



twahamwe

men of the trees
MOTT

Twahamwe is Swahili for all together
men, women & children pull together

volume XXXVI

number 3

dec 2015



*Special
Christmas Edition
Seasons Greetings
2015 & 2016*

Christmas luncheon at the Siam Pagoda Restaurant in Clayfield on Saturday the 19 December 2015, was organised by stalwart MOTT member, Rex Callahan.

It was a cool summers day, as the MOTTly crew were surrounded by misting fans, colourful foliage and water features as a lavish feast of delicious Thai dishes, were served semi al fresco style.

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BOLLYWOOD



Balvinder Dhaliwal invited MOTT members to a joyful evening at the bollywood bluster movie MSG 2 at the Garden City Cinemas in Nov.

The film is a real story based on tribal peoples and how they become civilised with the help of meditation. The movie featured the Dera Sacha Sauda group who work with MOTT on most of the sites and also participate on many others welfare activities.



creating a butterfly garden

We are currently scoping the right site, one with a large open area where we can create various pockets of vegetation to support the various host plants that feed the caterpillars. A site close to natural bushland where a butterfly corridor can be created. I found that many of our endemic plants are host to a variety of different and beautiful butterflies, so what better way to create more colour and life to a garden than by attracting the multitudes of stunning little beauties to the area.

By providing food and habitat for caterpillars and adult butterflies we are also supplying resources for many other native animals.

Why are there fewer butterflies now? Unfortunately our current regimes of insecticide spray use in the gardens as well as environmental degradation and native vegetation clearing is having a negative effect on butterfly populations. Some exotic plants like the Dutchman's pipe and the Jacaranda are poisonous to some species, further contributing to their decline.

the amazing thing is that butterflies can often travel kilometres in search of their host plants. For example the Richmond Birdwing female will travel up to 30 kilometres from where it pupates. The vine contains pheromones which the butterfly can detect from at least a few kilometres away. This brings a lot of hope to those fighting hard to bring this magnificent butterfly back from its vulnerable status to where we can once again see them in abundance flying through the streets of Brisbane, as was reported in 1870.

**Story by Ishara Udawela
from the Shah Satnam Ji Green S welfare force**



the right tree ~ in the right place ~ for the right reason

TEAMWORK in ACTION

The Gap Native Nursery



All hands to the table on potting day at the nursery L-R Rex, Gary, Fran, Ishara, Jerry, Christian, Jean & Danya (UQ student)

Keppera Picnic Park 3 Oct 15



Kerry Walker doing the planting



Mairi doing the watering with Nicolas (Spain) & Irupua (Brazil) doing the digging



the right tree ~ in the right place ~ for the right reason

BEFORE



Keryn Place Park National Tree Day 2014 planting

AND



Planting and maintenance a year later

AFTER

Imagine what it will look like in a decade's time

MOTT's establishment sites

HOURS	SITE	PLANTS	VOLUNTEERS VISITORS	VOLUNTEER REGULARS
215	Parkview Drive The Gap	297	58	48
725	Keryn Place Park Keppera	925	312	77
68	Paten Park The Gap	200	16	14
1008	TOTALS	1422	287	139

for Habitat Brisbane 1.7.14 - 30.6.15

MOTT President, Ross McKinnon's quotable quote;

"To plant trees is to give body and life to ones dreams of a better world"

~ Montague Russell Page [British Gardener, Garden designer and Landscape Architect. 1985.]



*Fran (sitting down on the job) helping a family with some planting and watering
the right tree ~ in the right place ~ for the right reason*

Boxing Day Festivities



~ the tradition continues

L~R enjoying the feast with Jerry at the head of the table with Pat with wine glass followed by Jan, Gary, Christine, Marion with hosts Fran & Rhonda, Steven, Erika and Miriam with Scott taking the photo feast



at Fran's place

L~R Fran with Teddy and Bandi. Marion with Dusty and Tilli off in search of more tucker.

The MOTT Report

for Financial Year July 2014 to June 2015

MOTT Qld has enjoyed another productive year. This is so, even though new plants in the ground were down in number compared with our yearly average. However, good reasons exist for this, in particular extended periods of dry weather, because of which planting was necessarily restricted, and more than the usual number of working bees were devoted to activities other than planting - e.g. watering, mulching, weeding. Another reason is the pre and post Christmas nursery crisis precipitated by Greening Australia's withdrawal from the nursery in Paten Park, The Gap (formerly MOTT's nursery), and thus from its commitment to supply MOTT with the bulk of our planting stock. As we all know, the "battle" to save the site as a continuing native nursery to be run by the community was a lively one, as the site had been cleared by GA for the BCC for future use as a Men's Shed. Following a host of meetings, with BCC and SOWN and Men's Shed representatives, as well as members of the community, good sense prevailed. A decision was made by BCC in favour of the community run native nursery, SOWN transferred its HQ from the old Gap pony club precincts to The Cottage in Paten Park to mentor the establishment of the new nursery, and the Men's Shed located happily in the old Pony Clubhouse in Yoorala Street.

The new community run nursery is now renamed the Paten Park Native Nursery. Very generously, the two adjoining nurseries in Paten Park, the SOWN Nursery and the PPNN, have combined in an ingenious agreement with MOTT to cover GA's previous commitment to supply MOTT with 5000 trees and understorey plants per year. The SOWN Nursery is supplying the PPNN with the quantity, and the PPNN is supplying MOTT with the quantity and quality - that is, the full biodiversity of its stock. This agreement has been signed by all three parties, and a MOTT representation attended the SOWN AGM to thank the local group for its initiation of this commitment.

Because of this generous support by the nurseries, and because of the initial struggle by the new community run nursery, starting from scratch, to prove itself, MOTT made a decision to assist the PPNN by giving over one of our workdays per month to nursery work, and another weekday per month to seed collection. Consequently, during the last 6 months of the year, our plantings have been reduced by at least one quarter of the usual. When the nursery no longer needs our assistance in this way, we expect to return all our Saturdays to our major work in the field. However, nursery work is enjoyed by our volunteers, and it provides an important experience with an essential part of the revegetation process.

Our highlight for the year was our National Tree Day planting at Keryn Place Park, Mungarie Street, Keperra. MOTT had won a BCC grant to prepare the site for this creek restoration project (small tributary of Kedron Brook). A record of this planting occurs in an earlier edition of Twahamwe, but suffice it to say that the day attracted an estimated 120 volunteers. Almost 1000 plants have been planted on this site, and the small forest is flourishing. Our full statistics for the year are recorded elsewhere in the newsletter, so will not be repeated here.

We wish to express our thanks to all our hard working volunteers, without whom we could do nothing, our management team, the nurseries, and our other major sponsors, Brisbane City Council and Moreton Bay Regional Council, and also Ashton Manufacturing Pty Ltd.

Of concern to all!
A tree is worth \$193,250

according to Professor T.M. Das of the University of Calcutta. A tree living for 50 years will generate \$31,250 worth of oxygen, provide \$62,000 worth of air pollution control, control soil erosion and increase soil fertility to the tune of \$31,250, recycle \$37,500 worth of water and provide a home for animals worth \$31,250. This figure does not include the value of fruits, lumber or beauty derived from trees. Just another sensible reason to take care of our forests.

From Update Forestry
Michigan State University

THE VALUE OF A TREE

SAVE OUR MOTHER EARTH

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MOTT calendar JANUARY ~ MARCH 2016

The most up-to-date version of this schedule can be found on the MOTT website:- <http://www.menofthetrees.org.au>
~ Meet Saturdays at 9.00am unless otherwise stated - break 10.30 for morning tea, finish work approx 12.30pm ~

JANUARY

Sat 16

PATEN PARK NATIVE NURSERY - NURSERY WORK

Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap Parking - Use upper carpark to drop or pick up gear at the nursery, and please park finally in carpark on the left just before the bridge

Kerry 3289 9206
Marion 3366 1448

Sat 23

KERYN PLACE PARK - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

Mungarie Street, off Settlement Road, Keperra (original site)

Marion 3366 1448

Sat 30

CASSIMATY PARK - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

Samford Road, Ferny Grove. Entrance just before railway crossing, coming from Samford side (lower site before golf course)

Marion 3366 1448

FEBRUARY

Fri 5

SEED COLLECTION with PPNN

MEET Paten Park Native Nursery Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap

Neil 3300 6304
Marion 3366 1448

Sat 6

ARBOR STREET PARK - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

Tramway Street, Ferny Hills (park immediately past Police station on the right)

Marion 3366 1448

Sat 13

YELLOWWOOD DRIVE - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

MEET Paten Park Native Nursery Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Home of Fran & Rhonda, 9 Lynwood Court, Ferny Hills at 13.00

Wendy 0409 268 838

Fran 3351 5118

Sat 20

PARK VIEW DRIVE - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

The Gap

Kerry 3289 9206

Sat 27

PATEN PARK NATIVE NURSERY - NURSERY WORK

Paten Park Native Nursery Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap Parking - Use upper carpark to drop or pick up gear at the nursery, and please park finally in carpark on the left just before the bridge

Kerry 3289 9206

MARCH

Fri 4

SEED COLLECTION with PPNN

MEET Paten Park Native Nursery Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap

Neil 3300 6304

Sat 5

PATON PARK - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

Paten Park, Paton Road, The Gap (just past scout den)

Kerry 3289 9206

Sat 12

BUNYA RIVERSIDE (WONGAN CREEK) - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE with MBRC

Bunya Crossing on South Pine River UBD 107, Q20.
Drive to end of Dugandan Road then down the track to carpark at Riverside

Wendy 0409 268 838

Sat 19

ITHACA CREEK - PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

COOLIBAR STREET, BARDON
(park car & access street lower end of Coolibah Street - footbridge over creek)

Marion 3366 1448

Sat 26

PATEN PARK NATIVE NURSERY - NURSERY WORK

Paten Park Native Nursery Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap Parking - Use upper carpark to drop or pick up gear at the nursery, and please park finally in carpark on the left just before the bridge

Kerry 3289 9206
Marion 3366 1448

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MOTT'S NURSERY WORK



After the spectacularly speedy and complete disappearance of Greening Australia from the Nursery scene at the end of 2014, our organisation was in crisis as we all know, without a source of seedlings for our plantings. But firstly the SOWN Nursery and then the Paten Park Native Nursery (the community nursery struggling to start almost from scratch after GA), have come to our rescue and generously offered to replace, or rather continue the wonderful commitment of GA over the past seventeen years to supply our planting group with the basis of its planting stock.

As a thank-you to the PPNN, but also to assist in some small way with the productive capacity of the nursery, our planting group has committed to nursery activities on three days each month. One of these involves giving up one of our Saturday planting days - a difficult thing for us because of the demand for attention of our many planting sites. But we know what side our bread is buttered, and even if the nursery had no bearing upon our own survival, we appreciate the importance of this wonderful facility for the community and the dwindling habitat of our city and countryside.

On the fourth Saturday of each month therefore, the MOTT group works at the PPNN in Paten Park, Paten Road, The Gap. The work involves whatever the requirement may be at the time - pricking-out, potting-on, tube washing, also seed-cleaning, weeding, watering, etc. A very nostalgic activity for some of us with longer teeth, who did the same, in the same place, when the nursery was MOTT's, 20 years ago. (The house is still officially named Twahamwe Cottage, and a large bark painting of the founder of MOTT, Richard St Barbe Baker, still hangs in the central position on the wall.)

On the first Wednesday and the third Sunday of each month MOTT and the PPNN now get together to go on seed collecting expeditions. So far we have had some enjoyable and fruitful days in such places as Closeburn, Mt Coot-tha, and an idyllic property high up in the Lacey's Creek catchment, surrounded by the D'Aguilar National Park. These are the days when one can breathe the purest oxygen, and get closest to forests that still exist and hopefully always will.

the international society for the planting and protection of trees

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

FOR 1 MAY 2015 - 30 APRIL 2016

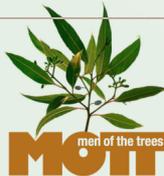
Please send cheque or money order to:
MOTT PO Box 283 Clayfield QLD 4011

If you are not renewing membership kindly cross the box and return slip to above address



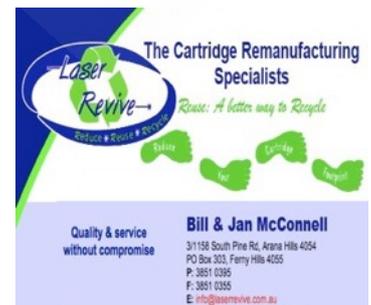
active planter: \$10 / concession: \$15 / individual: \$25 / family: \$45 / corporate: \$100

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Your valued support enables **MOTT** men of the trees to continue the vital role of tree planting

we acknowledge our dedicated sponsors



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

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