



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 9th January, 2019

Consider Adoption of an Aussie Icon: Jirralingha

Stuart Grimley MP is calling on the public to consider adopting animals by way of donation to Jirralingha Koala & Wildlife Sanctuary.

Visiting Jirralingha on Thursday afternoon, Mr Grimley pledged to 'adopt' a koala at the local wildlife rescue centre for one year to the value of \$360.

The pledge comes from Mr Grimley's [ongoing commitment](#) to donate the 'pollie pay rise' received by all state parliamentarians mid-2019 to charities in his electorate.

Meeting and touring the facility with director Tehree Gordon, Mr Grimley was shocked to see the inundation of injured and sick animals in the care of the volunteers at the sanctuary, not only as a result of the bushfires, but also as a result of accidents and other causes.

The [cost to feed a koala](#) at the Barwon Heads sanctuary is just \$1 per day and \$2 for a kangaroo, however Jirralingha take any native animal which needs care such as emus, echidnas and parrots.

It is estimated that Australia has lost one billion animals (as at 9 January 2019) due to the recent and ongoing bushfires and over one-third of our total koala populations. It has also been stated that koalas in the wild in parts of the Eastern states could be extinct in as little as 30 years.

Derryn Hinch's Justice Party has a great focus on animal justice and whilst there has been overwhelming donations to those in the community who have suffered from the bushfires, Mr Grimley also added that "native animals need our help too."

Bank details for donations to the Jirralingha Koala and Wildlife Sanctuary can be found below.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"Native animals are in desperate need of virtual adoption so their food, accommodation and any relevant vet care can be covered.

Koalas have really struggled in the bushfires because they aren't able to escape like kangaroos often can. Their diet consists of kilos of eucalyptus leaves each week too and this food source has been threatened.

Tehree, Hamish and their team at Jirralingha do an outstanding and selfless job in caring for these animals and supporting them is the least we can do.

I was very humbled to be able to adopt a koala from Jirralingha. \$360 covers a whole years' adoption. Considering over a third of koalas have perished in these fires, it's important we look after them to ensure they continue to thrive within their natural environments.

I will also be donating and adopting a koala through the World Wildlife Fund Australia to help restore the forest homes the koalas and other native animals have lost through the bushfires."

Stuart Grimley MP - Media Adviser:

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To donate to Jirralingha:

Name of Account: Jirralingha Wildlife Sanctuary Fund
BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 152511077

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