

WILDLIFE TALES



September 2015



Wildlife Tales is the official newsletter of
Wildlife Animal Rescue & Care Society Inc.

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NEXT MEETING:

18th October at 10 am then 22nd November at 10 am 2015

*General Meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday in the month at 10 am,
at Wyoming Community Centre, 147 Maiden Brush Rd, Wyoming*

Frogs, Turtles & Lizards

So I have been away from the section for a while, it is good to be back. Currently we have few frogs, lizards or turtles in care, although some unusual calls have come through. Jessie has a Northern Dtella (a type of gecko) all the way from WA in her care; it hitched a ride in miner's tool box.

If you are not certain on your identification, please double check it with me, because we do see some odd and out of area reptiles pass through from time to time (e.g. the African Spur-Thighed Tortoise I handled a few years back).

Remember that on a rescues preparedness pays: Vaseline, paw paw are great at slicking up stuck lizards, so worth adding to your kits. Summer is coming, and like most years the frog, lizards and turtle section is going to get busy, so we are going to need all hands on deck – if you are interested in caring for frogs, lizards and turtles please contact us and we will see about arranging one on one training.

Thank you all for the support and I am looking forward to getting back into the swing of things.

Tristan Varman



Stuck Eastern Stripped Skink



Northern Dtella

Fundraising & Promotions

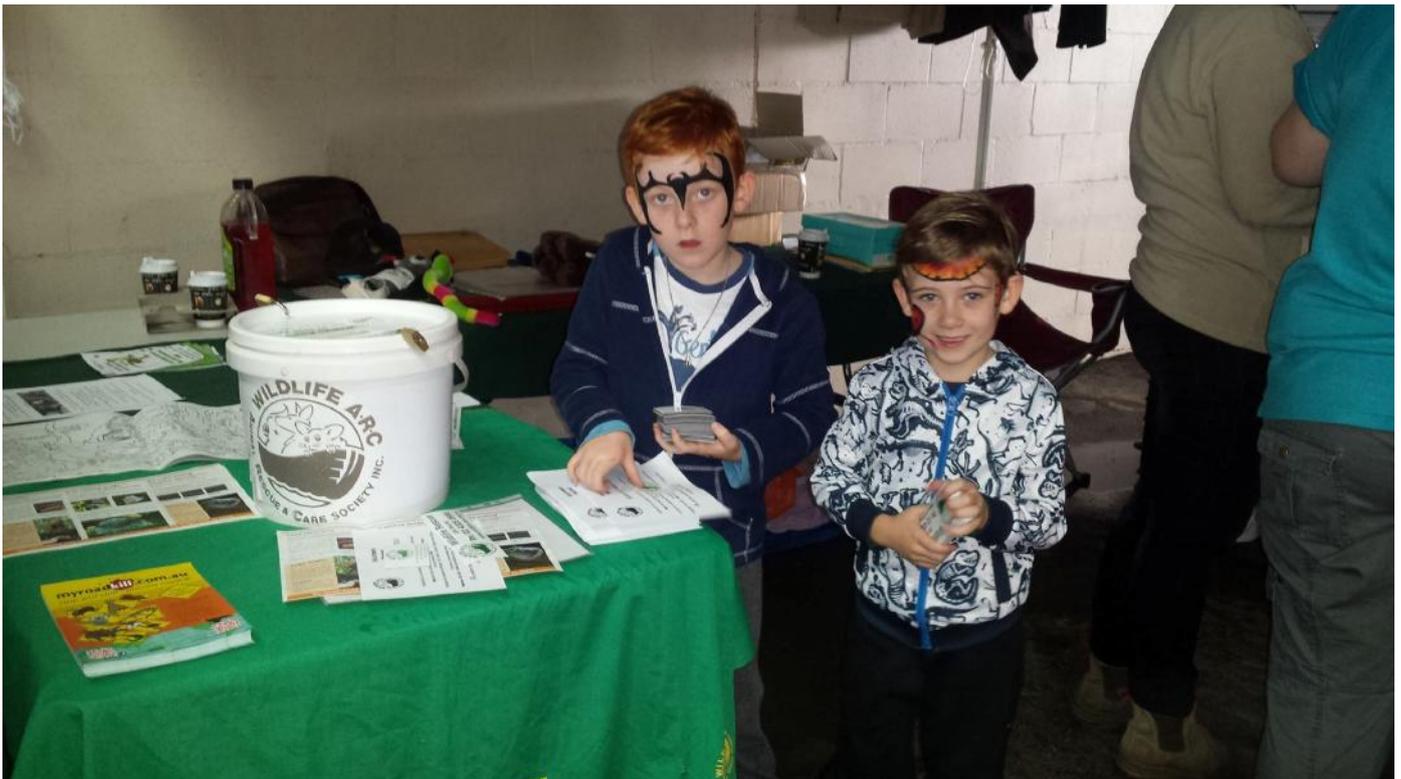
It has been quiet over winter – What have we been up to???

Wildlife ARC braved the weather and attended the Gosford Show. The weather wasn't the best, but we managed. We were there for the whole weekend and met a lot of people and got our name out and about into the community.

Thanks to everyone who braved the weather came and helped out.

Coming up there will be a Wildlife ARC Expo held at Erina Shopping Centre on Sunday 11/10/15. This will be a fun day out meeting the public and giving them information about being a part of Wildlife ARC, The head carers will be there - as well as our educational animals.

Please come to the next meeting at Wyoming to find out more details – we would love to see you there.



Phonies Report

Recorded ARC database calls have increased from last year, but these figures do not include all the 'information only' advice given by phonies on perhaps spider, out –of-area, non-native calls etc.

Being a Phonie increases your general knowledge on Australian native animals and birds to an extent where simple questions can be answered, and particularly gives them the knowledge to know who to call for the best advice. Facebook has proved to be a very useful tool in the phonies arsenal so that speedy help is available.

The Phonie is an ordinary person willing to devote 5 hours per shift (except for all night shifts). One would think this sufficient as it can be trying when coping with an agitated member of public who is trying to save an injured animal, and at times when the phones run 'red hot' and the phonie is trying to answer the phone, find a rescuer/carer for another animal and keeping the database up to date, never mind what may be happening at her home. But then after completing her shift, it is not unusual for the phonie to then go out on a rescue and even take over the role of the carer (depending on which category she has been trained in).

The Phonie acts as the intermediary between the member of public, emergency services and the ARC rescuer/carer when needed, such as animals being caught in electric wires, or up impossibly high trees, or perhaps down drains. I'm sure we all recall the recent adventures of Braveheart the Galah, where Gloria as the phonie, did such a magnificent and tenacious job in the rescue of this bird.

One thing we all do know that without the Phonie, the animal wouldn't come into care, so please, if you feel you can handle this important job and can spare the time, please contact me.

Lesley Hale
Phone Coordinator

Others

Hi everyone,

It has been quiet in the others section with only a few dying and dead antechinus coming in.

If ever you have any ID questions please feel free to drop me a picture as often little pink babies of any kind can get confused for other ones!

We have quite a full list of rescue carers in the others section at the moment I am glad to say we need this as these little guys pop up all over the coast!

If you would like any information or assistance on any "others" you rescue or intend or would like to care for contact me I have quite a few good books now on the various species, antechinus and bandicoots etc. and can share with you any info you might need.

Thanks for you continued help.

Sharron jones, Head carer Others Section.

Snake Head Carer Report

Hi everyone,

September is here and things are starting to heat up again. I'll need everyone's help with the snakes towards the end of the year.

If there is anyone who isn't doing snake rescues but would like to, please get in touch with me so I can get you started..

Unfortunately we're still finding exotic corn snakes which are illegal in Australia so they'll need to be passed over to me where they will then be euthanized.

Cheers
Dave Cooney
Snake HC



Green Tree Snake Rescue

I was called to rescue an un-identified snake from the wheel arch of a car at the RTA at Erina. Someone had seen it in the car park as it entered near the wheel and luckily the RTA were told and they rang Wildlife ARC.

I had to jack up the wheel and reach up to get this beautiful little green tree snake. Keep an eye out in the local paper as there may be an article and pictures to follow.

Happily this amazing wonder of nature was re-released into the bush.

Derek Ingham



Possums Report

The possum section has been extremely busy over the past few months, with a substantial number of joeys coming into care. Unfortunately our main causes of death with our possums have been through cat attack and vehicle collision.

A few weeks ago an adult male brushtail possum came into care with extensive burns to his feet and tail, from a hazard reduction burn that was carried out at Bateau Bay. He has since made a full recovery and has been released back to his home.

We have a very dedicated team of carers who are working tirelessly to raise and rehabilitate our possums they are all doing an outstanding job, thank you and keep up the great work.

Alison George
Possum Head Carer



Project In-situ Yellow-bellied Glider

During Term 3, 2015, 155 school students from Holy Cross Primary, Kincumber, St Patricks, East Gosford and mentors from St Joseph's and St Edwards Colleges, East Gosford, are undertaking a learning program to become Yellow-bellied Glider guardians, habitat experts and active participants in the development of wildlife corridors.

During the program, the students became informed advocates for Yellow-bellied Gliders by learning through a diverse range of experiences. This increased their knowledge of Yellow-bellied Glider biology, habitat creation, sustainable behaviours, Aboriginal histories and cultures, and communication techniques so students were then empowered to educate the wider Gosford community. High school mentor students also provided leadership and guidance to their primary school learning teams.

Project Yellow-bellied Glider was a partnership with the Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Broken Bay and Gosford Council. It was also supported by other groups such as CEN, Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Lands Council, National Parks and Wildlife, Author Jill Morris and Eco Logical Australia.



Take a look at the [Project Yellow-bellied Glider](http://projectyellowbelliedglider2015.weebly.com/) website <http://projectyellowbelliedglider2015.weebly.com/> to view the learning and conservation recovery outcomes achieved by the project in 2015.

Submitted by Sarah Byrne – Yellow Bellied Glider Mentor and Junior Member of Wildlife ARC

POSITIONS VACANT

Lizard/Turtle/Frog Head Carer

If you are interested in this position please apply in writing to the Secretary at the ARC Postal Address or [ARC Secretary's email: arc@wildlife-arc.org.au](mailto:arc@wildlife-arc.org.au)

WITHOUT THE PHONIES...



... I would not have
come into care

Please consider becoming a Phonie

It only means a few hours – once a week, once a fortnight or even once a month it all helps.

Please phone Lesley Hale on 4359 1615, or email me at halelesley2012@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIPS

YOU MUST BE A FINANCIAL MEMBER TO CARE AND RESCUE.

MEMBERSHIP FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE ARC WEBSITE www.wildlife-arc.org.au

MEMBERSHIP FEES CAN BE PAID BY DIRECT DEPOSIT, CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER
PLEASE SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM AND MEMBERSHIP FEES TO THE ARC POST OFFICE
BOX ADDRESS.

NEW MEMBERS PAY MEMBERSHIP AND A \$5.00 JOINING FEE

RENEWALS ARE DUE 30TH JUNE EACH YEAR.

NOTE: If you renew by direct deposit then you are not financial until a completed form is received.

FOOD STORE

All ARC members can place an order for ARC food on the ARC Data Base.

We now have two locations;
North store (located in Mannering Park) and
Central store (located at 15 Teralba Street, Ourimbah).
Bird food will only be sold at the end of the ARC meeting at Wyoming.

If you do not have a computer please phone either store and place an order.

Ordering on the ARC Database - When you log on to your database you will see a new section called ARC Food Store.

From this section you can make an order and track your previous orders. You will also be able to see the new and updated price list!

***NOTE. Only members with ARC animals in care can order food.
You must have that species in care and be approved by HC or a Mentor.
BIRD food is only supplied for 4 months for each bird.***

Lastly, we need everybody to know that there will be no accounts or credit.
All items must be paid for before collection (by Direct debit) or (cash) when you pick your order up.

Thanks, Patty & Lesley

ANIMAL RECORDS

Please be aware that all your animal records are to be brought up to date.
If you still aren't able to use the database please contact Kelly Hunt

USEFUL WEBSITES TO HELP IDENTIFY

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>
Birds in Backyards

<http://www.mdahlem.net/birds/index.php>
Michael Dahlem's Bird Pages

Don't forget the ARC database has a local species gallery as well. If we all contribute pictures of the birds we care for, especially baby birds, this will become an invaluable resource for us all.