

Rescue Stories

November 2023

“Smoky” the Juvenile Southern Brown Bandicoot

“Smoky” the Juvenile Southern Brown Bandicoot was unfortunately caught in a fire in Petcheys Bay when a member of public lit a burn pile in their yard. Smoky jumped out of the pile as soon as the fire was lit, and luckily the people quickly noticed and caught him. They brought him to Bonorong that day where he received some first aid for his burns and was able to be seen by our Wildlife Hospital soon after. His fur was singed and he had burns to his nose, tail and all four feet with damage to his nails. After a long process and almost a month in Bonorong’s care, Smoky’s burns were healing nicely and . he was transferred to a wildlife rehabilitator until he was old enough to head back to the wild!

Southern Brown Bandicoots are fairly widespread and common and so fall victim to most of the usual threats - particularly habitat loss, road mortality and invasive pest predation. Unfortunately, since they do not have the characteristic stripes seen on Eastern Barred Bandicoots, some people mis-identify Southern Brown Bandicoots as non-native rats and so will treat them as pests. Bandicoots have longer noses, shorter tails, rounder rumps and are generally larger. They’ll also hop instead of walking.



“Scuba” the Forest Raven

“Scuba” the Forest Raven was found by a member of public who was diving off Betsey Island. The man saw Scuba fall into the water after being pursued and attacked by a flock of gulls. He tried to rescue Scuba and release him but he was unable to get him to fly off without the gulls swooping at him again.

Once back on land, we arranged for Scuba to be transported to the Bonorong Wildlife Hospital for assessment and treatment. Fortunately, the only injuries he sustained in this ordeal were several small puncture wounds consistent with bites from gulls. He stayed in care for almost a month while his wounds healed before being given a clean bill of health and being returned to the wild! Forest Ravens belong to the family Corvidae, which is widely regarded as one of the most intelligent avian families in the world!



“Raindrop” the Short-Beaked Echidna

Poor Raindrop was rescued after becoming stuck underneath someone's deck for three days. After a Wildlife Rescuer arrived and helped the property owners remove boards off the deck, Raindrop was able to be safely contained, but she wasn't looking very well. On arrival at the Bonorong Wildlife Hospital, Raindrop was skinny and lethargic but luckily she had only small superficial wounds. The wounds healed quickly, but it took some time for Raindrop to slowly grow to a healthy weight for her age. After nearly a month in care, our veterinary team were pleased with the size and condition of little Raindrop. She was then able to be released to the wild close to where she was found. Farewell Raindrop!

