



A year on
**REMEMBERING
THE FIRES**

Latest news!
**PROTECTING
THE FUTURE OF
WILD KOALAS**

Learn more
**KOALAS IN
HOMECARE**

KOALAS IN HOMECARE: BEHIND THE SCENES

'They come to a point where you can tell they are getting ready for life in the wild.' Barb Barrett

Koalas are beautiful animals and young joeys are especially appealing.

While many of us think we would like to look after a koala at home, it takes experience, knowledge and strong commitment to carry out this time-consuming work.

The Port Macquarie Koala Hospital's focus is always on releasing koalas back to the wild, and homecare is provided only for as long as absolutely necessary. Once a koala is strong and healthy enough, it is relocated to the rehabilitation area of the Koala Hospital, where it can prepare for independent life in the wild.

The Koala Hospital's homecare team are a small group of specialist volunteers with seemingly-endless devotion to the koalas in their care. They have considerable experience in handling koalas of all ages, and have learnt how to nurture very young, sick or injured koalas. They have even adapted their homes in order to safely house koalas needing individual care.

Most time-consuming of all are the very young joeys. Sadly, sometimes they have been orphaned because their mother has died after being hit by a car, attacked by a dog or the joey has fallen whilst the mother has been chased by an amorous male. Other joeys have been found alone with no known cause. Tiny unfurred and furred joeys, who should still be within their mother's pouch, require 24-hour care and feeding. They are brought into the Koala Hospital clinic where weight gain, behaviour and progress are monitored, much like human babies.

There is also an interesting developmental stage, when very young pouched joeys need to be 'papped'. Pap is vital, a special poo provided by their mother



Barb with Long Flat Joy. Following many months of homecare and rehabilitation Joy was successfully released back to the wild in April this year.

at the appropriate time, which inoculates the joey's gut with the correct bacteria, enabling them to eat eucalypt leaf. In homecare, we have to source and provide pap to very young hand-reared joeys to ensure they are able to progress to digesting leaf. Thankfully, joeys usually adore pap! A mother koala's milk also contains antibodies, and that is something which we cannot replicate; this can mean many, young hand-raised joeys do struggle.

Barb Barrett has looked after koalas needing individual care in her own home for 18 years, but can't quite believe it's that long. She smiles, 'I think I've been busy because it certainly doesn't feel like 18 years!' Barb has great respect for the wild species. She explains, 'Even when small joeys have been in your

Front cover image: Currently in homecare, Livvy lost her mother in a car accident in August.

care for months, they come to a point all on their own, where you can tell they are getting ready for life in the wild. They start climbing more, they start getting wilder and less manageable in their behaviour.' Barb also says they are all different personalities in their own right. 'Some are quite aloof and some are looking for closer interaction. They are often super-aware and alert. We don't always think of koalas like that'. Barb is rightly proud that many homecare joeys grow to independence and release. 'At heart, koalas are wild animals and will always revert to the wild provided you handle them in the right way'

'We know these little ones would not survive without human intervention.' Judy Brady

Judy Brady has been a homecarer for 16 years, and explains, 'I grew up on a farm and have always loved animals, but how special is it to be able to look after one of our amazing native animals?'

Joeys come into homecare for many different reasons, some of them are fighting disease as well as dealing with separation from their natural mother. Sadly, not all homecare koalas survive, but Judy remains committed to her role. 'It is all so worthwhile, when you successfully release a healthy juvenile, and watch it climb high into the trees, knowing how young and vulnerable they were when they came into your care. We know these little ones would not survive without human intervention.'

Sue Ashton, president of the Koala Hospital, is also part of the homecare team. She undertook the care of a number of mature male koalas following the last fire season, when their homes and food sources had been destroyed. An extensive enclosure was created by fencing large, established trees within Sue's property so that the animals could be securely contained, and Sue fed and cared for them over several months. Thankfully, all but one have now been released back to their regenerating home ranges. Pappinbarra Adrian remains in Sue's care for now, until we are



A homecare joey is snug and safe in a hand-made pouch.

confident his forest home has regrown sufficiently to support him. Sue has also looked after young koalas at home, including Crowdy Bay Goolah, who was rescued during the fires with burns to his hind feet and rump.

Over the years our homecare team have saved the lives of many koalas. And as we continue to learn about koalas, the homecarers' experience with individual animals also helps by adding more information to the Koala Hospital's bank of knowledge of the species.

CONTENTS

Koalas in homecare.....	2	Protecting the future of wild koalas	10
Report by Clinical Director, Cheyne Flanagan	4	Thank you.....	12
Report by President, Sue Ashton	5	Koala Hospital joins bushfire research	14
Remembering the fires.....	6	Koala Kids.....	15
We can all help koalas.....	8		

GUM TIPS is the official newsletter of Koala Conservation Australia Inc. and is published quarterly.
 Editor: Becky Harrington
 Contributors: Cheyne Flanagan, Sue Ashton, Peggy Eather, Matt Whatman, Becky Harrington
 Photography (unless individually credited): Gaby Rivett, Nathan Edwards, Scott Castle, Sue Ashton, Becky Harrington

Disclaimer Koala Conservation Australia Inc. and the Management Committee do not accept any liability for the results of any actions taken or not taken, on the basis of information given or discussed with groups or other organised events, meetings and/or for information provided by speakers or for any information published for or on behalf of the organisation, its organs and officers.

REPORT BY CLINICAL DIRECTOR, CHEYNE FLANAGAN

In comparison to this time last year when the bushfires were overwhelming us, the last three months has been busy, but nowhere near as frantic!

Throughout the year, the number one reason for admission to the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital is the disease chlamydia, a sexually transmitted bacteria that can affect the urogenital tract and the eyes of the koala. Even though a lot of research has been done on this debilitating disease, we still have a long way to go to come up with really successful treatments and outcomes. The koala's normal strategy is to live and feed high in the canopies of the trees, coming to ground only to move to other trees. Koalas that become very unwell through this disease usually end up low in

the trees or on the ground. This is commonly when they are spotted with many koalas having such advanced disease by then, they are beyond treatment. Research and trials of drugs continue but in many cases the 'best medicine' is large tracts of healthy forested habitat because koala populations who live in these environments have very low levels of disease, compared to koalas occupying disturbed habitats (such as housing estates, agricultural areas) who have much higher levels of disease. The take home message? Protect and conserve koala habitat, restore degraded habitat and create new ones. One of the many goals of Koala Conservation Australia is to purchase and/or protect large tracts of quality habitat, in order to manage it and ensure the survival of koalas in New South Wales.

There are lots of really important, exciting and interesting research projects 'in the wings' at the moment which will get underway in 2021, so we will have a lot to report on this at some point.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful volunteers here at the Hospital who worked very hard during the peak of the pandemic keeping everything running smoothly, while employing good COVID health practices. All the koalas were fed, cleaned, rescued, released and cared for, the office hummed busily, the visitors were and still are carefully managed and the place is spotless. It would seem that living with COVID is the 'new normal'.

We wish all our readers a healthy, safe Christmas and 2021 will be a wonderful year.



Left to right: President Sue Ashton, NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian, State Member for Port Macquarie Lesley Williams, Clinical Director Cheyne Flanagan, at the Koala Hospital on 27 October.



Land transfer announcement, observing social distancing

REPORT BY PRESIDENT, SUE ASHTON

It's not often the NSW Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, visits the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital however, on the 27th October 2020, she dropped by to announce that on behalf of the people of New South Wales, the government would transfer the land on which the Koala Hospital stands to Koala Conservation Australia Inc (KCA).

Once passed, a bill, read in the NSW Legislative Council on 22nd October 2020, will revoke about 0.6 hectares (6,000 square metres) from the Roto House Historic Site in Port Macquarie. This land is currently managed by National Parks and Wildlife Service and has been leased by the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital since 1973.

Our founder, Jean Starr, whose life was dedicated to the care of koalas, would be so happy to learn about the gifting of the land. Never, in her wildest dreams, could she have imagined that one day, the hospital she built, would stand on its own land in the centre of Port Macquarie.

The revocation of the land will enable the KCA to proceed with plans to expand and upgrade the hospital. In October 2019, KCA was notified that it had been awarded a grant from the NSW Government to redevelop the site of the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital into a world-class tourist attraction.

The KCA is honoured to be gifted the land. As the new caretaker we understand that, if at any stage in the future the nature of the KCA's business changes from providing care for injured and sick koalas and educating the public about koalas, the land would transfer back to the government.

As I said to all our volunteers on hearing about this gift ... woo hoo!

In further news, the development of the wild koala breeding facility and the redevelopment of the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital are both progressing with the appointment of an architect to design both properties made early this month.



Koala Hospital President Sue Ashton, is happy to hear the good news direct from Premier of NSW, Gladys Berejiklian.



Koala Hospital permanent resident, Lismore Myrtle meets Premier of NSW, Gladys Berejiklian and State member for Port Macquarie, Lesley Williams.

REMEMBERING THE FIRES

A year ago, the worst bushfire season in living memory brought death and destruction on a horrific scale to Australian wildlife and the environment across New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.

'There was nothing left, I had never seen landscape like it',
volunteer Peter Berecny.

Here at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, we operated over capacity for three months, with all volunteers and staff working desperately hard to rescue and treat injured koalas.

Today, we are grateful that since then, we have been able to release many healthy koalas back to the wild, where coastal rains meant

forests had started to regenerate. A few koalas from the fires still remain in our care. We mourn the many koalas, like millions of other wild animals and birds in Australia, who did not survive last fire season.

This sad and sobering time will never be forgotten by anyone at the Koala Hospital. But for a particular group, our bushfire search and rescue volunteers, their memories remain particularly stark and poignant.

The Koala Hospital has carried out search and rescue following bushfires for more than 30 years, and we continue to review and improve our protocols. These days, all our bushfire search and rescue volunteers have up-to-date certificates in Bushfire Awareness Training, a course operated by the New South Wales Rural Fire Service. Volunteer, Jeremy Bear,

described how previous project work on remote sites, as well as koala rescue experience in Port Macquarie, meant search and rescue was the most useful way he could contribute. Jeremy remembers, 'It was tragic though, at times heart-rending – long days of gruelling, physically draining and mentally exhausting work'.

However well-prepared you are, working in a fireground is confronting. The sight and smell of the devastated forest and bush is sickening. Volunteer, Peter Berecny, explains, 'In some areas, the fires had left literally nothing – no trees, no plants, no animals or birds, even insects. I had never seen a landscape like it'.

Our volunteers contend with heat, hazardous, broken terrain and 'hot spots', where fire may still be burning underground. There is a real likelihood that branches will fall from burnt and damaged trees. Rescuers wear thick, protective suits, heavy boots and hard hats; they carry packs and drinking water, as they methodically search firegrounds, constantly scanning the trees and remaining alert to their surroundings. Rescues can be hard, as the team work together to capture stressed and potentially badly-injured wild animals. A Koala Hospital volunteer for many years, Sheila Bailey, had worked on firegrounds before, but her experiences last fire season will always remain with her. 'It was



The team fans out over a fireground, checking for signs of wildlife.



great to find koalas alive out there, but I knew from experience that their injuries were often extreme and life-threatening. Your heart really goes out to innocent wildlife caught in the horror.'

'Injuries were often extreme and life-threatening', volunteer Sheila Bailey.

The Port Macquarie Koala Hospital collaborates with multiple agencies in order to enter firegrounds safely; these agencies include the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Corporation of NSW, the NSW Rural Fire Service and local councils. Sue Stubbs volunteered her time and energy over many days and speaks about how well the different agencies worked together. 'Every agency contributed their own area



A koala is rescued and taken to safety at the Koala Hospital.



An elevated work platform helps in the rescue of a koala in burnt out forest.

of expertise. It was so important that we listened to each others' knowledge and experience before agreeing strategies and next steps'.

Extra support came to our aid too. Peter Berecny is a Port Macquarie arborist who volunteers regularly with us. His elevated working platform was vital on many days and Peter's training and experience enabled him to rescue koalas stranded high in burnt-out trees. In addition, Ryan Tate and his enthusiastic scat detection dog, Taylor, also helped by identifying active koala areas, and narrowing down where the teams needed to focus their efforts.

We all hope that such a nightmare fire season will not recur, and in the event of future fires, we hope that as a nation, we are better prepared. We say 'thank you' to St George Bank, who donated funds earlier this year, for more personal protective clothing and equipment for the Koala Hospital's bushfire search and rescue teams.

The Port Macquarie Koala Hospital will always work to save injured koalas, but the bottom line is, we just cannot afford to lose them to fire, or indeed any other major threats or dangers.

The truth is that now, more than ever, every koala counts.

We recognise and say 'thank you' to all our dedicated volunteers, for all the many ways they work with us to save koalas. We also thank all our generous donors; your support provides vital funding and also keeps us focussed and strong in our mission.

WE CAN ALL HELP KOALAS

Do you care about koalas, but feel powerless to help?

Many of us are aware that koalas are under threat, but don't know what to do.

In fact, there are many different types of action we can take as individuals, to help protect the species. Did you know car accidents and dog attacks are common causes of death for wild koalas? Anyone who drives a car or owns a dog can help prevent these threats.

16 koalas killed on local roads in just 3 months

Some actions are appropriate for Australians who live and work in areas of koala habitat, or for people who visit these areas for holidays. Others are relevant for people who live in other parts of Australia or even in other countries.

We can all do something right now to help koalas, and the good news is that the actions described here can help protect other native animals and birds too.

Most koalas die if they are hit by a car. We can stop this!



In rural areas, and anywhere with known koala habitat, drive to the conditions and when necessary, below the speed limit. Koalas and other wild animals have great camouflage to protect them in the wild, but this can make them hard to see, especially at times of low visibility such as dawn and dusk. Stay alert and use your peripheral vision to watch for activity at the side of the road and in verges.

Most koalas die if they are attacked by a dog. We can stop this!

If you live in an area of koala habitat, keep your dog inside or prevent their contact with wildlife. Owing to fragmentation of habitat, koalas often need to cross backyards just to reach food and shelter. Any dog can quickly cause severe injury to a koala. Even if the dog is 'playing', most koalas sadly

don't survive. On walks, keep your dog on a lead unless in fenced, off-leash dog parks, and find out about koala aversion training in your area.

Preserve koala habitat

Retain existing koala habitat and, where possible, plant more koala food trees.

Koalas need eucalyptus trees for food, moisture and shelter, and many properties and backyards in areas where koalas live already contain examples of these species. Koalas eat different trees in different areas, so check first with your Landcare office or forestry service for advice about local koala favourites. State and territory governments and local councils may also provide this information.

Be wildlife aware

Learn about wildlife organisations in your area, or for an area you are visiting, and find out if they rescue koalas. Keep their contact details in your phone, in case you see a sick or injured koala, or another animal in need of help.

Get active to protect wildlife and the environment

Contact decision makers, ie local, state and federal politicians



for your area and explain what you want them to do to protect our Australian animals and the environment. Even if you don't live in koala habitat or in Australia, you can still ensure that decision makers know what you want them to do on your behalf, about wildlife and the environment.

Provide water for wildlife



Set up a simple wildlife drinking station in your garden or property. This is important during summer, especially during drought or bushfires.

- Refresh the water regularly.
- Secure the water container off the ground in a tree, to reduce the risk of dog attack.
- Place a stick, or large stone in the water to allow insects and small animals to escape the water if they fall in.

Help wildlife organisations

Like Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, most wildlife organisations are not-for-profits, and rely on public donations. Consider donating regularly to help them continue their work. Your local organisation may even need more volunteers!



Livy, our cover koala, is in homecare because tragically her mother died following a car accident in August.

The data says it all...

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY (AUGUST - OCTOBER 2020)

REASON FOR ADMITTANCE

Motor vehicle accident	20
Unsafe location on/near a road	20
Dog attack	3
Unsafe location in yards/near dogs	12
Chlamydia	11
Other injuries or disease	13

OUTCOMES

Released following health checks, treatment	36
Dead on arrival, euthanased or died	32

What do these figures tell us?

- **More than double the number of koalas were admitted** to the Hospital this quarter than in the last quarter. Koalas move around more during breeding season (approximately August – March).
- **More than half** of the admissions this quarter were due to motor vehicle accidents, or because koalas were in dangerous locations near roads.
- **Of the 20 motor vehicle accidents this quarter, 16 were fatal.**

PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF WILD KOALAS

IN EARLY DECEMBER, THE PORT MACQUARIE KOALA HOSPITAL LAUNCHED THE WORLD'S FIRST WILD KOALA BREEDING PROGRAM TO PROTECT THE FUTURE OF THE ICONIC AUSTRALIAN SPECIES.

The Port Macquarie Koala Hospital will partner with several leading research institutions to breed koalas for release to the wild.

'Each of our partners brings world's best expertise in their field to the program',
Cheyne Flanagan.

In an ambitious plan, the Koala Hospital's goal is to have up to sixty breeding koalas on site. Initially the koalas will be sourced from the New South Wales (NSW) Mid North Coast only with the view of releasing selected offspring into specific areas within the Port Macquarie Hastings and Kempsey Macleay local government areas. Selected koalas from other locations in NSW will also be bred in separate areas for eventual release back to their place of origin.

The scientific research program will follow best practice guidelines in building a breeding facility, populating it from a 'stud book' and breeding healthy disease-free koalas for release under guidelines stipulated by both the



Collaboration on-site for masterplan development.

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Department of Primary Industries.

The Director of the Koala Breeding and Research Program, Cheyne Flanagan, said, 'The program will operate using rigorous science to ensure its success and the eventual release of koalas. We are working closely with both the government agencies and institutions to ensure best practice guidelines are met. The first three years of this breeding program will be undertaken as a pilot study. The data from this will be made available for other groups to use in setting up their own breeding programs'.

The Koala Hospital will partner with established leaders in their field, Taronga Conservation Society Australia, the Australian Museum and University of Sydney. Ms Flanagan said, 'Each of these institutions brings world's best expertise in their field to the program. All three partners are proud to partner with the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital to establish a breeding program to protect the future of the iconic Australian koala'.

Nick Boyle, Director of Conservation, Taronga Conservation Society Australia, said, "At Taronga, we believe that we not only have a responsibility





Artist's impression of the facility.

but an obligation to protect wildlife and habitats that are increasingly under threat. We are committed to the conservation of native species, with active involvement in breed and release programs, protecting and sustaining wildlife in their natural habitats.”

‘We are committed to the conservation of native species, with active involvement in breed and release programs’, Nick Boyle.

The Australian Museum’s spokesperson, Matthew Lott, said, ‘The Australian Centre for Wildlife Genomics’ primary focus for the program will be on ecological applications such as species identification, individualisation, conservation and small population management and will provide a range of DNA based services for the wild koala breeding program’.

Also partnering in the breeding program, Dr Carolyn Hogg,

University of Sydney, said, ‘The University will provide expertise in relation to genetics and understanding how to improve breeding and translocation decisions for wildlife. The University is a global leader in marsupial immunogenetics’.

The breeding facility will be funded by the donations made from the public during the devastating bushfires of 2019/20 and built on land owned by Forestry Corporation NSW (FCNSW). FCNSW has put aside land for the facility at Cowarra State Forest as part of its program for wildlife recovery and education. Kathy Lyons, Forestry Corporation of NSW, said, ‘The development of this facility

will boost tourism in the region, while showcasing modern forest management and traditional cultural land management practices to the wider community’.

Sue Ashton, President of the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, said, ‘It is a great honour to be able to fund and lead the wild koala breeding program. The donations made from around the world during the bushfires in 2019/20 are now being used to build the facility that will accommodate the koalas in the breeding program. Our aim is to arrest the decline of koala populations and this program will go some way to helping depleted koala populations in NSW by establishing new populations’



Cowarra State Forest, following a cultural burn performed by Bunyah Local Aboriginal Land Council and Forestry Corporation NSW.

THANK YOU



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

in Australia and around the world for your kindness and generosity. These stories illustrate a handful of the many different ways people are helping us.

Individual people of all ages, groups and organisations continue to honour us with generous action and donations.

This ongoing support is empowering. It enables us to not only carry on our life-saving

work at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, but to also develop the Wild Koala Breeding Program, so crucial following last season's destructive fires and now thankfully fast-tracked owing to the world's generosity. We recognise the trust so many

people have placed in us, and we are committed to doing everything we can to protect koalas – through continued rescue and rehabilitation work, the new breeding program, and increasing habitat conservation, education and research.

12 year old Holly hand-made 150 koala bracelets and scrunchies and sold them all. In the process Holly amazed herself and her parents by the funds she raised.

A Girl Scout group in Georgia, USA, found out about our Adopt A Wild Koala Program. Over several weeks, they baked and sold cookies to raise the funds so that each member of the Scout group could adopt a different koala.

Young Bryce is only 4 years old, but he desperately wanted to help koalas. He and his Mum made and sold koala felt ornaments to raise funds for us.



Some of Holly's koala bracelets and scrunchies on display.





Abby and Barb.

Caring 8 year old Abby decided to donate all her birthday money to help koalas. Koala homecarer, Barb, is her hero and they are pictured together here at the Koala Hospital.

The Greek Orthodox Church in Australia donated funds for the purchase of a much-needed new Koala Hospital ambulance.

Tacking Point Lions Club continue to provide their time and hard work, running 'working bees' on site at the Koala Hospital. This photograph was taken just 2 weeks ago, when Lions volunteers spent several hours clearing leaf litter and fallen branches and bark from the Hospital grounds.



Lions volunteers are briefed on the morning's activities at the start of their working bee.



100% Australian Owned and Locally Printed

Speed up your business recovery by harnessing the power of print.

Call, email or request a quote online at snap.com.au

Snap Port Macquarie 1/106 Horton St P: (02) 6583 7544 E: portmacquarie@snap.com.au

Snap Port Macquarie are proud print sponsors of Gum Tips Quarterly Magazine

KOALA HOSPITAL JOINS NEW BUSHFIRE IMPACTS RESEARCH PROJECT

The 2019/2020 fire season took a massive toll. It has been estimated that at least 30 per cent of koala populations in New South Wales died in the fires, and tragically up to 80 per cent of Kangaroo Island's koalas were killed in South Australia. Many more were injured in the fires which swept across large areas of habitat in eastern and southern Australia.

**'This new information will be essential for caring for koalas impacted by future bushfires',
Dr Nathasha Speight**

The Bushfire Impacts Research Project is headed by Dr Natasha Speight, koala health specialist at the University of Adelaide's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. Supported by funding from the Morris Animal Foundation's new Australian Wildlife Fund, this project will review how koalas were affected by recent fires, using clinical data from koalas caught in the fires on Kangaroo Island, Cudlee Creek near Adelaide, and near Port Macquarie.

Dr Speight said, 'Many of these bushfires occurred in koala habitat, and because koalas are eucalypt specialists and rely upon eucalypt trees for food, water and shelter, they are particularly vulnerable. These fires had a devastating impact on already vulnerable communities of koalas in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. They were burnt or left dehydrated and hungry in the days following the fires, and their rescue and care largely relied on the tireless dedication of experienced koala rescue volunteers, and willingness of wildlife parks, wildlife hospitals, zoos and private veterinary clinics to receive hundreds of patients for treatment and care.'

The Bushfire Impacts Research Project will work with some key organisations who took part in koala rescue and treatment, including Zoos SA, Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park, Adelaide Koala Rescue and Port Macquarie Koala Hospital. Dr Speight acknowledged the contribution of the agencies saying, 'They did an amazing job and their hard work and dedication makes this study possible.'



This koala spent several months in care with the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital because her home had been destroyed by bushfires in late 2019. She was released in regenerating bush in April 2020. Image courtesy of Port Macquarie Hastings Council.

Dr Speight continued, 'The findings will help identify risk factors and treatment outcomes for koalas related to burns, smoke inhalation, dehydration, and disease. This new information will be essential for caring for koalas impacted by future bushfires. Next time we want to help make sure these wonderful people have the best healthcare guidance at their fingertips.'

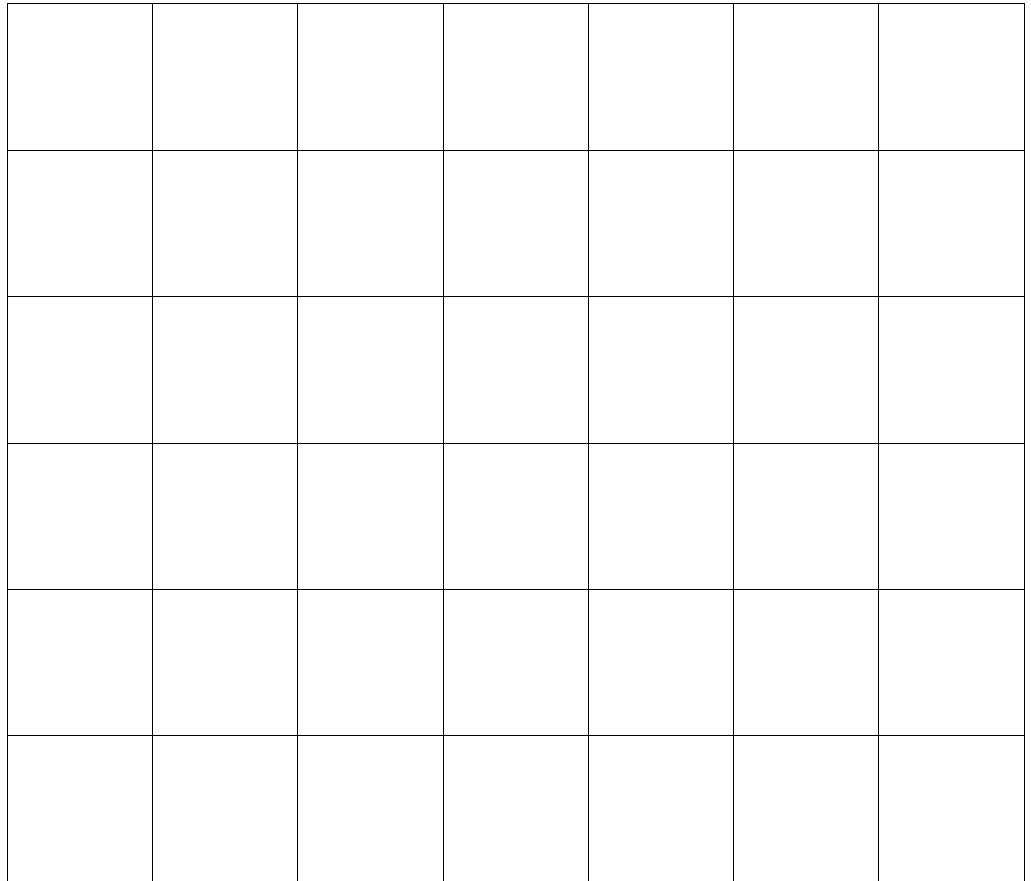
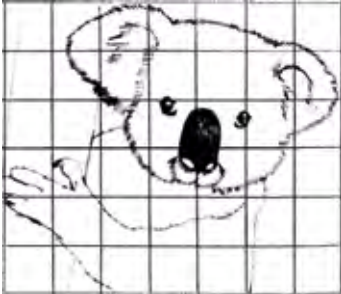
Our thanks to Port News for providing information for this article.



Koala Kids

DRAWING ACTIVITY AND TRUE STORY

Enlarge the drawing of this koala in the grid below. Then colour your picture.



Frightening day (a true story)

This is Kadina Mia and her joey, a mother koala and her baby who live in Port Macquarie. One day in November, they fell from a tree and were in danger near dogs and also a busy road. They were very frightened.

Some people saw the koalas in danger, and telephoned the Koala Hospital. We rescued them. Kadina Mia and her joey were checked in our clinic, and we were very happy when we saw they were not hurt. We looked after them until they were ready to go back to the wild.

Please stay safe, Mia and joey!





CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

Wild Koala Adoptions

Perfect gifts for friends and relatives who love Australian animals and environment.
The cost of your gift will help the Koala Hospital continue its vital life-saving work.

For more information go to koalahospital.org.au/adopt-a-koala

Check out these 2 newcomers to our adoption program!

Maria River Road Jan

is a young koala who was rescued as a joey. While developmental issues mean he is not suitable for release, Jan has grown into a handsome, boisterous teenager who is adored by visitors and volunteers.



Ruins Way Baz is a survivor of last season's horrendous fires. He is a calm and relaxed character and despite serious injury, Baz allowed clinic staff to treat his burns without anaesthetic! Unfortunately, Baz's claws were badly damaged in the fires, and have not regrown well enough for him to be released back to the wild, so he will be cared for permanently at the Koala Hospital.



Port Macquarie Koala Hospital 2021 Calendar

Stunning images of our koalas will brighten every day of the year!

Every koala in the calendar has been successfully rehabilitated and released OR is in permanent care at the Hospital.

Calendars are \$12 each and can be purchased online on our website.

