



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017

We are now into our second decade as a group and that feels pretty good!

Our markets, September and March were both hampered by rain which was a bit of a nuisance, to say the least! This has meant our monies for foodstuffs has been greatly reduced and we have had to ask members to contribute to the cost of formula and bird concentrates. We have been running a concerted effort to add to the coffers with Theresa D. leading the way with raffle ticket selling outside IGA each Sunday. Teresa C and Paula managed another successful plant drive and Sally R has started a Go Fund Me page for us. Vicki and I checked on Thursday and we had a deposit of \$231.91 in the bank. Thank you Sally ... I like fundraising when you don't have to do anything! Paula also managed to secure another grant for us so that Cherie and Molly can have cages at their homes.

During the year I had a complaint that some carers only ever got animals that had something wrong with them. Well, all the animals we get are compromised, or we wouldn't have them! I always keep anything that I consider really "bad" as I know how heartbreaking it can be if they die. If I do hand on difficult cases, it is to help you become better carers, by learning how to cope with them.

Steven and Kathryn have left the district in the last couple of weeks to start a new chapter of their lives in Esk. They will be missed as they were always willing to take anything I threw at them. Steve was especially handy at handling bigger macropods. The last year saw us pretty well weighed down with animals. A lot of this was brought about because of personal problems amongst the Tenterfield carers, and we took the ones they couldn't handle. Steven and Kathryn and Kylie in particular were outstanding handling large numbers of animals, but in our way, we all did our bit. Molly had a huge number of rescues to attend last year and still managed to run a household of five, rear several macropods and possums and birds. I am pleased to say Robert Dunn has taken over the care of lizards and turtles which is fantastic.

Again I don't know how we would have coped without the services of Kirsten and her team at Stanthorpe Vet Care. They are always there for us. Kirsten has even been into the surgery at 5.30a.m. to ready a Koala to go down to Wacol for specialist treatment. And not only Kirsten. I have called Megan out when it has been her time off, and they always attend with such a lovely attitude. Zoe has always been there to take ringtails and gliders when we get them into care, and you know they are going to be very well looked after.

Sadly we have seen the passing of Denis Press just last week. Denis and Pat were some of our first members and there are lots of bird and possum boxes and donation boxes around the place that have Denis' seal on them. Even though we didn't see a lot of him in the last couple of years, he never lost interest in what we were doing.

Let's hope that this year Ruth and Peter can stay well and stay out of hospital! We need you both sparking on all fours/two!!! Let's hope we all have a healthy year for ourselves and a successful year with our animals.