

WINTER 2025

TALES FROM *the* WILD NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION:
**WILDLIFE
HOSPITAL
UPDATE**



THE IMPACT *of* YOUR GENEROSITY:

- 🐾 Your support is helping critical construction for a state-of-the-art Wildlife Hospital
- 🐾 You are helping provide urgent medical care for some of the recent patients at the Taronga Hospital
- 🐾 You are helping more sick and injured Aussie wildlife return back to the wild
- 🐾 Thank you for helping future-proof Australian wildlife.

 **TARONGA
FOUNDATION**

For the Wild

I'M SO GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR
CONTINUED
SUPPORT!

Your passion for our wildlife never fails to amaze me. I'm thrilled to share our special winter edition of Tales From The Wild with you.

It's generous, kind-hearted people like you who have saved so many species from extinction already and are leading the fight for the future of many other precious creatures.

Your support is truly future-proofing our incredible Aussie animals by giving them the facilities to be rehabilitated after they are rescued, and released back into the wild.

Having this state-of-the-art Wildlife Hospital, here in the heart of NSW, is a monumental step to securing their future, something that you are a huge part of.

In your winter edition, you can find updates on the progress of the Wildlife Hospital, how your vital support is helping more sick and injured wildlife and the positive impact of your generosity for the future of threatened species.

Without you, none of this would be possible. I can't thank you enough for your continued support in saving beloved Australian wildlife.

Sincerely,





Cameron Kerr AO
Chief Executive

THANK YOU
FOR HELPING
FUTURE PROOF
AUSSIE WILDLIFE

Taronga's new state-of-the-art Wildlife Hospital represents the future of saving and protecting Australia's most precious native species.

A modern hospital that provides critical care for even more sick and injured animals.

We know severe weather events such as floods, bushfires and droughts are a part of our future. These incidents result in loss of habitats for species such as Platypus, Koalas, as well as our beautiful Marine Turtles and other marine animals.



A birds-eye view of the site of the new Hospital.



While construction is underway at the new site, the old Hospital still remains in operation to care for its patients.



Work is underway, thanks to your support!

Your new Wildlife Hospital Construction Milestone Timeline

Milestone	Date
✓ Site established	Oct 2024
✓ Demolition complete	December 2024
✓ Crane setup	February 2025
✓ Ground floor slab pour 1, 2 & 3	March-May 2025
Roof installation	September 2025
Canopy installation	March 2026
End of construction	September 2026
The new Hospital is open	December 2026

*The vision for a new Hospital.
From this to this*

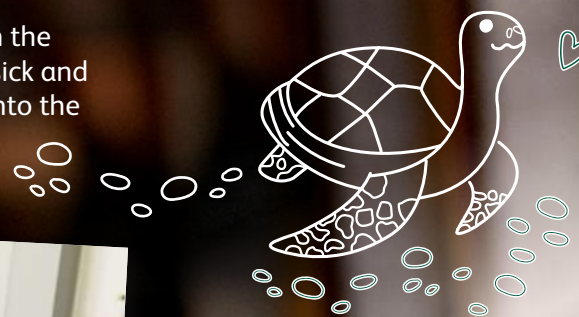


From all of us here at the Wildlife Hospital, thank you for helping build a state-of-the-art facility to care for more sick and injured wildlife!

Your incredible generosity will help care for over 1,500 animals each year, including caring for critically threatened Aussie wildlife like Koalas, Platypus and Marine Turtles.



The Hospital is going to transform the level of medical care provided to sick and injured wildlife that get brought into the Hospital each and every day.



Getting our own CT scanner here at Taronga is going to be life-altering for us – as we currently need to use external facilities for advanced imaging.

YOU ARE HELPING PROVIDE STATE-OF-THE-ART MEDICAL CARE FOR INJURED WILDLIFE.



Dr Kimberly Vinette Herrin
Senior Veterinarian

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for being a passionate conservationist and animal lover. As a wonderful Taronga supporter, you continue to help the most threatened species fight extinction.

This hospital is going to be unlike any other in all of Australia. It will help future-proof our precious native wildlife.

Our current hospital is aged and no longer fit-for-purpose. Our medical equipment and facilities need to be updated. The current hospital simply can't handle the increasing influx of wildlife who urgently need our help.

I think the biggest pain point is having to go off-site to use some of the specialist equipment we need. To go off-site, our

procedures and anaesthetics become longer, which may lead to potential health complications for an already distressed, injured or ill animal.

Equally, each time Marine Turtles are brought into us, we need to manually transport water from the bottom of the hill in Mosman, NSW up to our hospital. This has to be done every two days.

Because of your incredible generosity, I am delighted to announce that we'll have a dedicated, world-class marine rehabilitation facility built into our new Wildlife Hospital. This facility will have seawater pumped directly from the ocean. This new space will allow us to

increase or decrease the water depth depending on the turtle's stage of recovery.

Taronga's Wildlife Hospital is a place anyone can bring sick and injured wildlife for our care.

If you reside in NSW and see an injured wildlife, call **02 9969 2777** and simply ask the operator to put you through to the Wildlife Hospital. You could also call a local wildlife rescue organisation to arrange for the animal to be brought to the hospital.

*From the entire Wildlife Hospital team,
thank you for your support to save
precious Aussie wildlife.*

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING SICK & INJURED NATIVE ANIMALS!



← A TURTLE CALLED BROWNIE

Affectionately known as Brownie by locals in the Cabbage Tree Bay area in Manly, Sydney, was brought into care. Brownie had a hook embedded in its left flipper and fishing line entangled around its right flipper.

Taronga's team recognised this Turtle through ID tags when they realised that Brownie had previously received care at the Hospital in 2020 for algae growth on its shell.

Brownie remained in intensive care and was carefully monitored with contrast X-rays, a special dye that can help reveal internal blockages. This highlighted that Brownie had swallowed a significant amount of fishing line, which was eventually passed out naturally without surgical intervention.

In total, Brownie passed 167cm of fishing line – that's about the height of your average fridge!

SAVING AUSSIE ICONS →

We know severe weather events will be detrimental to our wildlife.

The new Hospital will help train an army of first responders, increasing Australia's capacity to care for sick and injured wildlife, like the highly vulnerable Koala.



RED-TAILED TROPICBIRD ↗

This Red-Tailed Tropicbird, normally found near tropical islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, was discovered washed up on Botany Bay, dehydrated and lethargic. She received life-saving fluids and medication at Taronga Wildlife Hospital.

After some much-needed rest and rehydration, she was strong enough to be transported back to her home on beautiful Lord Howe Island.

RINGTAIL JOEYS →

These two little Ringtail Joeys were brought into Taronga Wildlife Hospital after their mum was sadly killed by a cat.

At this critical time in their development, our dedicated wildlife hospital team is now caring for them around the clock, and once they're old and strong enough, they'll be released back into the wild.



SPOTTED-TAILED QUOLL

This young Spotted-Tailed Quoll was found unconscious near the Great Western Highway with a fractured skull and jaw—likely hit by a car.

After nine weeks of intensive vet care he is now back in the wild.



← A TRULY RARE PATIENT

The Hospital recently welcomed a truly rare guest — a female Shy Albatross, found on Thirroul Beach, NSW. The Shy Albatross is the only species of albatross that breeds exclusively on three off-shore islands near Tasmania, and sightings on mainland Australia are incredibly uncommon.

Our Wildlife Hospital team ensured this elusive seabird's feathers remained perfectly waterproof — crucial for survival at sea — and her webbed feet stayed healthy during her recovery and for the long journey home. After 10 days of rehabilitation, she was banded and returned to the open ocean.



CONSERVATION *at* WORK!

The immense impact
of your generosity.



CORROBOREE FROGS

On the edge of extinction after being heavily hit by a devastating chytrid fungus in the early 2000s, both the Northern and Southern Corroboree Frog populations are being protected by Taronga's breed-for-release programs.

Northern Corroboree Frog colonies are being secured in both the Brindabella and Fiery Range, while their Southern relatives are being protected in Kosciuszko National Park.

These majestic Frogs are vital for our ecosystem. They contribute to the richness of the alpine ecosystem in which they're found, even as tiny tadpoles, removing the algae from the beautiful alpine ponds, keeping the water crystal clear, which benefits other aquatic plants and animals.

Thank you for caring for wildlife of all sizes, both big and small!

Breed-For-Release Milestones:

Northern Corroboree Frogs

- 554 Frogs & 2194 eggs

Southern Corroboree Frogs

- 630 Frogs & 8062 eggs



GREATER BILBIES

Extinct in NSW for over 100 years, Australia's iconic Greater Bilby is slowly being successfully reintroduced to the wild through our breed-for-release programs. Wiped out through habitat loss and introduced predators such as cats and foxes, these marsupials are returning to NSW, particularly the Sturt National Park.

Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo has a 110-hectare range free from predators so populations can thrive and support their reintroduction. One of the most positive milestones for Taronga's Bilby population is their current high growth rate and survivorship percentage.

Bilbies are known as 'ecological engineers', the Australian bush's very own landscape gardeners! They might be small, but they shift around 3.6 tonnes of soil per kilogram of body mass each year. This improves the soil health by turning over and mixing organic matter. Soil turnover brings deep soils and their nutrients to the surface. Their diggings also trap organic matter and other materials, increasing nutrient availability for plants.

Thank you for supporting one of Australia's most iconic animals!

Breed-For-Release Milestones:

- 43 released to the wild
- 138 offspring bred for the program
- 300+ living population held for the program



RHINOS

Taronga is a founding member of the International Rhino Foundation (IRF).

As part of the IRF, your donations provide funds for anti-poaching, habitat protection, veterinary care and reproduction for Rhinos in Africa, Indonesia and India.

Your support further helps the research and conservation work as the world's largest breeding program for Southern Black Rhinos outside of mainland Africa, right here in Dubbo, NSW.

Thank you for supporting one of the world's most endangered species!

Milestones:

Currently, Taronga Western Plains Zoo has:

- Eight Southern Black Rhinos, with
- 16 calves born since the program began



KOALAS

Koalas have inhabited Australia for more than 20 million years and its difficult to image a land down under without Koala.

Following the horrific Black Summer 2019-2020 bushfires, work continues as a part of the five-year Koala Conservation Program, undertaken in a partnership with key conservation organisations.

Without Taronga's intervention, the Koala remains at risk of going extinct in NSW within the next 25 years.

The Koala Conservation Project includes these critical objectives:

- Monitoring of Koala populations in the wild
- Data and research on Koala habitats and movement
- Breed-for-release to increase populations in the wild
- Protecting Koala habitats for the future

WE ARE AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN CONSERVATION.

Considering a gift in your Will is a beautiful act of generosity. You can create a sustainable world where our precious wildlife not only survives, but truly thrives. You can help save our most precious wildlife from extinction.

You can truly rewild our world.

A gift, even as little as 1%, in your Will can help protect our wildlife so future generations can continue to experience its wonder and beauty.

If you would like to find out more, simply email bequest@taronga.org.au or call **1300 369 116** for a chat with our friendly supporter care team.



A special thanks for your messages to the Koala Conservation Project!

Taronga's Koala team were overwhelmed to receive your generous messages of support, your thoughtful observations and personal stories of your love for wildlife.

And in return, they send you their deepest gratitude.

These messages have been displayed proudly in their office.

Koala's are a truly Australian icon and the thought of them disappearing altogether is too sad to think about. Keep up the wonderful work you are doing!

Saving these precious babies for the future is something to be proud of.
Keep up the good work!

please keep continuing your hard work. save the animals and teach people how important they are.

I thank heaven for people like you who work tirelessly to support animals. May you have even further success in your efforts to save them!

Love the work you do!
Every effort is a gift. In a world with chaos + dark things, you bring light and hope which goes beyond the animals.

I've been reading your newsletter for years. I'll often sit on my porch with my morning coffee listening to the Australian bush come alive. Thank you for all your work!

Thank you
and
**NEVER
GIVE UP!**

RESCUE | RESTORE | REWILD | RESEARCH

Thank you for your passion and support for the conservation of critically endangered species.

*You're helping make a
real difference to protect
Australian wildlife.*



Taronga Foundation

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For the Wild