



GUM TIPS

The Koala Hospital Newsletter



Issue 2008 No. 2

June 2008

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Nowendoc Carl

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

- Ø Cover Story – Nowendoc Carl
- Ø Koala Myths and other Tall Stories
- Ø Special Awards – Two of our volunteers are honoured
- Ø Hospital Report – Koala admissions



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Nowendoc Carl

In late 2007 we received a call from a member of the public who spotted a koala curled up on the ground and obviously in a very poor state. The koala was noticed in having very diseased eyes and was more than likely unable to see. When koalas curl up in a ball on the ground, it is a strong indication that they are extremely sick as being on the ground certainly puts them at great risk of predation. As the caller was ringing from within another wildlife licenced area, and as we had often treated koalas with the above problem for a special wildlife carer who resides there, we decided we would drive the 200 kilometres up into the mountains to pick up the koala to help her out. Thankfully the caller had brought the koala into his home which saved us a lot of hassle.



Once we got him back into the hospital he turned out to be a rather small “little old man” koala and was indeed in a rather shabby state of health!! He was named Carl after the gentleman who rang us.



As it turned out, Carl had a rather nasty advanced case of chlamydial eye infection that presented as very crusty, swollen, inflamed eyes with granulating tissue and it was very painful. He also had a very brown, dry coat – a strong indication of ill health. In spite of this, he was in a reasonable/fair condition for not only an old koala, but one who had obviously been unable to see for quite some time – he must have really known his way around his home range. He was very lucky that wild dogs had not made a quick meal of him.

We started the standard eye treatment immediately which consisted of twice daily bathing of his eyes in warmed saline and application of special eye ointments. About one week later, Carl underwent eye surgery. This amazing surgery is done under anaesthetic, where the proliferative granulated tissue is removed and within 24 hours, there is a noticeable improvement and healing is then well and truly underway.

Carl not only responded very well to the surgery and post surgery treatment he also became very fond of the supplementary formula the staff were giving him. Carl became one of the koalas we term “divet junkies” – koalas that just love the formula so much, they grab at all and sundry to get their daily dose!!!!

We ended up putting Carl outside in Yard 2 for his “post treatment, fattening up rehabilitation” period, which he appeared to absolutely relish. Carl became the star afternoon “walk and talk” koala and performed on cue at 3pm daily – coming down from the gunyah when a staff member walked into the yard with his formula. All the visitors were enraptured peering through the fence at this funny little scruffy koala sitting up on the lower gunyah looking expectantly for the gate to squeak, and the tin of formula with a person attached would then appear. Carl would get all excited and grab at the formula. He was even known to sit on the ground intently watching the gate and as a result was often fed on the ground in front of the public as he wouldn’t even wait until the staff member could organise him back up on the gunyah. What a junkie.

A few months after his admission, Carl was deemed fit to be transferred back to the other licenced wildlife groups’ koala carer. We thought it best to get him back before the bitter winter chill (and sometimes even snow) arrived in that area to give him some time to acclimatise from balmy Port Macquarie to freezing mountain temperatures. Koalas up there have been known to suffer frost bite on their ears.

Even though Carl was assessed as being clear of disease, his “old age” status and obvious lower ranking lack of virility (he was certainly NOT an alpha male!!!) placed him in a position where full release to the wild just prior to winter would not have been a wise move.

Consequently Carl is spending the winter in the “koala Hilton” (a well protected pre-release set of enclosures) up in the mountains and his release time will be determined once the weather warms up in spring. We even sent him back with a carton full of tins of formula to keep him happy during winter. Poor old Carl will be in for a rude awakening in spring when he will be slowly weaned off his daily hit of tucker!!!!



KOALA MYTHS AND OTHER TALL STORIES.

Coming from a herpetological background (reptiles and amphibians) certainly exposes one to hearing about all the mythical stories that the public love to tell you about, for example: “fair dinkum this snake I just saw was as thick as a mans leg” etc etc etc. - Cheyne Flanagan

Koala myths and legends are no different and we certainly here some good ones here at the Koala Hospital.....

Myth: The best one that gets around, is that koalas get themselves drunk on eucalypt leaves and sleep all the time as a result.(is that why we have so many volunteers here?).

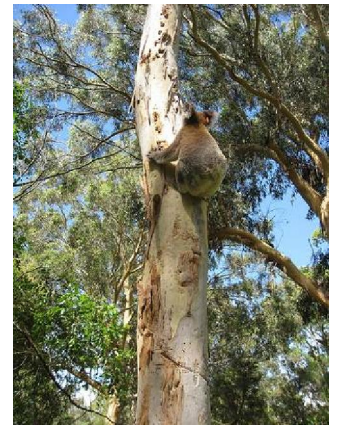


Truth: As eucalypt leaf is very low in viable nutrients, the koala has evolved and adapted over many millions of years physiological (bodily) changes that utilize these nutrients the best way possible. Koalas have a slightly lower body temperature and consequently lower metabolic rate than most other mammals, to reduce the amount of energy expended per day. By sleeping on average around 18-20 hours out of 24, they conserve energy – and their waking hours are used to feed, move and seek out mates during breeding season (hard life eh?). Breeding females certainly require slightly more and better quality leaf during peak lactating times. So, as for being drunk? No way.



Myth: Koalas are lazy, slow and move around like sloths.

Truth: Koalas are highly efficient in their conservation of energy; therefore movement is based on a needs basis. Any sound observer can tell you that a koala can climb up a tree expertly and with considerable speed when necessary. Koalas on the ground are also capable of reasonable speed over short distances. A male koala fighting with another male or pursuing a female high in the treetops is neither slow nor lazy.



Myth: Koalas are low in intelligence and are therefore stupid and dumb.

Truth: Any species that have evolved and survived in a harsh, arid land for millions of years must be doing something right. As the brain of any animal requires a considerable amount of energy to function at its optimal level, the koala has evolved an extremely efficient brain that drives the necessities of its basic needs and instincts. Why drive round in an eight cylinder hotted up car, guzzling up expensive fuel when a clean, uncluttered four cylinder model is far more efficient, economical and long lasting? Looking at the decimation the human species has achieved in its very short history, one wonders at who is really the “intelligent” one.

Myth: Koalas never drink water.

Truth: Koalas do in fact drink water when needed. One of their adaptations, from a physiological (bodily) viewpoint is their ability to make good use of the available stored water in the eucalypt leaf (a sort of recycling strategy) conserving it as much as possible. When the eucalypt leaf’s moisture content is below the threshold, the koala does drink from water holes etc. This is not a situation a wild koala is comfortable with, as being on the ground, head down drinking, places them in a very vulnerable position in being at risk from predator attack. Nonetheless, if all the eucalypt leaf is below an acceptable level of moisture, the koala must seek water elsewhere to survive. Alternatively, a koala suffering from renal disease for example, seeks ground water irrespective of leaf moisture availability and is known to sit beside a creek or whatever, lapping water for a long period of time.

Myth: Koalas always wee on people

Truth: Obviously if a koala has a full bladder, it needs to be emptied!! This duty they accomplish more than once a day. From a behavioural point of view, sudden urine expulsion would usually indicate the “flight or fight” phenomena where an animal urinates/defecates to “lighten the load” before fleeing from a threatening process. In koalas as with other fauna, it is more than likely a response to fear or stress. Australians tend to joke about koalas “piddling on politicians” – a statement that speaks for itself!!! Nevertheless, whatever the reason, we recommend that standing underneath a koala that is above you in a tree is not a good idea.

Myth: Koalas are the worlds fussiest eaters, eating only 6 species of eucalypt out of a possible 500 (Guinness Book of Records 2005).



Truth: Koalas are one of four Australian marsupials (greater glider, ringtail possum, brushtail possum and koala) that use eucalypts as either a major part or as the principal component of their diet (Hume I.D., 1999). There is no question that koalas are eucalypt specialists, but they certainly do eat and make use of other species of native flora. Paperbark (*Melaleuca* spp), She Oaks (*Casuarina* spp), *Corymbias* (Argyle Apple, Lemon Scented, etc) have been observed and recorded to have been eaten. Koalas also feast occasionally on flowers, fruits, bark and stems of the above as well. As there are approximately 600 species of eucalypt scattered across the Australian continent, quoting 6 species only is an impossibility!! Probably all up, with the different species of eucalypt over the areas that koalas are known to exist there would be a much greater number of eucalypts eaten (there are approximately 28 eucalypt species recorded in our area alone, that

koalas are known to eat). So when taking into consideration all the other areas of Australia that have koala populations and they would have different eucalypt species to here, then the total number of eucalypt species in Australia that are browsed on by koalas would be more than likely between 50-100 species. It just goes to show you don't believe all you read.

Hume I.D., 1999 Marsupial Nutrition. Cambridge Press.

Myth: Female koalas have a backward facing pouch.

Truth: Female koalas do not have a backward facing pouch at all. The pouch is actually vertically orientated on the lower abdominal area (and we should know as we see hundreds of them!). Female koalas have good strong muscles that hold the pouch tightly closed or open according to the size of the joey and what the joey is doing. They can control the muscles that may give the appearance of the joey “hanging” out of the bottom of the pouch when in fact the top muscles may simply be pulled tighter. Joeys will “hang” out the bottom of the vertical slit when they are seeking “pap”.

Myth: Male koalas cover great distances seeking female koalas during breeding season and will actively defend and fight for their territory.

Truth: Male koalas are locked into their home range for life. Their home range size is dependant on their status in the population (eg: alpha male (top dog) or lower ranking male) and the quality of the food trees in that home range. Males do not leave their home range seeking females as they then not only stand a chance of losing their home range but may encounter higher ranking males elsewhere. The females in that population (or colony) have overlapping home ranges with the dominant males and are also able to move around within. There are alpha females (top dog females) that do most of the breeding, and thus occupy the best quality home ranges and the lesser females who live on less quality areas. Males do occasionally fight with each other but that is only when they come across each other (in overlapping home ranges).



Males try to avoid fighting as its costs them a lot in energy expenditure, so they do not actively defend their territory marching up and down – they would be totally worn out when they live on poor quality tucker. If male koalas defended their territories actively fighting we would certainly see a lot more injuries than we do. More often than not, the screaming, growling and yelling that goes on at night in trees in Port Macquarie (and elsewhere) is a viral male trying to get hold of a not too happy female.

Myth: Koalas are cute, cuddly, quiet fluffy animals that love to be cuddled.

Truth: Koalas have a good set of razor sharp claws (used to climb trees with), and very strong powerful



teeth (for biting off stems). Wild koalas will certainly defend themselves if cornered or threatened, but certainly prefer to high tail it up a tree to get away from danger as soon as they can. Koalas can give a powerful deep bite and a nasty laceration with their claws when needed (and usually are quite vocal (growling) when they do). Interestingly, many (and definitely not all) wild koalas will calm down in captivity and allow a human to treat their injuries or to handle them when required. Wild koalas usually revert back to their wild state (commonly called “going feral” here) as soon as they are released back into the wild. Adult koalas no matter how quiet they become do not “love to be cuddled” but simply see us as a food source and somewhere comfortable to be. Young hand raised joeys need to be “cuddled” as its simply a form of warmth and security for them – we humans are merely surrogate koala mothers, nothing more as given the choice they would certainly prefer a proper koala for a mother!!!!.



SUPPORT the KOALA HOSPITAL

by adopting a wild koala for a friend – www.koalahospital.org.au



A new management committee was elected at the AGM in May.

Gum Tips is the official newsletter of the Koala Preservation Society of NSW Inc.
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Gum Tips is published quarterly

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

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Coordinators



Hospital
Peter Schulties



Habitat
Chris Rowlands



Education
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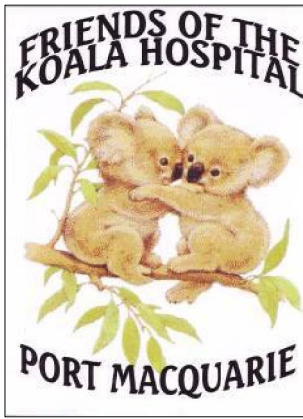
Media
Helen Meers



Kiosk
Hazell Sellers



Maintenance
Brian Westoby



During the past 12 months “Friends” have conducted two evening harbour cruises on the Chinese Junk...a mixture of social and fund-raising activities. We have a further cruise on Tuesday May 27th which is almost fully subscribed.

We have conducted a Christmas Hamper Raffle which showed a profit of just over \$400, a Raffle of a Quilt donated by Camden Haven Quilters realised \$1840 and the Koala Portrait Raffle drawn in March raised \$2030.

In conjunction with Education and Media Coordinators, “Friends” have undertaken several public displays including Port Central (6days), Woodworkers’ Extravaganza (3days) Volunteer Expo and Eco Expo and Australia Day. We have also attended Community Markets at Westport High

School and Laurieton Riverside on a number of Sundays throughout the year, selling raffle tickets, adoptions and handing out Hospital brochures.

Earlier this year “Friends” sold advertising space in the Hospital Calendar for 2009 which is currently with the designer/printer and will be on sale in the next couple of months. An ideal Christmas present for family and friends as well as a souvenir for visitors to the Hospital. Thanks to Les Gregson, the calendar will feature many wonderful photographs taken in and around the Koala Hospital.

This year, “Friends” coordinated the annual Open Day which was a great financial success. Thanks to all volunteers and “Friends” who contributed.

“Friends” are taking care of the servicing of donation boxes at various locations throughout the Hastings. Thanks to Brian Crisp, Frank and Leonie, Kevin and Robyne and Beth for their assistance in this venture.

“Friends” are also responsible for the Adopt a Wild Koala programme which has grossed more than \$65,000 again this year. Bob, Lorraine and I are working together to further develop the website and the adoption programme to ensure that as many as possible of our adopters receive a renewal notice and are encouraged to re-adopt.

We have also introduced 5 new photo books with additional koalas to the adoption area at the Souvenir Kiosk instead of just one, as it was becoming clear that many visitors were not getting a chance to browse when the forecourt was busy following a “Walk and Talk”.

Our thanks to Hazell and Michelle who kept up with the adoptions, and to Brian, Jules and Carol who managed the Hospital’s participation in the Ironman Triathlon and Biggest Morning Tea Launch, whilst Lorraine and I enjoyed a short holiday in New Zealand.

Our next big project looks like being a “Children’s Fun Day” at the Hospital in Spring...More about this in due course.

In conclusion, my thanks to the small but enthusiastic group of ”Friends” and I look forward to the next 12 months working together with Management Committee, staff and all volunteers for the future of the Koala Hospital.

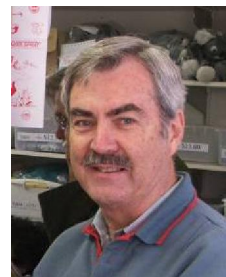
Geoff Best...Coordinator



From the inside looking out

From the President

This last year there has been a determined effort to raise funds for the Koala Ambulance; it was with a great deal of effort particularly from Julian Jules, Carol Blecha and Geoff Best's 'Friends of the Koala Hospital' that the community came to the party and achieved a great outcome; we have the Koala Ambulance and are at present putting the finishing touches to it ready for the launch. We are grateful to John Williamson for putting our appeal 'on the map' in June last year and to the local media for promoting it.



Speaking of the media what a story Aussie Mick became! We had the global media knocking on our door.

Our next assignment, following the success of 'Friends of the Koala Hospital' will be to create a group of friends or a subcommittee to promote the protection and enlargement of koala habitat in our area. They will work with Chris Rowlands and the media to inform and encourage this community in an effort to make a positive difference. The recent reports of the effect of climate change on koala habitat give us a springboard on which to launch this important project.

Thank you Sydney University for the work you are doing with koalas and thank you for choosing the Koala Hospital.

Sydney University will be conducting an 'Education Day' at Rydges for up to 56 KPS staff and friends on Sunday 10th of August.

Fourteen members of the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Sydney will present a variety of seminars to the KPS Board and staff, volunteers and local veterinarians on what they have been doing with the data collected from koalas at the Koala Hospital as well as other related projects.

Thank you to National Parks for their cooperation when we have an 'on site' project planned; We look forward to the completion of the most recent addition and much needed Toilet Block and look forward to working with them with our plans for the next twelve months.

To the business community and social groups of Port Macquarie; thanks go to not just those that supported us financially but those that gave us their time as well.

To the staff and volunteers; I thank you for your tremendous commitment to work of the koala Hospital over the last twelve months and to our local and overseas friends who gave us the financial support that enables the work to continue. To the retiring committee members, a special thank you for your strength and support; also to Cheyne and her team for their tireless work who are an inspiration to our visitors and visiting volunteers.

Bob Sharpham



President



President Bob Sharpham presents life membership to Team leader Pam Whippy who has notched up 10 years as a volunteer. She helps supervise koala treatments and pitches in with the cleaning.

TWO tireless Port Macquarie Koala Hospital volunteers received special honours at our Annual General Meeting in May.



Hospital Assistant Barbara Barrett received the annual Jean Starr Award from Jean Starr (founder) and president Bob Sharpham for her ongoing commitment at the hospital. She has cared for sick and injured koalas for seven years. Many of the animals need around the-clock supervision.

Wildlife Warriors of the Future



The Hospital was contacted in October last year by a lady in Sydney who had a daughter very keen on doing something to help our native fauna, which is not unusual for little girls. What was unusual was this girl Kyana Koe is eight years old and wanted to set up a “charity”. Kyana chose The Koala Hospital as her “charity”, and what followed is a really heart warming story.

After many back and forth emails, a package was sent from The Koala Hospital to the Koe household, which contained pamphlets, adoption forms, souvenirs, booklets and various “koala” paraphernalia.

Kyana and her little sister Mimi (5 years old) had arranged to set up a stall at a function in the Botanical Gardens (near the Domain) in Sydney on Friday 16th November. The stall was an information display of “all things Koala Hospital” plus some goodies to sell to the public.

These two little girls, who at that stage had never even been to the Koala Hospital made a staggering \$253.20 for us by their valiant efforts on the day. They also were great ambassadors for wild koalas and apparently did very well showcasing the work that we do at the Koala Hospital.

In early January of this year, the Koe family came for a visit to the Koala Hospital and the girls “officially” presented their cheque to Brian Crisp from Friends of the Koala Hospital. Brian then gave the girls and their parents a “special” guided tour around the hospital.

We hope that both Kyana and Mimi continue to focus their interest on helping our threatened native animals, and its children like this that are the wildlife warriors of the future. Well done girls – we are all very proud of you.

THE SUPERVISORS' REPORT



The last 12 months have been very busy at the Hospital. We have had Sydney University completing the first half of the drug research project; with hopefully some very interesting results to come out of this once all the data is compiled. The second stage of the research project will start in September of this year, which will be looking at oral versus injectable drug administration.

As usual the majority of admissions have been chlamydial related. Eye infections have been successfully treated as usual, but we are still obtaining poor results with the urogenital infections – this correlates with the Sydney University work. We are also looking to start a short research trial with the University of Newcastle on a koala vaccine programme, which is still in its paperwork form at present. We have also had enquiries from the University of Queensland regarding another PhD student to spend some time with us looking at the retrovirus in koalas. There is also the strong possibility of a very interesting research project coming out of the University of New England, Armidale that is still on the drawing board but we are very excited about this one.

Its not all gloom and doom with admissions, as we have had many successful treatments and consequent releases with motor vehicle injuries, some dog attacks and koalas admitted were in poor condition who have simply been “doing it hard” out there in the wilds of Port Macquarie. We also continue to support other koala groups by taking their koalas and treating them at the hospital when they are unable to do so.

Habitat losses still remain the number one issue affecting koala populations and we must strive to both retain existing pockets of vegetation and continue to plant as many trees as possible.

Volunteer numbers have been excellent to the point we now have a waiting list for applicants. All existing staff appears to be happy and very busy in their various positions.

We have been most grateful for some extra ultrasound training from Mid North Coast Diagnostic Imaging sonographers. As a result of this training one sonographer Noni Collins did a presentation on the koala hospital ultrasound



work at the recent regional ultrasound conference. They were so impressed (and some even were in tears) that Noni has been invited to do a bigger presentation on Koala Hospital ultrasound work at the World Ultrasound Conference – we can't get any bigger than this!! The only disappointing thing is the conference will be held in Sydney and not in somewhere exotic like New York or Paris cause I want to attend (the treasurer can breathe now!!). We will have a display and adoption stand at the conference on that day.



The Koala Hospitals name is certainly spreading. Over the last twelve months we have conducted training workshops for Bankstown TAFE, Hunter TAFE and New England TAFE zookeeping students and attendance with us, has now been included into their study programme as an required component of the course. We have also conducted training workshops in Warrnambool Victorian and two different workshops for Newcastle/Hunter/Central Coast koala people in the last twelve months. We are also helping with treatment enquiries from overseas zoos having difficulties with their captive koalas in places such as Vienna Zoo, a zoo in

Israel, Los Angeles Zoo and two Australian wildlife sanctuaries. We were also invited to participate in a small meeting of vets, researchers and wildlife personnel in Melbourne recently looking at all the various aspects of bushfire treatments with the view of putting together an Australia wide burns protocol for koalas. This is still happening in discussion form on email and will hopefully be completed shortly with possibly another meeting later on this year.

Our Wild Koala Rehabilitation Manual has become bigger than Ben Hur. Instead of going to print we keep finding more items to add to it that are relevant to treatment of wild koalas and its so hard to stop adding sections!! Chris Livingston our vet, will be editing the manual. We have had enquiries about this manual from some overseas zoos and a number of Australian wildlife groups. Hopefully it will be completed, in print, and out for sale later on this year.

Also we have had American National Geographic back again for a second run of filming. They brought back a “koala cam” especially made for koalas. National Geographic have never put cameras on land animals before and our koalas are the first world wide to trial this camera. Unfortunately it needs to go back to the drawing board as the design was too big, but they will work on a smaller camera setup. They have left us with a very flash HD video camera to film as much as we possibly can as this will be added to the documentary. National geographic will be back in a few months to complete the final run of filming. I will say out of all the film crews we have had over the last few years, we have found them to be the most professional and caring.

Lastly I would like to thank all the efforts of everyone over the last 12 months without whom the hospital just wouldn't be able to function. Well done team!!! 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	Treating
	Birthday Girl	Severe Arthritis Right Hip	Treating
21.01.07	Wiruna Lucky F	Cataracts both eyes	Treating
	Oxley Holly F Joey	Abandoned – finishing growing up	
06.10.07	Oxley Cori F Joey	Abandoned – finishing growing up	
16.12.07	Newport Bridge Gloria F	Chlamydia	Release 05.03.08
27.12.07	Hamlyn Bev F	Chlamydia	Self Release 23.05.08

30.12.07	Orchid Otto M	Chlamydia	Released 17.03.08
12.01.08	William Krystal Joey F	Abandoned – finishing growing up	Released 18.04.08
15.01.08	One Mile Beach Noah Joey	Abandoned – finishing growing up	Released 30.04.08
02.02.08	Nowendoc Carl M	Conjunctivitis @ eye blind (l) eye	Released 10.05.08
13.02.08	Tacking Point Geoff M	Chlamydia	Euthanased 23.04.08
16.02.08	Ocean Jane F	Injured @ eye	Euthanased 06.03.08
22.02.08	Lighthouse Di F	Chlamydia	Released 30.4.08
22.02.08	Banksia Ted	Limited Sight	Released 01.05.08
26.02.08	Kolora Petal F	Chlamydia	Released 30.05.08
01.03.08	Pacific Willie M (Joey)	On ground – Home Care	Died 22.03.08
03.03.08	Gore Jarrod M	Dog attack	Died 04.03.08
05.03.08	Pacific Highway Splat F	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
06.03.08	Birdwood Peter M	Dog Attack	Dead on Arrival
13.03.08	Excelray Gemma F	Chlamydia (Wet Bottom)	Euthanased 31.03.08
16.03.08	Links Dot F	Chlamydia	Euthanased 19.03.08
17.03.08	Walters School F	Found on ground	Dead on Arrival
18.03.08	Wauchope Oxley	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
19.03.08	Kundabung Rocky M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
23.03.08	Bundaleer Sandra F	Suspect Chlamydia	Released 26.03.08
25.03.08	Sapphire Dave M	Left Eye Infection	
02.04.08	Oxley Major M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on arrival
12.04.08	Oceania F	Low in Tree - observation	Released 17.05.08
14.04.08	Yarrabee Sprinter F	Chlamydia	
16.04.08	H.C. 100 M	Found on ground	Released 23.04.08
16.04.08	Cathie Andrew	Found on ground	Died 18.04.08
19.04.08	Ocean Woody M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 25.04.08
21.04.08	Scampies Todd M	Found on Ground	Died 24.04.08
22.04.08	Ocean Robin F	Found on Ground	Died 22.04.08
28.04.08	Kindee Barbara F	Chlamydia	Euthanased 29.04.08
28.04.08	H.C. 100 M	On ground – weight loss	Euthanased 29.04.08
05.05.08	Watonga Billy M	Chlamydia	
08.05.08	Lake Oxley 1 M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
09.05.08	Macquarie Peter M	Conjunctivitis both eyes	
09.05.08	Roto Abigail F	Chlamydia	
10.05.08	Mimosa Oscar M	Chlamydia	
11.05.08	Marsden Rolly M	Chlamydia	
11.05.08	Marsden Iris F	Suspect Chlamydia	Released 13.05.08
12.05.08	Cathie Kyle M	Motor Vehicle accident	
18.05.08	Pacific Harry M	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
20.05.08	Dunbogan Scott M	Injured Left Femur	
21.05.08	Growers Runaway M	Possible Motor Vehicle accident	Dead on Arrival
21.05.08	Lighthouse Di F	Possible Chlamydia	Released 21.05.08
23.05.08	Ashdown Cathie M	Motor Vehicle Accident	
24.05.08	Waugh Lord M	Possible Chlamydia	Released 26.05.08
27.05.08	Oxley Bill M	Motor Vehicle Accident	
27.05.08	Roto Bill M	Checked	Released 27.05.08
28.05.08	Balmoral Eric	Chlamydia	Euthanased 28.05.08
28.05.08	Sancrox Roslyn F		Euthanased 29.05.08

PORT MACQUARIE:

March	Permanent	2	Treated	21	Released	2	Euthanased	3	Dead/Died	7	Admitted	11
April	Permanent	2	Treated	24	Released	5	Euthanased	3	Dead/Died	4	Admitted	10
May	Permanent	2	Treated	261	Released	9	Euthanased	2	Dead/Died	3	Admitted	18



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www.koalahospital.org.au





When last we left little Noah, he was extending his stay in Port Macquarie by a few more weeks. His weight was a bit lower than we'd have liked, and we wanted to be sure young Noah would have everything in his favour before we released him back into the world.

By the beginning of May, Noah was ready for his big trip back to his home range down near Port Stephens, over two and half hours away from the Koala Hospital.

Apparently, Noah enjoyed his road trip home. He munched on nicholii and red iron bark leaf all the way, and never once

whined, "are we there yet?"

On arrival, Noah took off up his chosen tree, a *Eucalyptus robusta*, or good ol' swamp mahogany, as we koalawranglers call it, a koala favourite. Having spent over six months in the same tree (in our joey yard), Noah naturally took a moment or two to orient himself before scooting to the top of the tree and digging in to the fresh leaf.

I'm told that it was dusk by the time his carers from the Native Animal Trust Fund left Noah happily chewing away. Although it's a bit cooler down there than in Port Macquarie, they resisted giving him a blanket...he's got plenty of koala fur to keep him warm :)



One Mile Beach Noah and friends



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