



EPILOGUE: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

The koala sits there to be a koala

David Schaap, Unit Manager of Koalas, Taronga Zoo.

Innocent and benign? 'If you think the koala bear is the cute, cuddly little teddy bear of a thousand travel posters', runs one Australian Information Service press release, 'talk to Australian wildlife ranger Bob Eames who has caught more than 1000 of them.' Thinning out the thriving population of koalas on Phillip and French Islands for transfer to the mainland, despite his skill with net and non-choking noose, Eames was clawed, nipped, urinated on and chased by koalas which did not like being jerked out of their trees.