



Wildlifewarrior Michele Phillips with a lorikeet.

Picture: JASON SAMMON

## Critters need your care

A WILDLIFE shelter in Oakleigh South has its hands full nursing baby lorikeets and possums back to health.

The shelter has been inundated with the native wildlife – taking in about five animals every day – with the numbers set to rise as spring draws closer.

Wildlife warrior Michele Phillips said she needed extra hands and extra cash to help her care for the critters.

“As spring nears, cats and

even dogs go after the parents and the baby wildlife are left alone,” she said.

“So they have to come to the shelter.

“Cats are just killing machines, they are born predators (to these animals). Their instinct is to hunt and even just a pin prick bite from a cat can kill these animals.”

Ms Phillips said the more volunteers, the merrier.

“I feed them every four

hours around the clock,” she said.

“I can take volunteers and train them to also care for some of the animals.”

She said it was rewarding to nurse wildlife back to health, including a brushtail possum she raised from 70 grams to 3kg before releasing it into the wild.

Animals lovers can also donate money towards the \$200 weekly food bill.

Details: [0411 600 591](tel:0411600591).