

Newsletter
Spring 2012



Taits Road (P O Box 1079) Barwon Heads Vic 3227
T 03 5254 2484 F 03 5254 3380 W www.jirrahlinga.com.au



Longtime church volunteer
Col Hastings and wildlife carers
Tehree and Hamish Gordon
were honoured with Pride of
Australia medals yesterday.

***In this
Newsletter:***

- Pride of Australia Medal
- Koala Hospital Official Opening
- Dingo Pups
- Special Projects
- Animal Team Rescue
- Dinner Auction
- Pelicans
- Boarding Kennels
- Dingo Conservation Centre
- Volunteers
- Snakes

Both Hamish and myself would like to say a very big thank you to all the people that nominated us for the Pride of Australia medal which we were fortunate enough to win this year. This is a great honour for both of us and if we can get enough people to vote for us this will mean a great deal for Jirrahlinga itself. If you would like to assist please go onto the website: www.prideofaustralia.com.au and cast your vote. VOTING CLOSSES 8 OCTOBER, SO PLEASE VOTE FOR TEHREE AND HAMISH GORDON.

You may have noticed me struggling around Jirrahlinga on crutches. I have had to have an operation and still have more to come, so this is a time to thank the people that have sent me flowers and best wishes for my recovery. If it wasn't for Jirrahlinga I don't think I could go through all these operations, but with everyone's support I know it will be worth it in the end, as I know I could not run Jirrahlinga from a wheelchair.

Koala Hospital

I am happy to announce that The Koala Hospital has its official opening on the Melbourne Cup weekend which is

4 November, 2012

Hamish & I and all our staff and volunteers would like to invite our friends old and new to join us on this very special day. We will be open from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Official opening of the Koala Hospital will be at 2 p.m.

In addition there will be:

- Face Painting for the children
- Yummy Hot Potatoes
- Sausage Sizzle
- Giant Raffle (with all proceeds going to the hospital)

Entrance fee for the day will be \$15.00 and a gold coin donation for children.

We would love you to come and support us on this day and help us celebrate our new beginning for the koalas in our care.

Tehree & Hamish Gordon
October 2012

Dingo Pups



For those people who have been coming to Jirrahlinga over the past few months you would have seen our dingo babies. They are growing so fast but still managing to get into mischief. One of the puppies that we named Numall has had a rough start to her little life. She caught her leg in a wire fence and it

ripped the skin from her foot. An alternative was to have her put down, but one vet said there is something special about this little pup, consider having her front leg removed she will cope and adjust to this and help others... little did I know that both Numall and I would be undergoing leg surgery so close to

together... To watch her bounce round the sanctuary really keeps my spirit up.



Dinner Auction

We will be holding a Dinner Auction towards the end of this year or early 2013 to raise much needed funds for Jirrahlinga.

We will be working closely with the CFA of Lara in recognition of the amazing work they do.

If you would like to donate anything to the auction, please contact Lynne on:

lfolster@bigpond.net.au

Lynne can organise for pick up or delivery of the item(s).

Special Projects at Jirrahlinga

Over the past couple of years Jirrahlinga has been working very closely with St Laurence Services, Diversitat and Encompass who place people with Jirrahlinga for a period of 6 months. During this period of time they learn many skills including self esteem, working with others in

a team environment, learning work ethics (coming to work on time), some learn food handling skills and first aid. The people that are referred to Jirrahlinga work very closely with the animal keepers and some develop a very close relationship with the animals they are caring for. They are

provided with uniforms, and name tags during this time and really feel part of the team. When they leave Jirrahlinga many go to other employment and take the skills learned from Jirrahlinga with them.

Animal Team Rescue

Team rescue will recommence in December. This is an opportunity for those interested in getting involved in rescuing animals to go through a course provided by Jirrahlinga. As you learn about each animal you will be given a folder with

information and a certificate saying that you have attended the course. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Tehree on email: tehree@jirrahlinga.com.au. For those who have attended the previous course there

will be a revision to ensure that all your skills are up to date. If you do not have your folders, please let us know and new folders will be provided. A date in December will be announced shortly.

Boarding Kennels

If you have a dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, rat, mouse, or whatever your favourite pet is, and you are going away for the holidays, please make sure you book your pet in early. It's getting to the time of year when we have to start a standby list, so get in early.



Remember if you haven't used our facilities before we need to know your vet's name. Make sure that you have your pet's vaccination papers up to date as

well. If there are any special dietary requirements your pet may need, please let us know. We have specific times of opening and closing. When you call to book in your animal, please ask our operator to confirm those times for you.

Pelicans

This year there has been a big increase of Pelicans round the Bellarine Peninsular and most of them have been fishing in and around our region. We have been contacted by lots of curious people wondering why the increase and it would appear that the inclement weather may have been responsible for the extra birds. We are getting birds brought to the sanctuary who have been caught in fishing lines and bait so please be careful when you have finished fishing to take home all your lines and bait.

Snakes

Remember with the change of seasons snakes are starting to appear. Don't take risks. If you do see one in your garden or on your property, check out the nearest snake handler near you. They are specially trained to remove and re-house them elsewhere. They will know whether they are venomous or not, so be smart and put the number near your phone. Call Jirrahlinga if in doubt and we can refer you to the appropriate person.

Dingo Conservation Centre - Chewton

People who have supported us over the past few years in getting Chewton up to the magnificent place it is today will be happy to know that we are getting to the stage where we will be able to be open to the public for group tours. This is an experience you won't forget and we encourage you to pass the word to people who may be interested in getting their groups together.



VOLUNTEERS:

If you love animals, enjoy doing some physical work, i.e. planting, weeding, cleaning animals cages, preparing food, and have some spare time, can you help out, even for a few hours a week?

Please call us at Jirrahlinga on 5254 2484.

Let's see how we can work together?



Thank you all who come and visit us at Jirrahlinga. Without you, we could not provide the ongoing service we do.

Tehree & Hamish
Gordon