



O.N.A.R.R.

Orphan Native Animal Rear and Release Association Inc.

This edition of the ONARR newsletter printed courtesy of :
Councillor Heather Morrow.
Thank You!!

Presidents Report

by Kim Schulz



Special points of interest:

President's report

Onarr t-shirts available for order

Divetalact for sale \$14 kilo

NEW WEBSITE—we need carer's favourite photos and stories

History sheets have changed

Hello Everyone,

Spring has arrived! This is my favourite season as we can finally shake off the cold mornings and nights and start enjoying that nice weather again. Not too hot and not too cool, just right.

Spring also brings with it heaps of insects and flowers for the possums and gliders, nice new grass for the wallabies and 'roos, baby bats arrive, plenty of insects for the ground dwellers and of course, plenty of things to feed on for the snakes and other reptiles.

Recently, we held the AGM for ONARR and I would like to thank everyone who made the effort to attend. It was an enjoyable day and some minor changes have occurred. One of these is that I am now President, stepping into this role now that Margaret has moved onto the busy role of Promotions and Displays coordinator. Beverley has graciously agreed to continue as Secretary, Susan has volunteered for the position of Treasurer and Kim F will be continuing as vice-president. I would like to thank the committee for their support and encouragement and I look forward to continuing the terrific groundwork that has been started. Thank you to the many other members who help out the group by being involved, attending rescues and caring for wildlife. Also, a special thank you to Lyn and Susan for your efforts.

ONARR is a well-respected wildlife organisation and as such, the committee and I will be using the collective voice of ONARR to further any wildlife and environmental issues that need our help. We recently sent a message of support for the suspension of shooting as a means of controlling flying foxes around crops in NSW. This is an important issue and we feel that all native wildlife need a helping hand.

I'm looking forward to an exciting year with ONARR – this will include meeting new and current members, attending workshops and social activities, promoting wildlife care in the community and just enjoying being around like-minded people: who believe sharing this planet with animals is far better than remembering what they used to be like.

Please call me if you would ever like to discuss any matter or to just say hello.

Happy Caring,

Kim



President's report	1
Help List	2
Outgoing President's report	3
Lucky Koala	4
Register head report	7
The past year	8
A bit of nonsense	10
Data base report	11
Reptile report	12
History sheet	13



O.N.A.R.R.

Orphan Native Animal Rear & Release Association Inc.

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Mobile 0428 785278

Kerry & Wayne 5463 6289
Lois & Doug 5428 7450

THE POSSUM REGISTER

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Laurelle (Gympie Area) 5481 6163
Kim (South) 3209 8548
Kerry & Wayne (Border Ranges) 5463 6289
Gill (North) 3351 4541
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Beverley (Ipswich) 3294 6264

THE GLIDER REGISTER

Harry & Merrilyn 5496 7750
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Kim 3209 8548

THE BIRD REGISTER

Cari & Jeff 3882 2182
Mobile 0437 822116
Tara (ah) 3389 5188

THE BAT REGISTER

Michelle C. 5546 8262
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THE REPTILE REGISTER

Sharyn 3288 3524
Mobile 0404 226001

Other FAUNA

Beverley 3294 6264
Kim 3209 8548

THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Margaret *Vice Pres.* 3277 7431
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THE WEB-MASTER

Wayne webmaster@onarr.org.au

Outgoing President's Report by Margaret Christison.

The Committee has been very busy all year and I take this opportunity to thank all the committee members for their ongoing support of ONARR.

I also offer the committee's thanks to ONARR members for their commitment to our wonderful fauna.

Some of the things the committee has managed to put together this year include:

- ONARR trailer/release aviary available for use by members.
- Possum traps for use by members—these are wildlife friendly traps, designed to capture and not injure.
- We have been fortunate in receiving some possum boxes from Woodford Prison. They are well made, painted and very sturdy.
- The committee does its best to have supplies of Divetelact available for members at a price much cheaper than from the vet or pet shop. Available from Lois in the north and Beverley on the south west side.
- The committee has spent some time on rewriting and editing the Rules of Association to bring them into line with the way the group now operates. During the next year we are looking at achieving Donor Gift Recipient Status (DGR) so that donations to the group will be tax deductible. This is partly the reason why the Rules of Association were rewritten.
- The new look website. The committee would like to thank Wayne and Kerry for all the work they have put in to designing and printing the new brochures, the new membership cards, the new business cards, and most of the new website, which is fantastic. There is a carer's only section that members can access by password—ask Beverley or Wayne for the password.
- On behalf of the committee I would like to thank Lyn Hampson for running the membership database during the past year, and Susan Doel for running the history sheet database. I would like to thank Emily Telfer for rewriting our membership database as well. With the new membership database, the membership registration form has been rewritten to fall into line.
- The ONARR rescue line has been very busy. I offer thanks to all those members who have

Continued page 6

Australian Wildlife Hospital (Australia Zoo)

Wildlife Emergency Hotline 1300 369 652(24 hrs.) **For Appointments - Ph. 5436 2097**

RSPCA	1300 animal	Seabird Rescue - 0404 118 301
Complaints of Cruelty	1300 852 188	Birds of Prey - Alf/Liz 3260 1466
Qld Parks and Wildlife	1300 130 372	FAUNA 1300fauna1
Frogs - Jenny	3366 1868	
Len - Birds	3351 4068	

Lucky koala unscathed in 100km/h collision (Article from Courier Mail— author Glenis Green)

July 14, 2008 12:00am

HE must be the luckiest koala in Queensland, not only surviving a hit by a car travelling at 100km/h, but also a 2km ride with his head stuck in its grille.

It is no wonder the staff at the Australian Wildlife Hospital at Australia Zoo on the Sunshine Coast have dubbed the 8-year-old marsupial Ely "Lucky" Grills, after the late Australian television actor.

Astonishingly, little Lucky suffered no serious injuries in the unusual car versus koala clash.

This was even thought initial rescuers who saw him stuck to the car and alerted the unsuspecting driver believed he had been decapitated.

It turned out the koala's body was dangling from the front of the car, but his head and left arm had been forced through the grille with the force of 100km/h impact.

Zoo staff yesterday said the accident had happened on Dayboro Rd near the Petrie Quarry on twilight last week. The driver was unaware of her unusual hitchhiker until she stopped 12km away at Petrie Railway Station.

An urgent call was made to the Caboolture Koala Care and Rescue group, with member Rhonda Hay undertaking the delicate job using scissors as the "jaws of life" to cut around the car's grille mesh to release the animal.

Lucky was able to sit up and eat after two hours in the hospital's intensive care unit.

Hospital manager Gail Gipp said the koala's story underlined the need for drivers to always be alert for wildlife on roads and to be prepared to stop and seek help in the case of an accident.

"Koalas are more likely to be on the move over the next few weeks coinciding with the onset of the koala breeding season," she said.



"We ask drivers to exercise particular caution when travelling in koala habitat areas."

Ms Gipp said that because koalas were bumper-bar height, they were vulnerable to suffering severe injuries from even the slightest car hit, highlighting how fortunate Lucky was to survive unscathed.

In keeping with his new name, the hospital's veterinary team discovered Lucky was also suffering an underlying chlamydial infection, for which he is now receiving treatment. He should be released back into the wild in 45 days.

Ms Gipp said nearly a quarter of the hospital's 5000-plus admissions last year were animals that had been hit by cars.

INVOLUNTARY hitchhiker ... Ely the koala, *pictured*, has been nicknamed "Lucky" Grills after the TV actor, after he survived a run-in with a car.

www.onarr.org.au Check it out.

Access to the carer's only page is through a password. Please contact Beverley at admin@onarr.org.au or Wayne and Kerry at webmaster@onarr.org.au for the password.

GRANTS FOR CARERS—

Please check out the website below to see if you are eligible to apply for a grant to cover some of your caring costs. If you need documentation signed by the committee, then forward all documents to Beverley. You do not need to be a resident in Brisbane to apply for this grant, just do some rescues in and around the Brisbane area, as we all do. There is a time limit, so be quick.

http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/bccwr/forms/documents/cc10390_environmental_grants_program_guidelines.pdf

Life, and other things.

As we grow up, we learn that even the one person that wasn't supposed to ever let you down probably will.

You will have your heart broken probably more than once and it's harder every time. You'll break hearts too, so remember how it felt when yours was broken. You'll fight with your best friend. You'll blame a new love for things an old one did. You'll cry because time is passing too fast, and you'll eventually lose someone you love. So take too many pictures, laugh too much, and love like you've never been hurt because every sixty seconds you spend upset is a minute of happiness you'll never get back.

Don't be afraid that your life will end,

Be afraid that it will never begin.

DIVETALACT MILK AVAILABLE - \$14.00

We have some Divetelact milk powder available for purchase by carers.

At this point in time the cost to carers is \$14.00 a kilo, which is cheaper than buying it in tins at the vets or pet shops. There is a limit of 2 kilos per carer. Please contact Beverley on **3294 6264** if you wish to purchase.

Beverley lives out Ipswich way but can get the milk into Brisbane City or to over near the airport. We can probably also arrange to get it to other spots if we know in advance before Committee meetings. Otherwise, it is a nice drive out to Barellan Point! Lois & Doug live in Morayfield and they also have milk powder for sale.

Contact them on **5428 7450**.

The 35 Rules of**Life: Rule 1.**

I. Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

Did you know.

Ringtails have forcipate toes: a division between their 1st & 2nd toes and the remainder—kind of like Doctor Spock—so live long and prosper!!

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT.

I know that we labour the point of registering animals, but it is by far the best thing for both the animal and yourself. By registering you are protecting yourself under ONARR's name, should the EPA come calling. You are also letting us know what you've got, and what we can help you with.

We can combine species for better survival chances in the wild—and surely that is the bottom line—survival upon release. So register, for their sake, if not your own.

Continued from page 3.

Outgoing President's Report

offered their names on the rescue line on a permanent basis and those members who have carried out the rescues from these calls. Running a rescue line is not easy, but we do the best we can with the support that we get. It has been a slow year, which is good for the animals, but it is beginning to pick up.

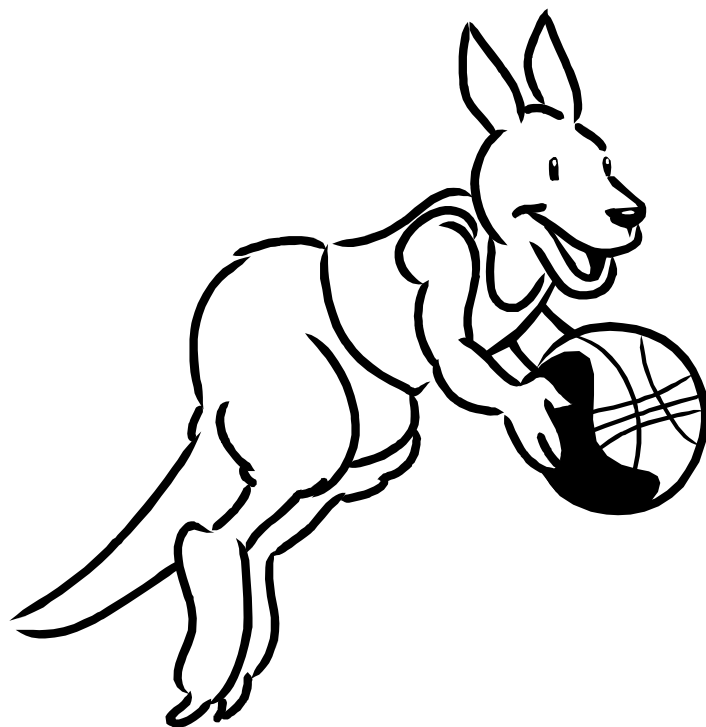
- A big thank you to the Register Heads, whose names are actually on the rescue line and handle all the calls, plus a big thank you for all the other extra work they do.
- I would like to thank Ipswich City Council for supporting us financially with our brochures.
- Our DVD is now finished and available for purchase.
- We have had some great workshops run during the past year and we will be running more in the future.
- We often get asked to do displays but are not always able to attend due to lack of member support. The Committee cannot run everything, this is a volunteer group, and some volunteering from the membership for these kinds of activities would be greatly appreciated.

I am glad to see you all returning for another year of caring.

Margaret Christison.

INTERESTING INFORMATION:

Plovers have a spur on the back of their leg that they can use to rake across a predator when they are protecting their young. Plov-



Q. What time is it if an elephant sits on your fence?

A. Time to get a new fence!

Word Search: There are nine words that can relate to our native wildlife in this word search, and one word of a wild animal from Africa. Can you find them all?

k	j	u	m	p	p
k	o	e	l	o	o
n	e	a	u	e	s
e	y	c	l	p	s
s	h	o	p	a	u
t	b	i	r	d	m

Register Heads Report AGM 2008

On the whole I have to report that this has been a quieter year for caring. Reports from other wildlife organisations also tell me that there are not as many calls coming in as usual. On an average week I would receive 15 calls for rescues, and I currently am receiving around one a week, if that. Conditions in the wild have improved with the little bit of rain we have had, and the weather has also been better for the animals. That's not to say that the register heads haven't been busy – there are other jobs to take care of when we are not registering animals.

Register heads do their best to share out the animals coming into care. However, sometimes we might call, and you are out, so we go onto the next carer on the list. Some situations don't allow for us to wait for you to return a call. Another way to gain animals into care is by making your self known at your local vet, but be prepared to accept what they offer regardless of it being an adult needing rehab rather than a baby. Vets appreciate having reliable carers on their books, and this creates a two way street with them. They will then offer support to your babies when you need it most.

On the possum side, we have registered 104 brushtail possums compared to 151 last year, 66 ringtails compared to 116 last year, 2 yellow bellied gliders which is the same as last year, 1 greater glider, 49 gliders, which is slightly higher than 44 for last year.

We have also had 6 mountain brush tails registered this year, compared to 2 last year.

Macropod numbers have come in at 9 Redneck wallabies, 1 swamp wallaby, and 2 Eastern Grey kangaroos.

The numbers for flying foxes are 10 grey headed and 38 Black. Out of 42 living flying foxes, 37 went to release, the others were held over as being too small for release this year.

Reptiles registered this year have been 4 blue tongues, 1 lace monitor, 1 green tree snake, 1 water dragon, and 1 carpet python. I did not register the small eyed snake that bit me, because I did not keep it. In fact, my husband gave it to dangerous snakes handler whilst I was recovering in hospital!

In the 5 years I have been writing the Register Head report, I have to admit to great disappointment in regards to never having received a call for a partridge in a pear tree. However, our bird registers have had 3 wood ducks, 4 tawnies, 4 lorikeets, 1 kookaburra, 2 magpies, 2 dollar birds, 1 willy wag tail and 7 myna birds.

That's our registered numbers for 2008. These numbers do not always reflect what has really come into care due to carers not registering their animals with a register head. Therefore when we are asked for our numbers for research purposes, we can only give the numbers we know about, not the true numbers. Please register your animals.

Thank you.

Beverley Clarke On behalf of the Register Heads of ONARR

The Past Year.....Lois Appleton

The 2007 – 2008 season has been a very quiet one for us all as far as animals coming into care goes. There are any number of reasons for this but the improvement in the drought situation and much milder weather conditions have certainly given all our native animals a much greater chance of coping on their own now. As the urban sprawl widens out and their natural habitat disappears we will no doubt find their numbers continue to decline around suburbia.

We endeavor to share out any babies coming into care to all members – but with less babies coming through you may have to wait quite a while until a suitable little critter comes your way. Don't hesitate to make yourself known to your local vet though – they are always appreciative to have the assistance of any native animal carer. Please contact your register heads to let them know of any animal you may receive. In any case keep your emergency rescue kits ready and available – you never know when the call may come for your assistance. Also, don't forget to complete your quarterly history sheets for Susan as she needs to record all the animals coming through our care as a condition of our Wildlife Permit and for the benefit of our organization.

Hopefully the low numbers of orphans or injuries coming in to our care means that the animals are doing okay on their own. Even though we have empty pouches we hope that mother nature continues to be kind to them and that they have an even less stressful year ahead. In the meantime I would encourage all carers to contact your register heads every now and again for a chat and to keep in touch. You should also plan to attend any 'learn and share' workshops that are provided for you to keep yourself informed of current practices. The last workshop was well attended with plenty of discussion and friendly exchange of ideas. Hopefully we will be able to arrange another session early in the new year but if there is enough interest shown I am happy to do one sooner. We also now have Divetelact available from Doug and Lois on the North side at the special ONARR price to reduce the cost of raising your babies.

This year your committee has arranged the production of an excellent ONARR DVD. This provides a basic outline of the care required to successfully raise and release most of our native fauna. I would thoroughly recommend this to you to update your skills. It is also a good item to share with friends and family to give them a guide to our ideals of care and release. Thank you all for your friendship and support through the year. We look forward to another year of offering any assistance we can to enable a better outcome for our furry friends.



RESCUE LINE 3030 2245

The Committee is again looking for volunteers to have their name and number on the rescue line. It works like this:

Names and numbers are listed under the various species. People ring the central line, get your name and number, and call you for help, rescues or advice. We supply you with a list of people you can call or numbers that you can hand out to members of the public. You are not expected to do the rescues yourself, just to pass them on to people in that area. Contact Kim if you are interested on 3209 8548 AH.

MOUNTAIN BRUSHTAIL (BOBUCK) RELEASE SITES

Carers, we need to know of anyone who can be a release site for Bobucks. We don't get too many into care, but they need a safe site for release. They are more arboreal, like the ringtails, and you need to already have them at the release property. Please contact Beverley at admin@onarr.org.au or on 3294 6264 AH or Kerry on 5463 6289 or webmaster@onarr.org.au if you have a site or know of a site we can use. Don't forget we can use the release trailer if necessary.



Delilah as a joey—she now weighs in at 1600 gram.

ONARR Release trailer

With the ONARR release trailer now up and running, we need a database of people who are willing to allow us to use their properties as release sites. If you know of anyone with a suitable property who may be interested, please contact them or let a committee member know and they will contact them. Release sites are at a premium - we never have enough of them.

It eases the strain on carers if we can help out just a little with these kind of things, so please, carers, keep your eyes open for opportunities that may present themselves in relation to our release trailer.

T-SHIRTS

You may have noticed some of our carers around wearing the new ONARR t-shirt. If you would like to purchase a t-shirt, please contact Ipswich Embroidery Services : Glenda : on 328806078, or fax 3288 6141 or email Glenda@ipswichembroidery.com.au. www.ipswichembroidery.com.au

*Please be aware that the committee has no issues with carers attending activities and saying they are Onarr carers. However, you cannot state that you **REP-RESENT** Onarr without written prior approval from the committee. Wildlife can not be put on display without a permit from the EPA.*

***Indemnity:** Please be aware that the views expressed by authors of articles containing information about caring for wildlife or certain products are the full responsibility of the author of the article and not necessarily the opinion of the committee of O. N. A. R. R., its members or the editor.*

Money Money Money

The ONARR committee would like to request that all payments made to ONARR, including membership, are done by cheque, bank deposit or postal order. Sending cash in the mail is a recipe for disaster, and for your security and our piece of mind, it would be better if you did not send cash. With memberships now due, please contact a committee member for banking details if you wish to make a direct deposit to the bank to pay. We are happy to receive cheques or postal orders. Or gold bars!

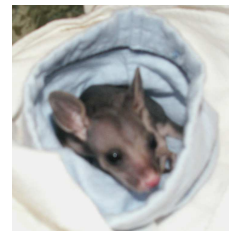
The 35 Rules of Life: Rule 2

2. Don't worry about what people think, they don't do it very often.

A bit of nonsense.

I wrote this bit of nonsense,
 To fill a wee small gap.
 It's just a bit of nonsense,
 To cheer you up, dear chap.
 I have a little ducky,
 And he's had a bit of luck,
 He was in student's school bag
 And I call him Puddle Duck.
 Now Puddle Duck is growing,
 And his feathers are all there.
 He likes to eat the grass and
 To sit beneath my chair.
 I have a crested pigeon,
 And the pigeon's name is Peep.
 He eats a bit, then poops a bit,
 And then he likes to sleep.
 The pigeon too is growing,
 And his crest does sit up high.
 His feathers are so pretty
 And one day I'm sure he'll fly.
 I have Black Faced Cuckoo,
 And his feathers are a mess. .
 He lost most of his tail ones,
 And one wing is not the best.
 The storm, you know, just blew him,
 And he ended in a tizz,

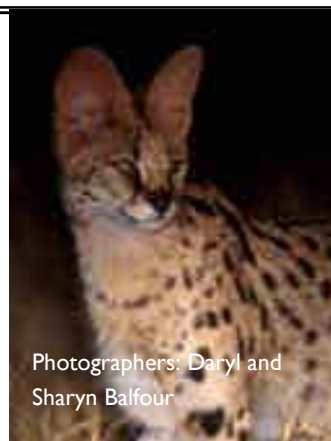
But that's ok, I've got him,
 And the cuckoo's name is Fizz.
 I have a Noisy Miner,
 And his feathers are all good.
 He likes to jump and rattle
 Round the cage on all the wood.
 One wings a wee bit dicky,
 But only time will tell
 If my little noisy miner,
 Will end up being well.
 I have a set of ringtails,
 They are Seth and Shep and Blossom, .
 They don't have no feathers,
 Which is good, 'cause they're all possum!
 I have a beauty bandicoot
 And his name is Rob Roy.
 I can say he was a worry,
 But now he brings me joy.
 The last of my menagerie
 Are possums, don't you know,
 My two bobucks, and my Jelly Bean,
 But now I have to go
 This small wee space is full now
 And we have to go to print.
 I have to catch the printer,
 So I guess I'll have to sprint.!



Beverley Clarke

Savannah cats banned

Recently an email went around many wildlife carers regarding the import of Savannah cats to Australia. These species are a hybrid of wild cats (wild not feral) bred with domestic cats. Fortunately for our wildlife, Minister Peter Garrett made the decision to ban the import of savannah cats into Australia. The federal government found that the hybrid species posed an extreme risk to Australia's native wildlife. Right way to go!!



Photographers: Daryl and Sharyn Balfour

The 35 Rules of Life: Rule 3

3. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than standing in a garage makes you a car.

History Sheet Report 2007/2008 collated by Susan Doel

	Died	Released	In Care	Passed on
Brush tails	20	41	39	19
Ring tails	10	31	16	9
Sugar Gliders	4	3	2	6
Wallabies	3	4	6	0
Kangaroos	2	2	3	0
Flying foxes	5	3	0	0
Bats	2	1	3	0
Lizards	2	2	0	0
Birds	122	141	96	31
Australian Rat	1	0	0	0
Tortoise	0	0	1	0
Bandicoot	1	0	0	0
Turtle	0	1	0	0
Totals	172	229	166	65

Total animals cared for 07/08—632 (total animals cared for 06/07—549)

Bird list— This is the variety of birds we have had in care during the past year :

Australian Grebe, Blue faced honeyeaters, Bronze wing pigeon, Brush turkey, Bush Stone curlews, Butcherbirds, Cattle Egret, Channel Bill cuckoos, Cockatiels, crested pigeons, crows, cuckoo shrike, currawong, dollar birds, fig birds, friarbird, galahs, Honey eaters, kingfishers, koel, kookaburra, leatherhead, Little Friarbirds, Little honeyeaters, magpies, magpie larks, musk lorikeets, noisy miners, pacific black ducks, pale headed rosella, pheasant coucal, plovers, purple swamp hen, rainbow lorikeets, sacred kingfisher, scaly breasted lorikeets, silver eyes, southern boobooks, spotted turtle doves, Ibis, cockatoos, Tawny frogmouths, swallows, whistling ducks, herons, Willie wagtails, and a wren.

HISTORY SHEETS

You will notice that our history sheets have changed slightly again. We are still refining how we want them to be: how hard can that be? I hear you ask! Well, we assume that filling them out is difficult, because not enough carers do it, therefore we are working on it to make it easier for you. We are open to suggestions, so if you have any, please contact a committee member. You can get one of us at admin@onarr.org.au every time! You can also register your animals through this email address.

Please register your animals: we cannot hope to improve our natives luck in the wild if we cannot collect enough data on them and why they come into care—this comes from your history sheet. We are happy to receive history sheets on animals without them being registered.

It's Reptile Season again!

For those of us who care for reptiles, it has been a quiet few months during winter, but spring has arrived, and along with it, a lot of reptile calls.

September so far, has brought in over 25 calls for injured reptiles and unfortunately, I cannot respond to all of them but thankfully, the majority of callers volunteered to get the animal to the nearest vet for treatment. 5 of those calls were actually people looking to have a snake removed from their home, so a quick reminder that a rehabilitation permit does not allow us to remove reptiles unless they are injured. There are many licensed snake catchers about.

I currently have a blue tongue in care that has defied death on numerous occasions by the looks of him. He has several old wounds including a missing front leg. He came to me after a dog took a bite, and the majority of his left side along with it. He was expelling air from the wound and I thought the vet would have to end it's suffering, but after some pretty stomach turning treatment, he is eating well and back to his grumpy self and will be released back to Nudgee within the week.

We also have a carpet snake that we assume was run over by a car. The snake is residing at the vet for the time being and we'll know more after some tests as it looks as though its injuries may be from disease rather than an accident.

With that in mind, I would also like to remind all reptile carers that reptiles can carry many diseases, some of which can affect humans, so strict hygiene practices should be used at all times. Hand washing before and after handling them and if you happen to own your own reptiles, never keep your rescues near your own. I make it a rule that no rescues come inside my house. I have many out door enclosures and some under cover and use only my laundry to administer treatments.

Please remember to call me and let me know when you have a reptile in care. It is a requirement to have a registration number for the animal for both ONARR records and the EPA, and it's only a quick phone call. I have message bank and return all calls.

Remember to **Rescue, Register, Release.**

Until next time,
Sharyn