

Our Native Wildlife



WHAT'S WRONG WITH FEEDING COW'S MILK ???

People ask why cow's milk is bad for young joeys (including possums, wombats, kangas, wallabies, bats, etc) so I will try and explain.

Marsupial milk differs from mammal milk because it is much higher in protein, fat and minerals (especially iron), but it is very low in lactose and glucose which are the main milk sugars for humans and other mammals.

Very young marsupials cannot digest lactose or sucrose and may develop diarrhoea and other problems if fed on cow's milk or other milk substitute products.

Lactose is also converted into galactose which causes cataracts in the eyes of young joeys who cannot break down the galactose into harmless substances. This is why so many young hand-reared joeys end up with cataracts or totally blind.

As the youngster gets older, the digestion changes from a simple MONOGASTRIC system to one dependent on fermentation (RUMINANT), similar to cattle and sheep. By this stage the joey is already eating a variety of solid feeds and has established his gut flora, therefore not entirely dependent upon milk, so the lactose and glucose can be tolerated better. Those reared on cow's milk may not show an obvious visible problem, but the risk of permanent eye damage or death from diarrhoea/dehydration or some other internal damage is not worth the risk.

There is now a special marsupial milk formula available for all marsupial babies "WOMBAROO" MILK REPLACER, available from Peter & Sue Wright Vets, Verner St, or Clifford St. Vet Hosp. They will give full instructions on feed schedules.

TWO IMPORTANT POINTS FROM JUNE NEWSLETTER *****

(1) If you are not prepared to feed native creatures the CORRECT FOOD or devote the amount of time, proper care, and strict hygiene needed, please take "bub" to one of our vets IMMEDIATELY and they will organize a foster-carer from W.I.R.E.S and thoroughly check the baby over to establish age, condition, etc. Pete & Sue Wright (211.881), Clifford St. Vet (211.966)

(2) You WILL NOT BE CHARGED for any native animal or bird taken to above vets.



THE BUNGONIA TIMES



'The Community Grape Vine'

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ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

We should like to bring to your notice a few facts and figures about the Newsletter.

Firstly, the Newsletter is compiled, typed, edited, photocopied and delivered on a completely voluntary basis. Any other volunteers would be very welcome.

Secondly, any income which is generated by advertisements, classifieds and donations from local organisations is put into an account at the ANZ Bank in Goulburn. This money is used to pay for paper and toner. At a later date when the Jenkins' photocopier needs servicing, the Newsletter will contribute to the cost of the repairs.

This is for all in the Bungonia District to enjoy and participate in. To cover costs of the Newsletter we are having to increase Items for Sale/Wanted to \$1.00. The Community Notice Board is still free. Advertising for Bungonia Residents will remain as \$2, but for Non-Bungonia residents advertisements will be \$5.

Remember, all correspondence and money can be left in the "Bungonia Times" letterbox outside the Brooks' home in Bungonia by the 20th of each month. For any late items, please contact Cherie.

Community Calendar

4th July C.W.A
8th July Community Bus
12th July Christ Church 8a.m. Service
15th July Bungonia Show Society 7.00 p.m.
22nd July Community Bus
22nd July Progress Assocn. 7.30 p.m.
27th July Tennis Club 7.30p.m.
1st Aug C.W.A. 1.30 p.m.

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