



Ambassador Report June 2020

1st August 2020



Hi everyone,

I hope you are well. As Covid continues to dominate news and concerns, we continue to focus on koalas and the environment. Deforestation, Government attempts to cut environmental protections and concerns of the next bushfire season remain present with those of us looking to see a change. We have an opportunity to do better when we know better and education and action based collaborative projects are the keys.

Bat Rescue with Terrie Ridgeway

A QKC sponsor donation to Bat Rescue for an enclosure construction was well received on the 28th June 2020 with a lovely reception and Ribbon cutting in Federal alongside Sunshine Coast Council representative Tyrone DeKauwe. Flying foxes are a synergistic species with koalas as they pollinate native eucalypt forests. In a healthy ecosystem all species matter and we are happy that we could be a part of a project that supports fellow organisations as well as our koalas.

www.batrescue.org.au

"If Not Now, Then When?" Raffle Winner: Judy Waugh

On the 7th July 2020, I was able to present the beautiful painting donated by Carole Hampson to Judy at her home in Sunrise Beach. Judy was a last-minute raffle supporter and was thrilled to receive this lovely piece of art. She stated, "When I purchased the ticket, the day before the raffle ended, I just knew somehow that I was going to win and I did! Judy has been a member of QKC for a few years now and helps out with stalls when she can. Thank you Judy, for your support!

Transport and Main Roads Bruce Highway Cooroy to Curra (C2C) upgrade

I attended a meeting with TMR representatives in Pomona at Noosa and District Landcare 8th July alongside our policy advisor Vanda Grabowski, Rachel Lyons from Wildcare and Michelle Daley from Koala Action Gympie Region.

We have been attending stakeholder meetings over the past 2 years and we continue to recommend a more robust program that would lead to a better outcome for these wild koalas. 22 koalas were found through drone searches by the USC Detection Dog for Conservation Team within a 500meter range of where clearing will occur. With this evidence, we have collectively requested that TMR consider the evidence of a recent study : <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-019-42448-8> and consider our recommended management of health check and monitoring of koalas be addressed pre, during and post clearing. We await the response of the Director General.



WildlifeHQ Zoo

On the 29th July, I attended a meeting at WHQ with Paul Hilton and Jeremy Alkin to discuss a home for "Super Koala and Friends" as this business will form a partnership to support the purchase of land for wildlife if successful. WHQ were keen to support this project and the launch of this character and his story will be scheduled for late September during "Save the Koala Month". Jeremy has requested that we provide information about Koala Crusaders to go into educational information packs being produced for kids.

Sunshine Beach State High School Tree Day

In honour of National Tree Day, Eileen Walder and Rex Halverson accompanied me at an event at the High School put on by the Duke of Edinburgh program and facilitated by the Noosa Environment Education Hub team.

<https://www.noosaeehub.com.au>

We are working with the team to help guide their understanding of koala conservation and more projects will be supported in the coming months in partnership with them.

Collaboration is the key to success in project actions and I am grateful that our community are on-board in supporting koala conservation.

Thanks,

For Koalas
Meghan

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