Past Issues

Dedicated to the preservation of Australian fauna and flora



Australian Wildlife E-News | Bulletin

Devil Ark Donation.

Several of our Directors attended the **Devil Ark** Gala Dinner on the 8th of November at Rosehill Gardens and presented the final instalment of our \$32,000 donation to the Devil Ark project. We look forward to a visit, yet to be arranged, to inspect the facilities at the Barrington Tops property. Devil Ark welcomes visitors to Barrington Tops bookings can be made through their website.



L to R: Patrick Medway (Hon. Secretary), Tim Faulkner (Devil Ark), Stephen Grabowski (Vice President), John Weigal (Devil Ark), Suzanne Medway (President), Ken Mason (Vice President), Trevor Evans (Director)

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Emergency translocation success - saving the mala

An emergency translocation to move mala, also known as the Rufous harewallaby (Lagorchestes hirsutus) - one of Australia's most endangered mammals - has been a success, providing hope for the near-extinct wallabies.

The emergency measure comes after a wildfire swept through Watarrka National Park, killing 90 percent of one of the last remaining populations - from 200 to an estimated 20 and leaving them exposed to birds of prey.

The joint effort between the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, Northern Territory government and Warlpiri-Luritja traditional owners aimed to capture the remaining animals and move them to the AWC's Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary.

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Past Issues



Photo : W. Lawler

Safe Haven aims for world first: joeys for Christmas.

Tina Janssen and her crew at Safe Haven are waiting with bated breath for the outcome of this weekend.

Three of the southern hairy-nosed wombats in the Mt Larcom facility's captive breeding program are in the spotlight on the first, second and third of December.

During this time, scientists will - for the first time - attempt to artificially inseminate this species of wombat.

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Nominate an individual or group for an AWS award NOW!

Every year our Society recognises the unsung heroes of the wildlife community. Individuals or groups that steadily work away in the background to help save our Australian native flora and fauna, without receiving payment for such work.

Our three awards are the Rehabilitation Award, the Community Award and the prestigious Serventy Conservation Award.

Nominations close at the end of the year. So don't delay, get in and make your nominations now (by clicking on the links above) so that your favourite wildlife rehabber, group or conservationist is recognised.

Is it legal to feed wild birds in Australia?

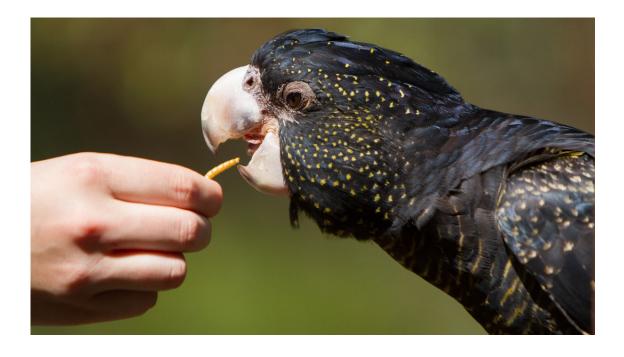
Feeding wild birds in your backyard can be a fun yet soothing experience - especially if you have small kids in tow. However, have you ever wondered if what you're doing is legal? Here are the rules (and warnings) you need to know about.

There are no federal laws prohibiting the feeding of native birds in Australia. However, it can still lead to stiff penalties from some councils. For example, Adelaidian shoppers who get caught feeding birds at Rundle Mall can be fined up to \$125. So while not strictly 'illegal' you can still end up in court for throwing that kookaburra a chippie.

Regardless of the by-laws where you live, feeding a bird on your own property is unlikely to result in a fine. But that doesn't mean you should do it. The practice is strongly frowned

Past Issues

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Snake safety tips.

Spring is an exciting time for observing wildlife at Australian Reptile Park. But, unlike the general public who adore the plethora of baby animals, our reptile keepers are excited for a whole different reason. Spring is the beginning of snake season. For some people, this may sound like a nightmare, but it is actually a sign of a healthy and thriving ecosystem.

We often get reports from members of public – usually at the beginning of spring – that snake numbers have dramatically increased. This is not the case. With the warmer weather on the way, snakes spring into action, moving on to greener pastures where food, mates or a nice warm place to rest will often find them in close contact with humans.

It is pretty rare for a snake to stay in the same spot for too long unless the conditions are perfect. There are a few things you can do to reduce the chance of running into these beautiful creatures if you so choose.

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Past Issues



Foto of the fortnight...



Western Brush Wallaby also known as the Black-gloved Wallaby Photo : <u>Robert McLean</u>

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