



GUM TIPS

The Koala Hospital Newsletter



Issue 2007 No. 3

September 2007

Koala Preservation Society of NSW. Inc. PO Box 236 Port Macquarie NSW 2444 Australia
(02) 6584 1522 Fax (02) 6584 2399

Web Page: www.koalahospital.org.au Email: info@koalahospital.org.au



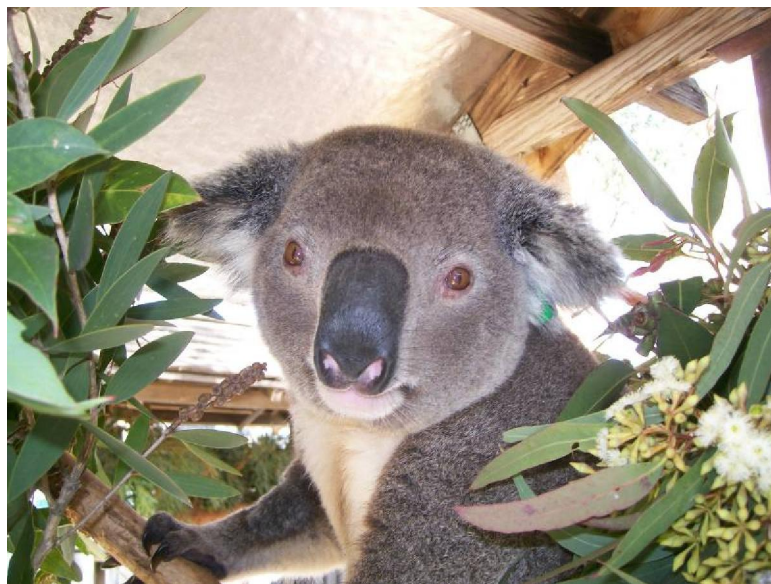
LIVINGSTONE CLOVER

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

- Ø Cover Story – Livingstone Clover's surgery went very well
- Ø Education – beyond our local community
- Ø Tinkerbell – a very sick little female joey koala from the Australian Reptile Park at Gosford
- Ø Friends of the Koala Hospital – local supporters in action
- Ø About Us – Gum Tips profiles some of the Staff and Management Committee
- Ø Hospital Report – Koala admissions
- Ø Did You Know This?

Livingstone Clover

This young healthy male in prime breeding condition was noticed trying to cross a busy road with a very pronounced limp of his left hind leg. When he was admitted to the hospital and after undergoing a series of tests including X-rays, it was discovered he had suffered an injury (probably due to a motor vehicle) that not only fractured his stifle area, but infection had set into the bone. As koalas do not appear to respond well to treating infections of this nature, our veterinarian Chris Livingston decided to try a surgery that works well in dogs and cats, but has not been done in koalas as far as we know.



The surgery involves actual removal of the distal end (far end) of the femur (top leg bone) with the aim being to create a fibromuscular joint. In other words removing the infected bone, building up the muscle tissue around the “knee” joint area to give the koala support, and stability of the leg.

Clover’s surgery went very well, and his “post op” physiotherapy (manipulating the leg twice daily) was not well received. Clover was not too keen on us manipulating his very sore leg!! As time went on, the wound healed beautifully and his leg began to not only increase in strength but became quite moveable, which was very pleasing.

Clover was placed in an outside rehab yard with a 20 metre tree in it to develop his climbing muscles. All the staff were very pleased with his progress in his ability to climb up the tree but we were all disappointed in his downward, horizontal and on the ground movements. Poor Clover just wasn’t able to place enough of his weight on the “bad leg” to be able to get around safely.

Where he had come from (the corner of Livingstone Road and Clover Court) is becoming a very busy arterial road, plus a lot of urban backyards, fences, children and dogs to contend with. Clovers chances of getting across a busy road with success are minimal, as is his chances of wandering along the tops of backyard wooden fences quickly plus avoiding becoming a dog statistic.

In every other respect, Livingstone Clover is a healthy, young, prime condition just under 10 kg male ready to beat his chest and win a female koala (or two).

What can we do with him? Thankfully, Livingstone Clover will be starting a new “breeding” life at the Australian Walkabout Wildlife Sanctuary (just next door to the famous Australian Reptile Park) at Somersby NSW as part of their breeding program.

So, for Livingstone Clover – the future looks excellent!!!!

Gum Tips is the official newsletter of the Koala Preservation Society of NSW Inc.
PO Box 236, Port Macquarie 2444 www.koalahospital.org.au

Management Committee

President	Bob Sharpham	president@koalahospital.org.au
Vice President	Herbie King	vicepresident@koalahospital.org.au
Secretary	Mary Stewart	secretary@koalahospital.org.au
Treasurer	John Barber	treasurer@koalahospital.org.au

Coordinators:

Habitat	Chris Rowlands	habitat@koalahospital.org.au
Education	Julian Jules	education@koalahospital.org.au
Media	Carol Blecha	media@koalahospital.org.au
Maintenance	Brian Westoby	maintenance@koalahospital.org.au
Friends of the Koala Hospital	Geoff Best	friends@koalahospital.org.au

Hospital Tel: (02) 6584 1522 Fax: (02) 6584 2399 info@koalahospital.org.au

Hospital Supervisor	Cheyne Flanagan	supervisor@koalahospital.org.au
Adoptions	Sam Carroll	adoption@koalahospital.org.au
Kiosk	Hazel Sellers	

Gum Tips Editor: Cheyne Flanagan 6584 1522 info@koalahospital.org.au

Publisher: Bob Sharpham 6583 9973

Gum Tips is published quarterly

Articles must be submitted to the Editor at least 14 days before publication

DISCLAIMER

ABN 74060854479
The Koala Preservation Society of NSW Inc. and the management committee do not accept any liability for the results of any actions taken or not taken, on the basis of information given or discussed with groups or other organised events, meetings and/or for information provided by speakers or for any information published for or on behalf of the organisation, its organs and officers.

Any opinions expressed in reports/articles published in this newsletter are not to be necessarily taken as being the opinion of the Society but rather the author’s personal opinion. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of any information in the newsletter published in good faith as supplied to the Editor. The President and Editor reserve the right to use or edit any article submitted for publication.

MOVING FORWARD IN EDUCATION

When the new hospital facility was completed, all the changes really brought the Koala Hospital right up into the 21st century in many ways. There is not only a noticeable increase in visitor numbers, but there is definitely an increase in coach and school bookings weekly, who are wishing to not only learn about wild koalas but to avail themselves of our education facilities and displays that are still being developed into bigger and better things.

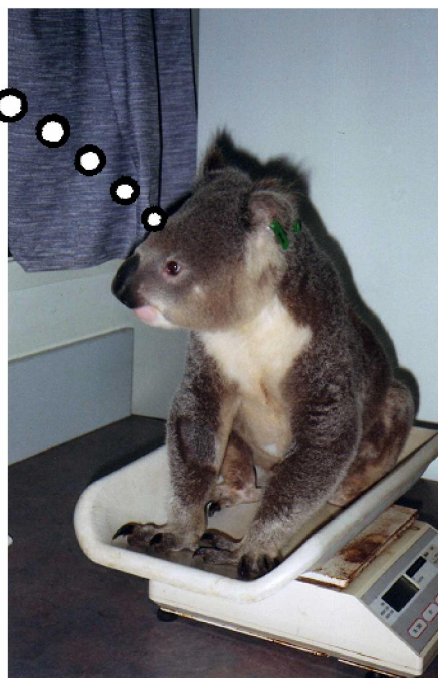
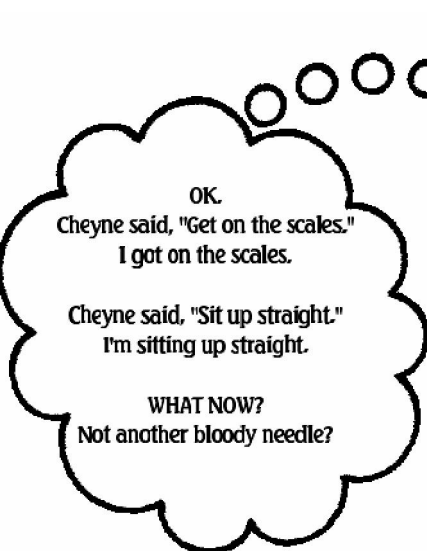
Plans are well under way to increase the outdoor displays to such a level that the Koala Hospital becomes a first class educational facility that will have so much for the visitor to see at all times, even during the quiet times when there no koalas at all in the outside yards for them to see. Some of the designs for the displays are already at the printers, and specimens are being prepared as well (that's what's in those smelly buckets!!)

We are also planning to become a registered educational programme on the NSW School Education Performances Register (which goes to every school in NSW). This will involve us putting together educational packages that follow the NSW School Science curriculum, so that we can really explain as much as possible on wild koalas to the children – our future conservationists of wildlife. We already have “trial” worksheets for primary school children and will fine tune these as necessary, which will become part of the overall package. Obviously this will hopefully mean many more booked school tours, but that of course is what we are aiming for.

This is where our new education facility will come into its own as an all weather centre that can have a lot of displays and educational material available for both schools and bus tours. We are looking to set up a picnic table area outside the education facility to accommodate the tours and schools so they can make it a “full excursion” spot for them to enjoy their lunch or to sit and answer their worksheets with their teachers.

We are also being requested more and more to conduct workshops for other licensed wildlife groups and to assist them in their caring of wild koalas. We recently conducted a successful workshop for the Newcastle, Hunter and Port Stephens koala people, and are going to go back soon to do conduct a burns course on bushfire affected koalas. It certainly takes a lot of work setting up workshops such as these, as we do power point presentations, have prepared specimens etc and we now have the equipment to put sets of notes together too.

In October/November we are conducting a two day workshop for Victorian wildlife carers at Warrnambool, Victoria. This area just 6 months ago were hit with devastating bushfires, that resulted in just on 400 koalas coming into care over a wide area (some of these koalas are still in care). We were certainly on the end of the phone with many of the Victorian carers at that time assisting them with their problems with their burned koalas.



We are also hosting five TAFE students from Coffs Harbour on work experience, who are studying zoo keeping. Plus, we are doing a two day workshop/work experience for 20 students from Bankstown TAFE who are also studying Cert IV in Captive Animal Management (zoo keeping).

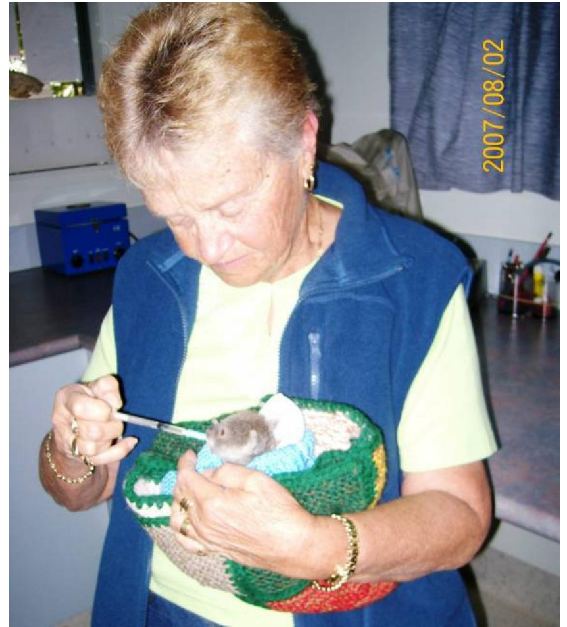
So with all the plans on the table, and what we are all currently doing, things are very very busy from the educational/display side of things.

Cheyne Flanagan

Tinkerbell

At the beginning of August we received a call from the Australian Reptile Park at Gosford enquiring whether we would take on a very small, very sick little female joey koala (they have a number on display at their zoo) that they were having difficulty with.

The transfer over from Reptile park staff to Koala Hospital staff, occurred at Taree and the precious cargo was brought up to the Hospital for admission and assessment. All we knew about the joey was that it was fully furred, still in the pouch, and very thin. We were also told that the mother was old, and had lost her previous joey.



When we opened the woolly pouches she was in, we certainly did not expect to find something so tiny. For a joey of this stage of maturity and development having full fur, it should be around 400 grams in weight. When we put the poor little mite on the scales, she clocked in at 145 grams – a weight we normally attribute to a small unfurred “pinkie”.

The little joey was immediately christened “Tinkerbell”.

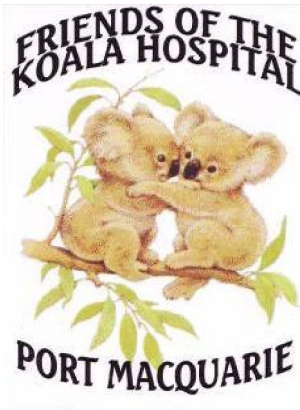
Tinkerbell went into home care, and has had round the clock feeding and attention ever since. Progress has been very slow, with weight gain only occurring in the 5, 10, 15 gram increments – which is not too bad considering the admission size/weight.

Tinkerbell has had a few setbacks, and has caused many sleepless nights for her carer, Barbara Barrett. At the time of writing, Tinkerbell is struggling to not only keep her weight on, and just like a premature baby, she rocks back and forward between progressing and falling backwards.

If Tinkerbell makes it to weaning stage, it will be a major achievement, and we can't imagine she will ever be a big robust female. If she does make it through, she will be returned to the Australian Reptile Park's captive koala colony.



FRIENDS OF THE KOALA HOSPITAL



Since the last Gum Tips, Friends has been involved in the following activities...

Attending markets at Westport High School and Laurieton Riverside, selling raffle tickets in the donated quilt promoting the "Adopt a Wild Koala" project and encouraging visitors to the Koala Hospital by distribution of brochures and personal approaches.

Six days of display at Port Central Shopping Centre during the School Holidays in early July. Results included 4 adoptions and a record attendance of over 200 visitors for the Walk & Talk" on Thursday July 5th.

Additionally, the Koala Hospital received a donation of \$1000 from Centre Management which was used to purchase floor-mounted scales for the treatment room.

My thanks to all Friends and Hospital volunteers who assisted me with this venture.

During the latter part of July and early August we have been selling advertising space on the 2008 Koala Hospital calendar which will be going into production shortly.

Friends are "gearing up" for displays at Panthers for the Wood-turners' Guild Extravaganza on September 21, 22 and 23, and the EcoExpo on 6th and 7th of October.

We will also be involved with Hospital volunteers in preparing a float for the Carnival of the Pines in October.

Lastly, Friends are now looking after the servicing of donation boxes in more than 20 locations. We are also negotiating with the newly-formed Men's Shed enterprise to have additional donation boxes manufactured so that we can extend our placements as new locations become available.



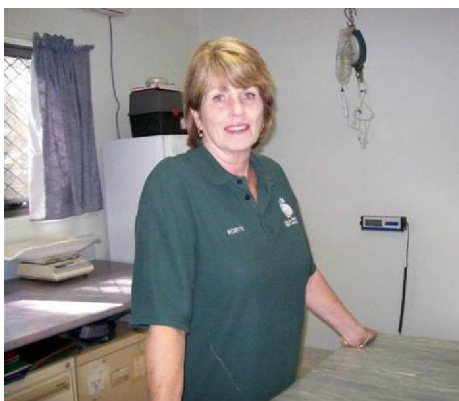
Friends invite all volunteers and partners to a SAUSAGE SIZZLE lunch at Long Point Winery on Sunday September 9th. Details in Hospital Day Room.

Geoff Best

About Us

STAFF PROFILES - Gum Tips profiles some of our staff.

Robyn OCallahan Team Leader and Assistant Supervisor



Born and bred in Sydney. Robyn's career included 32 years as finance officer with the TAB. Robyn and husband John had a "sea change" and moved to Lake Cathie in 2001. Robyn joined the Koala Hospital in 2002 as she was looking for something to do with animals. Robyn had seen all the media coverage over the 2002 bushfires that affected so many koalas, and wanted to help. Robyn became a team leader almost immediately and joined the supervisory team in 2004. Robyn's other interests' stems from being involved and owning horses throughout her life and is now an instructor and the treasurer of Riding for Disabled in the Hastings. Robyn also has a passion for horse racing and has part shares in three racehorses.

Pam Whippy Monday morning Team Leader

Pam who is a born and bred Port Macquarie local, worked for 33 years as a barmaid, and on retirement decided to start at the Koala Hospital in May 1998. Pam was concerned at the amount of habitat/trees being lost in the township and having a love for koalas anyway prompted her to join up. As proof that all staff at the hospital needs experience and training before handling koalas, Pam received 14 puncture wounds and three slashes to her arms when she attempted to rescue a mother and joey three weeks after starting at the hospital. Pam learnt the hard way very quickly!! Highlights of Pams volunteering at the hospital include home caring our oldest koala “Miss Beautiful” (21 year old), and rearing a joey called Jim Beam. Other duties have included fundraising, walks and talks and rescues/releases, with the main role being the Monday morning team leader position which Pam has held for the last seven years. Pam’s goal is to stay working at the hospital until she falls off the gunyah!!!!



Peter Schulties Team Leader extraordinaire



Born and bred in Hunters Hill, Sydney. Peter’s career began when he joined Qantas in the accounting section and through his airline work, he moved to the United States in 1981. From there he worked at airports all over the U.S. and Holland for a number of both European and Asian airlines. Peter decided to come back to Australia to retire in 2002, as the 9 11 New York terrorist attack caused financial havoc to the airline industry world wide. Peter went for a car trip to Cairns and “dropped in” to visit a school friend in Port Macquarie on the way back and stayed!!! Peter joined the Koala Hospital in June 2004, looking for something interesting to do, and fell in love with koalas. Peter has been

a team leader, rescuer/releaser, odd jobs, BBQ cook, education talks and “on call” man ever since. Peters other interests include golf, and lifting the right arm at the table of knowledge at the East Port Bowling Club, Port Macquarie.

Brian Westoby Maintenance Coordinator

Brian and his wife Joyce migrated to Australia from England in 1950. Brian and Joyce have lived most of their married/working life in Sydney with Brian being a production planner. They moved to Port Macquarie on retirement in 1990 as a “sea change”.

Why the Koala Hospital? - Early in 1995, they both started at the Koala Hospital (after the September 94 bushfire media coverage) as they loved to work with animals. Brian has been in charge of the maintenance team for a number of years, plus helps wife Joyce with her home caring of both joey and adult koalas at “Koala Haven”.

Brian’s other interests includes the Probus club and Masons.



Ashley Kilpatrick – Volunteer extraordinaire

Born and bred in Coffs Harbour, Ashley moved to Port Macquarie for a better “sea change” (as Coffs is on the coast too). Ashley’s work background is as a hospital cleaner, so his cleaning work around the Koala Hospital is always appreciated. Ashley came to the Koala Hospital in 2005 looking for something to do with animals. Ashley loves to work in the yards particularly with his favourite Tractive Golfer. Ashley is a jack of all trades around the hospital doing everything from working in the shop when needed, to do rescues and releases, painting, odd jobs, catching and handling the koalas for the team leaders and supervisors, and just loves working around the koalas. Ashley’s other hobbies include being a volunteer with S.E.S. (State Emergency Service) and his dog.

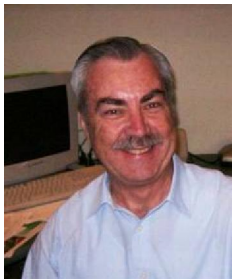


Meet the Management Committee of the Koala Preservation Society NSW Inc.

For those of you who may not know, The Koala Hospital operates under the umbrella of the Koala Preservation Society of NSW Inc, and the whole enterprise is managed by a management committee elected by the KPS membership on an annual basis.

The management committee of KPS is headed by the President, who works alongside the elected office bearers. All positions are eligible for a three year term (re-elected annually) and all positions are conducted on a voluntary basis. The management committee meets monthly but are able to be in constant contact when required. The committee’s main task is to oversee the financial and general running of the Koala Preservation Society.

Bob Sharpham President



Bob was born and bred in Sydney. His working career included carpentry and the building trade with an 18 year stint as a TAFE teacher. One highlight was in 1995 when Bob was in charge of 120 apprentices who built a house in 36 hours for the HIA Home Show in Sydney which still holds the record for the fastest built ready to move in home. Bob and his wife Trish have fostered an amazing 26 children, three of whom they adopted at birth – now that’s home care!!! In 1996 Bob semi retired and moved to Port Macquarie. In 2004, when Bob decided to go into local government he was elected Deputy Mayor of the Port Macquarie Hastings Council, as his first stint in office (a position he still holds).

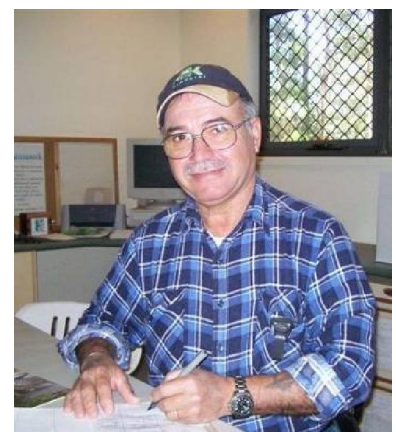
Why the Koala Hospital? Bob (along with all the councillors and head staff) were originally invited by the Koala Hospital to come for a barbeque for a “getting to know you” session and consequently joined the Society. Bob became involved with the fundraising team to aid financing the building of the new hospital. Little did Bob know that he was elected Fundraiser, and found himself on the management committee (we are smart aren’t we). The rest is history and Bob is now the President of KPS.

Herbie King Vice President

Herbie came to Australia in 1979 from the exotic port of Bahrain. Herbie’s working life was as a mechanical engineer at the Naval dockyards in Sydney. In 2002, Herbie and his wife Jenny, decided to have a “sea/tree/paddock change” and moved to acreage at Blackmans Point (just north of Port Macquarie) to farm vegetables and beef cattle.

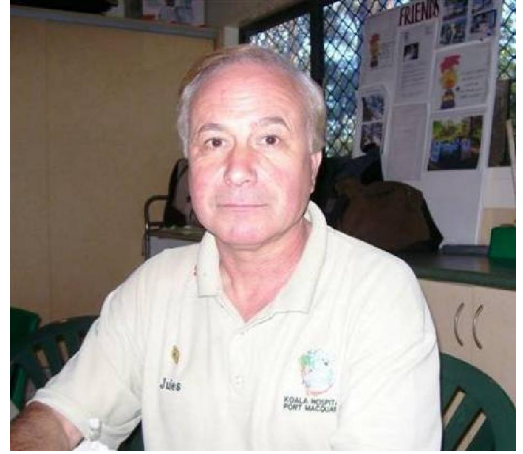
Why the Koala Hospital? Herbie thought it might be good to work on the maintenance team, and within a short space of time he became the Hospital Coordinator and found himself on the management committee as a result (can we see a pattern emerging here?). Herbie then became the Hospital Treasurer for three years, and is now the Vice President of KPS.

Herbie’s hobbies include fishing and hunting.



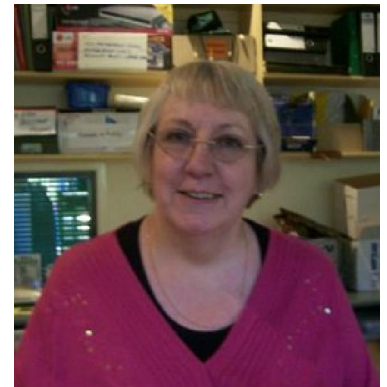
Julian Jules Education Coordinator Jules was born in Triest, Italy and his family moved to Australia in 1954, living in both Victoria and later in Sydney's eastern suburbs. Jules's working career included being an electrical fitter mechanic and he then moved into interior design and decorating and was also a company buyer for Woolworths. In 2004 he moved to Port Macquarie after "dropping in" for a visit on the way home from a holiday in Coffs Harbour and loved it.

Why the Koala Hospital? Jules heard on the radio for a call for volunteers at the Koala Hospital and decided to join, as he loves all animals, and thought his skills maybe of help. Jules worked in the yards and has ended up as the Education Coordinator organising and conducting a lot of the tours and guided talks. Jules other interests include: landscaping and decorating homes, reading and fishing.

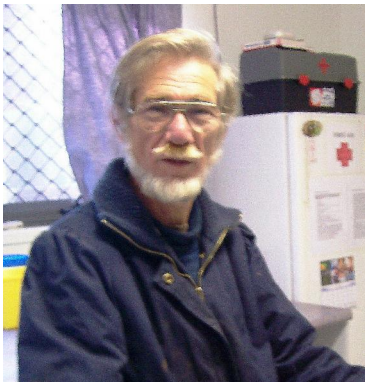


Carol Blecha Media Coordinator Carol came from England in 1963 as a £10 Pom; she resumed her job as an insurance clerk with the same company she had worked for in England. She married in 1969 in Sydney and in 1998 moved from to the more relaxed atmosphere of Port Macquarie, almost across the road from the Koala hospital.

Why the Koala Hospital? Carol first came to the Koala Hospital where her daughter was working as a team leader. One busy day she called Carol to say there were a lot of visitors around but no one in the kiosk; so Carol became a regular shoplady. It wasn't long before Carol became involved in yard work and rescues but the part she enjoys most is the Walk and Talk and talking to community groups "I get to meet so many wonderful people from all over the world."



Chris Rowland Habitat coordinator and leaf collector



Before Chris retired from his working life, his career spanned areas such as industrial engineering construction work in bridge welding, rigging and as a commercial diver around the shipping wharves of Sydney.

Chris started with us in November 2001, as he was looking for something to do involving trees and wildlife and thought the Koala Hospital sounded interesting.

After starting off working as a volunteer in the yards, Chris started assisting the leaf collector Katy (yes, we had a lady leaf collector) becoming very interested in tree identification etc. The passion increased to growing trees, and learning the "language of botany" to be able to identify eucalypt trees to Chris ending up the "head leaf collector" some months later. Being nominated to be the habitat co-ordinator and thus to hold a position on the management committee is another "hat" that Chris was given and holds to this day. Chris as everyone in the hospital knows is passionately obsessed with trees, planting along with his team of workers, literally thousands of seedling trees around the Port Macquarie and Kempsey districts.

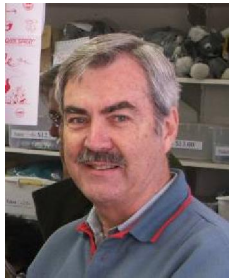
One special highlight of Chris's time with us, is the day the leaf truck had broken down and at about 9 am around the side of the hospital came an enormous pile of fresh eucalypt leaf with a set of bicycle wheels poking out underneath – and underneath that pile was Chris riding the bike - he had been out collecting leaf via the pushbike!!! It was one of the funniest things we had ever seen and how Chris was able to see where he was going we simply do not know. It even got back to us that the local police, when driving past him, simply shook their heads at the sight and kept going. Now that's dedication.

More in the Next Issue of Gum Tips

From the President

Strategic Plan 2007 to 2011

The Strategic Plan is now complete, prepared by a committee under the leadership of Margaret Halliday; it is a document that will take us into the future with purpose and direction. The plan provides historical information about the KPS, current activities and future direction. Of particular note, the reasons for admitting koalas to the hospital since the beginning of the work in 1973 have been included.



Congratulations to Margaret and her committee. You can access it on our website <http://www.koalahospital.org.au/news.php>

Membership



New members can now join on our website and you can update your details at any time, this will help us keep you up to date with what's happening at the Koala Hospital and make sure you get your copy of Gum Tips by email, snail mail or simply off our website. Joyce is our membership secretary, I'm sure she will be glad to hear from you.

<http://www.koalahospital.org.au/members/>

Adopt-A-Wild-Koala

My thanks to Sam Carroll for taking over the Koala Adoptions with the help of Lorraine and John. You may know Sam from her 'Blog' also on our website. Adoptions are an important part of our fundraising along with the kiosk as we don't receive funding from any other source. If you need a gift for someone anywhere in the world, we can post it direct for you; just go to <http://www.koalahospital.org.au/adopt/>

At the last general meeting we approved the revised Constitution and Society Regulations. Like any voluntary organisation we must keep up with government regulations and protect our Society by setting down clear guidelines to work by.

My thanks to Cheyne, her staff and volunteers for the work they do with the koalas. It is a job that has to be done 365 days a year.

Koalas don't have holidays.

Bob Sharpham 

President

THE SUPERVISORS' REPORT

Even though August has not had many admissions overall, we certainly had a run of admissions early in the month. It was extremely frustrating particularly early in the month when we had three young, prime breeding age, healthy males all coming in dead in one morning. Two had been hit by speeding motorists and one attacked by a dog. All so senseless and preventable. The two hit by cars must have been out and about moving around their home ranges seeking females, and more than likely the one attacked by the dog was doing the same thing – simply traversing a backyard that he considered was part of his home range too. Unfortunately, the dog was protecting his domain too.

In talking with other wildlife carers, we have all found a similar phenomena occurring where we seem to get more chlamydial eye infections one year, and less wet bottoms and then the next year it alternates. This is a very interesting concept that needs to be investigated!! This year we certainly have had more eye infections whereas last year we were flooded with wet bottoms. Thankfully we have had good success with our eye infected koalas, but not so with the wet bottoms.



At the time of writing, it is so quiet, with no admissions at all, and only the odd call to relocate a koala who has got him/herself in bother in a backyard with dogs or sitting in a very dangerous spot beside a busy road. One very positive thing to note is a number of the "relocations" have been healthy females with joeys, so there is definitely some good breeding happening out there in the wilds of Port Macquarie and surrounds.

This quiet time is certainly giving us the opportunity to focus on all the preparations for the education displays, education materials (see education story) and the myriad of submissions, funding applications, and other necessary paperwork that gets put to the side when koala admissions are high.

Volunteer numbers are good, and the work for the dole teams are really putting in a lot of effort to help tidy the place and keep everything ship shape.

Cheers, **Cheyne Flanagan**
Hospital Supervisor.



Barbara Barrett

HOSPITAL REPORT



ADMISSION	NAME	REASON	RESULT
6.11.00	Kempsey Carolina F	Head Trauma—Motor Vehicle Accident	Permanent Resident
11.10.01	Bonnie Fire F	Bushfire Victim	Permanent Resident
22.10.04	Tractive Golfer M	Underweight – scoliosis of spine	
21.01.06	Wiruna Lucky F	Cataracts both eyes	
26.06.06	Ocean Kim F Joey	Joey of Ocean Therese	Released 22.08.07
27.11.06	Cathie John Joey	Orphaned – Home Care	Died 24.6.07
25.12.06	Lake Christmas F Joey	Abandoned – Home Care	Released 22.08.07
02.04.07	Anna Bay Sooty F	Severe conjunctivitis left eye	Released 23.07.07
05.05.07	Candelo Cool F	Chlamydia	Released 23.07.07
19.05.07	Jupiter Cheryl F	Disoriented – covered in ticks	Released 24.05.07
20.05.07	Park Tricia F	In dangerous area - checked	Released 21.05.07
21.05.07	Livingstone Clover M	Hind (L) leg injury	
21.05.07	Ruhscutter Ralph M	Wet Bottom	Euthanased 23.05.07
21.05.07	Regatta Lanage	On fence – dogs in yard – checked	Released 22.05.07
23.05.07	Hay Billy	In dangerous area – checked	Released 23.05.07
31.05.07	Ermeald Oz M	On fence – dog in yard – checked	Released 31.05.07
02.06.07	Treetops Paula F	Found on ground	Dead on Arrival
04.06.07	Hassall Coral F	On fence – dogs in yard – checked	Released 04.06.07
05.06.07	Airport Keena Juv. M	In rafters of airport freight hanger	Relocated 05.06.07
09.06.07	Sandhill Col M	On ground – Chlamydia R and L eyes	Euthanased 31.07.07
12.06.07	Cattlebrook John M	On ground – possible Motor Vehicle Accident	Euthanased 18.06.07
15.06.07	Ocean Golfer M	Chlamydia	Released 02.08.07
16.06.07	Dunbogan Jim M	Found on ground	Dead on Arrival
21.06.07	Newport Bridge Gloria F	In dangerous area – checked	Released 21.06.07
21.06.07	Oxley Soney M	Suspect leg injury	Released 21.06.07
25.06.07	Koalasaurus Inches	Found on ground	Dead on Arrival
28.06.07	Herschell Grady M	Chlamydia	Euthanased 09.08.07
29.06.07	Innes Wopnga M	Found on ground	Died 30.06.07
30.06.07	Barton Glen M	Conjunctivitis (l) eye	Release 25.07.07
01.07.07	Dunbogan Rotton M	Decomposed	Dead on arrival
02.07.07	Calwalla Bill M	Suspect Wet Bottom – checked	Released 02.07.07
12.07.07	Hastings Teal M	Found in warehouse	Relocated 12.07.07
14.07.07	Sussex Guinevere F	Chlamydia	Euthanased 25.07.07
17.07.07	Hamlyn Jack M	Keraconjunctivitis @ eye	Released 10.08.07
18.07.07	Jonas Absolom Blinky	Found in swimming pool – conjunctivitis	Released 02.0-8.07
22.07.07	Links Lorna F	Debilitated	Euthanased 25.07.07
23.07.07	Anna Bay Lil F	Pouch/hernia problem	Released 11.08.07
24.07.07	Ocean Jane	Motor Vehicle Accident	
27.07.07	Ocean Joseph	Motor Vehicle accident	Released 31.07.07
28.07.07	Bellangry Niky F	Found on ground - conjunctivitis	Released 14.08.07
20.07.07	Ocean Woody M	Motor Vehicle accident	Released 31.07.07
21.07.07	Waniora Coastline M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 03.08.07
01.08.07	Tinkerbell 145 gram F joey	Malnourished – Home Care	
03.08.07	Dunbogan Polly F	Poor condition	Euthanased 10.08.07
04.08.07	Moruya Nicola F	Found on ground	Euthanased 05.08.07
05.08.07	Shellbourne Lucky M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
07.08.07	Hart Gunn M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
08.08.07	Central Kane M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
08.08.07	Marrish Steven M	Dog Attack	Dead on Arrival
09.08.07	Cathie Susan F	Motor Vehicle Accident	Euthanased 16.08.07
09.08.07	Orr Malley F	Decomposed	Dead on Arrival
10.08.07	Yarranabee Sprinter M	In yard with dogs – checked	Released 10.08.07
14.08.07	Perks Chris M	Eye injury - disoriented	

ADMISSION	NAME	REASON	RESULT
15.08.07	Wiruna Judy F	In yard with dogs – checked	Released 16.08.07
17.08.07	Lake Arwan M	Motor Vehicle accident	Dead on Arrival
19.08.07	Table Craig M	Possible dog attack	Released 23.08.07
21.08.07	Mermaid Simone + joey	Suspect wet bottom	Released 22.08.07
22.08.07	Granite Ross M	Scoliosis of spine – dragging hind legs across road	Euthanased 24.08.07
26.08.07	Candello Cool F	Chlamydia complications	Euthanased 29.08.07
31.08.07	Tablelands Mick M	Bilateral conjunctivitis	

PORT MACQUARIE:

June	Permanent	2	Treated	20	Released	4	Euthanased	1	Dead/Died	4	Admitted	13
July	Permanent	2	Treated	21	Released	6	Euthanased	3	Dead/Died	1	Admitted	13
August	Permanent	2	Treated	23	Released	11	Euthanased	6	Dead/Died	6	Admitted	18

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

AND OTHER INTERESTING TIDBITS!!!!!!

- There is a common misconception that the male koala is the only one that bellows and grunts – interestingly female koalas can certainly do the same on occasion. Conversely, the other misconception is that females are the only ones that emit a high pitched shrill cry, with males (particularly subordinate ones) being able to scream along with the best of them!!
- The loud bellowing sound of a koala on a still dark night is considered to be responsible for the “yowie” myth (the mythical hairy man that is supposed to live in the Australian bush that no one has ever seen)
- Female koalas pouches do not open backwards but are in fact vertical, opening downwards centrally
- Female koalas are capable of breeding from 12-18 months of age onwards, breeding on average every second year
- Koalas ages are mainly determined by their premolar and molar tooth wear
- Koalas belong to the Diprotodont marsupial group (marsupials which have two incisor teeth on the bottom jaw)
- Koalas have a double layer of fur, which makes them the most insulated marsupial of all
- Koalas are smaller, lighter built and finer furred in the north east of Australia, getting larger, more solid in build and hairier as latitude increases. Victorian koalas are the biggest, the most solid and the woolliest of all koalas in this country. This is called clinal distribution and is to do with adaptation to the different climatic zones
- Koalas have very few predators – dingoes, wedge tailed eagles, and pythons occasionally take them. Feral cats, foxes and wild dogs impact more on their numbers but the worst pest of all is the human being
- The poorer the soil quality, the more toxic the eucalypt leaf can become as a strategy to protect the tree from being overbrowsed during certain seasonal periods.
- Fresh new eucalypt leaf growth post bushfire is often very sweet and nutritious
- Out of the 600 or so eucalypt species found in Australia, koalas eat approximately 50 or so across their known ranges, with around 10 species being preferred at a local level – and up to five of those species being browsed as the main staple of their diet
- Adult koalas eat up to 500 grams per day of fresh leaf
- Adult koalas can pass around 200 droppings in 24 hours (or 100 grams or more in weight), with gut transit time being approximately five days
- Koala scats (droppings) are a unique dark coloured football shape which is one of the indicators used to locate wild koalas in survey work
- Koalas also leave distinctive scratch marks on the smooth bark of trees – another indicator for locating koala populations
- The ring tailed possum has a very similar gut system to the koala (especially having a large long caecum the same as the koala)
- The greater glider’s diet not only comprises mainly eucalypt leaves, but this glider also exhibits similar behaviour to koalas in that they cannot be relocated (locked to a home range and cannot adapt to a new location) and will curl up and die at the base of a tree or where the tree once grew if their habitat is destroyed.
- Zoos in countries such as Germany, Portugal, Scotland, Japan, China and the USA have captive bred koalas on display for the public
- Most wild koalas when sick are often amenable to being treated, but once better, exhibit more feisty defensive behaviour and are thus more easily returned to the wild
- Both wild and captive bred koalas show particular body language signs that can be very helpful in diagnosing problems. For example: drooped ears – very sick. Flicking ears – “go away” “don’t do that”. Grinding teeth – in pain. Flicking forearms/wrists – “something is bothering me”. Popping eyes – “I am terrified”.
- The sexually mature adult male koalas scent gland exudes a brown greasy oily liquid, that smells similar to an entire football teams week old socks – a smell that alerts other males that the tree has been visited by the resident male (not the football team)
- Koalas can suffer with cataracts, arthritis and other complaints that affect humans, dogs and cats etc.

If undelivered please return to:
KPSNSW Inc.
PO Box 236
Port Macquarie NSW 2444 Australia
Print Post Approved – 242 798/00014

AIR MAIL