



Russell's Burrow...

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What's New...(latest changes and news)

A message from Russell: This page is a running log of interesting events and updates maintained by my foster parents for the year 2002...

Wednesday, 11th December 2002

- A new wombat has arrived in care - a 4kg male (he's really cute!). 'Rumbles' arrived from another carer who had named him 'Wombles'. We already have another wombat in care with the same name, so to avoid confusion, we renamed him 'Rumbles' as it sounds similar.

Monday, 9th December 2002

- Added some new pictures of Wombles.

Thursday, 5th December 2002

- Added some new pictures of Darcy.
- Added a special Christmas wombat calendar for the month of December - all the wombats wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2003.

Thursday, 31st October 2002

- Added a new photo album for Darcy, a 5kg female common wombat

Saturday, 26th October 2002

- Added some pictures of Abigail's release and of her release burrow in her photo album
- Abigail is doing well in her release. We have been monitoring her closely, and she appears to have made the

adjustment well.

Sunday, 20th October 2002

- We released Abigail back into the Australian bush today (thanks to John, Helen and family for letting us use their property for this). Whilst this is ultimately what we aim for as wildlife carers, there are mixed emotions as well. We had been raising Abigail for approximately 12 months and had become quite attached to her. To release her back into the bush and seeing how happy she looks is wonderful, then the 'selfish' side of human nature kicks in and we wish that we could keep her - we know that we are doing the right thing by putting her back.



We also could not have asked for a better release. We placed a very heavy Abigail (30kg!) near an existing wombat burrow, she went in, started to dig a little and do some spring cleaning. Donna called her, she popped her head out as much to say, "I'm OK mum", then she made a snuffling noise ("Go away!") and dived back into her burrow. Her enclosure at home looks and feels a lot different now, and there is a sense of loss, but also of achievement as well. We miss her, but will remember her through the photographs that we took and the fond memories of her.

Take care little one...

Saturday, 21st September 2002

- Added photo albums for our two new recruits, Harriet and Dusty.
- Included some more photographs of Wombles.
- Included some more photographs of Abigail.

Monday, 16th September 2002

- Added a 'Wallpaper' section to the site with two large wombat pictures suitable for desktop wallpaper.

Wednesday, 28th August 2002

- Added a new section on Sarcoptic Mange in common wombats. This is a serious health issue for wombats and will be followed up shortly with an article on treatment of Sarcoptic Mange.

- Added a new wombat book to the Wombat Resources section called "Wombats" by R.T. Wells and P.A. Pridmore.

Friday, 2nd August 2002

- Another new 3.3kg female wombat in care, who we have called 'Dusty' owing to her very light and silver colour. Dusty has a touch of mange on her rump that we are treating (see our page on sarcoptic mange in this site).

Tuesday, 24th July 2002

- Added a new page to Russell's story, 'Epilogue', which contains some more details on Russell.
- We received another wombat over the weekend (Saturday 20th). She is a 4.8kg female common wombat, and was found at the side of the road. No sign of her mother, and she is very undernourished. The most disturbing thing is that she smelt of perfume which leads us to believe that someone has possibly dumped her. She is on the road to recovery, and we have called her Harriet.

Friday, 5th July 2002

- Enhanced site with a new navigation top arrow feature.
- Registered site with ICRA (Internet Content Rating Association) as it contains no nasty images or messages which are likely to offend.

Monday, 10th June 2002

- Put up a new photo page for our latest resident wombat in care, Wombles. We've nicknamed her 'Cyclone Wombles' as she screams around inside and nothing is safe - pot plants, laundry, electrical cables...oh yeah, and she just loves getting up around 3am and making a helluva noise to let us know she wants to play.

Tuesday, 30th April 2002

- Web Wombat is ceasing its free email service, so I have had to find a new one. A real pity as Web Wombat suited this site. My new email address is: russell@wombadilliac.com.au
- Added a new video the Multimedia section of the site. This

one shows what it's like down Abigail's wombat burrow and shows her coming out. The video camera was set to film in infrared mode (as there is no natural light down the burrow) which explains why there is no colour and things have a greenish-grey tinge.

Friday, 26th April 2002

- *We have a new wombat in care!!!* Her name is 'Wombles' and she weighs around 4-5Kg. Wombles comes to us from Southern NSW where she has been wonderfully cared for as a 'pinkie' by a carer and her family. Photos to follow shortly and heartfelt thanks to Suzie and family...

Sunday, 7th April, 2002

- Revamped site with new navigation bar in table.

Tuesday, 2nd April, 2002

- Put some photographs up of wombat burrows that are in the nearby region. Some more detailed text on burrows in general to follow at a later date (not to mention a page and some footage of the interior Abigail's burrow).

Wednesday, 13th March, 2002

- Added some additional comments that the new guestbook site (hosted by Bravenet) is also having problems and lost some of my wonderful comments.

Wednesday, 27th February, 2002

- Some sad, sad news...
We received a juvenile male wombat over two weeks ago with mange which we were treating. We had called him 'Doug' and were hoping that he would survive and that his story and pictures would grace our pages. Unfortunately, Douglas passed away tonight in my wife's arms and while I was watching. It is one of the saddest things that I have ever been present at and moved both of us to tears. His poor little body just couldn't take it anymore, which is such a shame as just two days ago he appeared to be on the mend and was doing exceptionally well.

We'll remember Douglas with love and hope that he watches over all the other wombats that we release and who have been through our care...

Tuesday, 19th February, 2002

- Added 3 new pictures to Abigail's photo album.

Wednesday, 13th February, 2002

- Created a new guestbook as the old guestbook provider eventually went bust.

Monday, 28th January, 2002

- Updated Russell's Guestbook section with new URL for guestbook provider, saved guestbook pages and changed guestbook graphic.

Wednesday, 9th January, 2002

- Updated Wombat Resources page with a new article from Nature Australia Magazine, Summer 2001-2002.

Tuesday, 1st January, 2002 (Happy New Year!)

- Added a whole new section - The burrow that Russell dug.
- Added some more photographs of Abigail in her photo section.
- Tidied up the Wombat Resources page.

Saturday, 16th December, 2001

- Created "What's New" page link from main page (i.e., this page).
- Updated Wombat Resources page with a new article from the Australian Geographic magazine, No. 30 (April-June 1993).
- Minor cosmetic changes to a few pages (correcting spelling mistakes, attempting well-formed HTML).