



A KOALA HOSPITAL STORY

LION LEO

In early September 2019 a home owner found a young male koala in the backyard with her dogs and was concerned the koala may have been attacked. Our rescue team was despatched, and the young koala was captured. On examination at the Koala Hospital, staff were pleased to find he was free of injuries. They also found he had amazing, beautiful blue eyes. This is a rare genetic phenomenon in koalas who occasionally do get admitted to the hospital having one blue eye and one brown eye but not both.

Port Macquarie Koala Hospital has been working with the Lions Club of Port Macquarie-Tacking Point in putting together the Koala Smart program for schools throughout the Hastings and Macleay Valleys. The Koala Smart program is about getting students to come up with ways to reverse the decline in koalas on the mid north coast and then to implement these projects into the real world with the support of the Koala Hospital and Lions. The results so far have been amazing. The Koala Smart program is so important that our blue-eyed Koala, Lion Leo as he has been called, has become the Ambassador for the Koala Smart program.

Lion Leo has been released back into the wild where we hope he is producing many more amazing and beautiful blue-eyed offspring.