

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



**WILDLIFE
VICTORIA**

© 2018

Wildlife Victoria Inc

ABN 27 753 478 012

The Abbotsford Convent

PO Box 100

Abbotsford VIC 3067

<https://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au>

Contents

About Us	3
Vision & Mission.....	3
Wildlife Victoria.....	3
Board of Management.....	4
Year in Review.....	6
Chairman’s Report	6
CEO’s Report	8
The Year in Review.....	9
Wildlife Emergency Response Service Summary.....	9
Wildlife Heroes.....	11
Increasing Demand	13
Education Activities.....	15
The Men’s Sheds’ Possum Boxes Program	15
Financial Statements.....	17
The Funding Challenge.....	19
Helen Macpherson Smith Trust	19
The Hazel & Arthur Bruce Bequest	19
Rescue tales	20
Too Big for his Boots	20
A Dirty Business	20
The Magnificent Seven	21
Road Trauma Survivor.....	21



Photo by Akemi

About Us

Vision & Mission

Our vision is to live in a community that cares about the welfare of Australian wildlife.

Wildlife Victoria provides a vital service for the community to assist distressed Australian wildlife with the appropriate emergency response and care. We use our technology, experience and knowledge, together with positive collaborations to advocate for better wildlife welfare. We also educate the community about how to successfully co-exist with our unique wildlife.

Wildlife Victoria

Wildlife Victoria has provided the community with a Wildlife Emergency Response service for 30 years.

Every year thousands of native animals in Victoria are sick, injured or orphaned. If unassisted, they may suffer or die.

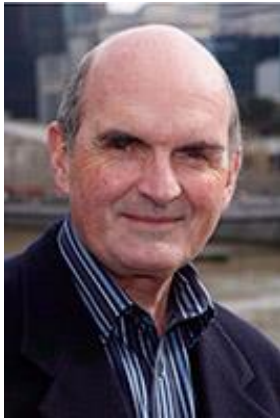
Our Wildlife Emergency Response Service receives notifications from members of the public via our emergency phone and online reporting system. We receive more than 80,000 requests a year and help over 50,000 animals. When a member of the public contacts us about a sick, injured or orphaned animal, our Emergency Response Operators provide advice to help the caller manage the situation appropriately. When necessary, they arrange for a trained volunteer to attend. They also liaise with other organisations to ensure the best possible outcome for the animal.

The rescue service relies on an extensive state-wide network of rescue and transport volunteers, veterinarians who provide pro-bono services for wildlife, and the licenced carers and shelters who accept animals into their care for rehabilitation and release.

In addition to the rescue service, we provide the knowledge and skills the community needs for peaceful and positive co-existence with wildlife.

We advocate for wildlife whenever their welfare is under threat or compromised. We support efforts by government, community groups and individuals to ameliorate threats to wildlife, particularly those that are caused by humans.

Board of Management



President: Ron Burke

BA (Hons); MBA

Ron has extensive experience in corporate and not-for-profit management in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Europe and the United States. He has held senior management positions in corporate affairs and marketing for major Australian and international companies including National Australia Bank, Suncorp, Exxon, Mobil and AXA. Those roles included responsibility for Chief Executive and Board advice on corporate positioning; strategy; organisational change and crisis management; brand building; and corporate and investor communications. Board member since January 2017.



CEO: Dr Megan Davidson

PhD, BAppSc(Physio)

Megan's academic career at La Trobe University spanned 20 years including Head of School and member of Academic Board. She has been a consultant in the health and tertiary education sector with expertise in education and research. She is a foster carer for orphaned flying foxes and long-time advocate for flying fox conservation and welfare. Appointed CEO in May 2018.



Marcus Godinho

B.Comm, MBA

Marcus Godinho is the CEO of FareShare – where he has established Australia's largest charity kitchens operating in Melbourne and Brisbane over 11 years. Prior to that he was Executive Director of Environment Victoria. Marcus has worked at the Australian Conservation Foundation and sat on the national board of the Wilderness Society. Before joining the community sector, Marcus spent eight years working in corporate affairs roles with National Australia Bank and Mobil. He is also a Director of the Lions Club of the Melbourne Markets – which raises hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for Melbourne charities. Board member since April 2016.



Dr Suffien (Suff) Suharju

BVSc(Hons)

Suff has had 10 years of experience in the animal health and welfare industry. He currently holds a senior clinical position within the Victorian greyhound regulatory body and is undertaking a Master of Business Administration (MBA). His experience includes consultation in animal health and welfare, operations management, animal cruelty investigations, teaching, policy and public education. Suff has a strong passion for wildlife and believes strongly in the continual development of WV as a leading advocate and emergency responder to wildlife in need. Board member since October 2017.



Jodie Siddall

BA, LL.B., LLM

Jodie is a senior governance professional with expertise in compliance, risk management, corporate governance, legal advice and regulatory change. Jodie is currently the Chief Compliance Officer, Asia Pacific for Morningstar, a global provider of independent investment research, financial information and data and investment management products and services. Prior to her role at Morningstar, Jodie has held roles at ANZ, S&P Global and Insurance Australia Group. Jodie holds a Masters of Law from Monash University, a Bachelor of Law and Arts from Deakin University and is a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Board member since December 2017



Alexia Boland

MComm, BA(Media&Comm)

Alexia Boland is an Australian broadcast journalist and communications professional with more than a decade of industry experience. Most recently in 2016, Alexia joined Australia's leading communications organisation on energy and climate change, the independent and not-for-profit Climate Council as Senior Communications Advisor.

Alexia is a former news and television presenter, anchoring news, sport and weather across regional Victoria and southern New South Wales for WIN Television. In addition to this, she has previously worked as a presenter and producer with Southern Cross Austereo, The Nine Network's Today Show, WIN Television, Prime 7 Television, Channel 31 and SYN Media across the east coast of Australia. She currently produces and hosts the 'Worthy' and 'Climate Council' Podcasts, while also serving as Director of her own media consultancy business Gladiator Media.

Year in Review

Chairman's Report

Wildlife Victoria has had a successful year. We stabilised the organisation by stemming the losses of recent years through close attention to costs and a concerted effort to increase income through donations. We needed to review the structure of our organisation. I am pleased to note that we now have a highly committed and qualified core staff group who have been responsible for the recent turnaround in our organisation. As part of our restructuring we were fortunate to have Dr Megan Davidson join us as Chief Executive Officer. Megan combines outstanding business and academic experience and capabilities, with a demonstrated passion for wildlife.

We also took the opportunity to refresh our Board of Management. Our aim has been to attract a broad range of commercial, not-for-profit, academic and wildlife protection and conservation experience. That renewal process continues and will serve Wildlife Victoria well. We thank the Board members who retired during the year for their outstanding service and contribution to Wildlife Victoria.

We are finalising a new strategy for our organisation to ensure we have a clear direction and are focused on the area's most likely to ensure successful, long-term operations. Our strategic focus is on organisational sustainability; wildlife rescue; community education and advocacy.

In the 2016-17 year, Wildlife Victoria recorded a deficit of over \$207,000. That was obviously a concern to our Board, members and staff. I noted at last year's AGM that our priority was to quickly reduce those losses, stabilise the organisation and set in place the building blocks for a sustainable strategy. For the latest year we have reported a deficit of \$18,785 - or a 90 per cent reduction in the previous year's deficit. Our longer-term objective is a surplus.

We have built and launched a new website to ensure the Wildlife Victoria brand is promoted in the best possible way. We are very pleased with the result and believe this important 'gateway' reflects the quality and value of the work of Wildlife Victoria.

The Wildlife Victoria brand remains strong. A key indication of that is the continued increase in the number of calls to our Emergency Response Service. This is a unique service in terms of its scale, the quality of the people we have responding to calls and the value it provides for the State of Victoria. Our call-centre and web-based reporting receive over 80,000 reports a year. Demand has doubled in the past five years. Wildlife Victoria is efficiently managing 80,000 contacts from people across Victoria through services that would otherwise have to be provided by Governments or other organisations.

The \$600,000 we spend each year on those services is effectively a saving for the State Government. That is why we believe we have a strong case for support from the State Government. Working to achieve that support will remain a priority.

I thank my Board colleagues for their individual contributions during a challenging year. Equally, the contribution of Megan and our staff continues to be fundamental in our work to stabilise and grow Wildlife Victoria.

My thanks also to our volunteers, members, funders and not-for-profit group associates.

A particular thanks goes to outgoing CEO Karen Masson, who made a substantial contribution to the organisation over seven years.

Looking ahead, we are much better placed across all key areas than this time last year.

There is much still to be done and we need to recognise that the world of not-for-profit organisations is extremely competitive and challenging. As I was last year - I am confident of future success.



Photo by Akemi

CEO's Report

I was excited to join Wildlife Victoria in May 2018 with the prospect of making a contribution to wildlife and to the community. Wildlife and environmental organisations provide a voice for the voiceless and work to ensure that Australian wildlife has a present and a future. Wildlife volunteers undertake work that is often difficult, distressing and sometimes dangerous. It is also rewarding in a way that few other volunteer activities are. Wildlife volunteers – those who take the calls, perform rescues, transport animals, triage, treat and rehabilitation the injured, and who ease the passing of those who cannot be saved – are absolute heroes.

Wildlife Victoria assists individuals, communities and governments through its activities. The best known function is the Wildlife Emergency Response Service that concerned members of the community can contact for assistance. However, we do much more than just that important work, which you will read about in the next section.

We maintain a valuable database of cases including location, species, cause type, injury type and outcome. Organisations that have called on our data include Birdlife Australia, Museums Victoria, RACV, Wildlife Health Australia, WOMsat and Melbourne, James Cook and Monash Universities.

Wildlife Victoria also plays a role in biosecurity because we can alert authorities to unusual patterns of wildlife disease and death. We also pass on information about possible wildlife crimes, such as the ongoing Tubbutt Eagle case. We are also actively advocating on behalf of wildlife, such as the detailed submission we made to DELWP on the review of the Authority to Control Wildlife.

Our education activities include schools talks, and reaching the public via social, print, radio, TV and online media avenues. Our aim is to provide topical information and practical tips on how members of the community can assist wildlife.

I would like to thank the many supporters of Wildlife Victoria, the donors and the volunteers, as without your efforts many animals would not receive the care they deserve.

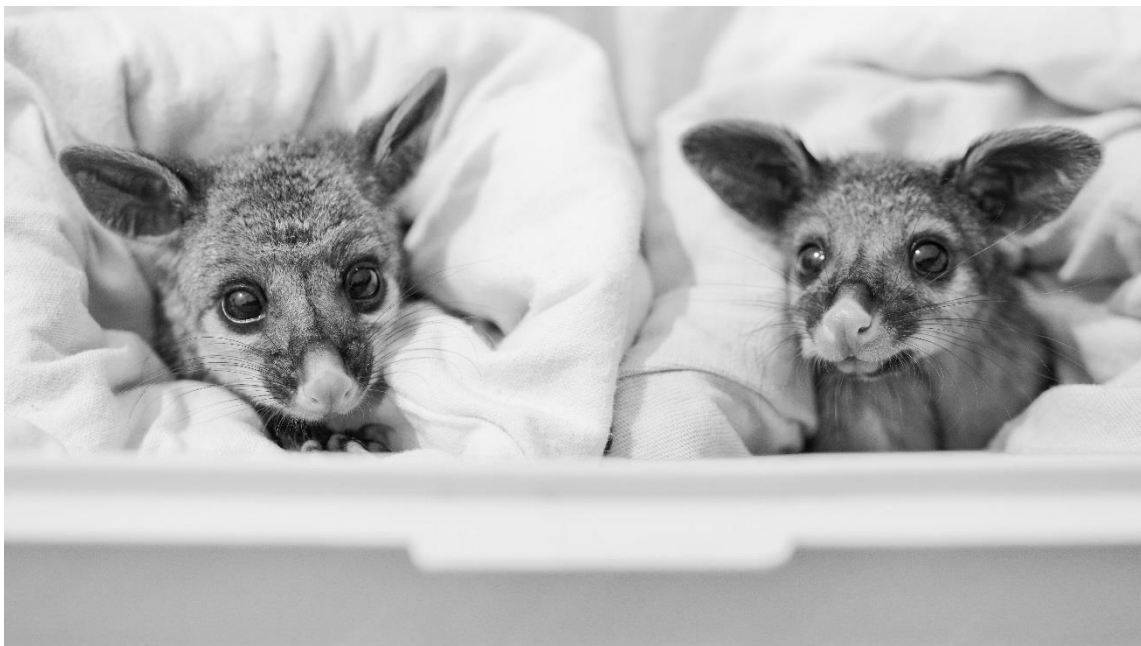


Photo by Akemi

The Year in Review

Wildlife Emergency Response Service Summary

The Wildlife Emergency Response Service (WERS) delivered by Wildlife Victoria is an essential service that responds to reports of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife reported by members of the Victorian community. A team of trained operators provide advice to callers, liaise with other agencies, arrange for a volunteer rescuer or transporter where needed, and maintain accurate records for each case.

In the 2017-2018 year we assisted 50,230 animals (Figure 1).

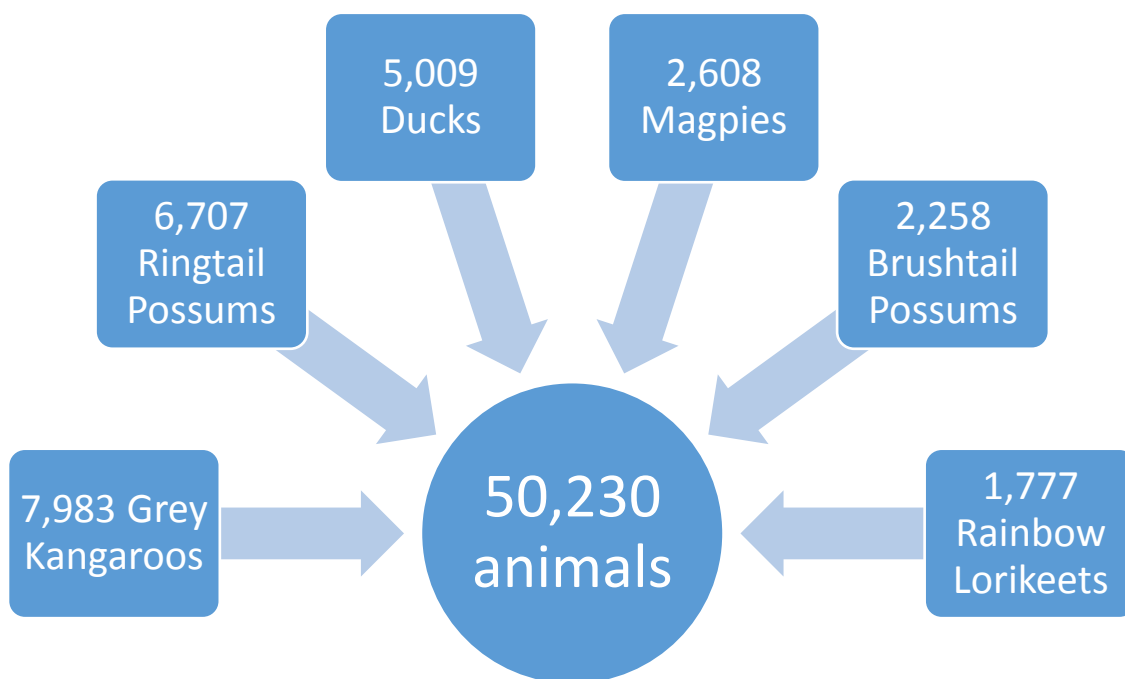


Figure 1: The most assisted species



Photo by Akemi

In many situations we are able to help the caller resolve the situation themselves, with advice and education on living with native wildlife, or how to contain the animals and take it to a vet. Figure 2 shows where the majority of cases were referred. A small number of cases are referred to specialist units such as the Marine Response Unit.

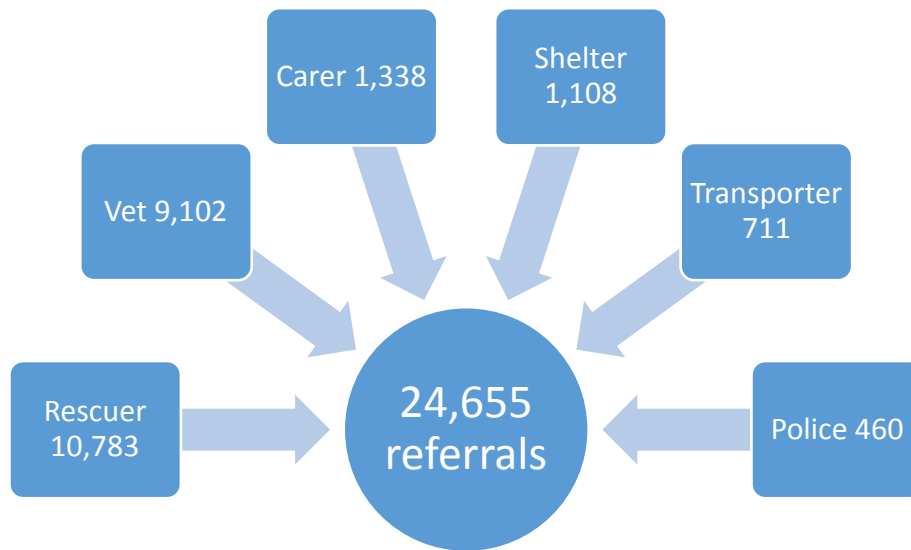


Figure 2: Referrals

Wildlife Heroes

These are the volunteers that ensured that sick, injured and orphaned wildlife were rescued, treated and rehabilitated. Figure 3 shows just how many people volunteer their time and expertise to help wildlife. Including Zoos Victoria at Healesville Sanctuary, Melbourne Zoo and Werribee Open Range Zoo.

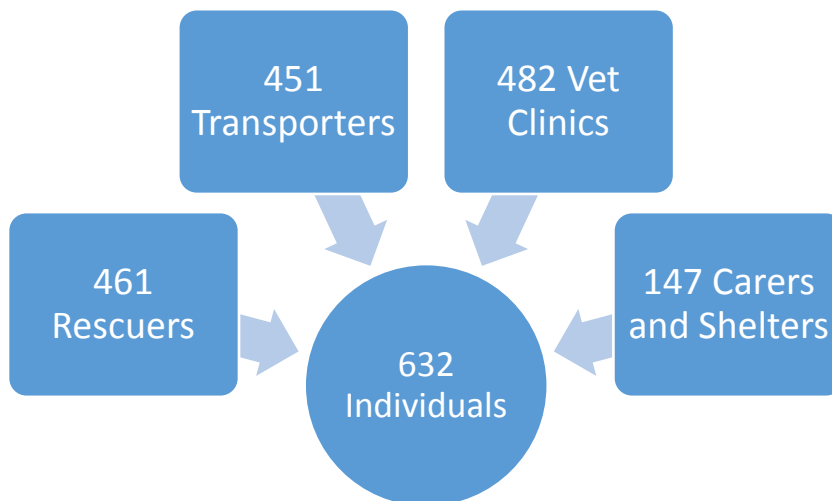


Figure 3: Wildlife Heroes 2017-2018



Photo by Akemi

Increasing Demand

Demand from the Victorian Community for help with sick, injured and orphaned wildlife has increased to a new peak in 2017/18 of 86,886 requests for assistance via phone and web (Fig 4). A new system was introduced partway through 2014/15 so full year statistics for calls and web requests are available after that. Although the statistics show that only about half the phone requests are answered, we have no way of knowing how many of the people who don't get through try again and get through, or log a web case instead.

The percentage increases over time are:

- Requests 12.3% 1 year 2016/17 to 2017/18
- Calls 13.3% 1 year 2016/17 to 2017/18
- Cases 50.5% 6 years 2011/12 to 2017/18
- Animals 77% 6 years 2011/12 to 2017/18

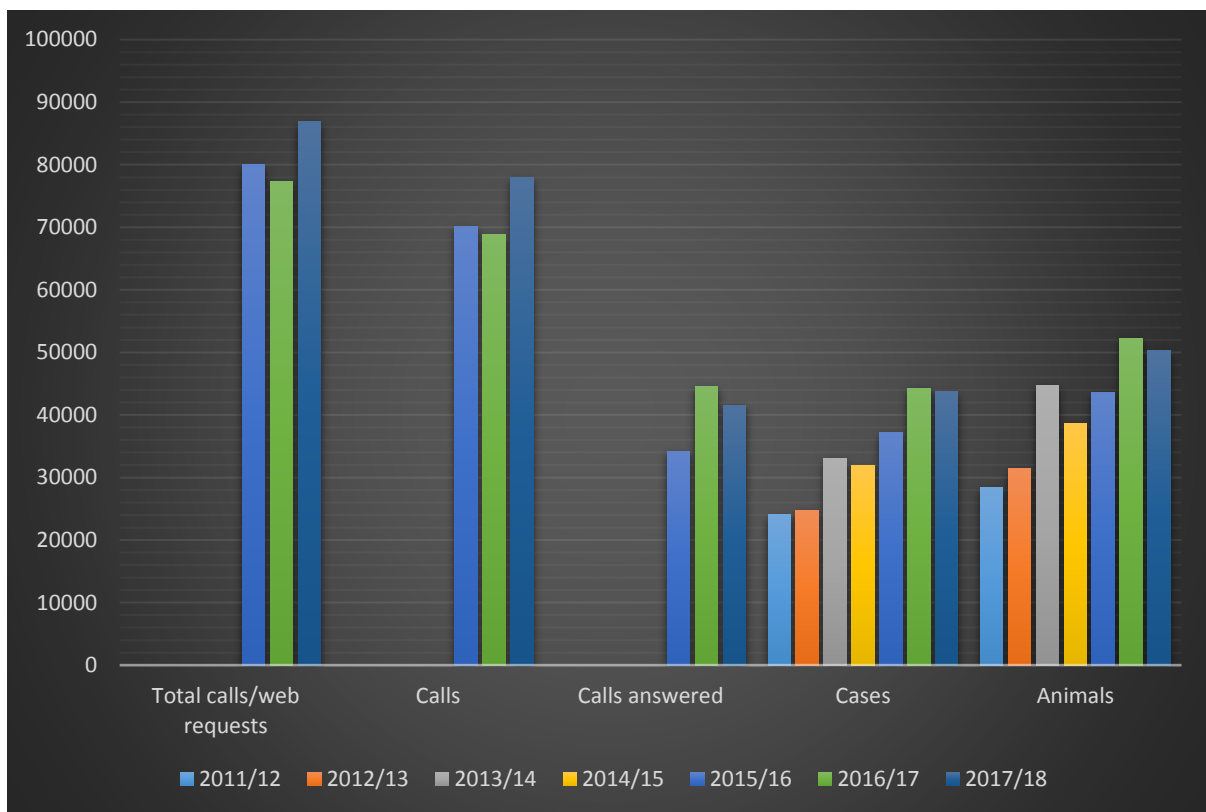


Figure 4: Demand over time



Photo by Akemi

Education Activities

Community education is an important part of what we do and every contact with a member of the public is an opportunity to education people on how to live with wildlife

Our education volunteers, led by coordinator Isabelle Higgins, are helping primary school children appreciate and to learn how to live with wildlife.



37 Schools



2,116 Students

The Men's Sheds' Possum Boxes Program

This important community collaboration was begun in May 2017, the brainchild of volunteer Mayen Fok. The fabulous men of the Men's Sheds make sturdy possum boxes, which can be ordered on the Wildlife Victoria website, and collected from the participating Men's Shed. Since it began in May 2017, Men's Sheds have made 211 possum boxes.



Picture: Mayen Fok, possum box program coordinator



Photo by Akemi

Financial Statements

WILDLIFE VICTORIA INC.
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Donations	696,561	590,053
Bequests	29,057	329,220
Membership Fees	1,050	1,530
Grants / Corporate	98,500	100,400
Bank Interest and Investment Income	91,366	59,094
Other Income / Training Fees	32,273	26,188
TOTAL REVENUE	948,807	1,106,485
EXPENDITURE		
Fundraising and Marketing Expenses	145,812	194,360
Administration and Member Expenses	252,385	346,967
Volunteer Expenses	41,432	102,290
Emergency Phone Service Expenses	520,705	585,950
Emergency Response Expenses	433	10,562
Darting Expenses	6,825	74,255
TOTAL EXPENSES	967,592	1,314,384
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year before income tax	(18,785)	(207,899)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year after income tax	(18,785)	(207,899)
Other Comprehensive Income		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Revaluation of JB Were investment	(29,415)	29,087
Total Comprehensive Income after income tax	(48,200)	(178,812)

WILDLIFE VICTORIA INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	204,988	103,600
Receivables	-	11,045
Investments	790,000	1,050,615
Other Assets	17,236	18,158
Inventories	2,107	4,350
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,014,331	1,187,768
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant & Equipment	13,633	23,524
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	13,633	23,524
TOTAL ASSETS	1,027,964	1,211,292
 CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	39,367	161,116
Provision for Leave Entitlements	3,726	17,105
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	43,093	178,221
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	43,093	178,221
NET ASSETS	984,871	1,033,071
 MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Retained Surplus	984,871	1,003,656
Asset Revaluation Reserve	-	29,415
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	984,871	1,033,071

The Funding Challenge

In 2017-18 the breakdown of our revenue sources was as follows:

- Direct fundraising 61%
- Philanthropic Trusts 16%
- Corporate/sponsorship 9%
- Other 14%
- Government 0%

Wildlife Victoria's greatest challenge continues to be securing ongoing funding in an environment that allocates very little towards animal welfare, and even less for native animals. Government grants are usually targeted at organisations dealing with companion animals (cats and dogs). Many other grants are only available for new projects and not for core operating activities. Competitive project grant applications typically have a 20% success rate, so that 10 applications need to be made for 2 to be successful.

Did you know?

- Tax-deductible giving by individuals in Australia is declining with the causes most favoured being religion, international and health.
- Corporate giving is focussed on social enterprises in the education, research, culture and recreation sectors.
- Giving by Private Ancillary Funds (Trusts and Foundations) is growing.

(Source: The Koda Capital Snapshot of Australian Giving 2018)

Helen Macpherson Smith Trust

We received a grant from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust this year to conduct an evaluation of the economic contribution of Wildlife Victoria and the contribution made by wildlife volunteers to the community. The evaluation is being undertaken by an independent group, First Person Consulting, and the report will be available in the first quarter of 2019. We aim to use this report to ensure that the value of our activities to the community are clearly articulated and understood by governments and funding bodies.

The Hazel & Arthur Bruce Bequest

We successfully applied for a grant from Equity Trustees to develop a series of short educational videos to help people to help wildlife in need. The videos, produced by Black Ant Productions, are: "How to contain an injured bird or animal", "How to check if a dead marsupial has a baby in the pouch", "How to help a baby bird", "How to help heat stressed wildlife", "How to help an animal that's been hit by a car" and "How to help ducklings".

Rescue tales

Too Big for his Boots

This teeny tiny Tawny Frogmouth was blown from his nest and decided this nice comfy pair of boots on a nearby doorstep would make a great substitute!

The concerned shoe owner could see the baby's parents in a nearby tree so gave us a call and we talked her through building a makeshift nest and putting the chick back up on a branch so they could reach him.

The next day, however, his parents still weren't looking after him so we sent volunteer rescuer Kim out to investigate further. Tawnies usually only have one chick at a time, so Kim was amazed to find that he had a sibling who was still up in the original nest. In this case his parents had decided to put their energy into the stronger remaining chick and had abandoned the smaller one but he is now doing well in foster care.



A Dirty Business

We received a call from a member of the public who had notice a koala in the shed who had fallen in a drum of oil but luckily had managed to get out. The drum lid is now definitely secured.

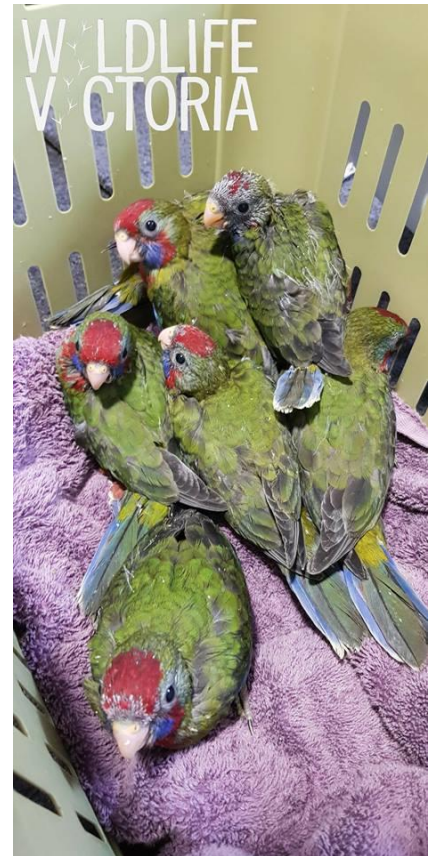
An incredible rescuer went out to rescue the boy who went straight to the vets for a long bath and health assessment. He stayed overnight for observation and was cleared the next day for release.

The Magnificent Seven



These seven crimson rosella chicks were found orphaned after their mother was noticed past away, it was suspected that she flew into a wall and died instantly. Luckily a kind member of the public heard the chicks squawking in a wall cavity and called us straight away.

The chicks were rescued and taken to a wonderful wildlife carer who sent us an “after” photo.



Road Trauma Survivor

This little one was found standing next to dead mum on the side of the road, luckily a caring person stopped and scooped the joey wallaby up and we arranged for it to be raised by a wildlife carer.

Most joeys are not brave enough to get out of the pouch and stand by mum like this guy, this is why it is so important to stop and check pouches if you see a dead marsupial on the road or roadside.

Wildlife rescuers and the efficient public will spray a cross or marking on an animal to signify that it has been pouched checked.

**Thank you to all our
supporters – you help us to
help more than 50,000
native creatures every year**



Photo by Akemi