

Minton Farm

animal rescue centre

Newsletter

September 2015

OUR AIM IS
TO ASSIST THE
CONSERVATION
OF THE NATURAL
DIVERSITY OF LIFE
ON EARTH.

“True compassion is not just an emotional response, but a firm commitment founded on reason”. Dalai Lama

Winter has brought many challenges again this year - not the least being the MUD! We have bought tons of gravel to disperse amongst the enclosures and pathways, but it doesn't go very far and it is very labour intensive! We do need more male volunteers on Tuesdays or Thursdays 10am to 2pm!

CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS

We have worked very hard to improve the conditions the birds endure during winter dampness. We employed a builder for \$1,800 to reroof the entire 4 bank aviaries and the three bank flight aviaries with lovely new iron, interspaced with sun tuff sheeting to give them some light. It has been a huge success with dry floors and better light for them. They were immediately happier when we put them back into their aviaries, indicated by their quiet, calmness, happily looking around with approval!

We also employed a welder to raise the doors of dozens of cages to prevent back and head injury- a common complaint of the volunteers and myself for many years. It was about time it was attended to! In addition to these measures, the floors have been concreted around the edges to completely vermin proof them as well.

KANGAROO CAPERS!

A little western grey kangaroo joey was brought in after his mum was found dead on the road. He was borderline weight at 220grams but I tried feeding him and he took to it well. He was placed in a pouch with Atticus, another joey that lost his mum at 800 grams, so they could smell each other and hear their heart beats to comfort them. Little Atticus struggled with pain after being flung from his mums pouch underneath a car and along the bitumen. After pain killers he was breathing less rapidly and was much more comfortable. His hip was bruised, puffy and swollen but he could move his leg normally.

I can't believe how well Atticus drank once the pain eased! He changed feeding from a syringe to a bottle and the next morning he eagerly drained it! His hip was a Technicolor hue from the bruising but was still doing very well, and to date he weighs 1200 grams. He's a lovely little fella!!

Eli arrived in his Mum's pouch after she was hit by a car and sustained a badly smashed leg. His legs also bore the brunt of a car impact, they were bruised and puffy at the knees but not broken amazingly. He was pretty keen for a warm feed once he was warmed up and was much calmer once he was in his lovely fluffy pouch made by the Murray Bridge High School students. Thanks kids!

EAGLE EYES

Looks like spring is in the animals diaries already???? My beautiful girl Miru (wedge tail eagle) has spent the last few days running and playing with her mate on the ground, which is an unusual behaviour for her. To add to that, she collected sticks and happily arranged them in a tree and carried them around with her placing them on her food or up onto perches. It's lovely to see her so happy. We collected sticks for her and she watched with sweet interest as I arranged them into a platform for her to work from. She blows me away with her intelligence and beauty.



RECOVERED TAWNY FROGMOUTH

I took the last tawny frogmouth to his home at Crafrers West tonight and released him on dusk. He flew strongly up into the sky and perched high up on a power line to orient himself. It was so good to see after arriving here a few weeks ago with severe damage along his chest where he had been hit by a car and skidded along the bitumen! He was such a good eater, and has gone home a plumper man complete with new skin down his side!

You know how we all hate being cold and wet??? We always put our feelings onto animals and birds as if they feel like we do. But really they don't hate the rain on them like we do ... that's where they live, and always have. They know how to survive and where to shelter in their home territory, which is why it is so important to take them back to exactly their own homes. I checked on the rescued tawny frogmouths tonight in their flight aviaries and both of them have chosen to be sitting out in the rain, not in their dry sheltered areas! Interesting food for thought isn't it?

ECHIDNA HEAVEN

Just on dusk I returned an echidna to the local area where she had been hit by a car. I had a look earlier in the day to select a beautiful patch of quality bush and wondered about going into the valley. Per chance just as we pulled up that night, I saw a man walking his dogs in the scrub and I asked if we could enter his property. He had 33 acres with many echidnas, and obviously we had one of them! What a treat ... such beautiful habitat bathed in golden rays from the sunset and even a termite mound in the vicinity. I so love Australia's wildlife and bushland.

RARE OFFERING

We are deeply grateful and honoured to have been given a highly sought after, extremely valuable, genuine pilots uniform from the RAAF Roulettes, an elite aerobatic display team! In addition to the immaculate original uniform, the framed offering includes a poster complete with the teams' six members' signatures, Roulette posters and a P-3C ORION uniform badge! It will be sold to the highest bidder. Please spread the word amongst your associates. This incredible offer will never be offered again!

TELETHON MOVIE DEAL

We are selling the Telethon Movie cards now. They are valid until May 2016, and you can save over \$100 on ticket prices. You can get them from mintonfarm.org website or order them over the phone on 0422 938 439. With the Telethon Movie Card* for only \$20 you will receive some amazing discounts from Wallis Cinemas.

GARAGE SALE

Our Annual Garage Sale will be held on Saturday 17th October. We are accepting donated goods anytime of anything in good order that you would like to donate and we will store and sort it from now on. Thank you so much for your support of our major annual fund raiser to help us to continue to provide this free community service to the public.

WISH LIST!

If you just can't financially contribute, that doesn't mean you can't help the animals: You can donate goods to support them: - The kangaroos and wombats need hay, chaff, Completo, Stablemate, goat meal, Lucerne pellets, roo pellets, apples, carrots, corn, weetbix, rolled oats and muesli to name a few! The rescued birds need small parrot mix, or cockatiel seed, and budgie mix.

The rescued possums need any tinned fruits and vegetables, fruit bars, biscuits and sweet baby foods like apples, custards and yoghurts that are fed out when we are short of fresh foods.

Baby wipes and toilet paper are consumed rapidly for toileting pouch young from possums to kangaroos. Clothes washing liquid and sanitiser (e.g. Canesten) are always needed to wash the soiled pouches daily!

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Rachel Hack and Philip Esplin from Smallacombe Real Estate kindly ran a campaign throughout August for Minton Farm Animal Rescue Centre. For every appraisal done in August Smallacombe Real Estate donated to Minton Farm. We are deeply grateful to them for this wonderful support. In addition to this they have generously designed and printed our brochures and this newsletter!! Please consider supporting this local business that has a genuine commitment to our wildlife with your future real estate needs.
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Thank you so very much to our sponsors and supporters for helping us to continue to provide this much needed, free community service to assist our wildlife and ultimately improve our environment.

Sincerely,
Bev Langley

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Donations can be made to either account of Minton Farm Rescue Fund at any Bank SA branch, or by direct debit to: BSB 105 078 Account 056 591 840. PayPal account and eftpos facilities also available.

**Minton
Farm** animal
rescue
centre

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Proudly sponsored by
Rachel Hack & Philip Esplin
Smallacombe Real Estate
0432 351 860 / 0413 158 668

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Refer yourself and your friends to Rachel and Philip and a portion of the sales proceeds will be donated directly to Minton Farm.
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