



## MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

### MONTHLY MEETING CANCELLED | COVID-19

The Prime Minister has just announced that licensed clubs must close from midday tomorrow (Monday). Club Pine Rivers will be required to comply with this, so there will **no monthly meeting** this month. If there's anything you need to discuss urgently, please reach out to one of us. Our contact details are at the bottom of this email.



### WILD KOALA DAY POSTPONED | 3 MAY



Unfortunately, we've also had to postpone our Wild Koala Day Celebration at Old Petrie Town due to COVID-19. We are hoping to reschedule it to later in the year.

Wild Koala Day is a nationally recognised day, so we will still try to get people involved while keeping a safe distance!

Here are just some of the ideas we have (more to come!)

Share a wild koala photograph on Facebook or Instagram and tag #wildkoaladay and #pineriverskoalacare

Change your profile pic to a photo of a koala for the day.

### NATIONAL TREE DAY | 31 JULY & 02 AUGUST 2020

## SAVE THE DATE!

SCHOOLS  
TREE DAY  
FRIDAY **31**  
JULY 2020

NATIONAL  
TREE DAY  
SUNDAY **02**  
AUG 2020

National Tree Day is coming up! At this stage we are hoping that the Coronavirus is long gone, and we can go ahead with our planned events at Rob Akers Reserve. If you're interested in joining the committee and helping on National Tree Day please let us know and we can put you in touch with Janet or Trish.

## GOOD NEWS STORY | SPIRIT GOES HOME!

Little “Spirit” was rescued back in December after a large male koala named Bully pushed her out onto a small branch and she fell 30 metres onto the road.

Badly injured, with multiple skull fractures, she managed to clamber back up the same tree where Bully was waiting.

Rescuers from Moreton Bay Koala Rescue and Pine Rivers Koala Care staked out the tree for 24 hours, before calling on our friends at Queensland Fire and Emergency Services.

Spirit was treated by the RSPCA for 3 months, and she has now healed up beautifully. She was released on Saturday with a big cheer squad.

Go in peace little Spirit.

We wish you a healthy and long life.

Well done to everyone involved!

If you have a good news story you want to share, please email [vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au)



## BLUE CARDS – VOLUNTEERING WITH CHILDREN



We are currently in the process of drafting a Child Safety Policy and we will publish that in due course.

In the meantime, if you volunteer with children in Queensland you must now hold a blue card.

Many of our fundraising and educational activities include working with children, and even though they’re not that frequent, it will be our policy that all volunteers who wish to participate in events with children must have a blue card.

Apply for your blue card here:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/laws-regulated-industries-and-accountability/queensland-laws-and-regulations/regulated-industries-and-licensing/blue-card/applications/apply>

If you already have a blue card, we still need to link you to our organisation. Please complete this form: <https://www.bluecard.qld.gov.au/pdf/forms/DJAG008-Link-an-applicant-or-cardholder.pdf>

Please send all applications to: [vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au)

## WILDLIFE REHABILITATION PERMITS – DO YOU HAVE A COPY?

The Department of Environment and Science has started conducting audits on Wildlife Carers who hold multiple permits. If you are a registered carer with Pine Rivers Koala Care you must be able to produce the permit at any time. If you don't have a copy of the current permit (we have experienced delays in receiving them this year, but we have managed to sort it out now) please email Madonna [carer@prkoalacare.com.au](mailto:carer@prkoalacare.com.au) to request one.

This is a timely reminder that as a carer, it is your responsibility to advise the Carer Coordinator of any wildlife you receive into care, and how many animals you are caring for at any given time. The fines for non-compliance are substantial – up to \$9,000. Our carers are so vital to our organisation (we wouldn't exist with you!) and we want to help you help us to do the right thing.

If you are not a registered carer with Pine Rivers Koala Care, you are not covered under our permit and you cannot tell the DES that you are caring for wildlife on our behalf.

Please familiarise yourself with the Code of Practice:

[https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0034/87829/cp-wl-rehab.pdf](https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0034/87829/cp-wl-rehab.pdf)



## RESCUE KIT AND HANDOVER



It is more important than ever that rescuers clean and disinfect all cages, towels, poles and nets after each rescue and before handing the kit over to the rescuer on the next shift.

Handing over cages and towels with blood and / or faeces on them is not only disrespectful but very unhygienic and dangerous. Not only for the wildlife, but for the rescuers too. We don't want any of our rescuers falling ill.

Please contact Chelsea if you are unsure what to do.

## COMMITTEE ROLES AVAILABLE

If you've ever wanted to join the Pine Rivers Koala Care Executive Committee, you're in luck! We are searching for a new Secretary and Treasurer.

We are also looking at starting committees for things such as Bush Care, Events and Advocacy.

Please email [vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au](mailto:vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au) if you are interested in joining any of the committees.

