



# Gum Tips

Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Koala Hospital Port Macquarie

March 2014

NEWBORN JOCKEY



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# HKS Richardson Jane

## **HKS Richardson Jane – Hunter Koala Society Richardson Jane.**

For almost 40 years the Koala Hospital has worked alongside a number of other wildlife groups in NSW and Victoria assisting them where possible. We have a special relationship with the HKS – the Hunter Koala Society and we help each other out all the time

In October 2013, the east coast of Australia was in the grips of an unusually hot dry spring and as a result many areas suffered horrific bushfires that wiped out huge tracts of land. These fires resulted in many homes lost - both human and animal.

Koalas generally do not fare well in bushfires. Birds can fly away, kangaroos (not always) can flee, ground dwelling species can go underground, small tree dwelling species can go into hollows, but for the koala their only defence is to climb higher into the tree. This strategy works very well in a low intensity fire but when the fire is very hot and crowns (burns out the tops of the trees) the majority of koalas do not stand a chance.

HKS Richardson Jane went through a “crown” fire near a township called Medowie on the northern reaches of the Hunter/Newcastle region of NSW which is approximately three hours drive south of Port Macquarie. This fire unfortunately caused a large number of fatalities of wildlife. Jane was located alive, rescued and brought into care for treatment of her full thickness burns to her feet, nose and chin, plus she had radiant burns to both forearms and lower back. HKS Richardson Jane responded well to her burns treatment and slowly began to improve.

The Hunter Koala Society were inundated with so many koalas that they could not cope and we were contacted to take a number of animals for them which of course we immediately agreed to and Jane was one of them.

HKS Richardson Jane came to us in early February and we continued to administer her daily burns treatment. We found her to be a very easy koala to work with and she was very obliging in all that we did to her.

Thankfully the burns to her feet had not affected her nails and nail beds and consequently she has not suffered claw loss. If a koala suffers full or even partial thickness burns to the nail bed, in the majority of cases the claws either do not regrow at all or grow back as misshapen stumps. If the claws do not return, the koala cannot climb a tree and therefore cannot have a normal life and usually they end up suffering lifelong pain which no one would wish any animal to experience.

Jane has healed so well that she now has lovely grey fur returning all over – especially her ears!!! The pads on her feet and hands have healed beautifully and are quite strong and the black pigment is almost fully returned.

It is so heart warming to see a bushfire burnt koala actually being able to be released back to her home range.

The Hunter region has had an incredible amount of good soaking rain over the last six weeks or so and as a result the eucalypt forests are returning quickly to their former glory.

HKS Richardson Jane will be leaving us in mid March to be returned to be released into her home range that is now blossoming with growth.

We wish her well in her future life as a wild koala once again and often wonder what koalas must think about their time spent with humans!!!

*Editor's Note:* The ‘after’ photo of Jane was taken back in January and she is even more beautiful now. Since her fur has grown back she is also very camera shy and stays high in the tree.

# Vale Garage Girl

Garage Girl knew it was time  
To join her friends up in the sky  
So she went looking for a place  
To spend the last months of her life

A cemetery's where some are laid to sleep  
So she ventured there to find some peace  
But before she could set foot there  
An ambulance came and took her away.

Peeps at the hospital took care of her  
Gave her food and a warm bed too  
The days were peaceful, unlike those on the streets  
She pondered and thought, then said to herself,  
"Aha! This is where I want to forever sleep!"

But the folks at the hospital said, "She's healthy!"  
And they had no choice but to set her free  
They took her not to the cemetery (of course)  
But to a sanctuary with eucalypt trees  
They thought she would love it there...  
BUT!  
All she could think of was the place she'd left

So now she sought to retrace her steps  
But, alas!  
She didn't know the way  
She thought and pondered...  
And finally it all clicked  
She didn't know how to get to them  
But she knew how to get them to come to her

So she flew down the tree and started to march  
Down Gordon Street onto Munster Street  
She passed the pool, some shops and a school  
She crossed road after road  
Knowing someone would spot her soon

Sure enough, some calls were made  
And she was back at the resting place of her dreams  
But...she couldn't convince them to let her stay  
So they released her again

"That's all right!" she said  
I'll try and try till I get my way  
So off she went again, street after street  
Being a big city girl, she wasn't afraid  
And though she was old and getting weak  
She never once thought that she would quit

Finally the nurses in green read her mind  
And put her in a yard so fine  
"You stay safe now," they'd say to her  
As they gave her fresh leaves and water  
There was warmth in her heart and peace in her mind  
She waited for the end to come...  
Which could be any time

And so Garage Girl spent her final days  
In the best place she could find  
She'd lived an exciting 20 years  
And she'd leave this world without shedding a tear  
As sleep came upon her and her eyelids drooped  
She thought of all the good in her life  
"Thank you, friends..." she said in her final breath  
"...you'll be in my heart till the end of time"

## What's inside

HKS Richardson Jane.....	2
Vale Garage Girl.....	3
Dog Attacks on Koalas.....	4
Supervisor's Report.....	6
President's Report .....	7
Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down .....	7
Barry's Adventures in Wanderland.....	8-10
Gum Drops from Kaylee.....	11
Hospital Report .....	12, 13
Australian Champion .....	14
Council in Action for Koalas .....	14

Val Looi



# DOG ATTACKS ON KOALAS

Why does this happen?

Both domestic and feral dogs no matter how much “breeding out” of undesirable traits we humans try to do are still basically an opportunistic hunting pack animal. This does not make them bad animals; it’s simply nature in action and what nature designed them for – a higher order predator (remember that dogs are descendants of wolves). So having a “go” at another animal is part of the “wildness” that still remains in a dog.

We have often been asked why don’t koalas defend themselves and fight back when a dog attacks them.

Koalas body shape and their behaviour is designed for a life in the trees – they are arboreal . Their long recurved claws, and heavily muscled limbs are for pulling them up thick trunks of trees and for manoeuvring around branches. The long sharp incisor teeth are purely for biting off stems of leaves and their molars are for grinding up the leaf. Even though two male koalas will fight its usually a short lived affair where a bit of blood maybe drawn and fur may fly with the more lower ranking koala usually conceding defeat pretty quickly. Basically koalas are lovers not fighters. And that’s all to do with the low quality nutrition in the eucalypt leaf – koalas plain and simply cannot afford to waste energy on nasty things like fighting.

For an animal in the wild to change its body form and its behaviour takes thousands of generations of breeding and in many cases millions of years. So koalas have not had the “evolutionary time” to have the body changes to be able to stand up to a powerful dog.

Dingos have only been in Australia for less than 10,000 years which is a drop in the ocean in

evolutionary terms. Feral and domestic dogs have only been here for a few hundred years.

Koalas as we know are territorial – that is their home range is where they live for the duration of their lives or until they get pushed out by a more dominant animal or their habitat is removed.

Dogs live with humans whom they simply see as part of their pack, so they defend where they live as part of their territory also.

In urban areas where most dogs are in backyards, there are often both choice eucalypt trees and fences that koala find very useful as a quick track to get from one lot of food trees to another. This is where the problem occurs.

The koala either descends to the ground to cross the backyard to get to a tree and then meets up with the family dog or sadly koalas are often pulled off the top of fences by big dogs.

A koala’s instinctive behaviour is to try to get up the nearest tree as quickly as possible or if trapped on the ground their defensive mechanism is to curl up in a ball. Occasionally a koala will try to defend him/herself by slashing at the attacker with their long sharp claws or bite but usually a koala is no match for a dog who has all the right equipment to inflict far more serious injuries.

The most common site of injuries in a koala is the hindquarters where the dog has grabbed the koala as it climbs the trunk of the tree. The other common site is around the neck – a typical carnivore place to grab prey. As dogs have jaws designed for eating meat and bones, the damage that is done to a very soft bodied animal such as a koala is horrific.

Even domestic and feral cats are capable of taking a small koala and the Hospital has

*Adopt*

*Crestwood Spike*



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certainly had reports of a domestic moggy up a tree “hassling a koala”.

We have a term called “the iceberg effect” – the injuries on the outside of the koala may appear minimal but inside the koala is torn to pieces. When a koala is attacked by a dog and is admitted to the hospital most of them either arrive dead or die within 24 hours. There is a myth that the koala dies from infection, but what they actually die from is shock that results from massive internal bleeding and trauma to their internal organs.

We can certainly give the koala the best possible treatment available but it boils down to how much damage has occurred internally. If the damage internally is not too bad then we do usually have some success. Some koalas do suffer injuries that maim them – such as loss of digits, or a permanent limp etc.

It is not common for a koala to die from a septic infection after a dog attack – if the injuries are so bad that the flesh is very traumatised then usually its blood loss not infection that results in fatalities, but nonetheless an untreated bite wound can certainly become infected.

Interestingly wild dogs/dingos are not an issue for the wild bush koala. Research has shown that only a very small percentage of koalas (less than .005%) form part of the diet of a wild dog/dingo whose preferred prey is small macropods (wallabies), other small mammals and birds etc (Harden R.H., Robertshaw J.D., 1986).

Nonetheless dog attack injuries are so frustrating for hospital staff as they are something that is so preventable with good sound responsible dog ownership. Locking dogs up at night (when the majority of attacks occur) , fencing off koala food trees with timber runners to the fence, planting trees in front yards not back, keeping dogs on leads when out in bushland are good options. Having breeds of dogs that are less likely to attack wildlife is a responsible way to care for wildlife. Sadly the Staffordshire bull terrier is the number one breed of dog that attacks koalas (we keep a record of all breeds of dog in these cases). Yes, Staffies are wonderful family dogs so we implore owners of these breeds to be aware of this problem and be responsible. Most dog owners are very caring and responsible

people who do the right thing and endeavour to protect the wildlife that live in their area.

Meanwhile the Koala Hospital continues their education campaign to assist dog owners to be wildlife aware, and the Hospital is always looking out for better treatment options for these special patients.

Reference Cited:

Robertshaw J.D., Harden R.H., “*The Ecology of the Dingo in N.E. NSW IV: Prey Selection by Dingoes*”. Australian Wildlife Research Journal. 1986 Vol 13 P141-63.

**Cheyne Flanagan**

## WEDDING GIFTS

On 1 February Leigh and Steve Elliott were married in Byron Bay.

They requested no wedding gifts but asked that if anyone wanted to donate to the Koala Hospital it would be appreciated.

They received \$200 from Kish & Gita Rajani and \$100 from Jon & Madeleine Carrano.

What a great idea—the Koala Hospital is very grateful.

# Supervisor's Report



The last three months have been a bit of a mixed bag. Some weeks we have been incredibly busy and other weeks it has been very quiet. We have gone from five rescues in one morning resulting in three admissions to around three weeks of basically an empty ICU and no admissions at all!! That's the way it goes working with wildlife - you just don't know what's going to happen from one day to the next.

Unfortunately we have had a few dog attacks with not very good outcomes, plus we have had a number of koalas sadly having to be euthanased due to advanced disease etc. Euthanasia is not something we take lightly here and we look at all options for treatment success, release options and the pain and suffering the koala could experience in the process before the "big decision" is made.

On a brighter note we certainly have had plenty of successful outcomes with release being at the top of the list here!!!

The three weeks of an empty ICU gave us (or Gerry Walsh to be precise) a golden opportunity to spruce up the units. The intensive care ward units have all been repainted, the curtains on the windows washed and currently the doors and the outside are also getting repainted. It all looks brand new which is great. The poor old treatment room clinic is looking a bit tired by comparison - we might have to spruce that up too soon. It's hard to imagine we have been in the "new hospital" for almost 10 years - amazing.

The maintenance team are busy finishing off all the new rehabilitation yards and we are currently working on the completion of the exhibition area at present. Everything is looking very fresh and professional.

We are still admitting a good number of koalas from "out of area" - mainly koalas from the tablelands and the western plains of NSW plus we still have a few in care from the Hunter region. It's good to be able to assist our colleagues "out west" or "down south" when they are overloaded - that's what its all about helping each other.

Research into koala disease and ecological matters is still ongoing and we continue to work closely with the University of Sydney and the Australian Museum on a number of projects. Look out for some published papers in journals shortly!!!

Our third edition of the Koala Rehabilitation Manual is almost completed and will be ready for publication very soon. It will be a bigger, better, updated version and we shall have it for sale at the hospital and online as soon as we can possibly get it printed.

*Cheyne Flanagan*

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## IN LOVING MEMORY OF JUDY DIELMAN 2.8.41 TO 4.2.14

Judy was a very loving, compassionate gentle woman, one I will always be proud to have called my friend.

Judy was the Koala Hospital's first paid supervisor. She started on 4.11.1989. She worked with Jean Starr for about 18 months and at the time raised a joey named Cricket. Her husband, Johnny often helped out and also became our leaf collector.

Judy left her supervisor position on 23.1.1993 as she moved to Byabarra - a bit far to travel each day.

During the 1994 Cathie bushfires Judy came back to be our supervisor as the current supervisor was away. She worked her magic again and saw us through another bad patch of

long hours (open 24 hrs) until she left in December.

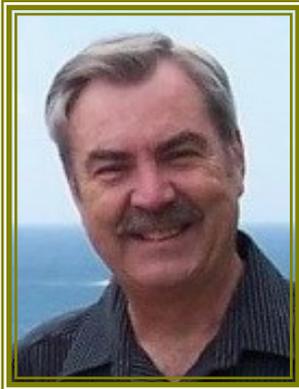
I will miss you my dear friend. Until we meet again in the Big Gum Tree in the sky.

*Judy Stace*



## *from the President's Pen*

2013 was a year to celebrate the achievements of the Koala Hospital since commencing in 1973. It made me realise that without Jean and Max Starr and their supporters and the hundreds of volunteers that were committed to the work over those 40 years, we would not be here.



Looking back at the accomplishments reminded me how important our volunteers are. We have more than 150 volunteers currently working at the Koala Hospital doing everything from koala care to maintenance, administration, fund raising (we are a not for profit association and do not have Government funding), education and planting habitat.

I am constantly amazed by the commitment our volunteers have to the Koala Hospital and take this opportunity to acknowledge the incredible Team Leaders, their staff and all those who participate at the first and only Koala Hospital exclusively for the rescue and rehabilitation of koalas.

### *Bob Sharpham*

Thanks go to

All the People who

have donated generously

to helping our koalas—too

numerous to mention

individually

## **Thumbs Up**

*(Koalas have 2 thumbs on each hand)*



Thumbs up to the people who successfully placed an empty clothes basket over a very sick koala during the month. You made it very easy for the rescuers.



Thumbs up to the gentleman who remained with a dying koala until our ambulance arrived. It makes it a lot easier when we don't have to spend a lot of time searching both sides of the road.



Thumbs down to the person who hit a koala and didn't stay behind. At least you did ring the Koala Hospital.



Thumbs up to Brielle and Lee who stopped on Koala St in the early hours to pick up a female joey wandering down the middle of the road.

# Barry's Adventures in Wanderland

Barry had received an invitation he just couldn't refuse – he was asked to be the special guest at a 'Travel Talk' afternoon tea with the Friends of Port Macquarie Library. He was so pleased to meet Dewey, the library koala who had recently been touring in Britain and Europe, and they shared their thrilling travel stories with all the Friends and had a jolly afternoon.



All that travel talk got him itching to be off overseas again so he said goodbye to everyone at the Koala Hospital and packed his passport and joined Ray and Lynne for a cruise on the fabulous Sea Princess to some of the beautiful Pacific Islands.



Port Vila was a great stop but Barry was particularly welcomed by some locals in Port Denarau in Fiji

where he got to try the traditional drink of kava. He had to sit down when he felt a bit light-headed and then was told that kava is made from the roots of a plant and it is a sedative and anaesthetic.



Better stick with gum leaves in future, Barry.

Barry was excited to be catching up with Noeline, one of the many volunteers at the Koala Hospital, who was visiting her son and daughter-in-law in Thailand. They spent a few hours at a Buddhist temple outside Bangkok and were amused by the figures of the 'Little Monks'. Barry was careful to

remember the etiquette of visiting a temple and made sure they all removed their shoes and hats.



Then it was time for Barry and his friend Mado to check in at Changi Airport in Singapore for their international flights. He'd

heard that it was a very modern airport but quite astonished to see how space-age it was and almost got himself lost in one of the many beautiful gardens as he waited for his flight.



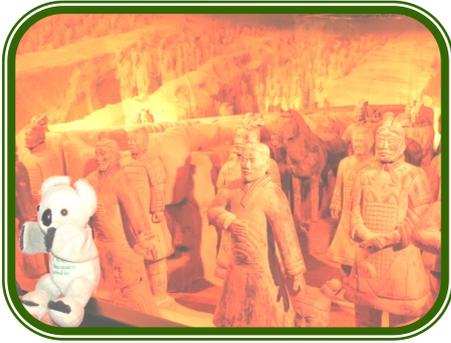
It was along flight for Barry all the way across Northern Africa to the Cape Verde Islands .

He was very proud to be visiting this archipelago of ten volcanic islands that had been established by the Portuguese in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and visited in history by such famous people as Sir Francis Drake and Charles Darwin. He spent most of his time with Corina and her



friends who taught him all the techniques for the high-flying sport of kiteboarding – although he really felt happier with his paws on solid ground!

Then he was off to Europe and his old friends, Harald and Sabina, welcomed Barry to stay with them in Vienna. They were lucky enough to see a fantastic exhibition of Replicas of the TerraCotta Army from China. It was only a small sample of the original terracotta warriors that were buried with Emperor Qin Shi Huang way back on 210-209 BC to protect him in his afterlife, but exciting all the same.



Ever the eager sportsman, Barry met up with Robert to go on a snowboarding holiday in the Austrian Alps. All that whizzing around on the snow had him dreaming of trying out for the upcoming snowboarding World Championships.



However he decided that the speed was quite dizzying and decided to have a nap instead.

Having caught up with his old friend Bea in Prague they went out for dinner and were thrilled to find a restaurant called Tlusta Koala – the Fat Koala! Although Barry was a little disappointed to discover that there weren't any real koalas there! The owner has adopted koalas in the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital's Adoption Program for many years so Barry said a big Thank You to him for his generous support.



However Bea is a true koala fan and took Barry to the Dresden Zoo where they had a new exhibit with two real koalas, Iraga and Mullaya, who had only recently been transferred there from the Duisberg Zoo where

there is a colony of koalas being well looked after. Barry eagerly posed for a picture with the giant koala sculpture and felt pleased that German people were so interested in seeing and learning about his family. Barry was thrilled to accept an invitation from Nicole to spend Christmas with her in Sweden. In Australia Christmas is in summer and is usually celebrated on Christmas Day but in Sweden it was winter and the party is always on Christmas Eve. Barry climbed to the top of the Christmas Tree to enjoy the festivities!



While he was in winter mode, Barry caught up with Tracy for a stay at the famous ski resort of Vail in Colorado in the USA. After they had done the hair-raising aerial trip up the Lionshead mountain in the Eagle Bahn Gondola, Barry had great fun riding in the Snow Cat that took them to dinner at the Game Creek lodge.



Then it was off to the Big Apple (New York) with Stuart and Lynne where they visited Central Park. It was certainly a green oasis in the middle of a big city, filled with lakes and statues and lots of trees. Barry searched in vain for a eucalyptus tree so had to go without a snack – and he didn't even see an apple tree!



They couldn't possibly be in NY and not walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. It was built in 1883 and spans the East River between Manhattan and Brooklyn and is one of the oldest suspension bridges in the USA.

Barry thought it was an engineering wonder and he liked it almost as much as the Sydney Harbour Bridge back at home in Australia.



gold, Sweden won silver – and Barry won a new friend!

Barry was a little travel-weary and homesick for some gum leaves so headed home to Australia. Before going back to the Koala Hospital, Barry stopped off to visit with Bronwyn at the Clonbinane Wildlife Shelter north of Melbourne in Victoria. He met Rosie the wombat who weighed in at 15 kilos and was being rehabilitated for release when she got up to 20 kilos. Koalas and wombats are closely related so Barry was gratified to know that kind people were taking care of his mates.

From New York, Barry and his mate Gary went to New Scotland which is better known as Nova Scotia, an island off the east coast of Canada. The Winter Olympics were on at Sochi in Russia so Barry and Gary and a new furry friend rugged up to watch the Ice Hockey finals on TV. It was so exciting – Canada retained their title and won



## TREE PLANTING

Overseas volunteer Susanne from Switzerland, recent volunteer Robert Mendham and Viv Howell from Tacking Point Lions planting koala food trees in McLaren Drive.

This project has been very challenging, the local deer kept eating the tops out of the new tube stock we planted, we had to place metal stakes around all the trees with protective shadecloth around them. Our volunteers are doing a great job making sure our koalas have food in the future in Port.





## GUM DROPS

from  
KAYLEE

I'm normally a happy little koala. I know I have much to be thankful for; to the people who rescued me, operated so successfully on me, and now are looking after me so well, but this story is being told through my tears.

Garage Girl was one of my favourite old ladies, and a really tough one, but recently she succumbed to old age and left us to live with the other koalas in the great gum forest in heaven. She has been in and out of the koala hospital many times and became a great favourite with everyone here, koalas and humans alike, and we were all so sad to lose her.

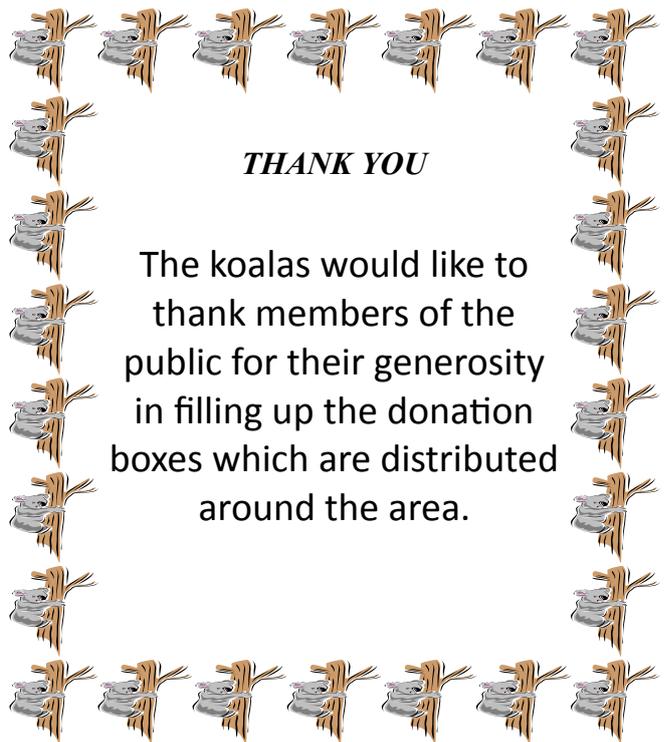
Little Geobbrie came to the hospital in a sorry mess and I heard some of the volunteers say that he may not survive. They obviously didn't realise what miracles often happen here. Having the great care and love from our supervisor, Cheyne, and her wonderful team, he proved that he might be small in size, but his spirit was strong, and after quite a long stay in ICU, he was transferred to the outside yards. He was in one close to me and I really enjoyed watching him as he climbed up on to the roof of his shelter. He seemed to prefer that to sitting on his gunyah. Visitors were enthralled by his antics, and I have to admit that sometimes I even felt a little bit jealous of the attention he got, but it was obvious he wanted to climb, (as all koalas should). Just recently it was decided he was well enough to be released into a safe area where he could live the way he was born to, but oh, how I miss him. He was one of the cutest koalas I've known, and believe me, I've known quite a few!

One of my greatest friends lived as a wild koala but seldom ventured out of Macquarie Reserve

where the hospital is situated. Roto Randy was a favourite with visitors and volunteers and we koalas loved him also. He had a reputation for enjoying female company and before our security system made it impossible for him, he would sometimes make nocturnal visits into the hospital yards, and it's rumoured that he fathered a couple of beautiful little joeys. Every so often he would be admitted to the hospital for a check up and then be released back into the reserve, but his visit just recently proved to be his last. He has now joined our friends in the gum trees in the sky and I'm sure Bonny Fire would have been the first one to greet him.

Sorry, got to go, need some gum leaves to dry my eyes.

*P.S. A bit of good news at last. Lake Geobbrie has not yet been released due to inclement weather so I can enjoy his company for a few more days. Will make the most of them.*



### 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.

*Adopt*

*Seaview Farida*



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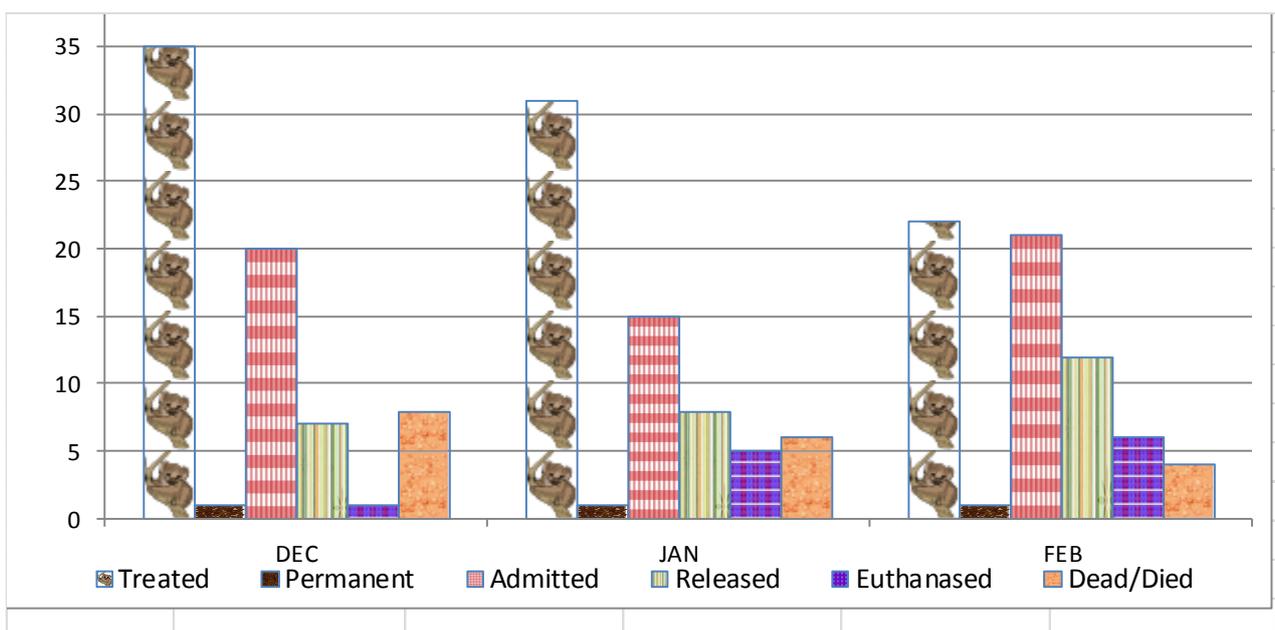
# Hospital Activity Report



As at 28.02.14

Admission	Name	Reason	Result
11.07.08	Westhaven Barry	Scoliosis of spine	Permanent Resident
26.09.09	Oxley Hwy. Kaylee	Hind leg amputated	Treating
12.03.10	Emerald Downs Barbara	Blind R. Eye - limited vision	Treating
26.10.12	Ocean Summer	Limited sight	Treating
07.12.12	Hibbard Alex	Orphan	Released 17.12.13
06.01.13	Ruins Way Dallas	Co-ordination loss Hind legs	Released 17.12.13
08.01.13	Lake Geobbrie	Fungal infection	Treating
09.02.13	Ocean Josie	Orphan	Released 20.12.13
19.07.13	Barrington Xavier	Bilateral Conjunctivitis	Treating
06.11.13	HKS Steve	Lethargic	Treating
12.11.13	Ocean Drive Pat	Motor Vehicle Accident	Treating
15.11.13	Salamander Bay Tallimba	Loss of Habitat - Bushfire	Treating
16.11.13	Kelvin Grove Kylie	Chlamydia	Released 03.01.14
18.11.13	Crescent Head Caroline	Conjunctivitis	Released 08.01.14
18.11.13	Hudson Nick	Chlamydia	Released 31.12.13
19.11.13	HKS Richardson Jane	Bushfire Victim - burns	Treating
21.11.13	Steele Paul	Chlamydia	Released 17.01.14
21.11.12	Findlay Jill	Abandoned Joey	Home Care
22.11.13	Dixon Claud	Suspect White Spider Bite	Died 19.12.13
26.11.13	Chisholm Andrew	Dog Attack	Died 03.12.13
28.11.13	Kempsey Jack	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 06.12.13
02.12.13	NATF Zenani	Bushfire Victim - burns	Home Care
02.12.13	NATF Michelle	Bushfire Victim - burns	Euthanased 26.02.14
03.12.13	Waratah Luka	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
03.12.13	Hamlyn Manny	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
04.12.13	Crescent Head Bernie	Bacterial infection	Died 04.12.13
04.12.13	Lake Cathie Staffie	Dog Attack	Dead on Arrival
06.12.13	Rushcutter Jacquie	Multiple Ticks	Released 07.12.13
09.12.13	Ocean Jessie	Dog Attack	Released 31.12.13
10.12.13	Armidale Peter	Chlamydia	Euthanased 23.01.14
13.12.13	Pacific Flynn	Pyometra	Euthanased 16.12.13
22.12.13	Hill Street Noel	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 16.01.14
22.12.13	Merinda Nina	Orphan Joey	Home Care
24.12.13	Bangalay Tara	Dog Attack	Died 29.12.13
25.12.13	Garage Girl	Dangerous Area - observation	Released 27.12.13
27.12.13	Pacific Hwy Farmstay	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
28.12.13	Garage Girl	Dangerous Area - checked	Released 28.12.13
30.12.13	Garage Girl	On ground - listless	Euthanased 20.12.14
31.11.13	Shelley Beach Nicole	Motor Vehicle Accident	Died 01.01.14
31.12.13	Armidale Jenny	Chlamydia	Euthanased 02.01.14
31.12.13	Tamworth David	Chlamydia	Died 12.01.14

Admission	Name	Reason	Result
03.01.14	Roto Randy	Septic Right Knee	Treating
03.01.14	Emerald Downs Brenda	Injured Right Eye	Euthanased 07.01.14
05.01.14	Tilpa Jim	Injured left wrist	Released 06.01.14
07.01.14	Comboyne Bulga	Moribund	Euthanased 07.01.14
08.01.14	Ocean Cutey	Dog Attack	Died 09.01.14
08.01.14	Livingston Whales	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
14.01.14	Uralla Chris	Moribund	Euthanased 15.01.14
15.01.14	Gurra Odie	Suspect Dog Attack	Released 20.01.14
18.01.14	Watonga Wonder	Motor Vehicle Accident	Released 24.01.14
22.01.14	Hill Street Noel	Suspect Dog Attack	Released 23.01.14
23.01.14	Steel Paul	Dog Attack	Died 27.01.14
24.01.14	Emerald Downs Riley	Bilateral Conjunctivitis	Euthanased 28.01.14
28.01.14	Calwalla Amy	Orphaned Joey	Home Care
30.01.14	Hill Street Noel	Limping	Released 07.02.14
31.01.14	Portsea Zac	Suspect Chlamydia	Euthanased 06.02.14
06.02.14	Ocean Woodvale	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
12.02.14	Kingfisher Dame	Chlamydia	Treating
12.02.14	Long Flat Leanne	Chlamydia - debilitated	Euthanased 13.02.14
13.02.14	Reading Steffie	Chlamydia	Treating
15.02.14	Capalla Nicola	Dangerous Area	Released 18.02.14
19.02.14	Gurra Odie	Unknown	Dead on Arrival
21.02.14	Pacific Hwy Christine	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
23.02.14	Ocean Shelley	Motor Vehicle Accident	Dead on Arrival
23.02.14	Cathie Rd. Ruby	Suspect Dog Attack	Euthanased 26.02.14
24.02.14	Lighthouse Paul	Debilitated	Treating
25.02.14	Hill Street Noel	Dangerous Area	Released 25.02.14
25.02.14	Amira Chaplin	Chlamydia / Conjunctivitis	Treating



## AUSTRALIAN CHAMPION AT THE KOALA HOSPITAL

### JENNY ROBERTS

Jenny Roberts - Lake Cathie Bowling Club, who works in the yards on Thursday mornings, and Greg Brims – Port City Bowling Club, are the new 2014 Mixed Pairs Australian Champions. They travelled down to Melbourne to compete in the Australian Open and did better than they expected.

It is the first time they have taken part in the Australian Open and had to beat previous winners to achieve the title.

Congratulations to you both, a job very well done.

*P.S. There is no need to bow or kiss her feet but she will be happy to give you an autograph.*



## COUNCIL IN ACTION FOR KOALAS

A few weeks ago a lady rang the KPS after she had stopped all the traffic on Ocean Drive to allow a koala and her joey crossing from Greenmeadows Drive over towards the water reserve. Once she got over Ocean Drive there was only one way to get into the reserve - over a very high barbed wire fence, very unlikely.

John Barber set up a trap around the greygum she was in and for 3 days she didn't move. She couldn't get over the barbed wire fence into the water reserve, so she moved further along Ocean Drive into a swamp mahogany next to the water reserve fence, and finally up Clearwater Drive where there are several eucalypts, she is safe for the moment.

Milicia contacted the Catchment Team Leader Brendan Jones from PMHC and asked him if he could put up some solid koala access poles next to the fence, this would allow the koalas to climb over.

90 koalas have been killed on this stretch of Ocean Drive between 2005 - 2013, with this concern in mind, Bob and Milicia attended a meeting with RoadNet in November 2013. RoadNet were surprised to hear how many koalas had been killed in this period. They will be widening Ocean Drive into 4

lanes between Greenmeadows Drive south and Emerald Drive this year. They are looking at placing floppy fences and underpasses along Ocean Drive which should help the koalas cross over safely.



## 2014 Calendar

11 Apr. 14	Management Meeting
19 Apr. 14	Family Fun Day
16 May 14	Management Meeting
18 May 14	Annual General Meeting
20 Jun. 14	Management Meeting

## Gum Tips

*Gum Tips*, the official newsletter of the Koala Preservation Society Australia Incorporated is published quarterly

Editor in Chief:  
**Marilyn Lees**

Contributor:  
**Karen Brown**  
**Mary Stewart**



## 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>  
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Incorporated**

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