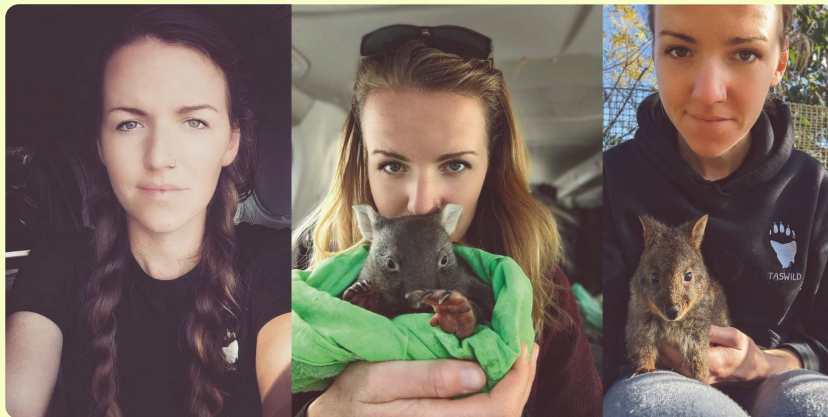


Welcome to NATURE'S NETWORK NEWS

Connecting wildlife volunteers,
sharing knowledge, and building a
supportive community.

MEET THE TEAM

A personal hello from me!



Hello, wildlife lovers!

Welcome to the very first edition of The Nature's Network Newsletter!

In each edition, I'll introduce you to a new member of the WNT team. For this inaugural issue, it's a personal hello from me.

My name is Janelle Olivia, and I'm thrilled to step into the role of Community Engagement Officer for Wildlife Network Tasmania. This newsletter is all about bringing us closer together, keeping you informed, and celebrating the incredible work being done across Tasmania's wildlife community.

Inside each issue, you'll find updates, useful resources, and inspiring highlights of the amazing efforts from wildlife volunteers like you. Together, our dedication is crucial to protecting Tasmania's precious wildlife, and I'm here to support and champion the hard work you do.

Thank you for being part of this incredible community—I'm so excited to connect, share, and grow with you all!

Warm regards,
Janelle

[GET IN TOUCH →](#)

THANK YOU & SEASON'S GREETINGS!



Thank You & Season's Greetings!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has signed up with Wildlife Network Tasmania (WNT). Your dedication and support mean the world to us, and together, we're building a stronger, more connected community of wildlife volunteers across Tasmania.

We're also thrilled to share that the e-gift card campaign for wildlife carers was a great success, with all cards now sent out to those who opted in. This small gesture of appreciation is just one way we aim to acknowledge the incredible work you do.

As the holiday season approaches, we want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to working with you all in 2025 to continue shaping a brighter future for Tasmania's wildlife and those who care for them.

Please remember to take care of yourselves during this busy wildlife season. Your wellbeing is just as important as the care you provide to our native animals. Stay safe, and enjoy this special time of year!

Warm wishes,
The WNT Team ☐

RESOURCE CORNER



Top resources for the wildlife community

Welcome to Resource Corner!

Here, we'll spotlight essential resources and tools to support carers and rescuers in their vital work.

For this issue, we're highlighting the Best Practice Guidelines (BPG)—a comprehensive and invaluable guide offering expert advice on wildlife care. Covering everything from enclosure requirements to species-specific care tips, the BPG is a must-have reference for anyone in the wildlife community.

You can access the BPG below, and we highly recommend bookmarking it for quick and easy access. Whether you're a seasoned carer or just starting out, it's a resource you'll return to time and time again.

☐ Let us know if you have a go-to guide or resource you'd like to share in future issues!

[DOWNLOAD BPG](#)[CONTACT US](#)

TRAINING & EVENTS



Upcoming training, workshops & events.

In 2024, WNT made incredible strides in training, welcoming more than 220 participants across specialised rehabilitation courses for bandicoots, echidnas, lizards, sea and shore birds, microbats, and the ever-popular 'Intro to Mammals' sessions. This represents a significant growth in opportunities for carers, building vital skills and knowledge across Tasmania's wildlife care community.

Here's what some attendees had to say:

- *"Brilliant. So much valuable information, one of the best courses I have attended. Covered so many aspects." (Echidna Course, Sept 2024)*
- *"The courses put on by Wildlife Network are excellent. Thanks!" (Bat Course, Sept 2024)*
- *"I look forward to attending future courses when they become available and thank both presenters for a terrific workshop." (Intro to Mammals Course, 2024)*

Looking ahead:

WNT is thrilled to announce that we're hard at work developing the 2025 training calendar! We're planning a range of workshops and events tailored to support wildlife carers and rescuers across Tasmania.

Stay tuned for updates on our website, where we'll share confirmed training opportunities, dates, and locations. We're excited to continue building on the success of 2024 and supporting your incredible efforts in the year ahead!

[TRAINING CALENDAR →](#)

Tassie based events!

I've scoured the web and found some other Tassie based events you might like.

Check them out. ☒

Bonorong's Wildlife Rescue Training

- ☐ Saturday 4th January 2025 & Sunday 6th April 2025
- ☐ 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- ☐ Online

Interested in becoming a wildlife rescuer? Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary offers free training sessions covering basic wildlife rescue, transport, and temporary care to help you make a difference in your community. Learn essential skills to assist injured animals, relieve stress, and improve their chances of survival.

These 6-hour sessions are free and open to all, with no obligation to join the rescue service afterward. Even children are welcome—perfect for families who want to help wildlife!

- ☐ Sign up [here](#).

Michael McWilliams Exhibition: The Gentle Protagonist

- ☐ Saturday 14 December 2024 – Sunday 23 March 2025
- ☐ 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- ☐ 2 Wellington Street, Launceston, Tasmania, 7250

Experience the whimsical and thought-provoking works of beloved Tasmanian artist Michael McWilliams at QVMAG's first-ever public exhibition of his art. Known for his quirky depictions of wildlife and Tasmanian landscapes, McWilliams' work celebrates and critiques human interactions with the environment.

Don't miss this captivating exploration of Tasmania's countryside through the eyes of one of Australia's most successful artists.

- ☐ Visit [here](#) for more details.
- ☐ 03 6323 3777
- ✉ enquiries@qvmag.tas.gov.au

Stories with Tangles and Tail: Lucy Barnard's Journey to Walk the World

- ☐ Monday 20 January 2025
- ☐ 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- ☐ Hobart Brewing Co. - 16 Evans Street Hobart, TAS 7000

Experience an unforgettable evening with Lucy Barnard, the inspiring adventurer on track to become the first woman to walk from the southern tip of Argentina to the northern point of Alaska. Lucy began her incredible journey in 2017 and is now more than halfway through, having walked through some of the most extreme and breathtaking environments on Earth.

Hear her stories of courage, triumph, setbacks, and community connection, as she shares her learnings from this once-in-a-lifetime expedition. Plus, enjoy prizes, giveaways, and complimentary drinks and canapés during the event!

- ☐ Tickets:
 - General Admission: \$15
 - Kids under 15: FREE

All proceeds go to an environmental charity, making this a night of inspiration and giving back. Tickets are selling fast—secure yours now!

- ☐ Learn more and book your tickets on [here](#).

Women's Kayak Adventure – Introduction to Moving Water

- ☐ Sunday, December 29
- ☐ 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM AEDT
- ☐ Gretna War Memorial Oval, 3457 Lyell Highway, Gretna, TAS 7140

Looking to build confidence on the water? This beginner-friendly kayak adventure offers gentle flowing river sections, wild swimming opportunities, platypus feeding pools, and stunning Tasmanian scenery. Led by Australian Canoeing Qualified Guide Fiona Weaver, this event is perfect for first-time kayakers!

- ☐ Special Features:
 - No prior kayak experience needed
 - All equipment provided (including super stable Hobie kayaks)
 - Inspirational guest appearance by mother-daughter duo Victoria and Emilie, authors of Adventures with Emilie
- ☐ Cost: \$125 per person (plus booking fee). Spots are limited—book now!
- ☐ More information and tickets [here](#).

Women's Wild Get-Together and Camp Out

- ☐ Sunday, December 29
- ☐ 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM AEDT (with the option to camp overnight)
- ☐ 2622 Gordon River Road, National Park, TAS 7140

Unwind under the stars and celebrate the end of the year at this special Wild Island Women event! Enjoy a gourmet grazing platter, tea, a Q&A with Victoria from Adventures with Emilie, wild swimming, and intention-setting under the new moon. Make it extra special by staying the night—just bring your camping gear and adventurous spirit!

- ☐ ☐ Young women over 10 are welcome to attend with an adult.
- ☐ Cost: \$47.54 per person.
- ☐ More information and tickets click [here](#).

ECHO Festival 2025

- ☐ Friday, March 14 – Sunday, March 16, 2025
- ☐ Swansea, East Coast, lutruwita / Tasmania

Join the East Coast Harvest Odyssey (ECHO) for a boutique Festival of the Senses celebrating the rich lifestyle and traditions of Tasmania's East Coast. This immersive experience connects food, wine, art, storytelling, and Tasmanian Aboriginal culture in a stunning rural setting.

Enjoy sensory experiences that touch on taste, smell, sight, sound, and touch while connecting with producers, artists, musicians, and thought leaders.

- ☐ Early Bird Tickets: On sale Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 12 noon.
- ☐ Full Price Tickets: On sale Tuesday, December 10, 2024.
- ☐ Learn more and secure your tickets [here](#).

TIPS & TRICKS



Image courtesy: Janelle Olivia

Insights from the field.

This section is dedicated to sharing practical tips and techniques from experienced wildlife volunteers to help everyone—new and seasoned alike. Sometimes, the simplest advice can make the biggest difference in the field!

☐ Have a tip, trick, or technique you'd like to share with the wildlife community? We'd love to hear from you—your insights could be invaluable to others.

SHARE YOUR TIPS & TRICKS →

This edition's tip:

When rescuing a joey directly from its mother's pouch, try rubbing the inside of the fabric pouch with the mum's scent. This simple step can help reduce the joey's stress levels, offering it comfort during the transition. Let's share and grow together!

Summer tips to beat the heat:

- Placing a wet towel over smaller outdoor enclosures can provide a cool and shady hiding for critters in need.
- Shallow water container can be placed around your garden for wildlife to drink from - but make sure there is a stick or rock in the water to allow animals to drink without drowning.
- Refresh water sources frequently: In extreme heat, water evaporates quickly, so check and refill containers regularly.
- Mist spray bottles can be used to lightly mist enclosures and foliage, mimicking a natural cooling effect.
- Create shady spots with cut foliage - the ends of branches can be bound together with rope and leaned against the edges of the enclosure to ensure your critters can seek shade.

ACTS OF KINDNESS

Celebrating our wildlife heroes

We couldn't do it without you!

This section celebrates the incredible individuals who go above and beyond for wildlife. Whether you're a carer, rescuer, or someone lending a helping hand, every act of kindness makes a difference.

A Rare Act of Kindness: Nature at Its Best

This edition, we want to share a truly remarkable story from Lyndsey and Jess, two dedicated carers in Northern Tasmania, who turned tragedy into hope for a family of masked lapwings.

While driving one evening, Lyndsey witnessed a devastating accident where a family of masked lapwings was struck by a car. The father bird and one of the chicks were tragically killed, while the mother bird was critically injured, and the two surviving chicks were left vulnerable. Lyndsey quickly brought the injured mother and her chicks to Jess, whose property is equipped with an ICU setup for wildlife care.

Despite their best efforts, the mother bird succumbed to her injuries overnight, leaving the two chicks orphaned. Knowing how challenging it is to raise masked lapwings in captivity, Jess had an idea—a bold one. She noticed that the lapwings in her yard had chicks of their own, about the same age as the orphans. With Lyndsey's support, they decided to try an unusual approach: introducing the orphaned chicks to the backyard lapwing family, hoping they would accept them.

In the early morning mist, Jess carefully placed the two orphaned chicks near the lapwing family, then retreated to her verandah to observe. The mother lapwing, initially startled, quickly flew over to the peeping chicks. Without hesitation, she nestled them under her, as though they had been hers all along. The lapwing's existing chicks emerged from hiding and joined the new arrivals as if nothing unusual had happened.

After a full day of observation, it was clear the plan had worked: the orphaned chicks had been successfully adopted. With their new parents' care and the protection of a very supportive father lapwing, the two orphaned chicks now have a chance to thrive in the wild.

Jess shared, "This experience has completely changed my perspective on what's possible. Knowing that wild lapwings can accept and raise orphaned chicks gives me hope that more birds might benefit from this 'cuckoo' method in the future."

This rare act of kindness—both human and avian—is a testament to the resilience of wildlife and the dedication of carers like Lyndsey and Jess. Thank you both for sharing this heartwarming story and for all you do for Tasmania's wildlife.



Image courtesy: Jess O'Connor

☐ **Know a local hero or have an inspiring story?**

If there's someone you'd like to nominate to be featured in the next newsletter, or have a beautiful story you'd like to share, we'd love to hear from you. Send us the story and let's celebrate some amazing wildlife moments together!

[SEND IN YOUR STORY →](#)

SECTOR UPDATES



Sector Strategy & Action Plan Review Underway

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting wildlife carers, we're currently reviewing the 2022-2024 Sector Strategy & Action Plan. This evaluation aims to gather input from across the community to refine our priorities for the future. You can read the current plan below.

[READ MORE →](#)

NEWS FROM THE BIG ISLAND AND BEYOND



A laughing matter

This year's crowned its 2024 winners, including the hilarious "Stuck Squirrel" by Italian photographer Milko Marchetti. From mossy hippos to awkward frogs, these photos remind us of the joy and quirks of wildlife. Explore the light-hearted side of nature and check out all the winning shots for a guaranteed laugh!

In future issues, this section will bring you news, articles, and updates on conservation efforts and environmental topics from the big island and beyond. Stay tuned for inspiring stories and important insights from across the country.

TRIVIA TIME

Download some nerdy facts into your brain!

I love learning—especially when it’s about nature and wildlife! This section is here to share some light-hearted, nerd-tastic facts that are sure to spark your curiosity.

In each edition, I’ll pose some fun and fascinating trivia questions to test your brainpower ☐. The answers will be revealed in the following edition, so stay tuned and let’s nerd out together!

Question:

What is the pouch called where marsupials like Tasmanian Devils carry their young?

Clue: It starts with 'm'

Question:

What is the closest living relative to the common wombat (not including other wombat species)?

Question:

Huon Pine, a unique Tasmanian tree, has an exceptionally high oil content that makes its timber resistant to insects, waterproof, and gives it a distinctive sappy scent. This oil also allows the wood to be bent and shaped without splitting.

What is the name of this special oil?

- A) Lagarostrobos
- B) Franklini
- C) Methyl Eugenol
- D) Tasmanol

FEEDBACK & SUGGESTIONS

Your feedback is essential to making this newsletter as valuable as possible. Have ideas for topics, tips to share, or news you’d like to see? Send your thoughts to community@wildlifenetworktasmania.org.au — we’d love to hear from you!

CONTACT US →

ABOUT WNT

→

MEET THE WNT BOARD

→

BECOME A WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR →

BECOME A WILDLIFE RESCUER →

BECOME A WILDLIFE MENTOR →

WILDLIFE MENTORING GUIDELINES →

Want to change which emails you receive from us? Reply to this email and let me know. You can view our privacy policy [here](#).



LOVED THE NEWSLETTER?

Do you know a fellow wildlife lover who would love it too?

Send them the link to sign up:

<https://wildlife-network-tasmania.trainercentralsite.com.au/#/home>

SIGN
UP

Made with postcards