



MEDIA RELEASE

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Billabong Zoo's birdlife go nutty over Co-op supplier's donation

One of Hastings Co-op's long-standing suppliers, The Market Grocer, is donating "spillage and seconds" nuts from their Western Sydney factory to ease the financial burden of feeding Billabong Zoo's bird and primate population.

As a "fiercely independent company", the Market Grocer's Area Manager Phil Sennett said they jumped on the opportunity to support the zoo and recognised the hardship they had faced over the past couple of years due to Covid restrictions.

As well as benefitting the animals and the zoo's bottom line, the donations minimise waste and mean the zoo may be able to expand their bird collection in the future.

In the past week alone 120kg of hazel nuts were delivered to Billabong Zoo for their new South American aviary, which is home to Amazon Parrots and Blue and Gold Macaws.

The ongoing supply of nuts compliments Hastings Co-op's long-standing commitment to donating fresh produce waste to the zoo.

Billabong Zoo's Operations Manager Blake Stone explained that nuts are a large, and costly, part of their bird population's diet, and said the zoo was very grateful to The Market Grocer and Hastings Co-op for co-ordinating the donations.

Billabong Zoo is not only an important Hastings Co-op customer, but also a much-loved part of our local community so we are thankful for The Market Grocer's very generous commitment.

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