



**MEN OF THE TREES**

**TWAHAMWE**



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

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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## **NATIONAL TREE DAY** (Marion Goward, Photos by Scott Maxwell)

The planting and the whole day went swimmingly (can't you tell I've just been watching the C'wealth Games). All of the work that our group put into the preparations really paid off - Scott's wonderful artwork, Kerry, Jean's and Gerry's strategic positioning of the large posters, Laser Revive's donation of copies through Fran, and everyone's distribution of them, Fran's essential work with communication, liaison and PR, Jean's North-West News article, Kerry and Jean's potting on to prepare strong sizeable plants, Fran's invitation once again to Apex, and the great burger sizzle they provided, Gerry's collection and maintenance of tools, hoses, buckets and bins, tables and chairs and driving them everywhere they needed to be in the ute, mechanical hole digging provided once again by our good friend, BCC's Darren Robertson (wasn't the ground hard!), Jim Dale's gathering together of all he would have needed to boil that billy for us once again.



On the day itself, our wonderful and enthusiastic team of friends from Dera Sacha Sauda who formed a core part of the action, Pat's and Erika's presence on the welcome table (who else could do it so well?) and Pat's effortless and articulate addressing of the (I'll have to say it), "crowd". Jim's so well organised billy tea area cordoned off and safely away from the group made itself felt in the matchless flavour of the tea (and coffee!) The water truck arranged for the day was invaluable, and no-one could have been more helpful than Russell in looking after it and seeing that our plants were given all the water they needed - all of it was used. Gerry's and Jim's bins, filled and

emptied so many times - how useful can you get? Expert photographers, Scott, Pat and Charles, no doubt, and as we can see, got some great pics. Oh, and Fran's Thank-you Certificates for children. And our Apex burger sizzlers - happy to get everything together and come earlier than intended, when the planting had gone so speedily. How carefully Kerry and Jean and Ish and Heather and Gillian followed after the initial work and tidied up the planting, replanting some, repositioning and re-covering roots exposed by hefty hosing or bucketing. Hey, who could ever forget the lively 90 year old gentleman who joined us on Saturday to help us move mulch and dig holes, and the neighbours who came over after the planting on Sunday to give their encouragement and approval? And these are only some of the things which I can think of right now - more are sure to come later. I think that the best way to express it might be to say, on behalf of all of us, thanks, everyone, from everyone!



I estimate that more than 120 hands were on deck to help MOTT and BCC in celebrating National Tree Day. Our Indian friends were rearing to go at 8.30, but we held them back from planting until 9.00, instead watering holes with help from Russell and the water truck. The planting, including watering and rewatering, was completed very quickly, with so many hands to do the job. However by that time, members of the community had not yet arrived in force, and when they did, we were overwhelmed with the attendance and the need to provide these enthusiastic volunteers with work they had come for. So to do this, and so as not to embarrass MOTT and BCC too much, as a group we make a quick decision - a decision to extend the planting further along the creek.





It was lucky that boxes of extra plants not used in the initial planting were still on site, so we quickly and as carefully as we could, placed out the plants in position, and planted another matching strip of plants on the left-hand side of the bridge, 1 metre in from the goat fence. This area is closely mown, which made it easier. The holes, of course, had to be dug, and the ground, being anything but soft, required much elbow grease to open up deeply enough for planting. As it worked out, everyone, I think, were able to plant some trees or understorey plants. All those I asked said they had planted some trees, and they all seemed to be enjoying themselves. The pot count at the end provided a total of 548 plants.

We have to thank the Brisbane City Council for their part in setting up the site and making the planting possible. Habitat Brisbane officers, Kate Flink and Cath Cleary were those who worked with us to advise and make the site available. And of course it was through a BCC Environmental grant of almost \$5,000, that we were able to hire a contractor to remove weed trees in the creek and prepare and mulch the site.



## KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL AWARD

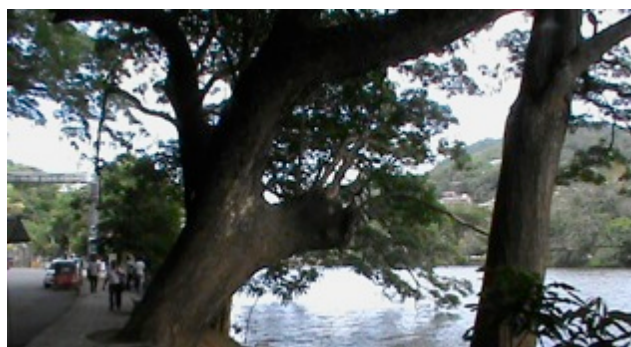
MOTT was nominated for this award by Enoggera Ward councillor, Andrew Wines, and the citation states that MOTT has been Highly Commended in the Environmental Innovation & Protection section of the award.

Pictured below are Fran Gilje and Gerry Dunford receiving the Keep Australia Beautiful Award for the Environment that was presented to MOTT by the Lord Mayor.



## SRI LANKA A GROWING TOURIST ECONOMY

Sri Lanka is a delight for any tree lover. From the tropical jungles through the mahogany forests to the pine plantations that live side by side with the tea plantations in the mountains, there is an amazing variety of trees – ebony, palm, jackfruit, satinwood, ironwood and teak. A walk through the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kandy reveals several mighty specimens as, indeed, do many parts of the city.



High in the mountains where 25% of the world's tea is grown, we stayed at a unique hotel, the Heritance Tea Factory. The hotel has won many awards and, like it's partner hotel, the Heritance Kandalama, which was designed by architect Geoffrey Bawa to sit snugly into the rocks and the jungle, and where monkeys greet you at your window each morning, it is designed to be environmentally friendly. They bottle their own water from a spring; they produce their own electricity and paper and anything that can be recycled is.

The Tea Factory has been built within the shell of a disused tea factory ... nothing has been changed outside but a first class hotel has been created within.



Now here's the part that should be of interest to MOTT. One of the citations on display at the Tea Factory reads:

Heritance Tea Factory

Green Apple Award 2011 for The Built Environment and Architectural Heritage International Winners

This was presented during a carbon-neutral presentation ceremony at The University of Westminster London

"A donation has been made on the winners' behalf to TREEMAD

Who plant 30,000 trees and help families to save their forests and livelihoods".

Let's make sure that Australian companies that want to be carbon neutral know that MOTT exists!

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## MEET THE PLANTERS

### Dera Sacha Sauda

Work commitments keep our Indian friends from regular Saturday morning visits to plantings, but whenever we have something on a Sunday, or a special event like National Tree Day they turn up in force - men, women and children. These are the members of DSS, Dera Sacha Sauda, a non-profit Social Welfare and Spiritual Organization, established in 1948, by the ascetic Mastana Balochistani, as a centre for spiritual learning.



Its main centre is situated in Sirsa, Haryana, in the northern region of India. Dera Sacha Sauda preaches humanitarianism by practicing selfless service to others. There are supposedly more than 50 million people around the world who are faithful followers of this organization. Dera's devotees learn to meditate and follow the principles laid down by Dera. The organisation has set a benchmark with several Guinness World Records in humanitarian, environmental and various other non-profit initiatives.

The name *Sacha Sauda* ("true deeds") refers to an incident in the life of Guru Nanak Dev. Some sources tell that when Nanak Dev was a young boy, his father gave him some money and instructed him to conduct a business operation in order to make a profit and learn business skills. Nanak Dev used the money to buy food to feed the poor, and explained to his father that in doing so he had done "true business". Thus the name came into being as

not just an identity but, a philosophy of true deeds that serve humanity.

Dera Sacha Sauda was established by Shah Mastana from Baluchistan, in 1948. He was popularly known among his devotees as His Holiness Beparawah Mastana Ji Maharaj. Dera Sacha Sauda and its founder Shah Mastana's endeavour was to bring a spiritual awakening among the masses and to uplift humanity, in order to create a better world.



With devotion and hard work, Maharaj Ji transmuted the barren land of Sirsa into a spiritual garden and imparted the glorious method of meditation to his followers. The slogan "Dhan Dhan Satguru Tera Hi Asra," which Dera's devotees chant at the Ashram, elucidates the kindness of God Almighty as our saviour. Guruji preached about following the path of truth, humanity, and hard work.

Dera Sacha Sauda's mission is:

To freely propagate true meditation throughout the world to attain inner self confidence and see God.

To educate people that God can be found only by true meditation learnt from a selfless true master and not with money.

To see the world as one, and believe in the same ONE God.

To promote love and tolerance amongst people of all religions, castes, colour and regions without any discrimination.

To promote adoption of drug and alcohol free, meat/egg/fish free diet and restore correct values and character.

To promote morality and convince people about the harms of immorality, promiscuity and high risk behaviour.

Another planter we have met is Ishara Udawela and we welcome her to our plantings.

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







## KNOW THINE ENEMY Singapore Daisy

Also known as Creeping-oxeye, Trailing Daisy, and Wedelia, it is a prostrate shrub that roots readily at nodes. A spreading, mat-forming perennial herb up to 30 cm in height, it has rounded stems up to 40cms long with the flowering stems ascending. Leaves are fleshy, hairy, 4–9 cm long and 2–5 cm wide, serrate or irregularly toothed, normally with pairs of lateral lobes, and dark green above and lighter green below; the flowers are bright yellow ray florets of about 8-13 per head.



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



## TREES WITH CHARACTER

Not every tree has a nickname, but 'The President' has earned it. This giant sequoia stands at 247 feet tall, and is estimated to be more than 3,200 years old. Imagine, this tree was already 1200 years old when Jesus walked the earth.



Because of its unbelievable size, this tree has never been photographed in its entirety. Until now. A team of *National Geographic* photographers have worked along with scientists to try and create the first photo that shows the president in all its glory.





## THE AGM

Please make note of the AGM – it will be held at Fran Gilje's (9 Lynwood Court Ferny Hills) on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 1.00. All are welcome, not only to attend, but to bring a plate.

Now, after last year's SRO event, don't be late because places are at a premium and as much as we hate doing it, we just may have to turn people away. We did toy with the idea of hiring a venue, such as the Lyric Theatre, but it wasn't available.

## MEET THE MATES

Our MOTT artist, Scott Maxwell, lives surrounded by trees and thus has some very special housemates.



When I asked if I could use this photo in the newsletter, Scott agreed on the condition that I include a photo of me from my recent visit to Spain ... so here it is:





June to August 2014

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, September 6th	<b>PATEN PARK</b> Near Scout Den, Paten Park, The Gap PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE This planting is registered with Bushcare's "Major Day Out"	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833 Kerry 3289 9206
Saturday, September 13th	<b>BUNYA RIVERSIDE (WONGAN CREEK)</b> Bunya Crossing on South Pine River. UBD 107, Q20. Either drive to end of Dugandan Rd., then down track to Bunya Crossing. 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 <b>AGM and MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING</b> 1.00pm, home of Fran Gilje, 9 Lynwood Court Ferny Hills	Wendy 0437 439 774  Fran: 3851 0858
Saturday, September 20th	<b>KERYN PLACE PARK (NTD SITE)</b> Mungarie St., off Settlement Rd., Keperra WATERING AND MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833

<b>Saturday, September 27th</b>	<b>CASSIMATY PARK (Behind Skateboard rink)</b> Samford Rd, Ferny Grove PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
<b>Saturday, October 4th</b>	<b>PARKVIEW DRIVE, THE GAP</b> PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206
<b>Saturday, October 11th</b>	<b>YINGALLY DRIVE</b> Part of Wightman Reserve, Arana Hills PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Wendy 0437 439 774
<b>Saturday, October 18th</b>	<b>TO BE ADVISED</b> (Check the website)	
<b>Saturday, October 25th</b>	<b>KERYN PLACE PARK (NTD SITE)</b> Mungarie St., off Settlement Rd., Keperra WATERING AND MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
<b>Saturday, November 1st</b>	<b>CASSIMATY PARK (Near railway crossing)</b> Samford Rd, Ferny Grove PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833 Kerry 3289 9206
<b>Saturday, November 8th</b>	<b>BUNYA RIVERSIDE (WONGAN CREEK)</b> Bunya Crossing on South Pine River. UBD 107, Q20. Either drive to end of Dugandan Rd., then down track to Bunya Crossing. 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
<b>Saturday, November 15th</b>	<b>REGIS PARKLAND MANOR</b> 39 Lanita Rd., Ferny Grove PLANTING, WEEDING & MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833
<b>Saturday, November 22nd</b>	<b>PARKVIEW DRIVE, THE GAP</b> PLANTING & MAINTENANCE	Kerry 3289 9206
<b>Saturday, November 29th</b>	<b>KERYN PLACE PARK (NTD SITE)</b> Mungarie St., off Settlement Rd., Keperra WATERING AND MAINTENANCE	Marion 3366 1448 0413 483 833



**The Tule Tree, listed as one of the ten greatest trees in the world.**



The Men of the Trees Inc.

## Annual Subscription

For May 1st 2014-April 30th 2015

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Corporate.....	\$100

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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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