



Gum Tips

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Koala Hospital Port Macquarie

December 2012



Jean Starr



Koala Preservation Society Australia Inc.

PO Box 236 Port Macquarie
NSW 2444 Australia

Licensed to rehabilitate and release sick, injured and
Orphaned native fauna under Licence No. 10044
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

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Jean Starr

Jean's passing was a very sad time for all and especially for her husband Max to whom all of us extend our deepest sympathies.

A ray of sunshine in all of this is that it gives us all an opportunity to reflect on what a remarkable woman Jean was.

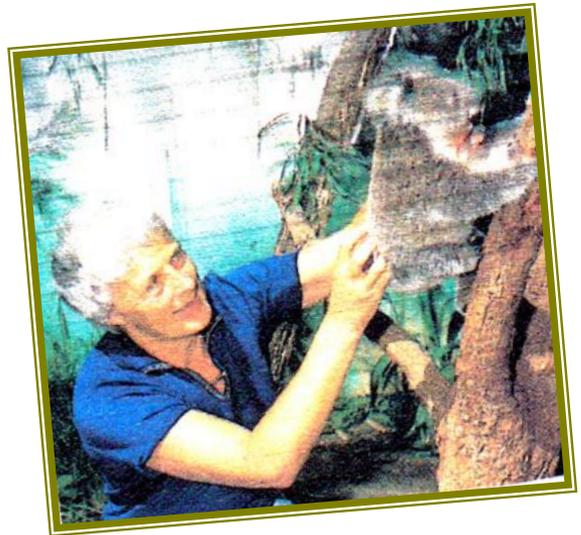
Jean began to treat and care for koalas at a time when no one was really doing anything to help wildlife – she saw a need and just went ahead and did it. In the beginning Jean had no one to



turn to for advice on how to care for them. Jean did develop an excellent rapport with a vet in Armidale who certainly went out of his way to assist her.

In her quiet, determined way, Jean gathered a team of dedicated helpers and thus the Koala Hospital was born. They had no rehabilitation manuals, guide books or treatment plans to turn to. They devised their own treatment plans and battled on. Yes they made a lot of mistakes but that is all part of starting from scratch and learning the hard way.

Even though Jean was softly spoken and gentle in nature, there was definitely fire coursing through her veins in her passion to help her precious koalas. She seemed to have an uncanny ability to bring people on board to help. And all of this was achieved with the support and care of her devoted husband Max who also championed the plight of the koala. What a team.



Jean has been and will always be a revered legend in wildlife circles in this country – Jean holds a seat alongside Steve Irwin. Where he was outspoken, colourful and loudly enthusiastic for the preservation of wildlife, Jean was quiet, strong and determined. Both achieved incredible goals in their lives.

The Koala Hospital today is internationally recognised, has a huge network throughout both the academic research world, the wildlife rehabilitation community, government agencies and the general populace and all of this has come about through the determination and passion of one woman – Jean Starr.

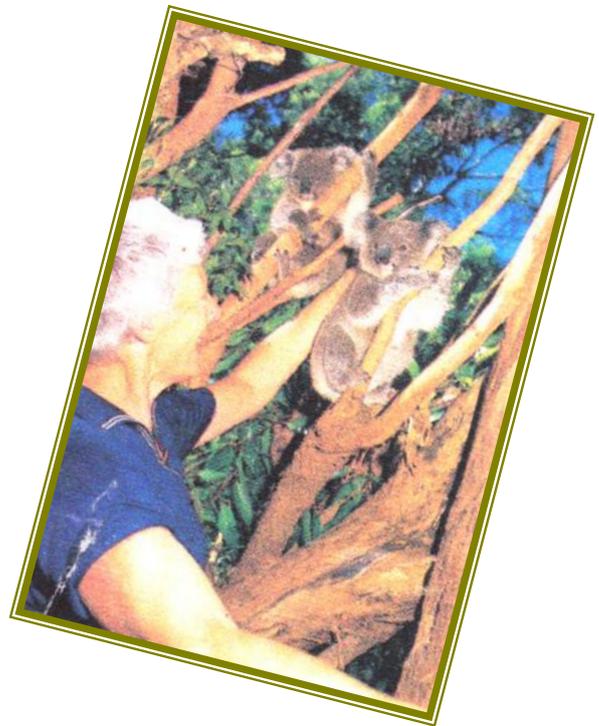
We salute you Jean Starr, for your brave determination to help the koalas of this country and what you have achieved.

So next time you are out in the bush.....and you hear the wind gently blowing through the eucalypts, stop and listen for it is the spirit of the koala callingand now the spirit of Jean is also there along with her beloved koalas.

Jean Starr

I first met Jean in the early 70s. We were brought together by a little orphaned koala called Pooh who I had been hand-raising (more by the seat of my pants than any measure of good husbandry some might say in hindsight) and who had been receiving a bit of publicity in the local Port Macquarie News. No internet, e-mails and/or mobile phones in those days (I didn't even have a

the lives of those in the generations that will follow. My children have positive and fond memories of Jean, Max and all things koala, even in the context of late night rescues and other sometimes quite disruptive koala-centric periods in their respective lives. Their own passion and commitment for what they do have come from early associations with those who also have passion and commitment.



phone). However, Jean & I eventually met up (in Max's menswear shop). From this initial meeting came a series of discussions and further meetings that ultimately ended up in a small group of us forming the Port Macquarie Koala Preservation and Propagation Society. The rest has been history as they say.

What I remember most about Jean is her gentle nature, softly spoken voice and quiet but steely determination to get something done (it was no use arguing). My children, now adults in their own right, remember koalas in washing baskets and feeding Spangled Drongos off the back verandah of Jean and Max's house at Transit Hill; they also remember being read a bedtime story by John Williamson. Why am I talking about my children? My point is that our children are the future and we rarely know how we - or our actions - influence

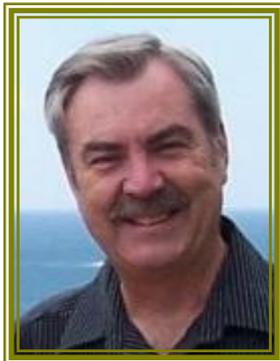
One of Jean's many legacies is that the lives and minds of literally thousands of people have been changed because of something she believed in, and because her passion and commitment to that vision did not waver. We are all the better off for having been fortunate enough to have shared some of our lives with her, but also have a responsibility to ensure that the flame of her positive vision of the future for koalas does not go out.

Steve Phillips

Dr Stephen Phillips - wildlife ecologist (koala specialist) who was a founding member of the Koala Preservation Society and is now an honorary life member of KPS.

from the President's Pen

It has been with great sadness that ill health finally took the founder of the Koala Hospital Jean Starr from us. Jean passed away on Monday 29th October, 2012.

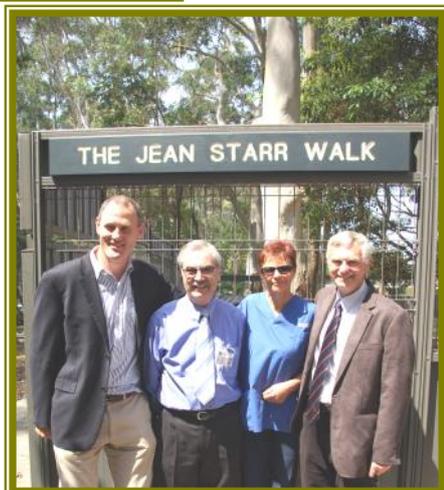


Her legacy, the Koala Hospital, has become known world-wide through the work Jean commenced in 1973. Her passion and commitment remained with her to the end. Our sympathy goes to her husband Max who supported Jean in all aspects of the work.



The new Jean Starr Walk formed through the centre of the yards holding the koalas was officially opened by Mayor Peter Besseling and Professor Paul Canfield of The Sydney University. Paul,

his staff and students have worked closely with Jean and the Koala Hospital for over 30 years providing valuable research which continues today.



Our 40th anniversary celebrations next year includes a National Koala Conference here in



Port Macquarie which will be a highlight of the events planned during 2013. With Hospital Supervisor Cheyne and our 40th Anniversary coordinator Helen and organising committee we are assured a first class conference. The list of speakers is top in their classification. An event not to be missed.

Bob Sharpham
18 November 2012

Jean Starr – a Tribute from a Volunteer

It was heartbreaking to hear of the loss of our mentor Jean Starr. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her, and of course by the koalas.

I was up at Tacking Point lighthouse a number of years ago, and Jean and Max were there also. (We were looking for whales). I told Jean she was my hero for all the great work she has done for the koalas.

Knowing Jean, she "fobbed off" the compliment, and said to me, "having people like you working at the KPS has made my job easier as I know the koalas are in safe hands". Needless to say, she was talking about every volunteer at the KPS.

My heart swelled with pride; just knowing Jean Starr, and she chose me to say it to. She felt that way about every volunteer who has worked at the Koala Hospital.

What a beautiful, gentle, caring lady she was. She will never be forgotten.

R.I.P. Jean

Pam Whippy

Thumbs Up

(Koalas have 2 thumbs on each hand)



Thumbs up to Steve who saw an injured koala on Ocean Dve, stopped, picked the koala up and put it on the back seat of his car.



Thumbs up to the man at the nearby petrol station who phoned the Koala Hospital for Steve and then provided a bucket of soapy water and sponge to clean the blood off the car seat.



A big thumbs down to the motorist who hit the koala and failed to stop and provide assistance. This is a prosecutable offence under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.



Thumbs up to the Observatory for providing guests with the Koala Hospital DVD to watch during their stay there.



Thumbs down to the person or persons in Hart Street who uprooted 11 trees which had been planted by the Koala Hospital to provide future food for the koalas.



Thumbs up to all the people who continue to support the Koala Hospital with donations of towels, newspapers and other items.

Thanks go to...

L. Adler	\$500.00
J. Brennan	\$250.00
Grampian Wildlife Arts Society	\$330.00
Clarkson/Goldie	\$500.00
Two Sisters in Memory of their Father	\$500.00
Glen Sweet—Pan Pacific Travel	\$300.00
Caroline Silveri	\$200.00
Pascale Hoffmann	\$175.00

We are very grateful to the many people who send in donations to the koala hospital. Without your help it would be so much more difficult to carry on the work we do to help the koalas. Due to lack of space we can mention only a few, but we greatly appreciate all the others who have generously donated to the hospital.

THANK YOU

The koalas would like to thank members of the public for their generosity in filling up the donation boxes which are distributed around the area.

Supervisor's Report



Life at the Koala Hospital has been hectic to say the least since the last GT edition. Everything from lots of koala patients, to extreme heat, to bushfires, to film crews, to lots of releases of patients and many funny stories as well.

Sadly we have also had many koala patients not making it to release. There has been quite a spike in motor vehicle impact injuries with many koalas arriving DOA (dead on arrival). Very disappointingly we have also had a spike in dog attack admissions with the same result.

On a more positive note our "new population" of young koalas in Dooragan National park is doing really well. They are living in a real estate paradise where there are lake views, masses and masses of giant koala food trees, no cars, no housing development (when you look out onto the lake the only sign of humans is the odd tinny putt putting past) and because of a number of reasons it has basically been empty of koalas for fifty years (it won't be now!!!). As it's such a big national park we have scope to release a number of koalas over a ten year period. They are all being strategically placed across the whole area in banks of the right sex ratios and the right distances – all of this mimics a naturally radiating population. We will stop putting animals in there when we reach a good self sustaining level.

With the unusually high temperatures and very low rainfall experienced on the coast the amount of bushfires have been pretty awful. Our bushfire search and rescue team have been attending a number of firegrounds and sadly have found burnt koalas and other wildlife. On a good note though the last fire we attended at Crescent Head we did find some live healthy animals which was great. We have developed an excellent relationship with the NSW Rural Fire Service and we are now on their data base as an essential service. We must acknowledge how helpful they have been – and we hope we get a ride in a helicopter every fire from now on!!! Seriously though – it's not shaping up to be a good summer – there is a large amount of fuel on the floor of the forests and with the hot dry conditions it's all

ready to explode.

Trees are still coming out left right and centre throughout the area – its death by a thousand cuts for the habitat that remains. The big media hoo ha that went on for listing the koala as threatened federally doesn't seem to have had much impact in preserving trees. Very disheartening.

Nonetheless 2013 is a new beginning and we are looking forward to our National Koala Conference in May and lots of other exciting things in planning.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and peaceful 2013.

Gordon Firie

If you would like to adopt him go to
<http://www.koalahospital.org.au/adopt/>



KOALA HOSPITAL WORD SEARCH

P	E	R	C	H	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	S	N	T
A	B	O	Z	C	L	U	T	W	I	N	K	L	E	S
U	P	I	W	X	E	G	H	F	S	N	W	O	J	B
S	N	P	R	U	A	E	B	L	I	O	K	J	R	A
S	A	Q	S	T	Y	V	A	L	R	S	I	Z	C	R
I	N	A	T	E	H	O	G	T	H	M	O	P	E	R
E	I	L	U	R	W	D	A	E	M	G	I	F	K	Y
M	L	E	G	I	Z	H	A	Y	J	X	L	T	S	U
I	O	X	O	F	R	F	S	Y	B	O	C	X	D	F
C	R	A	I	Y	U	A	C	V	G	R	J	O	T	K
K	A	Y	M	N	X	R	G	L	O	I	S	V	A	W
D	C	A	X	N	L	I	S	A	O	X	R	Y	S	E
A	T	Q	T	O	A	D	J	N	P	U	L	L	A	R
T	B	D	F	B	U	A	C	I	H	E	D	O	Z	X
T	H	E	R	E	S	E	A	P	E	B	B	L	E	S

See how many of our hospital patients you can find in the grid. Some are still with us, and others are available for adoption at the hospital kiosk or online, or as photos on sale at the hospital. Some of our older koalas are together in the great eucalypt forest in the sky, but will always be remembered fondly by the volunteers who had the privilege of looking after them.

ALEX
BONNY FIRE
JIMMY
MIRACLE

AUSSIE MICK
CAROLINA
KAYLEE
THERESE

BARRY
CLOUD
LINKS
TWINKLES

BEA
FARIDA
MATT

BIRTHDAY GIRL
GOLFER
PEBBLES PERCH

Adopt

Oxley Twinkles



www.koalahospital.org.au/adopt

THE CHILDREN'S LOVE FOR KOALAS

A visit to the koala hospital inspired 5 local children to want to help the lovable koalas they saw that day. They returned home and devised a plan to do their part in the rehabilitation of the animals being cared for there.

Knowing most people enjoy sweet treats, they enlisted the help of two sets of parents to help them to make fruit sticks and rocky road which they then sold to their neighbours.



A return trip to the hospital was duly made to donate the money raised, and this was gratefully received by the hospital volunteers who were very impressed with the thoughtfulness of the children.



It is children such as these who will be the future carers of our koalas, and the animals will be left in good hands if there are more like Danika, Anneke, Amelie, Tom, and Aiden.

Thanks to all of them from the koalas.

NORTH SHORE GAVIN

Across the road from our house in Riverside Drive is a tall nicholli tree. This is one of the favourite food trees of koalas and every now and then it has a visitor; a beautiful male koala, who occasionally arrives for a night's feasting, then disappears again.



The North Shore of Port Macquarie is known to be home to quite a few koalas, and over the past couple of years there have been at

least three rescues involving motor vehicle accidents, and dog attacks. Luckily they have all had successful endings, and the koalas are hopefully enjoying the leaves of the many eucalypts which grow on this side of the Hastings River.



These photos were taken by Gavin and his wife Shirlee, who were lucky enough to be able to snap them during one of the koala's visits.

We all hope he will return here soon.

Family Fun Day September 2012

Volunteers involved with Open Day at the Koala Hospital in September this year were on the job early, setting up the grounds for what was hoped would be a great day.

The weather was favourable, warm sunshine looked down on visitors and the koalas in their yards, and soon it became a hive of activity at the hospital.

All the usual attractions were there, including the plant, craft and cakes, books and white elephant stalls. The volunteers manning the BBQ were kept flat out feeding the hungry visitors, and morning tea was available for those who preferred a cuppa and a sit down.



Tropo Bob and his magic show stole the limelight as usual, keeping kids and adults entranced with his antics. I'm not sure what the resident koalas thought of the children's faces after they had paid a visit to the face painting area, but there were some strange looking koalas walking around outside the yards!



The raffles were popular, with people queuing for tickets trying to win bottles of wine kindly donated by four of our

local wineries. Even though koalas don't drink wine, they appreciate the funds raised from these raffles.

The kiosk ladies did a roaring trade, with bags on sale full of goodies for the children.

The public were also very generous with monetary support, and the donation boxes did not suffer from hunger pangs!!



At the end of another successful day, weary volunteers were rewarded by the positive comments received from the public, who were very impressed with the role the hospital plays in the care and rehabilitation of koalas. Without our willing workers, our furry friends would not have the support they so badly need to survive.

Crestwood Spike

If you would like to adopt him go to

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



Barry's Adventures in Wonderland

One day Barry heard some overseas visitors to the hospital talking about how they planned their trip to Australia using an atlas at their local library. He thought this sounded very efficient so he found his way to the local Port Macquarie library and was astounded at the number of books there and the help he received from the friendly librarians when he asked to see an atlas. Having spent a few hours studying the world maps he was anxious to get started on his next trip abroad.



As he was boarding the Qantaslink flight in Port to fly to Sydney he found that Geoff and Lorraine, who are hospital volunteers, were also heading off to Europe so he joined up with them. After a change of planes in Sydney they all headed off to Singapore for a stopover.

Barry was pleased to meet his old friend Bea on a day trip in Singapore. They went sightseeing out to the big new development area at Marina Bay where they saw a space-age building that looks like a rocket launcher.



Then Bea invited him to the famous Long Bar at Raffles Hotel to enjoy a Singapore Sling Cocktail. The beautiful old hotel building dates back to 1887 and was a popular meeting place for British colonial plantation owners before Singapore became an independent state. In its heyday famous writers like Somerset Maugham and Noel Coward and actresses Elizabeth Taylor and Ava Gardner stayed and partied at Raffles.



Barry didn't see anyone famous but still had a great time. Barry and Bea opted for a side-trip to Bali where they visited some of the ancient stone temples and learned about Hinduism. He was a bit frightened to sit in front of one of the temple guardians for a photo but it wasn't really as scary as it looked despite its big teeth.

From there they had a quick trip to Vietnam where they had a really exciting tour of the huge network of interconnecting tunnels under the Cu Chi district of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). These tunnels were the Vietcong's base of operations during the Vietnam War and served as hiding spots during combat as well as communication and supply channels. Barry had no trouble getting in through one of the cleverly camouflaged trapdoor entrances and really enjoyed exploring the narrow tunnels that were once infested with ants, scorpions, spiders and vermin but are now cleaned up for the tourists' benefit. Thank goodness he'd been watching his weight lately 'cause those tunnels were really tiny! He was also impressed and a little bit scared by the size of a nearby B52 bomb crater that was a relic of the war days.



Having said goodbye to Bea, Barry headed back to Singapore to meet up with Geoff and Lorraine and fly out to Amsterdam



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to board the luxury riverboat 'Scenic Crystal' for a 14 day cruise on the Rhine and Main

ivers and the beautiful, blue Danube.

Barry was welcomed onto the ship's bridge by the Captain and the helmsman who showed him how to navigate the waterways. It was a really classy ship and Barry felt like a VIP!



Barry was a bit uncertain when he heard that the 'Scenic Crystal' was going to go through a lock. The only lock he had ever seen was a padlock which the maintenance team had put on the yard 9 gate at the Koala Hospital. He soon learned that this new lock was a way to move boats through different water levels of the river and was very impressed with all the mechanics of it. They went through 68 locks between Amsterdam and Budapest where the boat trip finished.



He wasn't in the least surprised to find another set of tunnels in Budapest. He visited the "Hospital in the Rock" which is set within a ten kilometre series of tunnels beneath Buda Castle Hill and was designed as a secret emergency hospital and nuclear bunker for use in WW11. He was allowed to

sit on an old restored ambulance but didn't think it was anywhere near as flash as the Koala Ambulance.

Then they went on to beautiful Vienna in Austria where Barry met a



very pale man. He thought 100mls of the Divet formula that they use at the Koala Hospital twice a day might



improve the man's colour a bit! On a coach tour he met the driver's little friend, Nessie, and also a brown bear and he wondered how anyone could think that a koala was in any way related to such a large and growly animal.

While in Vienna, Barry's old friends Sabina and Harald took him on a daytrip to a grand castle and to tastings at a chocolate factory and a distillery where there were huge green glass flagons of Schnapps. Barry loved the snappy sound of the name but the fumes from the Schnapps made him feel a bit wobbly so he declined a taste.



He decided to have a rest and recover at Madame Tussaud's waxworks in Vienna where he felt very honoured to meet Empress Maria-Theresa and Princess Sisi – he thought they were



such pretty ladies and so regal and welcoming to a small visitor from Australia.

Now Barry knew that Anne, another Koala Hospital volunteer, was going to be in Spain so he hopped on a flight to Madrid to meet up with her. They were met by a chauffeur and driven to the hotel in a Mercedes so



Barry felt like he had won the lottery! His feet had barely touched the ground when he was off sightseeing the city on the Big Red Bus and making friends with the drivers. He had a great time and learned to say "me gusto mucho" with a pretty convincing Spanish accent.

Barry and Anne took the train north from Madrid to Bilbao to meet up with some other Aussies for



a Walking Tour. But first they took in a bit of culture and visited the world-renowned Guggenheim Museum and

looked at lots of art and sculpture. Barry got a terrible fright as he walked outside the Museum and was confronted by a gigantic dog, but then had a bit of a giggle as he realised it was an artwork – a sculpture made of thousands of flowering plants.

But now it was time for some serious exercise and he was a little anxious when he saw the sign



for his destination – ‘Camino Santiago de Compestela’ 790kms. He was greatly relieved to learn that he would only have to walk 150kms but would see the whole countryside because Oscar the minibus driver would drive him some of the way each day and also deliver his bags to each hotel. All Barry had to carry was water and his camera and a few eucalyptus leaves in case he got peckish. He felt very special to walk with all the others pilgrims from many countries on the Camino which is a Christian pilgrimage route from medieval times to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compestela in Galicia in northwestern Spain. Tradition has it that the remains of the Apostle Saint James are buried there.



Thinking he'd better get to England before the winter weather started, he caught up with Geoff and Lorraine and they had an exciting ride on the “Watercress Line” steam railway at Alton in Hampshire. Back in the 1940s the trains used to carry harvests of watercress from Alresford all the way to

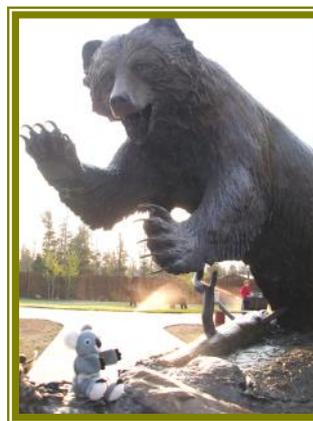
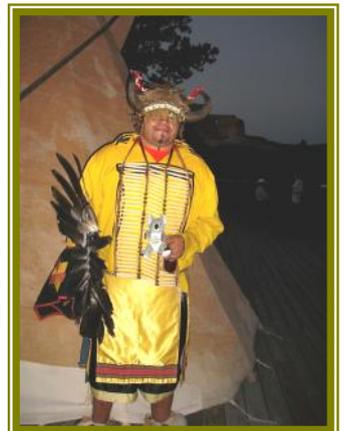
London so that everyone could have ‘Cress sandwiches with their high tea. Very civilized, thought Barry, but he really prefers eucalypt leaves. The ticket inspector on the line told Barry how a large group of volunteers keep a whole fleet of restored steam trains running to preserve the history. Just goes to show how important volunteers are, thought Barry, as he remembered all his volunteer friends at home at the Koala Hospital and what a grand job they do to look after him and his mates.



Having got an invitation he felt he couldn't refuse, Barry joined up with Ken to fly over to Canada where he saw the biggest waterfall he could ever have imagined. “Nothing

like that in Oz”, he thought, as he saw water thundering over Niagara Falls. He certainly didn't think he'd like to go over that in a barrel, or even a boat!

He was a bit anxious about meeting a Native American fellow at the Crazy Horse Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota - he was sure he was going to meet a warrior in warpaint! But he had a friendly welcome and they went on to see the monument of Crazy Horse's face being carved on a huge cliff on sacred land – a tribute to a Native American hero.



Barry also got a mighty scare at Yellowstone National Park – he had a close escape from the biggest Grizzly Bear with the sharpest claws he'd ever seen!

“Now that's a big hole in the ground”, thought Barry, as he viewed the Grand Canyon in Arizona! He didn't want to fall down there. It was

mind-boggling to think that it's taken hundreds of millions of years for land movements and



weather to carve out a canyon 446 km long, 29 km wide and 1.6 km deep. He could have taken a trip down into the canyon on a mule but the thought of it made him feel dizzy so he just took in the amazing views from the top.

This seemed to be the most exhausting trip Barry had been on since he first started his travels around the world. He remembered the TLC he received at the Koala Hospital and felt that old familiar tug, which meant it must be time for him to head for home.



His plane stopped in Cairns on arrival in Australia and at the airport he met up with a delightful family from

Sydney, who invited him to spend a few relaxing days with them at Palm Cove, just north of Cairns. They had adopted a koala on a previous visit to the Koala Hospital in Port Macquarie, but having Barry with them on holiday was very special, so how could he refuse?

Although koalas have been known to swim when necessary, it is not a normal situation for them to be in, but Barry really enjoyed swimming with Daisy, Tilly and Amittie. He wore his new "cossie", had his own towel, and always had his



Akubra hat on to protect him from the sun. He met his first crocodile at the resort, but luckily it was only a slide, and he had great fun on it with the children. He went with them on an exciting excursion to Moore Reef, 40 kms off the coast of Cairns, where he was entranced by all the beautiful fish he could see swimming under and around the glass-bottomed boat they were on.

Time to head south, but being Barry, he couldn't resist one more stopover. He met up with his mate Bernie, and stayed with him at Solitary Island lodge, near Woolgoolga. They sat on the deck, enjoying the panoramic view of the ocean, and sipping a glass of Cassegrain wine from his home vineyard in Port Macquarie. He remembered that Cassegrain Wines always donated wine for raffles to raise funds for the Koala Hospital and raised his glass in a toast to them. While there, he had the added pleasure of watching a kangaroo family in the front yard.



At last he was on the final leg of his journey home, and for the first time ever, had a lump in his throat as the plane circled Port Macquarie airport. He cannot divulge how he got back to the hospital as it might incriminate innocent people, but he was found next day in his usual gunyah at the hospital, revelling in the attention he was receiving and not yet reflecting on his next jaunt.

Barry Competition

The winners for this issue are::

Daisy, Tilly & Amittie—Barry at Palm Cove

Ken—Barry at Grand Canyon



GUM DROPS from KAYLEE

Hello to all my dear readers and many thanks to you all for your concern and good wishes after my accident and eye surgery. I am now back out in the yards in my own tree and recovering really well with all the caring treatment I've received. Having now lost a hind leg and an eye I guess I'll just have to take life a little more slowly from here on, which suits me very well.

Now I must say how very sad I am to report the passing of our dear founder, Jean Starr. I just can't imagine what life would have been like for so many sick and injured koalas over the last forty years if Jean, and her husband Max had not opened their hearts to us and got the Koala Hospital started. I for one would not have had much of a chance at life if I'd had to fend for myself in the bush. She was an inspiring lady who will be greatly missed.

I was really thankful that I was out of ICU and back on my tree on the day the Memorial Jean Starr Walk was opened here at the hospital – I could see the whole proceedings from my tree-top perch. Watched by a crowd of guests and hospital workers and volunteers, President Bob spoke about how important Jean had been in the setting up of the hospital.

The new Mayor, Peter Besseling, gave a heartfelt speech about how Jean had created a path for others to follow and to continue her work with matching enthusiasm. Professor Paul Canfield from Sydney University spoke about working with Jean since the early days when she looked after koalas in her garage and how she inspired him with her passion to find cures for koala diseases and problems. Then they revealed the new memorial sign by lifting the yellow curtain that covered it and throwing it over the fence into the yards. That caused some laughs!

At one point Cheyne, our hospital Supervisor, caused great hilarity when guests were lined up for photos. Seeing the Mayor, the professor and Vice-president Mary together, Cheyne called out, "It's Peter, Paul and Mary"! Now I'm not sure what that was a reference to but everyone had a good laugh. Photos were

taken and then the daily life at the hospital resumed.

During our cold winter, old Westhaven Barry seemed to be having some breathing difficulties so he was moved into ICU for some TLC. As he improved he was put out in Yard 2 on sunny days and back inside at night time. This seemed to be a good plan as the many visitors to the hospital are always so interested to see a koala being fed the formula and at the moment Barry is the only patient on formula. Now that it's not quite so cold at night Barry is full time in the yard and seems to be back to his old self.

I often hear visitors comment about our other ageing koala, Lookout Harry. They all think it's so cute to see him sitting on his special perch under a large green umbrella. It seems to be providing good protection for him and he is doing well.

Springtime seems to have activated some playful tendencies in other male patients here in the yards. One Sunday, volunteer Pat was being ardently chased around the yard by young Tasman Brodie as she filled up his leaf containers and at the same time Greenmeadows Alex was chasing Ros around his yard and getting quite vocal and excited. Males are so incorrigible at this time of year!

I, myself, have been quite the celebrity lately – and very pleasant it is too! My photo has been used on the Koala Hospital Christmas cards this year, showing me in a very becoming Santa hat. And I've had so many visitors from overseas say that they saw me on the Koala Hospital documentary and came to Port Macquarie especially to see me. I'll try not to get a swelled head! Apparently several international airlines play the doco (pardon my film industry jargon but I am a star!) on board flights to Australia – that will certainly be spreading the news about the wonderful work that's being done to look after me and all my mates.

Here come the lovely yard volunteers with some particularly tasty-looking gum leaves for me so I'll say 'bye for now and have a little snack and a snooze. Cheers to you all till next time.

Editor: *Sadly since this article was written Lookout Harry has travelled to the big gum tree in the sky..*

The Story of Ocean Summer

This is going to be a true story about a baby koala,
and all the animals talk.

“Brum Brum” went the cars.
“Gee mum those humans really drive sooo fast,”
says baby koala.
“I know Bubs,” says mum koala.
“I don't think we are ever going to get to the other
side mum!”
“We willsome how”.
“When?”
“Now”.
BANG!
“Mum.....mum.....mum where are you, has the hu-
man stopped?”
“Here...and no unfortunately not”.
“Are you ok?”
“No, but all I care is, are you ok”.
“Yes mum, oh look someone has stopped!”
“That's great, we need help”.
“Hey they are ringing someone, I hope they are
ringing someone about us”.
“Look there's another car, it has stopped too and it
says Koala Ambulance on it!. Is that good?”
“Yes they are here to help us”.
“Yey”.
“We are going somewhere for help”
“Where is that?”
” Don't know but we are going to get help”
“ok”.
“We are here Bubs”
“Then why are we getting into another car?”
“ Because we are at the Koala Hospital but we are
going to the vets”
“Oooohhhh”.
“We're here”.
“What now mum?”
“Wait and let them do what they want, they will do
what is right for us”.
“Mum what were they doing at the Koala Hospital
with us before we left for the vet?”
“Well they were making us names”
“What are our names?”
“My name is Ocean Therese and yours is Ocean
Summer”
“ooohhh I like those names”
“Haha me too Bubs”
“Mum what's happening, why are they taking you
away?!”
“Well, I'm hurt I have to go somewhere because of
that”
“Will I ever see you again?!?!!!”
”Well maybe but whatever happens I love you and
you will be in good care”.
“Love you mum, goodbye, sob”
“Hello Ocean Summer” says Joy.
“Hello, why are you here?” says Ocean Summer,
the baby koala.
“Well I'm going to look after you, oh and my name is

Joy”.
“ok”
“Well I have to go pick up my daughter Lily from
school”.
“Am I coming?”
“Yes, well come on sum”.
“Where do I go?”
“I've got a nice warm basket with leaves and soft
blankets”.
“Really?”
“Yep and soon I'll give you some warm milk”.
“Thank you, Joy”.
“Hey mum” says Lily, getting into the car.
“Look in the back, we've got a visitor”.
“Oh hello, my name is Lily, what's yours?”
“Hello Lily, um my name is Ocean Summer”.
“That's a great name!”
“Really?”
“Yep, love it!”
“Hey um Lily is this stop your school?”
“Yes why?”
“Oh because mum and I were hit there”
“That's terrible Sum”
“Why are we at the vets again?”
“We have to see Ocean Therese, your mum”
“Oh, is she bad?”
“I hear she doesn't sound good”
“Oh ok”
“Hello Joy, hello Lily” said the vet sadly.
“Hi Chris” said Joy
“Sadly Ocean Therese is too badly hurt, we have to
put her down”
“Oh, well if its for the best”
“Sadly it is, if we operated she probably wouldn't be
able to eat by herself then we couldn't let her be
released and that wouldn't be right, she also is in
excruciating pain so it's the best for her”
“Thanks anyway”
“Bye”
“So is mum ok, is she going to live?” says Ocean
Summer.
“Oh Sum I wish I could say yes, but no they have to
put her down” says Lily.
“Oh, sob sob”
“It's ok Sum you've got us”
“But I miss her”
“So do I. I know, it must be hard but you will be with
us until you're old enough to go by your self”
“Really”
“Yep”
“Do you mean it?”
“Welcome home Sum!”
“Yeh”

The End

Please look out for koala' like me and every other
animal.

Thank you
by Lily Barber, Aged 10

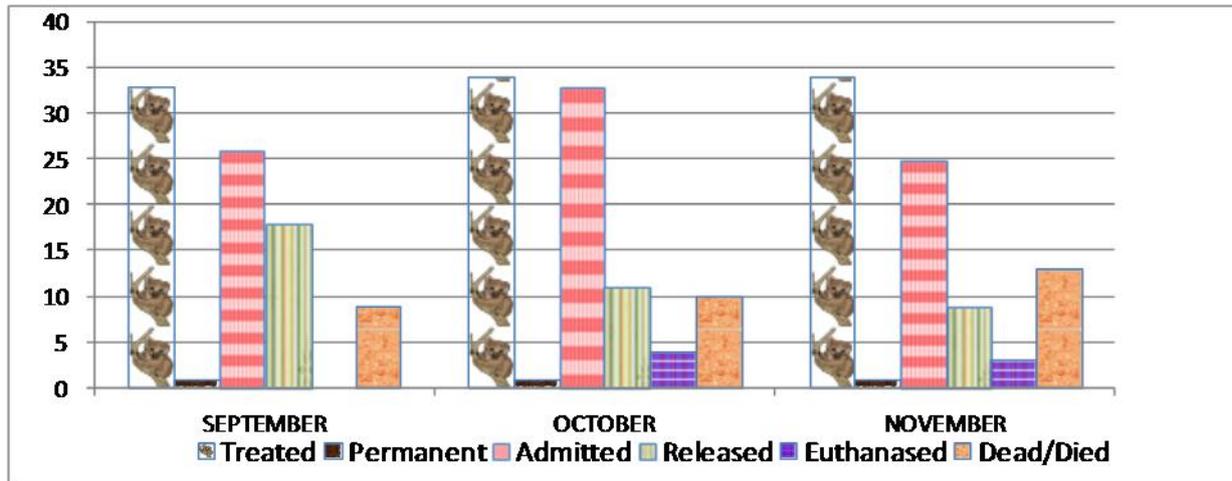
Hospital Activity Report



Admission	Name	Reason	Result
11.07.08	Westhaven Barry	Scoliosis of spine	Permanent Resident
26.09.09	Oxley Hwy Kaylee	Hind leg injury	Treating
12.03.10	Emerald Downs Barbara	Blind R. Eye - limited vision	Treating
07.09.11	Findlay Xena (Joey)	790 gms, severe concussion + bruising	Released 05.09.12
22.11.11	Merrigal Flick	Orphaned joey	Released 05.09.12
28.03.12	Black Mountain Denise	Eye Infection	Released 17.09.12
24.04.12	Lookout Harry	On Ground	Treating
08.05.12	Kempsey Cookie	Bilateral conjunctivitis	Released 12.07.12
09.06.12	Ocean Drive Cutey	Chlamydia	Released 16.11.22
27.06.12	Tasman Brodie	Snake Bite	Released 17.09.12
23.08.12	Roto Cherokee	Chlamydia	Released 12.10.12
27.08.12	Balmoral Place Barry	On road drinking from gutter	Released 25.10.12
27.08.12	Amethyst Simon	Displaced juvenile	Released 05.09.12
28.08.12	Gordon Firie	On power line - displaced juvenile	Released 05.09.12
30.08.12	Elparra Bill Juv.	Wandered into house = checked	Released 30.08.12
30.08.12	Gordon Tynan	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 03.09.12
01.09.12	Curlew June	On Ground	Treating
03.09.12	Hershell Billy	suspect MVA - checked	Released 03.09.12
03.09.12	Pacific Hwy Bill	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
04.09.12	Emily Angie	In garage with dog - checked	Released 04.09.12
05.09.12	Wyandra Matilda	Fell from power lines onto car	Released 07.09.12
07.09.12	Pacific Hwy RTA	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
12.09.12	James Frank Juv.	Dog attack	Dead on Arrival
12.09.12	Ocean Joy	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
13.09.12	Oxley Hwy Tom	Motor Vehicle Accident	Died 13.09.12
18.09.12	The Point Cathy	In yard with dogs	Released 20.09.12
18.09.12	Mort Annika	Possible Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 20.09.12
19.09.12	Point Plummer Patrick	Motor Vehicle Accident	Died 20.09.12
19.09.12	Lake Baitsey	Orphan joey	Home care
19.09.12	Lake Copper	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
20.09.12	Brindabella Sophie	Chlamydia	Euthanased 15.10.12
21.09.12	Ocean Mary	Conjunctivitis Right Eye	Died 31.10.12
21.09.12	Settlement Pt. M & M	On ground disoriented	Released 22.09.12
24.09.12	Emily Munchkin	In yard with dogs - checked	Released 24.09.12
25.09.12	Lady Elliott Troy	Old eye injury	Released 26.09.12
25.09.12	Christina Mary Juv.	In yard with dogs - checked	Released 26.09.12
26.09.12	Cathie Emmya	On ground	Died 28.09.12
27.09.12	Kennedy Kev	In dangerous area = checked	Released 27.09.12
27.09.12	Widderson Tahnee	On ground	Released 30.09.12
28.09.12	Gore Robin	Fell into river - checked	Released 28.09.12
28.09.12	Lake Ali	Motor Vehicle Accident	Euthanased 05.10.12
29.09.12	Settlement City Logan	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival

01.10.12	Bellangry Les	Dog attack	Dead on Arrival
01.10.12	Oxley Michelle	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
02.10.12	Mort Annika Juv	Minimal Habitat	Released 04.10.12
02.10.12	Lighthouse Norman Juv.	Minimal Habitat	Released 04.10.12
05.10.12	Elparra Bill Juv.	Displaced juvenile	Released 10.10.12
05.10.13	Innes Ruins Shaun	Chlamydia	Died 10.11.12
06.10.13	Oxley David	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 30.11.12
10.10.12	Hayward Lesley	On roundabout busy road	Released 12.10.12
10.10.12	Kundabung Dianne	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
11.10.12	Toms Creek Lucas	On ground bilateral conjunctivitis	Euthanased 15.10.12
11.10.12	Telegraph Pt. Matt	Motor Vehicle Accident	Treating
12.10.12	Wauchope Dane	Dog attack	Dead on Arrival
14.10.12	Ocean Drive Sunny	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
15.10.12	Uralla Clyde	De-humanising	Treating
15.10.12	Black Mountain Dave	De-humanising	Treating
15.10.12	Gunnedah Tommy	Locked left hind leg	Treating
16.10.12	Bonny hills Flat	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
17.10.12	Lee St. Noel	Suspect Chlamydia	Released 18.10.12
18.10.12	Ocean Busways Juv	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
23.10.12	Waniora Toni	Conjunctivitis both eyes	Released 23.11.12
23.10.12	Owen Jason	Loss of habitat	Released 25.10.12
23.10.12	Marbuk Sue	Conjunctivitis right eye	Released 25.10.12
24.10.12	Cairncross Gerry	Abscess under Right Eye	Treating
24.10.12	Matthew Flind.Dr.Katrina	Conjunctivitis	Released 16.11.12
25.10.12	Little Owen Peter	In yard with dogs - checked	Released 26.10.12
26.10.11	Mareeba Rosslyn	Injured hind leg	released 07.11.12
26.10.12	Ocean Therese	Motor Vehicle Accident	Euthanased 26.10.12
26.10.12	Ocean Summer	Joey of Ocean Therese	Home care
28.10.12	Oxley Hwy Matt	On ground	Released - 29.10.12
29.10.12	Cathie Road Kid Juv	On road	Died 01.11.12
20.10.12	Lord Keith	On road - checked	Released 29.10.12
29.10.12	Hart Isaac	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
30.10.12	Pacific Dr. Christie	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 02.11.12
01.11.12	The Halyard Jean	Dog attack	Released 09.11.12
02.11.12	Allunga Max	Wandered into house = checked	Released 03.11.12
03.11.12	Church St. Mick	Motor Vehicle Accident	Euthanased 04.11.12
03.11.12	Nowendoc Jack Juv	Motor Vehicle Accident	Treating
03.11.12	Ocean Drive Lucky	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
04.11.12	Florence Tom	In yard with dogs - checked	Released 07.11.12
05.11.12	Pacific Hwy Pete	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
06.11.12	Pacific Hwy Ambo	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
07.11.12	Pacific Hwy Rob	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
09.11.12	Dunbogan Sizzled	Bushfire Victim	Dead on Arrival
09.11.12	Dunbogan Sizzled	Bushfire Victim	Dead on Arrival
09.11.12	Kempsey Ralph	Dog attack	Treating
12.11.12	Table Glen	On Ground	Euthanased 13.11.12
15.11.12	Ellenborough Tom	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
15.11.12	Ocean Jane	Motor Vehicle Accident	Treating
16.11.12	Ocean Drive Tracey	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
16.11.12	Crestwood Rain Joey	On Ground	Died 16.11.22

17.11.12	Ocean Drive Puff	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
19.11.12	Stewart Joanne Juv.	On Road	Treating
20.11.12	Kempsey Saul	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
20.11.12	Glenn Innes Ash	Bilateral conjunctivitis	Treating
20.11.12	Gunnedah Findlay	Possible renal failure	Died 25.11.12
20.11.12	Black Mountain Sandy	Possible renal failure	Euthanased 30.11.12
21.11.12	Kamona Andre	Motor Vehicle Accident	Treating
24.11.12	`Moondara Ken	Conjunctivitis Right Eye	Treating
26.11.12	Kelvin Lucia	Injured left eye	Euthanased 28.11.12
29.11.12	Hart St. Tracey	In yard with dogs	Treating



BATESY

When I was a small child my mother told me that if ever I was in trouble anywhere, to ask a policeman, who is there to help.



This turned out to be the case for a little koala whose mother was hit by a vehicle on Lake Road a few weeks ago. A passing patrol officer picked her up and took her to the Port Macquarie police station where a call was put through to the Koala Hospital. The koala ambulance soon arrived and transported her to the hospital where it was discovered she had a young joey in her pouch. The joey was named 'Batesy', after the police officer who rescued her, and although she was relatively unharmed, her mother's injuries were very severe and she did not survive.

Batesy was sent into care with Yon, one of the hospital's trained home carers, as she weighed only 975grms, and was approximately 9 months old, therefore too young to be put into

one of the units at the hospital.

Two months later, after lots of TLC from Yon, she weighed just over 2 kilos, and is now living outside in an aviary and doing extremely well.

She is still being fed a supplementary formula, and often goes to sleep on Yon's shoulder after her feed.



Soon she will be brought in to the hospital, to be "de-humanised", so that she can be released into the safest place we can find for her to live and start a family of her own.

Update: Batesy is now in the hospital learning to be a koala.

2012 Calendar

16 Dec 12	Christmas Lunch
18 Jan 13	Management Meeting
15 Feb 13	Management Meeting
17 Feb 13	General Meeting
15 Mar 13	Management Meeting.
19 Apr 13	Management Meeting
26 May 13	AGM

These dates may change at short notice.

Koala Hospital worldwide websites

Netherlands—Carla Sluiter
 Germany—Lutz Michel
 Liechtenstein—Viktor
 Switzerland—Viktor
 Europe—Viktor
 Australia

<http://www.koalaziekenhuis.nl>
<http://www.koalahilfe.de>
<http://www.koala.li>
<http://www.koalahilfe.ch>
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Gum Tips

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