



## MEN OF THE TREES

# TWAHAMWE

The official publication of THE MEN OF THE TREES Inc., Queensland Branch

Patron: The Prince of Wales

Founder: The late Dr. Richard St Barba Baker O.B.E.

TWAHAMWE IS SWAHILI FOR ALL TOGETHER or PULL TOGETHER

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[www.menofthetrees.org.au](http://www.menofthetrees.org.au)

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July 2010

### MOTT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of Men of the Trees Inc, Queensland, will be held at 1.00pm on Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Patrick Peek Esq., 97 Chelford St. Alderley.

The Treasurer's report will be presented and elections will be held for the officer bearers and general committee.

Proxy and nomination forms are included with this edition of *Twahamwe*.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Twelve Months... How time flies.

First of all I would like to thank all those who have participated in all our activities in the last year. We have had a number of new recruits and some adventures along the way.

The beginning of last financial year started with one of our most popular panting and weeding sites, the Girl Guides Hut in Bardon. What started as a what we thought would be a usual year has become not so usual.

National Tree Day in August 2009 at the Keperra picnic Grounds saw over twelve hundred trees planted by almost fifty volunteers. This year however, has become a little more difficult in finding a site for National Tree Day.

An initiative of Fran and Marion, Men of the Trees has applied for a number of grants to acquire equipment. During the year we were successful is getting a grant from the Community Gambling Benefit Fund which resulted in Men of the Trees having its own ute. The hand over and presentation of the ute can be seen via our web site with a fantastic video produced by Rex.

We went on two road trips this year. The first was the Scenic Rim Drive. Morning Tea, Lunch and some very amazing scenery. Also an interesting lesson in olive groves.

The second trip was an overnight in Killarney to join with our country cousins in a planting. Susan

and Clive Savage from the Bush Care group led us to Sandra and Malcolm's property. For those who came a big thank you and Thank you to the Bush Care Group at Killarney.

We have had a number of new members over the last twelve months over a range of age groups. Thank you for joining us.

Two new members Bianca and Alejandro have brought some skills to the MOTT family in helping us develop a business plan for membership and projects. It is a slow process for us, we have been a small planting group for a number of years and now we are looking to expand to include dedicated habitat and corporate sponsorship. These two wonderful people have been a motivation and encouragement.

The year ahead will see the establishment of the projects that have been initiated. This includes some regular advertising and poster and brochure distribution. Our memberships will also change and we are investigating how donations to MOTT can become tax deductible.

The brochures that have been designed by Scott are fantastic and another example of the skills that we have with our group. This also goes for our newsletters. Rex has done a fantastic job of compiling these.

I would also like to thank those I would like to call the "Core Four." These are Fran, Marion, Kerry and Jerry. Tireless workers, looking for sites, planning plantings and contributing precious time. There are others too that contribute behind the scenes and also at plantings and weedings. To all the committee members this year thank you for your hard work.

Times are a changing, but we will continue to grow. If you can contribute in any way behind the scenes please let us know, we would love to hear from you.

Jeff Mustard, President of such a MOTT-ly Crew.

## NATIONAL TREE DAY

Finally we have a site for National Tree Day.

We received a letter from Peter Matic (Chairman of Environment, Parks and Sustainability) saying that the Two-Million Trees Project is not in a position to offer land or resources to MOTT for this particular celebratory day. Nor could any of the six councilors we contacted help us.

Adam Christison though, has gone to some trouble to help us and arranged for us to plant at **Mahacca Park, Albany Creek on Saturday, 31st of July.**

However, as commitments to Adam's council endorsed NTD activities was finalized and approved by Council Committee some time ago they will not be unable to commit to assist our event on the day or provide assistance with preparations. Adam will be able to provide us with access and meet us on site to confirm the layout and mark out the site to ensure that the planting will be done in keeping with council standards.

Nice to have good friends like Adam!

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## MEMORIES OF A SPECIAL PERSON.

Anne Stone O.A.M. died on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2010 with her four children at her bedside. She was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1927 and her father was Charles Smethurst Snow who started the first Scout Group in Queensland at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Kangaroo Point in 1908.

Anne grew up with parents who lived life according to Scout ideals and love of nature was paramount. She married another Scout – Bernard Stone – and together they were actively involved with the start of Greening Australia and Men of the Trees in the 1980s. Anne was always very observant and noticed there were stands of weeds on the creek bank below the Holy Spirit Anglican Church at Kenmore where she has been a member for many years. MOTT was approached some time ago and we cleared and planted trees all along that section of Gubberley Creek. We are still visiting for maintenance and care.

MOTT was well represented at the service on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2010 to celebrate Anne Stone's life and her great contribution to so many organisations, to encourage and inspire people to

care for their environment. She will be greatly missed.

Barbara Wintringham

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## A PLETHORA OF PLANTERS

Yes, again! But there's more to the story than the 16 of us who turned up on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Bardon, now healed from the trail bike track that had been scarred into the banks of the Ithaca Creek.

We all repaired back to Marion Goward's for a late morning tea, and people were positively drooling at the most lavish spread before them:



We then continued potting ... Well, it depends how old you are I guess: It used to be called *Eugenia Ventenatii* but most now know it as *Waterhousia Floribunda* when, in fact, it's current proper name is *Syzygium Floribundum*.

Anyway, we potted these little Weeping Lilly Pilly seedlings, a task that a few of us had begun the previous Wednesday.



Photo by Robert Whyte





Marion, obviously too busy becoming this modern age's Stradavarius (See *The Secret Life of Marion Goward* below) obviously couldn't manage the job on her own –after all, there were more than 1,000 seedlings which are now in tubes waiting for *their* chance to make a forest somewhere.

Obviously, with so many seedlings to transfer, every hand was utilized.



Well, we may as well start training 'em young!

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## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

When Suzanne Miller-Mustard mentioned that she would like to do a Christmas in July at someplace cold, with log fires, and Keith Fordyce said that he wanted to go to Stanthorpe (about a three-hour drive from Brisbane) a plan was born and a few calls later Suzanne found somewhere suitable, with no driving between dinner and bed.

The details are: High Street Motor Inn – its Steakhouse is part of the motel and where we will have our Christmas dinner.

The cost of accommodation is \$90/double and the cost of the dinner is \$45. If you are interested in joining in and celebrating Christmas in July on

Saturday, July 3rd (sorry for the short notice), call Dawn or Tony at the High Street Motor Inn to book on 4681 1533.

The Morgan Car Club will also be staying there and celebrating so we will get to see some historic cars ... and their drivers too! Maybe they have some land to spare.

All elves who wish to join in could drive to Stanthorpe in convoy after meeting at Keith's (15 Quarry Rd Alderley) at 9.30AM.

Morning tea stop would be at the Art Café Du Kalbar at 77 Edward Street, Kalbar. Apparently they have waffles to die for.

Eighty Kms later and the lunch stop would be at the Warwick Gardens Galore, 21 Albion Street Warwick, followed perhaps by a look through the Steam Train Museum, which is also on Albion Street.

After arriving at Stanthorpe, booking in and freshening up for dinner at 6.00pm, a fresh air walk along Quart Pot Creek might hit the spot.

Quart Pot Creek runs through the town of Stanthorpe. It has been landscaped by the local Council and now has concrete walking paths linking one end of town to the Red Bridge. You can feed the ducks or just relax under a tree.

There is also a great park (Kidspace) on Quart Pot Creek which offers a brass monkey-themed playground for families. There is a visitor information centre nearby.

After breakfast the next morning, you may like to check out the markets at the Abbey of the Roses where locals gather every Sunday morning to checkout the stalls which sell arts and crafts, dolls, handcrafted jewellery, pet accessories, leather work, handicrafts, bric-a-brac, second hand books, farm-fresh fruit and vegetables and much more.

While at the Abbey have a look over this majestic sandstone building. Originally built as a convent it now serves as a function centre and B & B.

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## CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED

If you come across any article that you think would be of interest to other MOTT members, remember that you can share them via this newsletter.

If you feel like making a contribution yourself, all articles will be gladly accepted. But please, we want to steer clear of personals columns!

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## A MOTT WEEKEND TO A PLACE WHERE THE TREES RISE ABOVE THE CLOUDS.

This is only a taste of Scott Maxwell's photo essay. The complete article, complete with Scott's many photographs, can be viewed on the MOTT website: [www.menofthetrees.org.au](http://www.menofthetrees.org.au)

Fran Gilje, Mott's enthusiastic Social Coordinator, arranged an action packed planting expedition to Killarney with the assistance of historian and local bush care coordinator, Susan Savage.

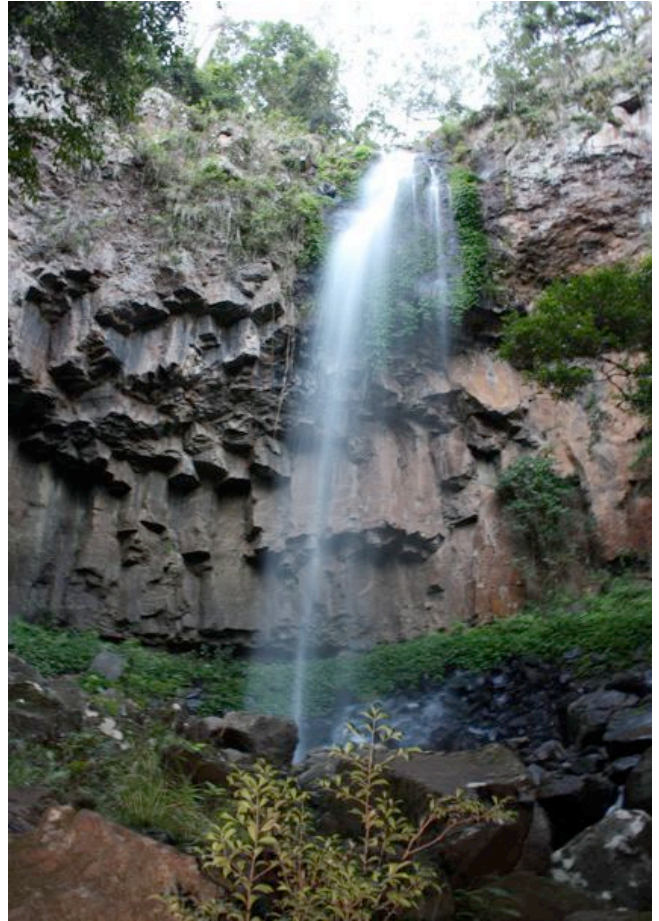
Crossing the Great Divide, we passed through a mosaic of bituminized and dirt roads, and arrived at the summit - WOW!!! - being the collective response. Queensland's first Governor, Sir George Bowen, described the view as an "incomparable panorama". The view is just the same now as it was then, except for the pollution on the horizon, manicured farms, the dams and that linking system of roadways. Just a few hundred metres below the lookout seeped Moss's Well. Everybody laughed upon reaching the well, as it was truly the great Australian understatement. For everybody that missed this adventure "you have to see it to believe it!"



The convey of cars carried on to our next destination, the Queen Mary Falls Café where we received a warm welcome by Susan and Clive.

The Queen Mary Falls were spectacular. The rock formation of basalt and trachyte had been worn away since ancient times and I could see faces peering out of the highlights and shadows. The ravine was steep and sheltered the tallest, thickest Hoop Pines that I had ever seen.

Next stop - Brown's Falls - the drive was breathtaking.



The amazing thing that I noticed was that nearly all the cattle I saw were standing under stands of trees that were pocketed right throughout the rambling green countryside. The lush green grass was growing in the shade right up to the trunks of these isolated trees. WHY o WHY have these vast tracks of land been clear-felled by the older generation of farmers? Hopefully, the current and future generations of farmers will plant more trees throughout our vast vulnerable openness to realise a greater productivity (cows actually like shade) and create more wildlife corridors at the same time. Throw in less maintenance, machinery and fuel costs - more profit and a healed earth!

Back at Killarney we assembled in the dining room for dinner. Next day we arrived at 'The Head' where we were met by our hosts, Sandra and Malcolm, who escorted us along their beef fattening property to a beautiful spot which is very near being a billabong - there was plenty of shade - it was the perfect location.

The soil was soft and fertile and bamboo stakes firmly held the protective barriers and copious amounts of mulch was laid. Out came the buckets of water, compliments of the creek that ultimately feeds into the longest river system in Australia, the Murray Darling.





After the mass planting we went back to the homestead and were treated to a lavish lunch prepared by Sandra in the front garden. After the best site planting lunch that MOTT had ever feasted upon, Susan lead the convoy to the 'Rabbit Proof Fence'. The other side was New South Wales. Keaton asked "why is this fence here?" Jeff proudly responded by saying, "to keep the rabbits out".

On returning to the cars it was time to bid goodbyes. It felt like a week and it had to be the best road trip ever! We should make this an annual pilgrimage with more MOTTers in a 30-seater SUV bus.

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### MEET THE PLANTERS (FRAN GILJE)

Fran Gilje is one of the best known faces at MOTT. In fact it was MOTT that decided her to settle in Australia in 1996.



Fran was born at Falconbridge in the province of Ontario, Canada, to a Norwegian father and a French mother so among her many other skills, Fran is tri-lingual.

She moved to Toronto in her early twenties to teach. She taught general classroom and then studied music to become a music supervisor. At

one stage, she was teaching "open complex" where there are four groups of grade eight students, with their teachers, in one large room.

She noticed that the girls came back from Home Economics and the boys came back from Woodwork with boring things, each making the same "pin cushion", "shelf" or "utility box" so, hoping to get both the boys and the girls working in a more creative way, she developed a co-ed programme of industrial arts which was later renamed Design and Technology.

After many years of developing and nurturing this programme until it had spread through Toronto then throughout Ontario and finally was Canada-wide, Fran took a year's leave and came to Australia in 1994. She had been here before, but this time she wandered around the bush, eventually ending up in Brisbane and becoming associated with MOTT.

Having decided that she would like to move to Australia instead of shovelling snow for the rest of her life, Fran returned to Canada, sold her house and emigrated and, because she had so enjoyed her time with MOTT, she settled in Brisbane in 1996 where she has served as a bushcare worker and as a member of the Management Committee. She served as MOTT's president recently for a couple of years and has been one of its most active members.

Fran has recently had surgery to raise her eyelids 2mm in order for her to still have a line of vision. She has a very rare disorder called Chronic Progressive, External Ophthalmoplegia which is a kind of muscular dystrophy that affects only the muscles of the eyes and lids. The disorder is characterized by slow progressive paralysis of the extraocular muscles. Patients usually experience bilateral symmetrical progressive ptosis and, to alleviate this, she has had surgery twice in order to attach the eyelids to other muscles in the forehead. Other than that, the medical community is still searching for answers. As in many other conditions, there is no cure as yet.

It is, as I said, a very rare condition and little is known about it. It is known that three French prostitutes who arrived in Canada in the 17<sup>th</sup> century had some eye problem so it may be a French-Canadian condition. On the other hand, Fran's father (Norwegian) also had the same condition so we figure that it didn't come from the prostitute side of the family.

Fran's surgery seems to have been a success so if you used to think that Fran was half asleep – look again! Anyway, this is a very alert lady who has been making musical instruments and running her own business, laminating and turning wood. Add to that her volunteer work with Save The Children and Homeless Connect and you'll see yet another of MOTT's gems.

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### THE SECRET LIFE OF MARION GOWARD

After her 25 years of planting trees, Marion Goward has to be one of the best-known and most active members of MOTT, yet despite all the work she puts in, Marion has another passion to which she devotes much of her time.

Underneath her house is a fully-functional, well-equipped, wood-working community workshop, the main purpose of which is the making musical instruments.



You could form an orchestra from the instruments that have been, or are being, created there – flutes, guitars, violins of all sizes, a spinet, a clavichord, a cittern, a cornemuse, harps, Aeolian harps, banjos, a bass viola da gamba and a harpsichord.

As far back as she can remember, Marion has been interested in musical instruments. She first became involved in building them when she discovered Renaissance music and became a Baroque buff.

Her first instruments were a small spinet and a clavichord which she assembled from kits she had imported from the U.S. and Britain.

In 1998, Marion's mates from MOTT – Fran Gilje, Gerry Dunford, Ron Clancy, Allan Thomas and Rob Thomson suggested that the workshop

be built and from there, like Topsy, it grew.



Gerry and Allan concreted the floor and lined the walls, the versatile Rob Thompson built the very solid benches (the smallest of which is 3 ½ metres long) and the stands for the machines.

Marion became interested in guitars when she discovered a local guitar maker, Doug Foster, who lived at Ashgrove. Marion and Fran approached him to learn how to make guitars and when he discovered Marion's workshop, he thought it would be perfect to use as a guitar-making school, something he had always wanted to establish.

The school began with a handful of students and Marion ended up accompanying Doug when he took some of his guitars to the U.S. where they spoke to other guitar makers and explored the big trees of California.

When Doug died, Marion continued to welcome people who wanted to make guitars, sharing her knowledge, her collection of notes from his workshops and her extensive library of books with them.

Marion's latest project is building an Octet, a consort of eight stringed instruments, based on the proportions of the violin. These range from a body length of just over 30 cms to 1.8 metres and include the piccolo, which has a range an octave above the standard violin, through the soprano, the mezzo, the alto, the tenor, the baritone and the bass right up to the contrabass.

Next projects on the drawing board are ukuleles and a series of North American Indian flutes.

The workshop, which is accredited by AAMIM (the Australian Association of Musical Instrument Makers) of which Marion is a



member, has featured on several TV magazine programmes and has now been awarded a grant by the Lord Mayor's Urban Initiative Fund.



At least twice a week, you will find Marion's workshop being used by various instrument makers who are able to follow their passion because of what Marion and other MOTT members have created.

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MOTT Qld acknowledges the support of the Queensland Government's Gambling Community Benefit Fund.



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### HOW WOULD WE COPE WITHOUT FRIENDS LIKE THIS?

Fran Gilje writes:

Every few weeks my car rolls into 1158 South Pine Rd. in Arana Hills because that is where **Laser Revive** is. That's where Jan McConnell, husband Bill and daughter Aislinn do their bit for the environment. They are in the business of remanufacturing toner & ink cartridges and servicing and repairing our printers, etc. in order to reduce waste.

I always have a question or two for Jan, who spends as much time with me as I need in order to understand how to care for our MOTT machines and how to keep costs down.

Several weeks ago I asked Jan how to best produce copies for our poster campaign - every couple of months for a year. Although that is not Laser Revive's business, she offered to produce a large number of posters on glossy paper FREE

OF CHARGE. What a woman.

We hope that Jan will permit us in her backyard one day to do some maintenance and planting.

We are so grateful to you, Laser Revive People.

Love and thanks from the MOTTley Crew.

#### Bill & Jan McConnell

3/1158 South Pine Road,  
Arana Hills 4054  
Telephone: (07) 3851 0395  
Fax: (07) 3851 0355  
Web: [www.laserrevive.com.au](http://www.laserrevive.com.au)  
Email: [info@laserrevive.com.au](mailto:info@laserrevive.com.au)

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\* EMPTIES WANTED \*

### CLIMATESMART INITIATIVE

As part of its new Reverse the Effects programme, the Qld government is offering a 50% subsidy for Queenslanders who choose to help reverse the negative effects of their vehicle's exhaust emissions on our environment.

To claim the subsidy, all you need to do is make a tax deductible donation to the Queensland Trust for Nature based on the estimated calculation of your vehicle's annual greenhouse gas emissions.

To give you an idea on the donation amount, for less than \$60 you could Reverse the Effect of a medium-sized family car for a year.

All money raised will be used to plant trees and create native forests that capture carbon from the atmosphere and reduce the impact of greenhouse gases in Queensland. So, you'll be helping 'clean the air' of greenhouse gas emissions, minimize the impact of climate change and expand Queensland's protected green spaces.

To make a donation, and for handy tips on reducing your vehicle's emissions, log on to [www.climatesmarthome.com](http://www.climatesmarthome.com) and go to the My Actions page for all the Reverse the Effect program information.

**The Men of the Trees Inc**  
**PROXY FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on  
Saturday 29th August 2009 and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Men of the Trees Inc**  
**NOMINATION FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ being a member of the Men of the

Trees Inc., hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

for the position of President, Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Management Committee  
*(Please circle the appropriate position)*

Signature of nominating member \_\_\_\_\_ / /2010

and I, \_\_\_\_\_ also being a member of the Association hereby second  
that nomination.

Signature of seconding member \_\_\_\_\_ / /2010

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby consent to the above nomination

for the position of President, Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Management Committee  
*(Please circle the appropriate position)*

Signature of nominated member \_\_\_\_\_ / /2010

The signed nomination form shall be lodged with the Secretary, PO Box 283 Clayfield Qld 4011 at least  
fourteen (14) days before the Annual General Meeting.

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# Men of the Trees Schedule – July to October, 2010

**Always check with co-ordinator or Fran (3851 0858) for possible changes.**  
**Bush care 9 a.m. to 12:30 or 1 p.m. We share morning tea around 10:30 a.m.**

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT
July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2010	Holy Spirit Anglican Church, 1036 Mogill Rd. Kenmore UBD 177, N 9	Kerry – 3289 9206
10th	Behind Trevor's home, 1692(corner) Mt. Samson and Old Mt. Samson Rd., Closeburn	Kerry -3289 9206
17th	Keperra Picnic Grounds, Samford Rd& Upper Kedron, UBD 137, N5 followed by NTD meeting, 9 Lynwood Crt. Ferny Hills, 1 p.m.	Marion 3366 1448 Fran – 3851 0858 Kerry – 3289 9206
24th	Bunya Crossing, Wongon Creek, UBD 107, Q20, to Dugandan Reserve, or take Dugandan to Allen Rd, right on Weston Dr. to Banks Ct. Park and walk down the grassy hill.	Adam - 0437 439 774
31 <sup>st</sup> – MOTT TEAM, 7:30 am	NATIONAL TREE DAY – Mahacca Park, Malvern Rd., Albany Creek, UBD, 108 M18	Fran- 3851 0858 Marion- 3366 1448 Kerry – 3289 9206

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT
August 7 <sup>th</sup>	National Tree Day site, - checking, repairing, watering, mulching - Mahacca Park, Malvern Rd. Albany Creek, UBD 108 M18	Fran- 3851-0858 Marion- 3366-1448 Kerry – 3289
14th	Paten Park, 57 Paten Rd., The Gap- UBD 158,A3	Marion - 3366 1448
21st	Extension of Girl Guide Hut area, Coolibah St., creek side Bardon. UBD 158 L5	Marion – 3366 1448
28th	Cabbage Tree Creek off Yingally Dr. Ferny Hills/Arana Hills near Wightman Reserve close to children's playground AGM to be followed by Management Meeting- 1 p.m, 97 Chelford St. Alderley	Sonya- 0408 153 302 Pat – 3311 4981

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT
September 4th	Duck Pond,Bardon Esplanade, Bardon – UBD 158, K6	Marion – 3366 1448
11th	Arbor Park, (previously referred to as Cedar Crk) Behind Police Station, Tramway St. Ferny Grove	Marion – 3366 1448
18th	To Be Announced	
25th	Bunya Crossing, Wongon Creek, UBD 107, Q20, to Dugandan Reserve, or take Dugandan to Allen Rd, right on Weston Dr. to Banks Ct. Park and walk down the grassy hill.	Adam - 0437 439 774

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT
October 2nd	Paten Park, 57 Paten Rd., The Gap- UBD 158,A3	Marion - 3366 1448
9th	Behind Trevor's home, 1692(corner) Mt. Samson and Old Mt. Samson Rd., Closeburn	Kerry -3289 9206
16th	Bribie Island	Suzanne – 3869 2084 David Luhrman -