

# About Bangalow Koalas

Bangalow Koalas formed in early 2016 by a group of concerned neighbours determined to protect a 400 stretch of koala trees. We initially liaised with Byron Shire Council to map and record koala sightings in the local area, which then led to working bees along the stretch of koala trees.

After our first big planting we did in conjunction with Byron Shire Council we received local press and radio coverage and this led to being contacted by interested landholders. Ever since then people have approached us after each planting and event. We letterbox dropped to neighbours seeing if they were interested and this has resulted in planting adjoining properties. We also held a Landholder Workshop last year giving away 10,000 trees to suitable properties as a result we have been planting out properties (either self-funded or grants). We did another one this year without the giveaway and again we are doing site inspections.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



Janine Duffy  
[president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au](mailto:president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au)



Linda Sparrow  
[twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au](mailto:twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au)



# Plantings

- Our plantings are part of creating the corridor connecting existing habitat/populations, also riparian/rivers where applicable as part of the corridor. We only plant on properties that fit within the corridor or have koalas nearby. We won't plant on properties that there is no chance of koalas coming nor if landholders want to have tourist cabins or developments there.
- We only utilise fencing for cattle and wallabies when required and all properties are maintained every 3 months for first 2 years and thereafter every 4 months for 3<sup>rd</sup> year.
- Trees from local source both primary, secondary and shelter. Mostly mixture of koala and rainforest unless specifically requesting koala trees only. Many rainforest trees are shelter trees for Koalas and other animals. We don't plant understorey, they prefer low light so are best added later but they usually occur naturally once canopy is established.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au

# Plantings cont'd

- There is no real minimum size area we plant but we won't do suburban areas or suburban blocks as we are trying to get koalas away from residential areas. We avoid roadsides unless very quiet rural roads, we do fence lines on properties which may have cattle/macadamias.
- Koala food trees can be incorporated into cabinet timber plantations which are selectively harvested and replaced to ensure constant supply of food trees
- When it comes to conservation titles/land for wildlife etc we give landholders all the options for protecting land and encourage where possible, the relationships we have with the landholder are built on trust and the knowledge they are planting for the future.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au





Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



# Planting Model

- Our community model we pay our bush regen team as part of any grants/fundraisers to prepare the site for planting and maintenance, volunteers then plant with help from bush regen team on the day, volunteers don't pay to plant.
- Funding comes from donations, grants or are self-funded. Many services donated including marquees from Summerland Credit Union, sausage sizzle Bangalow Lions.
- We promote via letterbox drops to local area, press ads in local papers, Facebook/Instagram posts, media releases and create an event on Facebook.
- We also email out to our members/ mailing list. Promotion of plantings is 2 weeks ahead.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au

# Planting Model cont'd

- We generally plant 50/50 rainforest/ koala trees at 2.5m spacings so 1 tree per 6.2m<sup>2</sup> which is approximately 1600 per hectare.
- We have done 100% koala trees similar spacings.
- Through our relationship with Friends of the Koala we order our trees from their Native Nursery – this year we have also received jointly 36,000 koala trees from Forestry Corporation and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Saving our Species).
- We also this year have received funding from One Tree Planted in USA to pay for all our trees (60,000 estimated). This is funding all our rainforest trees and any other koala trees.
- Forestry trees are in hiko cells, other trees from Native Nursery are 12cm tubes.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au





Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



# Planting Costings

- Forestry tube trees eucalyptus - \$1 each, rainforest from Native Nursery \$2.50.
- Tree guards we use plastic mesh tree guards 80cm tall to stop wallaby browsing. These are \$3 each but last for years and are re-used many times.
- Hardwood stakes we use 120cm tall 25mm x 25mm hardwood stakes 1 per tree guard 60c each.
- Weed management we spot spray around planted trees every 3 months for 2 years then every 4 months. Depends on number of trees and size of area.
- Hole digging we use brush cutters to clear the ground for each tree then dug with a single person 2 stroke auger which makes a nice hole for each tree.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au

# Weed Management/Preparation

- Weed management - It depends on the site, if just a paddock then not needed, but if a weedy site it is required to ensure planting can be done safely and easily. Machine such as bobcat or excavator has been used on some sites to remove woody weeds, or by hand using chainsaws brush cutters loppers etc.
- Herbicide is not used to spray grass and other weeds in planting areas before a planting by the community group, as some people do not want to plant if it has been used. If no community group planting then we use herbicide to spray circles in the grass for each tree space which gives the tree weed free growth for 3 months.
- Any time prior to planting as long as site is easily accessible for the planting crew. If done too early weeds can re-grow before planting.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



# Weed Management/Preparation cont'd

- Hole digging Usually the 2 stroke augers 1 or 2 days prior to plantings. If done 3-4 days or more the holes can set and are harder to plant especially if rainfall occurs. Some people bring their own small shovels or mattocks to plant with but usually all holes are dug the day before planting.
- Tree guards only if presence of wallabies but prefer wallaby fencing.
- Mulch is used for all plantings.
- Holes are all pre-dug, mulch near hole and plant in hole waiting to be planted so volunteers only need to bring gloves, trowel and own water/sunscreen.
- We water on the day and then Monday after – if dry period we organise volunteers to assist watering unless landholder has access to watering.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au

# Duration Of Planting

- Duration of planting on average can be over in hour or under dependent on number of trees and volunteers.
- We have planted 2,600 by 180 in less than an hour, varies on number of trees and volunteers on the day.

## Planting Day Setup

- Arrive 8am to set up marquees/signage for 9am start.
- We have supervisors for all jobs – parking, sign on and for supervising the planting – we separate families with kids to specific area and have more supervisors for quality control.
- Food is supplied after planting as never lasts more than 1 and half hours.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au





Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au





Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



# Food/Toilets

- Bangalow Lions provide a sausage sizzle and member provides vegetarian sandwiches, water is supplied at end but most people bring their own water.
- Toilets at home or house where planting is located. Handwash provided after planting is done.
- First aid kit and couple of our members are doctors/retired nurses.

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au



# After Planting Maintenance

- If landholder has cattle or wallabies fencing is arranged before planting.
- If using wallaby guards checked on quarterly maintenance.
- All plantings are maintained for 3 years, year 1 and 2 every 3 months, year 3 every 4 months.

## Funny questions from landowners and or planters

- Do we take the trees out of their pots before we plant?  
Some people have planted the trees in their pots!!

Janine Duffy  
president@koalacancyfoundation.org.au



Linda Sparrow  
twodogsmedia@optusnet.com.au