



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

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ANNUAL REPORT 2003/2004

Another year gone and another 3000 or so trees into the ground-the work of MOTT goes on.

On the State scene, things changed substantially during the year with the way in which Commonwealth funding is administered. The setting up of regional bodies now sees community and local Government based committees driving the process of planning prioritisation and funding allocation, completely bypassing the State Government in the process. This is certainly the brave new world as far as increasing community involvement is concerned, and we have yet to see how this change will impact with State Government planning initiatives in the areas of tree clearing and water allocation-hopefully it will mean more grant money availability for on ground implementation works for groups such as MOTT.

The year in passing was again characterised by a consistent application to a number of projects most notably Gubberley Creek behind the Anglican Church at Kenmore, Dennis Rouse's property at Dayboro, South Pine River (in association with the Pine Rivers Catchment Association), Bardon Girl Guides Hut, Taringa Parade and Golds Scrub.

In response to concerns that had been raised at Gubberley Creek about planting trees "in" watercourses, a presentation was organised to present the science and some of the facts about vegetation and watercourse development. The seminar was combined with dinner for the evening, was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Recently the committee decided that it was about time that MOTT members developed some corporate identity, and instituted a project to obtain uniform T-shirts with an appropriate logo. The T-shirts that we eventually chose look quite smart and were a great success in so far that they stimulated interest within the

existing membership, and resulted in enquiries from potential new members. MOTT owns the logo which was kindly designed for us by Stephen Rhodes, so the pattern can be used for any additional orders. To celebrate the arrival of the T-shirts, a social function was organised to capture the members in their finery and orchestrate some publicity. Watch this space!

Next year on 14 November it will be 25 years since MOTT began in Queensland and we are planning a reunion to celebrate. During the next twelve months we will be looking to make contact with past and not so past members with a view to collecting photographs and other memorabilia for a trip down memory lane. When the organising committee calls, please assist us to make the day one to remember!

During the year, we purchased a small pump, hose and fittings to better enable us to water newly planted trees, and paid nearly three times that amount for continuing public risk liability insurance. This administrative overhead that attaches to our incorporated status is a source of ongoing debate and deliberation for the management committee, as it is the single most expensive item that MOTT has to fund each year.

I would like to assure all members however that they are all covered for personal accident or injury when they are working on MOTT activities.

Membership currently stands at around 70 with about 15 actively planting trees on a regular basis, with a further 5 or 6 contributing to the organisation and administration of the group.

Again I would like to thank all those members whose efforts over the past twelve months have seen MOTT continue to do what it does best-that is put trees into the ground.

Jim Dale, President



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 23rd Annual General meeting of the Men of the Trees will be held on
Saturday 21 August 2004 at 1.30pm
The venue is Kumbartcho Sanctuary (Bunya Park) off Drapers Crossing Road.
There will be a barbecue commencing at 12 noon.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the twenty-third Annual General Meeting of the Men of the Trees will be held on Saturday 21 August 2004 at Kumbartcho Sanctuary (Bunya Park) off Drapers Crossing Road at 12.00pm.

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 2004.
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 Saturday 21 August 2004 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 _____ / /2004

The signed nomination form shall be lodged with the Secretary PO Box 283 Clayfield Qld 4011 and at least twenty-one (21) days before the Annual General Meeting.

MORE REPORTS FROM THE SATURDAY PLANTING GROUP

ITHACA CREEK

MOTT's Ithaca Creek commitment consists of Sites 1, 2 and 3. Site 1 comprises 4 sections and Site 3 comprises 2 sub-sites.

SITE 1 Creek bank from Bowman Parade culvert to midway along townhouse frontage.

Section 1 Oldest planting, approximately 8 years old. Largely completed, trees advanced. Comparatively recent felling of central Jacarandas and Poincianas leaves a further small area among sawn trunks. This will need good mulching before planting as the soil is porous and poor. The bank was built up with fill when the second bowling green was added many years ago. The canopy of this section is fairly well closed. Grasses and some weeds persist, providing habitat, but more under story planting is required. Mile-a-minute is the most troublesome weed.

Section 2. Adjoins Section 1 on townhouse side of creek. About 6 years old. Trees advanced, the area regarded as completed.

Section 3. Adjoins Section 2. Widely spaced planting of trees between old Waterhouseas. This area is mown by the townhouse residents. Though planted soon after Section 2, trees are still relatively small due to heavier shade.

Section 4. Adjoins Section 3, in open sunlight. Very small area planted with mixed species and lomandra to help provide protection for a large deep pool beloved of ducks and other wildlife. Glycine needs control from time to time.

SITE 2. Creek bank near Bardon Guide hut, Cecil Road.

This project has been to rescue the ceremonial circle of hoop pine planted on the slopes of the creek by original Bardon guides during the Golden Jubilee celebrations in 1982. Called the Jubilee Circle, with the coming and going of guiding personnel over the years, the trees had become lost in the bush and weeds and forgotten. The MOTT planting group decided to restore access to the Circle and picnic table placed there by the Council. The area was to be tidied and planted with appropriate trees and under story species surrounding it. After weeding, the Circle itself and a short track leading to it were heavily mulched. Both Circle and track were outlined with logs. Four plantings to date have resulted in good growth.

As a point of interest, the guiding district was in recess when we began the project. However the New Year has brought an enthusiastic new District Leader, Sue Viney, who has initiated a Gum nut Brownie Unit and a Brownie Unit. Sue hopes to have a Guide Unit up and running by July and Rangers by the end of the year. The children are fresh and keen and delighted with their quaint hut (cleared of graffiti and painted), picturesque creek (with the guide activities area cleared and mown by MOTT) and their secret circle of hoop pines.

MOTT was invited to talk to the Brownies about our work and how they could maintain the area. We now have a crew of small Madeira vine zappers and lomandras growing on fifteen widow sills until ready for planting.

We have been informed that when uniforms arrive and the girls have passed their tests and are ready to make their promise, the ceremonies will be held in the Jubilee Circle. It is ready for use and enjoyment by the group.

SITE 3. Two sub sites on the creek bank at Bardon Esplanade.

Council gave permission for the planting up of these two bared areas between the track and the creek for the protection of large deep pools. The two small sites are separated from each other by 100 metres of old Waterhousea. This species has been our major choice, grown from seed collected from surrounding trees. The planting consisted of mixed trees and under story species local to the area. The sites were originally well mulched. Maintenance consists of periodical working over and control of vine infestation from the creek side. Because of the ideal positions of the plantings the tree growth has been quite substantial.

Marion Goward. April 2004

GUBBERLEY CREEK – KENMORE

Recent rains and a hot summer have precipitated amazing growth at our Gubberley Creek planting sites, both at the Anglican Church and further downstream at our second site which is also situated on private church land.

Gubberley Creek has a small Council supported Bushcare group maintaining the public land between the Kenmore school and Marshall Lane. Men of the Trees are working on the two areas of private land owned by the churches. It's enough to make us feel quite saintly!

While having the fair share of a wide range of weeds Gubberley Creek is dominated by Madeira vine, Chinese elm and Ochna, with elephant grass proving to be quite a challenge in certain areas. Elephant grass with its clumping root system is very difficult to dig out and easily reshoots after poisoning. Ongoing efforts are necessary. Chinese elms are rampant along the creek with some very large specimens to deal with, as is, to a lesser extent camphor laurel. We have been drilling holes around the base of these trees with an electric drill and filling the holes with straight glyphosate. This usually kills the smaller ones outright, with the larger ones often needing a second dose to finish them off. A certain member of our group has found his niche in life, as Makita drill in hand he is unleashed on the hapless elms. It is very satisfactory to be able to kill off these prolific invaders that produce so many young ones up and down the creek.

Ochna is another persistent weed – a very tough rooted bush, it is hard to pull out and very often reshoots after poisoning. A strong mattock and some hard yakka are sometimes the only way. With persistent effort and large doses of conversation, laughter and enthusiasm, not to mention a hearty morning tea, these weeds are slowly being brought under control. Gubberley Creek, not long ago a riotous mass of environmental weed known to man is steadily being restored to a more original state as the new plants emerge from the cleared areas.

Kerry Walker. April 2004

ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY 2004

Thanks to our wonderful organiser/coordinator, Fran Gilje, MOTT enjoyed a really fun-filled and educational time during the month of January 2004. We were treated to three outings, the first of these being the trip to Toowoomba on 3 January. Apart from discovering beautiful gardens of infinite variety, including the Ju Raka En Japanese Gardens, we relaxed on a bus tour of the CBD, featuring Old Heritage buildings. We were transported back into our nation's past, at the Cobb and Co. Museum. Highlights included the natural environment of the Great Dividing Range.

Next came Mount Cotton Rainforest Garden on 10 January. This exceptional venue caters for a variety of social functions including weddings and boasts several theme gardens and wonderful views.

Last, but not least, we were very efficiently and warmly educated at the Petrie Paper Mill, Amcor. Our guided tour allowed us to inspect the Paper Mill grounds, including areas designated for birds, koalas, bees and rainforest. We received interesting information both on their methods of reforestation and water treatment as well as lots of hand-out material on the local wildlife. Other highlights of the day were the educational environmental centre, Osprey House at Griffin and the Abbey Museum at Caboolture.

Erika Jakeman.

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 MONTH	SINGLE MEMBER	FAMILY OR CORPORATE	STUDENT;/ 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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