

CATRIENA NAUGHTIN – NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS – NWC 2017 GRANT – INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Upon receiving my grant from the NWC I placed an order for a RCOM Brooder ICU unit with the Bellsouth Poultry Equipment Company and received delivery on the 9th September 2017. My season started late this year so now all I had to do was wait for baby flying fox season to begin. This can start as early as September and go to February and beyond in some seasons.

The first 2 babies (Maddie and Harry) arrived on the 29th November and were shortly followed by Willie, Strop and Minnie.



Sally and Zana arrived in the new year by which time the 2 oldest were spending time outside the crib and so there was room for the new little ones.

The unit proved invaluable in the caring for 7 babies this year, especially the very young ones which can't thermoregulate until they are approx. 5 weeks old. Even though a lot of young ones that came into care this year were thermoregulating, they still benefited from a short time in the crib until their temperature stabilised and they were ready to go out onto the racks.

The Intensive Care Unit has provided a warm and safe environment with room for these wildlife orphans to develop, learn and socialise with other little ones. It has been an invaluable and most welcome addition in raising very young and abandoned flying-foxes. I look forward to using it for many years to come.



Thank you NWC for your contribution and support.



Catriena Naughtin

