

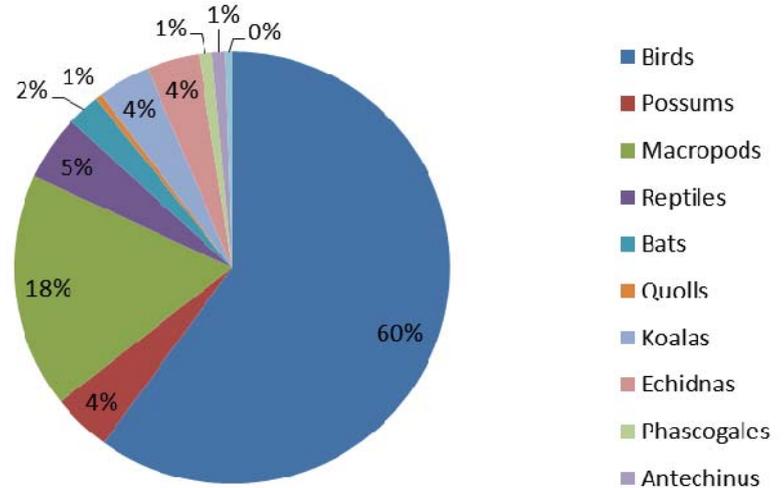
## 2011 Wrap up

### Animals in care or rescued

In total we had just under 200 calls to our rescue phone and other carer's phones, a 25% increase when compared to 2010. These calls resulted in approx.

142 rescues performed (double when compared to 2010) where approx.

70 of the rescued animals went into care, and for the balance, either only advice was given or they couldn't be saved.



- 87% of the rescue calls were for 123 birds that had been hit by cars, fallen from nests or brought in by cats. Some of the more unusual calls included a king parrot that had fallen down a chimney, a beautiful big black swan that had unfortunately been hit by a car on the highway, a kookaburra that only needed a few more days testing his wings then he was away, and raising a handful of crimson rosella baby parrots whose mother was killed by a cat.
- 25% of the calls were for 36 macropods, either adults that had been hit by cars and needed to be put down, or joeys rescued from pouches.
- 7% of the calls were for 5 snakes and 5 other reptiles.
- 6% of the calls were for 7 possums and 2 gliders.
- 4% of the calls were for 5 bats, both the fruit bats and microbats. There are only two of our members who have had the vaccination for Lyssa virus, therefore a lot of the time we can only provide advice.
- 6% of the calls were for 8 koalas, some of which needed longer term treatment in care. Koalas carry the *Chlamydia* sp. bacteria and if they are displaying symptoms (weepy eyes and a wet bottom) after three weeks on antibiotics, they can usually be released where they came from.
- 6% of the calls were for 8 echidnas where some were just relocated off the road, another was rescued from a drain.
- 1% of the calls were for animals you don't usually see and included 1 quoll, 2 phascogales, 2 antechinus and 1 bandicoot.

### Membership

By the end of 2011 our membership stood at 25 carer members and 22 support members with most of our members renewing their membership for 2011. For still a relatively small group, almost everyone is active in that if they're not caring for animals, then they are supporting us in our rescue and fundraising ventures.

## **Fundraising**

We had our usual fundraising ventures including the stall at the show, our two Monster Markets in March and September and a stall at Gardenfest. The income we made at these events helped offset the \$400/month expenditure that it costs us to feed and house all the animals that come into care. We also received over \$500 from people who have opened Community Saver accounts with the Heritage Building Society, and named us as the recipient charity, so coupled with donations amounting to over \$1000, and our fundraising efforts we are still able to totally subsidise the food our carers need.

## **Grants**

We were successful in obtaining \$1,200 from the Qld Community Credit Union for snake handling equipment enabling our snake handlers to provide a catch and release service for snakes threatening people, livestock or other animals. The Southern Downs Regional Council have also been very generous providing us with \$150 to purchase shelving to assist in organizing our equipment our volunteers use.

We weren't successful in obtaining BP fuel vouchers and have had to continue to supplementing our fuel expenses through fundraising and donations.

## **Projects**

Projects we finalised included:

- Running another native plant drive in conjunction with Mole River Native Nursery
- Sending our macropod carers to courses in Nambour
- Sending our bird carers to courses on the Gold Coast
- Live podcast through GraniteNET
- Strengthening our relationship with the RSPCA
- Sending our executive to the RSPCA wildlife groups workshop
- Promoting IGA card holders to nominate our charity as a recipient
- Putting our group on Facebook

## **2012 Projects and Activities**

During 2012 we're going to undertake the following:

- Successfully gaining \$30,000 to build wildlife enclosures for koalas, possums, quolls and echidnas and a flight aviary for birds.
- Complete a members resource book
- Update our website
- Creating a wildlife carer training card to identify competencies gained through qualifications, training and experience
- Expanding our "Roo Poo" range (chocolate coated peanuts and sultanas) to include "Possum Poo" (chocolate coated licorice bullets)
- Seeking funding for a wildlife rescue and first aid plus wildlife rehabilitation training courses delivered by a qualified presenter over the course of a weekend
- Having an open day in Warwick in conjunction with the RSPCA

More info may be found at: <http://www.granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/gbwc>