



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

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March 2014

MOTT CHRISTMAS BREAKUP

On December 14th, as our final get together of the year, MOTT treated financial planters to lunch at The Green Mango Thai restaurant in West Ashgrove.

Your intrepid reporter was driving between Peak Hill and Melbourne on that day but I am assured that the food was good, the atmosphere warm and friendly and, fortunately, Patrick Peak was there to record the event for those of us who weren't able to make it ... or were not paid-up members.



And speaking of which ...

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE.

MOTT'S financial year runs May 1st – April 30th, so annual membership will be due in May.

Members can either use the form on the newsletter or pay by direct transfer to:

Name: Men of the Trees (Qld) Inc

BSB: 124-001

Acc No: 93057245:

And don't forget to put your name as a reference.

MOTT Qld Inc acknowledges the support of the Queensland Government through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund.



SAMFORD ECO CORRIDOR

Nearly everyone signed up for this project months ago but it was cancelled due to the dry weather. March 15th is the new date for those available to participate in this project.

So far we have 14 people signed up for the planting and all are registered for meal tickets – no ticket, no meal. So, if anyone else still needs a ticket, s/he can contact Joanne Wilkinson, (joannewilkinson5@bigpond.com) or Fran (3851 0858). NOW would be the best time to do this.

Although main registration on the day will be at 8.30a.m., there will be a briefing for supervisors earlier in the morning (say 7.30 to 8).

PLASTIC BAG FREE MARCH

The Queensland Conservation Council has been running a campaign to have single use plastic bags banned in Queensland by 2015. As part of its ongoing campaign, and to work in with Clean Up Australia Day on the 2nd March, this year it has scheduled the Plastic Bag Free month for March.

The National Litter Index (NLI) released in August 2013 found that Queensland is the worst performing mainland State. The Clean Up Australia Day 2012 Rubbish Report for Queensland showed that plastics make up 51% of the rubbish collected; almost 20% of plastic packaging items picked up around Queensland since April 2013 has been plastic bags. Supermarkets account for 53% of plastic bag use; 47% come from other retail outlets.



Every year, more than six million tonnes of rubbish is dumped into the world's oceans. Plastic accounts for 80% of debris found in the world's oceans. Of this, 10% is plastic bags. Plastic in the ocean kills over one million sea birds and 100,000 sea mammals annually. Ingested marine debris was responsible for killing about a third of turtles found dead in Moreton Bay.

The challenge is simple – commit to kicking your plastic bag habit by not using single-use plastic bags for the month of March.

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and Keep Queensland Beautiful have partnered with the Queensland Conservation Council to promote the Plastic Bag Free Queensland campaign.

THE DEATH OF THE TREES!

You don't expect to go to plant trees on a Saturday morning and end up cutting them down. But that's what happened on our return to Keperra Picnic Grounds on February 22nd.

The former National Tree Day site was in a very sorry state. Many of the trees had died and many, unable to establish deep roots had keeled over. Most of the Lomandra along the edging was dead – a combination of soil compaction caused by heavy machinery, drought and weed control gone wrong.



We spent the morning planting, watering and, sadly, cutting down trees that hadn't survived.

Fortunately, the site is back on our planting schedule and we hope that we'll be able to resurrect it in the months to come.

NATIONAL TREE DAY

No ... don't panic. It is still some months away but the date has been set and this year National Tree Day will take place on July 27th. Full details will be on the website and in the June edition of *Twahamwe*.

MEET THE PLANTERS Kevin Sweeney

Kevin is another 'southerner', originally from the Western District of Victoria. Born in Hamilton, he grew up around Geelong, Warrnambool and Ballarat as his father, a school teacher, went from school to school. He says that he had a great upbringing in that rural sector of Victoria. Life was full of freedom, fun and joy with holidays on a dairy farm near Curdie Vale where they holidayed throughout the sixties, spotlighting, and driving around in an old car his father bought them as a bush basher, to learn how to drive – they had the best school holidays.

The family moved here more than 40 years ago. His parents had been thinking of moving north and then a family tragedy, the death of Kevin's brother, proved to be the catalyst to move on.

I describe Kevin as a man of certain passions, a label he refutes even though later he used the word to describe the rescue of his dogs.

His (not really a) passion for buffalos began some time ago when he was at a market and saw and small sign that said, "Home is where the herd is". It touched something in him and he found out a bit more about buffalos ... how they have a herding instinct; how they look after each other. He describes our buffalos as nice looking animals. Growing up in bush, he had always been close to cattle and abhors the cruelty done to bulls in the world – bull rings, rodeos.

Kevin has a 37 year-old (and therefore vintage) motorbike. It is not a passion either but he speaks passionately about how it brings back memories of West Chermshire where he lived when they first came here in the early 70s. He enjoys riding it, it's a great old classic and a feel good thing; he'd never sell it.

He also likes cars, which can be a weakness, but the choice of a car has to make sense, you can't be ruled by the heart. Although he rather likes the AU Falcon wagon with the sharks tooth grill, it doesn't make any sense to him to make the change. One favourite was a Holden Sandman he had for 16 years but a poinciana tree murdered it and although he felt sad, well ... you have to move on.

Asked whether he preferred to ride on the motorbike or in a car, he very sensibly answered that it depended on the weather.



Kevin works for a builder/cabinet maker and is currently driving a ute that proves handy for removing some of MOTT's rubble.

Last year, he went back to where he was born and came back with a dog, a Ridgeback cross, that he rescued from the local pound, which made it a special rescue for him. He also rescued a Staffy at Ballarat a couple of years ago when he went to a school reunion. Having found both dogs in pet rescues, he makes sure these very special rescues are well cared for. It's a passion.

Asked to sum up his life in three well-chosen words, he said, "Likes the quiet life". What's an extra word among friends?

KNOW THINE ENEMY MARSHMALLOW

Marshmallow (*Malva parviflora*) is an annual or perennial herb that is native to Northern Africa, Europe and Asia and is widely naturalised elsewhere.



Also known as cheeseweed, cheeseweed mallow, Egyptian mallow, least mallow, little mallow, mallow, small-flowered mallow, small-flowered marshmallow and smallflower mallow, its leaf extracts possess anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activities. It has a decumbent or erect habit, growing to 50 cm in height. The broad leaves have 5 to 7 lobes and are 8 to 10 cm in diameter. It has small white or pink flowers with 4 to 6 mm long petals.

CUBBERLA WITTON

A group with which we have many aims in common is the Cubberla-Witton Catchments Network.

Their latest newsletter says, "There are lots of things to look forward to in 2014. We hope to see you at many of our events, workshops, surveys, at bushcare working bees..... Please come to the *Chinwag at the Centre*, or, if you can't but would like to get to know us a little more outside of events, ring us on 3878 4581 and arrange a time.

REHABILITATION IN BRISBANE'S INNER WEST

Brisbane's Inner West is densely populated, yet a rich and often surprising biodiversity along local waterways and in bushland remnants still exists.

Mature specimens of the endangered Anglemstemmed Myrtle call our catchments home. The vulnerable Powerful Owl has been seen breeding in Fig Tree Pocket. The Short-eared Brushtail Possum and Bandicoots are found in Indooroopilly in the closest known locations to Brisbane's CBD. A genetically unique strand of the Purple-spotted Gudgeons are known from Cubberla Creek.

A wealth of native fauna, flora, fungi and lichens has withstood the changes of land use over time despite the fact that with high urbanization came a substantial loss of habitat and biodiversity. High weed infestations in bushland remnants and along waterways (some of which were substantially modified) followed urbanization and severely interfere with food and shelter needs of native fauna.

The South East Queensland Regional Plan will put further pressures on our Inner West catchments and our natural environment.

It is up to us to protect and enhance our precious natural assets for the benefit of our children and children's children. Participate in the work of one of our local bushcare groups registered with Brisbane City Council's Habitat Brisbane Program.

(Reproduced with permission from the Cubberla-Witton Catchments Network Inc newsletter).

CURRUMBIN TRIP

May 17th we will be working at Tarrabora Reserve, Currumbin, with the Currumbin Creek Care Group in an event called *Connect To Your Creek*.

Tarrabora Reserve is located off Currumbin Creek Road with the Currumbin Valley Ecovillage along the Village Way.

We will meet at Scott's house, 63 Markwell Street, Auchenflower at 7.00AM. Fran is hoping to arrange car pooling so please contact her (3851 0858) if you need (or can supply) transport. Even if you intend to make your own way there, please let Fran know that you are going so that the CCCG can organize lunch.

This group of early risers usually start work at 8.00 but will be starting at 8.30 on the day to accommodate we who will have to get up at sparrowfart. If you get lost, call Saraya Robinson on 0439 226 522.

As usual, a hat and something to share at morning tea are *de rigueur*.

And look ... if you have never been to the sanctuary, you may like to make a day of it.



Currumbin trip



WHEN	Saturday 17 May 2014
TIME	7am sharp
MEET	Scott's place 63 Markwell Street Auchenflower
HOW	Car pooling depending on how many MOTTley crew arrive
HOSTS	Currumbin Creek Care & GCCC Parks & Recreation Services Branch
RSVP	Fran 3851 0858
BRING	Togs, surfboards & usual stuff
WHERE TO	http://www.gccc.com.au/activities.aspx?page=295



OLD & NEW MEMBERS

At the last planting at Bunya Crossing, we were joined by several members of the Lions Club who intend to join in on future work at this site.

We welcome Clancy Morrison to our plantings and we welcome James Ramsay, a student at Kelvin Grove's Queensland Academy for Creative Industries.



James attacks nature's concrete at Park Regis



A baptism of mud!

Regretfully we farewell two of our planters: our archaeologist, Duncan Wright, has won a position at the ANU so is off to Canberra so we wish him well; and Geoff Esdale who wrote: "My sincere thanks for the absolutely joyous hours we have spent together and the wonderful planting projects we have been apart of".

From Thailand, Derek Atkinson wrote: "I was lucky enough to go skiing whilst here. I went to Yongpyong ski resort - it is where the 2018 Winter Olympics will be held. You could ski until 2:30am, as they had big floodlights on the slopes. I only lasted until 10pm though as it got too cold! There was one very nice long run, 5.7km's long, with some other good ones as well.

Yes, Louise and I are both working. Louise recently got a job as a Camp Coordinator for an English school. She is now their "creative consultant" and is charged with designing and running all their entertaining/educational camps. Some camps have up to 250 kids... I don't know how she manages!

I hope the hot weather hasn't left all MOTT's trees in want of water, but no doubt you are all doing a great job keeping things humming".

THE WEBSITE

The latest posting on the website gives more details of the The Queensland Conservation Council, Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and Keep Queensland Beautiful initiative – Plastic Bag Free March – with a link to their website and how you can be involved.

TWAHAMWE ON FILE FOR POSTERITY

We received an email from the State Library:

Over the past year you or your organisation have forwarded to the State Library of Queensland, copies of your publication/s in compliance with legal deposit obligations of the Libraries Act 1988 (Qld). This receipt is an acknowledgement for the publication/s deposited with the Library Board of Queensland in accordance with Part 8 of the Libraries Act 1988 (Qld).

Your publication has been added to the State Library's cat-

alogue and is available through our 'One Search' service. You can view the publication record via the State Library's home page www.slq.qld.gov.au. One Search provides the opportunity for tagging and reviewing of records to increase access and understanding of our collections. We would value your contribution to the record/s through these tagging and reviewing options.

By complying with legal deposit you ensure that your publication/s:

will survive for the use of future generations contributing to the ongoing preservation and enrichment of Queensland heritage;

receive wide exposure through the State Library's online catalogue and via Libraries Australia, the Australian national online catalogue which records over 42 million items held in most Australian libraries - <http://trove.nla.gov.au>.

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Availability and location:

Available: In storage. Request then collect from level 4 (S 634.9 002)

What this means is that Twahamwe is available at the State library so if anybody wants to see a copy for research or any other purpose. All issues, since 1982, are available.





Stadbroke Island trip



for our MOTT meeting

WHEN	Sunday 30 March 2014
TIME	8.00amish for 8.55am fast cat departure
WHERE	3 Emmett Dr Toondah Harbour Cleveland
COST	\$20 or \$9.50 concession (return)
HOSTS	Point Lookout Revegetation group Marion is organising our island pickup/walk to their nursery
LUNCH	bring money for an island style lunch
RSVP	Fran 3851 0858
BRING	Togs, surfboards & usual stuff

Our ongoing thanks to the people and businesses outside of MOTT that continue to support us and are a great help to us.



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"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they'll never sit in."

Greek Proverb

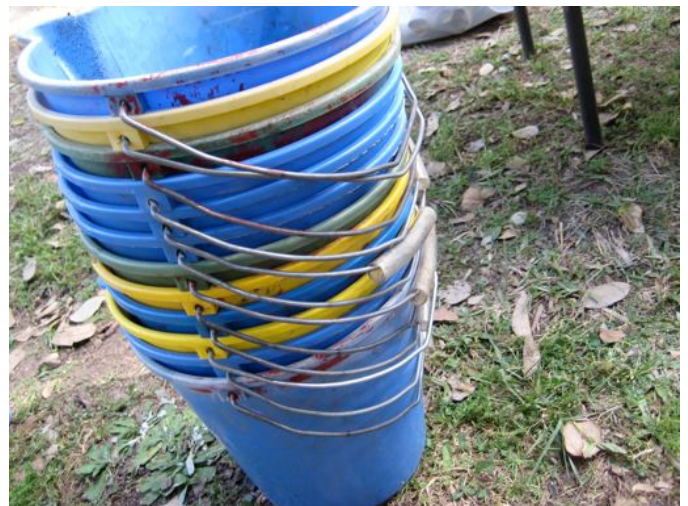
STACKING BUCKETS

There are ways and ways to stack the buckets we use for carting water, fertilizer and anything else for which we need them.

There's the wrong way ...



... and the better way:



Note that with the "better way" all the spouts align and the handles hang neatly together. This means that the buckets, in a stack, take up less room in the van and are easier to separate when you want to grab one.



The most up-to-date version of this schedule can be found on the **MOTT** website:

<http://www.menofthetrees.org.au>

Questions? Check with the coordinator, or with Fran 3851 0858

Date	Planting location	Coordinator
Saturday, March 1st	PATEN PARK Near Scout Den, Paten Park, The Gap PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206 Marion 336 1448
Sunday, March 2nd	SUNDAY - CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY COMMUNITY PLANTING AND PICNIC CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SOWN Planting from 10.00am, meet cnr Lilley Rd & Bardon Esp. Birthday Party from noon in Bowman Park (Simpsons Road side)	
Saturday, March 8th	YINGALLY DRIVE Part of Wightman Reserve, Arana Hills PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Wendy 0437 439 774
Saturday, March 15th	SAMFORD ECO CORRIDOR PLANTING Drive through Samford township to Samford Bowls Club on the left. Planting is in the Samford Parklands.behind the bowls club and tennis courts Planting will be well sign-posted. 8.30am start	Fran 3851 0858
Saturday, March 22nd	KEPERRA PICNIC GROUNDS (OLD NTD SITE) Cnr Samford Road & Upper Kedron Road Ferny Grove PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206

Saturday, March 29th	PARKVIEW DRIVE, THE GAP. PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206
Sunday, March 30th	SUNDAY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING North Stradbroke Island, all welcome (Details to be finalised)	Fran 3851 0858
Saturday, April 5th	PATEN PARK Near Scout Den, Paten Park, The Gap PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206
Saturday, April 12th	BUNYA RIVERSIDE (WONGAN CREEK) Bunya Crossing on South Pine River. UBD 107, Q20. Either drive to end of Dugandan Rd., then down track to Bunya Crossing. If working on Wongan Creek, drive through drawgate and picnic area and up Wongan Creek to planting site. Or near end of Dugandan Road, take Allen Rd on left, first right at Weston Drive, first right at Banks Court, park car, and walk down grassy easement to site on Wongan Creek. PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Wendy 0437 439 774
Saturday, April 19th Easter	EASTER A Saturday to spend with family and friends. Enjoy!	
Saturday, April 26th	BROSELEY ROAD, TOOWONG BCC owned spare allotment half-waydown road, on right-hand side PLANTING, MULCHING & MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
Saturday, May 3rd	ITHACA CREEK STATE SCHOOL Vehicular entrance behind school in Primrose Terrace PLANTING & WEEDING	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
Saturday, May 10th	YINGALLY DRIVE Part of Wightman Reserve, Arana Hills PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Wendy 0437 439 774
Saturday, May 17th	CONNECT TO YOUR CREEK. Currumbin Creek planting with Currumbin Creek Care Group and GCCC Parks and Recreation Services. Tarrabora Reserve, Currumbin, off Currumbin Creek Road near the Currumbin Valley Ecovillage along the Village Way. Meet at Scott's house, 63 Markwell Street, Auchenflower at 7.00AM	Saraya Robinson 0439 226 522. Fran 3851 0858
Saturday, May 24th	REGIS PARKLAND MANOR AGED CARE FACILITY 39 Lanita Rd, Ferny Grove PLANTING AND WEEDING	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
Saturday, May 31st	TO BE ANNOUNCED. (Good to have a spare day up our sleeves ... something unexpected is sure to happen).	



The Men of the Trees Inc.

Annual Subscription

For May 1st 2014-April 30th 2015

Individual.....	\$25
Concession	\$15
Family.....	\$45
Corporate.....	\$100

Please send a cheque or Money Order to
The Men of the Trees
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Clayfield Qld. 4011

If you are not renewing your membership kindly mark
the box and return the clip to the above address.



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Your valued support enables The Men of the Trees to continue the vital role of tree planting.

Jim MacDonald
Membership Secretary

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