



Rescue. Rehabilitate. Release.



ANNUAL REPORT

July 2021 - June 2022



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A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As an essential service provider, we had a challenging start to the year. Despite pandemic pressures, our amazing volunteers continued to work hard from home, responding to calls and being there for wildlife in need.

We actively made the most of our time during restrictions.

It gave us the chance to reorganise and rejuvenate our whole business – from our organisational structure to our website and rescue communication platforms.

We created and held our first-ever online Basic Wildlife Rescue & Transport Workshop, which was and is a great success. Our volunteer database grew from it and continues to flourish.

I'm incredibly proud of what we've achieved this year. We opened our Wildlife Support Centre in Narre Warren, to supply the Victorian wildlife sector with the food and the medical equipment they need to rehabilitate native wildlife. We launched our Support 4 Shelters program to ensure these shelters have essential supplies.

We've built strong bonds with our community, the shelters, and animal carers; together, we're making a real impact in the wildlife sector right across Victoria.

A big thank you to our Executive Committee and wonderful Members for their continued support and guidance. We couldn't have achieved this vital work without you.

Thank you very much to all our fantastic volunteers, supporters, and sponsors. We're grateful for everything you do and for helping Warriors 4 Wildlife become the organisation it is today. Our team remains strong, resilient and more dedicated than ever to helping our Australian wildlife, supporting the wildlife network and investing in educating our community.

Natalie Thomson
President





OUR VISION AND CULTURE

Warriors 4 Wildlife Inc. is a registered not-for-profit that aims to protect the natural environment.

With 100% volunteer-run rescue services across Victoria, we're devoted to animal welfare, education, and wildlife conservation.

Our goal is to make a positive impact through exciting volunteer projects and fundraisers.

OUR VISION

To be a strong and professional leader in the wildlife industry and to build a sustainable environment for our native wildlife to thrive.

OUR OBJECTIVES:



The fastest response times for wildlife rescue and transportation.



Specialised education and training in rescue, rehabilitation, and sustainability for volunteers, the public and animal shelters.



Support the animal welfare community through fundraising and disaster relief.



Transparent and collaborative relationships within the broader wildlife and rehab community.

OUR CULTURE

At Warriors 4 Wildlife, our culture defines how we work together as a team and with the broader wildlife community.

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE:



PASSIONATE

We genuinely care about wildlife rescue and conservation and are committed to helping wildlife to thrive.



TRUSTWORTHY

We're open and honest in all our dealings and can be trusted to provide reliable wildlife rescue and transportation services.



COLLABORATIVE

We collaborate and share our knowledge and expertise through our connections with the wildlife community.



EMPOWERED

We nurture a supportive, respectful, and empowering work environment that builds resilience in each team member.



EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR ANIMALS:

OUR WILDLIFE RESCUE SERVICE

Our wildlife rescue service means we're here 24/7 to help sick, injured, orphaned or abandoned animals in need. Depending on their needs, they're taken to vets, shelters, carers, zoos, and sanctuaries. We receive 1000s of calls each year, and we're committed to responding to every single call and getting rescuers out, as quickly as possible.

With the help of our sponsor, OracleCMS (a customer management solutions company), giving us a lifelong donation of a 1300 number and 24-hour call service means we can be there for wildlife any hour of the day or night. They answer all the calls and transfer them to our Rescue Phone Operators. This helped tremendously, enabling us to have multiple rostered phone operators for rescue and advice at any one time.

With OracleCMS, our team of Rescue Phone Operators are highly responsive and efficient.

They handle all sorts of calls; advise on setting up rescues, and work closely with other organisations, shelters and carers to ensure every animal gets help. Since our partnership started with OracleCMS, we've taken over 6000 calls this financial year, and we appreciate the incredible amount of time and support they've donated to us.

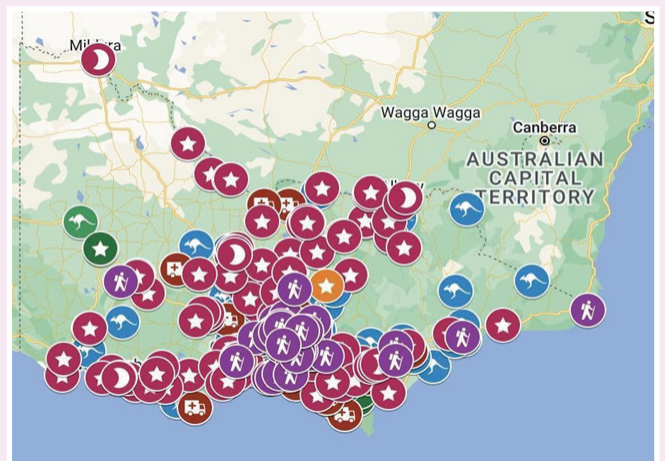
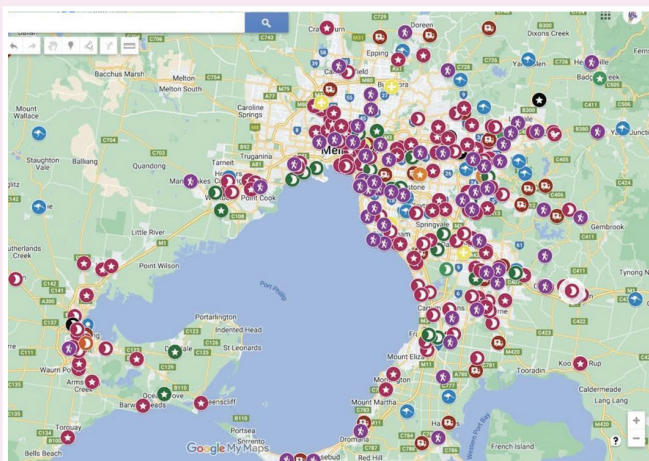
So we can give the best care, we've created an extensive training manual, directory and mapping platform for handling all calls and have streamlined our data handling.

Without the help of the wonderful members of the public who find injured and orphaned wildlife and call us for help, we wouldn't be able to save lives and help end the suffering of native animals in need.

Check out the incredible network of vets, shelters, and carers we collaborate with across Melbourne and Victoria.



oraclecms
customer management solutions





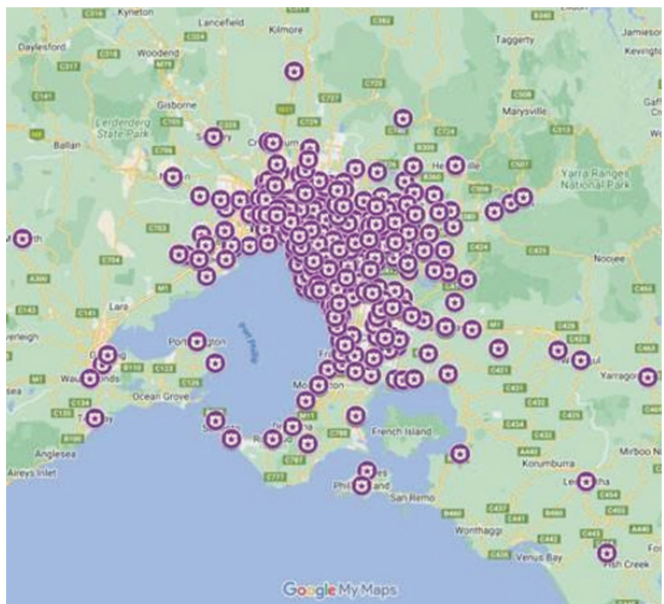
We use our new system to log and categorise all our rescue calls by species and locations.

This allows the team to prepare for peak rescue times during seasonal fluctuations, such as fledgling season when baby birds often need assistance when found on the ground.

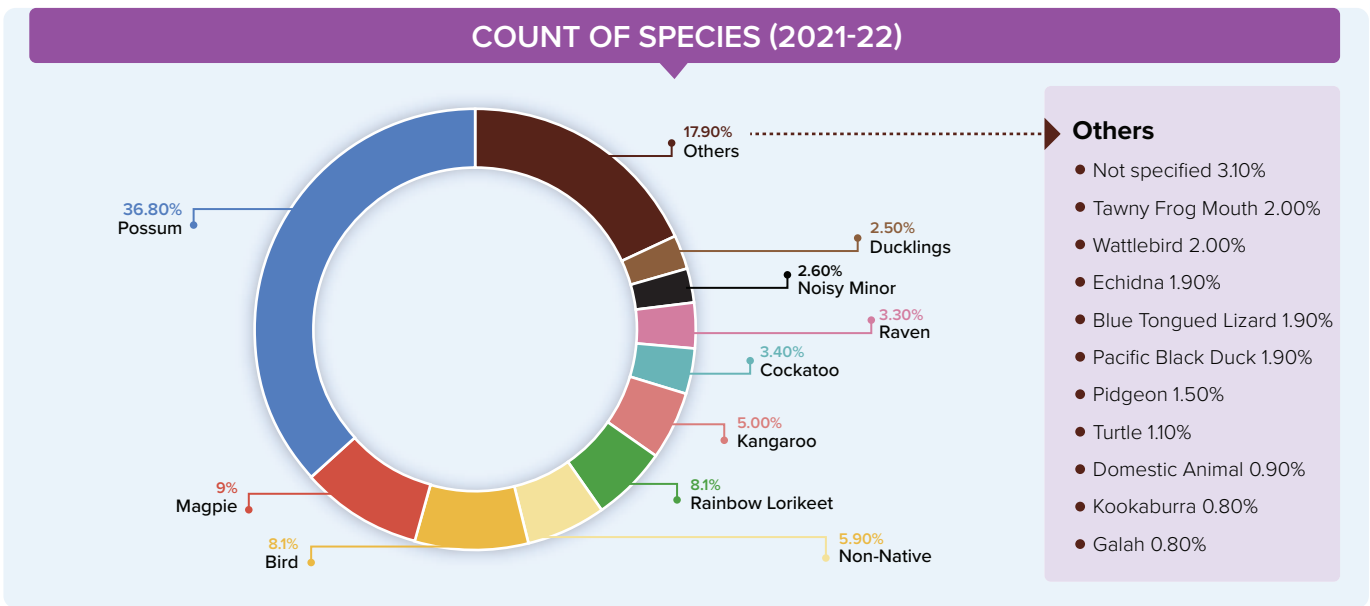
We've found social media and our website are powerful tools to get our message across. Our volunteers help the public understand how to help wildlife in need by sharing educational posts.

As the pie chart shows, Warriors 4 Wildlife receives calls for a variety of species, including macropods, birds, reptiles, possums, wombats and echidnas, and non-native species and domestic pets.

The map is a monthly report of rescue calls received in Melbourne alone.

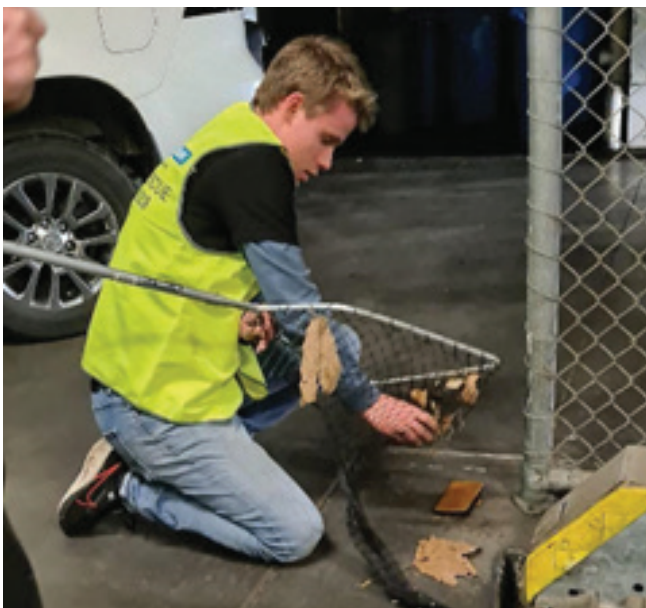


Brushtail Possum joey





THIS FLOW CHART SHOWS THE PROCESS OF OUR RESCUE CALL REPORT



Volunteer rescuing ducklings



Flying Fox caught in netting



IT'S FEEL GOOD STORY TIME

The young Tawny Frogmouth you see in the pictures was found by a family in their backyard. It had fallen out of its nest and was in danger on the ground.

We quickly sprang into action and reached out to the folks at Boobook Wildlife Shelter.

She rushed over and helped the family create a cosy, makeshift nest using an ice cream container filled with soft, snuggly nesting material.

They placed the nest high up in the tree to keep the Tawny safe from any hungry predators as it continue to grow.

Not all animals need medical attention – sometimes, we just need to give them a helping hand or reunite them back to their parents.

Working together is the key to giving these animals a second chance at life!





WE OPENED THE FIRST WILDLIFE SUPPORT CENTRE IN VICTORIA

We did it!

In August 2021, Warriors 4 Wildlife leased a warehouse in the South-Eastern suburbs of Melbourne to serve as the first-ever wildlife supply and donation centre in Victoria.

It holds all our volunteer rescue equipment that we use for our Rescue and Transport workshops, these include rescue baskets, cleaning products, T-shirts, and high visibility vests.

When members of our team and wildlife community collect supplies, many stories and ideas are shared in a collaborative and safe environment.

It's essential our wildlife shelters continue to rehabilitate wildlife for years to come, that they're prepared for the busy summer periods and have a central location for donations in times of natural disaster.

Even though it's only been open only for a short period of time, we're already seeing the benefits and impact it's having on the broader wildlife community, giving them strength and hope in times of need.

This is our biggest project to date and is proving an invaluable asset to the wildlife community.



Milk Formulas and Incubators



Equipment and medical supplies



The team with Andy Meddick MP



The W4W Office



SUPPORT 4 SHELTERS: TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

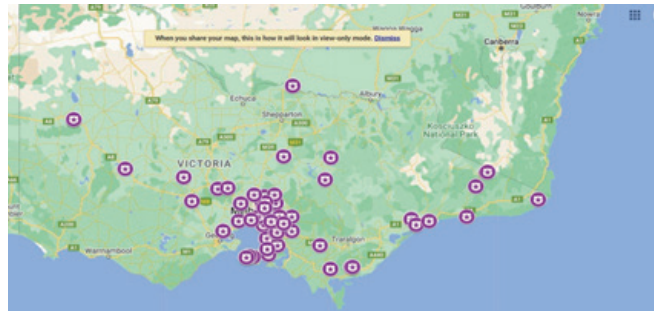
At Warriors 4 Wildlife, we've been supporting shelters since our inception. It's an integral part of why our organisation was founded. Shelters and carers are the unsung heroes who deserve support for all their tremendous efforts, taking in wildlife on a daily basis.

Running a shelter can be expensive, and it's often self-funded. That's why our Support 4 Shelters Program is so important. We understand how time-consuming applying for grants and fundraising can be, and we want to help ease the financial burden so that shelters can focus on what they do best: rehabilitating native wildlife.

We make it easy for shelters to request support. They simply fill out an online request form on our website. We prioritise the needs of shelters and carers and honour their requests as soon as possible. Thanks to our support, shelters can treat more wildlife, have better facilities that increase an animal's chance of survival, and release more animals back into their natural habitats, which ultimately improves Victoria's biodiversity.

This year alone, we've donated over \$67,708 to 100+ wildlife shelters and foster carers in Victoria. This includes a variety of formulas, food, aviaries, incubators, and equipment. We've also been able to provide much-needed supplies like medical supplies, pouches, laundry detergents and nesting boxes – all thanks to the generosity of the public.

This picture shows some of the areas around Victoria where support has been received



With our special ties to wildlife shelters and carers, we're always striving to create a strong community. It's important to meet others in the industry, share ideas, and tackle challenges together. This helps improve everyone's well-being and helps create a more united and healthy wildlife community.

W4W went on an extensive donation run to Gippsland. We distributed essential supplies for shelters, including food, medical, and incubators, to help them reduce their costs. Our team had a wonderful time visiting carers and foster carers in Sale, Metung and Omeo, and were amazed by the incredible distances they cover for wildlife rescues.



Treehouse Wildlife Shelter, Metung



The Snug Wildlife Shelter, Omeo



SUPPORT 4 SHELTERS: TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER



Aviaries



Incubators



Feed



Milk formulas



Water tank



Rescue baskets



SHELTERS

SHARING THE LOVE



Julie Malherbe | JABS Joey and Bat Sanctuary

“Where do I start..

I have been so very lucky to receive two lots of formula for my wildlife in care, at a time when I was really worried as to how I was going to feed them.

I was also very lucky to get some medical supplies and pouches when the warehouse had its open day.

I'm so grateful to have been supported by W4W.”



Stacey Whitehorse | Gerang Gerung Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre

“I operate the Gerang Gerung Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre in Western Victoria. Warriors 4 Wildlife has helped me immeasurably by providing supplies for my shelter when I've been unable to access them locally. I've been given joey formula for my kangaroos which helped greatly as there are no suppliers in my area.

I've also been given supplies relating to first aid care for wildlife. I live nowhere near a vet and initial first aid can be lifesaving for some of these animals. And, I received small enclosures perfect for amphibians to over-winter prior to their release.

Warriors 4 Wildlife is an essential link in the chain of survival for my rescues as I'm isolated in my area. They play an integral role in the ongoing commitment I have toward wildlife care.”

Stacy Whitehorse B.AppSc, B.Vet & amp; Wildlife Sc, Cert 4 Captive Animal Management



Linda Pettit | Bunurong Wildlife Care Inc.

“A big thank you to the team facilitating Warriors 4 Wildlife!

As a new Foster Carer in 2021, we've had over 60 animals come into care in our first year. We were SO grateful for the assistance with food products and care goodies. The demand for our resources far exceeded what we'd anticipated and to have some support to ease our financial outlay was uplifting and motivating.

A special thank you for the donation of the Brooder90 Humidicrib, as this specialised piece of equipment will greatly assist our injured wildlife, and this is especially helpful to nurture those that come in with hypothermia...wet and cold from the misery of the rain deluges that have impacted their homes in Gippsland. The Brooder 90 gives us the confidence to care for any 'soggies' that come into care. Thanks again for your uplifting spirit, effort, and generosity.”



WHEN DISASTER STRIKES... WE PROVIDE RELIEF

Warriors 4 Wildlife played an important role by providing crucial emergency relief supplies to shelters in need during times of crisis. This included supporting shelters taking in injured and burnt wildlife, and getting hay and livestock feed to farms, and to the surrounding communities for their domestic animals. To date, W4W has distributed over 800 hundred tons of supplies to those affected by the devastating fires in Victoria through its network of volunteers.

As a proactive organisation, W4W is prepared for busy summer seasons and emergency situations that may arise in the future. We remain committed to playing a vital role in responding to natural disasters that continue to threaten the country, our land, and our wildlife.

In response to the recent flooding events in NSW and Queensland, W4W quickly assembled a large package of goods and sent it to a vet clinic in Queensland. This was much-needed medical equipment not only for wildlife but for people's pets.

Additionally, two hardworking people delivered a trailer full of donated supplies and assisted with repairs and clean-up in the lower flood areas in NSW. This was a great opportunity for W4W to support our neighbouring states in such a challenging time and demonstrate the power of the wildlife community working and networking together.





WILDLIFE EDUCATION AND WORKSHOPS

At Warriors 4 Wildlife, we love to get the community involved in what we do. That's why we offer a variety of educational workshops and activities for wildlife enthusiasts. From rescue and transport to educational events, there's something for everyone.

Our workshops are led by experienced rescuers who have the skills and knowledge to help prepare volunteers and the public to safely rescue and transport injured or orphaned wildlife. Our sessions cover: safety, identification, capture, and the handling and transporting of native animals.

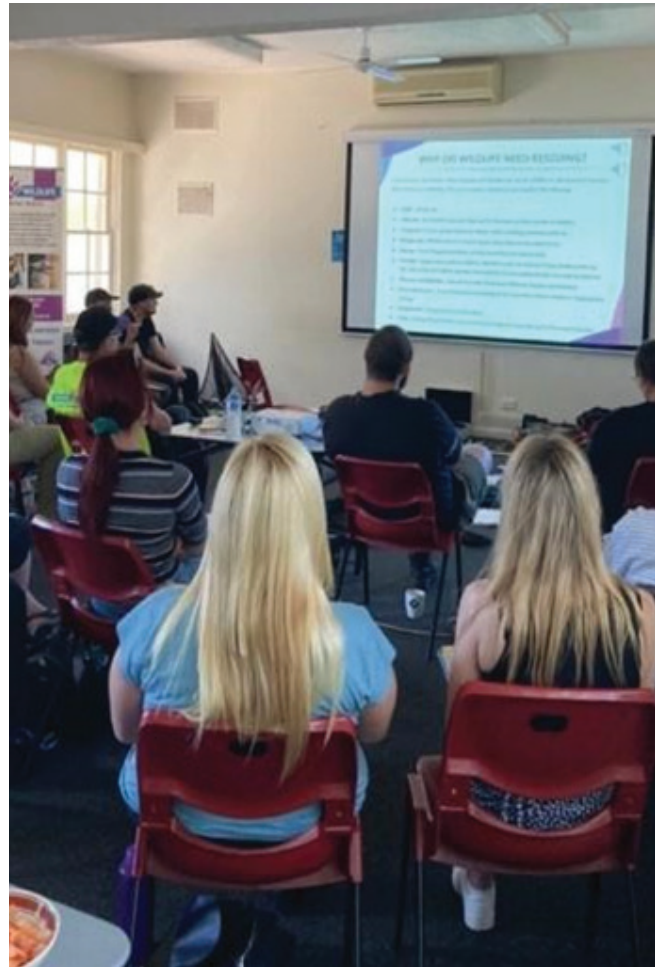
We hold workshops 4-5 times throughout the year to recruit new volunteers.

Whether you're a seasoned rescuer or just starting out, these workshops are a valuable tool in getting you ready for the busy seasons.

We also host specialised workshops in collaboration with experienced wildlife organisations and shelters to further advance the knowledge and skills of our rescue volunteers.

Due to the covid 19 lockdowns, we redeveloped our Basic Wildlife Rescue and Transport Workshop so we could host it online. It means we can now successfully deliver multiple workshops throughout the year. Our online workshops have extended our ability to engage more rescue volunteers throughout Melbourne and from regional Victoria.

So, if you're passionate about wildlife and want to make a difference, come join us.



Basic Wildlife Rescue and Transport Workshop



Reptile Workshop





Bat Rescue Workshop

Education plays a vital role in the rescue and conservation of wildlife. We educate through our workshops, website, and social media posts.

One of our popular community events is Possum Box Workshop, where you can learn more about the native wildlife living in your backyard and how to co-exist with them. We make possum boxes to donate to shelters so that orphaned joeys have a cosy home to stay in while they're in care. When they're ready to be released back into the wild, the shelter attached the box to a tree, so the possums can get used to their new environment all while being safe and secure in familiar surroundings.



SCHOOL TALKS

At W4W we love sharing our knowledge and passion for wildlife with others. We'll go to schools, scouts, and community groups to spread the word about what we do and why rescuing wildlife is so important. We're big on educating kids about conservation, how to protect our natural spaces, and how to make their own backyard a haven for native animals. The people we visit are always engaged and keen to learn.



OUR WARRIOR TEAM

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At Warriors 4 Wildlife, our leadership team is made up of a talented and experienced group of volunteers. They know the ins and outs of wildlife rescue, and rehab, as well as education and business development. With support from our top-notch management team in IT, HR, marketing, and education, we're able to operate smoothly and efficiently in Melbourne and beyond.



Natalie Thomson
President



Nigel Williamson
Vice President



Louise O' Gorman
Secretary

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Nikki Rushworth
Education Manager

Kaitlyn O'Gorman
Volunteer Coordinator

Linda Dickon
RPO Coordinator/
IT Manager

Michael Dickon
IT Manager

MEMBERS

- ✓ Natalie Thomson
- ✓ Nigel Williamson
- ✓ Louise O'Gorman

- ✓ Michael Dickon
- ✓ Beverley Brown
- ✓ Samuel Nicolopoulos
- ✓ Michelle Phillips

- ✓ Linda Dickon
- ✓ Paul Smith
- ✓ Tracey Cleaves
- ✓ Graham Cleaves

- ✓ Nikki Rushworth
- ✓ Sandra Morin
- ✓ Lisa Radford



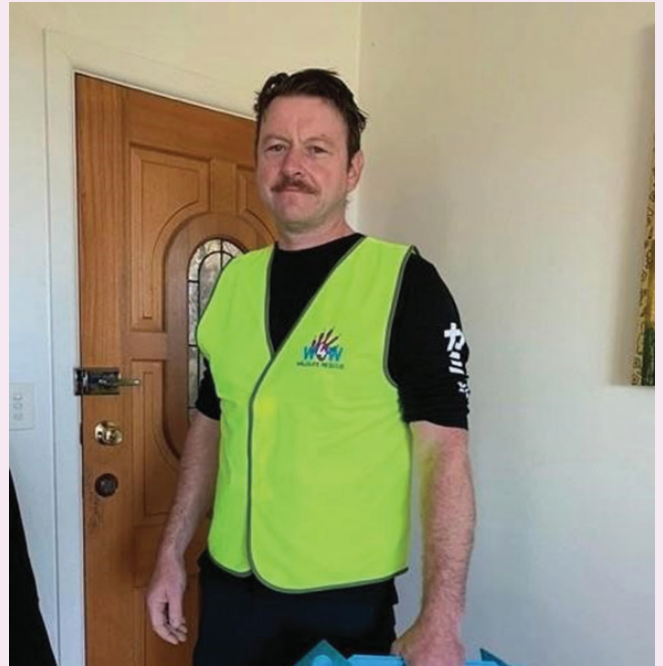
OUR VOLUNTEERS LOVE TO HELP AND WE LOVE THEIR SUPPORT

Our volunteers are a fantastic group of dedicated animal lovers who get involved in every aspect of the organisation. They bring diversity and a wide skillset to contribute to our culture and mission.

Volunteering with us keeps people connected with their community and helps spread awareness about the importance of Australia's wildlife, biodiversity, and conservation.

On Sunday May 1st, we held an amazing BBQ to show our appreciation for our volunteers' hard work. We were joined by our friends from Black Snake Productions who brought along a wide variety of reptiles and endangered species which was wonderfully informative and interesting.

We enjoyed great food, and had fun with raffles, prizes, and cherished lots of conversations, and stories shared. We've made a commitment to keep this tradition going every year during the official Volunteer Week as a mark of appreciation for all our volunteers do.





VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS



Nicole Halley

Rescue Phone Operator and Volunteer Rescuer

“I started at Warriors 4 Wildlife as a volunteer rescuer and transporter, and after six months, I wanted to make more of a difference for the animals. I became a volunteer rescue phone operator and was supported and assisted from the first day.

I love having the balance of rescuing wildlife first-hand and helping members of the public with advice for injured wildlife over the phone. Having experience as a phone operator has increased my confidence in the identification of wildlife, general knowledge, and rescuing wildlife.”



Ajay Mckernan

Rescue Phone Operator and Volunteer Rescuer

“I’ve been with Warriors 4 Wildlife for nearly 12 months. I’ve helped rescue lots of wildlife, from Ringtail Possums to ducklings and even a Rainbow Lorikeet.

I’ve helped animals by transporting them to Healesville Wildlife Sanctuary and The Melbourne Zoo. And I’m a phone operator helping to organise rescues or transport for animals.

It’s really satisfying when I show up at a member of the public’s house, and they’ve found injured wildlife: the relief you see when they realise the animal is going to get the help it needs. You can see the public reviews on our website to see how they appreciate our organisation.

I think it’s great that the management team are very understanding. They get that in today’s society, sometimes you can only volunteer a little of your time, and other times, a lot. Either way, they’re still grateful for what you can do, and there is no pressure to do more.

The most rewarding part of this volunteer rescue work is knowing that our wildlife is in good hands.”



OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We work closely with some amazing organisations that help us in our mission to rescue and protect wildlife.

OUR SPONSORS



W4W is grateful to have OracleCMS' support with a lifetime 24-hour call centre and 1300 hotline. This helps us quickly respond to emergencies and save more wildlife.

OUR PARTNERS

- ✓ The Medical Pantry provides us with excess medical supplies from major hospitals around Melbourne. This helps the environment by recycling instead of products going into landfill.
- ✓ The Australian Merch Co supplies us with volunteer T-shirts and High Visibility Rescue Vests.
- ✓ Bendigo Bank supports us with their services.
- ✓ LXD Business Solutions handles all our accounting and financial service needs.



We partnered with Frances Carleton from WildTalk and are proud to be an Opal Partner. WildTalk provides mental health assistance to all wildlife rescuers, carers, veterinary professionals and researchers through illness, injury, or crisis.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR DONORS:

- ✓ JMS Foundation
- ✓ Mackintosh Foundation
- ✓ Warrenbrook
- ✓ Lush Cosmetics
- ✓ JBWere Charitable EndowmentFund C/-AET Philanthropic Services





8 WAYS TO HELP US SAVE LIVES

Come on, show your love for our native wildlife and get involved with W4W. There are many ways you can make a difference.

Here's how:



BECOME A SPONSOR

We're 100% volunteer-run, so we need corporate sponsorship to continue our work. Please help us by becoming a corporate sponsor. If you're interested, fill out the [sponsorship form](#) on our website or shoot us an [email](#), and let's see what a difference we can make together.



DONATE

Every little bit helps. Donate directly to our bank account or check out our monthly donation options through our website. Click here: [Donate Page](#). We're Deductible Gift Recipient 1, so all donations of \$2+ are tax deductible.



BE A FUNDRAISER

Join our fundraising team or host your own event. You could hold a movie night, chocolate drive, a birthday fundraiser on Facebook or pop a donation tin at your school or place of work. Find out more [here](#).



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

When you join our amazing team, you'll receive exclusive invites to our fundraising events, working bees, community projects and workshops. So, what are you waiting for? Apply today: [volunteer application form](#).



HELP WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT

We have many exciting projects on the go, supporting shelters, conservation and education. If you have what it takes to manage or help direct a project, please [email us](#).



BECOME A RESCUER AND/OR TRANSPORTER

Be hands-on and help our animals. Wildlife needs rescuing or collecting every single day. To become a rescuer, you'll need to complete our Basic Wildlife Rescue and Transport Workshop or have completed a wildlife rescue course with another organisation in Victoria. [Sign up](#) today. Our animals need you.



HELP WITH OUR RESCUE PHONE LINE

Help save wildlife from the comfort of your own home. We can receive up to 30 calls a day, so we need lots of phone operators. We provide the training. To find out more, head [here](#).



ASSIST WITH ADMINISTRATION

Help our organisation room smoothly by assisting us with our admin and marketing. We need extra hands for data entry, writing up education pieces, and (depending on your skillset) graphic design and posters, etc. Most of the admin is remote work. Interested? Please get in touch [here](#).



THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT AND FULL OF WILDLIFE



CONSERVATION PROJECTS

1

We love conservation, and we're always looking for ways to support organisations dedicated to helping the environment.

That's why we want to support wildlife monitoring and regeneration projects in local suburban parks and waterways.

By allowing our volunteers to participate in urban projects, we know we're contributing to a sustainable environment for our native wildlife in our growing cities.



24-HOUR RESCUE AND TRANSPORT VEHICLES

2

We desperately need 24hr emergency rescue vehicles in the Melbourne area.

With your help, we can support shelters and carers, minimise wait times and save lives.

Wildlife shelters already use all their resources to take care of rescue animals, so with our help - by having cars on the road to rescue wildlife and deliver donations to their door through Support 4 Shelters - they'll be able to do even more.

Imagine being able to drop off a possum to a shelter along with Wombaroo milk, a pouch or a possum box to help them with their recovery.



WILDLIFE TRIAGE CLINIC

3

When it comes to wildlife rescue, animals must receive specialised and specific assessment and care as soon as possible.

That's why we're working towards establishing a Wildlife Triage Clinic to improve rehabilitation outcomes.

We're grateful to be closely involved with Waratah Wildlife Shelter, receiving a generous donation to work with them that begins a lifelong ambition.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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