



Annual Report 2024

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Acknowledgement of Country

*ACT Wildlife acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people.
We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they and their Elders,
past, present and emerging, make to the life of this city and this region.*

President's Report *by Yana del Valle, President*



The ACT Wildlife Committee is far more than an administrative body ensuring the organisation's operations are managed. It comprises of twelve (12) dedicated volunteers who often take on this demanding role in addition to their other contributions as carers, rescuers and fundraisers.

The achievement of 2024, which includes some initiatives that commenced in 2023, have been tough, with many of these successful outcomes taking a large amount of effort and dedication.

These include but are not limited to the following:

- All aspects of recruiting and managing administration of staff and the two properties, (Lead by Dorothy Brown, with assistance from others during recruitment)
- Financial management of the organisation's accounting, invoicing, receipting, payments, the preparation of tax activity statements, petty cash, payroll, including ensuring regulatory requirements are met. (Lead by Mark Jenkin, with assistance from Tracey McNicol)
- Development of the suite of documents which make up the Work Health and Safety (Lead by Dorothy Brown, with input from all members)
- Management plan: development of the suite of documents which make up the Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Policy (Lead by Yana del Valle, with input from all members)
- Development of the business cases to secure ongoing Government funding including an additional \$50,000 for financial year 2025 (Lead by Yana del Valle)
- Continuous advocacy for a dedicated wildlife Veterinarian leading to securing \$74,000 for financial year 2025-26 to support veterinary costs. (Lead by Lindy Butcher, with assistance from Yana del Valle)
- Initiation and monitoring of events, including the first Gala(h) Ball, engagement of volunteers and coordination through the year. (Lead by Deb Thomas and Tracey McNicol, with participation by various).
- Initiation for the engagement of a Head of Fundraising that will ensure the organisation becomes less reliant on the dwindling Government funding and able to better support our volunteers and animals into the future (Lead by Lindy Butcher and assisted by Yana del Valle)

The list of achievements are too numerous to list, but I am proud of what has been accomplished in just over 12 months. The achievements of ACT Wildlife are the result of the hard work, commitment, and expertise of these individuals, many of whom contribute across successive committees to ensure the organisation's continued growth and success.

Vision and Mission

Our Vision

The welfare and biodiversity of wildlife in the ACT is maintained.

Our Mission

The purpose of ACT Wildlife is to:

- Rescue, rehabilitate and release injured, sick and orphaned native wildlife.
- Educate the public about sharing the urban interface with native wildlife.
- Provide professional training to ensure a high standard of welfare for animals in care.



Patrons



Ian Fraser – Naturalist, Conservationist and Author

Ian is an Australian naturalist, conservationist and author, based in Canberra since 1980. He sees his main role as contributing to education about wildlife and the environment, to promote understanding and support for conservation efforts. For over 20 years he presented a fortnightly natural history show on Canberra ABC Radio, and still makes periodic appearances there and on Radio National. He teaches bird and other natural history courses to adult students at the ANU Centre for Continuing Education.



Genevieve Jacobs – Journalist

The arts, gardening and the environment, history and politics, and family issues are among Genevieve's interests but as an incurably nosy person, she enjoys discovering people's stories and loves nothing more than a good yarn. Genevieve was happy to promote our cause as often as possible on her ABC 666 morning radio show, and started this commitment by interviewing Marg Peachey (ACTW President) about the problems associated with fruit tree netting and the local flying fox population. Genevieve has also offered to act as MC at fundraising events we run.



Karen Viggers – Author

Karen is the award-winning internationally best-selling author of four novels: 'The Stranding', 'The Lightkeeper's Wife', 'The Grass Castle' and 'The Orchardist's Daughter'. She writes contemporary fiction set in Australian landscapes, and her work explores connection with the bush, grief, loss, healing in nature, death, family, and friendship. Her books also tackle contentious issues including choices at the end of life, whale rescue, kangaroo culling and scientific research on animals. Karen is a wildlife veterinarian who has worked and travelled in many remote parts of Australia. Her novels are known for their evocative portrayal of people, landscapes and wildlife.

Overview

The Backbone of ACT Wildlife: The Role and Value of Volunteers

Today, more than 75 regular volunteers provide essential care, rescue, transport, and support for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife. Our volunteers operate 24/7, answering the phone after hours, rescuing animals in distress, transporting them to vets and carers, and ensuring their ongoing care and rehabilitation. Many carers work around the clock to feed, clean and keep our precious wildlife safe and healthy.

This is no small undertaking.

Behind the scenes, others contribute by fundraising, staffing stalls, maintaining facilities, and helping with the administrative and governance responsibilities that come with running a modern charity.

In June this year we saw Canberra hit for the first time with the H7 avian influenza strain. Whilst not as detrimental as the H5N1 strain, it was impressive to see how well our staff and volunteers responded to the biosecurity procedures and their vigilance in practicing the quarantine protocols to keep our birdlife safe.

A high level of administrative effort also goes towards our grant applications. The long hours of drafting and reviewing documents to engage

the ACT Government and other organisations for funding several initiatives achieves huge benefits for our wildlife. This year some of the major achievements are listed below.

- When the May 2024 budget announced a shortfall to our proposed annual request, ACT Wildlife secured an additional \$50,000 towards the support for administration activities associated with the Avian Influenza outbreak in June to November 2024.
- After continued advocacy, ACT Wildlife secured \$74,000 over two years to support veterinary costs.
- Through another long-term advocacy campaign, ACT Wildlife secured \$17,000 for the Fruit Tree net swap program which has a positive impact on not only grey headed flying fox, but various birds, lizards, snakes, and possums.

Some of the direct outcomes for our wildlife in 2024 include:

Volunteer effort	Totals in 2024
Phone calls answered	13,039
Rescues/transport completed	4,005
Animals in Rehabilitation	2847
Released animals	1282
Pouches made	Hundreds
Training attendees	649
Donations raised	\$98,950

The value of ACT Wildlife's volunteers goes beyond their numbers. Many have been with the organisation for decades, bringing with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. This collective wisdom, built over years of hands-on care and coordination, is an invaluable asset. It provides continuity, strengthens decision-making, and ensures the organisation adapts and evolves while staying true to its mission.

They are the backbone of the organisation, and their tireless efforts deserve recognition and gratitude from all who care about Canberra's native wildlife.



Birds *by Marg Peachey and Denise Kay – Bird Coordinators*

2024 was as busy as ever with 1832 birds being brought to ACT Wildlife for help. Members of the public are very keen to see a good outcome for the birds they find. Our members also rescue many birds that find themselves in sticky situations.

Unfortunately around 50% either die or are euthanased (Euthanased + taken to vet). This is hardly surprising as the main causes of their demise is largely due to human activity and their pets: Cat, dog attacks; and vehicle and window strikes. A large number of birds are orphaned, for a number of reasons – blown out of nests, thrown out of nests by parents or siblings or parents are killed on the road (ducklings). Some is attributed to survival of the fittest but it is mostly human activity. Every time there is a new suburb developed and habitat is lost it is conceivable that breeding opportunities are lost.

We are seeing more and more entanglements of birds: caught in fishing line, hooked by fish hooks and are tangled in string/tape. Some of these, mostly magpies, are found hanging from a tree branch because after they are tangled they fly to a tree and then the string is tangled around the branch. We are forever grateful to ACT Fire and Rescue for getting these birds out of the trees using their fantastic long ladders. Yerrabi Pond spillway continues to be a huge problem and we are reliant on the Fire Brigade again for retrieving trapped birds. However we are on the verge of solving rescue issues that have plagued us in the past by training rescuers in the appropriate WH&S protocols needed to rescue birds and turtles in the dangerous Yerrabi Spillway .

Outcome	Number	Percentage
Released	821	44.81%
Died	414	22.60%
Euthanased	260	14.19%
Taken to Vet	245	13.37%
Transfer - Wildcare	23	1.26%
Transfer - other	17	0.93%
Dead on arrival	16	0.87%
Euthanased - feral	13	0.71%
Escaped	12	0.66%
In Care	11	0.60%
Total	1832	100.00%

Disease also plays a part, whether it is due to stress living in the suburbs with a shrinking habitat or other reasons. Sulphur Crested Cockatoos are regularly found with Beak and Feather disease which is endemic in the population. When there is excess rain during breeding season chicks in hollows can be compromised because of a constantly damp nest. There are diseases we see every year at certain times which present as a wasting of parrots. Often they are too compromised.

We are also grateful for phone operators and rescuers/carers who facilitate rescues. Even though the statistics are a bit grim the 45% release rate is comparable to other organisations.



Flying Foxes *by Clare Wynter and Stephen Bartos – Flying Fox Coordinators*

Canberra generally has a seasonal population of grey-headed flying-foxes, located in a camp in Commonwealth Park. The flying foxes usually begin to arrive in late September/early October. Mothers give birth to pups mostly in October and November, numbers peak in February/March in the mating season, and reduce as colder weather sets in. Typically, the camp empties out around May.

In 2024 however a small number of flying-foxes remained in the camp for most of the winter, despite frosts and lack of food. The only other years where some overwintered were 2010 and 2014. In the second half of 2024 we saw a later arrival and somewhat lower population of bats in the camp during the spring and early summer.

In the twelve months to December 2024 89 flying-foxes came into care. 86 were grey-headed flying-foxes and three were little red flying-foxes.

The 2024 rescue figures include:

- 12 pups
- 23 juveniles
- 4 sub adults
- 50 adults

Reasons for coming into care

- 43 netting entanglements (3 rescued from wildlife friendly netting)
- 15 malnourished and/or hypothermia (some rescued bats had both)
- 12 orphaned pups
- 8 bird and dog attacks
- 5 collisions with window or vehicle
- 4 barbed wire entanglement
- 2 electrocutions

Total 89

The first half of 2024 continued to be an unusually busy rescue season for flying-foxes following the food shortage in NSW and SE Queensland in the spring and early summer of 2023.

Usually there are no rescues in the winter months, as the flying-fox camp empties for the winter. However, there were 12 rescues during the winter months June to August. Most of these bats were malnourished.

However, the later part of the year has been very different with low numbers of flying-foxes (11) requiring rescue. This included 4 orphaned pups rescued in November and December, compared with 55 rescued in the same period in 2023.

We had 9 households raising orphans at the beginning of 2024; by contrast only 2 households were needed to care for pups at the end of 2024.

29 pups and 4 juveniles were successfully sent to creche in NSW, while 6 pups and juveniles died or were euthanised.

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Outcome	Number	Percentage
Grey-headed Flying-fox		
Transferred	35	26.72%
Sent To Creche	33	25.19%
Euthanased	18	13.74%
Released	14	10.69%
DOA	10	7.63%
Died	10	7.63%
In care	6	4.58%
Escaped	2	1.53%
Total	128	97.71%
Little Red Flying-fox		
Euthanased	2	1.53%
Died	1	0.76%
Total	3	2.29%
Grand Total	131	100.00%

Flying Foxes *continued*

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Of the 43 flying-foxes entangled in fruit tree netting 7 were euthanised, whilst 2 of the 4 entangled in barbed wire were euthanised because of the traumatic injuries suffered.



ACT Wildlife continues to send pups to creches on the coast of NSW and to transfer adult flying-foxes who need extended winter care or time in a large flight aviary before release to Sydney bat groups. This practice enables more severely injured recuperating bats to be cared for in a warmer environment with others of their species and to build flight strength.

ACT private veterinary support

Of the 95 flying-fox vet visits, more than 80 were to one of five vaccinated vets in three private vet practices. These practices generously provided assessment, euthanasia and treatments, including expensive procedures such as x-rays and amputations.

National Capital Authority

The coordinators continued to liaise closely with the NCA. Meetings were held regarding events, camp management, signage and installing a weather

station. Misters and temperature monitors were tested and are functioning effectively. There was no period during the year of sustained temperatures above 40 degrees C so the misters were not used to deal with a heat stress event.

ACT Government

The ACT government released The Native Species Conservation Plan for the Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) on 7 September.

The ACT Government also banned large aperture netting in residential gardens in April 2024.

The Government gave a \$35,000 grant to ACT Wildlife to support the conservation of the GHFF. The grant has funded education materials, some equipment to support rescues and the purchase of wildlife friendly netting for a net swap program. The funds will also enable a weather station to be installed in the GHFF camp.

The net swap program is not only aimed at protection of flying foxes – birds and reptiles are also frequently trapped in large aperture netting. The funds provided by the ACT government have allowed ACTW to purchase wildlife friendly netting and provide free Net Swaps for ACT households with large aperture nets. During 2024 Dorothy Brown took on the task of net swap coordination.

Households	225
Large nets 4m x10m	375
Small nets 4m x 4m	407
Total	782 or 21,512 m2

Thanks to Martin Lind, Ingrid Singh, Jo Kirwin, Dave Kirwin, Roz Johnson, Clare Winter, Stephen Bartos, Kathryn Lawry and Douglas Elford, for their assistance with swapping nets throughout the year.

Training of carers and rescuers

ACT Wildlife delivered Basic Bat Training to 16 participants and 10 attended Advanced Flying-fox training. Training was delivered by the flying fox and microbat coordinators and volunteer experienced carers. Six ACTW people also attended bat training delivered by WIRES and Wildlife Victoria.

Bat talks

The ACT Wildlife flying-fox coordinators delivered two presentations to the public, the first as part of the Floriade program.

Macropods by Lindy Butcher – Macropod Coordinator

Wallabies

In 2024, we admitted 12 wallabies:

- Swamp Wallabies: Four were admitted, with two requiring euthanasia after coming into care.
- Wallaroo: One Wallaroo was admitted.
- Red-necked Wallabies: Six were received.

At the time of this report, only three Red Necked Wallabies remain in care. All the other Macropods have either been released (some in early 2025) or died.

Eastern Grey Kangaroo Joeys

We are grateful for the arrangement between the ACT and NSW governments that allows us to transfer orphaned Eastern Grey Kangaroo (EGK) joeys to Wildcare Queanbeyan.

In 2024, we received 35 EGK joeys, of which:

- 26 joeys were transferred to Wildcare Queanbeyan.
- 3 joeys were euthanased due to severe injuries.
- 2 joeys died shortly after rescue.

Our carers provide short-term care for these joeys for up to two days, during which we stabilise them, keep them warm, and rehydrate them before transferring them to Wildcare Queanbeyan.

Plans for 2025

To better meet the needs of orphaned Eastern Grey Kangaroos and other Macropod species, we will focus on recruiting new carers in 2025. This will ensure we can continue providing short-term stabilisation care and expand our capacity to support other species.

Outcome	Number	Percentage
Eastern Grey Kangaroo		
Transfer - Wildcare	26	55.32%
Transfer - other	4	8.51%
Died	2	4.26%
Taken to Vet	2	4.26%
Euthanased	1	2.13%
Total	35	74.47%
Red-Necked Wallaby		
In Care	4	8.51%
Died	1	2.13%
Euthanased	1	2.13%
Total	6	12.77%
Swamp Wallaby		
Euthanased	2	4.26%
Released	2	4.26%
Transfer - Wildcare	1	2.13%
Total	5	10.64%
Common Wallaroo		
In Care	1	2.13%
Total	1	2.13%
Grand Total	47	100.00%



Microbats *by Ingrid Singh – Microbat Coordinator*

This year the number of bats was slightly less but remained within around 10% of last year's numbers, with 59 entering care. The good news is that the percentage released appears quite high. While this looks like an amazing result, it is not the entire story. Prompt referral of seriously injured microbats to vets in the ACT means that a number of bats with poor prospects of rehabilitation are quickly treated by vets. This means that they do not come into care, only to be taken back to a vet for urgent treatment. The outcome for a number of these bats may be euthanasia but in such cases, this is best for the welfare of the bat. We are very grateful for the wonderful lyssavirus-vaccinated vets of the ACT who provide gentle and humane care to these bats every year, often late at night.

Microbats are one of the smaller groups of animals and require specialised care by lyssavirus-vaccinated carers. ACT Wildlife is surrounded by other wildlife groups interstate and we all enjoy sharing knowledge and care resources between our groups. We are especially grateful for the ability to learn from WIRES Southern region and every year, some of our carers will train with WIRES as well as attending our in-house course. We've really enjoyed regular chats with carers from Wildcare and LAOKO, as well as occasional consultation with more distant carers in the Hunter and Shortland regions. Some of us also belong to the Australasian Bat Society and the Australasian Microbat Rehabilitation forum online. With around 14 species of microbat possibly visiting the ACT, there is always more to learn!

Unfortunately this year, like every year, a number of the bats most severely injured were attacked by cats. Hopefully as cats are safely contained in new suburbs that abut the bats' forest homes, this will result in less cat attacks...so the bats will be able to get on with their important job of mosquito patrol. Bats can eat several grams (a lot!) of mosquitos every night. Thank you to everyone who called about a microbat last year - the people with 'umbrella bats' who patiently waited until nightfall to open umbrellas; the people who kept kids and pets away from bats while they waited for us to pick them up on our rounds of Canberra; the lovely people who delayed their game of darts so we could collect the bats sleeping behind the board - we couldn't help the bats without you, also caring for these fantastic little beasts. And thanks to everyone who planted or preserved a hollow-bearing tree, for the bats of coming years.

Outcome	Number	Percentage
Chocolate Wattled Bat		
Died	1	1.69%
Total	1	1.69%
Eastern Bentwing		
Released	1	1.69%
Total	1	1.69%
Eastern Broad-nosed Bat		
Released	1	1.69%
In Care	1	1.69%
Total	2	3.39%
Goulds Long-eared Bat		
Released	1	1.69%
Died	1	1.69%
Total	2	3.39%
Goulds Wattled Bat		
Released	13	22.03%
Died	4	6.78%
Total	17	28.81%
Lesser Long-eared Bat		
Released	7	11.86%
Died	2	3.39%
In Care	1	1.69%
Euthanased	1	1.69%
Total	11	18.64%
Little Forest Bat		
Released	12	20.34%
Died	2	3.39%
Transfer - other	1	1.69%
Total	15	25.42%
Southern Forest Bat		
Released	3	5.08%
Died	1	1.69%
Escaped	1	1.69%
Total	5	8.47%
Southern Freetail-bat		
Released	2	3.39%
Total	2	3.39%
Unidentified Bat		
Released	3	5.08%
Total	3	5.08%
Grand Total	59	100.00%

Possums and Gliders *by Heather Sommariva – Possum carer*

Common Brushtail Possums

During 2024 446 Common Brushtail Possums, 16 Common Ringtail Possums and 23 Sugar Gliders were in care. Of those the majority were either attacked by an animal, abandoned, orphaned or poisoned.

The numbers of Common Brushtail Possums coming into care is 108 more than 2023 with all our carers again at capacity despite more carers being trained. Caring for possums can be a long term commitment with some possums staying in care for up to six months. Each carer is responsible to release their longer-term possums in boxes attached to trees in bushy areas. This means working at heights to attach the box and feed container. Very few ACTW members are qualified to work at heights so attaching boxes is relegated to those few. Added to this was the directive from the ACT Government that we are not permitted to release possums in any nature reserves. This has placed a huge strain on carers trying to find suitable release sites.



Common Ringtail Possums and Sugar Gliders

Common Ringtail possums and Sugar Gliders were only cared for by two carers Michele Johnson and Corin Pennock as they require specialised care. Common Ringtail possums and Sugar Gliders are different to Common Brushtail possums as they can't be released solo, they must have at least one buddy to form a group in order to survive.



Outcome	Number	Percentage
Common Brushtail Possum		
Released	209	43.09%
Died	75	15.46%
Taken to Vet	64	13.20%
Euthanased	47	9.69%
In Care	35	7.22%
DOA	8	1.65%
Transfer - other	4	0.82%
Escaped	4	0.82%
Total	446	91.96%
Common Ringtail Possum		
Released	8	1.65%
Transfer - other	3	0.62%
Died	3	0.62%
Euthanased	1	0.21%
Taken to Vet	1	0.21%
Total	16	3.30%
Sugar Glider		
Released	11	2.27%
Died	9	1.86%
In Care	3	0.62%
Total	23	4.74%
Grand Total	485	100.00%

Reptiles *by Mark Jenkin – Reptile Coordinator*

In 2024 our small band of reptile carers were kept busy with 73 lizards and 42 turtles coming into care. The reasons for them coming into care are generally human-induced: road trauma being a big cause along with dog and cat attacks. Garden implements, lawnmowers and, for turtles, fishing hooks, also cause injury.

Lizards needing help were mostly of the very common species, eastern blue-tongues, with a few blotched blueys, shinglebacks and Cunninghams adding variety to the skinks coming in. We also had the occasional dragon and gecko come into care. Eastern long-neck turtles were almost ubiquitous but we do see more Macquarie turtles, mainly around the south-eastern side of Lake Burley Griffin.

Fortunately, the statistics show that most of the animals treated and cared for go on to be successfully rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

A big thank you to the many members of the public who call in regarding potentially injured or sick reptiles or those that may be displaced. Many of these animals are taken to vets or relocated



Outcome	Number	Percentage
Eastern Long-necked Turtle		
Released	29	69.05%
Taken to Vet	5	11.90%
In Care	3	7.14%
Euthanased	2	4.76%
Died	1	2.38%
Total	40	95.24%
Macquarie River Turtle		
Released	2	4.76%
Total	2	4.76%
Grand Total	42	100.00%

by members of the public based on ACT Wildlife advice. There are also members of the public calling us to remove lizards from around the house. This highlights the need for more public education on living with native wildlife in the suburban environment.

Outcome	Number	Percentage
Eastern Blue-Tongued Lizard		
Released	37	50.68%
Taken to Vet	12	16.44%
Euthanased	8	10.96%
Died	2	2.74%
In Care	2	2.74%
Total	61	83.56%
Shingle-Back Lizard		
Released	4	5.48%
Total	4	5.48%
Blotched Blue-Tongued Lizard		
Released	1	1.37%
Euthanased	1	1.37%
Total	2	2.74%
Gecko		
Escaped	1	1.37%
Died	1	1.37%
Total	2	2.74%
Gippsland Water Dragon		
Released	1	1.37%
Total	1	1.37%
Cunningham Skink		
Died	1	1.37%
Total	1	1.37%
Bearded Dragon		
Released	1	1.37%
Total	1	1.37%
Eastern Water Dragon		
Dead on arrival	1	1.37%
Total	1	1.37%
Grand Total	73	100.00%

Wombats *by Lindy Butcher – Wombat Coordinator*

Caring for wombats is challenging, given that some remain in care across multiple calendar years. In 2024, we received 21 new wombats into care. Of these, five were transferred to care groups in New South Wales to ensure they could be paired with wombat buddies at a similar stage of development. Sadly, two joeys were euthanased shortly after arrival—one was too tiny to be viable, and the other suffered from significant health issues with little chance of recovery. Such decisions are always made collaboratively with the coordinator, carer, and veterinarian and are never taken lightly.

This year marked our busiest yet, with 24 wombats in care at one point—a record for ACT Wildlife. The increased demand placed immense pressure on our dedicated carers, with some managing four or more wombats at various stages of development,



from incubator to cot and outdoor enclosures. Fortunately, successful releases throughout the year helped reduce these numbers to a more manageable 16 wombats by December.

In 2024, we were incredibly fortunate to receive a generous donation of approximately \$8,000 from Everclime, which is being used to construct a soft-release enclosure on a private property in New South Wales. This enclosure will provide wombats with a safe environment to acclimate to their release site or receive brief care when needed. Since many of our wombats come from New South Wales, we are deeply grateful to the property owners over the

border who make their land available for the next stage of our hand-raised wombats' journey.

Despite the successes, 2024 brought its share of heartbreak. Two of our long-term residents, Kara and Cassius, became gravely unwell towards the end of the year. Kara succumbed to Toxoplasmosis, a disease spread by cats, which she may have carried in a latent form since infancy. The difficulty of diagnosing and treating such conditions is a reminder of the immense challenges faced by carers. Cassius, a younger wombat, developed severe anaemia and was humanely euthanased when his condition became too much for his tiny body to bear.

However, the year also brought remarkable successes. Georgie, a previously released wombat, was brought back into care after failing to thrive in the wild. Following additional care and a second release, Georgie was thriving until he developed a severe foot infection. After careful consideration, he underwent surgery to amputate the affected toe. Thanks to the incredible efforts of his carer and the veterinarians at The Campbell Vet Surgery, Georgie made a full recovery and was released once again. Recently, he was spotted looking healthy and well-adjusted in the wild—an incredible testament to the dedication of everyone involved in his care.

Fifteen wombats were released in 2024, and we are thrilled to report that three of our previously released females were observed with pouch young or young at foot—a poignant reminder of why we do this vital work.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to our wombat program this year—our carers, veterinarians, property owners, and supporters. Every effort, large or small, plays a crucial role in giving these animals a second chance at life.

Outcome	Number	Percentage
Released	15	38.46%
In Care	13	33.33%
Transfer - other	5	12.82%
Euthanased	3	7.69%
Transfer - Wildcare	2	5.13%
Died	1	2.56%
Total	39	100.00%

Advocating for Wildlife Veterinary Support: A Timeline of Progress and Challenges

Over the past few years, ACT Wildlife has been working tirelessly to address the growing need for specialized veterinary care for injured and orphaned wildlife in the ACT. This timeline highlights key milestones in our journey, showcasing both our advocacy efforts and grant applications aimed at improving wildlife veterinary care.

November 2021

- **Grant Proposal for Wildlife Vet/First Aid Clinic:** ACT Wildlife submitted a \$50,000 grant proposal to the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife under the Wildlife Heroes Large Durable Assets Grant. The proposal was successful, enabling the establishment of the current wildlife clinic at Jerra.
- **Survey of Canberra Vets:** Collaborating with a Science Mentor student, ACT Wildlife conducted a survey to gather data on native birds treated by local vets, including reasons for admission and outcomes. This information informed later government submissions.
- **Advocacy in ACT Legislative Assembly:** Then-President Lindy Butcher spoke at the Legislative Assembly's ECCB Committee Inquiry into the 2021-22 ACT Budget, highlighting the increasing numbers of injured wildlife and the challenges faced by volunteers. This advocacy led to a government response acknowledging the difficulties in quantifying injured wildlife and the need for improved support.

2022

- **Second Vet Survey:** A follow-up survey was conducted to collect updated data on wildlife treated by local vets, which further strengthened submissions to the ACT Government.
- **Inquiry into Environmental Volunteerism:** On July 19, Lindy Butcher presented case studies and data to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change, and Biodiversity. This led to a recommendation for the ACT Government to employ a full-time specialist wildlife veterinarian.
- **Grant Submission to IMPACT Philanthropy:** A detailed grant application for vet salaries and equipment was submitted. While unsuccessful, this submission became a foundation for future proposals.

- **Updated submission for grant funding to ACT Government:** A survey was developed to gauge carer thoughts about the need for a vet and this, along with a detailed submission requesting funding for a Wildlife Vet was presented to the ACT Government

2023 – Ongoing

- **ACT Government Funding Secured:** After continued advocacy, ACT Wildlife secured \$74,000 over two years to support veterinary costs. While not the full amount requested, this funding marks an important step forward.

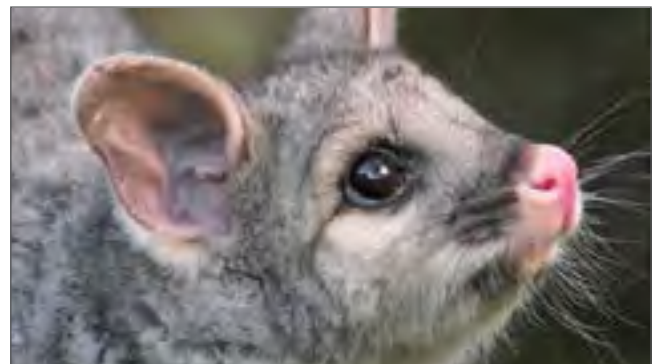
2024

- **Grant Applications for Essential Equipment:**
 - A submission to WIRES for an anaesthetic machine (\$8,000), Was successful.
 - A proposal to the NAB Foundation for a portable X-ray machine and safety equipment (\$24,000), was unsuccessful. The grant submission was rewritten and submitted to IMPACT Philanthropy and we are awaiting an update on that

2025 Employment of our Vet;

After interviewing some exceptional applicants, we employed Dr Rachael Grigson to begin providing wildlife veterinary care out of our wildlife Vet clinic at Jerrabomberra Wetlands.

These achievements demonstrate ACT Wildlife's unwavering commitment to improving care for our native animals and supporting the volunteers who dedicate their time and resources to this vital cause. While challenges remain, the progress made so far reflects the power of persistent advocacy and collaboration.



2025 Calendar *by Rob Butcher – Calendar Coordinator*

Due to the unavailability of the usual calendar production team for the first half of 2024, work on the 2025 calendar did not commence until late August. On our return from overseas, Lindy and I, with the valued assistance of Evan Croker, swung into action and quickly sourced photographs from carers. We were fortunate to be able to obtain a slot for a print run with our previous printer, Ink Printing, and with a cost only marginally increased from the previous year.

We again sought expressions of interest for sponsorship of a calendar page. Six of last year's sponsors took up the offer again for the 2025 calendar and we managed to gain one new sponsor!! While the available sponsorships were undersubscribed, the funds raised enabled all of our printing costs to be covered.

Overall sales were good, with our Treasurer advising that in total we have received \$9245 (with GST) including the sponsorships. We continued to receive a number of orders from overseas and throughout Australia.

A special thanks to our President Yana del Valle, Deb Thomas, Katie Love and Tara Ward who took a number of calendars to sell individually.

ACTW also made a number of calendars available gratis to Fire Stations and Veterinary Practices in recognition of their valued support.

The ACTW calendar is an ongoing annual fundraiser, and highlights the work done by ACTW volunteers and the unique Australian wildlife found in our bush Capital. We will be calling for photographs and associated back-stories in the next few months as we commence production of the 2026 calendar.




ACT Wildlife
Rescue • Rehabilitation • Release

2025 Calendar



January



February



March



April

Events *by Deb Thomas – Events Coordinator*

Canberra Show

Our first event of the year was the Canberra Show. For 4 days in February our volunteers spoke to hundreds of members of the public about the amazing work of ACT Wildlife and we sold over a \$1,000 of soft toys and merchandise.

Gala(h) ball

On 1 March we held our first ever major fundraising ball, the ACT Wildlife Galah Ball to mark our 10-year anniversary. The purpose of the gala was to increase our visibility in the community, raise funds and awareness and build new relationships. It succeeded on all of those. We raised close to \$20,000 and made a lot of new friends in the Canberra Community.



We had 174 guests at the National Museum of Australia. Our guest list included Rebecca Vassarotti MLA (Minister for the Environment, Parks, and Land Management), Elizabeth Lee MLA (ACT Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Climate Action, Energy and Emissions Reduction) together with several Liberals attending, Minister Tara Cheyne (Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy), Emma Davidson MLA (Minister for Community Services, Seniors and Veterans), Jo Clay MLA (Spokesperson for Transport, Active Travel, and Road Safety) and Laura Nutall MLA (Spokesperson for Animal Welfare). We also had our wonderful supporters at the National Zoo and Aquarium and ACT Fire & Rescue, along with KPMG, the Business Council of Australia and our key sponsor, Icon Water.

Items donated for the auction including a night at Jamala Wildlife Lodge, a \$500 Fiji Airways

Voucher from Canberra Airport, \$2,500 Amplify advertising voucher, a \$895 photography package from Heartstory Photography and some incredible artworks from Eggpicnic and our very own volunteers, Joan McKay, Liz Faul and Jill Mail. Real estate auctioneer, Frank Walmsley, helped us to raise around \$10,000 on donated auction items. The Canberra Symphony Orchestra donated a harp player to welcome our guests.

Volunteer Expo

This year's Volunteer Expo was held on May 18 in the University of Canberra Refectory and was well attended by many members of the public looking for opportunities to volunteer.

ACT Wildlife had a table looked after by volunteers who gave up their Saturday morning or afternoon and we thank them for volunteering.

There were many people who took information sheets and eight who signed up for more information. This is a positive sign despite the economic pressures on individuals and families at present.

The Wildlife Refugees Community Night

In September an event was held dedicated to bringing Wildlife Rescuers, Community Activists, Politicians, City Planners, and Developers together to talk about their concerns with the growing city of Canberra. It was hosted by an ACT Wildlife volunteer, Amanda who is now producing a documentary with Director Kim Ramsay to advocate for wildlife and the growing threats due to fast development.

A panel, moderated by Geologist Dr. Jasper Montana from ANU's Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science, included Lindy Butcher - ACT Wildlife, Yolandi Vermaak - Wombat Rescue, Gavin Smith - ACT Snake Removals, Adele Sinclair - Scullin Community Group, Jo Clay - ACT Greens, Albert Oberdorff of Canberra Planning Action Group, and Nikos Kalogeropoulos of Molonglo. Each panelist was invited to speak on best practices for development in Canberra and how wildlife experts and developers can collaborate to ensure the survival of our Australian wildlife as our cities grow. The panel was also opened up to questions from the audience.

The evening included two short films of wildlife and an announcement by Lindy Butcher that government funding had been approved for a wildlife hospital.

Membership by Martin Lind – Membership Coordinator

In 2024 ACT Wildlife changed over to a new website host and with this came slight changes to the application process. New members still complete a form on our website; www.actwildlife.net. This generates an automatic email with payment information. The Membership/Training bundle that was previously available on Eventbrite officially ended in mid 2024.

The new website no longer uses 'Jotform' software package to gather membership and payment information. There were teething issues with the new website leading to a delay in processing membership for a few months. This has mostly been resolved.

Personal details are still transferred manually to our Wildman database by the Membership Coordinator. Members receive a membership card for the year and the annual password for access to the Members portal on our website <https://actwildlife.net/member-login/>.

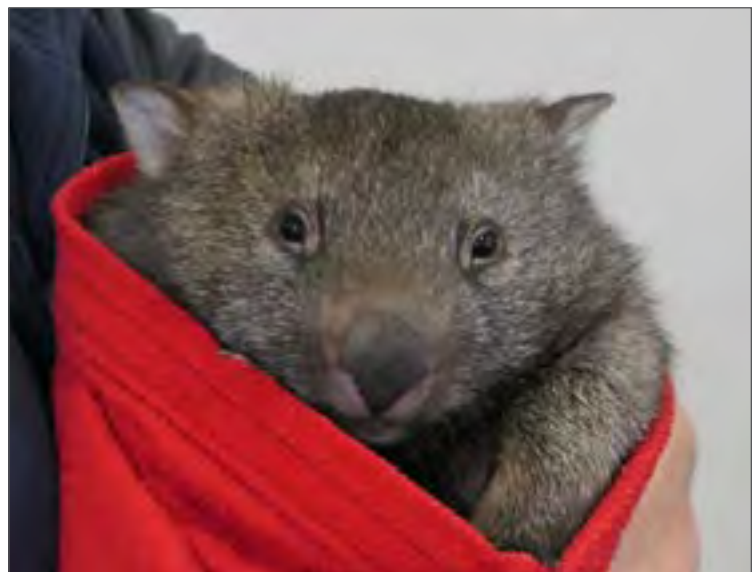
Membership fee is \$40 annually and is valid from 1 January to 31 December annually. New members joining after 1 October receive the following year free. Members receive discounts on training courses and specialist wildlife food.

In 2024 we had 404 financial members (412 in 2023 = 2% decrease). Among those there were 77 Carers (members with animals) (81 in 2023= 5% decrease) and 40 Phone & Rescue (members who monitor the afterhours helpline and/or rescue) (44

in 2023= 10% decrease). 283 were listed as 'Other' which comprised members who may have attended some training but are yet to care, or members who simply wish to contribute in other ways. There was also a small team of members who are part of our Wombat mange treatment program. The table below demonstrates clearly that 30% (or 1/3) of our members were directly involved with wildlife.

Looking at the longevity of our membership, the vast majority have been with us for less than 2 years with over half, less than 12 months.

Retention of active members and encouraging 'others' to take up active volunteering remains a significant challenge.



Involvement	Number	Percentage
Carers	77	19%
Phone & Rescue	40	10%
Wombat mange	4	1%
Other	283	70%
Total	404	100%



Phones *by Marg Peachey – Phone Coordinator*

Our phone operators, staff and volunteers, are the first point of contact with ACT Wildlife for most callers. It is not always easy to solve the problem and our operators are required to think 'outside the box' as every scenario is different.

During 2024 we had 13,039 calls. 91% were from the Canberra public wanting advice or reporting an animal that needed rescuing. A total of 734 or 6% calls were from vets. They had received animals randomly, or as per our advice, from the public.

Monthly calls began to increase in June once the days are longer. Birds, especially, are in breeding mode during this time. Call numbers increased until most of the baby birds became juveniles or adults, then the calls slow up to some degree.

We have eight very regular and much appreciated volunteers on the phone roster and three regulars who do one shift a week, also appreciated.

Having staff at Jerrabomberra Wetlands office is a great help which leaves volunteers with out of hours phone duties.



Rescue *by Adam Coppard – Rescue Coordinator*

2024 saw an increase in the number of calls received from the public about compromised native animals. This is an increase from 2023 by 1 258 calls. Of these 31% resulted in a transporter attending to either transport (contained animal) or rescue of an animal in a compromised situation. Encouragingly these callouts were attended by 112 different volunteers, helping to share the load by a variety of people both north and south side of Lake Burley Griffith. A special mention goes out to John Bosch, Liz Faul, Lucy Horodny and David, Karen Kuttner, Jane Whyte and Don McLeod, Susan Wishart and Steve Styles for attending to over 100 callouts this year. Also I would like to acknowledge Mary Sterland and Stephanie Copus Campbell who were very close to that 100 plus number of rescuers. As well as the other 104 other volunteers who attended to the needs of a native animal of the ACT.

Training on rescue techniques continued to help people gain confidence in the rescue of animals in compromised situations. This training was through both the ACT Wildlife program and the

WIRES 'Introduction to Wildlife Rescue Course'. It is hoped that these programs will be available to members again in 2025.

Thank you to the staff at Jerrabomberra Wetlands site, who contribute to a lot of callouts throughout the year (768 responses) as well as assisting transporters with advice and assessment of animals. This effort is greatly appreciated.

In conjunction with the Jerra staff and the wonderful volunteers we have within ACT Wildlife the animals in the ACT have a better chance of survival. I am sure your efforts are greatly appreciated by the animals, even though they may not show it at the time, as well as the community of the ACT.

Let's hope for a wonderful 2025, with fewer needs to attend callouts.



Social Media *by Evan Croker – Social Media Coordinator*

2024 saw social media delivering regular but not daily stories about species and carers; thanks to all contributors – carers and coordinators. I remained 'department head' generating stories and looking after ACTW's Facebook presence. Liz Faul looked after Instagram.

Social media stories cover macropods, possums, wombats, birds, bats and reptiles in care, and provide information about species behaviour. Also ACTW events, the calendar for sale, Sponsor a Species, talks, etc., are promoted.

Facebook has 30,000+ followers, with followers supportive in the main and actively commenting on / sharing the posts. Instagram passed 10,000 followers in 2024.

Facebook followers are 72% women and 27% men. As the years go by, men are slightly growing in percentage as followers, while the percentages of the different age groups remain similar to 2023.



Occasional 666 ABC radio appearances happened with two presenters – Emma Bickley and Alice Matthews. These appearances raised awareness of ACT Wildlife activities and actively called out for volunteers and, for example, possible wombat release sites, yielding results. We also had fun naming a joey. The joey is Harriet's, a wombat released on Steve Clarke's property. A listener came up with the name Gawa, Bhutanese for happiness, which Harriet's former carer Anita chose out of many on offer.

These fun activities are to be encouraged to get ACTW's name out there.



Sponsor A Species *by Evan Croker – Sponsor A Species Coordinator*



The Sponsor a Species fundraiser program had a slight rise in sponsor numbers in 2024. Interestingly the appeal of the program remains, year in and out, at around 138 sponsors. Some sponsors leave and some join but this figure seems to be the highest attainable. Annual revenue raised is around \$21,000.

Folks can sponsor birds, bats, possums, reptiles and wombats, with wombats remaining by far the most popular species. There are three levels of sponsorship -- Fledgling, Wild Thing and Wildlife Warrior. The levels cost from \$5 to \$15 a month, with escalating rewards. At the top level a sponsor receives thanks on our platforms and the ACTW website, two newsletters a year and around three wildlife talks a year. The talks are held at the Duffy Headquarters with carers coming in to explain about species in care, and giving insight into life as a carer. Thanks very much to the carers who come in to present about bats, wombat and birds.

Training *by Adam Coppard – Training Coordinator*

46 training events were conducted in 2024 by ACT Wildlife trainers. As a result we saw a significant increase in the numbers attending from 417 attendees in 2023 to 649 attendees in 2024, an increase of 213 people (33%). The combined income from this increase in numbers lead to \$11 620 revenue for the organisation.

An encouraging aspect of the training offered in 2024 was the introduction of advanced species training in the majority of species we now offer. A big thankyou goes to all of those who took up the challenge of initiating these new courses. This was an initiative introduced to aid carers with updating their training as mandated by the ACT Animal Welfare (Welfare of Native Wildlife – Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release) Mandatory Code of Practice 2023*

In addition to this approximately 200 people contacted the Training Coordinator through the Volunteer ACT, Jotform portals as well as using the 'becoming a volunteer' tab on the new website. Some of these people have gone on to become members and are contributing to the Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release of native animals in ACT.

It has been encouraging to observe the additional training members do as witnessed by their submission of training certificates, which are then recorded in the Training Register.

We will also be adding to the training opportunities in 2025. These will be listed as they become available on our Training Calendar. One of these will be the opportunity to complete the online courses run by WIRES such as 'Introduction to Wildlife Rescue Course'.



Financial Statements

ACT Wildlife Incorporated

Financial Statements 2024

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Independent Reviewer's Report



ACT
GOVERNMENT

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Reviewer's Report Small Associations

Associations Incorporation Act 1991

The reviewer can be any person who is not a member or officer of the association or have prepared or assisted with the preparation of the accounts. They do not need to hold any qualifications.

I, Lynette Rose Grigg (MEd Acctg, Grad Dip Acctg, Grad Dip Edu. & Acctg.), have reviewed the accounts of **ACT Wildlife Incorporated** for the financial period 2023-24.

I confirm that, on the basis of the review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe the accounting records are misleading and that they give a true and fair account of:

- (a) the income and expenditure of the association during the financial year under review; and
- (b) the assets and liabilities of the association at the end of that financial year; and
- (c) any prescribed matters.

Signed: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Rose Grigg", written over a horizontal line.

Date: 4 March 2025

Dr Lynette Rose Grigg

Email: lyngrigg@gmail.com

Statement by the Management Committee

ACT Wildlife Incorporated

Statement by the Committee of Management

For the year ended 31 December 2024

On 9 March 2025 the Management Committee of ACT Wildlife Incorporated passed the following resolution in relation to the special purpose financial report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The ACT Wildlife Management Committee declares in its opinion:

- a) the financial statements and notes comply with the Australian Accounting Standards;
- b) the financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the financial performance and financial position of the reporting unit for the financial year to which they relate;
- c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the reporting unit will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- d) during the financial year to which the special purpose financial report relates and since the end of that year:
 - a. meetings of the committee of management were held in accordance with the rules of the organisation and
 - b. the financial affairs of the reporting unit have been managed in accordance with the rules of the organisation.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee of management.

Signature:

Yana del Valle

President

9 March 2025

Signature:

Mark Jenkin

Treasurer

9 March 2025

Statement of Profit and Loss

ACT Wildlife Incorporated

Statement of profit or loss

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income			
Donations and fundraising	3	153,346	122,732
Charitable grant income	4	9,367	14,899
Government grant income	5	138,665	189,912
Membership fees	6	11,880	13,116
Training revenue		7,980	7,515
Interest		7,269	3,930
Other income	7	13,878	15,299
Total income		342,386	367,402
Expenses			
Employee expenses	8	185,128	175,519
Wildlife care expenses	9	81,360	64,393
Administrative expenses	10	40,000	30,480
Other operating expenses	11	70,033	29,462
Depreciation	12	27,266	32,807
Total expenses		403,787	332,661
Surplus (deficit) for the year		(61,401)	34,741

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Statement of Financial Position

ACT Wildlife Incorporated

Statement of financial position

as at 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	543,561	650,074
Receivables	14	171,240	2,195
Inventories	15	5,435	7,187
Total current assets		720,236	659,456
Non-current assets			
Vehicle	16	31,823	39,948
Clinic, container & garage	16	28,699	37,346
Aviaries & animal care equipment	16	25,777	25,894
Other plant & equipment	16	8,178	7,249
Total non-current assets		94,477	110,437
Total assets		814,713	769,893

Statement of Financial Position *continued*

Liabilities		\$	\$
Current Liabilities			
Charitable and commercial grants	17	0	10,296
Government grants	17	151,360	58,026
Payables	18	30,901	9,889
Revenue in advance		3,267	1,096
Total current liabilities		185,528	79,307
Total non-current liabilities		0	0
Total liabilities		185,528	79,307
Net assets		629,185	690,586
Equity			
Capital		37,481	37,481
Retained earnings		653,105	618,365
Current year surplus (deficit)		(61,401)	34,741
Total equity		629,185	690,586

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Statement of Cash Flows

ACT Wildlife Incorporated

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Cash receipts from customers, donors and members		186,088	158,578
Cash receipts from grants		79,200	266,600
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(353,930)	(283,736)
Cash generated from operations		(88,642)	141,441
Interest received		7,269	3,930
Tax paid		(12,703)	(33,568)
Net cash from (used in) operating activities		(94,076)	110,803
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of fixed assets		(12,817)	(6,277)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		380	0
Net cash from (used in) investing activities		(12,437)	(6,277)
Net cash from (used in) financing activities		0	0
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(106,513)	105,526
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		650,074	544,548
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	13	543,561	650,074

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

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Index to the notes of the financial statements

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Note 20	Changes to prior year financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 Overview

1.1 Basis of preparation of the financial statements

These financial statements are special purpose financial statements and have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

ACT Wildlife Incorporated is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission and is an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (ACT).

In accordance with its obligations as a Registered Environmental Organisation, ACT Wildlife Incorporated operates a public fund for the receipt of tax deductible donations. The fund, known as the ACT Wildlife Gift Fund, forms part of these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with historical cost.

1.2 Comparative amounts

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year (see Note 20).

1.3 Taxation

ACT Wildlife Incorporated is exempt from income tax under section 50.1 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 however still has obligation for Fringe Benefits Tax and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST except:

- where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- for receivables and payables.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

1.4 Going concern

ACT Wildlife Incorporated is not reliant on the agreed financial support of another reporting unit to continue on a going concern basis.

Note 2 Events after the reporting period

There were no events that occurred after 31 December 2024, prior to the signing of the financial statements, that would affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of ACT Wildlife Incorporated.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 3 Donations and fundraising

	2024	2023
Donations	98,950	114,087
Fundraising	15,329	8,645
Gala ball	39,068	0
Total donations and fundraising	153,346	122,732

Note 4 Charitable grant income

	2024	2023
Wires food grant	9,071	9,254
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation	296	4,775
World Animal Protection grant	0	869
Total charitable grant income	9,367	14,899

Note 5 Government grant income

	2024	2023
ACT Urban Reserves, Parks and Conservation grant ¹	80,198	170,180
Wombat mange grant ¹	5,034	1,413
Support to flying foxes grant ¹	26,160	16,046
National Capital Authority environmental care grant	2,273	2,273
Grant for operating costs ¹	25,000	0
Total government grant income	138,665	189,912

¹ These grants are provided by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate of the ACT Government.

Accounting policy - grant income recognition

Grants, including government grants, are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that ACT Wildlife Incorporated will comply with the conditions attaching to them.

Grants are recognised in profit or loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which ACT Wildlife Incorporated recognises as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate. Specifically, grants whose primary condition is that ACT Wildlife Incorporated should purchase, construct or otherwise acquire non-current assets are recognised as current liabilities in the statement of financial position and transferred to profit or loss on a systematic and rational basis.

Grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to ACT Wildlife Incorporated with no future related costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they are received.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 6 Membership fees

Membership fees are annual dues payable on 1 January each year. Domestic membership fees are \$40 (GST inclusive) per individual or membership. New memberships paid in October-December are valid for the following year.

Note 7 Other income

	2024	2023
Merchandise & uniform sales	4,046	3,144
Calendar revenue	8,547	10,642
Miscellaneous revenue	1,285	1,513
Total other income	13,878	15,299

Note 8 Employee expenses

	2024	2023
Wages	164,545	158,121
Superannuation expense	18,472	16,675
Other employee expenses	2,111	723
Total employee expenses	185,128	175,519

Note 9 Wildlife care expenses

	2024	2023
Animal food and consumables	33,006	27,532
Veterinary fees and medications	13,549	16,850
Wombat mange expenses	5,034	1,413
Support to flying foxes expenses	26,160	16,046
Animal transport volunteer allowance	3,611	2,552
Total wildlife care expenses	81,360	64,393

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 10 Administrative expenses

	2024	2023
Rent	13,855	12,408
Utilities	6,050	2,775
Insurance	12,779	10,959
Office and admin running costs	5,223	2,631
Financial transaction fees	2,092	1,707
Total administrative expenses	40,000	30,480

Note 11 Other operating expenses

	2024	2023
Telephone, internet and website	9,953	3,759
Vounteer expenses	5,774	4,000
Vehicle running costs	4,766	4,775
Cost of goods sold	5,817	6,690
Fundraising and event costs	37,622	3,204
Sundry operating expenses	6,101	7,034
Total other operating expenses	70,033	29,462

Note 12 Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written off to their estimated residual value over their estimated useful lives using either the straight line method or diminishing value method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates and potential impairment are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised as appropriate. In 2024 a review of the useful life of various asset classes was conducted which resulted in changes to the depreciation charge.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are as follows:

	2024	2023
Vehicle	12.5% straight line	12.5% straight line
Clinic	20% straight line*	20% straight line
Container	33.3% straight line*	30% straight line
Garage	20% straight line	20% straight line
Flying fox standing aviary	33.3% straight line*	20% straight line
Computer and electronic equipment	25% diminishing value	33.3% straight line
Furniture and fittings	20% diminishing value	20% diminishing value
Animal care equipment	20% diminishing value	20% diminishing value

*After reassessment and extension of useful life.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 13 Cash & cash equivalents

	2024	2023
Gift Fund account (at call)	214,958	182,602
Statement and card accounts (at call)	46,790	112,744
Term deposits	281,148	353,879
Cash on hand	664	849
Total cash and cash equivalents	543,561	650,074

Note 14 Receivables

	2024	2023
Grants receivable	171,000	0
Trade receivables	240	224
GST receivable	0	971
Prepaid expenses	0	1,000
Total receivables	171,240	2,195

Note 15 Inventories

	2024	2023
Merchandise	2,202	2,277
Uniforms	3,233	4,910
Total inventories	5,435	7,187

Inventories consist of merchandise for sale to the public and uniforms for staff and volunteers. They are valued at cost (net of GST).

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 16 Property, plant and equipment

Reconciliation of opening and closing balances of property, plant and equipment.

	Vehicle	Clinic, container, garage	Aviaries & animal care equipment	Other equipment	Total property, plant & equipment
Total at 31 Dec 2023 represented by:					
Gross book value	65,000	73,017	86,947	34,529	259,493
Accumulated depreciation	25,052	35,671	61,054	27,280	149,057
Total as at 31 December 2023	39,948	37,346	25,894	7,249	110,437
Net additions 2024	0	0	8,102	3,205	11,307
Depreciation expense 2024	8,125	8,647	8,218	2,275	27,266
Total at 31 Dec 2024 represented by:					
Gross book value	65,000	73,017	95,049	37,734	270,800
Accumulated depreciation	33,177	44,318	69,272	29,555	176,323
Total as at 31 December 2024	31,823	28,699	25,777	8,178	94,477

Accounting policy: property, plant and equipment are held for use and valued at cost subject to basic impairment testing. Smaller items such as office equipment are managed as pooled assets. No right-of-use assets have been recognised.

Note 17 Grant liabilities

	2024	2023
Lord Mayors Charitable foundation	0	296
Icon Water grant	0	10,000
Total charitable/commercial grants	0	10,296
Urban Reserves, Parks & Conservation ¹	68,574	38,772
Support to flying foxes (net swap) ¹	17,794	8,954
Wombat mange ¹	2,992	8,027
ACT Wildlife operating costs ¹	25,000	0
Veterinary services ¹	37,000	0
NCA Environmental Care - flying foxes	0	2,273
Total government grants	151,360	58,026
Total grant liabilities	151,360	68,321

¹ These grants are provided by the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate of the ACT Government.

Grant liabilities represent the amounts remaining undischarged (unspent) against grants received. The liability is progressively discharged during the year as the funds are used for the purpose of the grant.

Notes to the Financial Statements *continued*

Note 18 Payables

	2024	2023
Accounts Payable	1,923	280
Super Payable	5,830	4,755
PAYG Withholding Payable	10,830	4,854
GST Payable	12,317	0
Total payables	30,901	9,889

All payables are current liabilities, that is, they are settled within 12 months. Accounts payable are generally settled within 28 days.

Note 19 Related party transactions

Members of the management committee and their immediate family members are considered related parties of ACT Wildlife Incorporated. There have been no reportable related party transactions during 2024.

2023: nil.

Note 20 Changes to prior year financial statements

To present a more comprehensive picture of 2023 financial performance, changes have been made to some items in the 2023 Statement of Profit and Loss and 2023 Statement of Financial Position. These changes are reflected in the comparative columns in the 2024 financial statements. As such, various amounts presented for 2023 in the 2023 Annual Report will differ from the 2023 amounts in the 2024 Report.

Key changes:

- Income items World Animal Protection grant and National Capital Authority grant monies are now disclosed under the the respective Grant categories rather than Other income and Training revenue has been separated from Other income.
- Some expense items have been reclassified from Other expenses to Wildlife care expenses and Administrative expenses.
- The remaining useful life and depreciation charge of various asset categories has been reassessed with the impact reflected in the 2023 opening gross value of assets and the corresponding depreciation expense.
- Aviaries and other animal care equipment are now shown separate from Other plant & equipment in the Statement of Financial Position.
- The NCA grant remaining unused in 2023 has been recognised as a liability rather than revenue.
- The net impact of these changes and other minor corrections is an increase in reported net assets (equity) of \$3,700 for 2023.

Committee

President

Yana del Valle

Vice President

Adam Coppard

Secretary

Katie Love

Treasurer

Mark Jenkin



Committee members

John Bosch

Dorothy Brown

Lindy Butcher

Denise Kay

Rebecca Marks

Tracey McNicol

Deb Thomas

Tara Ward



Coordinators

Species Coordinators

Bat Coordinator	Ingrid Singh
Bird Coordinator	Marg Peachey and Denise Kay
Flying Fox Coordinators	Clare Wynter and Stephen Bartos
Frog Care Coordinator	Dorothy Brown
Macropod Coordinator	Lindy Butcher
Possum Coordinators	Cheryle Le Fevre and Corin Pennock
Reptile Coordinator	Mark Jenkin
Wombat Coordinator	Lindy Butcher

Group Coordinators

Phone Coordinator	Marg Peachey
Rescue and Transport Coordinator	Adam Coppard
Sewing Group Coordinator	Jane Halsey

Administrative Coordinators

Administration Coordinator	Heather Sommariva
Annual Report	Heather Sommariva
Calendar Coordinator	Rob Butcher
Events Coordinator	Deb Thomas
Membership Coordinator	Martin Lind
Social Media Coordinator	Evan Croker
Sponsor A Species Coordinator	Evan Croker
Training Coordinator	Adam Coppard
Website Coordinator	Heather Sommariva