

From:

To:

Date: 2/27/2020 7:01:38 PM

Subject:



# WILDLIFE Whispers

8th Edition

February  
2020

## COMMITTEE BRIEF

A reminder to all members that we cutover to the Wildlife Rescue Australia phone system as from the 1st of March 2020.

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.

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.

If you are a carer or rescuer and haven't already done so, please register with on the WRA web site using the link below.

Useful - links

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

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

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 dedication to the cause.

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## 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 21st of March so we can get an idea of numbers.

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## MARKETING COMMITTEE MEETING

2/27/2020

The first meeting for our new Marketing Committee was on Saturday the 15th of February. There were many ideas discussed and we will see the fruits of these in the near future.

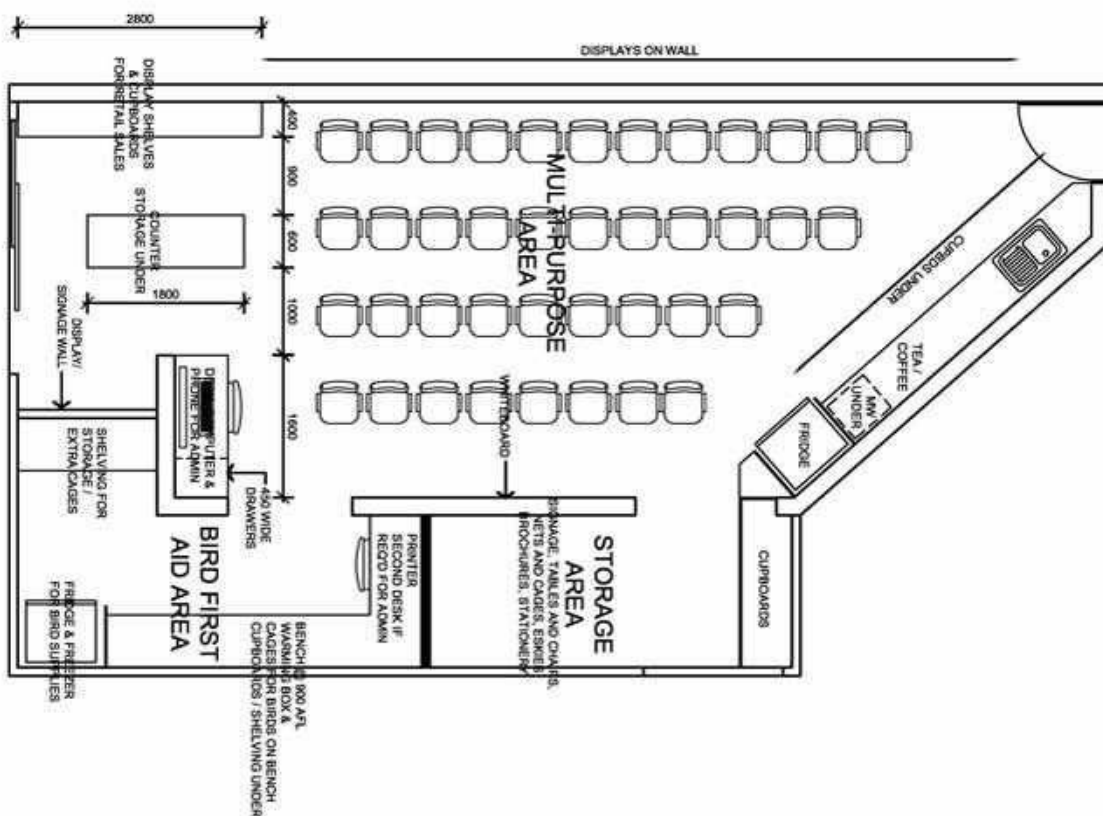
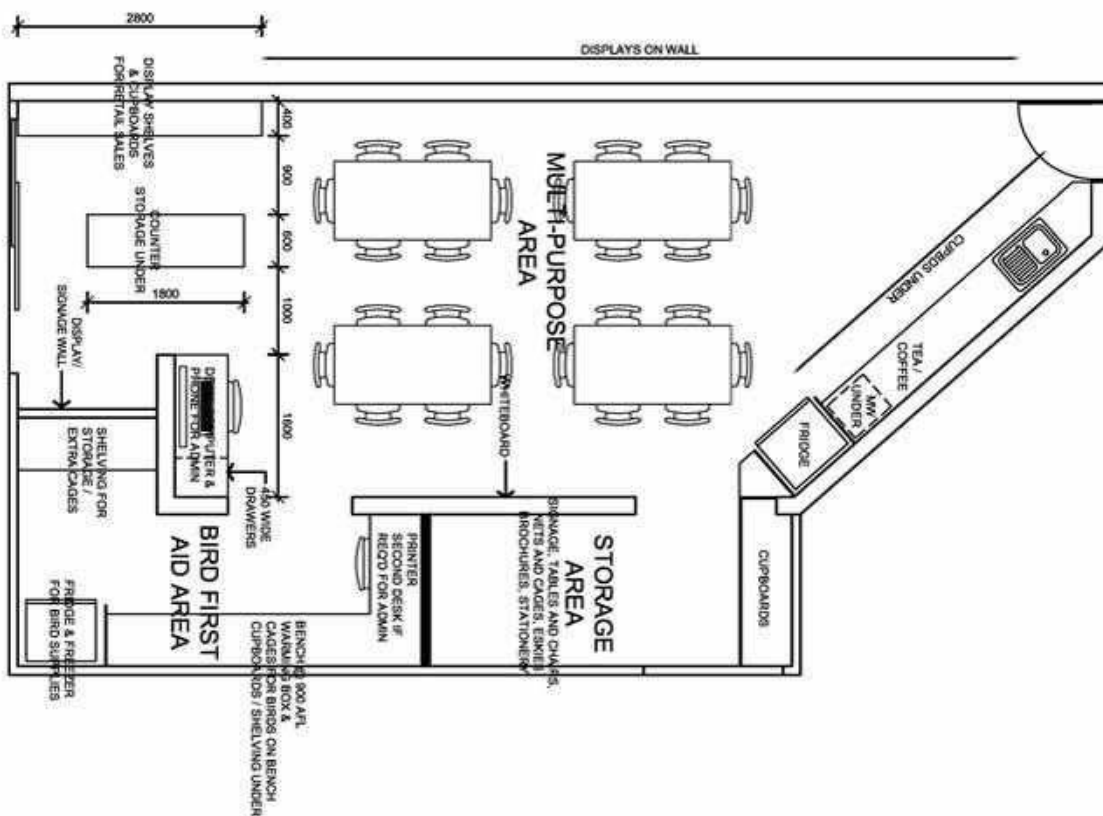
Two save the dates -

18th April 2020 from 7:00pm - FNQ Wildlife Rescue Trivia Night, Centrals Football Club Trinity Beach

24th May 2020 10:00am - 6:00pm - Cairns Eco Fiesta. We will have a stall and displays. We need some willing members to help on the day. If you can, please contact [Vice-President](#) Karen.

We have also recently ordered a new batch of Hi-vis vests. These are a must for those members conducting rescues. We'll update you with more details once they arrive in the next couple of weeks.

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### Centre Refurbishment

We have floated the idea of refurbishing the Rescue Centre to provide better facilities for training, meeting area for members, better usage of available space and more public engagement. Vice-President Karen was able to engage the assistance of an interior designer who is willing to assist us free of charge. Two concept drawings can be seen above and are also attached. Naturally these are a starting point and we need to get quotes, seek funding etc.

## Containers for Change



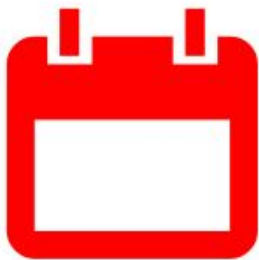
Next time you visit the recycler, consider donating to FNQ Wildlife Rescue!

We will be putting posters up at the recycling agents in our area.

Our Scheme ID is **C10130667** and it is quick and easy to donate.

Make sure to tell your friends and relatives. This is a simple way to help us raise much needed funds for the cause.

## Induction Courses



## Training Calendar

**Don't miss out!  
Register Now!**

Saturday 14th March - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St  
Saturday 2nd May - 1:00 - 3:00pm - Rescue Centre Hoare St  
*Please note that it is a mandatory requirement for all carers to complete an Induction course by 30th June 2020 before permit renewal.*

## 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

## Rescuer Beginner Course

Saturday 28th March - 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.



MEMBER PROFILE - Fred and Betty Howles

No doubt many of you know two of our longterm carers, Fred and Betty Howles. Fred recently resigned as one of the Responsible Persons of our Public Fund committee - one of many positions that he has held within FNQ Wildlife Rescue over the years. We thought it very fitting to mention Fred and Betty in our newsletter as their longterm committment to the organisation has been outstanding. Here is a brief summary of some of Fred and Betty's involvement with FNQ Wildlife Rescue -

After retiring from teaching in 2000, Fred and Betty joined FNQ Wildlife Rescue with the purpose of caring for native animals. They concentrated on mainly birds, caring for many starlings, pied imperial pigeons, honeyeaters, doves, lorikeets, parrots, woodswallows to name a few.

They even cared for the odd hawk, sea bird, pelican, jabiru and rescued many animals including bats, wallabies, curlews and cockatoos from all over Cairns.

Fred designed and built his own cages and a flight aviary. He conducted bird carer workshops for many years and passed on many of the methods that he and Betty had learned. They have been involved in many fund-raising events such as sausage sizzles and raffles to try to boost the funds needed to run the group and help the volunteer carers.

They often went to schools and school fetes and other community groups to publicise the work of Wildlife Rescue. Fred and Betty worked with the Australian Vets Association to help children to care for pets and keep wildlife safe under the PetPep scheme.

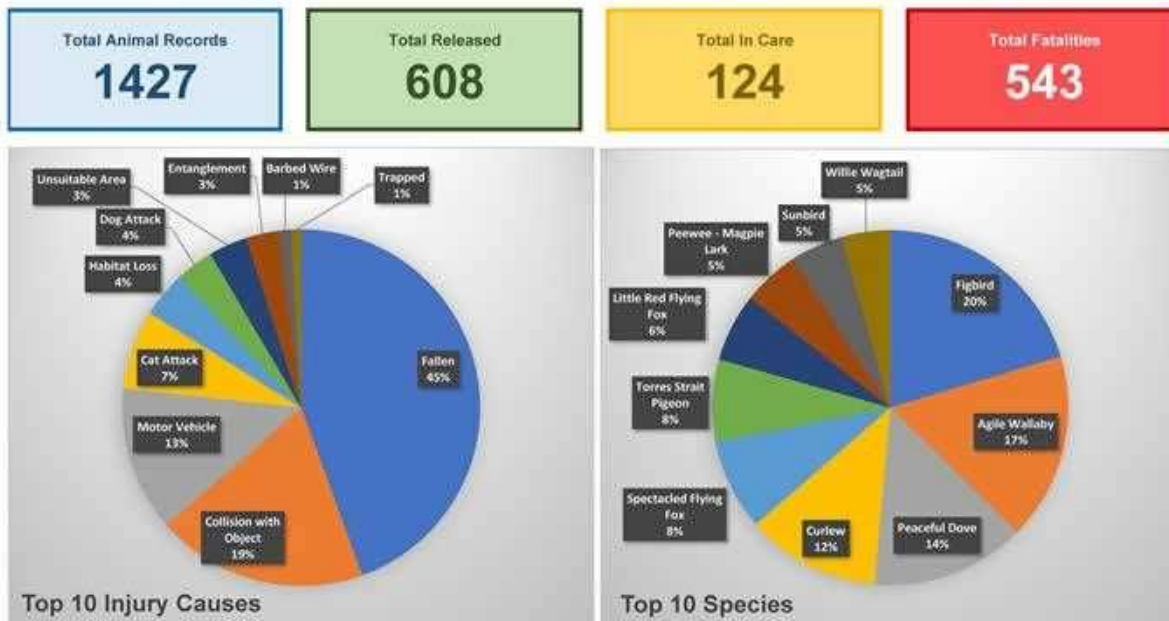
For 5 years or so, Fred was manager of the Wildlife Rescue Centre in Hoare Street and he saw first hand how hard it is to find reliable volunteers to man the centre and the after-hours phones. Fred also had a term as vice-president when Annabelle Olsson was president.

Fred and Betty are really grateful to the dedicated carers now and then who supported them and showed them the methods they had learned over the years. Fred especially thanks Betty who has raised many varieties of birds with dedication and skill. They worked as a team which perhaps is the ideal situation for wildlife carers. They have enjoyed rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing native animals and although sometimes it can be difficult, they feel it is a personally rewarding experience.

On behalf of the committee and all members of FNQ Wildlife Rescue, our sincere thanks to Fred and Betty for their committment and involvement in our organisation for almost 20 years.



### Fauna Record Statistics - July to December 2019



## Statistics

We have said on many occasions that it is imperative for all members to keep accurate fauna records. Well, here is the reason why. We recently sent our latest statistics to the DES as per our permit requirements (copy of the full report attached). As you can see, we have some pretty interesting numbers to work with.

And the winner is.....

Figbirds take the top spot as the most common species received into care in the last 6 months of 2019. I'm sure that our bird carers would all agree on this one!

These statistics help us greatly to apply for grants and funding as opportunities arise. Thank you to the after hours team, centre volunteers, carers and rescuers who all enter the information into our online fauna records system. And thanks to Wilf for maintaining the website and overseeing fauna records (amongst many other hats that he wears).

Please remember that if you need help with how to enter details for your animals in care, help is only a phone call away!.

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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