



friends of the koala inc

Annual Report

2014/2015



'volunteers working to conserve Northern Rivers koalas'

Two success stories from 2014—2015

Every time we release one of our koalas to the wild it's a cause for celebration and joy. It is without a doubt the very most enjoyable part of our work and makes up slightly for the fact that so many we rescue just don't make it. Those who either rescue the koala themselves or report the incident and watch over the koala until one of our rescuers arrives often give us a name for the koala and wish to be involved in the release. As koalas are territorial, this generally takes place at, or close to, where they were rescued and is always special for the releasers.



In February, rescuer Ernesto released Rosie, who was extra special because she was one of the two females to have been given the Chlamydia Vaccine. She's only 2-3 years old and should have at least 5 years of being Chlamydia free. She was in care at the Koala Care Centre for 5 months, gaining nearly a kilo in weight, and it was hard to believe how grown up, confident and beautiful she looked on release. We wish you a long and carefree life, with lots of beautiful babies, and that you'll stay safe.



Duncan was named after his rescuer who brought him into the Care Centre in July. After treatment for his conjunctivitis, he was ready to go home so in September Duncan (the person) helped us release him. Most koalas in this situation shoot straight up the tree but Duncan sat on the cage, explored a bit and sussed out his options. From the start Duncan was a gentle little boy but always had something to say when we changed his leaf before he had finished with it. Stay safe and happy and we hope you found the tree you were after.

Two especially sad losses

For our rescuers and carers, the death of any of our koalas is sad, and it is particularly so for our carers when they have been privileged to get to know these animals over a long period of time and have released them finally with great hope for their future survival. Unfortunately, survival for koalas after release is a bit of a lottery and this year we acknowledge these two lovely ones that didn't survive.



In April superstar Jack, who had heroically recovered from a case of extreme conjunctivitis, was discovered dead at the base of a tree. Unfortunately we have no idea what caused his death as he was 8 years old and in beautiful condition. Many thanks to Jack's guardians Heika and Marian who watched him constantly and regularly reported his activities, much to our enjoyment. R.I.P sweet boy.



In December we lost our dear Desley, who was in care for 7 months and was released only a few months earlier. Killed by a pet dog, she was in excellent condition and had a pouch young - such a sad waste. She will live on in little Dixie who is now enjoying life in the big trees. R.I.P beautiful lady.

Patron’s Message

As patron of Friends of the Koala for the past 9 years I’ve been very aware of the organisation’s desire for some years now to improve facilities at the Care Centre at 23 Rifle Range Road, East Lismore so they continue to provide the very best of care for the koalas they admit and treat there.

The present facilities were established 20 years ago with significant community support, and whilst they were appropriate for the activities Friends of the Koala carried out at that time, they’re now stretched to the limit in providing for the extended range of functions carried out there on a daily basis. It’s a crowded and sometimes noisy space, which isn’t in the best interests of sick and injured koalas being admitted or being treated in the three intensive treatment rooms in the Centre. What is needed is a dedicated building for treating koalas and a separate space for the organisation’s administrative, volunteer and community education functions.

You can read more about the proposed new administration and education centre on the website at www.friendsofthekoala.org. However, I’m sure you could imagine that funding a new, albeit modest, building is a challenge for all voluntary organisations and Friends of the Koala is no exception. To their credit, they’ve been fundraising for years in anticipation of this, and are receiving significant ‘in kind’ support from businesses and local government as well as their own amazing volunteers. With an approved design they’re all set to go and just need to raise the additional \$60,000 to make it happen.

Already this financial year Friends of the Koala has installed three new runs for koalas in care, and having a dedicated care building in 2016 for the koalas in intensive care would make a significant difference to their well-being.

I know there are many competing demands for financial support for many excellent causes, but this little fella is having a tough time and long-term survival is not guaranteed. Any contribution you make will help and you can do this online at www.friendsofthekoala.org.

Margot Sweeny

About Friends of the Koala

Friends of the Koala is the peak koala conservation organisation in the Northern Rivers Region of NSW. It is a voluntary community organisation and registered charity with no paid staff and receiving no recurrent government funding. Our services are financed by corporate sponsorship, donations, membership fees, competitive grants, sales of merchandise and plants, as well as general fundraising.

Our Mission

To make a key contribution to Australia’s biodiversity by ensuring the conservation of the iconic koala and the preservation and enhancement of koala habitat particularly within our Region.

Our Core Business

- ✓ Koala rescue, rehabilitation and release
- ✓ Habitat protection and enhancement
- ✓ Community education
- ✓ Advocacy
- ✓ Research assistance
- ✓ Active and expanded membership

Local Government Areas of Operation

Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Tweed

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Our cover photo: Meet Greco, one of Lismore’s many urban koalas. Treated for Chlamydia, he was released and is seen from time to time in ‘interesting’ locations.

President's Report

Again it is my privilege to have led Friends of the Koala through a year that has been eventful and challenging for koala conservation in the Northern Rivers as well as for the organisation.

During the year the five-year strategic plan drawn up during 2013-14 was launched into action. Our operational plan guided us well. A lot of our work is on-going of course but changes are introduced in some areas which we believe will assist us to deliver our mission more effectively over time.

One of the more notable changes is to increase our on-ground habitat work by seeking more grant opportunities for projects we can manage ourselves. This year the Federal government got us off to an excellent start enabling our sponsorship of a Green Army team and a successful application under the 25th Anniversary Landcare Grants Program.

Another change is to work towards re-defining the plant nursery that has served us well over the years so it focusses entirely on koala food and habitat trees with the aim of it becoming a regional resource for advice and supply.

Then there is planning for the new facility that Patron Margot has already mentioned.

So, the style and formatting of this year's Annual Report is somewhat different to previous years, with more emphasis on how we measured up against the operational plan, fewer pictures and four pages shorter. You only have to read the next column for a glimpse of our achievements. The pages that follow flesh out our activities to some extent but by no means do justice to the entire workload of our dedicated volunteers.

Notwithstanding, member recruitment, engagement and retention, as well as succession planning, not to mention gender balance, remain ongoing challenges for the group, as they do in most voluntary organisations these days.

During the year we welcomed Aliison Kelly and Yasmin Cabot to the Management Committee, however we lost our long-serving Trees Officer, Mark Wilson who had been an active office-bearer since soon after our incorporation in 1990. He remains a member of the Friends of the Koala Care Fund Management Committee and the group's Public Officer.

Lorraine Vass

2014/15 achievements in brief

Koala rescue, rehabilitation and release

- ✓ 293 koalas rescued
- ✓ 48 released
- ✓ 14 in care
- ✓ 3 new external runs constructed
- ✓ Successful treetop rescue in Byron Bay CBD
- ✓ Plans for new building finalised

Habitat protection and enhancement

- ✓ 3,933 trees issued
- ✓ 3,820 trees planted
- ✓ 1,119 trees sold
- ✓ \$6,171 income from nursery
- ✓ 1 Friends of the Koala habitat project completed
- ✓ SCU to Monaltrie/Wyrallah corridor mapped

Community education

- ✓ 42 articles/media releases provided
- ✓ 4 issues of *Treetops* published
- ✓ 325 presentations made to various audiences
- ✓ Rescue phone now on Ballina Council's foyer slideshow
- ✓ *Responsible Dog Ownership and Koalas* brochure revised
- ✓ Northern Star monthly tally of koalas hit by cars established
- ✓ NSW Environmental Trust funding application *Think, Care. Act* successful - \$12,000
- ✓ 2NCRFM now advertise our Koala Rescue Hotline number.

Advocacy

- ✓ 13 policy-related submissions and letters lodged
- ✓ 4 responses to Development Applications
- ✓ Tweed Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management approved by Tweed Council
- ✓ Save Ballina's Koala campaign expanded
- ✓ National Koala Alliance progressed

Research assistance

- ✓ Northern Rivers anti-chlamydia field study
- ✓ Fur samples provided to University of Sydney PhD project
- ✓ Regional road incident data forwarded to SCU and RMS
- ✓ Ear tissue collected for a Ballina koalas genetics research project proposal

Growing an active membership

- ✓ 88 new members recruited and 3 rejoined

2014/15 in more detail

Koala rescue, rehabilitation and release

Our most pressing daily activities, involving all our volunteers, whether rescuers, carers or leafers, 24/7 every day of the year. Our licensed area is well over 10,500 sq kilometres, extending in to parts of Tenterfield and Clarence Valley as well as the six shires we consider to be our backyard. As you can see from the statistics on p.8 we are kept busy over most of it. These ongoing daily activities are implemented in accordance with the conditions of our licence and vary in duration according to the number of koalas we have in care. Apart from these activities, the specific goals we pursued this year were to strengthen our capacity to perform ‘tree top’ rescues which are generally beyond the limitations of our equipment and potentially dangerous for both our rescuers and the koalas, to assess the benefits of participating in the services provided by the newly-established University of Sydney’s Koala Health Hub and to prepare an affordable plan to extend and enhance the Koala Care Centre’s outdoor enclosures.

Not only did we plan for the extended and enhanced outdoor enclosures, three new runs were constructed. There was a successful tree top rescue in Byron Bay CBD in November, thanks to Simon Ennew, who is a qualified tree climber!

Two new Koala food tree plantations were established on Lismore Council public land at Nesbitt Park in North Lismore, and at the end of Allambie Drive in suburban Goonellabah, with a third due to be established soon. These plantations augment the Rous Water Koala Food Tree plantation at Howard’s Grass, the long-established Lismore Council plantation on Lismore’s southern outskirts, and those on private land kindly made available for our leafers to harvest. These plantations are critical to the ongoing well-being of our koalas in care at the Koala Care Centre, and a bonus for our leafers who have to scour the highways and byways for any accessible koala food trees when the supply is low.

Friends of the Koala is an approved organisation for those who have to carry out volunteer work as part of their Centrelink obligations, and this year we have had 12 workers engaged in leafing, maintenance of the koala runs, general maintenance around the Koala Care Centre and a range of other activities. Their work has been a great boon for us, but also for the workers, who have gained new skills and a closer relationship with, and understanding of, koalas and therefore beneficial for koalas in the long-term.

Lastly, the Koala Health Hub has funded a range of diagnostic services including PCR tests of our koalas through the Keen Street Veterinary Clinic and necropsy reports. It has also provided necropsy training for Allen Pearson, one of our members, which means we have a clearer understanding of the causes of death of koalas that die after rescue.

Habitat protection and enhancement

Our immediate priority is always on the daily needs of our Region’s koalas, but working to enhance their habitat is a major long-term priority for us, as without habitat our koalas can’t survive. The actions we focused on this year ranged from maximising our nursery output of koala food trees to nurturing key stakeholder relationships, applying for funding aimed at assisting koala population recovery, keeping a watching brief on local government developments that might affect koala habitat and lodging submissions where appropriate, as well as continuing to respond to local, state and federal government and agency policies related to koala conservation, continuing to co-sponsor the Save Ballina’s Koalas campaign and participating in developing an inclusive national alliance for koala protection.

For a voluntary organisation we achieved some amazing outcomes. 8,862 trees were issued, planted or sold through our nursery, which is the most in any year and takes the total number since 1990 to 133,598. This is such a credit to our Trees Officer, Mark Wilson, and those who have assisted him. Another great achievement was our first Green Army project, thanks to a successful submission by Julie Reid, entitled ‘*Assisting the recovery of koala populations on the NSW North Coast*’. The Green Army team completed their 6 months’ work at the end of June, reaching all the targets set for the project including 3,820 koala food trees planted, 10,000 koala food trees propagated, approximately 9.3 hectares rehabilitated and many local seeds collected. This was a great result under the guidance of Team Leader, Keith Williams, from EnviTE.

We have also continued our involvement in the highly successful *Tweed-Byron Koala Connections Project* and supported grant applications to fund habitat restoration in Tweed, Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Lismore.

2014/15 in more detail

Community education

Friends of the Koala has a strong commitment to community education through activities such as school education, knowledge sharing at a range of community events, care centre tours, our *Treetops* newsletter, and articles and media releases. This year our additional goals were to update and reprint some of our information brochures, foster stronger relationships with other wildlife groups, prepare an affordable plan for redeveloping the Care Centre including a space for group learning, establish additional media outlets to advertise the Friends of the Koala Rescue Hotline. Just some of the achievements are detailed below.

We were a partner in two Eco Schools Projects finalised this year. The first was '*Goolmangar School Koala Community Connections*'. In this project, workshops were held for 6 schools at the Dorroughby Environmental Education Centre with sessions on koala food tree seed propagation, threats to koalas, and developing resource materials to increase community awareness about koalas. In addition, over 4,000 koala food trees were propagated, and a number of videos, posters and other display materials were produced by the schools.

The second was '*Enhancing Koala Habitat at Tregeagle Public School and Surrounds*'. In this project a greenhouse was constructed on the school grounds, classes were held on seed propagation, threats to koalas, and landscaping the school grounds.

Friends of the Koala was also a partner in the *Rous Water Wilsons River Catchment Schools Education and Restoration Project* that was finalised this year with: over 6,000 trees planted; 15ha of weed control undertaken; many information sessions on threats to koalas attended by pupils from local schools on or near the Wilsons River, koala awareness videos created; information sessions provided, or tree planting activities undertaken..

In the last financial year Friends of the Koala volunteers contributed 468 hours of their time to this activity, reaching an audience of more than 4,031 community members. They provided 13 specific information sessions, had a stall at 15 markets and special events, and conducted on average 6 tours of the Koala Care Centre each week. The tours include information on koalas, their habits and habitats, indicators of healthy and unhealthy koalas, and how individuals can assist in trying to protect and conserve this animal. Additionally, our Facebook site is updated regularly, attracting significant interest .

Advocacy

Koala conservation is intensely political. In our region the koala's broad distribution over areas that are already highly modified landscapes and subject to increasing urban development and continuing agricultural expansion means that koalas and humans are often in competition for space, necessitating compromises which generally hit the hip-pocket, and are therefore hotly contested.

As well as taking every opportunity to express our view by formal submission on matters related to conserving the koala we continued to participate in the development of *Comprehensive Koala Plans of Management* in the shires of Tweed, Byron and Ballina and in the implementation of Lismore's plan. One of the purposes of these plans is to increase the effectiveness of the legal framework to protect koala habitat on private land, thus approval is invariably a protected business. During the year NSW Planning changed its interpretation of State Environment Planning Policy 44 – Koala Habitat Protection and the application of the plans made under it. Thus Tweed's plan, approved by Council in February has yet to be signed-off by NSW Planning. Ballina's plan was conditionally-approved for public exhibition by Council in January 2015 but remains delayed because of the uncertainties created. Byron's post-exhibition plan has been nothing less than a political football, and unfortunately is still a long way from being approved by Council.

Our involvement in the campaign to *Save Ballina's Koalas* has been huge throughout the year. The campaign is directed at re-routing the Pacific Highway upgrade away from the Blackwall Range which is home to a nationally significant koala population. The International Fund for Animal Welfare's continued engagement has extended the campaign's scope and impact. For most of the year activity has focussed on the NSW government. The end-game however will rest with Greg Hunt, the Federal Minister who will ultimately decide the route of the Highway upgrade.

Considerable progress was made on the new inclusive voice for koala conservation, the National Koala Alliance.

2014/15 in more detail

Research assistance

Friends of the Koala was formed with a research function in mind although it has taken some years to understand how we, a totally voluntary group of folk from across the community, might contribute to advancing research on koala related topics. Over the years we have collected tissue samples from deceased koalas, radio-tracked koalas released from care and shared our data. Indeed our 26 years of recorded data on koalas that have been admitted to care, and in more recent years, records of koala sightings is perhaps the group's most valuable asset after our committed volunteers. The data collected has informed the development of the various habitat studies and comprehensive koala plans of management developed by the councils across the Northern Rivers. It's been shared for a variety of other purposes as well.

This year saw us adding value to our rescue, rehabilitation and release work in a number of ways. First, the culmination of our participation in the two successive ARC (Australian Research Council) Linkage Projects devoted to developing an anti-chlamydia vaccine for the koala. Seven koalas in care with us were vaccinated and the associated tests undertaken by the Keen Street Veterinary Clinic in a small field trial which have fed into the broader findings.

We continued to provide fur samples to Caroline Marschner, a University of Sydney PhD student working on the link between the koala's specialist diet and its immune function, as well as collecting ear tissue for a proposed genetics project based on the Ballina koala population to be undertaken by Southern Cross University. We provided four Northern Rivers councils with the annual update of our data pertaining to their local government areas. We also provided regional road incident data to Southern Cross University and to the NSW Roads and Maritime Services and various sub-sets to Southern Cross students undertaking integrated projects prepared as partial fulfilment of the requirements of the Bachelor of Environmental Science and Resource Management.

Finally we committed to collaborating on yet another ARC Linkage Project with the University of the Sunshine Coast. This project aims to develop a vaccine to protect koalas against koala retrovirus (KoRV) to arrest the increasing loss of animals due to this infection. It will be combined with the Chlamydia vaccine under development.

Taking account of the horrific loss rate of koalas admitted in to our care, contributing to research is essential for making each one of those prematurely lost lives count for the survival of the species and for adding value to our licensed koala welfare work.

An active and expanded membership

In striving to maintain an active membership, this year the goals we set ourselves ranged from undertaking a training needs survey and sourcing appropriate training to improving internal communication, holding regular social events and nominating volunteers for Friends of the Koala and other award programs. Mark Wilson, our Trees Officer, took on the role of training our Green Army participants in seed collection and storage and plant propagation.

Pat Barnidge and Susannah Keogh coordinated a *Koala Education Workshop* in February, which was well attended, covering topics such as basic koala assessment and handling, rescue techniques and koala food (leaf) collection. It was pleasing to find that 96% of attendees found the training useful and twenty three interested in becoming a Friends of the Koala volunteer.

Our members continued to improve their skills in a number of areas through external and internal training. Twelve Friends of the Koala members completed their fire training in early November. This training enables trained volunteers to enter fire ravaged areas after clearance is given by the relevant authority to identify injured wildlife. It was organised by WIRES Northern Rivers and delivered by Helen Carlos, NSW Rural Fire Service's Public Liaison Officer, and WIRES member.

Julie Reid attended a *Native Plant Provenance Workshop* to better understand best practice seed collection for the koala food tree nursery. Lola Whitney the Care Centre Coordinator, continued to upskill volunteers to increase their capacity to assist with the more difficult treatments and procedures needed for koala care, and was conferred honorary life membership. Early member, Dr Stephen Phillips, was inducted into the Tree of Fame and Lorraine Vass won Lismore Council's Australia Day Awards Sustainable Environment category. The organisation won the Nature Conservation Council of NSW's 2014 Marie Byles Award for the most outstanding environmental campaign.

Koala Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release Statistics 2014-2015

The year's highlight was undoubtedly the increased number of releases; the very best part of our work. To some extent the higher number was artificial, brought about by the interrupted supply of the anti-biotic medication, Chloramphenicol in early 2014. There were fewer sightings reported, down by 63 from last year and fewer koalas admitted, down by 13. Within the six local government areas there's been a dramatic fall in the number of koalas admitted from Tweed and an equally dramatic rise in the number admitted from Richmond Valley. Admissions from Byron and Ballina were also up. The overall reason for admission across the region is similar to last year. The higher number of car hits reported in Ballina may be explained by the field survey associated with the Pacific Highway upgrade as several reports were lodged by survey team members. The slight discrepancy in the figures presented here with those in Achievements is due to "out of area" admissions and sightings.

LGA	Sightings/ Advice	Admissions	Outcomes	Mortalities	Cause of mortalities
BALLINA	17	29	Released 1 In care 4	24	Disease 5 Car hits 9 Dogs 2 Geriatric 2 Unknown 6
BYRON	84	64	Released 8 In care 1 Relocated 3	52	Disease 26 Car hits 14 Dogs 1 Geriatric 2 Unknown 10
KYOGLE	13	7	In care 2	5	Disease 1 Car hits 1 Dogs 1 Unknown 2
LISMORE	189	162	Released 34 In care 12 Relocated 3	150	Disease 45 Car hits 21 Dogs 7 Injury 4 Orphans 5 Storm 1 Unknown 36
RICHMOND VALLEY	14	20	Released 1 In care 1	16	Disease 5 Car hits 8 Dogs 1 Unknown 2
TWEED	36	8	Released 1 Relocated 2	5	Disease 2 Car hits 1 Unknow 2
TOTAL	353	290	Released 45 In care 20 Relocated 8	252 (87%)	Disease 82 Car hits 54 Dogs 12 Injury 4 Orphans 5 Storm 1 Unknown 58



Treasurer's Report

Overall, the outcomes of Friends of the Koala's activities can only be described as positive. Drawing from the Auditor's comments, there is no significant change in the nature of our activities as a non-profit community group run by volunteers dedicated to conserving koalas in the Northern Rivers of NSW. From a financial perspective, our activities this year resulted in a surplus after providing this community service of \$2,744 which, under the prevailing economic circumstances, isn't too bad.

The good news is that nursery sales have increased by 36%. While sponsorship appears to have grown by 127%, it can be explained by the changed timing of a sponsorship payment. The bad news is that it cost us \$28,481 more this year to conduct our activities than it did last year. About half the increase was capital expenditure, nevertheless, should this become a trend, Friends of the Koala will have some hard decisions to make.

The key area of concern for our income going forward is the move by governments away from providing grant programs to assist volunteer organisations with administration and 'overhead' costs to project-based and 'on-ground work' support for projects not within the normal activities of an organisation. This means that an organisation like Friends of the Koala has to spend many hours identifying 'projects', making sure their applications meet the criteria. The notion of the value of voluntary contribution to our communities has all-but disappeared because voluntary organisations are left with significant administrative costs that must be met from general fundraising or sourced from benevolent organisations.

What does this mean for Friends of the Koala? Well, the Federal government has chopped its Grants to Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organisations programme whereas the NSW Environmental Trust's Lead Environmental Community Groups programme now focusses on capacity building. Similarly we used to receive an untied amount of \$2,000 a year from Lismore Council, and Council also covered the tip fees for disposing of koala bodies and used leaf from the Koala Care Centre. This scheme too has changed. All up, government off-setting of Friends of the Koala's administration and overhead costs is down by over \$17,000.

We're not saying that we're missing out, because our grant applications for projects and 'on-ground work' are generally successful. It just means that we now have to work a bit harder to meet our administration and overhead expenses. There has also been a 25% reduction this year in donations and, whatever the reason, this is an issue that the Management Committee needs to consider in the future.

The key areas of concern in regard to expenses are the cost of koala medicine and care, which has increased by 82%, due in part to expenses incurred in our participation in the anti-chlamydia vaccine trial. In addition, the increased cost of achieving the nursery sales is 70% - roughly \$10,000, which tells us that our fee for service activities in the future must be profitable. However a one-off expense we funded this year, as identified in our report, is the cost of constructing the three new outdoor runs for our koalas in care of \$14,848. There is some more work to be carried out next year on ensuring all the runs have sprinklers to make the hot days more bearable for our koalas in care, but that cost will be borne predominantly by our volunteers.

Finally, whilst Friends of the Koala's cash assets are 3% lower this year, they're still just under a quarter of a million, and our accumulated surplus is slightly higher than last year at \$291,131. Provided we continue to make sensible decisions and are successful in gaining funding for some of our important projects such as the new building, which will be the heart of a strengthened community education campaign for koalas, Friends of the Koala will continue to conserve and protect koalas in our region.

Income	2015	2014	%
	\$	\$	change
Donations	18,790	25,298	-25.7
Fundraising	1,866	1,244	50
Grants	38235	46,145	-17
Membership fees	2,900	3,320	-12
Merchandise sales	1,183	1,876	-36
Nursely sales	28,553	20,870	36.8
Other income	7,015	7,292	-3.8
Sponsorship	4,266	1,875	127.5
Total Income	102,808	107,920	-4.7
Expenses			
Audit fees	1,045	880	19
Care Centre	17,607	15,183	16
Computer	626	501	24
Conf/Seminars	476		
Depreciation	4,829	6,026	-20
Habitat Regen works	13,000	8,529	52
Koala medicine/Care	16,905	9,264	82
Merchandise	502	316	59
Motor Vehicle	6,467	6,669	-3
Newsletter	1,290	882	46
Nursery	22,382	13,249	70
Other	14,935	10,084	48
Total	100,064	71,583	40

Public Fund Report

The Friends of the Koala Care Fund is an endorsed deductible gift recipient and is entitled to receive tax deductible donations. The Fund's Management Committee members are Patron, Margot Sweeny, Lorraine Vass (Chair), Dr Ros Irwin, Susannah Keogh and Mark Wilson. At 30 June 2015 the Fund balance stood at \$81,247. Through the year donations of \$7,674 were received, more than half the amount donated to the fund in 2013-14. Veterinary expenses of \$6,903.65 were drawn from the fund during the year.

2014-2015 Friends of the Koala Committee



Committee Member
Lili Bailly



Rescue, Care and Hotline Coordinator
Pat Barnidge



Committee Member
Yasmin Cabôt



Vice President and Leafing Coordinator
Ros Irwin



President
Lorraine Vass



AJAX



Secretary
Alison Kelly



Committee Member
Fiona Wood



Trees Officer
Mark Wilson



Koala Care Centre Coordinator
Lola Whitney



Committee Member/ Training Officer
Julie Reid



Treasurer
Susannah Keogh

Acknowledgements

Friends of the Koala acknowledges with deep gratitude and thanks the following champions, for without their support and time, the future for Friends of the Koala and the koalas we all love would be so much bleaker:

For the ongoing generosity of our partners and sponsors that continued during the year.

Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital <http://www.australiazoo.com.au>

Australian Government Department of the Environment

<https://www.environment.gov.au/>

Currumbin Wildlife Hospital cwhf.org.au/

Keen Street Veterinary Clinic <http://www.keenstreetvetclinic.com.au/>

Lismore City Council <http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au>

NSW Environmental Trust <http://www.environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au>

Office of Environment & Heritage – NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/>

Rous Water <http://www.rouswater.nsw.gov.au/>

Southern Cross University <http://www.scu.edu.au>

Tweed Shire Council <http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/>

WildlifeLink - Tony & Lisette Lewis Foundation <http://wildlifelink2.weebly.com/>

These wonderful rescuers who go out 24/7 in all weather to rescue koalas in trouble, were called on during the year.

Alstonville	Jane Tsicalas
Ballina	Jan Baldwin and Nick Markov
Bagotville	Maria Matthes
Bangalow	Luca Frantini
Brunswick Heads	Caroline Sutherland
Caniaba	Ros Irwin and Bill Sheaffe
Casino	Lorraine Black
Cawongla	Joy Wagner
Corndale	Lili Baille
Crabbes Creek	Sue Johnson and Jo Cabale
Dorrroughby	Cheryl Cochran
Dunoon	Helen Hargreaves
Eureka	Susannah Keogh
Georgica/Nimbin	Barbara Dobner
Goonellabah	Lyn Olive
Kyogle	Josie and Stephen King
Kyogle	Kathy Grievson
Lismore	Rick Stewart
Lismore	Lola Whitney
Lismore	Pat Barnidge
Lismore	Paul O'Donnell
Lismore	Meg Cottee
Lismore	Beverly Smith
Modanville	Jane and Gerard Konz
Myocum	Wendy Reynolds
Numulgi	Fiona Dawson and Steve Wood
Reserve Creek	Rhonda James
Rosebank	Tracy Sanna
Tregeagle	Lorraine and Rick Vass
Tucki	Alister Janetzki
Tuntable Creek	Simon Lamont
Tweed Heads	Rhonda Miller
Tyalgum	Jenny and Natasha Graham
Wyrallah	Marg Russell

If you'd like to become a rescuer, contact Susannah Keogh at sjki@iinet.net.au .

To Our Care Centre Supervisors who give our koalas in care, and all the care workers who do such a great job of maintaining the runs, the best chance of recovering and being released back where they belong.

Pat Barnidge	Bev Smith
Craig Handy	Jane Tsicalis
Lyn Isbister	Lola Whitney
Susannah Keogh	

To our senior leafers, who often go out alone, and to all the others who go with them on a daily basis rain, hail or shine to gather the best leaf for the koalas in care.

Ros Irwin
Dot Moller
Paul O'Donnell
Bill Sheaffe
John Stock

And last, but certainly not least, to our members and those who donate to us. Without your interest and support Friends of the Koala would find our job much harder.



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