



**Australian  
Koala  
Foundation**

A.C.N. 010 922 102

**PRESS RELEASE**

**19 August, 2016**

**Dog families and Save The Koala Month 2016**

Domestic animals in Australia aren't generally known for having a positive relationship with the native Australian wildlife, especially after dark. Pet owners and species conservation advocates can often feel like they are at odds with each other. The Australian Koala Foundation's CEO, Deborah Tabart OAM, is here to battle that stigma - she's been doing so for years. Promoting responsible pet ownership and the positive relationship between her own dog, Mr. Darcy, and the wildlife around him with good discipline and clear rules, she hopes to set an active example and inspire her fellow pet owners to find the balance between dogs having the joy of play with respect for nature's needs, wherever in the world they may be. Proper bedtimes, appropriate use of leads, and good discipline all help to keep nature safe and happy, while maintaining a positive relationship between pets and their owners.

Each year, for Save The Koala Month, the Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) encourages the global community of koala lovers to have their own fundraisers and promote the work of the AKF. This September, we also hope to emphasise the bridge between dog owners and koala lovers – that they are one and the same. The Koala Woman (Deborah Tabart OAM) and her Golden Retriever, Mr. Darcy, would like to invite all breeds and pet-owning families to help us in this cause to change the way the world looks at pets interacting in wild nature. Together, Deborah and Mr. Darcy are hoping to inspire other dog families to do something special to help the AKF this year.

So what will your animal-loving family do for Save The Koala Month 2016? A fundraiser in the park with your local Golden community? A play-date barbeque with gold coin donation entry? We'd love to share your ideas, events and efforts of your communities to continue to pay the inspiration forward. The AKF can be reached via [our website](#), as well as on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

To learn more about Mr. Darcy and his work with the Koala Woman, you can read [his blog](#).



## Australian Koala Foundation

A.C.N. 010 922 102

### About the AKF

The Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) is the principal non-profit, non-government, self-funded organisation dedicated to the conservation and effective management of the wild Koala and its habitat.

The AKF was formed in 1986 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2016. Since its founding and under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Deborah Tabart OAM, the AKF is a well-known, global organisation with a strong track record in strategic Koala research, conservation and community education, with a focus on Koala habitat mapping.

In 2012, the Koala was listed as 'vulnerable to extinction', under Australian Law: the EPBC Act. This was the result of endless lobbying by the AKF and its team.

Please visit <http://www.savethekoala.com> to learn more.

Our online retail can be access at <http://www.savethekoalashop.com> .

You will also find us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

### For more information or for interview requests:

Deborah Tabart OAM

CEO Australian Koala Foundation

Phone: 0407 750 668

Email: [dtabart@savethekoala.com](mailto:dtabart@savethekoala.com)

Twitter: [@deborahartabart](#)

Larissa Milo-Dale

Public Relations and Media

Phone: 3229 7233

Email: [media@savethekoala.com](mailto:media@savethekoala.com)