



Michelle Phillips is calling for local residents to help her save injured wildlife, such as these lorikeets.

Picture: MARK STEWART N12WG205

Spring into action, now

WILDLIFE rescuer Michelle Phillips needs your help.

The Oakleigh South resident has devoted the past 10 years to saving injured creatures in Melbourne's south-east, but with spring finally upon us Ms Phillips has been inundated with animals needing quality care.

"When spring comes along all the baby birds and possums also come and some unfortunately are attacked by cats and dogs," Ms Phillips said.

The animal-lover is caring for 42 birds and possums and

said she was struggling to find enough time to look after new patients.

"I can't look after them all at home and have time to go out and rescue new animals," Ms Phillips said.

She has put out a plea for fellow wildlife warriors to join her in saving local species. "It'd be great if I could have people who could pick them up and drop them to me," she said.

The compassionate part-time chef said she was devoting all her time to caring for injured wildlife, dipping into

her own funds to pay for food and medical costs, but she insists the hard work is worth it.

"The lorikeets that I've released in the past still come back to the yard to see me and sit on my shoulder," she said. "It's very rewarding."

Ms Phillips urged Monash residents with cats and dogs to keep them locked in at night and asked fellow animal lovers to donate possum boxes, pouches or bird aviaries or help out on the road. If you can help Ms Phillips, phone 0411 600 591.