



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 Barbe Baker O.B.E.

TWAHAMWE IS SWAHILI FOR ALL TOGETHER OR PULL TOGETHER
 TELEPHONE No (07) 3263 5713 PO Box 283 CLAYFIELD QLD 4011 www.menofthetrees.org.au

Volume XXIII

Number 3

August Edition
 2002

ANNUAL REPORT

The year in passing was a mixed one for MOTT. The early part of the year saw us wrapping up the Bowen Bridge Heritage Trail project much to the delight of Scott Maxwell and myself. Despite the hiccups in getting the project off the ground, subsequent feedback from various the Centenary of Federation committee members suggested that we were one of only a few of the community group projects to come up with the goods and acquit our grant on time. The official opening of the trail by the Premier, Peter Beattie in August was also considered to be a PR coup that was not missed by organising committee.

Since this time Brisbane City Council has erected the footbridge, and the public has used the area extensively.

The year also saw us awarded an International Year of the Volunteer medallion for service to the community on a recommendation from the Ashgrove Ward office of Jim Fouras. Unfortunately we were not advised of our success or the timing of the presentation ceremony so no members were present when our name was called out except for a very surprised John Stalley who was there for another reason and ended up coming home with the gong.

MOTT was also successful in obtaining a grant from the Gaming Commission of \$7,500 for the provision of office furniture and equipment. We are now the proud owners of our own computer, telephone/fax and photocopier, which should make our communication efforts a lot easier. We were also successful in obtaining an environmental grant for administrative purposes from Brisbane City Council to support our continuing efforts at Paten Park, Gubberly Creek (at Kenmore) and Kedron Brook.

The Paten Park project is now all but finished with the decision of Council to spray the persistent weeds that have dogged the plantings for all of these years.

On a less inspiring note, I feel that we have dropped off the pace somewhat with the planning and development of new projects following our successes during previous years, and I am keen to explore ways to refocus on our vision as a tree planting group. The bottom line here is the recruitment and retention of active members, with greenfield projects to implement.

The year also saw the name changing debate firm into a desire by the management committee to choose a name that would both remove the perceived sexist connotation of our current name, but still not isolate us from those chapters of MOTT in the other states. Members made a number of suggestions, but the preferred alternative was *Trees for Life* as adopted by the SA chapter of MOTT. Unfortunately this business name has already been registered in Queensland by a tree lopping company, and we have yet to come up with a proposal that we might put to the registered proprietor that might form the basis for a partnership that might allow us to share the name.

In keeping with this wish to evolve through a new image. I have recently begun to engage in a dialogue with the other state associations of MOTT with a view to forming a national body tentatively called *Trees Australia*. At this stage we are not committed to joining such a body with the attendant drain on our resources, but the potential exists

in this move to come up with a national profile that would help us considerably with recognition and future grant funding. Watch this space!

In all a mixed year, but one which I think was very good for MOTT in terms of recognition, but at the same time one on which I think we can improve as a tree planting group.

I would here like to express my personal appreciation and thanks to all of our members that have contributed in various ways to our efforts over the past twelve months.

Jim Dale
President

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-first Annual General Meeting of the Men of the Trees will be held on Sunday 25 August 2002 at the Scout Hall in Paten Park, The Gap at 2.00 pm.

Every ordinary member, life member or honorary member present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote. No members shall be entitled to vote unless all subscriptions presently payable to the Association have been paid. A member entitled to vote at a meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy and such person need not be a member of the Association. A proxy form accompanies this notice.

Business:

1. To receive the report of the Management Committee, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet for the year ending 30 June 2001.
2. To receive the Auditor's report on the books and accounts for the same period.
3. To elect Office Bearers and other members of the Management Committee for the ensuing year.
4. To appoint the Auditor.

The Men Of The Trees Inc

PROXY FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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 Sunday 25 August 2002 and any adjournment thereof.

Signed this day of

Member: Witness

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 election of

(Insert President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Management Committee)

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

Signature of nominating member

I, hereby consent to the above nomination for the

position of

(insert position)

Signature of nominated member / /2002

The signed nomination form shall be lodged with the Secretary at least twenty-one (21) days before the Annual General Meeting.

MEN OF THE TREES ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Date	Start/ finish	Location	Activity	Contact
July				
6	9am	Gubberley Creek, Gubberley Street, Kenmore	Weed, plant, mulch	Kerry 32899206
13	9am	Brookfield, Gold Creek Road, Map 136 in UBD	Rainforest walk at Marjorie Welch's followed by neighbourhood walk	Fran 38510858
20	8-10am	Kedron Brook, Swinburne & Kate Streets, Lutwyche	Continuation of previous plantings	Don Hopkins 38577757
27	9am	Bunya, Kingfisher Street, Stanton Reserve, Albany Creek	Planting and mulch	Kerry 32899206 Nathan or Jan 33251577
Aug				
3	9am	Gold Scrub, Gold Scrub	Weeding to assist natural	Donna Bowe 32173065 Carole 34251527

		Road, Dayboro	regeneration	
10	9am	Paten Creek, 57 Paten Road, The Gap	Maintenance	Peter 38483521 Hugh 33785340
17	9am	Free spot		Ring Fran 38510858 if you have a project
24	9am	Ithaca Creek, SITE 1 Bowman Parade, Bardon	Planting and maintenance	Marion 33661448
31	9am	Anglican Church, 1036 Moggill Road, Kenmore	Maintenance and planting	Kerry 32899206 Fran 38510858
Sept				
7	9am	Gubberley Creek, Gubberley Street, Kenmore	Weed, plant, mulch	Kerry 32899206
14	9am	Paten Creek, 57 Paten Road, The Gap	Maintenance and planting	Peter 38483521 Hugh 33785340
21	9am	Cedar Creek, Tramway Street, Ferny Grove	Planting and mulch with Cedar Creek bushcare group	Andrew 38510118 Tristan 33511930
28	9am	Gold Scrub, Gold Scrub Road, Dayboro	Weeding to assist natural regeneration	Donna Bowe 32173065 Carole 34251527
Oct				
5	9am	Ithaca Creek, Site 1 Bowman Parade, Bardon	Planting and maintenance	Marion 33661448
12	9am	Paten Creek, 57 Paten Road, The Gap	Maintenance	Peter 38483521 Hugh 33785340
19	9am	Boonah	Outing - bring a picnic lunch to	Bev and John Briggs 33002058

			enjoy at Moogerah	
26	9am	Gubberley Creek, Gubberley Street, Kenmore	Weed, plant, mulch	Kerry 32899206
Nov				
2	9am	Anglican Church, 1036 Moggill Road, Kenmore	Weeding	Kerry 32899206 Fran 38510858
9	9am	Ithaca Creek, Bowman Parade SITE 3, Bardon	Planting and maintenance	Marion 33661448
16		Free Spot		
23	9am	Cedar Creek, Tramway Street, Ferny Grove	Planting and mulching with the Cedar Creek bushcare group	Andrew 38510118 Tristan 33511930
30	9am	Gold's Scrub, Gold Scrub Road, Dayboro	Weeding to assist natural regeneration	Donna Bowe 32173065 Carole 34251527
Dec				
7	9am	Gubberley Creek, Gubberley Street, Kenmore	Weed, plant, mulch	Kerry 32899206
14	9am	Paten Creek	Maintenance	Peter 38483521 Hugh 33785340
21			Holidays	
28		MERRY CHRISTMAS	Holidays	

Vale Jenny Perrott

In October 1981 Jenny Perrott joined the Men of the Trees. Her skills were soon apparent and shared generously with the organisation. Jenny was a tree lover and planter. She could be seen at many of the planting projects of those early days. She attended and helped organise open days and field days. She served on the management committee and brought order into the chaos of the membership records. During her time in this role our

membership reached 400. Perhaps her most memorable role was in establishing a successful Telephone Tree. Ten members were the 'branches' who contacted a number of other members inviting them to attend a forthcoming planting or function. Jenny personally welcomed each new member to the Men of the Trees with a friendly telephone call.

Ill health prevented Jenny from active participation in MOTT during the last 8 years of her life. She maintained her family membership visiting the occasional event such as the Opening of the Heritage Track in 2001. Sadly Jenny died in June this year. It was a privilege to have shared some of her journey through life.

SWEET MUSIC

John Simmers, a Brisbane based violin maker contacted Brian Cooney, a Botanic Officer with the Brisbane Botanic Gardens with an unusual request: '*do you have a Caesalpinia echinata in your collections?*'

'As a matter of fact we don't' was Brian's prompt reply, 'why do you ask?'

John Simmers is part of an international organisation of violin bow makers who are uniting to promote the conservation and sustainable use of '*Pernambuco*', the *Caesalpinia echinata* in its native South America.

To answer Brian's question, John replied '*C. echinata* was imported into Europe as a dye until about 1850 when it was also first used for bow making. The Tourte brothers were among the first to appreciate the exceptional qualities of this wood. Previously, various other tropical woods were used for violin bows. All of them having a remarkable density and hardness, they were mostly known as 'Iron Wood'.

Within a short time, *C. echinata* replaced all these other woods because the sound qualities it produced were much favoured by musicians and also its physical qualities make it an ideal material for crafting cambered bow sticks.

One hundred and fifty years after it was first introduced, no comparable substitute for '*Pernambuco*' is known to bow makers or musicians the world over. Its combination of rigidity, flexibility, density, beauty and ability to hold a fixed curve are properties that make *C. echinata* a unique material for bow making.

Due to the progressive conversion of land to farming and to urban development the trees now cover a mere 5-10% of its original area in pre-Columbian times. The Confederation of Craftsmen and Users of Natural Resources have organised a conference in Brazil on the conservation of this tree. Funds will be made available for the preservation of one hundred thousand of these unique trees.

Caesalpinia echinata is a slow-growing, medium sized tree of the *Leguminosae* family. While the sapwood predominates in young trees, the yellow or red brown heartwood, i.e. the part suitable for bow making, only becomes dominant in 20 years.

The Brisbane Botanic Gardens will endeavour to obtain seeds of *C. echinata* through the Botanic Gardens International Seed Exchange Program to establish this tree in their collections.

By the way, John Simmers told Brian Cooney that most of his year is engaged in the repair of violins but each year he indulges his passion in the complete construction of two – three violins.

RD McKinnon AM

CURATOR BRISBANE BOTANIC GARDENS

APOLOGY

The article that I wrote called *No More Unnecessary Filler*, which appeared in the last issue of Twahamwe, was intended to be a joke but it was interpreted by some readers as a warning or threat. Obviously I did not make it clear enough that it was a joke and I regret that I may have offended some people. Therefore I would to apologise to readers and encourage them to submit any material they would like published.

Tristan Peach

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY

A reminder to all members. MOTT has tax deductibility status for donations greater than \$2.00

The cheque for such donations should be made out to:

The Men of the Trees (Queensland) Public Environment Gift Fund

An official receipt will be issued for donations.

Note that MOTT is unable to check the accuracy of all articles contributed to the newsletter. They are accepted in good faith and are printed for the information of MOTT members, but do not necessarily represent the views of MOTT Queensland or its committee.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEN OF THE TREES Inc PO BOX 283 CLAYFIELD QLD 4011

Name:

Address:

Telephone (home): (work):

How would you like to participate?

(Please tick square)

Tree planting and maintenance

Helping on stalls, shows, etc

Public speaking

Help organise activities

Propagate trees

Drive helpers to plantings

Financial support only

Technical advice

Newsletter

Other (attach)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are due on May 1 each year.

The subscription fees are:

FAMILY OR CORPORATE \$30

SINGLE \$20

STUDENT \$12

Please select the appropriate remittance from below:

JOINING	SINGLE	FAMILY OR	STUDENT;
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MONTH	MEMBER	CORPORATE	PENSIONER
MAY-AUG	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$12.00
SEP-DEC	\$12.00	\$20.00	\$8.00
JAN-APR	\$8.00	\$10.00	\$4.00

Plus \$5 Joining Fee

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