



# SAVE OUR WILDLIFE FOUNDATION INC.

Annual Report 2021



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# SECTION 1 - AN OVERVIEW OF SOWFI

## OUR MISSION

We relieve the suffering of orphaned, sick, and injured native animals through effective rescue and rehabilitation, and support research that will benefit them.

We advocate on their behalf and create awareness amongst South Australians of their beauty and value to ensure they are here for generations to come.

Our volunteers fulfil many varied roles, which collectively, and in collaboration with other organisations, contributes to the short and long-term welfare of our native wildlife and the conservation of their habitat in South Australia.



Picture Provided By:  
SOWFI Member - Lisa DePalo

## OUR VISION

To stop the decline of South Australian wildlife through public relations and education, rescue, research, and conservation projects while working for legislative change.

## OUR HISTORY

Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc (SOWFI) was established in South Australia in 2018 by a group of wildlife carers who were looking for an organisation that provided science-led best practice training, an objective and active management structure, and both professional and personal support for all members. We are an Incorporated Association and registered charity. In 2020 we established a skills-based board to ensure best practice management and support for our volunteers.

## ABOUT US

SOWFI has been established by a group of people dedicating their time to ensuring the organisation is set up in a structure that will be sustainable and ensure fair and equitable treatment of all members and best practise management and animal welfare.

Following our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April 2020 we advertised for people to join the board with skills in governance, people & culture, fundraising and finance. The successful induction of 4 new members in addition to the 3 representatives from our wildlife volunteer group give SOWFI a highly skilled and balanced board.

In addition, we changed our Constitutional financial year from a calendar year to a financial year, therefore this annual report will cover our achievements of the last 18 months.

From what started as a small group of volunteers, we are proud of the progress SOWFI has made and of the people that have put in so much effort. In the last 18 months we have seen a significant increase in our active volunteer numbers, the addition of a new training course for bird care, conservation plantings and the development of significant collaborative relationships that provide our volunteers with rich and rewarding opportunities to benefit wildlife in many different ways. Please enjoy this report and feel heartened with the knowledge that while our native wildlife is struggling, there are many people working hard to help them. We hope you join us too.

## SECTION 2 - GOVERNANCE

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

I'm writing this report after just completing another Wildlife Rescue 101 course (11th September 2021) where we recruited 9 new volunteers to rescue wildlife. There are so many things we can do collectively to help our wildlife and SOWFI has the vision, the management structure, and the values base to bring passionate nature loving people together to make a difference.

With the strength of our leadership team we have achieved so much in the last 18 months. SOWFI is first and foremost, a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation service for South Australia, but we are becoming rapidly so much more. I have listed some of our achievements further below.

*(See Section 4 – SOWFI Objectives)*

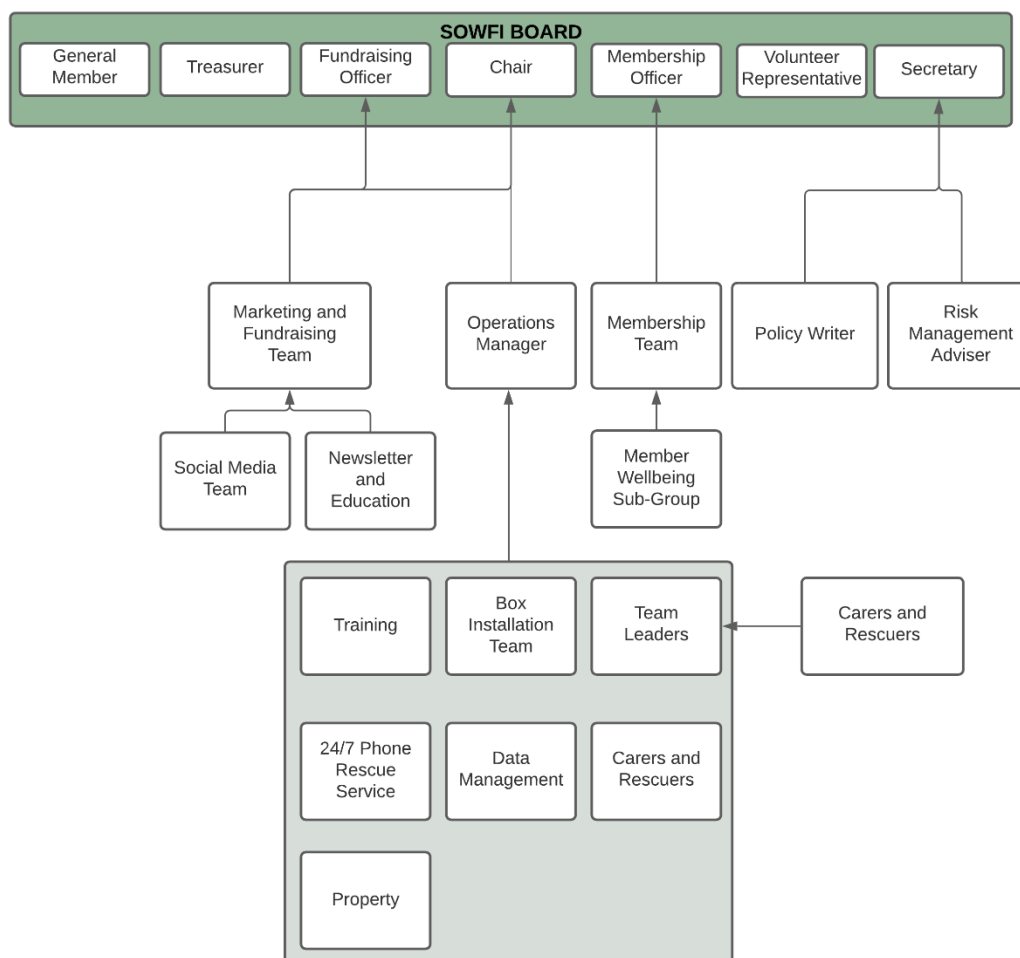


**SOWFI Chairperson**  
**Marian Maclucas**



## BOARD MEMBERS AND STRUCTURE

With the adoption of an updated constitution SOWFI has a maximum of 9 Board members, including Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer, Fundraising Officer, and up to 3 General Member board positions, including a Volunteer Representative.



Following the establishment of a skills-based board after the last AGM, the composition of the Board has been as follows:

Name	Position	Dates in Position
<b>Marian MacLucas</b>	Chair	April 2020 to present
<b>Linh Dao</b>	Treasurer	March 2021 to present
<b>Karen Darling</b>	General Member (Volunteer Representative)	April 2020 to present
<b>Steve Derviniotis</b>	General Member (Corporate Sponsorship)	June 2020
	Fundraising Officer	July 2020 to present
<b>Peter Knapp</b>	Secretary	June 2020 to present
<b>Amanda Reader</b>	Treasurer	April 2020 to March 2021
	General Member	March 2021 to present
<b>Marc Sneddon</b>	Fundraising Officer	June 2020
	General Member	July 2020 to November 2020
<b>Samantha Wilkinson</b>	Membership Officer	July 2020 to present

## GOVERNANCE

With the establishment of the skills-based Board, SOWFI has continued to strengthen its governance processes to support responsible, ethical, and transparent decision making. SOWFI's governance system has supported and will continue to support the organisation's growth and wellbeing into the future.

The SOWFI Board has overarching responsibility for the organisation and sits at the top of the governance structure. It has established a regular meeting cycle whereby it meets twice a month: one face-to-face Board meeting and one strategic discussion on a key topic via videoconference.

The Board is supported by a number of sub-committees/teams, each playing an important role in the operation of the organisation. A diagram of the SOWFI governance structure can be found on the previous page.

During 2020/21, key improvements to SOWFI's governance system were made:

- Introduction of Board Operating Guidelines which sets out the expectations of how the Board operates, including its decision-making process.
- Development of monthly 'dashboard' reporting which provide an organisational overview, including information on animal movement (such as rescues, in care and releases), finances, membership and risk management. This regular reporting allows the Board to consider the overall 'health' of the organisation to support its decision making.
- Introduction of more standardised administrative processes, such as standardised agendas, meeting papers and meeting scheduling.
- Transition to Microsoft Teams for distribution of Board documents and videoconferencing.

In 2021/22, SOWFI will continue to strengthen its governance processes, including consolidating of its IT infrastructure to support the operation and continued growth of the organisation and improved risk management.

# SECTION 3 - OUR MEMBERS

## OUR VALUES

SOWFI's Values are important to us as they provide guidance for our decision-making, behaviours and also provide us with an ethical compass to guide our actions.

Within the annual report term a set of SOWFI values have been developed by the Board with consultation feedback being sought from members. The values will support the development of a common culture and experience for our members and stakeholders.

Our SOWFI Values are;

- We are committed to the care and conservation of our native wildlife & habitat
- We will advocate on behalf of our native wildlife
- Our decisions are always made in the best interests of the animal
- We apply evidence-based knowledge and skill in our animal practices
- We act with a high degree of compassion, personal responsibility, accountability, and respect
- We see value in collaborating with like-minded people and organisations

## MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY

During 2020 and 2021 the Membership team have focussed on a number of priorities.

### **SOWFI Membership Manual**

The SOWFI Membership Manual provides a wide range of information for new and existing members.

It provides members with information on;

- Our Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Objectives
- Membership types and procedures
- SOWFI members, roles and people
- The membership recruitment process
- Important resources
- Member support and wellbeing including counselling service provider information
- Key SOWFI Policy and procedure information

The membership manual is provided to new members during the recruitment process.

## **Recruitment Process**

The SOWFI recruitment process has been streamlined to operate on a bulk recruitment basis. The majority of membership recruitment now occurs during scheduled rescuer / carer training events.

The partnership with SOWFI Training Events has been highly successful and has resulted in a significant increase in membership numbers.

## **Membership Planning**

The Board participated in their first membership planning process which resulted in the setting of an annual target of 30 new SOWFI members.

Further to this target SOWFI have also established new functions and positions that will support SOWFI's continued growth and delivery to their strategic objectives.

Some of the new functions and positions include;

- Team Leaders
- Species specialists
- Wildlife Box Installation team
- Fundraising and events team members
- Social media team members
- Newsletter / communications
- Membership team members
- Grant writer
- Phone operators

SOWFI Board are thankful for the amazing members (both new and existing) and look forward to continuing to build membership base capability and strength.

## **Volunteer Subsidy Scheme**

The SOWFI Board introduced the SOWFI Volunteer Subsidy Scheme to support our wildlife volunteers with the reimbursement of some of their expenses related to the rescue and care of animals.



## Membership Numbers

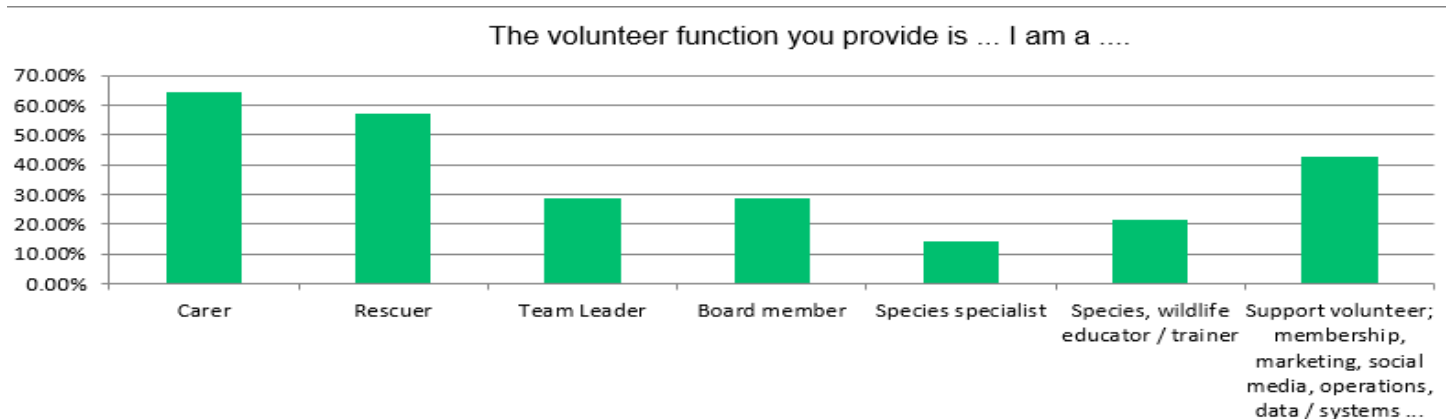
The SOWFI membership profile as of 30 June 2021 is provided in the table below.

Membership - As at the end of June 2021					
New Members (this month)	4		Carers	3	Carers but not rescuers
Resignations	-		Rescuers	25	Rescuers but not carers
<b>Total Membership (at month end)</b>	<b>78</b>		Rescuer and Carer	33	Both
Volunteer Member	71		Team Leaders - Rescuer and / or Carer	12	Includes possum box coordinator
Life Member	-		Possum box installation	5	New category
Honorary Member	7		Non-Wildlife / Support	18	Exclusively non-wildlife role
Corporate Member	-		Board	7	
Founding Member	7		Phone Operator	5	
Founding is same # as honorary			Note the above will not add up and total as some members are in multiple categories		

## Membership Survey

During 2021 the Board approved the implementation of a Membership Survey. The Survey was completed by 14 members.

A breakdown of the member survey completion profile is provided in the graph below.

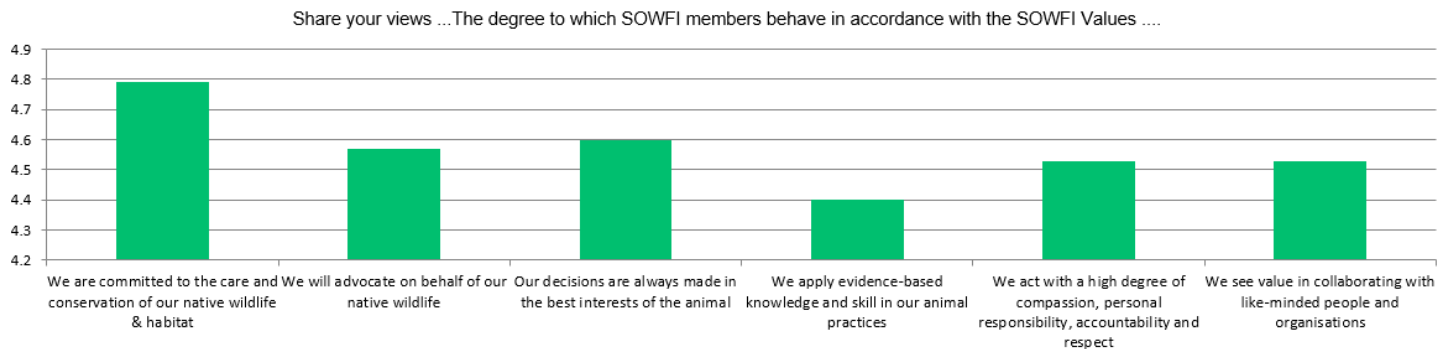


SOWFI members indicated other members behave consistently with the Values “Often” (4). The highest rating was Always (5).

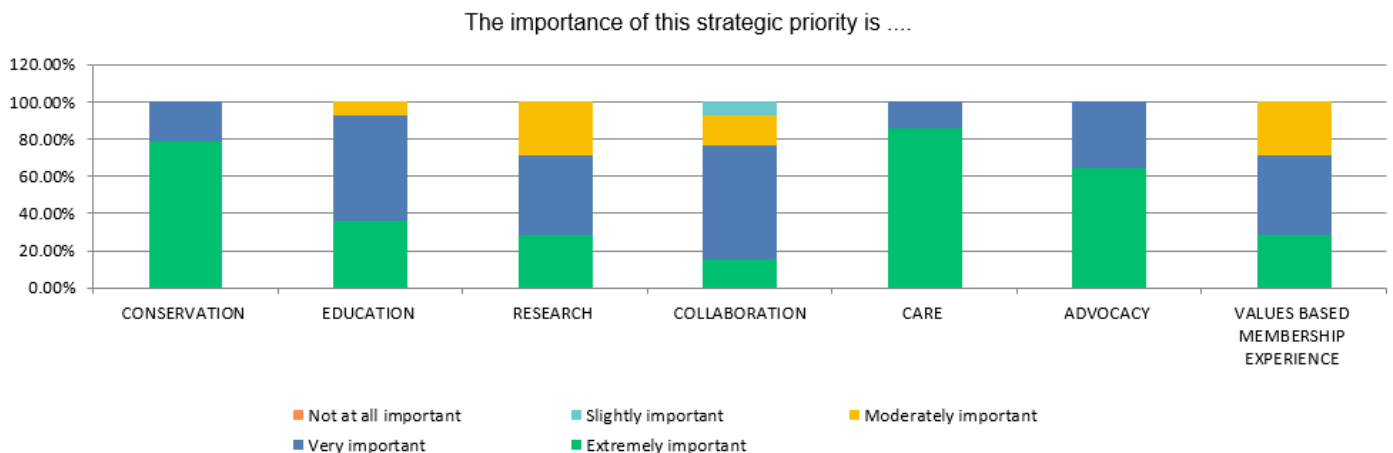
The highest performing Value was | “We are committed to the care and conservation of our native wildlife & habitat” with a weighted score of 4.8

The lowest performing Value was | “We apply evidence-based knowledge and skill in our animal practices” with a weighted score of 4.4

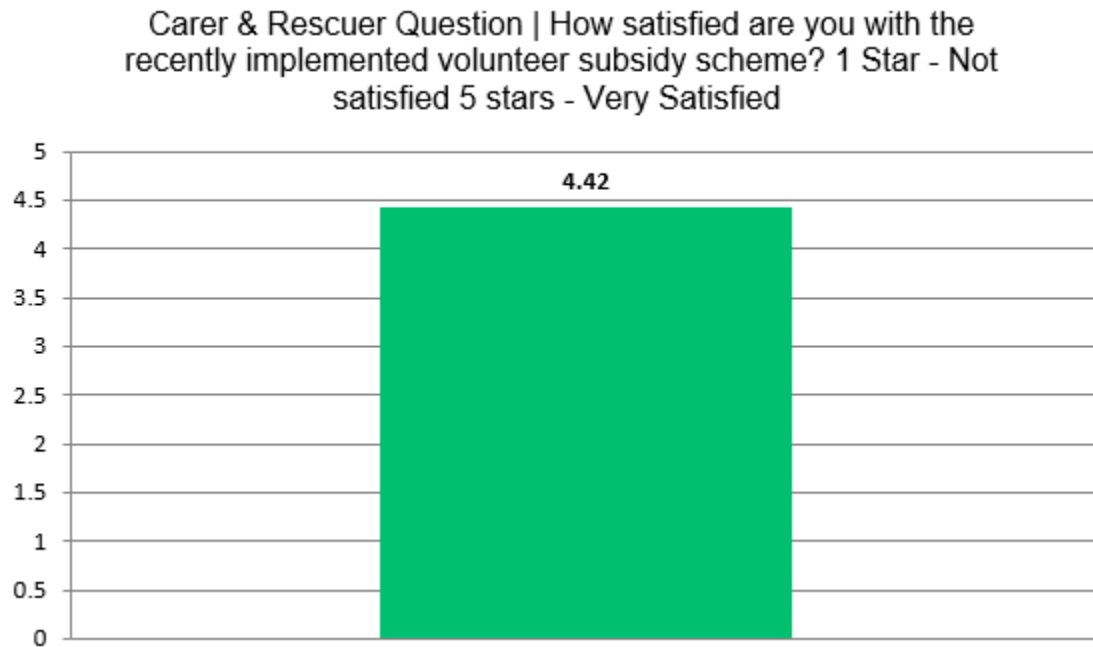
Some highlights from the feedback is “I am relatively new, but my experiences with members so far are that the wildlife come first.” “A lot of experience amongst volunteers who are happy to share and spread the knowledge. It's warming to see volunteers who know a lot about one species, still ask if not sure about another.” “We apply evidence-based knowledge and skill as often as we can with the resources/research we have” “Encouraging ongoing improvement and development with skills is obvious. Again, those that know are great at teaching and sharing.”



Members saw the most important strategic objective as being; CARE – relief of suffering of injured, sick or orphaned native wildlife through effective rescue, rehabilitation and release where possible. The second most important was CONSERVATION – promote preservation and protection of native wildlife and its habitats. The third most important was ADVOCACY – a voice on behalf of our local native wildlife. This information will be very important as SOWFI progresses into the next year.

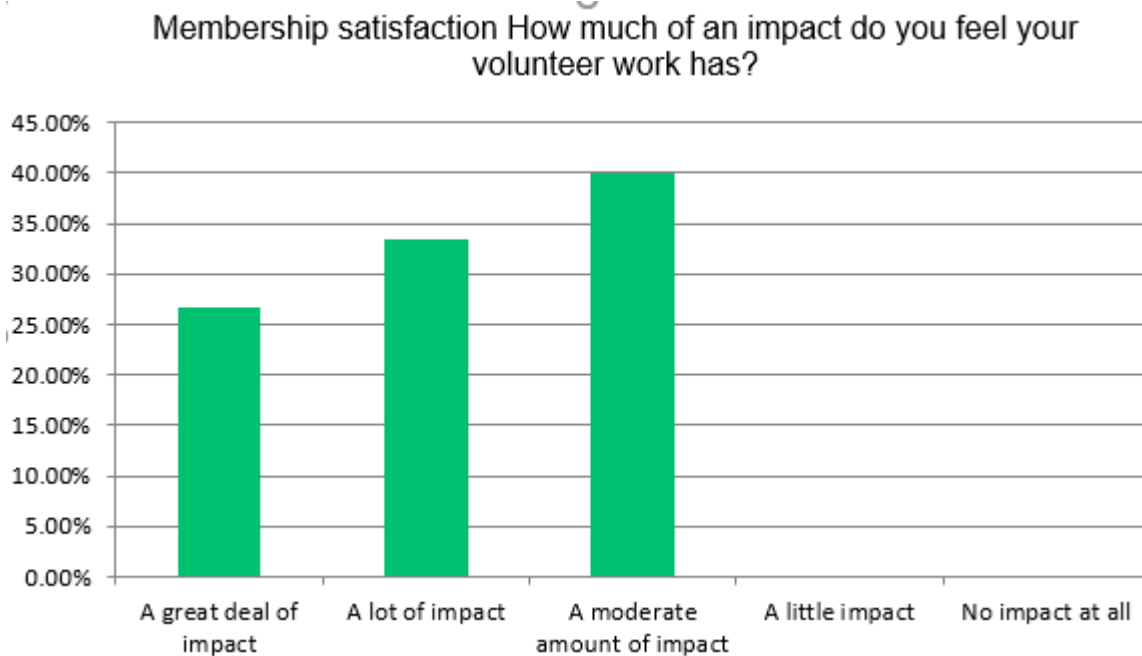


Majority of members reported a high degree of satisfaction with the recently introduced volunteer subsidy scheme



SOWFI members indicated their volunteer work has between a moderate and great deal of impact.

Some wonderful feedback from our members is; "For the individual animal our impact is enormous. On a wider scale perhaps little to no impact on how well a species is fairing. However, on a personal level the impact is huge."



### **Team leader Training**

During 2020 and 2021 SOWFI Membership Officer has facilitated two Team Leader training sessions for existing SOWFI Members.

The Team Leader sessions were held in September 2020 and February 2021.

The session covered important leadership topics such as;

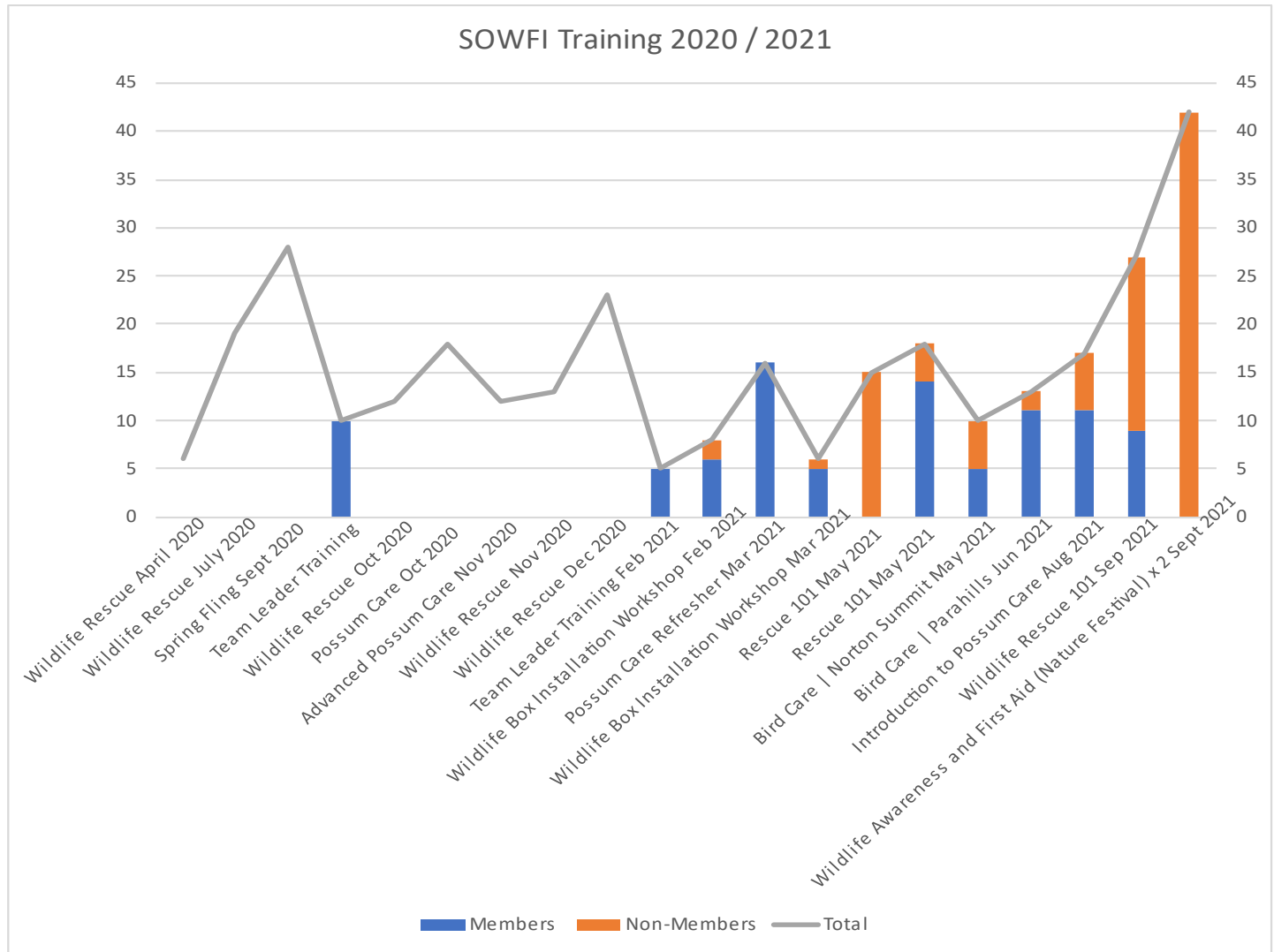
- Our Organisation
- Leadership structure and support
- Induction manual and checklist
- Leadership accountabilities
- Values
- Data / records
- Rescue flow chart
- Creching
- Conflict of Interest
- Social media
- Dealing with conflict

The sessions were facilitated by the Board Chair and the Membership Officer.

## Training Sessions

SOWFI Board and experienced members have invested substantial effort into reviewing and improving training for members and the community.

The changing nature of the training sessions can be seen in the table below.



- 2019 the training sessions focussed on Basic and Advanced Possum training and one Wildlife Rescue course.
- 2020 the sessions mirrored the types delivered in 2019 with an increase in the number of sessions.
- 2021 the sessions expanded into a new species, birds, wildlife box installation and also building the capability of SOWFI team leaders. There was a large increase in the number of sessions run in first half of 2021, compared to first half of 2019 or 2020.

‘Caring for Carers’ was a Participatory Community Practice project facilitated by 4th-year Occupational Therapy (OT) students Joshua Kelleher and Ngan Van from the University of South Australia. The aim of the project was to develop the sustainability of wildlife volunteers by promoting health and wellbeing. The project was proposed in 2019 by Karen Darling, an OT and a rescuer, carer, and Board member of SOWFI, with a focus on identifying the specific risks that SOWFI volunteers experience, and the supports that they require to develop appropriate strategies to ensure the wildlife volunteer role is both sustainable and satisfying. A scoping phase was undertaken during 2020 to plan the project, and the project implementation occurred from April to June 2021.

SOWFI places a high priority on evidence-based research and the equitable and fair treatment of our volunteers. Additionally, awareness of the growing literature regarding the health risks that wildlife volunteers may experience such as compassion fatigue, burn out and trauma, SOWFI wanted to learn more about how these health risks affect our volunteers and how we can further support each other. The Project Facilitators undertook a needs analysis, including meeting with SOWFI members, reading past online posts by SOWFI members, discussing with other wildlife organisations, and consulting literature that discussed the needs of wildlife volunteers. The prioritised need was identified as the development of a resource to improve the community’s knowledge of health risks such as compassion fatigue and burnout, which aligned with the focus that was originally proposed by SOWFI.

The literature identifies that wildlife volunteers require skills, commitment, and training to successfully rehabilitate an injured wild animal and to rear orphans. Wildlife volunteers experience many positive emotions while working with animals, such as self-compassion, compassion satisfaction and happiness. Being a wildlife volunteer is a very fulfilling role that brings many positive experiences; however, it is also a very emotionally and physically demanding role that can cause negative factors such as compassion fatigue, burn out, trauma and grief. Wildlife volunteers can be exposed to health risks that can affect multiple aspects of their lives, such as their emotional and physical health, and their interactions with colleagues, friends, and families. Wildlife volunteers have been exposed to multiple natural disasters in recent years further increasing their exposure to risk factors. Therefore, it is essential that they receive the appropriate support to assist them in identifying, managing, and preventing emotional distress. This growing literature discussing the potential negative factors of wildlife volunteering has assisted SOWFI in identifying the need to learn more about these health risks and their prevalence within the SOWFI community. The completed literature reviews in full undertaken by the Project Facilitators can be found on the member area on the SOWFI website.

It was identified during the scoping phase and needs analysis that there was a lack of resources to support wildlife volunteers in identifying and managing health risks. It was also identified that members who were introduced to wildlife volunteering were unaware of the health risks that may have been associated with wildlife volunteering. SOWFI members who discussed experiencing health risks such as



compassion fatigue and burnout through wildlife volunteering reported not knowing the early signs and symptoms and not having coping strategies. Members who have experienced health risks also identified that talking to other members who understand their position is another effective coping strategy that assists in managing and preventing them. Other findings include interest in additional support with rescues, particularly for new rescuers, more shared information, and increased opportunities for social support and connection.

A project reference group was formed consisting of the two UniSA OT Project Facilitators, and SOWFI members who participated in the interviews during the needs analysis, to assist problem solving and decision making with the project facilitators in prioritising a need, creating an action plan, and developing resources. Members of the reference group were chosen so that each wildlife volunteer role was represented (carer, rescuer, Team Leader, Board member). Following the action plan phase of the project, relevant information and resources were distributed to the SOWFI Board and community, and refinements of the resources were made after feedback was provided. Further evaluation was carried out to affirm the satisfaction of the final resources.

The health and wellbeing resource that was developed will be accessible in different formats online and as a physical copy, and the key points of the resource will be integrated into all training workshops and orientations. This will ensure that all SOWFI members can interact with the resource and that the information developed will be disseminated to the community. A crucial part of project sustainability is ensuring members have awareness and full accessibility to the resources that have been developed and placed in the members section of the SOWFI website.

#### *Summary of needs analysis:*

- Key areas that were identified as needs for the SOWFI community were support in team system structure and the development of resources to address the health risks involved in becoming a wildlife volunteer.
- The reference group identified the prioritised need to be increasing the community's knowledge and understanding of the risks involved in being a wildlife volunteer such as compassion fatigue, burn out, and trauma.
- From this project, the project facilitators made the following recommendations:
- The implementation of the self-care workshop developed (regarding signs & symptoms of risks and how to manage) with SOWFI members.
- The implementation of the ProQOL tool (the Professional Quality of Life tool) was identified as a suitable tool to assist SOWFI members in identifying feelings of compassion fatigue, burnout and trauma while also providing suggestions on how to prevent and manage them).
- The inclusion of 3 wellbeing slides in training workshops.
- The further development of resources developed throughout the project, e.g. led by another student project.
- Formation of a Wellbeing Membership Subcommittee.
- Providing more social opportunities for SOWFI members.

- Further supporting new rescuers.

The recommendations have been endorsed in principle by the SOWFI Board and are in the process of implementation. Wellbeing slides have been presented in 2 workshops, and the self-care workshop will be launched at the Spring Fling annual event in 2021. Proposals for future student projects have been submitted to both UniSA and Flinders Uni OT programs. The SOWFI Board will continue to monitor the implementation, sustainability, and evaluation of the identified recommendations, and updates are reported to Board meetings.

## SECTION 4 - SOWFI OBJECTIVES

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

We are guided by our 6 strategic objectives and in the last 18 months our volunteers have contributed to the following remarkable achievements:

1. **CONSERVATION** – promote preservation and protection of native wildlife and its habitats.
  - May 2020 – Wildlife Food Tree Planting – Woorabinda Bushland Reserve, Stirling – a collaboration with Adelaide Hills Council and Friends of Woorabinda.
  - Feb/March 2021 – raised awareness in local media of the devastating impact of the Scott Creek Conservation Park fire, a precious natural resource in the Mt Lofty Ranges where “approximately 13% of the original native vegetation of the region remains”<sup>1</sup>. We continue a [crowd funding campaign](#) for Friends of Scott Creek CP for bushfire recovery work raising \$1498 so far.
  - July 2021 – Wildlife Food Tree Planting – Little Para River, Salisbury – a collaboration with Salisbury Council and Salisbury Heights Primary School.
2. **EDUCATION** – to create awareness among South Australian’s about the importance and value of their native wildlife.
  - Conducted 11 wildlife education courses covering wildlife rescue, possum, and bird care.
  - Quarterly newsletter and social media across 3 platforms.
  - Participated in [The Park Lands Project](#).

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<sup>1</sup>

[“Informing Biodiversity Conservation for the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Region South Australia”, Department of Environment & Water, June 2010.](#)

3. **RESEARCH** – to initiate, promote and fund research that benefits local native wildlife.
- Created a Wildlife Research Fund for donations specifically aimed at funding a scholarship for wildlife research.
  - Initial discussions have begun for a research project with the University of Adelaide in 2022 to learn more about currently unexplained death in ringtail and brushtail possums.
  - A number of our volunteers have been assisting Dr Jasmin Packer with wildlife surveys in the Scott Creek Conservation Park particularly looking at recovery of the endangered Southern brown bandicoot.<sup>2</sup>
4. **COLLABORATION** – to engage with key stakeholders.
- University of South Australia – creation of Caring for Carers resources to recognise, prevent or treat burn out, compassion fatigue and PTSD.
  - WIRES – huge thank you to WIRES for their support providing a phone rescue app that we find invaluable and for sharing their Wildlife Rescue 101 with South Australians.
  - Humane Society – huge thank you to HSI for funding incubators for our joeys and safety equipment for our nesting box installation team.
  - University of South Australia – SOWFI volunteer Jacob Klop assisted Quang Vu in his honours research on tree hollows following the Cudlee Creek bush fires.
  - University of Adelaide – SOWFI volunteers Emma Linsenmeier and Christine Stevens assisted Dr Jasmin Packer with bandicoot surveys following the Scott Creek Conservation Park fire in January 2021.
5. **CARE** – relief of suffering of injured, sick, or orphaned native wildlife through effective rescue, rehabilitation, and release where possible.

The rescue, rehabilitation, relief of suffering and release of suitable animals back into the wild makes up our day-to-day operations. With close to 70 active Wildlife Volunteers<sup>3</sup> and a 24/7 phone rescue service, we have quickly become one of the most reliable and valued services for all species in South Australia.

In September 2020 we launched our animal and rescue database which records every phone call to our rescue hotline, every rescue and every animal in care. This data will provide invaluable information going forward to help us monitor and protect our wildlife. This data collection also provides us with an equitable and unique way to reimburse our Wildlife Volunteers for some of the expenses incurred as a result of their rescues and work with wildlife.

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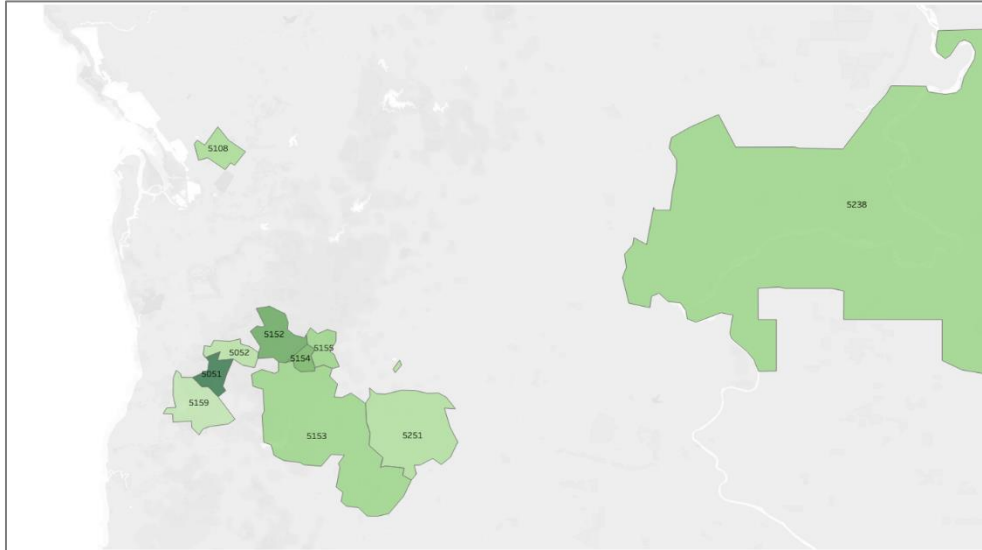
<sup>2</sup> [Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.](#)

<sup>3</sup> As of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, we had 45 registered active wildlife volunteers. At time of writing this has increased to nearly 70.

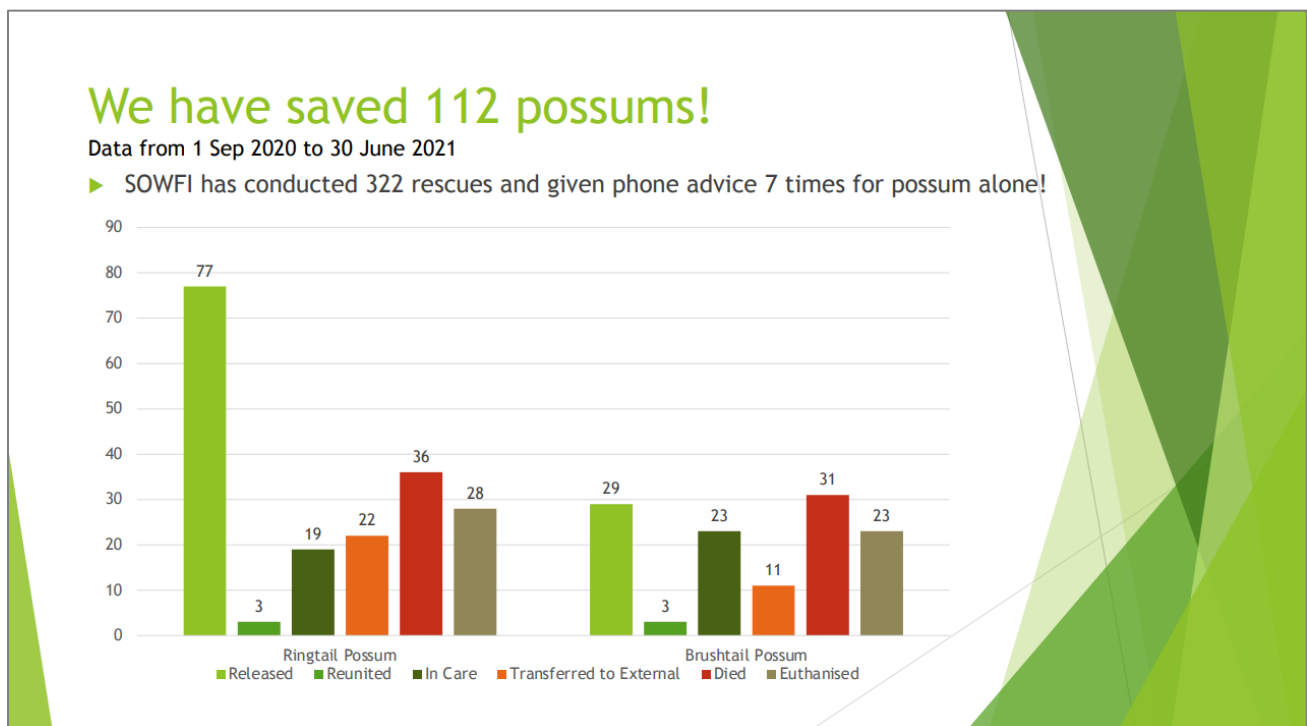
In the 12-month period from 1 Sep 2020 to 30 Aug 2021 our volunteers have:

- Provided advice and rescued 723 animals covering 63 species.
- Provided care for 613 animals over a total of 19,243 nights.
- Which equates to an estimated 29,226 wildlife volunteer hours.

### Top 10 suburbs for wildlife rescues and advice:



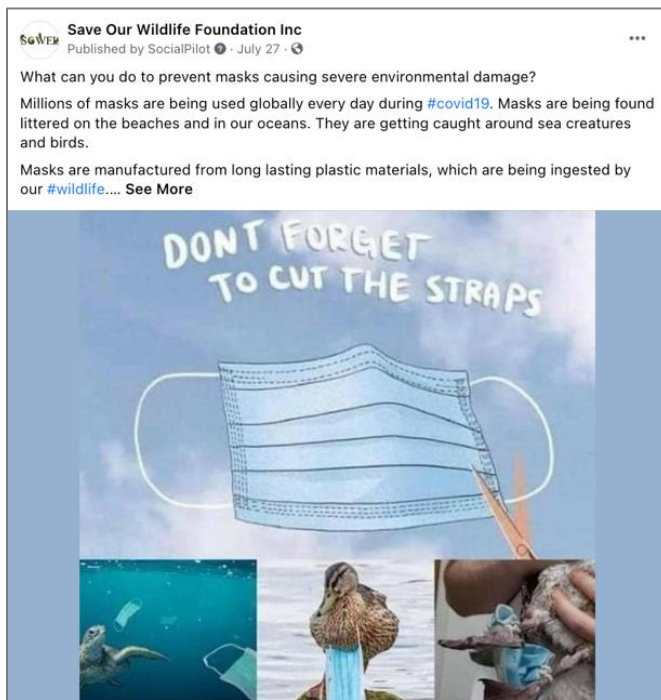
### Wildlife Outcomes:



## 6. **ADVOCACY** – a voice on behalf of our local native wildlife

We are building capacity in this area and plan to be more vocal about issues impacting on our already stressed and vulnerable wildlife. There is strength in collaboration, and we will continue to engage like-minded organisations to raise some noise in areas we feel the public are not aware.

In addition to the story in The Advertiser to raise awareness of the devastation of the Scott Creek Conservation Park bushfire in January 2020 we have used our social media platforms to talk about the use of pesticides, many of which are banned in other countries<sup>4</sup>, how to dispose of face masks to prevent injury and death in wildlife and many other actions people can make or change every day to help wildlife.



<sup>4</sup>

[A list of Australia's most dangerous pesticides. WWF June 2010.](#)

# SECTION 5 - FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING

2021 has been a dynamic year for SOWFI's F&M unit, as it grew from a group of three contributors to a team of up to 17 people. In the same year SOWFI adopted new technologies, established a more structural operating rhythm, and expanded its digital reach and fundraising events scope. The committee also achieved over 100% growth in digital reach, a 150% growth in funding results all the while maintaining a 100% volunteer team. A special thank you to all contributors and the over 500 hours of donated time

## BACKGROUND

During the year 2020-2021, SOWFI has developed a marketing plan based around the following key principles aligned to the organisations' strategic objectives.

- 24/7 wildlife rescue for all native animals
- 100% Volunteer
- Scientific evidence based
- Registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and accredited with the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient
- A philosophy of Rescue, Rehabilitate and Release
- Supporting Conservation, Education & Research

In addition, SOWFI conducts fundraising activities via four core channels:

- Events (Bunnings BBQ events, social events)
- Crowdfunding (FB and online fundraising sites)
- Donations (Originated from website visitors and members)
- Grants (Recipient of government and private grants)

The SOWFI Fundraising and Marketing Committee reports to the SOWFI board. While volunteers' levels change over the course of the year, SOWFI would like to acknowledge the support from the 17 individual SOWFI members who collaborated on the above activities.



Picture of a successful Sausage Sizzle at Mount Barker Bunnings



## MARKETING

Marketing initiatives have led to the following milestones for SOWFI:

- Establishing a core committee group of volunteers responsible for marketing, events, and fundraising activities. The group includes individuals with professional backgrounds in marketing, digital content production, videography, partnerships' managers, graphic designers, copywriters, event managers and project managers.
- Launching an omnichannel digital reach encompassing Facebook, Instagram, Google, LinkedIn, Twitter, TikTok, newsletters and a blog.
- Reaching an audience across all age groups with a reach of over 70,000 impressions for the 12 months and total audience of subscribed 1,600 viewers, and a monthly "in feed" reach of over 5,000 viewers (*See Appendix 1*).
- Across all digital channels, SOWFI's content has reached an increase of over 114% in subscribed viewers on previous year.
- SOWFI has established a set of marketing guidelines and operating activities, and in doing so refreshed its brand assets, established guidelines for logo uses, accrued video and photographic documented evidence of its animals in care, release footage and community programs' activities.

## FUNDRAISING

Fundraising initiatives have led to the following milestones for SOWFI:

- Establishing a bequest program reachable via the [sowfi.org.au](http://sowfi.org.au) website
- Raising funds in the amounts of;
  - . Donations \$12,063
  - . Grants \$27,269
  - . Fundraising \$9,659
  - . Lottery \$2,130

## PARTNERSHIPS

In 2020-2021 SOWFI established collaborations with the following organisations:

- Bunnings Warehouse
- University of Adelaide
- People's Choice Credit Union
- University of South Australia
- fauNature
- WIRES
- Department for Environment and Water
- Friends of Scott Creek
- Wuts Cuts Production
- A number of South Australian local governments

SOWFI would also like to acknowledge the not-for-profit discounts from its technology providers such as ConnectingUp, Techsoup, Microsoft, monday.com, SocialPilot, Google, Canva, Mailchimp.

SOWFI thanks all collaborators for their donations in time, funds, commercial activities, and gifts in kind.

## PLANNED PROJECTS

SOWFI is currently engaged in a number of projects for 2022 and beyond, for direct fundraising activities as well as collaborations with 3rd party organizations within the conservation sector, academia, the public sector, and commercial supporters.

At a top-line level, these initiatives aim to develop a stronger digital footprint, provide the ability for donation gift giving, animal sponsorship, establish an individual supporter program, and create new direct communication channel with members of the public.

SOWFI is constantly on the lookout for additional mutually beneficial partnerships. All enquiries of this nature can be directed at [partnerships@save-our-wildlife.org.au](mailto:partnerships@save-our-wildlife.org.au)

SOWFI thanks its F&M committee collaborators (in no particular order):

*Virginia Wong, Denisa Mickova, Susan Minter, Alice Mann, Oscar Wuts, Andrew Boyce, Marian MacLucas, Steve Derviniotis, Karen Darling, Amanda Reader, Briana Kemp, Keira Blanchard, Meagan Fox, Sherise Filipson, Anne van der Merwe, Katrina Baker, Robbie Jones.*

## SECTION 6 - FINANCIALS

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc's functional and presentation currency.

Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc. is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business are:

**Registered office**

67 Wilpena Tec  
Aldgate SA 5154

**Principal activities**

SOWFI is a science-led, grass roots animal conservation group.

Our volunteers care for orphaned, sick, injured, and displaced wildlife and relieve suffering through effective rescue & rehabilitation, releasing back into the wild whenever possible.

SOWFI offers training and supports research that will benefit our wildlife in South Australia.

We advocate on behalf of our wildlife and create awareness amongst South Australians of their beauty and value to ensure they are here for generations to come.

Our volunteers fulfil many varied roles, which collectively, and in collaboration with other organisations, contributes to the short and long-term welfare of our native wildlife and the conservation of their habitat in South Australia.

**Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc Special Purpose  
Statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income  
For the 18-month period ended 30 June 2021**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>18 months ended 30 Jun 2021</b>	<b>12 months ended 31 Dec 2019</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>60,771</b>	<b>6,435</b>
Interest income		7	2
<b>Expenses</b>			
Accounting and bookkeeping		(686)	(55)
Advertising and marketing		(998)	(568)
Bank charges and fees		(122)	(5)
Costs of goods sold		(6,649)	-
Gifts and donations		(17)	(59)
Grant expenses		(22,775)	-
Hi Vis Vests		(774)	(1,202)
Registration and insurance		(2,189)	(373)
Legal and professional fees		(73)	(2,253)
Meals and entertainment		(53)	(138)
Possum & Bird Boxes		(1,003)	(574)
Postage & shipping		(46)	(23)
Printing, stationery & supplies		(1,672)	(64)
Subscriptions		(172)	(84)
Telephone and internet expense		(433)	(410)
Training expenses		(728)	75
Volunteer expenses		(710)	-
Volunteer subsidy		(4,249)	-
Other expenses		(399)	-
<b>Surplus before income tax expense</b>		<b>17,030</b>	<b>704</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc</b>		<b>17,030</b>	<b>704</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc</b>		<b>17,030</b>	<b>704</b>

*The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

**Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc Special Purpose  
Statement of financial position  
As of 30 June 2021**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>30 Jun 2021</b>	<b>31 Dec 2019</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	23,110	3,986
GST receivables		899	662
Total current assets		<u>24,009</u>	<u>4,648</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>24,009</u>	<u>4,648</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Loan from Jane		-	210
Loan from Kate		2,770	2,770
Loan from Marian		-	964
Provision for VSP program		3,504	-
Total current liabilities		<u>6,274</u>	<u>3,944</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>6,274</u>	<u>3,944</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><u>17,734</u></u>	<u><u>704</u></u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained surpluses		<u>17,734</u>	<u>704</u>
<b>Total equity</b>		<u><u>17,734</u></u>	<u><u>704</u></u>

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

## **Note 1. Significant accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

### **Basis of preparation**

In the officers' opinion, the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Incorporated Association Act (SA) 1985*. The officers have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc.

These financial statements are prepared on cash basis, except for the provision of VSP Program as disclosed below.

During 2019, the Association has resolved to change the year-end date from 31 December to 30 June to align the reporting date with the financial year. As such, these financial statements were prepared for 18-month period from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021 with a 12-month comparative period.

### *Historical cost convention*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### *Critical accounting estimates*

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the incorporated association's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 2.

### **Revenue recognition**

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:



**Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc Special Purpose  
Notes to the financial statements  
For the 18-month period ended 30 June 2021**

*Sales revenue*

Events, fundraising, and raffles are recognised when received or receivable.

*Donations*

Donations are recognised at the time the pledge is made.

*Grants*

Grant revenue is recognised in surplus or deficit when the incorporated association satisfies the performance obligations stated within the funding agreements.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the incorporated association is eligible to retain the contribution, the grant will be recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until those conditions are satisfied.

*Interest*

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method.

*Other revenue*

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

*Volunteer services*

The incorporated association has elected not to recognise volunteer services as either revenue or other form of contribution received. As such, any related consumption or capitalisation of such resources received is also not recognised.

**Income tax**

As the incorporated association is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

### **Current and non-current classification**

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

### **Trade and other receivables**

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

### **Trade and other payables**

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the incorporated association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

### Provision for VSP Program

The SOWFI Volunteer Subsidy Program (VSP) is designed to reimburse wildlife volunteers for some of the expenses they incur in an equitable way. A wildlife volunteer accrues points for every rescue and every night they have an animal in care based on the data entered into the SOWFI database. SOWFI shop page is available for volunteers to redeem points.

A provision for VSP Program is provided for based on the points owing to volunteers at the end of the period at the pre-determined conversation rate, which is 20 cents per point for the reporting period.

### Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses, and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

### Note 2. Revenue

	18 months ended 30 Jun 2021 \$	12 months ended 31 Dec 2019 \$
<i>Revenue</i>		
Donations	12,063	1,704
Grant income	27,269	500
Fundraising	9,659	-
Lottery tickets	2,130	1,706
Membership	4,120	840
Possum Boxes Income	73	47
Training and Events	2,730	1,638
Sales of goods	2,727	-
	<u>60,771</u>	<u>6,435</u>

### Note 3. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Paypal account	1,111	557
Statement account (0202)	16,623	1,960
Statement account (0384)	5,376	1,469
	<u>23,110</u>	<u>3,986</u>

### Note 4. Contingent liabilities

The incorporated association had no contingent liabilities as of 30 June 2021 and 31 December 2019.

### Note 5. Commitments

The incorporated association had no commitments for expenditure as of 30 June 2021 and 31 December 2019.

In the officers' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Incorporated Association Act (SA) 1985*;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards to the extent described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as of 31 December 2020 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board



Marian MacLucas  
Chairperson

28/10/2021  
Adelaide, South Australia

# SECTION 7 - OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## SOWFI'S FUTURE

After a very busy and successful year, our future plans are also very exciting! We are continuing to grow and maintain our partnerships with leading science and research groups and strengthen our connections with our local community, vets, and wildlife caring groups.

This next year our plans include continuing our work with Dr Jasmin Packer, an independent Research Fellow in the Environment Institute and the University of Adelaide, and long-term member of the Terrestrial Ecology Lab, who's known for her commitment to think global - act local. Our volunteers are assisting with her latest bandicoot surveys in Scott Creek Conservation Park too determine the effects on the population since the fires in January 2021. It has been discovered that with the trapping and surveys, bandicoots have returned to a place burnt out by the fires, and, they have had babies!!

SOWFI has also been asked by Dr Jasmin Packer, to participate in a platypus reintroduction program around Adelaide and in particular the River Torrens. This coincides with making Adelaide a National Park City and improving the city's connection between people and nature.

We are participating in the annual Nature Festival, an annual festival in SA with a 10-day program of events, encounters, and experiences to celebrate our love of nature in SA. This year SOWFI is participating in the festival program for the first time with a family friendly training event Wildlife Awareness and First Aid. Participants will learn how to identify our most common species of birds and animals in and around Adelaide, when they need help and what to do, and will also receive a Wildlife First Aid Kit for the car.

Bunnings is sponsoring workshops for people to create and donate bird and possum boxes for our rehabilitated wildlife.

There are more tree plantings organised around Adelaide in local council areas and we are working with schools to coordinate a community school planting project.

We are anticipating a very busy and rewarding next 12 months putting our goals into action.



Picture of a successful Tree Planting  
with Salisbury Council

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Donors

Thank you to the many people who donated to help support wildlife.

Rest assured your donations are being used for the rescue and rehabilitation of our local wildlife.

### Grants and funding

Thank you for grant funding and in-kind support:

- Humane Society International (HSI)
- WIRES
- Bunnings
- People's Choice Community Lottery
- fauNature
- Wuts Cuts Production

### Corporate & community partners

Thank you to those businesses who have assisted SOWFI and continue to do so:

- U-Store It Mt Barker
- Gumeracha Men's Shed

### Volunteers

Huge thankyou to the dedicated team that have put in hours of work on the board to get SOWFI to where she is, and to our wildlife volunteers who volunteer all hours of the day and night to rescue & care for animals and ensure they are relieved of pain and in the best cases, released back into the wild.

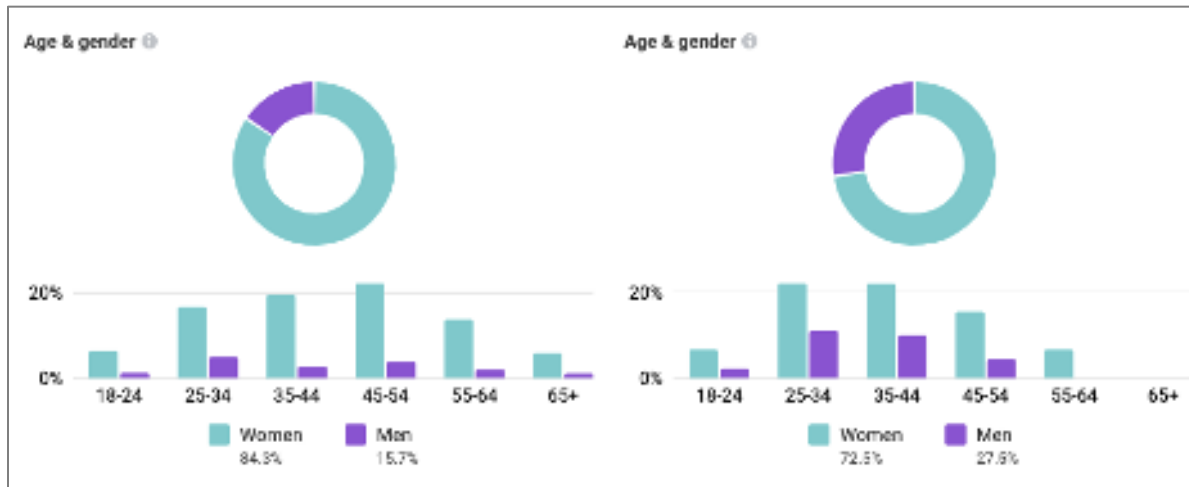
## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Become a Wildlife Volunteer;** [Start by attending training](#)
- **Volunteer your time in other ways;** [Board and other positions available](#)
- **Make a donation;** [Donate Here](#)
- **Become a Friend of SOWFI;** [Your annual donations help us with training and research](#)
- **Become a corporate partner;** [Contact Us for more details](#)



## APPENDIX 1 - DIGITAL REACH STATISTICS

### Facebook / Instagram



### LinkedIn

