

NEWS RELEASE

CARERS SEEK TO SHARE ANIMAL WELFARE WORKLOAD

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CURRUMBIN Wildlife Sanctuary has joined forces with Wildcare Australia, Tweed Valley Carers and Bat Rescue to provide a stronger network for wildlife carers and volunteers on the Gold and Tweed Coasts.

With Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary's Wildlife Hospital inundated with sick and injured animals each day, these wildlife organisations are putting out the call for potential wildlife carers to help out in the New Year.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary's Senior Veterinarian, Dr Michael Pyne, says there is a very urgent need for more wildlife carers in the Gold Coast and Tweed areas.

"We are currently looking for home-carers to adopt wildlife who have recovered from surgery and rehabilitate them from home," Dr Pyne said.

"At this time of year with an increase in breeding, we are having difficulty finding homes for the large amount of orphaned animals we receive.

"Some carers have over 20 animals in their care and simply can't take on any more.

"Becoming a wildlife carer can be very time consuming but the rewards of witnessing a wild animal grow, recover to good health and be released into the wild can be amazing.

"New wildlife carers must be prepared to attend courses and training in all aspects of wildlife care.

"Potential carers will be supported by Wildcare, Tweed Valley Carers and Bat Rescue with our newly formed support network.

"We believe there is a tremendous opportunity for all these organisations to benefit from forging this stronger relationship.

"By sharing the workload, we are able to treat more animals more effectively and ultimately provide more in-home wildlife carers to cope with the growing amount of animals we receive.

"Anyone interested in becoming a wildlife carer must be willing to rescue and rehabilitate sick, injured, orphaned and displaced native wildlife with the intention of returning them to the wild.

"They should also be willing to be contacted at any time by any person in the community needing assistance with the care or rescue of native wildlife.

"It's a tough job, but an extremely rewarding one," Dr Pyne said.

For further information or to become a wildlife carer please call Dr Michael Pyne on 5534 0833 or 0413 967 073.

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For further information please contact:

Dr Michael Pyne – Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
5534 0833
0413 967 073

Sophie Hickson – HicksonMedia
5591 2556
0405 227 444
www.hicksonmedia.com.au