



Bird Care & Conservation Society

South Australia Inc

INFORMATION PAMPHLET

February 2000 5th Edition

FOR ALL BCCS MEMBERS

PLEASE **READ** CAREFULLY

and

KEEP FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

**THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO ALL BCCS MEMBERS WHO HAVE ACQUIRED
BIRDS THROUGH THE SOCIETY**

YOU AND THE LAW

ALL MEMBERS PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

With few exceptions all native birds are protected in this state and it is necessary to hold a Permit from National Parks and Wildlife Service (a division of Dept. Environment Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs) to keep them in captivity.

A rescue permit must be obtained for every rescued bird in your care that is being held permanently. The application form is available from NPWS Fauna Permit Section and the rescue permit is issued without cost.

Seek advice from the department you may be required to purchase a Basic or Specialist Permit to permanently hold rescued birds.

-oOo-

YOUR AUTHORITY TO ACT

Membership of BCCS gives no authority to confiscate neglected birds, enter private property or demand the hand over of protected species from members of the public.

Cruelty cases should be referred to the RSPCA; disputes regarding protected species should be referred to the NPWS. If queried as to your actions, refer the complaint to the RSPCA or NPWS.

ACCURATE RECORDS MUST BE KEPT OF ALL RESCUED BIRDS BY MEMBERS.

As much information as possible should be written in your diary (record book) when you receive the bird.

INFORMATION IN THE RECORD BOOK (DIARY) SHOULD INCLUDE:

Date you receive the bird;

The species of bird and age of bird, e.g. nestling, immature, and adult as well as sex if known.

The obvious injury-e.g.-broken wing clenched feet, wounds, swollen chest, very thin.

Ask the finder the date they found the bird, where it was found and under what circumstances.

Obtain the exact location where it was found when possible so that if necessary it can be returned to its own territory for release.

Ask the finder whether the bird was found on the road, under a window, or caught by a cat, this could help you discover what damage it has suffered.

If the bird was a nestling, ask whether the parents were present and if they defended their young. If the answer is no, expect trouble with the orphan, baby-birds' parents will abandon their young if they are ill or diseased.

Obtain the name, address and phone number of the finder. This information is required for a Rescue Permit from NPWS

Add to your record information on the fate of the bird- i.e. Died, euthanased, released or relocated. If the latter, give the name of the person to whom you transferred the bird.

Note on your record of bird any veterinary treatment and the name of the vet.

Add subsequent information you discover about the bird and any hints that will help when you care for another bird with the same problem.

-oOo-

BCCS BANDING POLICY

BCCS holds a permit from the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme, operated through the Biodiversity Group, Environment Australia to band rehabilitated birds

While it is not compulsory for members to have their birds banded before release, it is the policy of the society to do so.

Banding is the only way of identifying a bird after release; this identification helps to discover whether our rehabilitation programs are successful.

If you would like to take part in the Banding Scheme and have your releasable birds banded, please contact the following:

- Oliver Fuller, Linden Park, phone (08) 8379-4416
- Sharon Blair, Modbury North, phone (08) 8264-6696
- Jennie Green, Mallala phone (08) 8527-2590
- Anita Turton, Reeves Plains phone (08) 8527-4024

oOo-

BCCS VETERINARY POLICY

BCCS policy is for simple treatment to relieve suffering.

Inexperienced members are asked to consult a Rescue Coordinator if they are unsure whether the bird requires veterinary treatment.

If such treatment is necessary members must produce their BCCS card as proof of membership and must consult with a committee member **before** incurring cost. If this is not done, the account **cannot** be paid by BCCS.

The vet should be asked to supply an account quoting membership number and details of treatment i.e. strapped wing, antibiotics

The Raptor Coordinator must be consulted regarding treatment for all birds of prey.

BCCS will pay for veterinary treatment for all native birds to a **maximum of \$30.00**, provided permission is received from a committee member **before** veterinary treatment is given.

The Society will pay for euthanasia of **all birds** to the maximum of \$25.00. **HOWEVER**, members are asked to contact a member on the Euthanasia List in the Directory, if possible before taking a bird to the vet.

Please help us keep costs under control.

In an emergency, seek help from the RSPCA.

-oOo-

RAPTOR COORDINATOR

All birds of prey (raptors) are 'high status' Class 111 birds.

The Committee has appointed Sharon Blair as Raptor Coordinator. All members must contact Sharon upon receipt of a raptor. She will give advice on its care.

Please phone Sharon Blair on (08) 8264-6696

-oOo-

WOMBAROO FOOD SUPPLIES

Wombaroo food is supplied free to BCCS members taking birds from the public for rehabilitation. It can be collected at General Meetings.

Members can only receive **1 bag** of each variety of Wombaroo per month. If members need more they must contact the current Wombaroo distributor before the meeting to order it.

If a member needs extra, a list of the **releasable** native birds in their care must be provided to the current Wombaroo distributor whose name and phone number can be obtained from the committee and a member of the committee must approve the order.

To verify their need for free Wombaroo, members are asked to get their birds banded before release.

Members can still purchase Wombaroo at cost price for their non-releasable birds.

-oOo-

LOST AND FOUND BIRDS

Kay McGrath, on behalf of BCCS, keeps a record of all lost and found birds. She will also find homes for unwanted pet birds. If you receive a bird that, you think is tame please contact Kay on (08) 8272-0870 to check if it is on her list of lost birds.

BCCS PUBLIC DISPLAY POLICY

BCCS does not encourage public display of rescued birds. Rescued wild birds can become easily stressed in large crowds. Suitable birds can however be used in educational situations, please contact a committee member for further information before the public display of any bird.

DONATED CAGES AND AVIARIES

In the case of donated cages and aviaries that require repairs to be made to them. These become the property of the member who receives them and repairs them.

BCCS will attempt to organize a working bee to deliver them to the members and ask only that the member pay the costs of transport (i.e. petrol and hire of trailer if necessary etc.).

If you are in need of cages or aviaries please ask a committee member to help you to arrange this through the Assets Officer.

-oOo-

CRÈCHE GRANTS

From time to time BCCS fundraising activities give us enough finances to offer small grants to BCCS members who have offered to keep a crèche of releasable native birds for an extended period prior to their release.

This is to assist those members' crèching large numbers of the bigger birds such as magpies, ducks and rainbow lorikeets or members with several crèches of various species.

These finances are not always available so members should not rely on them when deciding to crèche birds. If you have a large crèche or several crèches of various species and feel that you need assistance with the cost of bird food, please contact the crèche co-ordinator listed in the current BCCS Directory.