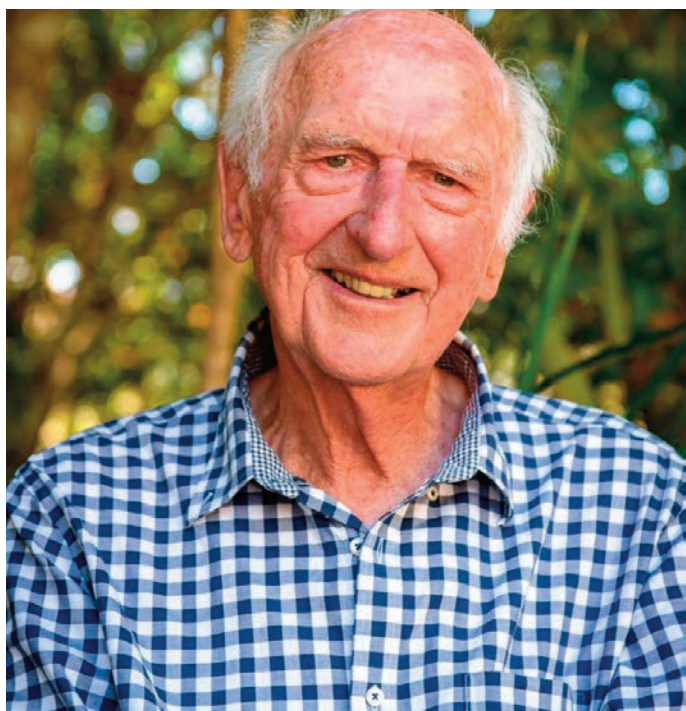


JULY

Village Eco News

A publication of Bangalow Land and Rivercare.

Dr Tony Parkes Honoured with Order of Australia



Over the life of Bangalow Land and Rivercare the Big Scrub Landcare President Dr Tony Parkes has generously supported us with his time and expert advice so we are delighted that he has been appointed as an Officer (AO) of the Order of Australia in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List.

The award is in recognition for distinguished service to environmental conservation especially the restoration of critically endangered subtropical rainforest in northern New South Wales.

Dr Parkes, President and co-founded of Big Scrub Landcare since 1993 responded to the appointment by saying 'I accept this award on behalf of the many extraordinary people who

are dedicated to saving from extinction, Australia's many endangered species and ecosystems, particularly critically endangered lowland subtropical rainforest and its rich biodiversity'.

Dr Parkes has held executive positions at the Big Scrub Foundation, Rainforest Rescue, Envite Environment, Richmond Regional Vegetation Committee and the Richmond Catchment Management Committee.

In his life time Dr Parkes has facilitated 55 large scale projects at a value of \$6 million for rainforest restoration on both private and public land including remnants on National Parks.

Overseen the ecological restoration of more than 90 lowland rainforest remnants from Grafton to the Queensland border with a total area of more than 300ha. Provided 7000 on-the-ground work days and the planting of two million trees across the Big Scrub region and increasing the area of rainforest by 30%.

Presented 20 annual Big Scrub Rainforest Days with over 25,000 attendees, published books and comprehensive manuals on rainforest restoration and weed identification and control in subtropical rainforests of Eastern Australia;

Lead a team of volunteer scientific advisors in partnership with private landholders, businesses, NSW NPWS, councils and other government agencies resulting in the listing in 2011 of the Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia as a critically endangered ecological community under the EPBC Act.

Like Us On
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Landcare Working Bee

Our team of friendly volunteers work every Saturday morning, weather permitting from 8.30am to 10.30am rotating through the various sites around Bangalow. All welcome.

BSC's Flying Fox Camp Proposed Management Plan for Paddy's Creek Bangalow

By Dawn Lotty

From the late 1970's houses were built along Colin Street and in Burrawan Place in Bangalow backing onto the eastern side of Paddy's Creek.

Soon after the Bangalow Palms Housing Estate was developed on the western side of Paddy's Creek bounded by Rafton's Road and Rifle Range Road. A recreational area and children's play ground boarded the Creek at the rear of houses in Palm Tree Crescent.

By the late 1980's the Bangalow Community Child Care Centre was moved from Ashton Street (opposite the Angican Op Shop) to Raftons Road adjacent to the Creek.

Edie Franks an early resident of this area planted both banks of Paddy's Creek with rainforest species within the riparian zone for approximately 300m north of the footbridge and south to the Bangalow Community Child Care Centre. Bangalow Land and Rivercare has undertaken additional vegetation planting and maintenance around Paddy's Creek in recent years.

Flying-foxes started arriving in the area in 2011 in every increasing numbers and from November 2014 Byron Council staff attended meetings with local residents residing on Burrawan Place, Colin Street and Palm Tree Crescent to determine their concerns about Flying-foxes roosting in large trees overhanging the play equipment and their properties.

The majority of issues were recorded between October and May and coincide with the arrival and departure of the Flying-foxes and to the mobility of the camp within each summer season which in turn impacted on the residents.

Flying-foxes are classified as endangered and are a protected species. Problems associated with any relocation when there are pregnant females and their young, during climatic extremes or at times of food shortage can be catastrophic for their survival.

Some towns have endeavoured to move the Flying-foxes by aggressive and illegal means such as removing all vegetation, continuous noise, smoke and shooting.

Researchers at Griffith University have found If the animals move at all, they typically only move less than 500 metres from the original location and end up with more people being affected as the original camp can, as they did in Maclean, split into three camps with the Flying-foxes then moving between the camps and also returning to the original site.

The overall feedback from the Bangalow community received via 'Flying-fox Engage' favoured Flying-fox camp management measures that:

- provided a long-term solution
- ensured the risk of transmission of flying-fox pathogens, viruses and disease remains low
- reduced the impact of noise and odour on nearby residents and businesses
- reduced the impact of flying-fox excrement.

On Saturday 22 June Byron Councils representative meet with the affected residents and members of Bangalow Land and Rivercare to outline their Flying-fox Management Plan.

Key considerations at the site include the steep and sensitive riparian environment and a risk of shifting the Flying-foxes towards other sensitive receivers such as the Child Care Centre or other nearby residential areas and the need to carry out the Management Plan when the Flying-foxes have moved north for winter.

The Council's first stage of their Management Plan is to passively disperse the Flying-fox camp through selective vegetation removal such as the Camphor Laurel branches that overhang or are in close proximity to the play equipment, residential properties and trimming back trees near the Child Care Centre to create a buffer zone.

The Council's second stage will be to plant Flying-fox food trees further north along the Creek to encourage the Flying-foxes away from houses and regenerate each side of the Creek with low native vegetation. We will keep you informed of the progress.

Source Material: Bangalow Historical Society, Bangalow Land and Rivercare Inc, Byron Shire Flying-fox Camp Management Plan 2018-2023 (the full report is available on their website)



Photos clockwise from above:
Aerial view of BSC's Flying-fox
Management Plan 2018 - 2023
BSC representative Peter Boyd
Local resident Paul Glennie
View up stream of Paddy's Creek
Recovering baby Flying-fox



It Does Not Matter what the Court says... Do Not Flush Wet Wipes



This massive 'snakelike' blockage was 7 metres long, weighed about a tonne and was made up of wet wipes pulled from underground pipes by Hunter Water employees.

The operation took 4 hours before the 'snake' was taken to the depot for cleaning and then sent to the local tip.

Despite the marketing, wet wipes are anything but flushable, even if they disappear around the 'S' bend they do not break down and do not disintegrate like toilet paper but gather up other items that find their way into the sewer pipes causing what is called 'fatbergs'

The effect of a blockage caused by wet wipes can result in raw sewage flooding homes, streets, and businesses throughout your area.

Only the 4 'P's' should go down your toilet....
pee, poo, paper and puke.



In our last months Village Eco News we published the wrong photo to our article on the Golden Rain Tree. The correct photo is published above.



Above: Palms and ferns along Paddy's Creek

Village Eco News

Our aim is to inform, interest, amuse and educate our readers on all things environmental. We welcome you to submit your contributions or to subscribe to this free Newsletter send your name and email address to:

bangalowlandcare@gmail.com

Please pass this publication on to your family and friends. Receiving our Newsletter online will help to save the environment we work to preserve.

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