

Kangaroo Carer & Rescuer, Greg Keightley



Greg has lived in the Mountains for 40 years and has been active in conservation, wildlife rescue and community-based organisations over that time.

His experience in community campaigns began in 2001 with the Western Sydney Conservation Alliance - a group of biologists and conservationists trying to save the remaining critically endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland and creation of wildlife corridors in Western Sydney.

Greg was also the Animal Justice Party's candidate in the 2019 state election and stood as their candidate for Macquarie in the last two federal elections.

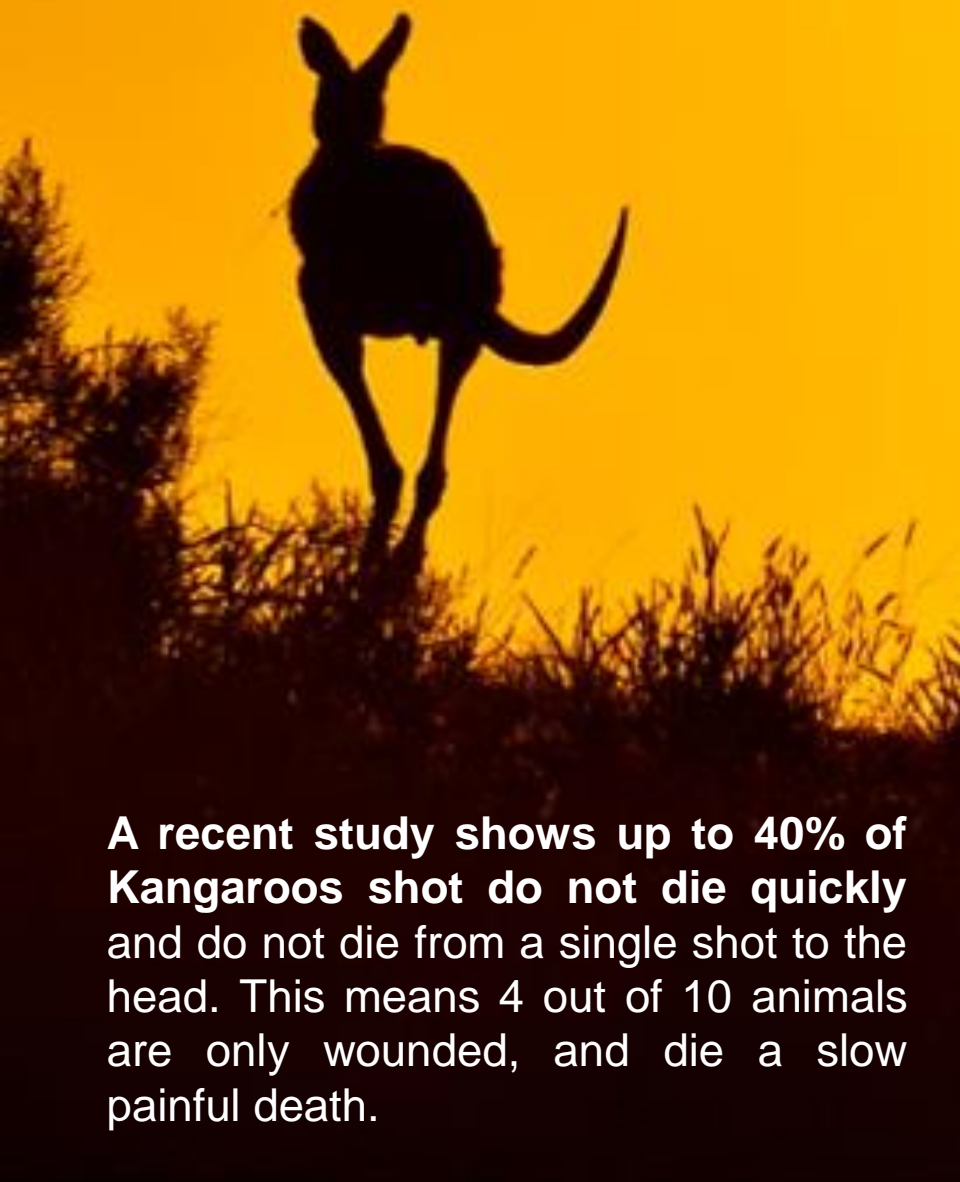
In 2006, Greg and Diane created a large sanctuary for the protection and conservation of kangaroos.

MC A/P David Brooks

ENSURING THE SURVIVAL OF OUR KANGAROOS & MACROPODS



Threat to Kangaroos



A recent study shows up to 40% of Kangaroos shot do not die quickly and do not die from a single shot to the head. This means 4 out of 10 animals are only wounded, and die a slow painful death.

Commercial Kangaroo Killing Industry

The actual numbers of kangaroos in the landscape are over-inflated to ensure corporate markets are satisfied and profits are maintained.

The quota (number to kill) is set at 17% of this over inflated number.

The maximum birth rate in perfect conditions is only 10%.

To get that quota, the shooters have to kill every adult kangaroo they see.

THIS IS UNSUSTAINABLE

Joeys are either bludgeoned, decapitated or are left in the pouch/field to die a slow lonely death without their mothers to protect them.

Joeys are considered collateral damage; even though 500,000 to 800,000 die every year due to this profit motivated industry.

THIS IS INHUMANE & CRUEL

Kangaroos living in the 'kill' zones live in terror every night

Recent research shows that the behaviour of mobs of Kangaroos is fundamentally altered due to living in a commercial kill zone

They exhibit stress, fear and joeys in hunted mobs no longer engage in play behaviour.

ALL THIS FOR CORPORATE PROFIT

Kangaroos are disappearing from the Australian landscape



AUSTRALIA IS MAKING A KILLING...



**OVER 5 MILLION
KANGAROOS APPROVED
TO BE KILLED**

In just 20 years, from 2001 to 2021 the population of Australia's kangaroos has dropped by around 50%

**1 IN EVERY 7
KANGAROOS CAN BE
SHOT THIS YEAR**



Decline from 2001-2021 of 66% of the population in Queensland.

Decline of from 2001-2021 24% of the population in New South Wales.

Joeys are killed or left to die and not counted in publicised Government kill numbers.

We estimate that between 500,000 and 1 million joeys will die because of the commercial trade in kangaroos this year.



**Animal
Justice
Party
NSW**

What happens to the bodies



SKINS ARE USED TO MAKE FOOTWARE : K-Leather
MAIN USERS - MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES FOR USA MARKET

SOME OF MEAT IS SENT OVERSEAS (EUROPE) : Game meat
MAIN USERS - MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES FOR EUROPEAN MARKET

In 2016, Belgium imported more than 632 tonnes of kangaroo meat, which represents around 180,000 animals



REST OF MEAT, BONES & ORGANS IS USED AS PETFOOD : Dogs & Cats
MAIN USERS - MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES FOR AUSTRALIAN MARKET

WORLDWIDE ACTION TO STOP The Kangaroo Killing Industry

CENTRE FOR HUMANE ECONOMY – BILL TO BAN KANGAROO PARTS IN USA

KANGAROOS ARE NOT SHOES – VIDEO OF NEW YORKERS IN ADIDAS STORE - USA

**YUIN PEOPLE – UNCLE MAX WITH A DELEGATION CONVINCED RUSSIA TO BAN
IMPORTS ON HYGIENE GROUNDS**

YUIN DECLARATION FOR KANGAROOS

'BACK TO COUNTRY' AND DELEGATION CURRENTLY IN EUROPE

**ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY IN AUSTRALIA – INSTIGATED UPPER HOUSE INQUIRY
AJP MPS FIGHTING FOR KANGAROOS**

**AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES/COUNCILS – FIGHT TO STOP THE COMMERCIAL KILLING
IN THEIR REGION**

EU ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS – KANGAROO MEAT OUT OF SUPERMARKET CHAIN

RESCUERS & CARERS – EXPOSE CRUELTY WITHIN K.K.I. & CARE FOR INJURED/ORPHANED



The 'Code of Practice' would have this joey decapitated or beaten to death



**Warm, Safe,
and Secure**

Threat to Kangaroos



The Kangaroo is treated like a pest in the country that it has been living in and regenerating for past 25 million years.

Non-commercial killing by landholders

Some farmers and government agencies say that Kangaroos have to be killed for their own good as ...

- There are plagues of kangaroos everywhere as they breed like rabbits
- They damage the land, plants and water supplies
- They compete with stock for food
- They are pests and vermin

THERE IS 30 YEARS OF SCIENCE THAT PROVES THAT NOT ONE OF THESE STATEMENTS IS TRUE

The **DoCCEEW and NPWS** provide farmers and landowners with a ready scapegoat for their own incompetence and/or greed; by reinforcing the lies that killing Kangaroos on mass is for reasons of Environmental Sustainability and managing damage caused to privately owned land.

It is not soft pawed Keystone Macropod species who causes damage to the land. It is Colonial orientated human beings and their imported hard hooved stock animals who have always been the destroyers of the natural world - land, air and water.

Population reduction of kangaroos is actively pursued by parts of the farming sector, and has 100% political support.

Nothing has ever been done to conserve the large macropods in Australia.

Every cent seems to have been spent on bounties, bullets and barbed wire.

Research seems to be almost entirely negative, being focused on describing (asserted) impacts on other species, the environment and the farmers, rather than on the kangaroos status, or their value, as key-stone species in the ecosystem.

WHERE ARE THE PLAGUES?

The Kangaroos are the victims losing habitat ...

1. because they're being shot
2. to urban development
3. to farming
4. to fencing.
5. to fires and floods.

The kangaroos are getting pushed into corners; then the people in that corner are saying "Oh we've got a plague of kangaroos."

The Kangaroos have got nowhere to go.





Kangaroos Biology and Breeding

Kangaroos are intuitive breeders, which means they are able to recognise when there is an inadequate food source, like in times of drought, and postpone reproduction until adequate sources of green feed are available.

Kangaroos only have one baby joey at a time, and each Kangaroo will only have 6-7 baby joeys in their entire lifetime (they don't breed like rabbits who have 5-6 babies at a time!)

Baby joey mortality is very high, around 50%
Their annual reproduction rate cannot exceed 10%.

Kangaroos & The Environment



Kangaroos damaging land, REALLY?

- **Kangaroos are key-stone species** and as such play a critical role in maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health
- **Kangaroos are uniquely evolved to the Australian landscape** - it is estimated they have lived on this continent for 15 million years. How could they possibly be described as pests?
- **They drink 13% of what a sheep drinks**
- **One cow eats the equivalent of 60 kangaroos**
- **Unlike sheep and cows they do not overgraze** they have both upper and lower teeth, allowing them to bite off the tips of grass, rather than rip grass by the roots like cows do.

There is 30 years of science that show Kangaroos DO NOT compete with livestock for food. Only in extreme drought are there issues with food.

COMPETE WITH STOCK?

Kangaroos, wallaroos and wallabies have long been persecuted and culled on the land predominately due to their grazing nature. Many believe that the kangaroos grass and herbivorous diet puts them in direct competition to cattle and sheep, and therefore they are considered as pests. This is not the case.

In the 1970s scientists reported that kangaroos and stock animals eat different things, termed “dietary partitioning”.

However records show the farmers would not have a bar of it at the time, and the scientists were told by the supervising government agencies (and issuers of research funding) to listen to the farmers.

The opportunity to explain to the farmers the incontrovertible evidence was lost.

Ray Mjadwesch



The actual biology and ecology of kangaroos needs to be effectively communicated to farming communities, to dispel the myths that have been uncritically promulgated by their grandfathers, the scientists who support the industry, governments and government agencies, and the media alike. It will only be with the cooperation of farming communities that kangaroos can be conserved in the wild, as farming has preferentially taken the land that was formerly the domain of the kangaroo.

Ray Mjadwesch

Kangaroos are not pests

Since European colonisation, 230 years ago, our magnificent and unique kangaroo has been the target of the largest annual slaughter of land-based wildlife on the planet.

The Kangaroo is treated like a pest in the country that it has been living in and regenerating for past 25 million years.

At the same time, the image of a kangaroo is exploited everywhere; on our coat of arms and to proudly represent Australia & Australians overseas.

THEY CANNOT BE FARMED

The inability of Kangaroos to be herded, yarded, or easily handled makes veterinary treatment and inspections difficult and rules out farming.

Kangaroos suffer from myopathy.

Myopathy is common and affects kangaroos after defensive running or stressful handling. **Kangaroos suffer greatly from stress and an adrenaline rush can quickly kill or may cause deterioration of muscles and eventually death.**



Threat to Kangaroos



There appears to be a reluctance for agencies to investigate and prosecute. There is very little enforcement and zero monitoring in the field.

‘Recreational’ hunting

An unknown number of Kangaroos are hunted down and killed by people out **hunting for ‘fun’**

What sort of a person considers hunting down and killing a defenceless animal is ‘fun’ or ‘recreation’.

Since colonial times, farmers have been encouraged, by Government agencies, to believe that ‘Kangaroos are pests and should be eliminated’.

This has ***propagated a hatred for kangaroos in rural communities*** that allowed them to think that killing kangaroos is OK and necessary.

The bodies of the slaughtered kangaroos and the accounts from witnesses show that the violence inflicted on these gentle animals puts into question the ***psychological health of the shooter/hunter***

The government’s own ‘code of practice’ endorses cruelty

There is a strong link between torture of animals & torture of women and children (Gullone E 2012).

Threat to Kangaroos

The Dangers of Fencing to Kangaroos



BARBED WIRE FENCING – an unknown number of Kangaroos suffer and die a horrendous, painful, and lonely death hanging in barbed wire fencing. If kangaroos manage to escape entanglement they often do so with injuries to their feet and legs which can take weeks to kill them

EXCLUSION/CLUSTER FENCING – fractures the Australian landscape, creating isolated 'islands' across the continent and destroys ecosystems. The kangaroo is an integral contributor to preserve the integrity of our biodiversity.



Kangaroos do everything in their power to not touch fences.



Kangaroos have a home range of ten square kms. They travel around this range at different times of year. They know every pad, path and track. Every water source, every tree and rock within this range. Joeys are constantly imprinting these things as they travel about with mum in the pouch. They will know their home range intimately by the time they emerge from mums pouch. It's part of their survival, their complex social infrastructure. It's a part of their very being. When we interfere by fencing off part or all of their home range we not only prevent them from accessing food and water, we fracture and isolate whole families.

There should also be Government assistance to help landholders remove barbed wire and exclusion fencing. We must transition to wildlife friendly fencing and focus on co-existence.

It is claimed that this kangaroo is damaging this fence but it tried not to touch it

Threat to Kangaroos



When someone hits a kangaroo in their car – the accident was invariably caused by the kangaroo (even though the kangaroo was not the one driving the car) and “the kangaroo has damaged the car”.
NOTE: the kangaroo is invariably broken and dying, or dead.

Vehicle damage to Kangaroos

It is estimated that nearly a quarter of a million Kangaroos are killed by motor vehicles each year

Many people do not stop to check if the Kangaroo is still alive or whether they have a joey in the pouch.

It is heart breaking to see the terror in wildlife eyes when they try to navigate their way across a road.

Single minded humans in over sized vehicles plough through everything in their path.

Animals are being herded out, onto the roads between country towns. Roads for miles are littered with bodies of our wildlife from being hit by trucks, cars and road trains

SLOW DOWN BETWEEN DUSK AND DAWN

A daily occurrence is a procession of roadkill - water hens, wood ducks, cockatoos, galahs, frogs, snakes, foxes, turtles, wombats, wallabies and kangaroos - lining our roads.

If we do nothing, nothing will happen and the kangaroos will continue to die in their millions until none are left.

Threat to Kangaroos

Kangaroo Habitat Loss


CAUSES OF HABITAT LOSS

1. Urban development - *rapid growth* with little consideration for wildlife
2. Forestry – *destruction of native forest for profit*
3. Bush Fires – *climate change induced natural disasters*
4. Farming – *clearing of native bush for Ag business*
5. Roads – *Fractures areas of native bush reducing their range*

Most forms of life on this planet, like humans, are dependent **on Oxygen to survive. Trees and bushes** are unique living things that constantly turn the CO₂, that we generate, into oxygen. We are chopping those trees down and then wondering why our climate is not working and kangaroos are dying.

Next on the chopping block is **BLUE MOUNTAINS WORLD HERITAGE AREA.**

We need to be protecting their habitat instead of relentlessly removing and destroying it.



The Animal Agriculture industry is largely responsible for causing and accelerating the climate crisis in the clearing 100,000s of hectares of native oxygen producing bush

How can we help?

Join Advocacy Groups like A.J.P. & Animals Australia

Form or join Community groups to lobby all levels of Government

Contact Council and Councillors



council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au



council@penrith.city



council@blacktown.nsw.gov.au



council@thehills.nsw.gov.au



council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au



council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Contact the Minister for Environment

Our Minister: The Honourable Penny Sharpe MLC

The Honourable Penny Sharpe MLC was appointed the Minister for Energy and Climate Change, Minister for Environment and Heritage and Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council on 28 March 2023.

Penny was first elected to the NSW Legislative Council in October 2005. She has a passion for the environment and is committed to policy reform and action.

Protection and care of our environment, and respect for and celebration of our heritage is core business for state governments. It is a responsibility that comes with great opportunities, some serious challenges, but the knowledge that when we get it right, we are passing on a better future for those that come after us.

Her policy interests include equality, the environment, transport, better cities, innovation, LGBTIQ law reform, women, and using technology to improve democracy.



Trish Doyle

Member for Blue Mountains



Trish Doyle is your local Member for the Blue Mountains.

Prior to entering Parliament, Trish was a local teacher and raised her two sons as a sole parent. She is a passionate campaigner for social justice, equality and the environment. She is a proud feminist and trade unionist: of and for the people.

Leadership.

As the NSW Co-Convenor of Emily's List – Trish works alongside other Labor women to encourage and support more women into Parliament and positions of

Connect with Trish

Email: bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Phone: (02) 4751 3298

Facebook: [trishdoylebluemtns](https://www.facebook.com/trishdoylebluemtns)

Instagram: [@trishdoylemp](https://www.instagram.com/trishdoylemp)

Connect with Penny:

Email: office@sharpe.minister.nsw.gov.au

Phone: (02) 9230 2741

Website: www.pennysharpe.com

Facebook: [PennySharpeMLC](https://www.facebook.com/PennySharpeMLC)

Twitter: [@PennySharpemlc](https://twitter.com/PennySharpemlc)

Instagram: [@pennysharpemlc](https://www.instagram.com/pennysharpemlc)



**Please get
involved: the
kangaroos
really need you**