



**Native
Animal
Rescue**

Spring 2017 Newsletter

Help us help wildlife (08) 9249 3434

Open 9am – 5pm every day of the year

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SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Welcome all to our Spring newsletter for 2017. As usual, the start of Spring has seen an increase in admissions, mostly baby birds and animals found on roads and in backyards after enduring the cool and wet winter months. September boasted some mild days that were a perfect cue to our wildlife to start becoming increasingly active, and we are still seeing that activity despite the heavy rains at the end of the month. We don't expect it to get any quieter in the animal hospital, and by the end of October we should be receiving around 30 admissions per day.

This is the perfect opportunity to launch our new donation campaign. For less than the cost of a large coffee in Perth, you can help us help the wildlife that comes through our doors. All donations will go towards food, medication and utilities, which will help keep the animals well fed, healthy, and warm. Just click the photo below or for more info go to:

<https://nativeanimalrescue.org.au/donate/>

HELP US HELP WILDLIFE FOR JUST



A MONTH

Thank you to all of our volunteers, members and sponsors. We wouldn't be able to achieve all that we do without your support.

Best wishes,

Native Animal Rescue Executive Committee



Photo: Monica Iseppi



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<https://nativeanimalrescue.org.au/involved/asp>

Did you know?

You can help support our Black Cockatoo Team through the **Black Cockatoo Sponsorship Program**. You can sponsor a bird, either currently under rehabilitation or a permanent resident education animal, to help support the costs of vet bills. Sponsorships are available either on a monthly or annual basis from \$10 per month. If you are interested in sponsoring a cockatoo, please visit our website.

ANIMAL UPDATES

Black Cockatoos

Mike Jones, Jaylin O'Sullivan

Releases

The hard work our Black Cockatoo Team have been doing since our last release has again paid off, and we have had two recent releases. On the 18th of May we released Carnaby's Cockatoos at Yanchep National Park, and on the 17th of June we released Forest red-tails at John Forrest National Park. This is always the best part of the job for everyone. Some of the birds in care at Flight Path were not yet ready for release, and we kept them back at NAR to give them the best chance of survival in the wild. These birds were either only at NAR for a short time, still needing time to recover and get stronger, or young birds that must first reach young adulthood to give them the chance to learn from older birds and then become more independent.

We had stories printed in the Community Newspapers for both releases to show the public what NAR is doing and provide a good news story to read about. We'd like to offer thanks to everyone involved: the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (formerly DPaW) Parks and Wildlife Service, Perth Zoo, the staff at Yanchep National Park and John Forrest National Park, Birdlife WA (for information from their Great Cocky Count), and last, but not least, NAR's Black Cockatoo Team.



Photo: Monica Iseppi

New Arrival

Last year you may have read or heard that we had our first Forest red-tail hatch at NAR. This year, we're spreading the good news again! On the 17th of July another ball of fluff hatched its way into the NAR family. Now just over two months old, our little one is still in the hollow being looked after by mum. Since hatching, our team have been carefully monitoring the chick and mum. At the three-week mark, we started weighing the chick and giving visual examinations. At its first weigh-in during week three, the chick was only 127g! It then grew to 206g at week four, 300g at week five, and 419g at week six. By all accounts mum is doing a great job with her first chick. The chick is looking healthy, growing fast, and very vocal, especially when calling out to be fed.

We won't know if it's a male or female until it starts to get its adult feathers.





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Found a joey?

If you find a joey in the pouch of a dead, sick or injured mother mammal, give us a call on **9249 3434** to help arrange a rescue. Don't attempt to remove the joey from the pouch if the mother is still alive, as this will cause unnecessary stress for mum and bub, and your chances of injury are high as mum tries to protect her joey. It's always worth checking pouches of dead animals – you might find a baby possum, bandicoot, kangaroo or wallaby that can be given a new lease on life. Give us a call for instructions on how to remove the joey safely. For more information about joeys, visit our website.



ANIMAL UPDATES

Mammals

Louisa Carlsson, Danielle Wood

Possums

As for many other centres, it has been a crazy possum year for NAR. So far, we have had over 30 possum admissions in 2017. Admitted possums ranged from 50g orphaned joeys to 2.4kg adults with injuries from motor vehicle accidents. All of the orphans went straight to our Foster Team, while the adults were able to set up shop in our Recovery Rooms and slowly but surely recuperate. We are happy to report that most of the possums have seen a new lease on life and have been successfully released, or are at their last rehabilitation phase.

A special thanks goes to all our dedicated foster carers who nursed these possums 24/7 until they were old enough or well enough to move back to the centre for pre-release. We would also like to thank the many rescuers who were able to spot a possum in distress and organise it to come to NAR to start its rehabilitation journey.

Building Better Enclosures

Most of our mammal admissions have been possums and bandicoots, but that doesn't mean our Macropod Team hasn't been hard at work! The Team have been busy renovating our kangaroo enclosure to accommodate joeys during their pre-release stage, allowing them to have shelter from the weather, as well as plenty of space to build up their strength and learn how to be kangaroos. The pen isn't yet finished, but we hope to have it done in time for the warmer months.

Wallaroo on the Mend

Red the 1 year old wallaroo came to us a few months ago after being removed by authorities from a member of the public who was unable to care for him properly. Red has seen his fair share of ups and downs, suffering from gastrointestinal infections, malnutrition, and even a split eyelid! With special thanks to his foster dad Tom and the dedicated vets at Greencross Vets Ocean Reef, Red has finally made it to the next stage! He has since been transferred to a property north of Perth to spend the next little while before eventually being released, a healthy young adult, back into the wild.





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Silkworms join NAR

At the start of November we received a generous donation of 600 silkworms by local Bugtastic insect enthusiast, Aidan Moebius (plus a very supportive mum). The silkworms are being used as supplementary feeding for sick and injured insectivores, including magpies, ravens, bearded dragons, King's skinks, and bobtail lizards. We are hoping to let some of the caterpillars pupate and emerge as silk moths. We'll look after the eggs to let a new generation of caterpillars supplement our feeding, and the moths are absolutely adored by tawny frogmouths and, would you believe it, our sugar glider and squirrel glider!

If you would like to make a donation of any kind of suitable food, from leftover fruits and vegetables, to peppermint and eucalypt tree prunings, our animals always appreciate having a variety of foods.

ANIMAL UPDATES

Reptiles

Ash Wolfe

Rat menaces

Rats are a very serious threat to reptiles, especially bobtail lizards. The rats attack reptiles at night when they are cold, slow, and can't properly defend themselves. We recently had an admission of seven bobtails that were trapped in a backyard and attacked by rats. Sadly, this is not the first time we've seen this before, and, as is common for these types of admissions, most of the bobtails were so badly injured they had no hope of recovering. We were, however, able to save three and get them back into the wild.



Rats can be identified by their long tails (1.5-2x body length), covered in a fine layer of hair. WA native mammals' tails are either shorter & bare (e.g. bandicoots), or longer and fully furred (e.g. woylies).



If you ever suspect a reptile of suffering bite wounds, either from a rat, dog, cat, or natural predator, it is so important to ensure they can get treatment as soon as possible. Put the animal in a cool, dark, box that prevents flies, insects, or dirt from getting in. By keeping the wounds free from pests and dirt, you are helping to reduce the risk of infection and even fly strike!

Bobtail flu research to commence soon

We will soon be starting up an exciting project with Murdoch and Curtin Universities, studying how Bobtail Flu affects bobtails in the wild. One researcher even flew all the way from USA to be a part of this project! We will be studying how sick and healthy bobtails regulate their temperature, and how much they move. This will allow us to make direct comparisons and provide better advice to the public about how to tell if a bobtail has the Flu.

Wildcare Helpline

Spring time is also peak reptile time, so if you see a snake in your backyard that needs removing, call the Wildcare Helpline to be put in contact with a local snake removalist. You can also download their free app on iOS and android, just search for "Wildcare Helpline".





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Ducks on roads

If you see ducks on roads, please understand that the only people who can stop traffic are the Police, and you must make sure to never put yourself in danger!

Want to join the team?

We now have a team dedicated to looking after the birds of prey that come into NAR's care, and we hope to continue to play a more active role in the rehabilitation and release of these beautiful creatures.

If you are interested in joining the Birds of Prey team to help care for sick and injured raptors, owls and frogmouths, please let us know by emailing:

ANIMAL UPDATES

Waterbirds

The Waterbirds Facility was a little quiet during the winter months, but we have already seen over 100 ducklings through our doors!

If a mother duck has wandered into your backyard with her ducklings and they are not in any immediate danger, keep an eye on them and they will leave within a couple of days. Do NOT give them food, or you will end up with pet ducks that don't ever want to leave! Ducklings hatch with 2-3 days worth of yolk in their bellies, which means that they don't need to eat in those first few days of life.

Please also be aware that ducklings are not waterproof, so putting them in water may lead to hypothermia! While orphaned ducklings are very cute, they can become extremely stressed when constantly handled by people or left alone without any other ducklings. It is always in the animal's best interest to take it to a wildlife centre where it can join another group and be released back into the wild — not made into a very cute, but extremely messy, pet.



Birds of Prey

Anna Krieg

Amazing release

This Australian little falcon came into care with seemingly no symptoms, but we discovered a heavy parasite burden that took several months of TLC, plenty of food, 4 vet trips, and a few different worming treatments to remedy.

Not all rehabilitation centres are equipped to see these birds to release - this bird alone took over 600 hours of manning and training myself, Yvonne Sitko from WA Birds of Prey Centre and her volunteer Alicia, to get back into the wild. When you add to that the cost of food, equipment, and vet bills, which totalled more than \$700, it has certainly made us appreciate the other raptor rehabilitators in and around Perth.

The Birds of Prey team are currently looking after another little falcon, as well as a square-tailed kite. We are looking forward to the eventual release of those amazing birds.



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Put it in the bin!

Fishing line can entangle wildlife causing them to drown, starve and even lose limbs. Debris can also damage boat propellers and create snags for other fisherman. In the last few years we have seen an increase in the usage of these bins, and therefore a better result for the Swan River.

If you see entangled wildlife please call the Wildcare Helpline.



For the locations of the 45 bins along the river and how you can help please visit the River Guardians website.

Don't be a bird-napper!

Before you save a baby bird check that it *really is an orphan*. Some species feed their young every few minutes, while others can take an hour or more to find food for their young. Birds outgrow their nests when still immature and continue to be fed by their parents for weeks or months as they gradually learn to forage and fly. Parents will call and search for their young to feed them. Many baby birds just need a little help to be reunited with their parents.

OTHER UPDATES

Reel it in Fishing Line Bins

Scott Clark

NAR is proud to partner with the Swan Canning Riverpark and River Guardians to help keep fishing line and related items out of the Swan River waterways. NAR empties many dozens of fishing bins located up and down the Swan River each week in a continued effort to help protect the delicate balance of wildlife enriching our beautiful and iconic river. As a result of these efforts every year many kilometres of fishing line, as well as hooks, lures, sinkers and various fishing gear is kept out of the Swan River. From December 2013–December 2016 we have removed over 44.5 km of fishing line, 7,600 hooks & sinkers, 6,600 bait bags and 892 other fishing-related items.

Wildlife carer survey

Participate in an Australia-wide survey to understand the experiences, intentions and attitudes of wildlife carers and the financial, physical and emotional effort they put into being a wildlife carer.

Sydney University PhD Candidate Bruce Englefield's survey is available here: <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=NHTLWLKTRT>.

He's hoping to have at least 1,000 responses, so the survey will be open for the next few months.

Admissions Summary

Since May, we have had over 1,000 animal admissions to our wildlife hospital. Because of the poor weather and often dehydrated, malnourished and sick state of wildlife, nearly 40% of admissions are still in care. As of the end of September, our most common admissions were:

Species	# admitted	Most common reason for admission
Pacific black ducks	184	Orphaned ducklings
Rainbow lorikeets	89	Babies found on ground
Shelducks	68	Orphaned ducklings
Red wattlebirds	52	Babies found on ground
Bobtails	49	Bobtail flu, habitat destruction
Magpies	48	Babies found on ground, injuries
Pink & grey galahs	44	Babies, sick, attacked by other birds

The vast majority of our most common admissions (species highlighted in red) were baby birds learning how to fly. While we understand that people mean to rescue these birds, most of the time they will get along on their own—they're just learning. Some species, such as magpies, are highly territorial, and we need to release them back exactly where they came from. If you're ever unsure, you can always give us a call!



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VOLUNTEER & MEMBERSHIPS UPDATE

Donna Dagg

Volunteers

Two members of our Executive team will be leaving us at the next AGM:

Ash Wolfe, Promotions Coordinator, is taking a break from the Executive Committee as she ventures into her next chapter: veterinary school. A huge thank you to Ash for all your hard work and dedication to NAR, you have truly raised our profile. We wish you all the very best with your future endeavours.

Brighton Downing, Ordinary Member, has scored a full-time role in Environmental Consulting. Thank you Brighton for all your help in maintaining our manuals so that our volunteers have guidance & knowledge about wildlife, your commitment to Enrichment for our animals and ensuring that whilst they stay with us is close to nature as possible. We wish you all the very best.

A special mention to our wonderful Vets who volunteer their time to care for our animals. Thanks to Dr Karin Dryer & Dr Oisin Tracey, your medical support and knowledge is invaluable, we appreciate all your help.

Thanks to all our amazing volunteers for all your help and support in caring for our animals we currently have 160 volunteers who contribute and make a difference on a daily basis for NAR. We couldn't achieve all we do without you.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are always looking for volunteers to fill new roles at NAR. All of our volunteers must first attend an induction session and join as a member. A police clearance is also required. If you are interested in joining our diverse and interesting team, send an email to our Volunteer Manager Donna Dagg

admin@nativeanimalrescue.org.au

Events Coordinator — Events management and coordination

Responsibilities:

- Manage and coordinate major fundraising events
- Liaise with the Fundraising team and Promotions Coordinator
- Engage with supporters and local businesses positively and uphold NAR's values within the community
- Plan events with attention to financial and time constraints

Requirements:

- Demonstrated previous experience in events management (minimum 2 years)
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Ability to work autonomously and in a team
- Reliable and good time management skills
- Outstanding communication and negotiation ability

Volunteer — Some examples of volunteer activities are:

Wildlife Hospital:

- Animal carers
- Foster carers
- Animal handlers
- Animal releases

Administration:

- Reception

Other tasks

- Boat skippers & crew
- Van drivers
- Maintenance



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ANIMAL ARK

David Manning and Jenny Seymour

We recently helped to organize an animal photo shoot with the skills of photographer Monica Iseppi - the aim being to help NAR and start a photo library of quality images. These can then be used for promotion and education and to help make the NAR van more colourful! Monica and her partner Ugo have offered support on several occasions now. All at NAR are very grateful.

Besides our usual education and training programs, Animal Ark's Snake Avoidance Training for dogs is keeping us very busy this snake season. Training dogs to leave snakes alone is good for dogs and snakes! For more information see our new dedicated website at:

www.snakeavoidance.com.au

Mention NAR when booking and we will donate \$10 per dog to NAR



Photo: Monica Iseppi

As soon as we have some free time we will be offering Bobtail Avoidance Training as well – many dog owners ask us for it as they hate what their dogs do to bobtails and other lizards when left alone to wander around the garden or bush block. We are sure NAR and other wildlife centres would be delighted to have fewer injured lizards being brought in.

Speaking of bobtails, many bobtail lizards end up unintentionally injured as we try to bring those winter weeds under control. So keep your eyes open please, especially when mowing or whipper-snipping this spring.

Photo: Danella Beavis





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FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Martin Greenwood, Cathy Trice

We have been hard at work outside of NAR to help us raise money! Through the combined efforts of the Fundraising Team we have managed to frequently attend the Yanchep Farmers Market and Craigie Indoor Market, hold sausage sizzles at various Bunnings Warehouses (and Open Day!), and sell our famous home-made natural dog biscuits at local dog beaches. Since the last AGM we have raised nearly \$9,000 for NAR. What an achievement!



Can you see us?

At the start of July we received two beautiful big banners put together for us by Perth Graphics Centre and the team at Animal Ark, with beautiful photos by Monica Iseppi. The two banners have been hung up on NAR's boundary fence at the corner of Malaga Drive and Truganina Road. We hope that this will help attract interest from our local industrial area community, as well as helping people with rescued animals to better locate us.



Merchandise now available

Thinking of a small gift for a loved one (or yourself) that will help to support NAR? We have a range of items available at our merchandise cabinet in reception. We have books about creating frog-friendly gardens, pictures drawn by a local artist, unique NAR pins, mugs, and more! We are also still selling Entertainment Books, which you can order at reception or online with this link:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/9b1104>

We also have Cadbury Fundraising chocolates for sale separately, or you can purchase a whole box to sell at your workplace (or indulge in at home... we won't judge).

**Donations can be made via our website:
<https://nativeanimalrescue.org.au/donate>**



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PAST EVENTS

Open Day

On 9 July we hosted our Open Day at NAR. We saw 780 people on the grounds throughout the day, who were treated to a range of informative talks, animal encounters, and hospital tours. We also had some fantastic support from sponsors Fox Mortgages, Greencross Vets and Healthy Wildlife Healthy Lives, partners Animal Ark, and stalls held by Mad About WA, Entertainment Book, Park Lane Jewellery, WA Herpetological Society, Beanie's Pawtraits and a great sausage sizzle run by our Fundraising Team and the friendly staff from Fox Mortgages. In all we raised around \$7,300, which will go straight to helping rehabilitate wildlife. If you had a great time, or missed the day, we will be having another one in 2018!



WA Herpetological Society Reptile Expo

On 16 July (which was also World Snake Day) we packed up the NAR Van and headed to the WAHS Reptile Expo at the Claremont Showground. This was the first time that NAR attended the Reptile Expo, which increased in size in 2017 to host a range of exhibitors, educators, and reptile dealers. Attendees had a great time guessing how much our carpet python Leo weighed (4.7kg!) and meeting some of our other animals. Later in the day Clinic Manager Kelli gave a fantastic ten-minute talk about why you shouldn't feed the birds at the local pond (and healthier alternatives if you absolutely must).



Curtin University Open Day

On 6 August we made our second visit to Curtin University's annual Open Day, and we were delighted to be treated to our very own tent (shared, of course, with Animal Ark). The line was long throughout the day, but everyone had a fantastic time meeting a whole range of our education birds and mammals while Animal Ark took care of the reptiles.





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PAST EVENTS

WA Threatened Species Forum

Brighton Downing

On 7-8 September, Mike Jones and I attended the WA Threatened Species Forum, hosted by the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council, in Geraldton. This informative conference took us through talks on WA's threatened species and the inspirational groups that are racing against the clock to save these species from extinction. Just some of the topics included Numbats by The Numbat Task Force, Western Ground Parrots by DBCA, Gilbert's Potoroos by The Gilberts Potoroo Action Group, and Greater Bilbies by the Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa Martu Cultural Knowledge Program and the University of Melbourne. Threatened Western Australian

Flora was certainly not forgotten, with 8 talks providing insight into threatened species strategies as well as the interventions, science and solutions for flora protection and recovery.

With around 450 native animals and over 1,200 native plants threatened with extinction in Australia, our native species have never needed our help more than they do today. It was uplifting to hear about the science, innovative solutions and heartfelt dedication to saving our threatened flora and fauna from groups across WA.

Mike did an incredible job in a ten-minute presentation, talking about the NAR's Black Cockatoo Rehabilitation Program and the work NAR does to get these iconic and threatened birds back into the wild—some attendees even took photos and shared via social media. NAR is one of only two facilities in the state that work to rehabilitate and release the forest red-tailed, Baudin's white-tailed, and Carnaby's white-tailed Black Cockatoo. With dedication of our Black Cockatoo volunteer team with support from the Parks and Wildlife Service and Perth Zoo, NAR has successfully rehabilitated and released 36 black cockatoos since 2014, and 13 more are still undergoing rehabilitation.



170 Camboon Road Malaga
enquiries@nativeanimalrescue.org.au

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Lis McLellan @lis_mclellan · Sep 7

Inspiring - the passion of volunteers to rehabilitate injured black cockatoos
#TSForumWA @NAR4wildlife



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Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2017

Date: Thursday 19th October

Time: To commence at 6:00 PM sharp

Place: Native Animal Rescue, 170 Camboon Road Malaga

We will also have a complimentary sausage sizzle available from 5:00 PM.

All financial members of NAR are invited to join us at our AGM. At the meeting, members will have the opportunity to hear a report on NAR's operations, ask questions about the operations and finances, speak about any items on the agenda, and vote on any resolutions proposed.

The Executive Committee will step down, and nominations will be heard and voted upon if more than one nomination is made for any role. If you are interested in nominating for a position on the Executive Committee, please fill out and return the nomination form and your CV to president@nativeanimalrescue.org.au by Thursday 5th October 2017.

Summer is on the way...

As the months start to warm up, please think of the wildlife that might be in or around your property. You can potentially save a life by leaving a shallow dish of water on the ground and keeping a well-watered bird bath through the Spring and Summer months.

Please also be wary of nests in trees before conducting any tree lopping. If you find a nest in a tree, you can move it to a lower branch or another safe place to ensure the birds' parents will continue looking after them.



We are working hard to provide new and interesting events for our members and the general public. To keep up-to-date with all of our events as they become available, be sure to follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/nativeanimalrescuewa/>



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