



# FAWNA INC. NEWS

## FAWNA General Meeting.

Date: Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2009

Time: 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm start

Venue: Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre.

**NOTE: Christmas Meeting - short meeting followed by a Christmas party. Please: Bring a plate.**

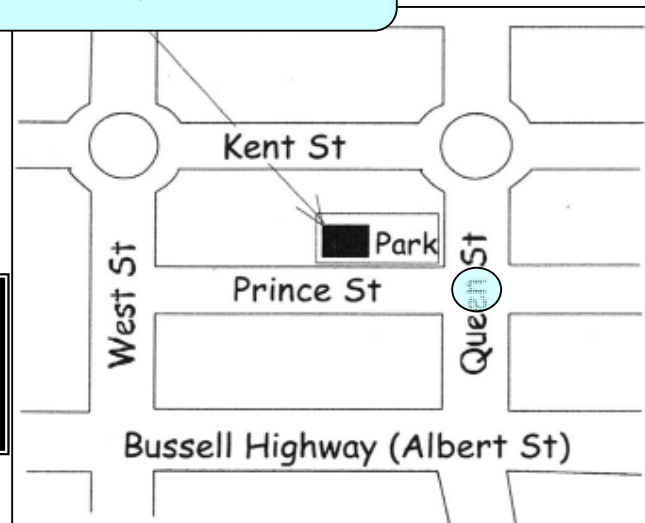
### FAWNA INC.

The Secretary  
P.O Box 551  
Busselton  
WA 6280

email: [fawna@westnet.com.au](mailto:fawna@westnet.com.au)

web site: [www.fawna.com.au](http://www.fawna.com.au)

### Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre



### FAWNA OFFICE BEARERS 2009

Chairperson	Kristy Gawthrop	9751 3023
Deputy Chairperson	Vicki Newman	9731 5252
Secretary	Amanda Bell	0407 440 743
Treasurer	Donna Cain	9752 2218
Emergency Assistance	Vicki Newman	9731 5252
	Gail & Frank Seymour	9755 3933

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Paper donated courtesy of Department of Environment and Conservation

# Chairperson's Report

It's hard to believe that 2009 is just about over, where has the time gone? I'm still trying to catch up.

FAWNA commented on the new process for Registered Wildlife Rehabilitators and will keep everyone informed as this progresses along.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the Animal Nursery a success especially Cheryl Campbell for organising everything.

Ben Deeley has been looking into grants that FAWNA can apply for and would like a list of equipment that FAWNA carers need. If you can think of anything that would make wildlife care easier for you then please email Ben at [deeleyb@gmail.com](mailto:deeleyb@gmail.com) with your suggestions. Then we can look at what is most needed. Not only does it help carers out it also lets us office bearers know what would be most beneficial for the group.

The new web site will be up and running before the new year, log in and check it out after the first of January. Feedback is most welcome and if you have any suggestions or comments please let me know. I haven't had much time to finish this off as everything has been really busy and time consuming, and amazingly so I do need to sleep sometime. My original plan was to upload the basic layout and edit from there but plans always change and life intervenes.



In the coming months we are hoping to make some changes to the way the meetings are conducted and some points that were brought up after the last meeting will be discussed and implemented into FAWNA's meetings. Such as the possibility of putting the minutes in the newsletter, making sure everyone is clearly informed of what is on

the agenda for the next meeting, communications between members and a couple of other matters. I originally planned to do this in this newsletter and at the upcoming meeting but as this will be our Christmas Party the meeting will be kept as short and sweet as possible. If anyone has any changes that they would like to see made you can contact me on 9751 3023 or on email at [kristyg@westnet.com.au](mailto:kristyg@westnet.com.au), I hope to hear from you.

Wishing everyone who can't make it to our meeting a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kristy Gawthrop



# Busselton Show Animal Nursery 2009

I am still recovering from the show effort, as I guess are Kristy and several other members.

This year it was the **25th year** of FAWNA inc. running the animal nursery at the Busselton Show and, as always, it was a huge undertaking. There were less FAWNA volunteers this year leaving a few of us to spend days organising, erecting the compound, setting up the pens, carting all that stuff to the compound, not to mention spending a 14 hour day working on the Saturday.



Debbie and Vicki at the donation box

My sincere thanks, in no particular order, to:

- Wally and the Ag Society volunteers for making our new gates at no cost, erecting the tent, sourcing domestic animals and generally being available with manpower and tools and many show passes.
- Busselton Refrigeration and Air Conditioning who came on board as monetary sponsors and who also donated our wonderful new nursery sign. We look forward to a long partnership.
- All of the people who willingly brought along their animals and entrusted them to our care. There is No Show without baby animals and many of these were precious indeed.
- Kristy, for so much work beforehand and then hands on over three days, having no sleep and for being my memory, I can't thank you enough.



The crowd

- Daniel, [our re-hydration therapist] for two days non stop work and for reaching those far away bits and for being the man when we needed you.
- Debbie for looking after Tyler to make it possible for his parents to work and for spending all day Saturday at the donation box.
- Vicki for doing so much of everything -all of which was exhausting- for bringing animals and for always being quietly dependable, sensible and understanding.
- Donna - always reliable, capable, willing, cheerful and always there. Along with Peter we could not have done without you.
- Ian -although still quite unwell, apart from moral support for me on Thursday, turned up for the whole day Saturday - top photographer and pram manager
- Carol and Peter with DEC trailer's comprehensive display and Wilbur Wambenger too.
- Helen with her animals and Rachel's pet white duck, very happily wandering the compound in a harness would you believe, so desperately wanting to adopt the wild ducklings.
- Bev for your oh so very welcome help on Thursday
- Margaret with her quenda came for the first time, having to get time off work.
- Natalie Dillon. You are fantastic. You were there whenever and whatever was required and needed no instruction. Can't thank you enough.
- Bryn Martin - young, but so responsible. For helping and looking after Milli, my echidna, all day- even on his time off Bryn saved Milli several times when I was supposed to be minding him but forgot. Bryn was there keeping watch from the background. Thank you ever so much Bryn.



Please support these wonderful businesses as they willingly supported us.

- Our members the Sunflower Animal Farm with their gorgeous baby goat.
- The Metricup Bird Park who close for the day to come along with their fantastic black cockatoo and Macaw.



**Metricup Bird Park**

- Wendy Lawn with her Alpacas
- Jan Atherton and her miniature horses

### **Benefits and Improvements.**

The new layout of the compound was definitely an improvement with animals spread out more to facilitate crowd flow.



**Our welcoming entry**

The entry was much more welcoming this year, even though the mural did not get up until 11am, what with too much happening and not enough help.

Displays were easier to access and read. Peter and Carol had a great DEC display and the Environment Centre also put up a compact one for the Tuart Book sales. WRAG banners were also a great display. Our display was not done until late when Natalie took over and made something out of it. Talk about being thrown in at the deep end at her first FAWNA event. Good on ya mate !!



The core show FAWNA members work well together and most importantly can totally rely on each other and know that the animals are all number one priority and are being attended. This was such a relief.

Naturally member's tempers frayed at the end of the day, but thankfully all was forgiven and overcome.

No complaints from the public this year although the occasional FAWNA members made it a bit hard for us who were too busy to even listen.

The amount raised equalled last year's takings but I question whether or not the massive effort is worth the monetary reward. I think not.

If it were not for the value of our native animal displays in improving public awareness, the opportunity for FAWNA members to show our work to the public and to support and work with each other, I would definitely recommend not doing this again. Vicki, Kristy and I are still pretty much allergic to any mention of the show. I have only been to Busselton twice since the show - just can't see it in a good light yet. I hope this report will be cathartic and put me firmly on the road to recovery ready to tackle next year's show ..... Maybe!!

Any feedback and / or opinion about the show would be very welcome.

Cheryl



# Depot Updates

## Causeway Road Depot

Last report animals were just starting to trickle in, now they're flooding through the doors and keeping me extremely busy. Not a day goes by without receiving at least one call about wildlife, normally the minimum number of calls I get is three and it certainly keeps life interesting. Trying to juggle everything is sometimes very hard but many thanks to Donna and Vicki for helping me out.

The ducks had just started arriving last time and I think there were only about five Mountain ducks and ten Black ducks. Now we have had in excess of eighty ducklings through the door, all different sizes, made up of the three main species we receive (Black Duck, Maned duck and Mountain duck) and another two that I am waiting for them to grow up before I can positively identify them. So far there are only two cygnets in with both of them being found in paddocks, one was getting chased constantly by a herd of cows. The lady that rescued him was quite amazed to see this little cygnet absolutely exhausted but still managing to run away from the stampeding hooves.

The baby birds are coming in quite regularly with no particular order to their species, there's certainly a wide variety of different mouths to feed with a lot of different diets. Normally you would know what species of birds to expect when, but not this year. Baby possum numbers have increased and I am still getting the odd small one, the last small baby was 63grams with her eyes shut and no fur. Not too many joeys have come my way but I am thankful for this because I don't have many people left that want to care for them.

If you would like to care for an animal and haven't already let me know please give me a call on 9751 3023 or 0411 037 143. Or if you think you may have been forgotten don't hesitate to remind me, with things so busy it's hard to remember anything, even my own appointments.

Kristy



## Kirup Depot

Two Western Grey Kangaroo Joeys received into care - Tilba (male) orphaned from road kill, received from a new carer whose work circumstances changed and Ben (male) from local area when mother chased off by dogs in town and joey collected when mother didn't return. Both furred (Tilba 2.5 kg and Ben 1.3 kg) and both doing well. Wilbur (male) Wambenger/Brush-tailed Phascogale from Margaret River received via Mabel Bell at Busselton, found on property with no sign of mother. Furred and doing well, with growth of around 100 - 200 per cent per week!

Peter



## Gunn Street Depot.

There has been a steady flow of injured adult possums and birds. Some survive but regrettably some don't make it. (Our job really does have lots of highs and lows.)

Of the three featherless birds that have come into care, I am happy to report that two continue to respond well to treatment and we have high hopes of success.

We had a delightful time with a crested tern who came into care recently. He was an absolute joy to look after and had me laughing at his antics. First of all he loved his daily baths and he would catch all the fish that I threw at him. Funnily enough he wouldn't fly even though there wasn't anything wrong with him. We decided to call Marg (from Western Australian Seabird Rescue (WASR) in Mandurah) and she told me that crested terns like to "take holidays and free feeds" (up to 40 whitebait a day). Her advice was that we should take him down to the beach to see if he would fly there. At the beach Pete and I enjoyed watching him fly very happily and strongly. He did a lap of the jetty before flying out to sea. His "holiday" was over and we could record another successful release.

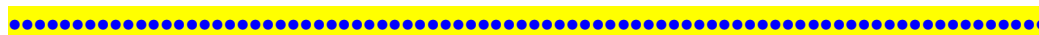
Our other special guest was a baby loggerhead turtle that a surfer found at Conto Beach just south of Margaret River. We drove south to collect the turtle and took him to Bunbury Dolphin Discovery Centre the next day as it was a Sunday when he was found. Staff at the Centre were great and let me go behind the scenes to help with the measuring, weighing, sexing and all the interesting stuff. Our little turtle will grow up with others that were found and brought in around the same time. Then they will be taken north to be released in about 6 months or so. The Centre lets the person who brings the turtle in give them a name. The name stays with them for life and is included on their tag when they are released. I named my little fellow "Chilli" which was the name of Steve Irwin's childhood dog.

I am always happy to hear from both experienced and new carers who are prepared to take on one of my charges. Please make contact with me and let me know your preferences. We can always talk about the best way to proceed and I can help you as you learn more about caring.



Contact by phone: 9752 2218 or email: [donna.cain@bigpond.com](mailto:donna.cain@bigpond.com)

**Donna**





**Boyanup Depot.**

Yes the season has started. Since last meeting I have had in 11 28's, 6 wattle bird, 6 ducklings, 1 Galah, 2 dove, 1 pardalote, 3 pigeons, 1 possum, 3 magpie, baby swamp hen, 1 joey and 2 cockatoos. Also numerous phone calls that have been passed on or dealt with.



Cheryl and I have also attended two WAWRC

meetings in Perth. The first one was at Kanyana's new (to be) Hospital. This had a baby bird workshop give by June Butcher, before the meeting. The second was at the Wetland Bibra Lake with a Subcutaneous Rehydration workshop beforehand. Both workshops were well worth the trip to Perth and very informative without be long and



tedious. Great confidence boosters leading up to the start of the season. WAWRC is a group for Rehabilitator support, so they do a lot of the work finding out information and equipment for carers. Well worth the effort to join ( and it free for the next 2 years) just to get support for us.

Thanks to Dave And Deidre Patterson for taking my two *OMG* (oh my god's), and to everyone that took my frantic phone calls as I traced them down. You can run but not hide. Thank you.

**Vicki**



## Yallingup Depot

By and large, things with us have remained relatively quiet since writing for the last newsletter. Presumably this is in part due to us being new and not on the depot 'map' as such. Probably just as well as Sean and I have slowly come to realise that we have very little in the way of the necessary equipment needed for rescues. However, we are being resourceful and the money raised from the successful FAWNA raffle will certainly help.

On the animal front, we do have a few stories to share.

Sean and I picked up a mature Bandicoot which had been hit on the Yallingup Siding Rd. It was alive but not in a good state, so Sean got out of the car to assess the situation and put the poor injured animal into one of the pillow cases we keep handy in the car.

He came back to report to me that it was a female and appeared to have two small babies poking out of a pouch. Sean put her in the pillow slip and we left her undisturbed as we rushed home to phone Kristy for guidance. We'd never had to feed baby bandicoots before!

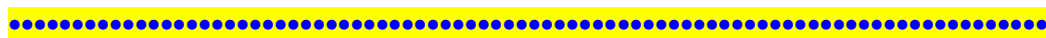
After much discussion and expert instructions from Kristy, we carefully took the poor girl from the pillow case, only to discover her two babies were in fact a set of small furry testicles and that she was in fact a he! Needless to say, we all had a good laugh at Sean's expense!! Not exactly the most proficient start for the Yallingup depot.. but at least we now know how to care for baby bandicoots should any come into our care. Sadly, the bandicoot died from his injuries a few hours later.

Other than the addition of a female Joey to our household (courtesy of Kristy) named Yindi (aboriginal word for sunshine) who is thriving and a complete delight, we've only had one other call out, to try and catch an injured Flesh Footed Shearwater at Point Piquet. Unfortunately, by the time I received the call it was well after dark, so our chances of finding it were slim. However we ventured out and spent a good hour clambering over rocks with torches in an attempt to locate it and transport it to the local vets. Sadly we had no luck.

That call out only came to us last night and at this point of writing Sean has ventured back out to see if its relocated onto the rocks where it was initially sighted by concerned locals. Lets hope he has better luck this time.

That's it from the Yallingup depot. Unfortunately I wont be able to attend the Dec 12th meeting, however Sean should be there on our behalf. Because of my absence, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all FAWNA members a safe and happy Christmas. See you in the new year.

**Helen and Sean**



# Our Successful Raffle

Our major raffle was a resounding success. We set out to sell 500 tickets at \$2 each and we achieved our goal with a few days to spare. The raffle was drawn by Wally Lord at the Busselton Show on Saturday 31 October and the lucky winners were:

**1<sup>st</sup> prize:** Ticket 422. Debbie Gawthorp who won the large framed Michael Taylor photograph of Boranup Forest.

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize:** Ticket 488. Trevor Court who won the LED rechargeable spotlight by Coleman - retail value \$99.

**3<sup>rd</sup> prize:** Ticket 214. Julie Breen who won a voucher value \$50 to spend at Ranger Outdoors.

These magnificent prizes were thanks to the generosity of Paul and Shelley at Ranger Outdoors. Ranger Outdoors are located in the Home Depot on Strelly Street (near Bunnings) in Busselton. Paul and Shelley D'Abreu will be pleased to see you looking around their store. Remember that when someone like Ranger Outdoors supports us it is a two-way street - and we need to support them. Even if you just call in to say hello and thank you, you may be pleasantly surprised at the range, quality, value and service available.

Thank you to all the ticket sellers and buyers who supported this raffle. I know that some people put in a lot of effort and sold a large number of tickets. But whether you sold one ticket or one hundred you helped with our fund raising.

The proceeds of the raffle are planned to be used to provide the new Yallingup Depot with the necessary equipment to get started effectively. No doubt any left over funds will be put to good use in our general caring work.

For those who like to know the financial details:

Gross receipts (500 tickets @ \$2 each)	\$1,000.00
Printing, advertising and government charges	<u>\$ 165.60</u>
Net proceeds from raffle	\$ 834.40

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## More information from the Show

### DEC Display

DEC display taxidermy specimens of:

Woylie, Quenda, Western Grey Kangaroo, Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo, Brown Falcon, Australian Ringneck Parrot, Southern Boobook, Wambenger, Chuditch, Tawny Frogmouth, Purple Swamphen & Gould's Monitor Lizard.

Carol and Peter also had both Joeys (see depot report) and the Wambenger on display.

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# FAWNA Asset Register

FAWNA has a lot of items of equipment (assets) that are in regular use by our various members and depots. This equipment has been purchased by FAWNA over the years and is available to us as and when needed. To make sure that we use these assets as efficiently as possible, FAWNA is developing an "Asset Register".

Simply an "Asset Register" is a list of the various items we (FAWNA) own and where they are currently located.

With a detailed listing of our assets we will be able to pass items to whoever needs them without first having to make a large number of phone calls to see who has what.

Donna is in the process of compiling and updating our asset register.

- If you have already let her know of items that are currently in your care, they will be on the register. Thank you for your cooperation.
- If you have not let Donna know about FAWNA assets that you are currently using, please contact her so that the register can be updated.

An up-to-date and complete asset register is of benefit to every FAWNA member - and more importantly to every animal or bird brought into care.

Donna can be contacted on 9752 2218.

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## Last, but not least . . . .

If you have received this newsletter in the traditional way but would be happy to join those who are now getting theirs by email, then please advise us.

**FAWNA Newsletter Editors**

Ian Watson - email: [idwatson@netserv.net.au](mailto:idwatson@netserv.net.au)

Jodie Wood - email: [wood\\_jodie@hotmail.com](mailto:wood_jodie@hotmail.com)

We would be pleased to hear from you.

Do you want to see anything else in the newsletter?

Have you got a story to contribute?

Is there any topic you would like to see addressed?

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**Chris and I were delighted, surprised and honoured to be named as joint "Carers of the Year" in a presentation held at the Show on October 31<sup>st</sup>.**

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