

## INTRODUCTION

My name is Julie Pryor.

I have held a Wildlife Shelter Permit in Victoria for over 20 years.

My Permit is held with the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

My Permit number is SP/03/199.

My Shelter at Wonga Park has been Koala only for the past 15 years.

This inquiry is very much needed as I feel the Koalas are in deep trouble and if something is not done soon we will be only able to see koalas in books.

I hope my submission will show the inquiry my concerns.

Over the last 15 years I have watched the Warrandyte and surrounding areas koala populations decline.

The area we rescue koalas is Doncaster, Warrandyte, Wonga Park, Ringwood, Mitcham, Warranwood, Park Orchards, Donvale, Doncaster East, Blackburn and any where in between.

We have had a lot of koalas come into care. The majority have not come back to the shelter. We rescue the animal and take them to the Vet. to be Euthanased. I have taken koalas to several Vets. over the years and the outcome is always the same.

We noticed over 10 years ago the females were coming in without joeys and they looked like they had never had a joey. This was telling us we were losing the population. Koalas live for 10 to 12 years, in my area they have stopped breeding, over 10 years ago, they will not be here much longer, koalas coming into care now are very old. Residents of these areas are telling me they don't see koalas anymore. I have heard this from many other carers in many other areas of Victoria.

DSE tell me there are plenty of koalas in Victoria. People working with koalas tell me we are losing them.

There is a thin line for the koalas, nobody seems to know where that line is. An investigation into the problem is much needed.

I do not envy the Government in trying to manage the koala in Victoria.

DSE see populations of koala where they are eating themselves out of house and home, and breeding like flies. We see koalas where there is plenty of food but they are sick and not breeding. I don't think the Government sees the entire picture, they see the problem areas and focus on that, but what about where the koala naturally occur.

I have been led to believe koalas do not breed under stress. Then why are koalas breeding on French Island in Victoria, where they have a limited food supply and in my area we have lost most of the population so there must be plenty of food, they have stopped breeding.

I think the koala is living on the thin edge of the wedge. The koalas on French Island are the main source of stock for the main land, as these koalas came from 3 koalas the genetics must be in real trouble. They already have koalas they call pinheads on the island.

DSE have been putting implants into koalas to stop them breeding. The Department know these implants last 6 years, may be longer. A koala at 6, 8 or 10 years possibly will not breed, so we are really just relocating for the life of the animal. To me it is just a nice way of culling.

DSE are in a difficult position, koalas die due to lack of food, so they relocate them, (if they leave them where they are they will die a nasty death). When a koala is relocated it does not always like the gum in the new area.

I have had a koala come to my shelter because it was struggling due to relocation. The animal would not eat the gum from my area. I asked for gum from French Island. I met the ferry and when given the gum the koala jumped at it. When we ran out of this gum the koala went back to its starvation diet. We force fed the animal but in desperation we took the animal to Healesville Sanctuary. They had the same problem. A second lot of gum came from French Island. Again the hungry koala jumped at the food.

This koala went to a shelter at Rawson, where she ate gum. This shelter came under an ember attack, during fires and the koala was moved again, this time to Hastings, but again she would not eat the gum, she was eventually released near Rawson. Surely this tells the Government relocation is not as easy as they think.

There have been many thoughts on why the koala may be disappearing in this area.

1.

Warrandyte is an old mining area, are there toxins in the ground?

We have been in drought conditions for so long are the tree roots going further into the ground and picking up arsenic? This would not always be an instant death for the koala.

2.

As we are in a drought, the koala only eat gum leaves. Are the trees too dry and the koalas do not get the moisture they need from the leaves?

3.

In the Yarra Valley we have many farms, all of which spray their crops with different products. Are some of these products washing into the Yarra River and the trees taking up toxins which are detrimental to the koala?

4.

Is the housing encroaching on the koala habitat?

Yes, but some of the koalas can cope with this.

We recently pulled in a 10.6 kilo male koala from Croydon North.

This koala had been chased by residents for 3 days, he was exhausted.

A Vet check, result was he was ok. After a good feed and a rest we released him back in a park as near as possible to where he was found.

I took a blast from another shelter, saying it was a sure death sentence to put him back where he was found. This person wanted me to take him out of his area (which would possibly be trouble for him) and dump him.

Why would I take a fit male out of his area? He might be hit by a car, this could happen anywhere. This big boy at 10.6k was doing ok in his area, if the public had not chased him and let him settle, he would not have needed to be brought in to care.



## Recommendations

1.

Educate the public.

1. How to live with koalas in their garden

2. Tell people koalas are dangerous.

3. Tell people what trees to plant for koalas. Work with councils for guidance.

2.

Educate local councils.

1. Tell them what trees to plant.

2. Work with them for the best way to protect the koalas.

3.

DSE should have more control over shelters.

Have DSE police shelters better.

Koalas should go to shelters who know what they are doing with koalas.

Better records should be kept.

Rehab. Koalas should not be dumped in a place where they could infect other koalas.

A better program should be set up to monitor sick koalas.

Koalas should be kept in their own area, unless help is asked for buy a local shelter, then after rehab. the koala should go back to the shelter it came from.

I don't think DSE have the man power to do these things.

4.

Vets. should have updates on training, for caring for koalas, if they live in a koala area.

5.

More education for the carers looking after the koalas.

As explained on another page about a 10.6 kilo koala in Croydon North.

This carer should know about dumping, about territories and that the koala may not like the food where it is being left, not to mention the disease it may bring into another area.

We had many sick koalas come in, all from a 5 k area with in 7 months, I thought a koala may have been dumped in the area but we cant prove anything.

Tighter restrictions may be able to stop this sort of thing happening.

These are letters I have for a submission I have been putting together to try and have the koala listed as endangered in Victoria. As you can see they are a few years old and as yet I cant see the situation getting any better. The problem is getting worse and if something is not done soon we will not have any koalas left in the wild

Friends of the Koalas Inc.

Mr Ashley Reed. Koala Conservation Centre Phillip Island.

Mrs Cecily Falkingham.

Ms Caroline Mac Donald Hillcrest Association

Mr Peter Myroniuk Wildlife Victoria ( Retired.)

As you can see Phillip Island has lost their koalas,

Warrandyte has almost lost their koalas.

Who is next?



THE LITTLE AUSSIE PHILLIP ISLAND WOULD HATE TO LOSE  
**FRIENDS OF THE KOALAS INC.**

PO Box 231 Cowes 3922

FOK Inc. A20972A

President: Patsy Hunt

Secretary: Jan Beales

April 26, 2005

Julie Pryor  
Koala Watch

Dear Julie,

**Re: Koala Status on Phillip Island**

Friends of the Koalas is a voluntary group formed in 1990 out of concern for the dwindling numbers of koalas on Phillip Island. Koalas were introduced to the island in the 1880's and thrived because of the relative safety. Their numbers grew to such an extent that the vegetation began to suffer. Between 1941 and 1978 over 3000 koalas were translocated to other areas of available habitat.

The situation by 1990 had changed dramatically. Koala numbers had fallen drastically due to loss of habitat as the island developed, road kills, dog attacks and disease. Koala counts were conducted three times in the 1970's which resulted in the following figures: 1973 - 847 koalas, 1978 - 249 and 1979 - 198. Annual counts were conducted from 1985 showing a continual decline - only 29 were located in 1992. These counts consisted of public phone-ins followed by counts in the reserves. Due to the low numbers annual counts were abandoned and surveys were conducted every couple of years. The last count held in cooperation with the Phillip Island Nature Park was in October 2001 when 18 koalas were located. These figures are probably lower than the actual number of koalas on the island but definitely show that koala numbers are now very low.

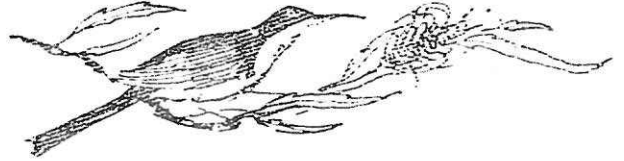
The Koala Conservation Centre, which opened in 1992, has a successful breeding program and koalas there do well in their protected environment. There are now 30+ koalas at the Centre.

The present status of the koala on Phillip Island remains precarious. Away from the conservation Centre their prospects are poor. Despite extensive tree planting in the reserves and on farms habitat is still under threat from increasing development. People pressure also means threats from cars and dogs remain constant. The free ranging koala on Phillip Island is certainly in a very vulnerable position.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Hunt  
PRESIDENT FOK





From.....

**CECILY FALKINGHAM**  
**NATURALIST**

**NATURE WALKS**  
**TALKS: Schools. Libraries. Clubs, etc.**

To Department of Sustainability and Environment

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have lived in the Donvale for 46 years and always taken a keen interest in the Flora and Fauna. I have led many nature walks through the area and taught in the nearby schools.

I have acted as Environmental Advisor (community rep) to Vic Roads and now to the new tunnelling contractor Thiess John Holland.

The tunnel which was so desperately needed to protect the Flora and Fauna was granted by the Government and is the first tunnel to be built in a creek valley in Melbourne to save the bushland.

Although many of the animal species have increased in numbers due to the careful management of the bushland, koalas are slowly declining with no joeys sighted in recent surveys in the last few years.

The impact of dogs and foxes have to be one of the reasons that koalas are declining. We campaigned for a dogs off-lead area only in a parkland nearby and the whole of the Forestway is a dog on lead area.

From all reports from local walkers and my weekly observation Wallaby and Echidna are on the increase and all other mammals are doing well.

I realise that koala numbers are a problem in areas where there is no continuing corridor as we have (21 kms of Mullum Mullum creek corridor) and I was wondering if relocation of some of them could be placed here.

The valley has a good selection of koala food and offers the shelter of other small tributaries that flow into the Mullum Mullum creek.

I would be pleased to receive your comments on this issue,

Yours sincerely,

Cecily Falkingham

From

# Hillcrest Association (Inc.)

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5.4.05.

Department Of Sustainability and Environment

Regarding koala population in the Hillcrest Forestway

To whom it may concern,

I write to express my concern for the decline in Koala numbers in the Hillcrest Forestway Melway map 48 K 4 and 49 A 5. (Donvale)

This reserve forms an important part of the Mullum Mullum Corridor.

Our group has been taking part in koala surveys for many years and we are alarmed at the slow decline in koala numbers.

The other mammals are maintaining numbers eg. Brushtail and Ringtail possums, Sugar Gliders, Echidna and swamp wallaby are on the increase.

Due to the land mass expanding to 54 h.a. and several creek gullies running through it, it has always in recent times provided good cover for koala and wallaby. There are many varieties of food plant for koala.

In spite of an increase in the urban sprawl this has been offset to a degree by mass plantings of Eucalypts and weeding out environmental weeds over the last 25 years.

About 99% of this land has been protected by the tunnel which is part of the Frankston/Scoresby/Mitcham Freeway.

The Hillcrest Assoc Inc were successful in winning the Victorian Landcare Award in 1996.

We as a group wanted to alert the Department to our concerns that our koala populations are falling with no joeys sighted for some time.

We would like to be considered as a possible site for future relocations of animals and invite someone from the Department to visit or to discuss this with local shelter expert Mrs Julie Pryor.

Sincerely, Ms Caroline MacDonald (President)



koala\_watch@hotmail.com

Phillip Island, Sunday, 16 January 2005 10:07:44 AM

**From :** Koala Conservation Centre <koala@penguins.org.au>  
**Sent :** Tuesday, 21 December 2004 6:53:56 AM  
**To :** <koala\_watch@hotmail.com>  
**Subject :** Phillip Island Koala Mortalities

Julie,

My figures indicate that since 1996 (when we had an estimated 100 – 200 koalas on the island) that of 49 known koala deaths, 34 can be attributed to road trauma. I am hoping to get some time over summer to more carefully research these figures. If you would like, I can keep you informed.

Ashley Reed

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16/01/2005

## Caring For Victoria's Wildlife



Established 1989  
Patron Mr Rob Gell  
Inc. No. A0023107T  
ABN 27 753 478 012

247 Flinders Lane  
Melbourne Vic. 3000  
Ph: 03 9663 9211  
<http://avoca.vicnet.net.au/~wildnet>

20 April 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

Julie Pryor is an active member of Wildlife Victoria and has become an experienced Koala rehabilitator. Julie is instrumental in organising and analysing data from the annual urban Koala watch program being run across several municipalities in Melbourne's northern suburbs. Through this program and her own Koala rescue and rehabilitation work, she has become concerned with Koala numbers in urban areas of Melbourne. As such, Julie is seeking to have Koalas recognised as threatened.

Urban environments and the urbanisation of rural landscapes pose a serious threat to Koala populations. The encroachment of housing, roads, increasing dog numbers, and road traffic negatively impact on Koala populations. Wildlife Victoria, together with Julie are concerned that urban Koalas are threatened and there needs to be wide-spread recognition of this within government agencies and the community. To this end, Wildlife Victoria supports Julie's concerns and her efforts to bring the plight of Koala populations, particularly in urban landscapes to the government and the communities' attention.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Myroniuk BSc (Hons), MSc  
President



In my Submission,

I have included Post Mortem results for many koalas which have come to my shelter.

There are photos of sick koalas, this is typical of what we are called out to collect.

4 photos show a koala with growth on her hands and feet. I am not happy with the PM results.

My list of koala death at my shelter for the past 15 years.

A copy of the cover sheet of a survey done by Jacinta Colvin. It may be worth looking at.

**A SURVEY OF SKULL ABNORMALITIES IN THE  
VICTORIAN KOALA, *PHASCOLARCTOS CINEREUS*  
VICTOR**

Jacinta Colvin

Bachelor of Animal Science

2003

Department of Veterinary Science,  
The University of Melbourne

This is an incomplete list of the koalas I have been called to help and my koalas that have died since 1996. As there are many other shelters in my area I don't know how many have gone elsewhere.

Looking at this list you will see there have been 65 males and 55 females.

With 55 females I would have expected to see more than 4 joeys.

The 3 joeys came in on 17/03/1998, 26/03/1999 and 11/10/1999. The 4<sup>th</sup> joey came in on the 5/12/2006. This joey was found on the ground, under a bush, by himself.

He died 4 days later. He had a very bad smell about him. A ruptured spleen showed in the P.M. results.

MALE  
FEMALE  
JOEY

Date	Age	Sex	Location	Clinical	Outcome	Date2
19051996	adult	male	Stintons Rd Park Orchards	Broken Jaw	Euth.Healesville Sanctuary	19051996
18041997	adult	male	Hoopers Rd Wonga Park	Old Age	Euth	21041997
24111997	adult	male	Deep Creek Rd	injured	Euth	1121997
26111997	adult	female	Gold Nugget Crt Warrandyte	Old age	Euth	26111997
1121997	adult	male	Commercial Rd Park Orchards	Had a fit	Died	4121997
8121997	adult	male	East Doncaster	Hit by car	Euth	8121997
8121997	adult	female	Santa Roas Blvd Templestowe		Euth	8121997
6021998	adult	male	Laughlan Rd Ringwood	Dog attack	Euth	14031998
17031998	adult	female	Third St Warrandyte	Dog attack	Died	17031998
17031998	joey	male	Third St Warrandyte	Dog attack	Euth	17031998
27041998	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	27041998
1051998	adult	male	Warrandyte/Templestowe Rd Wdt		Died	
5081998	adult	female	Westerfolds Park Templestowe	Not well	Euth	14081998
8081998	adult	female	Victory St Mitcham		Euth	8081998
10091998	adult	female	Springvale/Brae Crt Cnr Nunawad		Died	10091998
19101998	adult	male	Porter St Templestowe	found in lounge room of house	Euth	19101998
30101998	adult	male	Jumping Creek Rd Wonga Park	Hit by car	Euth	30101998
10121998	adult	male	Alexandra Rd Warrandyte	not well	Euth	10121998
6021999	adult	female	Jumping Creek Rd Wonga Park	Hit by car	Died	6021999
7031999	adult	male	Websters Road Templestowe		Euth	13031999
26031999	adult	female	Maroondah Hwy Mitcham	In tree in centre of Hwy	Euth	26031999
26031999	joey	male	Maroondah Hwy Mitcham	In mothers pouch. Very young	Euth	26031999
3041999	adult	male	South Valley Rd Park Orchards		Euth	3041999
17051999	adult		Timothy Crt Templestowe		Euth	17051999
11101999	joey	female	Houghton Rd Warrandyte	Fell into a bee hive 4 days earl	Died	11101999
15101999	adult	female	Norman Reserve Warrandyte		Euth	15101999
5111999	adult	male	Fitzsimonds Lane Templestowe	Hit be car	Dead	5111999
30111999	adult	male	Knees Rd Park Orchards	Fly blown	Euth	30111999
0	adult		Paddys Lane Park Orchards	Drowned in pool	Dead	0
31032000	adult	male	Jumping Creek Road Warrandyte		Euth	3.1E+08
21082000	adult	male	Brett Ave Warrandyte		Euth	21082000
22102000	adult	female	Oakland Drive Warrandyte		Euth	2112000
22102000	adult	male	Wattle Blossum Drive Warrandyte		Euth	22102000
26102000	adult	female	Mahoneys Crt Warrandyte		Euth	8112000
3112000	adult	female	Warrandyte		Euth	3112000
2122000	adult	female	Arnold St Donaster East		Euth	2122000



11122000	adult	male	Hill St Warrandyte		Euth	11122000
5122000	adult	male	Fitzsimonds Lane Templestowe		Died	8032001
5032001	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	14032001
14032001	adult	male	Wonga Park		Euth	42001
42001	adult		Falconer Rd Park Orchards		Died	5072001
5072001	adult	male	Lynette Ave Warrandyte		Euth	7072001
7072001	adult	female	Brushy Creek Rd Wonga Park		Died	1082001
1082001	adult	female	Goldfields Plaza Warrandyte		Euth	24082001
23082001	adult	female	Jennifer Crt Warrandyte		Died	
102001	adult		Black Flats Warrandyte	Drowned		
24112001	adult	female	Doleen Rd Nth Warrandyte		Euth	24112001
22122001	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	11012001
10022002	adult	male	Westerfolds Park Templestowe		Died	10022002
17022002	adult	male	Porter St Templestowe		Dead	17022002
21032002	adult	male	Tacoma St Park Orchards		Euth	22032002
4042002	adult	male			Died	7042002
30052002	adult	male			Euth	30052002
10062002	adult	male	Stane Brae Crt Wonga Park	Possible dog attack	Dead	10062002
16062002	adult	male	Westerfolds Park Templestowe		Died	22062002
2002	adult		Warrandyte State Park PBTunnel		Died	2002
27082002	adult	female	Donvale		Euth	27082002
17102002	adult	female	Somers Rd Nth Warrandyte	Dog attack	Died	17012002
22102002	adult	male	Warrandyte		Dead	22102002
12003	adult	male			Died	12003
3032003	adult	male	Warrandyte State Park		Died	4032003
11032003	adult	female	Springvale Road Donvale		Euth	12032003
25042003	adult	male	Oakland Drive Warrandyte		Euth	25042003
17072003	adult	female	The Domain Estate Templestowe		Dead	17072003
9082003	adult	female	Homewood Dr Warrandyte		Euth	9082003
27082003	adult	female	Hall Rd Donvale		Euth	27082003
20092003	adult	male	Pioneer Rd Warrandyte		Died	29092003
2102003	adult	male	Templestowe		Dead	2102003
21102003	adult	male	Westerfolds Park		Died	21102003
4122003	adult		Briar Lane Templestowe		Died	4122003
25122003	adult	female	Knees Rd Donvale		Died	28122003
10022004	adult	female	Larnoo Drive East Doncaster		Euth	10022004
19022004	adult	female	Oakland Dr Warrandyte		Euth	19022004

24022004	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	24022004
2032004	adult	male	Webb St Warrandyte		Euth	8032004
12032004	adult	male	Warrandyte State Park PBTrack		Dead	12032004
28052004	adult	male	Warrandyte/Templestowe Rd		Euth	28052004
16062004	adult	female	Grandview Rd Warrandyte		Euth	18062004
18062004	adult	female	Warrandyte		Euth	18062004
23062004	adult	female	Warrandyte/Templestowe Rd		Euth	25062004
1082004	adult	male	Smedley Rd Park Orchards		Euth	1082004
2022005	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	8032005
12022005	adult	female	Warrandyte		Euth	12022005
6032005	adult	male	Templestowe		Euth	9032005
30032005	adult	male	Wonga Park		Euth	31032005
3062005	adult	female	Bradleys Lane Warrandyte	FWD Tag Ancient Koala	Dead	3062005
19072005	adult	female	Warrandyte State Park Pound Ben		Euth	19072005
1082005	adult	female	McGowans Rd Donvale		Euth	1082005
14122005	adult	female	Reynolds Road East Doncaster		Dead	14122005
13012006	adult	male	Webb St Warrandyte		Died	13012006
22012006	adult	female	Warrandyte/Templestowe Rd	Crystal Brook Caravan Park	Euth	22012006
11032006	adult	female	Enfield Rd Park Orchards		Euth	12032006
17042006	adult	female	Gold Memorial Rd Warrandyte		Euth	18042006
1062006	adult	male	Oban Rd Donvale		Euth	1062006
14062006	adult	female	Mc Intyre Rd Park Orchards		Euth	14062006
20062006	adult	female	Stane Brae Crt Wonga Park		Dead	20062006
15072006	adult	female	Warrandyte		Euth	15072006
15102006	adult	male	Park Orchards		Dead	15102006
21102006	adult	male	Park Orchards		Euth	22102006
1112006	adult	male	Templestowe		Euth	8112006
22112006	adult	male	Warrandyte		Euth	25112006
25112006	adult	female	Warrandyte State Park		Euth	25112006
28112006	adult	male	Templestowe		Dead	28112006
28112006	adult	male	Forbes St Warrandyte		Euth	28112006
2122006	adult	female	Ringwood North	Ruptured spleen v. bad smell	Euth	2122006
5122006	joey	male	Westerfolds Park Templestowe		Died	9122006
12122006	adult	female	Park Orchards		Euth	12122006
25122006	adult	female	Bradleys Lane Warrandyte		Euth	25122006
122007	adult	male	Park Orchards		Euth	25122006
11012007	adult	male			Dead	11012007



14012007	adult	male	Park Orchards	Euth	14012007
3022007	adult	female	Park Orchards	Dead	3022007
17022007	adult	male	Warrandyte	Euth	17022007
7032007	adult	female	Nth Warrandyte	Euth	7032007
31032007	adult	male	Warrandyte	Euth	31032007
20072007	adult	male	Donvale	Euth	20072007
22072007	adult	female	Warrandyte	Euth	22072007
18122007	adult	male	Harris Rd Donvale	Euth	18122007
12012008	adult	female	Westerfolds Park Templestowe	Euth	12012008
18012008	adult	female	Westerfolds Park Templestowe	Euth	18122008
30012008	adult	male	Donvale	Euth	30012008
21032008	adult	female	Husseys Lane Warrandyte	Euth	21032008
7052008	adult	female	O'Briens Lane Templestowe	Dead	7052008
27062008	adult	female	Pamela Crt Warrandyte	Euth	27062008
29062008	adult	male	The Domain Templestowe	Euth	30062008
1002008	adult	female	Oakland Drive Warrandyte	Euth	11072008
23072008	adult	female	Along river track between Alexander and Oakland Dr	Dead	23072008
27072008	adult	female	Kearney Lane Templestowe	Euth	28072008
18082008	adult	female	Warrandyte State Park Warrandyte	Euth	18082008
22092008	adult	male	Bradleys Lane Warrandyte	Dead	22092008
29102008	adult	female	Warrandyte	Euth	29102008
11122008	adult	female	Warrandyte	Euth	11122008
14122008	adult	female	Warrandyte	Euth	14122008
28122008	adult	male	Warrandyte	Euth	28122008
25042009	adult	female	Cliveden Crt Blackburn	Euth	26042009
13092009	adult	female	Alexander Rd Warrandyte	Euth	14092009
18092009	adult	female	Homewood Rise	Euth	3102009
30122009	adult	female	Warrandyte State Park	Euth	30122009
7022009	adult	female	Westerfolds Park	Euth	7022009
29032010	joey	male	Heywood Shelter	Died	due to injuries 45grams
2042010	joey	female	Heywood Shelter	Died	due to injuries 127grams
16062010	adult	female	The Domain Doncaster	Euth.	Very Old
			Euth Healesville Sanctuary		16022010

From 1998 to 2004 we did a suburban and park koala count in our area.

The count in suburbia was not easy.

With the support of my local Council, Parks Victoria, DSE, and many volunteers, we did letter box drops and had articles in local newspapers.

We asked people to check their back yards on a given date and explained why.

(As koalas move we did not want to count them twice)

As word got about we were doing this many other councils wanted to be part of the next year count.

I have included the results for my area.

As you can see the totals fluctuate but over all the totals are going down.

2002 WSP total of 9 koalas, this was a very wet day and not many people turned up to help count.

Warrandyte State Park Friends Group did a koala count in 2008 and they found 3 koalas. In 2009 they did another count and they found 1 koala. About 40 people were looking for several hours. The total did not surprise me as I have taken 2 koalas out since the 2008 count. Both koalas were euthanased. One was ancient the other was blind.

Note the number of koalas sighted and look at the total of joeys, only 2 or 3 joeys per count. The count was conducted in November as Joeys would be on their mothers back by then and easier to see.

I stopped the count due to my ill health but I would be pleased to try again if needed.

By talking to people I found a lot of residents did not know we had koalas in the area. One lady rang me and told me, a koala had attacked her. When I asked her what she was doing, she said she was trying to get it out of the tree, to take it to school for show and tell.

Promoting public awareness would help these animals.

My local council is Manningham, and they maintain many council parks.

The local park is Warrandyte State Park maintained by Parks Victoria. The Yarra River flows through the park.



**JOEYS RECORDED IN THIS AREA SINCE 1998.**

	<b><u>OUTSIDE PARK</u></b>	<b><u>IN W.S.P.</u></b>
1998 KOALA COUNT	3	
1999 KOALA COUNT	1	2
2000 KOALA COUNT	1	2
2001 KOALA COUNT	1	1
2002 KOALA COUNT	1	
2003 KOALA COUNT	3	
2004 KOALA COUNT	2	
2005 KOALA COUNT		1

**JUST AFTER THE 2000 KOALA COUNT WE HAD A REPORT OF THE FEMALE IN MONBULK ROAD; MONBULK HAD A JOEY ON HER BACK.**

**SINCE THE 2001 COUNT WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER 2 JOEYS SIGHTED 1 IN MITCHAM AND 1 IN NORTH RINGWOOD.**

**TWO OF THE 3 JOEYS IN THE 2003 COUNT WERE BEING HAND RAISED AND WERE FROM BALLARAT AND PORTLAND. THE FEMALE FROM BALLARAT HAS DIED.**

**IN JANUARY 2004 A JOEY WAS SIGHTED IN WARRANDYTE STATE PARK.**

**KOALA COUNTS**

	<b><u>W.S.P.</u></b>	<b><u>SUBURB</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>M</u></b>	<b><u>F</u></b>	<b><u>J</u></b>
1998	34	19	53	4	4	3
1999	28	25	53	10	23	3
2000	16	16	32	2	4	3
2001	24	21	45		2	2
2002	9	28	37		1	1
2003	29	31	60	3	3	3
2004	19	15	34			2

## PHOTOS INCLUDED

I have included photos of koalas we have rescued.

Photo 1 and 2 are the same koala.

No energy, he got worse and needed to be euthanased. Possible renal failure.

Photo 3 is how we find most koalas.

Sitting on the ground, hunched over, no resistance to being picked up, and they always need to be euthanased.

Photos 4,5,and 6

All of these koalas were hungry and wanted to eat.

They were all very thin and the kindest thing was to euthanase them.

Photo 4 notice the size of the pellets. Very small for an adult koala.

Photo 5 the koala did not have the energy to sit up, but she still wanted to eat.

Photo 6 the koala was too sick to care.

Photo 7 note the big belly. Not good for a very thin koala.

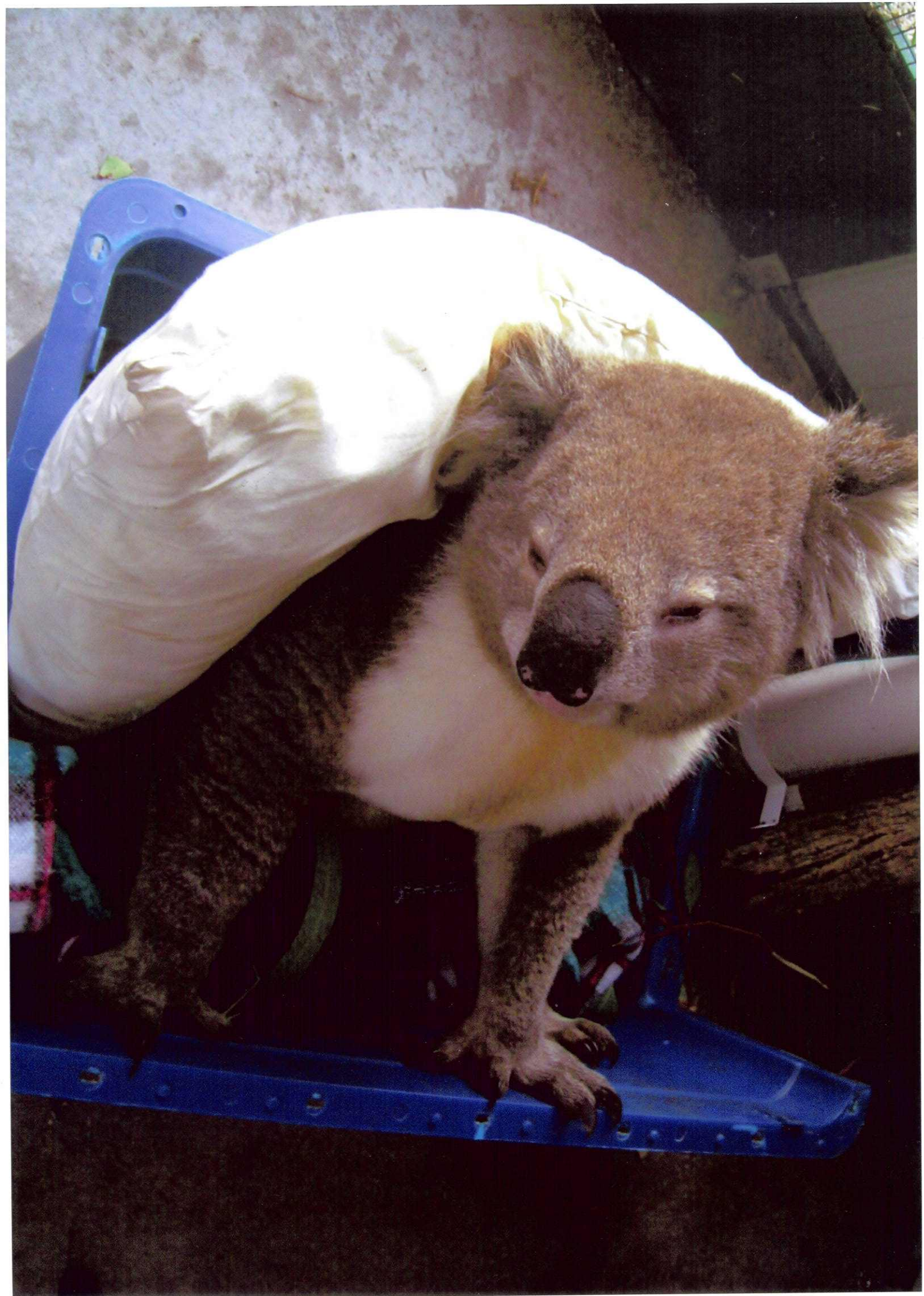
Photos 8,9,10 and 11 Does anyone know what this is? We have not had anymore like this.

I have also included the PM result for this koala.















































### Histopath Report

No feature image selected for this patient.  
Click to manage patient images.

Patient record

**REPORTS:**

- Blood
- Histopath
- Micro
- Faecal
- Urine
- Radiography
- Post Mortem

Request test

**TOOLBOX**

Edit	New	Drug	Revisit	Print
Weight	Specm'n	Revisit	Print	

ACC. NO:	63577	COMMON NAME:	Koala	LIST STATUS:	Inactive
ACC. NO:	080120	HOUSE NAME:		DEATH DATE:	18/01/2008
PATIENT NO:	63577	GENUS:	Unspecified	LAST WEIGHT:	
INCIDENT NO:		AGE:		ORIGIN:	templestone
		SEX:	Female	CLASS:	Unspecified
		LOCATION:	Healesville Sanctuary	SPECIES:	Unspecified
DATE CHG:	18/01/2008	CATEGORY:	Rescue		

History Found on ground westerfolds park  
Laboratory Number: 08-7056674

**Diagnosis:**

Marked orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis

**Details:**

LIVER: Marked granular pigmentation of hepatocellular cytoplasm. Normal. KIDNEY: No significant findings (HSF).  
LUNG: HSF. HEART: HSF. INTESTINE: HSF. SPLEEN: HSF. UTERUS: Cystic portion - no evidence of inflammation, histologically normal wall. LYMPH NODE: Lymphoid and reticulohistiocytic hyperplasia. FOOTPADS: Marked orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis. The underlying epidermis is not acanthotic, nor is there any evidence of inflammation or viral inclusions.

**Comments:**

I can see no reason for the hyperkeratosis of the pads and could only speculate that maybe the animal did not wear them down through not delimiting. Other changes seen here are unremarkable and I wonder why she was euthanased.  
PETER PHILLIPS BVSc (Hons) PHD VETERINARY PATHOLOGIST

Test Completed Date: Thursday, 7 February 2008

Save