



**Native
Animal
Rescue**

**December
2016**

Help us help wildlife (08) 9249 3434

Letter from the President

As 2016 draws to a close and 2017 looms large in the window, it's time for us to acknowledge the hard work and effort that our tireless volunteers have put in at Native Animal Rescue (NAR) over 2016, doing their part in treating and caring for sick and injured wildlife. I'd like to personally thank all of our volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

According to the latest research, over $\frac{3}{4}$ of all species are on the verge of extinction. So no matter how small our organisation seems, always remember that we are undertaking vital work to stem the tide of species decline. As such, the important work that volunteers do should never be underestimated.

I'd also like to extend a special thanks to all our NAR executive members, who spend their time managing all the activities at NAR, and without their support it would be impossible to keep NAR operating.

Finishing off the year also gives opportunity to reflect on the past year achievements and challenges, so we can plan and learn for a more prosperous and sustainable future for NAR going into 2017. In terms of our financial position, we have managed to pay off all our obligations (debts), and our accounts are now in the black, which is a HUGE success for management considering that at this time last year we had closed our doors to wildlife admissions due to financial stress. In terms of our fauna, we have lost two Kestrels that just could not be saved, but we believe that our Bandicoots in the Woylie enclosure are surviving, and foraging well.

Aileen Strumpher is going to set up some video cameras so we can capture this success, which we hope can be used to help researchers study the decline in the species.

Over the past year we had several leaders leave NAR, or the Executive for greener pastures. As a volunteer organisation we understand this to be inevitable but nonetheless, I'd like to say thank you for your efforts over the past year.

These are:

Outgoing Executives:

- Owen Gregory
- Deb Russell
- Mike Jones
- Sam Loughridge

The Board

- John Lemon

I'd also like to make a special mention to all our Board, Executives, volunteer team leaders, and our fundraising team:

Board Members

Steve Coombes
Marshall Pelham
Lisa Cornelius
Keith Morris
David Neck
Collette Sims

Executive Members

Marshall Pelham	David Manning
Ruth Malley	John Deal
Jenny Seymour	Ashleigh Wolfe
Julian Perez	Scott Clark
Donna Dagg	Brighton Downing
Kelli Ellemor	

Fundraising Team

Martin Greenwood
Dave & Cathy Trice
Aileen Strumpher
Pauline Savage
Anna Van Oosten
Ruth Last

Team Leaders

Stuart Muldoon	Danielle Wood
Sarah Turner	Jaylin O'Sullivan
Aileen Strumpher	Louisa Carlsson
Julie Bristow	Annika Baynham
Tea Vanderwal	

Looking forward, 2017 appears very promising for NAR in terms of our financial position, however our work continues for our native wildlife, so the work we do is only a small part in the scheme of things in wildlife conservation, however if we all do our part to preserve our fauna habitats we can slow the decline in extinctions. I'm very excited about the future work we have planned in collaboration with the Perth Zoo for the coming year, and I encourage you all to keep up the hard work and support.

I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Kind regards,



Marshall Pelham
President – Native Animal Rescue



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Black Cockatoos

by Mike Jones and Jaylin O'Sullivan

It's been another busy year for NAR's Black Cockatoo Team and once again all of our team has done a great job. The big news of the year was the announcement of our first red-tail chick who has been named Makuru. In Noongar language, Makuru is one of their seasons which is early winter, June-July, and the time when Makuru was born. Makuru is now 5 months old and has changed a lot from being a little ball of fluff. Thinking he is a he, Makuru is eating natural foliage which our team gives the birds and is flying well with the others. As you can see mum still isn't too far away and keeping a close eye on him.



At the beginning of the year we had another release but this time our Carnaby's Cockatoos were part of a study to be tracked and see what their movements are and how many stay together or go on their own. Just last month we were notified that one of old released male Carnaby's Cockatoos from 2015 had been sighted a few times in the Perth Hills with a female partner and looking at some hollows for potentially nesting and breeding. You can see this story on our Facebook and the link on our Webpage. This is exciting news for us and for everyone involved being one of two rehabilitated and released birds to be sighted with a mate at a hollow and being recorded. Stories like this one are what we're all about and it gives not only ourselves but our team of volunteers pride in what we do.

We want to thank our team for another great year and welcome the new members of our team and also thanking them for their effort. We also want to thank the public for contacting us regarding injured Black Cockatoos that have been found and bought into NAR. The continued support from the public is greatly appreciated. We have some exciting times planned for 2017 to continue our care for the birds in particularly our resident birds so stay tuned. Merry Christmas everyone from the Black Cockatoo Team and have a safe and wonderful new year.

Mammals

by Louisa Carlsson

We have had a few baby Brushtail Possums come in this year, unfortunately we had to have two euthanized, one due to a fractured humerus and the other had a fractured skull. The young that have been hand raised this year, are now in the second stage of rehabilitation and are outside eating plenty of fresh foliage foraging for food. We release these young when they reach about a kilo in weight and are always looking for great release properties. If you know of anyone with a suitable property, let Kelli or Louisa know.

Bobtails

by Ashleigh Wolfe

There was a mass breakout from Bob's Hotel last month. Both Bobtails and the Blue Tongue decided to explore the big wide world for a few days before anyone noticed that they had gone. Amusingly, one of the Bobtails (Toddles) came wandering down the path while David Manning was delivering animal handling training. He leapt at the opportunity to demonstrate how to pick up a wild Bobtail, only to have Toddles at her docile best, sitting in David's hands without so much as a hiss. It was only when the breakout was discovered did we realise that we had had Toddles in our grasp.

Sadly she has since disappeared and is now on her own personal adventure around the NAR property. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our volunteers and work-for-the-dole participants the other Bobtail (Titch) and the Blue Tongue (Mr Grumpy) were found and returned to a far more secure enclosure. If you see a big bobtail on the property, please let me or Kelli know immediately – it may just be our lovable Toddles!

Birds of Prey

by Anna Krieg

The Bird of Prey team is a new initiative at NAR, encompassing our educational birds of prey (Harriet the Kestrel, Chips the Barn Owl and the Tawny Frogmouths), as well as any wild birds of prey admitted into the clinic. Building of the team and training in handling Birds of Prey is planned for 2017. Some of our education animals have been moved to bigger and better enclosures (F1,2 & 3) with sand and mulch being used as substrate. I am currently training an Australian Little Falcon who will hopefully be released early next year, and we are also updating the diets of the education raptors to provide better nutrients and as a form of enrichment. In November 2016 two baby Boobooks went on a ride down to Margaret River to the Eagles Heritage where they were placed with other Boobooks in an enclosure where they will be trained to hunt and then released on the property. In December another young Boobook was passed on to Just Raptors in Geraldton to avoid overpopulation in the one area.



Any volunteers interested in joining the Birds of Prey team, please see the notice board in the lunch room.

Waterbirds

by Annika Baynham

Currently Waterbirds is home to an Australasian Grebe, a Silver Gull chick, some ducklings, an Ibis and some cygnets. We did have some Plover chicks in residence which unfortunately died, but otherwise our success rate has been positive. We released some Oblong Turtles and had three Southern Giant Petrels in earlier in the year. Special thanks go to Soils Ain't Soils, who very generously donated enough white sand to provide flooring for 3 enclosures. Their prompt answer to the call for help was greatly appreciated.

Any volunteers interested in joining the Waterbirds team, please see the notice board in the lunch room.



Releases

by Annika Baynham

There was much excitement when 8 Pacific Black ducks were released at Lake Joondalup a few months ago. The send-off was a little chaotic with cries of "lead, follow or just get out the way!" On a return visit we were able to locate 5 of the 8 released ducks. We're just hoping that the other 3 were playing hide and seek with us.



Volunteer & Memberships Update

by Donna Dagg

Volunteers

I would like to profile two volunteers this issue. Julie Bristow has been volunteering at NAR since 2009, Julie's commitment, help and support is greatly appreciated, her knowledge and experience in animal handling and examinations is first class. Julie is always willing to take animals home to give them the best start to life. Her willingness to assist in all areas, cover extra shifts and relieve in the Team Leader role is an asset to the team.

Anna Krieg has been volunteering at NAR since November 2014, Anna's knowledge and experience in all areas is outstanding and her commitment to our animals is first class. Anna's animal handling and examination skills are exceptional. Anna is always willing to take animals home to work with them. She works with the Black Cockatoos and is the Team Leader in charge of birds of prey, looking at training, diets, enrichment and enclosures for these animals.

Julie and Anna have a wealth of knowledge and are more than willing to share with others so we can all learn and gain more understanding about our wildlife.

Memberships

A new membership system has been implemented recently which will be more efficient in capturing our existing members, new members, donors, life members and send renewal notices out in a more timely manner.

In the last 3 months we have inducted 112 volunteers. Given that we do minimal advertising to entice new volunteers, this figure demonstrates a heartening dedication amongst WA people to animal welfare.

Call Centre

The call centre has been operational for several months, with good results, our database has 7,000 people who have once been members or supported NAR in some small way. We are currently making over 200 calls in a day with 100 people receiving our Newsletter and have seen a rise in our Membership and Donations.

On the Funny Side

by Ruth Malley

There's never a dull moment at Native Animal Rescue, especially when volunteers are doing strange things like feeding fruit to our kestrels. But the hilarity award goes to the following two stories which come to us via Jackie Hamilton.

STORY ONE: We picked up a dove from a vet recently. When vets call us to get birds picked up they fill in an Admission Form which asks the question "what was it doing?" meaning, what was the animal doing when it was found. The vet must have misunderstood the question and answered "gardening". We can only assume that he was referring to the person who brought the bird in. But much laughter ensued as people speculated on what the dove was doing when it injured itself. Did he run over himself with the lawnmower? Or did he accidentally clip his own wings while using the whipper snipper? We'll never know.

STORY TWO: Jackie received a call from a woman who insisted that there was a baby crocodile on her front lawn. She was quite distressed and desperately wanted us to come out and take the scary beastie away. After discovering that the woman lived in Westminster, a suburb not known for invasions by baby crocs (unless you count the shoe kind), Jackie asked for a description of the critter. When she pointed out that it was most likely an adult bobtail the woman got quite angry saying "I know what a bobtail looks like!" When Jackie declined to send out a crocodile wrangler the response from the caller was "If that crocodile comes into my house and eats my baby, it will be on your head!" Seeing as there have been no reports of babies becoming dinner for crocodiles I think we can all probably sleep safely.

If you have any funny stories, please let us know! It can be great fun to laugh with friends when something silly happens.



Fundraising

by Ashleigh Wolfe

It's been a busy couple of months for fundraising with a range of activities adding to NAR's coffers. We've had a number of garage sales, a Tupperware party, an online auction on Facebook, shopping centre displays at Whitford City, Sorrento Quays, and Morley Galleria, and we also attended the Wanneroo Show. While the totals are still coming in, the Fundraising team estimates that we have raised over \$20,000 in 2016 for NAR!

Since coming on to the Executive Committee as Promotions Coordinator, I have also arranged for additional fundraising activities that our volunteers can participate with. As of November we have started selling Cadbury fundraising chocolates. You can buy a box to sell to friends, or if you're only in the mood for a few, come down to reception and see what we have on display. On that note, we have a new fancy display cabinet in reception, and I'm keeping it stocked with new items as they become available.

On display now are:

\$1 each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NAR rescue cards ○ Cadbury Freddos
\$2 each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green and orange natural cleaning sprays ○ Thank You postcards with envelope (echidna and joey designs available)
\$3 each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Packets of homemade dog biscuits ○ NAR tea towels (two designs available)
\$10 each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NAR rescue packs (includes a NAR box, tea towel, rescue card, rubber gloves, and animal bag - what a bargain!)

In the next few months we will be hosting more animal displays at local shopping centres, BBQs at various Bunnings stores, and a stall at Yanchep's Spirit Festival. Keep an eye on the events board in the tea room for opportunities to help out!

In 2017 NAR will also be fundraising with the Entertainment Book, which offers discount coupons to hundreds of food, retail, and vacation providers. A percentage of all Entertainment Book sales will go right back to NAR, so if you have any family or friends who have used the Entertainment Book in the past or would like to in the future, let them know that NAR will be available as a charitable donations recipient. I'll be sending out more information about this as it comes.

Finally, fundraising is a group effort, and we could use your thoughts. In December NAR had Calendars (sold out!) and Christmas Cards for sale, which helped us raise awareness and \$150 after covering our costs. These were a fantastic idea, suggested to us by volunteers. We'd love to hear your suggestions if you have any ideas for 2017. Just leave a note in the Suggestion Box, located next to the lockers in the tea room, or come and have a chat with me. If you are artsy-and/or-craftsy, we'd love to sell some trinkets such as jewellery, bookmarks, or small prints that would make great gifts throughout the year.

New Things

by Ruth Malley

Next time you walk into the volunteer lunch room, keep moving towards the back wall and turn sharply left. You won't be able to miss two new items: a suggestion box and a display of the current Executive Committee members and Team Leaders.

Volunteers are encouraged to make good use of the suggestion box. It's not just for suggestions though. It could be something that is concerning you, a big idea, a complaint, feedback or something else. The point is that we welcome your input! All forms submitted will be read and considered. We are working on a way to acknowledge your suggestions etc., so stay tuned. We ask that you be constructive and civil in what you have to say. We understand that people may experience frustrations and feel the need to vent them, but sarcasm and swearing will diminish the message you are trying to put across.

We've had three suggestions so far, all very thoughtful. There were:

- Plumbing and taps at Chuditch;
- A vending machine for drinks; and
- Taking our education animals into nursing homes for visits.

Thank you to the people who submitted those suggestions. They are under consideration.

As for the Executive Committee and Team Leader mug shots, we figured it was probably time for people to get an idea of what we look like and what our backgrounds are. So if you see us walking around you've never spoken to us before, please introduce yourselves. We would love to meet you!

We now have a fantastic collection of merchandise available for purchase, including hats, shirts, jackets, shopping bags, tea towels, rescue packs and dog treats. If you would like to have a look at any of these they can be found in the reception area in the glass cabinet (also new) and in the lunch room on our lovely body form, Trixie.

Animal Ark

by David Manning

Animal Ark are a small, family run wildlife education and training company. We have been very busy this spring and early summer travelling around WA delivering Snake Avoidance for Dogs training. We teach our canine companions through creating a negative association to the sight or smell of a snake – so the dog leaves them alone.



We often conduct the training at vet's premises. It's veterinarians after all who see how devastating and expensive snakebites are for pet dogs, their owners and also for working dogs on farms.

Estimates are that snakes in Australia bite some 60,000 dogs every year. Many recover with anti-venom treatment but about 6,000 die. Treatment usually costs thousands of dollars. We are conducting Snake Avoidance Training on 29 December in North Beach, more dates and locations can be found on our website animalark.com.au.



We have some snake handling courses coming up at NAR. NAR volunteers get 50% off. Friday 3 February 2017 has places available. Pop along to our office, call 9243 3044 or email for more information.

After the holidays we will start back at schools with our popular Animal Ark wildlife incursion program, kicking off with some school camps in February. And as the weather cools down we have wildlife displays booked at various community events in and around Perth.

As we are onsite at NAR a lot of the time we also get involved in the day-to-day activities and offer any support we can. david@animalark.com.au

Events Calendar

Community Events

Volunteers are needed for the following community events:

18 - 21 January	2017 Kingsway City Shopping Centre (with Education Animals)
21 January	Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Ocean Keys
29 January	Yanchep Farmers Market
3 – 5 February	Ocean Keys Shopping Centre
12 February	Mind Body and Spirit Festival Yanchep

Put your name down on the whiteboard in the lunch room or contact our Promotions Coordinator, Ashleigh Wolfe on promotions@nativeanimalrescue.org.au

Lectures

We are currently working to arrange some fascinating lectures for 2017, so watch this space!

Thanks to everyone who has contributed their time, effort, and/or money to helping make NAR successful in 2016. We wish you all a Happy New Year and are excited for the year to come!



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