



## 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

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### FROM THE MOTT PRESIDENT

With Christmas in the air, what greater time to celebrate the fact that we have begun to turn the corner. The management committee has had a facelift with the addition of Andrew Burrows, Jan Mealy, Peta Nagle, Stephen Perry and Hugh Preston. Welcome all.

Many thanks to the whole planting team for keeping our group active despite the drought. Where some other groups have had to pull up stakes, the MOTT gang has continued to thrive under the leadership of our hard working, determined coordinators Kerry Walker and Marion Goward.

A number of student volunteers from China, Thailand, Japan, India and Australia have come to us in spurts and starts. This always adds a new dimension to our plantings which we find rather refreshing. In addition to this, we have had several members join MOTT in the past few months. Kelly Harris, Ben Bentson, Jessica Jakeman, John Chirio and family, Steve Perry and Donna Ellis. We look forward to working with all of you.

Do check our website, [www.menofthetrees.org.au](http://www.menofthetrees.org.au) from time to time to keep in touch with what we are doing and be sure to join us when you can.

Best wishes to all

Fran

### NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

The Men of the Trees in UK, now known as the International Tree Foundation, has funded eleven more overseas projects. From Bangladesh to Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Solomon Islands to Uganda to name a few.

The projects are diverse, aimed at education, shelter, reforestation, income generation, raising of seedlings, agroforestry.

**BANGLADESH** is focusing on shelter, planting wood for timber and to prevent deforestation of the natural forest, fruit trees for economic value and herbal trees to obtain herbal medicines.

**CAMEROON** is reforesting the Kitwum watershed to improve water quality and quantity. Beekeeping activities will also benefit.

In **GHANA** there is a project to reforest the Onyaabonsuadze conservation Area and to establish woodlots as alternative sources of renewable energy and for income generation.

**INDIA** has several Trusts and Centres for Rural Education embracing schools and education of children.

In **INDONESIA** there is a Mangrove Action Project and reforestation of bamboo for erosion control on riverbanks.

**KENYA** has the Aberdare Development Organization which is a continuation of a previous project to raise seedlings in nurseries and plant out in villages to reverse deforestation and reduce soil erosion.

**MALAWI** has the Kaning'ina Youth club which plants uncultivated, grass covered hillsides with indigenous trees to prevent soil erosion, improve water retention and educate young people.

In **RWANDA** there is a Rural Development Inter-Diocesan Service establishing 12 tree nurseries, the seedlings from which will when planted out will provide the usual benefits plus fight against malnutrition and increase families' incomes.

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** are planting trees in Makira Forest to combat destruction and degradation brought about by logging.

**UGANDA** has the Yivu Abea Youth Agro-forestry Programme embracing 4 local communities with the expected outcomes from tree planting and also improving nutrition and increasing income levels.

With the International Tree Foundation's support of the Tsunami campaign by Naucrates for the restoration of mangrove forests on Phra Tong Island, **SOUTH THAILAND** is achieving its goals.

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## 'GOINGS-ON' AT "UPPER" GUBBERLEY CREEK

I use the word "Upper" unofficially, to distinguish between the projects at the upper end and those in Lower Gubberley Creek. Incidentally, does anyone know exactly where Gubberley Creek starts and flows before it appears at the Eastern side of the Kenmore Primary School Oval? I'd love to know. This very dry year there has been a small flow in the creek continuing to come from somewhere – except for a few weeks just before the last rain, after which it briefly "ran a bumper" and is again still trickling along.

There has been an amazing transformation along Upper Gubberley on the Kenmore Anglican Church property when Church working bees commenced the daunting task of eradicating huge mid-canopy tangles of Madeira Vine and Glycine (as well as practically every other "nasty" on the weed list) which were chocking the creek bank on their site. The Gubberley Creek Bushcare Group has already made a start on a portion of the Church land in previous years with wonderful results, but needed to concentrate on adjacent sites, however their efforts spurred the new group on. Then in the midst of our despair, along came "The Men of the Trees" with offers of help.

In early 2000 MOTT started clearing, planting and maintaining in stages, with help from Church members with follow-up watering and weeding. Since that time it is estimated that over 4,000 wildlife-friendly native plants (supplied by the Greening Australia Nursery) have been planted along the creek and these are now a joy to behold. Another recent addition to these plants came from a newly-married couple who wished to celebrate their marriage by planting (with the help of MOTT) 100 trees on the Church grounds as their contribution to counteract global warning. We were able to establish these with a load of mulch and recycled water (into a newly installed

rainwater tank on the Church grounds) and the plants are (nearly) all looking great.

A few months ago, a partnership with the Kenmore Anglican Church Bushcarers, MOTT and the Western Suburbs branch of the Richmond Birdwing Recovery Network Inc (RBRN), saw approximately 70 Richmond Birdwing Butterfly food vines *Pararistolochia praevenosa* planted on the Church grounds and also further down the creek on land owned by the Kenmore Uniting Church. The plants were donated by the RBRN (Western Suburbs Branch). They have been lovingly tended by the Anglican Group, who may sometimes be seen along the creek with a three litre container of grey water in each hand. The vines are surviving (and a few actually growing) with the exception of seven plants due to the dry and visits from the resident turkeys. (The latter seem to have been thwarted since we piled rocks and other debris around the plants' bases.)

The Brisbane Diocese of the Anglican Church has established a group called "Angli-Green" to encourage all their parishes to "think green" and contribute to measures to counteract Global Warming and degradation of habitat. An audit has been sent to parishes to encourage people to check their own actions and attitudes and endeavour to create more environmentally-friendly parish centres.

Isn't it amazing how sometimes there needs to be a crises to really get us going?

Best wishes to all the catchment teams.

Anne Stone  
(Kenmore Anglican Church Bushcarers)

*Extract from Catchments Cooee – newsletter of  
Cubbera Witton Catchments Network Aug/Sep '07*



## THE WEDDING PLANTING

After five years of togetherness, two young people Ben and Kelly (nee Harris) Bentson, decided they would get married. Being a couple of environmentally aware and concerned people, they felt this special occasion in their lives would be an ideal opportunity for them to make a small contribution to the wellbeing of their nearby environment.

They contacted MOTT and asked us how they might be able to do this. We arranged for them and a few of their friends to join one of our Saturday mornings plantings at our Anglican Church site at Kenmore.

Ben and Kelly donated the cost of the trees we planted, and with friends helped in a vigorous morning of activity, getting them into the ground during a very dry period.

At a time when people are obviously very involved with their own personal concerns and happiness and rightly so, it was very thoughtful of these young people to look for an opportunity to help their environment; and heartening for us to be able to provide the means to do it.

The Anglican Church raised enough funding to buy a large rainwater tank which provided the much needed water for the planting. This tank is good news as it enables us to continue with the work there during dry times.

Thank you to Ben and Kelly for your efforts, and may you have a long and happy marriage.

## Men of the Trees Schedule – December 2007 – April 2008

Check with Fran (3851 0858) for possible changes Except for Gold's Scrub (8:30am) we normally work from 9am -12:30pm.  
*Let's ALL try to bring water to every planting -.whatever you can handle. .Many Thanks*

Date	Location	Contact
<b>DEC</b> 1 <sup>st</sup>	8am breakfast at Wahminda Park then Bardon Esplanade, Bardon	Marion 3366 1448
8 <sup>th</sup>	Gubberley Creek, Gubberley St. Kenmore	Kerry 3289 9206
15 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Spirit Anglican Church, 1036 Mogill Rd, Kenmore	Kerry 3289 9206
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Indooroopilly. Brookside, City , Chermside, etc.	Christmas Shopping
<b>JAN</b> 5 <sup>th</sup>	Meet at Miala Nat. Park, Mt. Glorious at 9:30 am for rainforest walk Art galleries etc lunch at cozy restaurant	Kerry-3289 9206 Fran – 3851 0858
12 <sup>th</sup>	Duck Pond –Bardon Esplanade, Bardon	Marion -3366 1448
19 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Spirit Anglican Church, 1036 Moggil Rd., Kenmore	Kerry-3289 9206 Anne - 3378 4115
26 <sup>th</sup>	Gold's Scrub, Gold's Scrub Rd. Near Dayboro/Samsonvale	Angie- 3904412 Carole- 3371453
<b>FEB</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Duck Pond –Bardon Esplanade, Bardon	Marion- 3366 1448
9 <sup>th</sup>	Extension of Bardon Girl Guide Area, Coolibah St,creek side, Bardon	Marion- 3366 1448
16 <sup>th</sup>	Cedar Creek behind police station –Tramway St. Ferny Grove PLANTING- Habitat Brisbane to provide water & plants	Fleur- 0417 649 980 Kerry 3289 9206 Fran 3851 0858
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Cabbage Tree Creek off Yingally Dr. Ferny Hills (Wightman Reserve near children's playground)	Adam/Sonya 34806745 Fran 3851 0858
<b>MAR</b> 1 <sup>st</sup>	A day at Mt. Sylvia with Jim and June MacDonald	Fran – 3851 0858 Jim – 5462 6294
8 <sup>th</sup>	Across the street from 207 Taringa Pde., Taringa	Pam -3870 0950 Kerry – 3289 9206
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> 8am	Bne Botanic Gardens Mt.Coot-tha BIRDS IN THE GARDEN. Helen Horton	Fran- 3851 0858 BBG. 3403 2535
15 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Spirit Anglican Church, 1036 Moggil Rd, Kenmore	Kerry-3289 9206 Anne - 3378 4115
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Gold's Scrub, Gold's Scrub Rd. Near Dayboro/Samsonvale	Angie- 3902 4412 Carole- 3379 1453
29 <sup>th</sup>	Cedar Creek –behind police station –Tramway St. Ferny Grove - Maintenance	Fleur- 0417 649 980 Kerry 3289 9206. Fran 3851 0858
<b>APRIL</b> 5 <sup>th</sup>	Dick Cribb Sight #2, 77 Wooley St., Taringa	Dick -3371 3185 Marion - 33661448

### MOTT NATIONAL TREE DAY

On the banks of fair Ithaca Creek on National Tree Day, Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>, a mob of well-intentioned souls gathered to the fray at the creek guide hut site in Bardon, to leave their footprint on the earth in the form of 420 native trees and plants. Combined with the efforts of Planet Ark, we were able to persuade twenty-seven people in all to honour our environment by coming out on this beautiful day, beside a beautiful creek (which even had some water in it), and doing what the Saturday morning group does best – planting and weeding. Not to mention all those lovely carbon credits they earned.

This site at Ithaca creek is a lovely spot started by Marion Goward with the intention of planting and beautifying what had been her stomping ground as a girl guide growing up in Bardon.

After that small beginning we just couldn't help ourselves and the planting has progressed further and further along the creek (following the weeds of course); and so slowly a lovely section of healthy, riparian rainforest is being established, and with it habitat and food for native wildlife.

It was a great incentive to discover after we had been working there for a while, that a local resident a bit further downstream is also doing the same bush regeneration work, and there is not far to go (albeit rough terrain) before we meet in the middle. Cause for celebration and some cork popping (tea drinking) perhaps.

Then it will be time to start on the other side!

Everyone enjoyed morning tea on the old picnic table still there from guiding days long ago, and National Tree day was pronounced a resounding success. Thanks to Planet Ark for finding bodies and thanks to the bodies that came and made it all such fun.

**MOTT Management Committee members elected at the 2007 AGM**

<b>President:</b>	Fran Gilje	3851 0858
<b>Vice President:</b>	Peta Nagel	0413 714 416
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Keith Fordyce	3356 9293
<b>Secretary:</b>	Kerry Walker	3289 9206
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Hugh Preston	3378 5340
	Marion Goward	33661448
	Erika Jakeman	3351 1809
	Miriam Elkin	3366 1448
	Gerry Dunford	3300 1615
	Jan Mealy	3277 0689

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