



## Koala Hospital, Port Macquarie

### **Why do koalas need a hospital?**

**Loss of habitat**

**Disease**

**Motor vehicle strike**

**Dog attack**

\* established 1973

\* not-for-profit organisation

\* cares for up to 200 koalas a year

\* staffed by over 150 volunteers

**Rescue:** 24 Hour Rescue Hotline

**Rehabilitate:** treat injuries and illness

**Release:** back into the wild

**Research:** diseases - drug therapies - habitat

## **Did you know?**

**AGE:** a male can live to approximately 15 years and a female to 18 years in the wild. They can survive longer in human care. You can estimate age by looking at the teeth. Koala teeth wear down with age.

**EAT:** a koala eats up to 500 grams of fresh Eucalyptus leaves each day.

**EAR TAG:** all koalas admitted, treated and released are fitted with an ear tag and microchip. This is to keep track of their movements and is identification for future admission.

**LIVE:** Koalas are found from Cairns, in north Queensland, down along the eastern seaboard to Adelaide in South Australia. Koalas are also found in scattered populations in western Queensland, western New South Wales and inland Victoria.

**SLEEP:** They conserve their energy by sleeping 18-20 hours a day. This is because their diet is low in nutrients. It is **not** because they are intoxicated by the Eucalyptus leaves, or that they are lazy.

## **BEHIND THE SCREENS**



*~ fresh leaf is harvested from 6-8 trees every day to feed the koalas*

*~ daily room service for each koala in every yard enclosure*

*~ feeding and supplement formula twice daily, at 8am and 3pm*

**REHABILITATION YARDS:** koalas are treated, rehabilitated and prepared for release into the wild.



## EXHIBIT KOALAS



**1. BARRINGTON XAVIER:** came to the Hospital with his eyes completely covered over with tissue from Chlamydial infection. This disease has left him with minimal vision.

**2. NATF ZENANI:** was burnt in a bushfire in 2013. She sustained injuries to her hands & feet and her claws do not grow properly.

**3. OXLEY KAYLEE:** came to us with a badly damaged leg which was not healing. For research purposes we amputated this damaged leg, which she has coped with very well. One day she was up on her branch and it broke, so down she came, injuring her right eye - which could not be saved. She still climbs the tree in her yard, minus her left leg and right eye.

**4. OCEAN SUMMER:** was an orphan raised in home-care. She was with her mother when they were hit by a car. Her mother did not survive. The accident has left Ocean Summer with a brain injury causing blindness. Ocean Summer and Emerald Downs Mary share an enclosure.

**4. EMERALD DOWNS MARY:** you can often see her at the top of this tree. Mary had glaucoma, probably from injury, in her right eye which was so bad that unfortunately the eye had to be removed. The left eye has shrunk in the eye socket and left her completely blind. Despite this she still loves to climb, and does so safely.

**6. ELPARRA DAVID:** had multiple admissions to the Hospital, and is now permanent. He has suffered eye trauma, chlamydial disease and now has minimal vision.

**7. GUYRA ALLAN:** is a 'mountain' koala, much bigger than a coastal one. He arrived with chronic conjunctivitis caused by a very severe case of Chlamydia. Even with treatment and surgery the disease was so severe that he is blind.

**8. BYABARRA JONES:** came to us from a farming area 80kms west of Port Macquarie in 2017. He was admitted with bilateral glaucoma (both eyes). "Jonesy's" right eye was so enlarged and was under such pressure that the decision was made to remove the eye. "Jonesey" has minimal vision. He has settled well into captivity and will remain in permanent care with us.

**A. KOALASEUM:** interactive exhibition, display and information.

**B. KIOSK:** all sales support and fund the not-for-profit Koala Hospital. Koala Adoptions can be done at the Kiosk.

**C. CLINIC:** Procedures under anaesthesia such as sonography, pathology, treating of injuries, research sample collection and minor surgery is done here. Major procedures such as orthopedic surgeries are done at Port Macquarie Veterinary Hospital who we have worked with for forty years.



*We acknowledge the Birpai people  
as the traditional custodians of the land  
on which the Koala Hospital stands*

