

Special Interest Articles:

- ❖ "Women Together" Overseas Refugees
- ❖ "Sunshine" the Grey Kangaroo
- ❖ Bobtails Born by Caesarian
- ❖ Street Appeal 2004 Results

Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre Inc
Phone: 08 9293 1416
Fax: 08 6293 1417
Web: www.kanyanawildlife.org.au



From the Chairperson

Since the Autumn 2004 issue of Kanyana News Update we have held our annual Open Day in March. Previously, this event was held in Spring, which is a very busy time for volunteers. Many thanks to all who helped on what turned out to be an extremely hot day.

We were much more fortunate with the weather in April for our annual Street Appeal.

Zoologist Cate (from England) and Vet student Sandra (from Germany) arrived soon after, to work at Kanyana and learn about Australian wildlife.

There are now 115 volunteers per week on the roster, working hard to rehabilitate, sick, injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife. Kanyana's Vet Group of practising Veterinarians, now help carers in the treatment room, to

expand their knowledge on wildlife and give quality care to the animals.

Dianne, Sue, Ruth and I have spent hundreds of hours preparing notes and instructions both for in-house training, the Basic Wildlife Carers' course and the first Advanced Wildlife Carers' course run by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (DCLM).

Continued page 3...



Overseas visitor Cate (UK) with Malu

"Women Together" Overseas Refugees & Letters to the Editor

Under Sally Herzfield's guidance, a group of 28 overseas refugees and volunteers from the Edmund Rice Centre visited Kanyana and participated in a wildlife display by June.

Women from such diverse countries as Croatia, Iran, Iraq, Liberia, Pakistan, Sudan and Vietnam were able to touch the various animals used as educational exhibits. Their "thank you" from their

hearts came in many different languages. They learned a lot about Western Australian wildlife and were very appreciative of this different experience.

Fifth year veterinary student, Sara, wrote to all staff at Kanyana:

"Thank you for sharing your knowledge & experience with me, it's been wonderful working with you all."

Continued page 2...

Letters to the Editor – continued from page 1

How Catmax Saved My Sanity and Finances

In winter of 2001, my four legged furry companion "Maddy Cat" and I decided to pack up our belongings and head to our new home in the hills to start what we hoped to be a relaxing and tranquil life in Greenmount.

Unfortunately for Maddy Cat this was not to be. The new neighbourhood was the exclusive territory of Macho-Cat and Meanie-Moggie. Every morning when the doors were open for her to begin her day's adventures, they would be short lived by a visit from one of the bullyboys.

After three visits to the vet, over a period of 4 months, to have her abscesses drained (painful on the purse too), I started to enquire about what enclosures were available on the market. I decided on Catmax and had the whole of my front veranda closed in allowing Maddy Cat to go out and lie in the sun.

Two and a half years on and I still think that this was the best investment I have ever made; not only for my cat's sake but also for the resident wildlife that crawl or fly on my property on a daily basis, knowing that the silhouettes of my two cats

sunbaking on the veranda are no threat to them in any way.

Also at night I can rest easily, knowing that my cats are not on the prowl reducing the numbers in wildlife whilst I am sleeping, and that my cats are not the ones involved in those never ending caterwauling contests that the whole neighbourhood gets to tune into every night.

~ Julie Rupe

A Kanyana Supporter writes: -

"This is just a quick note to tell you that you guys are doing a FANTASTIC job!! I saw a programme on TV a few years ago about your organization and how you were helping out in the wonderful Project Eden Programme. It was so great to see somebody, such as yourselves, doing something for the gorgeous animals of this country! I t would be great to see another TV show about you guys soon. Anyhow, I'd better sign off now, so I hope that you're all keeping well, and keep up the GREAT_work folks."

Our Executive Committee's thanks to all Volunteer Carers who helped to make this filming project possible. "Return to Eden" has now been shown in 83 countries around the world!
~ Lloyd

"Sunshine" the Grey Kangaroo

Eight years ago, Sunshine, a hand-reared Western Grey Kangaroo, was taken to a 40 acre release site, where she remained for the next 12 months.

When it was time to see the wider world, the gates were opened and away she went. Later, and every year since, she has returned with a pouched young to be born in the "home" paddock from where she was originally released. She

also brings up to 40 friends with her sometimes.

Geoff and Veronica continue to monitor Sunshine's movements and are most impressed with her skills as a mother. Clearly, the human imprint still exists but it has put no constraints on her behaviour as a wild animal. This is the ultimate in rehabilitation.

~ Lloyd



Catmax saved my sanity!



Grey Kangaroos

From the Chairperson – continued from page 1

Kanyana will again be involved in the Royal Agricultural Show this year, by staffing wildlife displays at the 2004 Conservation and Landcare exhibit called "The Land Experience". There will be hands-on experience for the public, a *live* WILDCARE HELPLINE phone service, information on wildlife care and promotion of Kanyana's rehabilitation and captive breeding of threatened species in conjunction with DCLM's Western Shield Program. Adrian has also designed a very exciting "Nocturnal walk".

Dianne has begun "A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF KANYANA" a weekly summary of events at Kanyana for volunteers to catch up on the outcome of some of the animals they care for. Look for this on the tearoom notice board.

In May Rodney van Proctor and I attended the Arid Species Recovery Team annual meeting at Dryandra. This group is comprised of representatives of captive breeding colonies from around

the nation who give progress reports and plan for the future of our threatened wildlife. We were amazed at the work being done up north with the marsupial mole which is now described as Australia's most abundant mammal.

The bobtail research project is well underway with the addition of a new microscope and attached digital camera. Students from Curtin and Murdoch Universities have been collecting data and blood samples to determine the cause and effect of the disease now known as the *Bobtail flu*.

Ruth gave a presentation on Kanyana's bobtail research at the National Wildlife Carers' Conference in late July. Admissions of wildlife to the hospital are low at this time of year and this has allowed us all to catch up significantly. My thanks to all Volunteer Carers and the Executive Committee for their continued help.
~ June



Kanyana at the Perth Royal Agricultural Show 2003

"My thanks to all Volunteer Carers and the Executive Committee for their continued help"
~ June

Book Review - "Birds: their habits and skills"

"Birds: their habitats and skills"
By Gisela Kaplan and Lesley Rogers
Publishers Allen & Unwin (2001)

This book is a must for anyone interested in birds. The authors are two remarkable women who study the biology and behaviour of birds.

Professor Gisela Kaplan is a researcher in Biological Sciences at the University of New England, Armidale, NSW. She rehabilitates birds and is active in animal welfare and the protection of native wildlife.

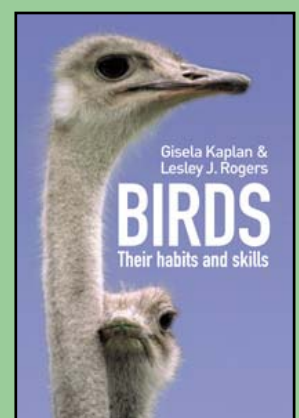
Lesley Rogers, a Professor of Neuroscience and Animal Behaviour at the same University, studies the brain

structure and behaviour of birds.

"Birds" is a combination of their work and although they are both scientists I found their book easy to read and as entertaining as a David Attenborough documentary.

The material results from over twenty years of research and observation of wild birds in Australia and around the world. The facts are interwoven with the authors' personal stories of birds in their care. I found this a delightful, fascinating and heart-warming book by two people who are not only scientists but also true bird lovers.

~ Ruth



"Birds: their habits and skills"
- cover

Bobtail s Triplets Born by Caesarian

A very gravid (heavily pregnant) bobtail was admitted to Kanyana on Easter Monday. Although her body was large with moving unborn young, her tail was flat, her gums very pale and she was breathing with great difficulty. Bobtail flu was suspected as the main problem, compounded by pregnancy.

Bobtails have one, two or three (rarely four) large babies and when pregnant, there is not a lot of room left inside for the mother's lungs to expand.

Our new mother bobtail began to show signs of distress soon after admission and birth seemed imminent but within an hour, instead of delivering she appeared to be dying. The mother lost consciousness and the babies had stopped moving.



Bobtail newborn

After a quick phone call to Wattle Grove Veterinary Hospital to confirm that a vet was available on the public holiday, the bobtail was rushed there and put on oxygen. The vet pronounced the mother dead and quickly performed a caesarian, removing three babies from the thin-walled uterus.

Each baby was enclosed in its own sack of fluid with an umbilical cord attached to a placenta and the remains of a yolk sac. Baby bobtails usually eat these and their first shed skin as soon as they are born but these babies were not showing any signs of life.

The vet ruptured the membranes and removed each baby then clamped, ligated and cut the umbilical cords and placed the babies onto a heat pack. Vigorous stimulation was applied by moving the limbs, rubbing the skin and gently compressing the sternum as the vet cleared each mouth and airway of fluid. The first sloughed skin came off.

Although the babies appeared inert, the vet could hear a heartbeat in all three with his stethoscope. Soon the rhythmic beating could be seen under their armpits but as yet none had taken a breath. The vet intubated and gently inflated the lungs but the babies were not breathing on their own. This is not a good sign in mammals but reptiles can survive for longer periods without oxygen so we persevered.

The babies were then put into a warm water bath and stimulation was continued while holding their heads out of the water. About 30 minutes after birth two of the babies began voluntary breathing. Their whole bodies arched and contorted to draw air into their lungs. At first there was a minute and a half between these exaggerated breaths but the frequency increased and they became more relaxed and their bodies now had good muscle tone. They were removed from the water bath and placed on the heat pack.

An hour after birth these two babies became conscious and began moving very quickly, biting anything in their path, even each other. The third baby remained limp and despite repeated intubations and inflation over the next two hours we finally gave up.

In spite of their slow start to life, the two survivors have never looked back and showed no signs of the flu disease that had claimed their mother. They were released into their mother's territory two weeks later and were able to gain strength and life skills before the colder months arrived. The people that rescued the mother are monitoring the babies' progress and have named them *Minie and Mo*.

~ Ruth

Progress Reports for Rescuers

Routine telephone enquiries on the progress of a specific admission are now channelled into a dedicated time slot.

Toward the end of the admission procedures a "Welcome to Kanyana" form and a yellow Kanyana sticker (bearing the phone number) is handed to each person.

At this time the rescuer is advised to phone Kanyana between 3:30 - 6 pm, at least 48 hours after admission, for a progress report. During this time slot Volunteer Carers are on duty and have access to wildlife records. Your help will be appreciated in applying this procedure.

~ June



New Admission - Tawny Frogmouth

Street Appeal 2004

Kanyana's street appeal in April 2004 saw volunteers and friends rattling tins for donations in the Hills and the City. Gross donations amounted to \$5000. Approximately 25% was received in the City and 75% in the Darling Scarp Hills.

Our special thanks to all who participated, to ParaQuad for supply of appeal tins and to Paramount Print Pty Ltd for yellow stickers.

~ June

Volunteer Profile – James

How long have you been a volunteer at Kanyana?

About 8 years

How did you come to know about the work done there?

When I first came to live in the Hills, I wanted to have a bird friendly garden and I needed to deal with a large number of snails. Quite by accident I met June at a school fete and she told me how bobtails love to eat snails. Afterwards, Johanna came to see my garden and assess it for a bobtail release site

What are your duties?

Tuesday morning shift I work in the

large flight aviaries and I am very familiar with the routine and I work alone unless it's very busy.

What do you like most about Kanyana?

I am very excited about how people have brought creativity and ideas and I look forward to moving to the new premises and see all these ideas put to work. Kanyana is a place where I can work alongside a lot of people whom I have love and respect for the dedication they give to wildlife.

~ James



James

Wildlife Admission and Release Statistics

January to June	2004		2003		2002		
Admissions	643		579		619		
Released	312	48.5%	299	52%	364	59%	

~ Johanna

70 Kalamatta Way
Gooseberry Hill WA 6076

Phone:
08 9293 1416
(24 hours)

Fax:
08 6293 1417

E-Mail:
Kanyanawildlife@
kanyanawildlife.org.au

Web:
<http://www.kanyanawildlife.org.au/>

2005 Membership Renewal s

Memberships for financial year 2004/2005 are now due. Please place your \$11 payment in an envelope bearing your home address and phone number. After a receipt is raised this envelope will be returned to you.

Any surplus change will be placed in the Kanyana donation box in reception. This procedure is a significant aid to secretary Lloyd toward checking registration, current phone number, address and correct payment to the book keeper.

~ Lloyd

Kanyana II – New Site Proposal

To receive Shire consideration of a potential new site for Kanyana II, a Concept Plan is being prepared by local architect Mr. William (Bill) Hardman.

From this information, cost estimates, Management, Financial and Business plans may then be prepared and finance sourcing outlined.

It is at this stage a potential site may be considered by Kalamunda Shire. Wildlife and the community need an upgraded Kanyana II facility, which may be accessed readily. To make this happen Kanyana will require help through consultation with local environmental preservation groups and the Shire. We will outline our progress in future issues of Kanyana News Update.

~ Lloyd

Diary Dates 2004

August

29 Kanyana Annual General Meeting & Kanyana General meeting (open to all financial members) June and Ruth will give a short presentation on the National Wildlife Carers Conference
At 1.00pm at Kanyana

October

2-9 Perth Royal Agricultural Show Conservation & LandCare Exhibition. For more details see <http://www.perthroyalshow.com.au/whatson/index.html>

About Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre...

Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre (Incorporated) is a not-for-profit organisation committed to the protection and welfare of native wildlife.

Kanyana's aims are:

- ◆ To rehabilitate sick, injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife.
- ◆ To participate in the Department of Conservation and Land Management's (CALM) Western Shield endangered species captive breeding program.
- ◆ To educate the community about the need to preserve wildlife habitats and ecosystems, and to value wildlife as a resource for a healthier living planet.

Kanyana is run entirely by volunteers, with the generous support of local businesses.

Kanyana News Update - circulation 500.

Editor: L Butcher Assistant Editor: R Haight Layout: M Nielsen