

## **ATTACHMENT 1 – NWC Minutes 28 May 2013**

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Ms Stephanie Glasby, student, Dr Anne Fawcett & Dr Catherine Herbert

Ms Glasby is a student at Sydney University, studying Animal and Veterinary Bioscience under the supervision of Dr Catherine Herbert, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Veterinary Science and Dr Anne Fawcett who is also a practicing inner city veterinarian. Ms Glasby approached the NWC requesting we provide any existing guidelines we may have for rehabilitators hand-raising marsupials.

For her honours project Stephanie is conducting a study on marsupial hand-raising practices with the aim of establishing a catalogue of best practice guidelines from different wildlife rehabilitation organisations along the east coast of Australia. This information would then be collated into a survey to establish with guidelines are perceived to be the most important by wildlife rehabilitators within the region and what practical limitations there may be on their implementation.

The NWC invited Ms Glasby and Drs Fawcett and Herbert to speak with us at our meeting to explain in more detail their project and its aims.

The Council members were provided with a copy of the draft survey with a request that groups could feed back suggested amendments and additions.

The magnitude of the problem of wildlife rehabilitation and the difficulty of accessing meaningful and accurate data are considerations. Dr Herbert also spoke of how undervalued the work of rehabilitating native fauna actually is. She also informed us of long term research plans to undertake the fate of post release brush-tail possums which will involve the use of radio-tracking collars.

Dr Herbert provided a power-point presentation which will be sent as an attachment to the minutes when distributed.