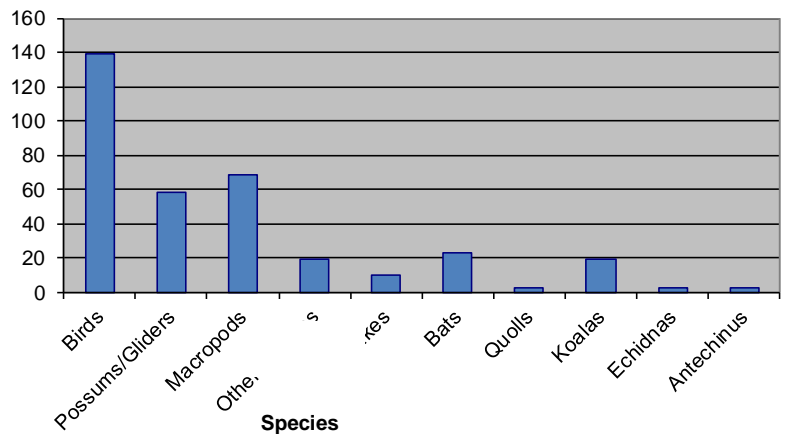
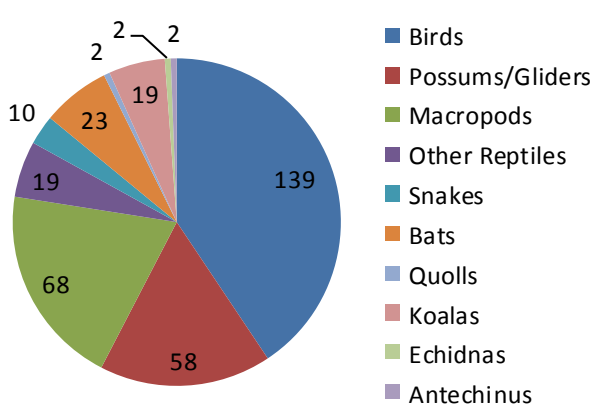


2012 Wildlife Wrap up



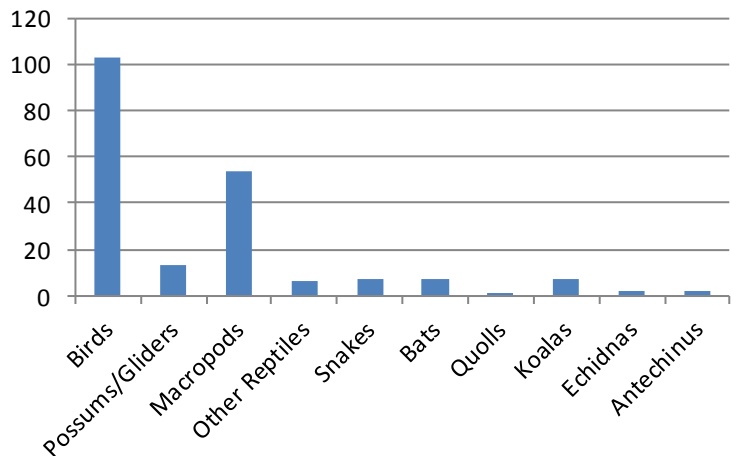
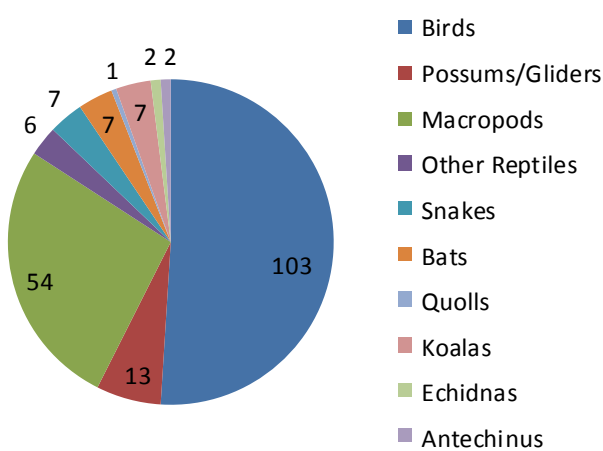
Rescue calls

In total our members took 342 calls about wildlife according to the following species/animal groups. Some of the calls only required advice and didn't eventuate into an actual rescue.



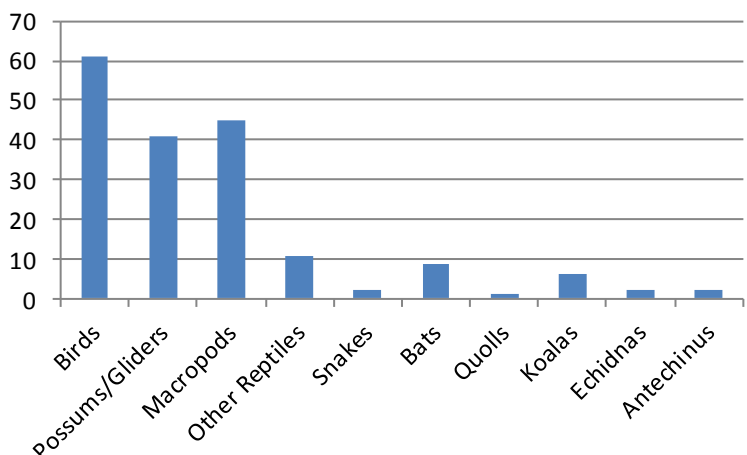
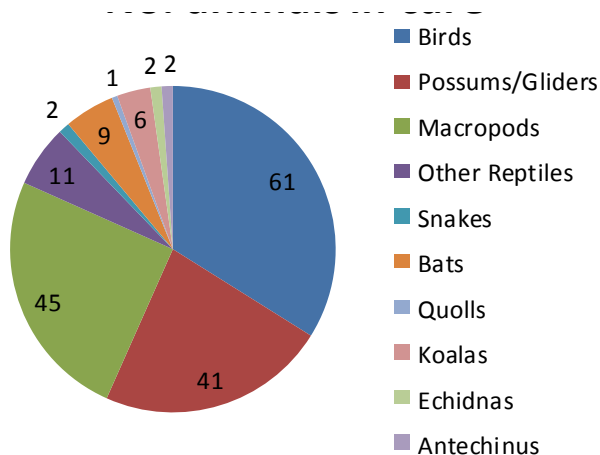
Animals rescued

These calls resulted in approximately 202 actual rescues performed. Some rescues resulted in animals not going into care and this was because either the animal couldn't be found or captured on arrival, had already died at the scene or subsequently died at the vet, or it was agreed to monitor on site.



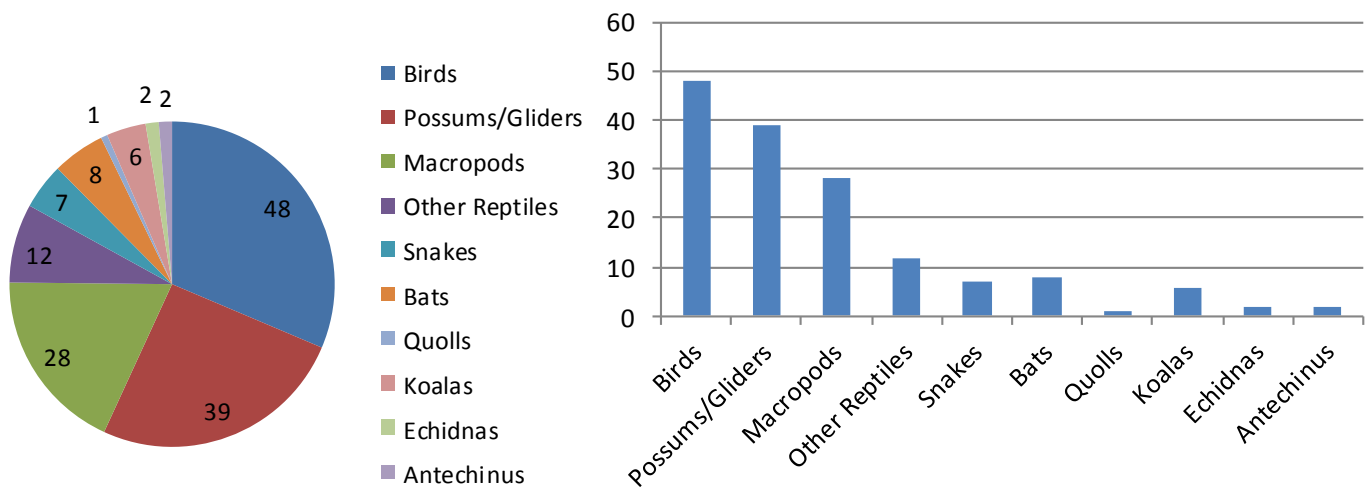
Animals in care

From the rescues, approximately 180 of the rescued animals went into care.



Animals released

From the animals rehabilitated, 153 were successfully released, an 85% success rate.



Details

- 41% of the rescue calls were for 139 birds, 10 more than last year. These birds had been either hit by cars, fallen from nests, shaken from trees in stormy weather, caught in barbed wire fences, wire or string, or attacked by cats or dogs.
- 20% of the calls were for 68 macropods, double when compared to last year. These animals were either adults that had been hit by cars, or subject to dog attacks, or joeys rescued from pouches and, if able to be saved, went into care.
- 17% of the calls were for 58 possums or gliders, a 10-fold increase on last year. These animals were mostly rescued from fallen trees and a couple of gliders had been found cold and wet after rain.
- 7% of the calls were for 23 fruit or microbats a 4-fold increase on last year.
- 6% of the calls were for 19 other reptiles including turtles with cracked shells and lizards.
- 6% of the calls were for 19 koalas, some of which needed longer term treatment in care.
- 3% of the calls were for 10 snakes. These mainly included successfully relocating 4 red belly black snakes and 4 brown snakes but this figure also includes 2 carpet pythons who had escaped from their owner.
- 1% of the calls were for 2 echidnas.
- 1% of the calls were for animals you don't see often and included 2 quolls rescued from a chook pens and 2 antichinus.

Membership

By the end of 2012 our membership stood at 41 carer members and 16 support members with most of our members renewing their membership for 2012. 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 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 \$30,000 through the Qld Govt's Gambling Community Benefit Fund for wildlife enclosures for koalas, possums, quolls and echidnas and a flight aviary for birds.

The Southern Downs Regional Council have also been very generous providing us with \$100 to purchase signage for volunteer carers to place on their front gates.

We weren't successful in obtaining a grant to run our training weekend, but the attendance fee covered costs and many local businesses donated food and goods which assisted throughout the day.

We weren't successful in obtaining a volunteer grant for a second marquee and BBQ and ended up purchasing a canopy for our BBQ'ers and a new BBQ using our own funds.

2012 Projects

Major projects we finalised during 2012 included:

- Becoming registered as a charity.
- Commencing work on our wildlife enclosures for koalas, possums, quolls and echidnas and additional aviaries for birds.
- Updating our website to <http://www.gbwildlifecarers.org.au/>.
- Putting the Granite Belt Wildlife Carers Inc. on Facebook.
- Hosting a wildlife first aid and basic rehabilitation training course.

2013 Projects and activities

During 2013 we're going to undertake the following:

- Run another native plant drive fundraising activity in conjunction with Mole River Native Nursery.
- Send our executive to the RSPCA wildlife groups workshop in Brisbane.
- Invite key speakers to Stanthorpe to speak on a range of subjects.
- Complete the wildlife enclosures for koalas, possums, quolls and echidnas and a flight aviary for birds.
- Complete and distribute a members resource book.
- Create a wildlife carer training card to identify competencies gained through qualifications, training and experience.
- Formalise the mentoring program between new and experienced carers.
- Strengthen the relationship with Warwick Wildlife Care and Rescue.
- Increase the number of talks we give to community groups.
- Review and update the website.

Contact

More info may be found at: <http://www.gbwildlifecarers.org.au/> or contact Secretary Paula Boatfield on pbboatfield@bigpond.com.