts of wees and good little nuggets. Both were eating a lot of grass and roots and sweet potato in their bags at night - tho, I did have to empty my large walk in robe and set them up in there at night, so they couldn't damage themselves or my house - ha ha.

They love going out on the grass during the day and both are thriving. Betty had done such a good job raising them from so little and they will have a long and healthy life from now on.



FREE CARING/RESCUE SUPPLIES

Various information brochures

Disposable cage liners

Pouch linings, hanging pouches and assorted pouches for
small mammals (i.e. pinkie joey, possums)

Towels

Various medical supplies

SAMPLES OF THESE ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL OUR MEETINGS,
WORKSHOPS AND GET TOGETHERS

SECOND HAND CAGES

Sizes - Width x Depth by height
(approx)

550 x 400 x 400

450 x 450 x 450

370 x 250 x 400

450 x 350 x 650

Also s/hand snake mesh and
shadecloth

CONTACT COL FOR MORE DETAILS

If you have any useful items related to rescuing or caring for wildlife to either give away or sell
contact Lola Mudie on 07 494 1281 or melo@mackay.net.au

BABY SITTING WOMBATS

I was recently down in Tasmania babysitting a wombat while his full time carer took a well deserved holiday. I have now acted as babysitter for three Tasmanian Common Wombats (*Vombatus Ursinus Tasmaniensis*) of various ages on separate occasions. Caring for a wombat is a long term commitment as it can be 18 months to 2 years prior to release.

Story & Photos :
Suzette Pelt

My Tasmanian friends have cared for and released 5 wombats varying in weight between 500g up to 4kg on arrival, Four of these were females with Wilbur the first male they had raised and because he was older when he was found he was, and remained, quite timid.

Tasmanian wombats are slightly smaller than mainland wombats with very coarse fur to keep them warm. The first baby wombat (Flo) I had experience with was very playful, like a clockwork wind-up toy, very funny and full of character – but never missed an opportunity to have a bite! Older females loved a cuddle with their bottle. They bond with one person only, so sometimes carers may have a hard time getting them to feed.

My latest charge, Wilbur, was rescued after his mother died in a car accident and was dehydrated and traumatized when he first came into care weighing in at 4 kgs. Weight is the important factor for determining their stage of development with weaning occurring from around 8-12kg and it can happen quickly, within a week.



Wilbur

At 8kg Wilbur weaned himself off the bottle. Often it can be triggered when their teat gets old and they won't take a new one. They then go onto a diet of grass, pellets, hay, oats and carrots. On any drive or daily walk I would be on the lookout for good grass with roots and soil attached to bring home for Wilbur!

As his hormones kicked in and weighing around 16kg Wilbur started to become aggressive, a sign of growing up. Wilbur became very vocal snorting and grunting and started chasing his carers and taking chunks out of their legs! So from then on feeding time was mostly limited to when he was sleeping as he became too unpredictable.

They are solitary animals and in the wild their mothers chase them out at around 20kg. By this stage their hard rumps, which is what they defend themselves with, are big enough to be able to block a burrow. Working with Parks staff, release sites around the state are identified. Optimum sites are in the same area as where they were found, but this is not always practical.

Release site burrow near the highlands lakes



Release sites need special pens where they live for a few weeks and then the door is opened. Sometimes they may re-visit their pens for a short time. Burrows will be used by a number of wombats, but only one in at a time. The first release site burrow, near the highland lakes, where their first two wombats were released) is currently actively being used after quite a long time of no activity although it is no longer used as a release site..

Wilbur was released mid August on a property in the north, a known wombat area. Late winter/early spring would give him the best chance of survival. The property owner camped out near the site for a few nights to see that all went well and believes Wilbur came back once but he hasn't been seen again.

Have you seen a wombat in our area? If so please contact the hotline to let us know where it was sighted. FRW has never had a wombat in care but there have been occasional reported sightings...

BEST FRIENDS

PHOTO : dailymail.co.uk

Meet Anzac the Kangaroo and Peggy the wombat. This unlikely duo have become best friends since meeting at Wild About Wildlife Rescue Centre near Kilmore in Victoria.

Both orphaned at around 5 months the two very different joeys share a pouch and have become inseparable. Abandoned by his mother Anzac was rescued in the Macedon Ranges and taken to the Rescue Centre for care.

It was there that this special relationship began. Peggy had been feeling very lonely since losing her Mum with no other young wombats in care to keep her company. After Anzac's arrival staff decided to try pairing the two for company. With similar outgoing personalities it was a match made in heaven and both are thriving. The centre hopes to find another wombat joey for Peggy to bond with as she grows older but until then Anzac will keep her company.



OUR INCREDIBLE WILDLIFE

STORY : Barb McLennan

I can't imagine what my life would be like without the ever amazing experiences of sharing emotionally with the wildlife which I care for – be they orphaned or injured. Joining Fauna Rescue Whitsundays was a hesitant decision but I have never regretted it – well occasionally maybe when I have a "loss".

It's several years now since "Joycie", as a baby Agile Wallaby, came into care with me. I wrote a story about her when she had her first baby and about the magic which I experienced watching her parent and nurture her first born. I released Joycie onto my property when she was about twelve months old and she still returns regularly for treats (special wally pellets and sweet orange potato etc) and to show me her latest baby.

This little story is about Joycie's last little girl who was furred and had started spending time out of her mum's pouch when she felt safe. She was exercising her independence and having lots of fun playing with her mum. I so loved watching the connection between them and the trust that Joycie Junior (Joycie's fifth joey) had in her mum. I was relieved on a daily basis that dogs, snakes etc had not harmed either of them. As we all know living in the wild is not an easy life – predators, drought, floods, fires and lack of food.

One day a few weeks ago the "girls" called in for a treat. I saw them hopping up the hill and I noticed that Joycie Junior had a sore leg. As they got closer the extent of the injury became more worrying and her little right leg was obviously broken. I could also see that the main toe on her left foot was badly injured – this did not look good so I caught her and took her to one of our wonderful local Vets.

The devastating verdict was that she could not survive in the wild without the use of her leg. She would not be able to escape predators, neighbourhood dogs etc so she was euthanased. I brought her home and when Joycie came looking for her on dark I sat on the ground with her baby and showed her – hoping this would help her realise and deal with her loss. All those months of feeding, toileting and keeping her safe in her pouch and all that love was suddenly gone.

Joycie gently nuzzled and pummelled her baby for quite some time before licking her for a long period. She then just stood there with her hands touching her and leaning on me and we shared a depth of sadness that I will feel always. It was around midnight and I sat there with Joycie, marvelling at the depth of nature's animals feelings. I reflected on how there was little difference between what I had shared with this mother in comparison to what I had, in the past, shared with my human friends during their grief.

She was very lonely for quite a while and was here more than usual. I guess she is learning to make the best of life and her friends Lucia and Ziggy (whom she grew up with in care) are keeping her company.

This just reminds us never to underestimate how incredible each one of our native animals is.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Aug - Sept 12

Conference

Well the last Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference was absolutely brilliant. There were several FRW members there, myself (also wearing the QWRC hat), Sandy, Di, Kylee & Carol. We all had the best time, learnt lots and met some amazing people etc. It was wonderful to catch up with the wildlife people I had met at the previous conference plus some of my mentors Dr Jim Pollock, Eleanor Pollock, Dr Anne Fowler as well as meet face to face the many people & friends involved in wildlife that I have only ever dealt with over the phone (such as my fellow QWRC councillors, Glendell, Vicky and Annette), via email or on facebook. One of those wonderful email/facebook people would have to be Linda Dennis (Fourth Crossing Wildlife), who I am working on getting up here to do some training for us and Andrea Devos who publishes the online Wildlife Rescue Magazine. Andrea is always looking for articles and photos for this so if you would like to read some great articles on wildlife or submit something yourself visit <http://www.wildliferescuemagazine.com/>

I also spent some time with Ruth Haight, talking about the Rehab of the Western Long-necked turtle (which Ruth presented a paper on) as well as one of my other favourite subjects, archaeology. Diane Hunter also presented a paper on the plight of these turtles and the effect the drought had on them, subsequent rescue mission and has shared her freshwater turtle measuring chart with me which I have since had printed and laminated 4 copies for us turtle carers, printing and laminating kindly donated by Deb Henshall, Paradise Printing.

One of the many lectures at the conference was one on Chlamydia in Koalas. There is a lot of research being carried out at the moment into a vaccine for Chlamydia and we are encouraged to submit samples of any koala we have in care to be tested. Population control/contraceptive is also being studied with koala populations and this may also be useful in controlling animal populations that are at risk of overcrowding in certain areas such as with koala populations on islands and roos.

Another lecture was presented by Dr Derek Spielman on the efficacy of the 5 in 1 vaccines in macropods. I won't bore you with all the nitty gritty here of his interesting study (you can read it on the net) but his studies do prove that these vaccines give them a good resistance to tetanus providing the correct vaccine regime is used. I strongly recommend that these vaccines are used by all macropod carers. We do have this in stock so contact Linden to organize the vaccinations. I used to use them years ago when I was rearing macropods in SA and none of my babies or any of the other carers babies had any signs of ill effect.

Dr Anne Fowler presented several interesting papers too, on Quarantine in captivity, Nutrition & Food Preparation for Wildlife & info on the recent outbreak of Paramyxovirus in pigeons, which could have an alarming affect on our native birds should it spread to Qld. I just love Anne Fowler, she has such a bubbly personality, is very entertaining and knowledgeable as well. And yes she does wash her hands, we caught her in the loos during a break and ensured she was washing her hands correctly, I have photos to prove it!

Something that our carers do need to know is there is a new wombaroo booklet available that Linden will have in stock very soon. Any of you using these milk formulas do need to get yourselves a copy as there have been some changes to the feeding regime and as we all know with wombaroo you do need to follow the directions to give our babies the best diet.

I guess there is a lot to share and if I continued to tell you all about the conference I would take up all plus more of this newsletter. Most of the papers from the conference will be available on the website soon.

Workshops

As we have quite a few new members at the moment we are hoping to organise another New Members Orientation Workshop very soon, which is designed to encourage new members to come along, meet us and other new members and allow us to explain, via a powerpoint presentation, how FRW operates, what new members can get involved in and how we can help our members.

As mentioned above I also am working on getting Linda Dennis of Fourth Crossing Wildlife here. Linda is an experienced wildlife carer and lectures on Fauna First Aid which is a wildlife lecture program that Linda established in 2004. The lectures are aimed at wildlife carers, veterinary nurse students, schools and community groups.

Release site

Work is still progressing on our new release enclosure for wallabies at Dingo Beach and most of the hard work has already been done. If you can offer a few hours of your time to get this project finished please contact Bob.

Cheers, Jacqui

Wallabies sparring
PHOTO : Sandy Cleeland



*Little Bent-wing Bat –
photo : flickr.com*



BATTLING BUGS

With the spring now here we will all start seeing more of those annoying flying insects, such as mosquitoes, that drive most of us crazy. There are, of course, a few exceptions to this rule – one being carers of insectivorous charges who will be happy with the opportunity to easily catch dinner for their “babies”.

We all know the role many natives (such as birds, frogs, snakes and lizards) play in keeping irritating bugs under control. There is however one other pest controller who, while making a large impact on insect populations, is rarely thought of – the Microbat.

Although we do not often see them our Microbats make up one fifth of all Australian mammals. There are over 60 species with some weighing as little as 3g when fully grown. Our region is home to several types of insectivorous Microbats including the Little Broad-nosed Bat and the Common Bent-wing Bat.

Despite their lack of size these tiny animals have a HUGE appetite. With a diet that includes mosquitoes, moths and beetles these tiny animals can eat up to 40% of their own body weight per night. A single bat can eat up to 500 insects per hour which can mean thousands per night – a great help in controlling our mosquito populations. Microbats use echolocation to target their prey catching bugs mid flight and smaller prey can even be eaten while still in the air.

They can be so effective at pest control that in some parts of America farmers install bat boxes to encourage the bats to roost and help protect their crops saving on insecticides and reducing damage to the environment. Insect-eating bats are worth at least \$3 billion — perhaps as much as \$54 billion — per year to US agriculture alone, say biologists who evaluated their ecological contributions.

So why not consider making a bat nesting box for your garden to help encourage our Microbats to your place. Go to <http://www.tvwc.org.au/help/article14/building%20a%20microbat%20nestbox.pdf> for more Microbat information and detailed instructions on how to build your own bat nesting box.

POSSUM & GLIDER REPORT SEPT. 12

Thanks to our volunteer sewing champ who is now madly sewing Wallaby pouches after a record 120 possum pouches. Thank you heaps again to Ellen for the great job she continues to do.

At the moment we have 4 possums in care in Whitsunday Barb Has 2 and Lorelle has 2.

There is one special girl who is photographed here and her story is incredible : She lost her mum in Mackay and was in care at the time of her second trauma that we know of. Her foster mum took her shopping as you do when they need regular feeds and warmth as the fur is not grown fully.

When the mum arrived home some 10kms away with her bags of shopping, she finished unloading and realized her baby was missing, so after a search of the car, came up with no answer she went back to the city centre where she had last parked. Scoured the car park hoping the baby in the bag had not been hit.

No luck so she looked up and saw the local noodle bar (closest shop) still open, went in and asked has someone handed in a bag found in the car park. And yes there was one put under the counter. When the mum asked if they looked at the contents, the answer was “ no they just put it under the counter”

This little girl was very lucky as it could have ended with her being traumatized further or injured and her life was once again able to go on and hence the name Noodles.

She now lives with Lorelle and Duncan and has a alcoholic (just joking) boyfriend called Bundi. We know these two will have a great life at Lorelle and Duncan’s and we will have more news later.

*Noodles (photo : Barb
Adamson)*



Cheers, Barb.

Possum/Glider SLO

HOW YOU CAN HELP

XMAS RAFFLE CO-ORDINATOR

DESCRIPTION : Person urgently needed to co-ordinate Xmas Raffle. Our Xmas raffle is a great fundraiser for FRW and we need someone to organise and co-ordinate volunteers – no previous experience required.

WILDLIFE CARER

DESCRIPTION : Carers are desperately needed for all species. The only qualification needed is a love of animals. Work on the front line and help save lives. Carer packs available to help with setting up

WILDLIFE RESCUE

DESCRIPTION : Rescuers are needed for all species for calls received to our 24hr hotline. Love animals but don't have enough time to care – this is the perfect job for you

HOTLINE CO-ORDINATOR

DESCRIPTION : Coordinating hotline operators and organising rosters, no experience required, good organisational skills a benefit, work from home with hours to suit your lifestyle

HOTLINE OPERATOR

DESCRIPTION : Answering 24hr hotline, no experience required, work from home with flexible hours (you could answer for an hour, ½ day), good listening skills an advantage

ANIMAL RECORDS OFFICER

DESCRIPTION : Person wanted to enter records into database - keep up to date with info on the latest rescues and how animals in care are progressing. Some computer experience required, work your own hours

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

DESCRIPTION : Friendly, outgoing person wanted to coordinate fundraising and events to help promote FRW. No experience required but good organisational skills useful

OUR ANIMALS NEED YOUR HELP! CONTACT FRW COMMITTEE FOR MORE DETAILS

OTHER WAYS TO HELP FRW

- HELP WITH SAUSAGE SIZZLES/HOT DOG STALLS OR MANNING DISPLAYS AT SHOWS/EXPOS,
 - HELP WITH RESCUES OR RELEASE SITES
- DONATE UNWANTED ITEMS AS PRIZES OR FOR USE TO CARE FOR ANIMALS
 - HELP A CARER WITH HOUSING MAINTENANCE ETC
 - SEW POUCHES OR MAKE OTHER HOUSING
- USE YOUR EXISTING TALENTS AND SKILLS TO HELP FRW IN SOME OTHER WAY

FREE WILDLIFE MAGAZINE

Don't forget to check out Issues four and five of the free wildlife magazine available at the below links. Issue Four has some great information on Wombats and Tawny Frogmouths while Issue Five features Possums.

<http://www.wildliferescuemagazine.com/issue-four.html>

<http://www.wildliferescuemagazine.com/issue-five.html>

DIZZY LIZZY THE ECHINDA

WORDS & PHOTO : Linden Baker

OK not a real echidna like name, but that is what this poor echidna's problem is. It (not sure of the sex) was hit by a car six weeks ago in Bowen. No visual wounds just a couple of slightly damaged quills. The damage has been all to the brain. Whether it is an injury that will repair itself, only time will tell.

On first assessment, we (the vet and I) thought there was not a lot of hope as the body was pretty limp with no real attempt to curl up which is the first thing an Echidna should have done. So it was a course of Baytril (antibiotics) and basically wait and see what the morning held.

The next day off we went to the Vet again to check. I held little hope as it had not moved at all through the night and was doing some very deep, slow breaths which was very abnormal. Surprisingly though, when I picked it up for examination it curled around my hand. Yeah!

We thought we would see what would happen when it was put on the ground. Unfortunately not a lot. Normally an x-ray is recommended to ascertain any bony injuries with any Echidna's but with the breathing as it was vet Tess thought survival with an anaesthetic, (which is needed to see properly) was unlikely. We took one without it which in which all the larger bones seemed undamaged but with an unrelaxed body we couldn't be sure. So Antibiotics for a week, back home again, lots of termite hunting and cross my fingers.

Over the next couple of weeks it steadily lost weight and spent its time when awake walking – or more accurately stumbling with very little co-ordination around the perimeter of its small pen (plastic tub). Tess had ascertained by then that there were no broken bones so it was still wait and see as these types of injuries can be a long time healing.

I was really concerned with the weight loss, by then it had lost 500 grams (started at 2.5 kg). It would eat termites but refused all other food for 4 weeks. I have found out since that they do normally drop quite a bit of weight when first in care. Thankfully over the last couple of weeks it has started eating a mince mix and it is time again to see if there is any improvement. Tonight will tell – I hope...

Yeah! Just had a test walk out on the grass, still wobbly but big improvement hopefully a few for weeks will do the trick. Fingers crossed.



Preparing for X-ray

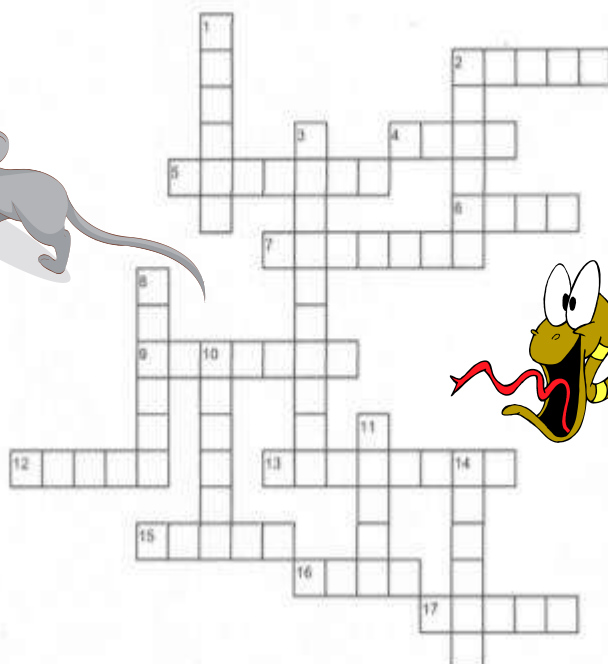
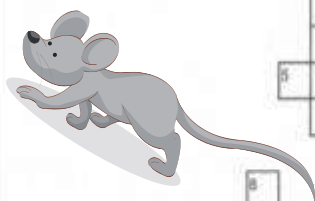
FOR SALE

If you have any useful items related to rescuing or caring for wildlife to either give away or sell contact Lola Mudie on 07 494 1281 or melo@mackay.net.au

Possum books by Sonya Stanvic
"Rescued" compiled by Jodie Blackney
Re-useable heat pads \$20
Assorted FRW t-shirts (from \$12.00)
Rescue baskets \$20
Car signs
Lawn signs

WENDY WALLABY'S FUN PAGE

See next page for
answers



Across

- 2 Australia's biggest python
- 4 Snakes need this to stay active
- 5 What snakes do to get warm
- 6 Some snakes hatch from these
- 7 A favourite with many snakes for dinner
- 9 A snake is one of these
- 12 These snakes dine solely on insects
- 13 These snakes have a ridge in the middle of each scale
- 15 What venomous snakes use to inject their poison
- 16 Snakes do this when they outgrow their old skin
- 17 Some snakes use this to immobilise or kill their prey

Down

- 1 A snake uses this to find its prey
- 2 What snakes have instead of fur
- 3 What most snakes use to hide from predators
- 8 The shape of a snake's tongue
- 10 A snake which mainly uses constriction rather than poison to kill its prey
- 11 Some snakes are born _____
- 14 These pythons are named after a type of floor covering

WHAT AM I?

**My venom is strong enough to
kill a small dog**

**I can consume my own
bodyweight in 24 hours**

I hatch from an egg

**I first appeared on earth around
100,000 years ago**

**I was hunted until the early 20th
century for my fur**

**I spend most of my life in the
water**

**When Australia first sent
specimens of my body back to
Britain they thought I was a
hoax**

FAMOUS AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS

What Australian animal was made famous worldwide by Steve Irwin?

What Australian animal starred in her own TV show in the late sixties?

This Australian animal featured in some Loony Tunes cartoons.

What is the only venomous mammal in Australia?

What is Queensland's animal emblem?

This animal was one of the stars of A Country Practice.

These three animals were our mascots for the 2000 Olympic Games.

What two animals are on Australia's coat of arms?

This Australian snake is one of the most venomous snakes in the world.

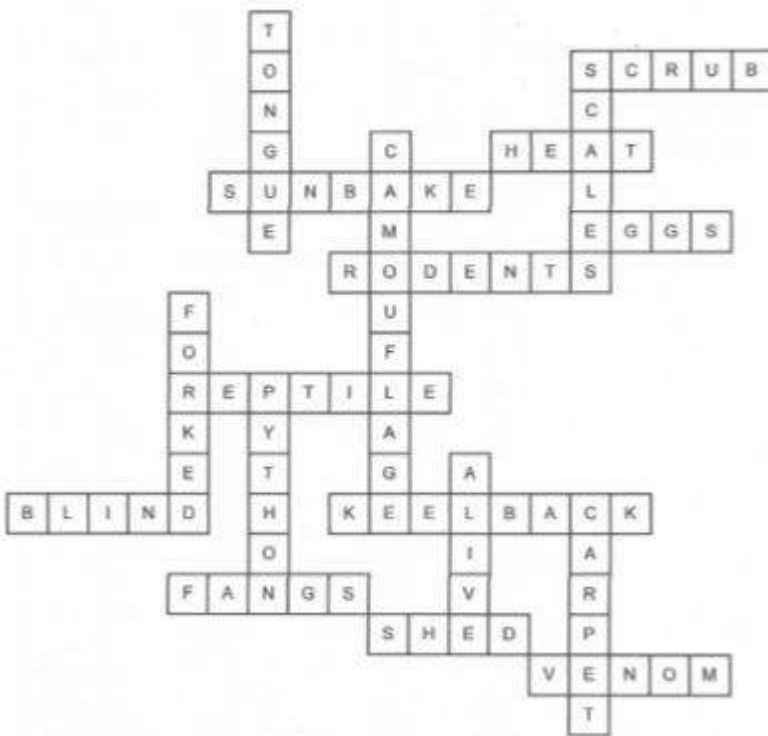
What Australian animals are featured on the old one and two cent coins?

FRW NOTICEBOARD

UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	MORE INFO
Thursday mornings and 3 rd Saturday of each month	Volunteer for Landcare Activities	Various locations	Contact WCL - Christine Peterson 4945 0267 for details
14 th October, 2012	Dr Peggy Rismler – Echinda Workshop	Sunshine Coast	Contact education@wilvos.org.au to book or for further details
27 th & 28 th October 2012	Linda Dennis Workshop	QPWS	See invitation on pages 3 & 4 and contact FRW Committee for further details

WENDY WALLABYS' FUN PAGE ANSWERS



The Saltwater Crocodile

Skippy the Kangaroo

Taz the Tasmanian Devil

The Platypus

The Koala

Fatso the Wombat

Syd the Platypus, Olly the Kookaburra and Millie the Echinda

The Kangaroo and the Emu

The Inland Taipan

A Frill Necked Lizard (2 cent) and a Feather Tail Glider (1 cent)

WHAT AM I? - I AM A PLATYPUS

Photo : australiananimalslearningzone.com.

INTERESTING FACT : Platypus use electrolocation to help detect their prey. Sharks and dolphins also use electrolocation to hunt.





Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

P. O. Box 806, Cannonvale 4802

Hotline : 07 4947 3389

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

FRW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS/SPECIES LIASON OFFICERS	WHITSUNDAY SHIRE COUNCIL
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Vice President – Lola Mudie (also Membership & Merchandising Officer) Phone : 4946 1281 Email : melo@mackay.net.au	Proserpine Rock Wallaby SLO – Sandy Cleeland Phone : 4947 3324 Email : sandy.cleeland@optusnet.com.au	ALL SNAKES Peter Basso (fee charged) 0439 478 140
Treasurer – Col Forster Phone : 4946 1713 0439 762 130 Email : col_forfrw@yahoo.com.au	Bat SLO – Alix Cunnington Phone : 4959 1901 0459 415 590 Email : frwsecretary@gmail.com	Kylee Gray (fee charged) 0424 456 254
FRW COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Possum & Glider SLO – Barbara Adamson Phone : 4946 7572 0458 525 700 Email : barbaraadamson@bigpond.com	VETERINARY SURGERIES
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NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS/SPECIES LIASON OFFICERS	FRW Animal Records http://www.frw.org.au/AnimalRecords/AnimalRecords.php	RSPCA MACKAY 1300 852 188
Koalas/Birds/Raptors/Echidna SLO & Hotline Co-ordinator – Jacqui Webb Phone : 4947 3308 0427 176 966 Email : Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com	QPWS Jubilee Pocket 4967 7355	RSPCA HOTLINE (INCLUDING MARINE STRANDINGS) 1300 ANIMAL (264 625)
Koalas/Reptiles/Small Mammals SLO & Food Supplies – Linden Baker Phone : 4946 1198 Email : james.chisolm@bigpond.com	DERM/EPA Hotline – 1300 130 372	POLICE
	KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST FRW NEWS ON FACEBOOK	Whitsunday 4948 8888 (24 hours)
	FRW Facebook http://www.facebook.com/pages/FAUNA-RESCUE-WHITSUNDAYS-ASSOCIATION-INC/187303798354	Proserpine 4945 1333 Bowen 4761 3500 Collinsville 4785 5377

ADVANTAGES OF NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

Fast delivery! Colour pictures! Saves the environment! Saves FRW money!

Whilst the committee is happy to continue to send hard copies on request if you are happy to receive it by email instead please let me know at frwsecretary@gmail.com

KEEPING US UP TO DATE

All our members are valuable to us. If you should move, change your phone number or change your email address please don't forget to contact Lola Mudie (our membership officer) and update your details. This will ensure that you are kept up to date with all the latest FRW news.

TO:

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays
Association Inc.**



HOTLINE :4947 3389

RETURN ADDRESS :

**Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.
P.O. Box 806 Cannonvale 4802
Hotline : 07 4947 3389**

