

Goulburn Post

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\$1.60 including GST

THERE'S A BEAR UP THERE

A STOWAWAY koala is in the care of wildlife welfare personnel after being rescued from a tree near the Goulburn CBD yesterday.

Police were called to the property near the Cowper/Clinton Street Shell Service Station at around 9am to find the koala attached to a branch about 10 metres up.

After discussions with Dr Peter Wright from the Clinton St Veterinary Clinic and police, Essential Energy brought one of their cherry-pickers along.

The Police Rescue truck was also at the ready.

Dr Wright told the *Post* that he thought the koala had hitched a ride on the back of a fire truck during an incident in Windellama on Wednesday night.

When the vehicle arrived back into town, it had apparently "got spooked" and ran up the tree for safety.

Dr Wright and an Essential Energy crew member retrieved the brave marsupial safe and sound.

He had nothing but praise for the efforts of all involved.

"It's good to see a co-operative effort in rescuing the little fella by Police Rescue, Essential Energy and Rick Anable from WIRES," he said.

"It's ultimately a great outcome for the koala at the end of the day."

It's envisaged the koala will be released in the Windellem area.

■ Antony Dubber's photos show how the koala was retrieved from its temporary lodgings (using a humane snare-like catching pole) before being safely placed in a cage and taken away for a check-up.



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Triple O dear

Injured elderly man's long wait for Ambo after CBD fall

By LOUISE THROWER

AN elderly man waited 35 minutes for an ambulance to arrive from Crookwell after tripping on a CBD footpath on Wednesday.

Local crews were tied up elsewhere when the man tripped on what a helper said was an uneven paver outside the Empire Hotel at 11am.

Staff from nearby businesses and passersby rendered assistance, keeping the 82-year-old man cool in hot sun, until the Crookwell ambulance arrived. Paramedics treated him for minor injuries and he declined hospital treatment.

Josh Williamson, a 26-year-old senior first aider and Baptist pastor, said while he didn't blame officers, he'd hate to think of the consequences had it been more serious.

Mr Williamson told the *Post* the man was making his way to a disabled parking spot on the western side of Auburn St, opposite Centro, when he tripped and fell "flat on his chest."

"The (nearby) hairdressers rang the ambulance (on 000), I checked him for any issues and put him in the recovery position," Mr Williamson said.

"He showed no pain but because he was in the warm sun, people shaded him with umbrellas to keep him cool."

The ambulance service advised the caller that a crew was coming from Crookwell and wouldn't be there for another 20 minutes. It was at this point Mr Williamson rang them back asking for advice.

"They said we should move him as it wasn't safe for an elderly man to be in the hot sun," he told the *Post*.

Helpers shifted him into the hairdressing salon.

At 11.30pm Mr Williamson said he intercepted a Goulburn ambulance officer on his way to Centro during his break.

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