



**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**

TELEPHONE (07) 3851 0858

PO Box 283 CLAYFIELD QLD 4011

[www.menofthetrees.org.au](http://www.menofthetrees.org.au)

Volume XXXV

Number 4

December 2014

## THIS MUST NOT BE THE END OF MOTT!

You will notice that there is no planting schedule as part of this newsletter. The reason is that it is a bit difficult for the management committee to plan ahead when there is a cloud hanging over MOTT's very future here in Brisbane.

MOTT set up, and used to run, a plant nursery at Paten Park, The Gap. In 1997, the nursery was handed over to Greening Australia with the agreement that MOTT would be supplied with 5,000 plants per year and it is this ongoing relationship that has supplied MOTT with planting stock for the past 17 years.

Greening Australia has changed course and is now focusing on large-scale landscape restoration Australia-wide and as a consequence of this it concluded its operation of the Paten Park nursery on November 21<sup>st</sup> and will be handing it back to the Brisbane City Council on November 28<sup>th</sup>.



Volunteers who have been working at the nursery say "Goodbye" on Friday 21<sup>st</sup>.

This, as you can imagine is an enormous loss for MOTT but its loss to the community is immense. It is a well-oiled, comprehensive, well-equipped facility for the collecting, raising, storing, nurturing, watering and distribution of plants.

Discussions are being held with groups like SOWN (Save Our Waterway Now) and other interested parties regarding the future of the nursery. Given that it is being given back to Council as a fully functional nursery, it is hoped that that is what it will continue to be. However, Council has

indicated that there is a large number of community organizations showing interest in the venue, not all of which will be interested in continuing to run it as a nursery. Even were it continue to run as a nursery, there would be no obligation on its part to supply MOTT with trees or any other plants.

Labor party candidate, Kate Jones, will be holding a meeting at the Paten Park nursery car park on Tuesday morning at 9.00AM (November 25<sup>th</sup>) to discuss community concerns over the nursery's future.

At best it will continue to function as a nursery and at very best, it will continue to supply MOTT with plant stock either free (Ojalá!) or at a reduced rate. At worst the facility will be taken over by some group that only wants the venue and the whole community will lose this valuable resource.

Please keep your eye on the MOTT website for further developments and future plantings.

\*\*\*

## THE AGM.

MOTT's AGM was held at Fran Gilje's home on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The composition of the Management Committee remains unchanged.

In the absence of a President's report Marion Goward has compiled a list of our year's triumphs:

### The Men of the Trees (Qld) Inc, Annual Report, Jul 2013-Jun 2014

MOTT Qld has completed another successful and enjoyable year – a very dry one, and so planting has been down somewhat from the usual, as watering our establishing plantings and even those considered to be established, has been a priority. This watering has been done not only on our normal Saturday working-bees, but also often mid-week, largely organized by Kerry Walker with Gerry Dunford's help with hoses and pump, and as many of the gang free to assist. BCC's Darren Robertson's help with the water truck when available was invaluable. Basic statistics for the year are as follows.

The count of trees and other native plants as per our records this year is 4411 planted. Of this total, 2164 were MOTT allocation from the Greening Australia Nursery, 2102 were from other sources, including Brisbane City Council, Moreton Bay Regional Council, and private

purchase and donation. 145 were from MOTT seed collection and propagation.

The number of individual volunteer commitments was 613, providing 2236 hours of work in aid of the environment by MOTT and members of the community, at 24 different sites in Brisbane and beyond. Sites include Gubberley Creek, Kenmore; Camoola Street Park, Keperra; Ithaca Creek State School; Cabbage Tree Creek at Yingally Drive, Arana Hills; Cedar Creek at Arbor Street Park, Ferny Grove; Regis Parkland Manor, Ferny Grove; a branch of Enoggera Creek at Parkview Drive, The Gap; South Pine River at Wongan Creek and Bunya Riverside; BCC allotment at Broseley Road, Toowong; Paten Park The Gap; Kedron Brook at Cassimaty Park Ferny Grove; Kedron Brook at Everton Park; Keperra Picnic Grounds cnr. Samford & Upper Kedron Roads, Keperra; Ithaca Creek at Bardon Esplanade, Bardon; Samford Parklands; Toowong Creek cnr. Broseley Rd and Kent St. Toowong; private property at Broseley Road, Toowong, and Currumbin Creek.

Six Management Committee meetings were held during the year, and the 2012-2013 AGM. Four MOTT newsletters, *Twahamwe* were produced and distributed online and by mail. State Library has confirmed storage of past newsletters, and continuing receipt of quarterly editions.

MOTT was fortunate to win a BCC grant to remove woody weeds from creek and prepare site at Keryn Place Park, Keperra, for National Tree Day 2014.

Planting highlights follow chronologically:-

13.7.13 MOTT assisted at Community Day Planting launch of new Bushcare Group at Camoola Street Park, Keperra

20.7.13 MOTT planting with children, parents and teacher at Ithaca Creek State School, continuing work there.

28.7.14 National Tree Day planting at Yingilly Drive, Arana Hills, site and some of trees provided by Wendy Heath of Moreton Bay Regional Council 840 plants, 62 volunteers – MOTT planting

15.8.13 Indian group Deera Sacha Sauda's Guru's Birthday Planting, Arbor Street Park, Tramway Street, Ferny Grove. 400 plants, 20 volunteers. MOTT planting

23.11.13 Queensland Urban Utilities Offset Planting, Everton Park – MOTT attended and assisted planting of 670 plants by 75 volunteers

2.3.14 SOWN's 20th Birthday planting, Ithaca Creek at Bardon Esplanade. MOTT assisted, providing some plants, equipment and volunteers

15.3.14 Samford Eco Corridor (Samford Parklands) planting MOTT attended and assisted in the planting of 1800 plants

17.5.14 Planting on Currumbin Creek near Eco Village. MOTT assisted 24 volunteers to plant 320 plants

It is to be noted, however, that the above plantings are largely one-offs, and that MOTT's major progress is with its regular sites which are developed over a long period of time.

Other events worth noting are also listed chronologically:-

11.8.13 Death of much loved and celebrated founding member Rosemary Nicholas

11.8.13 Launch of Jutta Godwin's and Cubberla-Witton Catchments Network's new Headquarters. MOTT group attended.

14.12.13 MOTT Christmas Lunch at "Green Mango", West Ashgrove. President Ross McKinnon visited with inspirational message and wishes

5.2.14 Meeting at home of Fran Gilje with Cr Brian Battersby and two MBRC officials regarding possible major site for MOTT.

21.2.14 Springbrook visit by Fran Gilje, Gerry Dunford and Marion Goward to meet with Australian Rainforest Conservation Society's president Aila Keto and Keith Scott to discuss ideas and possible joint projects between MOTT and ARCS

12.3.14 Rock delivered to Gap Creek Reserve Picnic Grounds marking the beginning of setting up of Hugh Preston memorial

12.5.14 MOTT group working at Marion's home at Bardon potted on into larger tubes MOTT propagated *Waterhousia floribunda*

16.5.14 MOTT meeting with BCC Habitat Brisbane officers Cath Cleary and Kate Flink at the home of Fran Gilje to be presented with and to discuss Memorandum of Understanding regarding methodology of BCC's and MOTT's working together in the future

We wish to thank all of the wonderful members and volunteers who worked (sometimes "slogged") with us over the year to plant, sometimes in difficult terrain, and to weed, rescue, mulch, and particularly water our many young plants. And of course we thank our Management Committee for their continuing input and guidance - President **Ross McKinnon** for being there for us to cheer us on and provide advice when we need it, Vice President **Scott Maxwell** for his leadership and creativity with projects and his spectacular artwork on our behalf,

**Jan Mealy** for her expert wheeling and dealing in our interests as our Treasurer, and acting Secretary.

We thank **Fran Gilje**, our Information Officer, for her matchless handling of all communication with endless enquirers and potential volunteers, and liaison with other groups and businesses and organizations, and **Gerry Dunford**, our Equipment Officer for his tireless handling of our equipment in the field, including the ute, and his storage and maintenance of so many elements of it, large and small. We thank **Pat Peek** for his cheery input, and for his so often required facility for addressing the public on our behalf. We thank **Kerry Walker** for her work as Minutes Secretary, and of course for her enthusiastic and experienced coordination of plantings and sourcing of plants and sites - an area of activity in which **Marion Goward** is also involved. And we thank our new Committee member, **Jean Shipway** for her wonderful support and clear thinking both in the field and around the table, and, what must be mentioned, for her regular and inspirational cooking for our morning teas in the field. Most of all we thank our Saturday volunteers, some of whom have already been mentioned, as without them nothing would be done at all. We have special thanks for our newsletter creator and editor **Rex Callahan**. All of us well know and enjoy the quality of his work in our quarterly *Twahamwe*, entertaining and informative record of our activities and personnel, and inspiration for our goals. We thank **Jim MacDonald**, our Membership Secretary for his long dedication to keeping these records, and **Paul Monaghan**, for his generous support in continuing to be our Honorary Auditor.

We thank the Brisbane City Council for its assistance, in particular Habitat Brisbane West officers **Kate Flink** and **Cath Cleary** for their help with all aspects of our projects. And we thank Moreton Bay Regional Council's **Wendy Heath** for working with us monthly, and so expertly managing our plantings with her.

And of course we thank all our sponsors and helpers – **Greening Australia Nursery** who provide most of our plants, **Brisbane City and Moreton Bay Regional Councils** for grants, planting sites and other support, The Gap Councillor **Geraldine Knapp** who prints and posts our snail mail newsletters, **Laser Revive** who so often donates its services, **Bretts** who donate and discount products, and **Ashton Manufacturing** who give financial support in exchange for memorial trees planted. We thank these and others no doubt missed, who so happily assist us to do what we love to do.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Treasurer Jan Mealy provided a balance sheet for the year showing an income of \$8,283.63 and outgoings of \$8,052.08 that, together with interest earned gave us a net surplus of \$1,031.50.

**Profit & Loss Statement**  
July 2013 through June 2014

11/09/2014  
6:28:02 PM

4-0000	Income		
4-1000	Membership Fees	\$995.00	
4-2000	Donations	\$2,360.00	
4-3000	Sundry Income	\$80.00	
4-4000	Grants	\$4,848.63	
	Total Income		<u>\$8,283.63</u>
5-0000	Cost of Sales		
	Gross Profit		<u>\$8,283.63</u>
6-0000	Expenses		
6-1100	Bank Charges	\$16.65	
6-1200	Computer Expense - Internet	\$599.88	
6-1210	Computer Expense - Website	\$164.00	
6-1220	Depreciation	\$3,342.00	
6-1400	Filing Fees	\$46.00	
6-1700	Hardware & Consumables	\$693.05	
6-1800	M/V Expense	\$1,739.49	
6-1850	M/V Expense-Trailer	\$92.55	
6-1900	Postage	\$199.00	
6-2000	Printing & Stationery	\$312.26	
6-2010	Subscriptions & Memberships	\$249.00	
6-2020	Telephone	\$120.00	
6-2030	Volunteers Amenities	\$477.50	
	Total Expenses		<u>\$8,052.08</u>
	Operating Profit		<u>\$231.55</u>
8-0000	Other Income		
8-1000	Interest Income	\$799.95	
	Total Other Income		<u>\$799.95</u>
9-0000	Other Expenses		
	Net Surplus / (Deficit)		<u>\$1,031.50</u>

*Paul Monaghan*  
PAUL MONAGHAN  
FCPA 838996  
05/08/14

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**

To members of The Men of the Trees (MOTT) Inc.

**SCOPE**

I have audited the financial report of The Men of the Trees for the year ended 30 June 2014 as set out in the Profit and Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet. The Management Committee is responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of The Men of the Trees.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide a reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report.

The audit opinion expressed in this respect has been formed on the above basis.

**QUALIFICATION**

Membership revenue, donations and sundry income form a significant source of revenue for The Men of the Trees Incorporated Association. The Management Committee has determined that it is impractical to establish control over the collection of all such items prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to me regarding revenue from these sources was limited, my audit procedures with respect to such revenues had to be restricted to amounts recorded in the financial records. I am therefore unable to express an opinion whether such revenues of The Men of the Trees obtained are complete.

**QUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION**

In my opinion, except for the Qualification above, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the applicable standards and regulations.

Paul Monaghan FCPA  
(CPA 883996)  
05 August 2014

**And we are so grateful that Paul has agreed to continue to donate his services to MOTT as our auditor.**

\*\*\*

**MEET THE PLANTERS**

**Ishara Udawela**

Ish, as she prefers to be called, was born in Sri Lanka's ancient capital, Anuradhapura. I asked how long she had been in Australia and when she said forty years I felt sure she must have said fourteen – as you can see, Ish looks early to mid twenties so I figure she must have a portrait in the attic!



Her parents came from relatively poor families but her father worked hard and won a scholarship which gave him the choice of studying in the U.S. the UK or Australia. Since he knew nothing about Australia, he chose to bring his family here.

How fortunate, I mused, on this G20 weekend, that we are having all this inconvenience and road closures; it means

that perhaps now people around the world will know something about us!

So Ish grew up in Victoria, the family sponsored by a very nice family on a farm in Yea. Later they moved into Melbourne to Footscray and then Templestowe. Her parents went into government jobs working for Centrelink and the Bureau of Meteorology, and Ish went to Latrobe University and, because she loves nature, she took a degree in Biological Science.

She became interested in the work of Animals Australia, as a result of which, she began to see the creatures behind the meat she was eating and became a vegetarian.

But Ish was not content with the Melbourne climate. "It didn't suit me", she said, "I was born for the steamy tropical jungles".

Her first move was to Sydney but not enjoying life there, she returned to Melbourne and two years ago, moved to Brisbane, to Ferny Hills, where she found the climate much more suitable to her interest in getting outdoors and enjoying nature; which is what brought her to MOTT.

She currently works for Suncorp Insurance as a fraud investigator. So throw away the crutches when you limp to plantings ... not that she will probably even notice as she has her head down and gets her hands dirty planting trees for MOTT.

\*\*\*

## PARK REGIS

Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup>, 36 degrees, and as I watered a tree I could hear others calling out, "Over here! Me next! Don't forget me! Over here!"

We were at the Park Regis Aged Care Facility on a special assignment to plant 10 *Tibouchina Jazzys* and three *Grevillea Robyn Gordons* in memory of Ngairretta Brennan's sister, Margaret, who had died recently.



Ms Brennan, a former member and great supporter of MOTT, is a resident at Park Regis and has organized a little team of waterers to keep the plants happy throughout the coming Summer months.

But water is not the only problem the plants will have! Hardly had the last bucket been loaded onto the ute than the plants were greatly bombarded by a scrub turkey building a nest down on the creek. He fell in love with the sugar cane mulch, thought it would be just spiffing for keeping his eggs in perfect condition – so he kicked most of it off the planting, over the path, across the open space before the fence, then under the fence leading to the creek.

Interestingly, he didn't touch the pine bark mulch on the three grevilleas.

So Gerry and Marion went back last Tuesday to put some mesh on the ground around the plants, pegged down with wooden pegs. This is an experiment. If it works, pine bark mulch may be the way to go - we didn't mesh the three grevilleas, and fingers are crossed. Ngairretta and a few of us are monitoring the situation.



\*\*\*

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



**The Cartridge Remanufacturing Specialists**  
*Reuse: A better way to Recycle*  
Reduce \* Reuse \* Recycle

Quality & service without compromise

**Bill & Jan McConnell**  
3/1158 South Pine Rd, Arana Hills 4054  
PO Box 303, Ferny Hills 4055  
P: 3851 0395  
F: 3851 0355  
E: [info@laserrevive.com.au](mailto:info@laserrevive.com.au)



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



**KNOW THINE ENEMY**

**HEMLOCK**

A strongly scented herb that can grow up to two metres tall. Its leaves are fern-like with lobe margins serrated. It has white flowers with curved metal tips on stalks up to 5 cms long on short flower stalks that spread from a common point and 3Mm long fruit with five raised ridges.



Just think ... if the Greeks had cleared it all out, we may not have lost Socrates!

## OUR CHRISTMAS BREAKUP

Christmas comes early for MOTT (but not as early as for the shopping centres and department stores that had their decorations up and Christmas sections open halfway through October!)



This year, we will celebrate our year's achievements and *Aurevoir* each other until next year at Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 12.00pm. Please RSVP Fran (3851 0858) by December 5<sup>th</sup>.

### MENU:

#### **Grilled Peri Peri Marinated Chicken**

Served in a baked tortilla filled with garden salad and perinaise dressing

#### **Sea Salt Battered Barramundi**

Served with chips and house made tarter

#### **Chicken Green Pea & Chorizo Risotto (GF)**

Shaved Parmesan cheese

#### **Moroccan Spiced Lamb**

Greek salad, tzatziki, lemon cous cous

#### **Quinoa Falafel Salad (V,GF)**

Red and white organic, quinoa, goji berries, mesculin leaf roasted flaked almonds and toasted falafels

#### **Grilled Fish of the Day (GF)**

Coriander butter baked chat potatoes and garden salad

#### **Cured Salmon Nicoise Salad (GF)**

Potato, French beans, olives soft-boiled egg, French dressing

#### **Caesar Salad**

Smoked bacon lardons herbed croutons, house made Caesar dressing, shaved Parmesan, egg, cos lettuce.

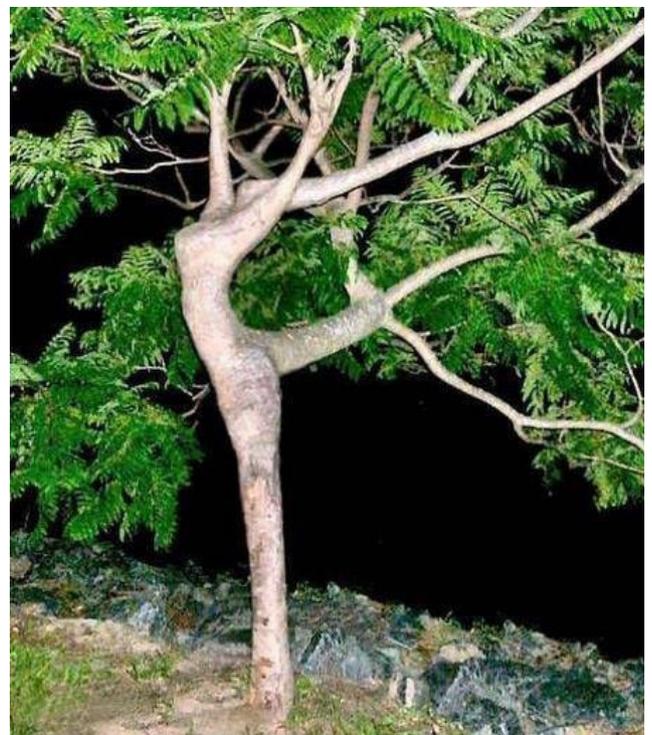
Anchovies optional

**WHEN** - 13 / 12 / 14  
**WHERE** - Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens  
**TIME** - Midday  
**COST** - \$10 MOTT members  
 \$20 non - members

*choice of main course +  
 drink + nibbles + merriment*

RSVP Fran by 5 Dec

## TREES WITH CHARACTER





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**  
PO Box 283  
Clayfield Qld. 4011

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Jim MacDonald  
Membership Secretary

MEN OF THE TREES  
proudly supported by:



## *Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

TWAHAMWE - Vol XXXV No 2 June 2014

If undelivered please return to  
PO BOX 283 CLAYFIELD QLD 4011  
PRINTPOST APPROVED PP 434810/0002

SURFACE MAIL

POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUSTRALIA