



JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

Breeding season is certainly here! Our rescuers have been run off their feet this month. The phone is running hot with emergency calls and sightings.

If you have a few hours to spare each month, and you want to help our wildlife but you're a bit unsure about being a rescuer, why not consider becoming a hotline operator or an ambulance driver? If you're interested in helping out in either of these roles, contact Natasha or Brittany on the email addresses below. Full training is provided.

Natasha: events@prkoalacare.com.au

Brittany: rescue@prkoalacare.com.au

MONTHLY MEMBERS MEETINGS STILL ON HOLD

The good news is that Club Pine Rivers reopened last week, and COVID-19 restrictions are easing, however the club has not yet indicated when we can resume meetings, so there will be no monthly meeting again in June.

A few members have asked about holding a special meeting to fulfil our obligations as an association. The constitution states that the committee must meet at least every 4 months. Rest assured that the committees HAVE been meeting regularly. General meetings only need to be held as required. We sincerely hope that we can all get together at Club Pine Rivers again soon for our regular members meeting.

All the recent newsletters, minutes, correspondence and treasury reports have been uploaded onto the website in the "Members Area".

One Day Soon,
We Will All Be
Back to Normal

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE 30 JUNE

IT'S TIME TO
RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!

2020 / 2021 Memberships are due on 30 June! Last year we introduced new 5 year memberships so you don't have to renew every year. This option is still available.

If you are a Carer, Rescuer, Driver, Fundraiser or a Volunteer you must maintain an up-to-date membership.

Follow the link below to renew your membership today:

<https://prkoalacare.com.au/how-you-can-help/how-to-join-us>



RESCUE NEWS

MEET NATASHA AND JODIE!



Tash (left) is a Jack of All Trades and Master of None, as she likes to say! In her first year of rescuing she cried almost the entire time because none of her rescued animals survived. But she kept telling herself that she was still helping them by relieving them of pain as soon as possible. Fast forward to today and she has now had many successful rescues, and she says that is what keeps her going though the hard times. Her favourite Aussie animals are koalas, flying puppies (flying fox) and birds. She believes that there is no such thing as a stupid question, you can never stop learning, and there is no I in TEAM.

Jodie (right) has been a weekday rescuer for over 12 months and has rescued many koalas and other wildlife. She often works alongside her husband Ric who is a tree climber. Jodie does the groundwork and Ric climbs. Ric is a firefighter and level 2 ropes instructor. Jodie and Ric have spent a lot of time learning everything they can from Gary and Jo, our very own in-house koala experts, which they both say has been amazing. Gary has taught Ric the fine art of safely capturing koalas from the tops of trees.



We recently made the decision to split the traditional Rescue Coordinator role into two – Koalas and Other Wildlife. Tash and Jodie will be taking on the shared role of Rescue Coordinator – Koalas. They will work together to ensure our koala rescues and releases run smoothly, and they will each look after their own regions. Tash will look after Redcliffe and Caboolture, and Jodie will look after Pine Rivers. Tash, Jodie & Ric will work closely with Jo and Gary over the next few months absorbing as much knowledge as they can. You can contact Tash and Jodie on koalas@prkoalacare.com.au as of next week. Brittany will continue as the Rescue Coordinator – Wildlife, working alongside our fabulous Lead Wildlife Carers, Brett and Sally.

MEET DUKE FROM PETRIE

This handsome man is Duke. Duke was rescued a little while ago after a suspected dog attack. He usually calls Sweeney Reserve home, but on the day this photo was taken he had made his way into Petrie Police Station (which is right next door). The police called our rescue number to ask us to come out to take a look and check that he was OK.

Showing no fear, Duke decided he wasn't happy in the small tree he was in, and casually climbed down and dashed across the lawn in front of a huge crowd to find a better tree for his lunch and an afternoon nap.

You can check out the video of Duke on our facebook page.



TARRA GOES HOME AFTER A SERIOUS FALL

Meet Tarra! This poor mama had a serious fall with her joey in Strathpine on 10 June. Sadly, her baby didn't survive. Tarra was taken into the RSPCA for some TLC and treated for an eye infection. She was given the all clear 12 days later.

Even though we couldn't save her baby, it's comforting to know that Tarra will be OK and has now been returned to the wild to live her best life.

If you have a news story you want to share, please email vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au



POSTCARDS AND DOG PARK SIGNS ARE A BIG HIT

Recently we had some postcards and corflutes printed as part of our community education for Wild Koala Day. For the last 3 years, Moreton Bay Regional Council has provided a grant for us to hold an educational event at Old Petrie Town on the first Sunday in May. As you know, the event couldn't go ahead this year because of COVID-19, so we had to rethink how the funds would be spent. We



produced these awesome postcards so the community could get to know their resident koalas, and what a hit they've been! The rescue phone and facebook page has been inundated with sightings. We've also put up these signs in local dog parks and many people are starting to notice them and do the right thing with their dogs.

Deb Johnston
I walk Peter Campbell Park every day and sometimes see koalas. Amazing today I saw your new sign then 200 or so meters up the path there was a 🐨.



1 w Love Reply

VOLUNTEER 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 Habitat Care / Tree Planting, Events and Advocacy.

We also need hotline operators and ambulance drivers.

Please email events@prkoalacare.com.au if you are interested in joining any of the committees or you want to let Tash know when you're available.



RESCUE STATISTICS

APRIL 2020

Koala Calls	37
Sighting / Healthy	34
Advice Given	0
Hospital Visit	2
Passed onto	0
Catch & Release	1
Other	0

Other Wildlife Calls	24
Bat	0
Bird	12
Echidna	0
Macropod	0
Possum / Glider	11
Reptile	1
Other	0

MAY 2020

Koala Calls	64
Sighting / Healthy	50
Advice Given	0
Hospital Visit	11
Passed onto	0
Catch & Release	3
Other	0

Other Wildlife Calls	33
Bat	0
Bird	11
Echidna	0
Macropod	6
Possum / Glider	16
Reptile	0
Other	0

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

Schools Tree Day and National Tree Day are coming up! At this stage the restrictions have lifted enough for us to go ahead with group events (maximum of 20 people from within our group) for the tree planting days at Rob Akers Reserve. If you're interested in joining the committee and helping put some trees in the ground for our future wildlife, please let us know and we can put you in touch with Janet or Trish. Keep watching this space for updates!



CARER NEWS

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION PERMITS – ARE YOU COMPLIANT?

Thank you to all the carers who have responded to requests for information from Brett and Sally recently. 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, please email Brett and Sally on carer@prkoalacare.com.au to request one. They need to know what animals you have in care at any given time so that we can report accurately

It is your responsibility as a carer under our permit to advise the Carer Coordinators 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.

Koalas	5
Macropods	8
Possums	74
Birds	26

The Department of Environment and Science has started conducting audits on Wildlife Carers who hold multiple permits. If you are not a current member AND a registered carer with Pine Rivers Koala Care, and we don't know which animals you have in care, you are not covered under our permit. The DES has advised us that they will remove wildlife from your care if you are audited and cannot produce the permit.

TINY SWAMP WALLABY FROM MT MEE

Earlier in the week a wonderful member of the public reached out to us asking for help with a deceased female Swamp Wallaby who had this tiny baby in the pouch.

She had seen mum on Campbell's Pocket Road at Mt Mee and brought her home to save the joey. We collected her body and got bub out safely. But weighing just 51g, and just 70 days old (approx.) the little boy was just too little to survive and he passed away last night.

A huge thank you to the lady who tried to help this poor bub. It is so nice when people care enough to try and help.

This is a good reminder of how important pouch checks are. Thank you to the rescuers who attend these scenes and do what you can to save these little lives.

Remember to always cut the teat and pin it to the pouch to prevent babies from swallowing it. Always take them to a trusted vet to ensure they haven't been injured. Remember that you can contact us any time for help and we can place them into care ASAP.



Sally & Brett



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.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/blue-card-employment-changes/resource/7f263d63-3bf6-417f-8f68-24f1bb15b12a>

Please send all applications to: vicepresident@prkoalacare.com.au

CONTAINER CLEAN UP

Big thanks to Coral, Joanne, Gary, Tash, Jodie and Sam who did a big clean up at the container on Friday, 19 June. It was so full we couldn't get into the back, so we dragged it all outside and disposed of any old paperwork and / or broken or outdated items. We packed it all back in neatly with boxes labelled properly. I think you'll agree that the end result is a vast improvement!

