

LYN MILLETT, WIRES NORTHERN BEACHES —NWC 2017 Grant—MATERIALS for 62

RINGTAIL POSSUM DREYS

As Possum Coordinator for the Northern Beaches Branch of WIRES I applied for the grant to be able to purchase hanging baskets for our carers to make homes for ringtails that had been hand raised or were released after rehabilitation had taken place. We always release our possums with a new home to get them started, even if they have only been in care for a short time for rehabilitation. To this end the grant money (\$500) purchased 125 hanging baskets with liners from Bunnings at a cost of \$4.00 each. Using two we make a round basket with holes front and back for entrance and exit points. We cover them with a piece of shade cloth which makes them more durable in the long term when providing a home for hand raised groups (usually 4). Possum carers make their own drey or my husband, Dave Millett makes them up for carers to use.

From October 2017 to March 2018 we have used 80 baskets (to make 40 drays). As we got into care 905 ringtails of various ages last year the branch carers have to pay out a lot of money for hanging baskets to house all these possums for release and therefore were very appreciative of the grant from the NWC to save them the out of pocket expense for this item.

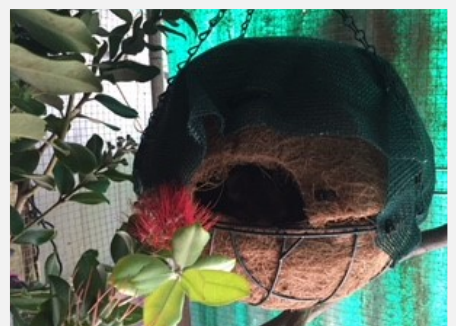
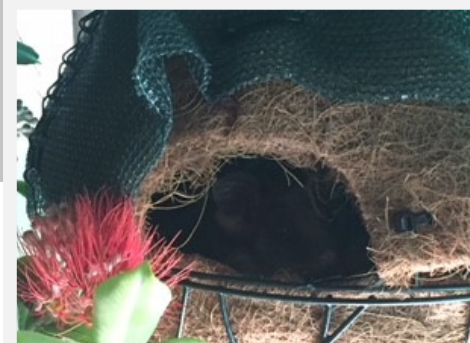
Thanking NWC for this grant. Lyn Millett



The Ringtail Possum drey construction process



A new home to go with Ringtail Possums on their release back to the wild.



March 2018