



Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc.

Caring for Queensland's Wildlife

PO BOX 806 Cannonvale QLD 4802 Ph: 4947 3389

Newsletter Issue 41 March/April 2008

Committee Members

President: Sue McLeod 4947 3075

Vice President: Jacqui Webb 4947 3308

Secretary: Sandy Cleeland 49473324

Treasurer: Le-Anne Dinnie 4947 1967 (w)

Membership Steward: Lynne Clarke
4946 5736

Fundraising Officer: Maren Matthew
4945 7116

Food Supplies Officer: Linden Baker
4946 1198

Species Co-ordinators

Koalas/Echidnas/Birds/Raptors

Jacqui Webb Ph: 4947 3308 / 0427 176 966

Macropods

Lois Trapp Ph: 4945 7256

Possums

Lynne Clarke Ph: 4946 5736

Reptiles/Koala

Linden Baker Ph: 4946 1198

Newsletter editor: Shelley Edwards

Ph: 0448635492 or shell22s@yahoo.com

My first Bandicoot.....Sunday morning the phone rang at 9.00 am very (civilised time). It was Kim from Fauna Rescue hotline, Club croc had found a bandicoot in their Kitchen, it didn't seem to be 100%. I said I would go and collect it, a guest at the Resort had seen what he thought was a rat run across the dining area.

They found the bandicoot and identified it, but had already given the guest a free breakfast! I collected the Bandicoot who seemed very lethargic and very sleepy but that might be because they sleep most of the day. After I weighed the Bandicoot I put it in a warm box in a quiet area of the house. I had never seen a Bandicoot before and knew very little about them, so when I got home I rang the hotline to tell Kim and we decided it would be best to ring Jacque (a never-ending source of information). While I waited to get a reply I looked up Bandicoot on Google images and found out it was a Northern brown Bandicoot, in my **Care for Australian Wildlife** book I found out Bandicoots are omnivores feeding on or under the ground, they eat grubs, insect's worms and roots.

So I went out in the garden and pretended to be a bandicoot digging in the ground I found quite a few earth worm in various sizes, as I am not sure how big they like them I also found a few other crawly insects and some roots. I prepared the Bandicoot a temporary home in a plastic basket with lockable lid, I lined this with plastic and fill with my goodies from the garden in some dirt and leaf litter. I made a hiding place out of a plastic tubular container lined with a dark material. I had kept the bandicoot in the warm box all-day and waited till nightfall to transfer the animal, but the bandicoot slept through the night, I gave it some glucose and water.

The next day it was more active and ate some cereal and insectivore mix, that evening it appeared back to normal and very active indeed, the small cage was turned upside down and obviously not big enough, and the bandicoot looked good and ready for release. I had consulted with Linden and Jacque to make sure the Bandicoot was old enough to release. Usually we return animals to their found site; in this case it didn't seem the right thing to do. The Resort is not in an ideal location very close to the main road. We have a large rural block, suitable for the Bandicoot, so after feeding the bandicoot at dusk on the third day I took her down to bottom of the block and watched her scurry off to explore her new domain. It's one of the best bits of the rescue process to release a healthy animal or bird, saying goodbye little one and good luck. Di Jessop.

A warm welcome to our new members:

Robina Mealey , Kiri Kerr, Lisa Atkinson, Traci Smith, Elizabeth Campbell,

and Barb Adamson.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What is burn out? Burn out is doing too much, with too little for too long!

Our HOTLINE & RESCUE SERVICE is in crisis. We have only a handful of members helping with this service and if we cannot get more volunteers to assist the reality is that the service may collapse.

This service was set up with the expectation that as many members as possible share the operation of the phone service on a roster system. In this way the public can obtain help for sick, injured or orphaned wildlife 24 hours per day 365 days per year.

The phone calls received from the public are for the most part, how we hear about and initiate our rescue, rehabilitation and release service. Without this service our effectiveness as an organisation would be seriously undermined and many native animals left to suffer and die unnecessarily.

Unfortunately, we are in the situation where only a handful of members man the phone. This means twenty four-hour shifts and several shifts each week fall on the shoulders of just a few volunteers. It is also worth noting that a number of these people also participate in rescues, caring, fund-raising and hold various committee appointments. We cannot afford to let them burn out! There are nearly one hundred members to whom this newsletter is sent. I appeal to you all. The more who help the lighter the burden on everyone. Please, please, please get involved now. Your help is needed desperately. Call the hotline on 4947 3389.

Last year the committee decided to conduct a comprehensive six-month review on how best to provide some FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE to our carers. Other forms of assistance for food costs provided in the past have all failed for various reasons. Our objective was to develop a sustainable policy that is transparent, accountable and fair.

At our last meeting, data collected over the moratorium period was reviewed. Food costs, wholesale discounts, volumes of animals per carer, number of available carers, vet bills, native foods, table fruits, live food sources and various rebate possibilities were discussed and explored at length.

A Policy has now been determined and it is as follows:

VET Bills: Payments of vet bills are to be made at the time of the appointment and may be claimed back from Fauna Rescue Whitsunday. In the event a member is unable to pay the vet they should contact a committee member for authority to put it directly onto our FRW account.

For reimbursement of veterinary bills the member will need to submit the claim on an expense claim form (available from the treasurer) and attach the invoice, receipt or other proof of payment.

FOOD Costs: Assistance for food items will be paid at the end of each three month period beginning 1st January 2008 and based on the animals the carer has had in care during that period. Rebates will be capped at a maximum of 10%.

Carers seeking assistance with food costs will need to:

- Submit care records monthly, either by inputting directly into the database or by submitting records to the Records Officer for input.
- Lodge their claims at the end of each three-month period.
- Submit claims on an Expense Claim form (available from the treasurer).
- Attach supporting paperwork (invoices, statements, receipts etc) to the claim.

There is an added saving when buying Wombaroo products from our Supplies Officer. Fauna Rescue buys these products at wholesale prices and these savings are passed on in full to our carers.

PLEASE NOTE that in any exceptional circumstances the committee will always give consideration to provide assistance on a case by case basis.

In other news, we continue to work for the well-being of the wildlife for which we care. There has been lots of activity with equipment purchases, grants, workshops, carer get-togethers, fundraising and administration matters. To hear more come to the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 18th May, 2008.

Please note nominations for the next management committee need to be completed and returned to the Secretary no later than 14 days before the AGM (ie 3rd May, 2008). Any two members may nominate another member (the candidate) and the nomination must be in writing and signed by the candidate and the two nominees.

Sue McLeod
President

A WORD FROM YOUR SECRETARY

By now everyone should have rejoined for the year 2008/9. If not, please do this ASAP, so you can vote at the AGM.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Fauna Rescue Whitsundays's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Sunday the 18th May from 10.00am – 12.00 noon** at the **Cannonvale Neighborhood Centre**.

All positions will become vacant and a new committee will be elected. Please come and add your voice.

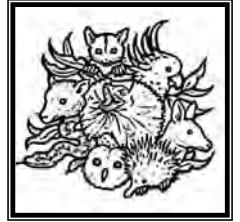
Nomination and proxy forms follow:-

These forms must be in Fauna Rescue's mail box (P O Box 806 Cannonvale 4802) or handed to me no later than 14 days prior to the A.G.M.

FAUNA RESCUE WHITSUNDAYS ASSOCIATION INC.

PROXY VOTING FORM

Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc:



Iof
(Address).....

Being a financial member of the association, appoint
(Full name print please).....
of address).....

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting of the association, to be held on
the 18th day of May, 2008 and at any adjournment of the meeting.

Signed this.....day of.....2008.

Signature..... Full Name (print please).....

Note:

This form is to be used only if you wish to nominate someone else to vote on your behalf. The nominee must be in attendance at the meeting and hand this completed form to the Secretary prior to commencement of the meeting.

FAUNA RESCUE WHITSUNDAYS ASSOCIATION INC.
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM
FOR YEAR 2008 – 2009



Please forward nominations to the Secretary no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting 2008.

Address to:
The Secretary
Fauna Rescue Whitsundays
PO Box 806
Cannonvale 4802

I..... am a financial member
of Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc. and

I nominate
as a **candidate** for the position of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer,
Committee Member (select one.)

Signed by the
Candidate.....

Nominating members signature:

(1) Date.....

(2) Date.....

NOTES.

Any 2 financial members must nominate another member (the candidate) to serve as a member of the management committee.

Should there be no written nominations for any position, then nominations may be taken from the floor of the meeting.

For the Candidate: Fauna Rescue Whitsundays has \$10,000,000 Public Liability Insurance.

DOGS FRIGHTEN BIRDS

Evidence that birds perceive dogs as predators is published online in *Biology letters*, September 2007, reporting research by UNSW biologist Peter Banks and UNSW honours student, Jessica Bryant.

The experiment was conducted at 90 sites in the Hornsby-Berowa-Cowan regions, 35kms north of Sydney. The area was chosen because it contains remnants of bushland with trails that are either frequently dog-walked or where dog-walking is prohibited. The researchers used three conditions to study dogs' impacts on birds: (1) a person walking a dog on a lead on a trail; (2) a person walking alone on a trail; (3) a control condition with no dog walking or humans. Observers monitored all native birds seen or heard within 50 metres of a 250-metre trail. Monitoring commenced 20 seconds after the walker/dog-walker had set off and continued for 10 minutes.

To allow for variation in both dog and human behaviour the study used a range of dog sizes and breeds and a range of different walkers.

The study showed that dog-walking in bushland caused a 35% reduction in the number of native bird species and a 41% reduction in the number of individual birds in an area compared to the control. People walking alone, without dogs, had half the impact.

Significant disturbance to birds occurred even in those areas where dog-walking was common, indicating that they don't become accustomed to the presence of dogs.

Reference:

Banks P.B. and Bryant J.V. (2007). "Four legged friend or foe? Dog walking displaces native birds from natural areas." *BiologyLetters* DOI:10.1098/rsbl.2007.0374.

(Source: *The Bird Observer* April, 2008)

Message Board:

148 cm tall
Samsung Cooltech dynamic fridge / freezer
In excellent condition
\$250.00 ONO
Endeavour Room
CALL LINDEN: 4946 1198

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Date: Sunday 18th May
Time: 10.00-12 noon
Venue: Cannonvale Community Hall,

PLEASE BRING A PLATE!

Main Roads Road Kill Survey

The Department of Main Roads has sent through information they are seeking in compiling a database of road kills throughout Queensland. Qld Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (QWRC) has offered to collect this information from wildlife carers. As the Mackay/Whitsunday Representative for QWRC, Jacqui Webb will be compiling this data on behalf of QWRC.

The information required is:-

Name/address/phone no (person finding animal)	Species ID if known or mammal / bird , etc
Date (animal seen)	Status – Dead/Injured
Location - road name/nearest junction/landmark/GPS	Outcome: Left on site / Removed / Taken to care / Other
On road/off road/side of road	
Status - dead/injured	

Please forward records to Jacqui Webb: Jacqui.webb@bigpond.com
PH: 49473308 or MOB: 0427 176 966