

From:

To:

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Subject:



WILDLIFE Whispers

7th Edition

February
2020

COMMITTEE BRIEF

After much deliberation and discussion, we are pleased to announce that as of the 1st March 2020, we will be affiliated with the Wildlife Rescue Australia (WRA) Remote Call Centre.

WRA is an Australia-wide, specialist volunteer organisation dedicated to the rescue of native animals through the operation of a 24hr/7day remote call centre staffed by home-based phone coordinators (PC's) trained to coordinate in all aspects of animal rescue to local groups.

FNQ Wildlife Rescue will still own and recognise the current hotline number 4053 4467 as the FNQ Wildlife Rescue hotline. The WRA phone team will recognise that the call 'belongs' to FNQWR and will direct rescue calls to FNQWR carers and rescuers that are registered with the system.

The benefits to FNQ Wildlife Rescue include:

1. The current burden of finding and maintaining a team of 20+ volunteers to cover 168 hours a week to man a 24/7 phone line will be reduced to 5 or 6 volunteers required to join the national WRA phone team.
2. Access to accurate and proper call statistics that can be used to highlight the service provided by FNQ Wildlife Rescue in order to seek support such as grant or govt funding.
3. Freeing up our dedicated carers to concentrate on what they do best - rescuing and caring.
4. We will retain and not lose our identity as all calls through WRA will be answered as FNQ Wildlife Rescue.
5. The ability to have several phone operators on the same shift meaning that calls bounce to an available operator and don't go unanswered.
6. Return or follow up calls are performed via a central number meaning phone operators do not have to disclose personal phone numbers
7. FNQWR volunteers will still have an opportunity to answer wildlife calls by joining the national Wildlife Rescue phone team.
8. More liaison and communication with other like-minded organisations around Australia.
9. WRA is a not-for-profit organisation who provide this service to Wildlife groups at minimal cost. One-off \$20 then \$5 per month ongoing.
10. No more issues with third party phone switching apps that don't work. Under the new system, carers / rescuers will be required to register with WRA so that they can appear on the system when rescue calls are received.

Under the new system, members will be required to register with WRA so that they can appear in the system when calls for assistance are received.

As with anything new, some people may not be comfortable with the changes and we completely understand this but rest assured this decision was not taken lightly. Ongoing issues with finding sufficient after hours and Centr volunteers have made this decision necessary. This is something we need to do in order to grow for the future.

Useful - links

WRA website - <https://www.wildliferescue.net.au/>

WRA registration form for carers - <https://www.wildliferescue.net.au/personal-registration/>

We will be holding a briefing session in the near future to present the system to all members.

On behalf of all the members of FNQ Wildlife Rescue, the committee would like to pass on our sincere appreciation to the members of the After Hours team who have managed our after hour calls in the past. Thank you for your sterling effort!

ADVANCED MACROPOD COURSE - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

No doubt many macropod carers have heard of Lynda Staker. She is a well known macropod expert and has conducted courses all over Australia and internationally.

We have contacted Lynda with the view of her coming up to Cairns to deliver a course for our carers. At this stage we are looking at August 2020.

There is a significant cost to FNQ Wildlife Rescue to make these arrangements and it is envisaged that we will be opening up the course to other groups and veterinary staff around the area. Naturally we will give our members first preference so we are seeking expressions of interest from carers who may like to attend.

There will be a participation fee to help pay for the costs, probably between \$30-\$50.

If you are interested in attending, can you please let our [Secretary](#) know by the 29th of February so we can get an idea of numbers.

MARKETING COMMITTEE MEETING

The first meeting for our new Marketing Committee will be held on Saturday the 15th of February at the Centre in Hoare Street commencing at 1:00pm. We would like to invite members who want to be involved in the marketing side of FNQ Wildlife Rescue. This committee will cover things such as recruitment, fundraising, donations, special events, raising public awareness etc.

If you would like to join this committee please let our [Vice President](#) Karen know.



Induction Courses

22nd February - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St
14th March - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St
4th April - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St
2nd May - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St

Bird Beginner Course

Saturday 7th March - 10:30 - 12:30pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St
Saturday 9th May - 10:30 - 12:30pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St

Macropod Beginner Course

Saturday 7th March - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St
Saturday 9th May - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St

As space is limited on each course it is imperative that you register beforehand.

Please [send an email to register](#) for any of the above courses.

CHANGE IN PRODUCT SALES

Many of you would have noticed that there has been a transition to a different way of selling products at the Centre and the subsequent changes in costs.

The changes have been made for a number of reasons -

1. Better hygiene practices

2. Longer shelf life of product
3. Boxed product includes measuring scoops and instructions
4. Easier storage
5. Ensures integrity of the product
6. Greatly reduces the risk of contaminants

The prices have increased, but bear in mind the quantities are now larger and we are selling at cost price. Many suppliers have increased the prices of product after the bushfires due to high demand.

Prior to this change the product was being sold below cost price which we cannot sustain as an organisation.

This email is being sent to you because you are a financial member of FNQ Wildlife Rescue Incorporated. We respect your privacy so if you would prefer not to receive our newsletters in the future, please [unsubscribe](#) .

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