



## 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 Barba Baker O.B.E.

TWAHAMWE IS SWAHILI FOR ALL TOGETHER or PULL TOGETHER

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www.menofthetrees.org.au

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## THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS

### MOTT'S BIG DAY OUT

Here's an invitation to all MOTT members ... and friends.

MOTT has been given a grant of \$4,400 by the Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Resource Management. The grant has been given to enable us to host, in association with the Cubberla-Witton group, a Community Day at Cliveden Park, Fig Tree Pocket, on Sunday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>

This will be an opportunity to promote MOTT and, more importantly, for ALL the MOTT members, not just the planters, to get together to have a bit of fun.

Activities will include such things as wildlife presentations, talks on our work and the environment, face painting (for the kids, but if you really want to ... well, heh!), a bit of planting, a sausage sizzle, music, and if anybody wants to volunteer anything else please let us know (I believe Fran has already volunteered to do a strip tease).

If you would like to help promote the day, or if you feel like opening a kissing booth or contributing in any way, then do please contact: Derek: 0424 584 597 or Nigel: 0437 336 931 (or other committee members – Marion: 3366 1448, Gerry: 3300 1615, Fran: 3851 0858).

On the day, we would love to see ALL our MOTT friends – and their friends (particularly anybody from around the Toowong/Gap area) – enjoying the day from morning until whenever.

This will also be a celebration of the International Year of Forests and Arbor Day.

Please mark it down in your diaries. Done? Great. We look forward to seeing everybody there.

### SOMEONE IS OUT THERE!

In March, an article about MOTT appeared in a local newspaper and said that we were always looking for new people to come to help with the planting. We were contacted by email:

“hi, we are group of 40-50 people, we are ready to plantation anywhere in brisbane, so can you plz contact me, my no is 042\*\*\*\*004”.

The following Saturday, two young men turned up at The Gap; Sangiv Inson and Bali Singh worked with us and at morning tea time, Bali gave us a talk about their organization.



Dera Sacha Sauda is a social and spiritual organization established in 1948 in Sirsa (India) by Shah Mastana Ji Maharaj when He established an *Ashram* (Sacred Place) in Sirsa, 5 Kms away from Sirsa city.

“Beparwah Mastana Ji Maharaj was a spiritual leader of high profile. He united people with the true name of God. He always used to preach that

they should not use any wrong methods to earn their living". He would send resident volunteers into the city to sell cow dung cakes (an alternative cooking fuel); he used the money to organize free food for the congregation of devotees and urged his followers to live in peace and harmony.

There are chapters of Dera Sacha Sauda all over the world. Members are urged to extend help to anyone who needs it; not by giving money but by assisting them in any other way they are able.



Dera Sacha Sauda lists 62 humanitarian activities which it urges its members to pursue. The philosophy generally is that we are here to help other people and should wherever possible; whether it's helping people in road accidents by taking them to hospital and extending all possible care; encouraging organ donation; teaching that all life is sacred and shunning any form of violence or the killing any living creature; and encouraging reforestation.

You can find out more about this humanitarian organization by visiting their website: [www.derasachasauda.org](http://www.derasachasauda.org)

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### **WHO WANTS TO SAVE KOALAS?**

We have been to the Gympie area to do a 'recky' and have met a lovely family who own a dairy farm. They would love it if we could put in some trees for koala food.

The planting area is on a bit of a slope but should not cause a problem. Glen, the farmer will do his best to prepare the area in time for our planting on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

If we can get enough people, we can put in 400 trees, so we need everyone who is able to come along, even if they have not planted anything for a while.

Rather than driving there very early Saturday morning, we thought it might be a good idea for those who would like to, to do an over-nighter on Friday Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Railway Hotel charges \$50 a night for single and \$70 for double. Otherwise, we can pitch our tents on Glen and Therese's farm and sleep there for nothing. For those who choose the last option, you can bring your cereal and bananas along and have them for breakfast with fresh milk from the farm.

Upon our arrival, Therese will bar-b-q fresh beef for all and we can share the salads we bring along. Therese will also supply morning tea on Saturday.

### **Let's do it gang!**

Please let Fran (3851 08580 know in the next couple of weeks if you can come so we can make necessary decisions about the planting.

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## **PLANTING DEDICATIONS**

### **TRACEY FROM THE MITCHELTON CHEESECAKE SHOP.**

Tracey used to work at the Cheesecake shop in Mitchelton but has recently left. She was always so good to our MOTT gang. Every time we needed a couple of cakes for a meeting or party, she would manage to sell us what we needed for half the price because the due date would be several days hence. If those weren't available, she would offer us the large fresh cakes for the price of the small ones. We will miss her.

### **BARRY SULLIVAN**

Barry Sullivan has been, and continues to be, a highly active member of our organization. As Manager of the MOTT Nursery and environmental centre, Twahamwe Cottage (now the Greening Australia Nursery), he steered the development of the facility from 1990 to 1994.

Besides serving on the Management Committee, Barry also took part in MOTT plantings. Well do many of us remember his welcome boiling of the billy for the groups working in the nineties at Lake Samsonvale.

A man with multiple skills, and a great family man, Barry has never stopped planting trees. He has inaugurated the planting of over 4000 trees in his own Riaweena Street, The Gap, recently adding another 350 to the score. And at his property west of Brisbane, 15,000 of the rare and

beautiful Chinchilla White Gums reach for the sky in a highly successful farm forestry project. This monocultural enterprise is inspiringly balanced by the relegation of pastures for cattle, which browse contentedly between the unfelled open native forest of the plains.

MOTT's founder, Richard St Barbe Baker, would be proud of this dedicated man of the trees.

#### ANNE STONE

Anne loved the bush, the trees and all natural life. She cared deeply for the way people behave in the environment and was instrumental in starting the Keep Australia Beautiful – Tidy Towns Awards. Anne met Ngairretta Brennan, who was starting MOTT in the 1980s, and joined our organisation, as well as Greening Australia which was also starting up. It was at Anne's suggestion that MOTT cleared a heavy weed infestation from the creek behind the Holy Spirit Anglican Church, Kenmore. The trees planted there have now established a mature and attractive grove that she appreciated every time she attended church. She was a great lady who loved people and plants, especially trees.

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#### GERRY'S GREAT TOOL

Gerry Dunford has invented a very useful tool.



When we plant near creeks, if the hole in which the tree or lomandra is placed is too large, that means that there is a lot of loose soil around the plant so that, in time of flood, that soil washes away easily, leaving the new tree exposed.

Gerry's has made a device to cut a hole that won't leave a lot of loose soil around the plant. His hole cutter is designed to be only used close to the edge of the creek bank; it cuts a clean hole the same diameter as the tubestock being planted.

## MEET THE PLANTERS. KERRY WALKER

Kerry Walker is one of MOTT's assets. Apart from her work behind the scenes as secretary and planner, Kerry is one of the people to whom planters refer questions such as, "Is this a weed?" or "What's this called?" Asked how she acquired this knowledge, Kerry says, "Just put it down to experience. I have never formally studied environmental issues and have acquired the meagre knowledge I now have by being out in the field and doing the practical hands on work I have done for so many years now".

The first ten years of Kerry's life were spent enjoying an idyllic childhood in Fiji where her father worked for CSR (Colonial Sugar Refineries). When the "colonial" was finally taken out of the sugar industry the family was posted to Brisbane where, says Kerry, "The rest of my childhood was joyfully spent in the company of horses and dogs ... going to school and eating meals being tedious, but necessary, interruptions to the delights of riding my horse with a pack of neighbourhood dogs trailing excitedly behind. Riding was my passion until at some stage in my teenage years a strange thing happened and suddenly boys became more interesting than horses. On reflection, perhaps I should have stayed faithful to the horses".

Kerry first became interested in, and concerned about, the state of the natural world when she was around eighteen or so and a 'practising' so-called alternative life-styler – "A lifestyle so many young and idealistic (dare I say gullible) people adopted during the heady years of the sixties and seventies. It was a very interesting and educative time of my life and there were two particular areas of knowledge that captivated me and about which I learned a lot over the ensuing years; and they have remained a pivotal part of my life ever since. One was health (that is, healthy living) and the other, the environment. Interest in both these subjects has expanded dramatically since those fledgling beginnings and become part of mainstream thinking, but back in the sixties only a few 'weirdos' gave them any consideration at all, let alone absorbing and moulding them so comprehensively into their lifestyle that it gave them an almost Biblical reverence. As conscientious and idealistic 'greenies', we lived out our convictions by reducing overt consumerism, recycling our waste, living in share

houses, conserving energy use and walking where possible rather than driving”.

Kerry says that her early experiences with the issue of the environment were mainly concerned with demonstrations aimed at changing governmental decisions and raising public awareness. “How well I remember the thrill and excitement of the historic, first ever ‘direct-action’ (demonstrating on site) against the logging of old-growth forests at Terania Creek in Northern NSW. The protest was successful in stopping the logging and it heralded the beginning of a new era of activism, media exposure and social division as the conservation movement found its feet and took off, becoming a force to be reckoned with in the battle for the hearts and minds of the community. Another hard-won and exhilarating victory was the high court decision to stop the damming of the Franklin River, helping to heal the wounds caused by the loss of Lake Pedder not long before. Boy, did we celebrate that night after it was announced on the evening news”.

After many years of travelling Kerry returned to Brisbane and felt the urge to go out and do something, however small, to make a difference, so it was time to put the famous conservationist’s mantra she had written on many a placard into practice – “Think globally, act locally”. By now, concern for the environment had become mainstream and people from all walks of life, including governments and councils, were becoming concerned with the degradation of the environment and were putting money into projects aimed at slowing the rot. Kerry joined local organizations and became a volunteer, mainly working in the field, “To remove exotics and revegetate with the original, native bushland”.

Kerry first encountered MOTT at Gold Scrub about twelve years ago and it wasn’t long before, “Fran Gilje, a person who doesn’t take no for an answer, bullied me (in the nicest possible way) to join MOTT”. Kerry had ended up living in Samsonvale after working for the Dept of Family Services as a community worker, buying and paying off her first house, having her son, Tim, and, after separating from his father, becoming a single mum. Kerry worked part-time as a medical receptionist, which gave her time to be a hands-on mother and to indulge her passion for bush regeneration work.

“MOTT was just what I was looking for – a bushcare group that moves around to different sites in the northern suburbs doing the dirty work, if I may put it so bluntly. And what a fine MOTTley crew they were too. Just my style. Finding MOTT meant that I could put paid to thwarted ambitions and give full rein to my love of bush regeneration work. The rest is history”.



Kerry rarely misses a Saturday morning, “Because they do such a good morning teas ... for the sake of good manners I have to force a big piece of cake down, and as for lunch and conversation (including the arguments) after the planting at a nearby café – well, it speaks for itself”.

Asked about other interests Kerry said, “I’m afraid I have really become quite boring in my ‘mature’ years; I love reading about politics and social issues in a good quality newspaper with a nice cup of tea. How mature is that? I enjoy doing yoga regularly and going to classes at the gym, not only because of my interest in healthy living but for the company of the nice people there. Another interest of mine is history. My, the human race has a chequered past, and I don’t think there is anything else that can match history for giving one insight into how and why we are what we are and behave as we do”.

Kerry regrets not finishing the university courses she started and feels that her biggest failing is stopping and starting things, procrastinating, and not really committing herself to the bitter end ...

except for the environment – her commitment there is rock solid, even though she feels she has become less idealistic and more pragmatic. “Instead of blaming everyone else, especially those in high places, I accept that we are all part of the problem – just because I am a tree-hugger doesn’t mean I don’t also drive a car, turn on a light switch, require land to be cleared to grow the food I eat (whether it’s organic or not) and that where my house now stands was once a home for wildlife. Have we become a plague on the planet? Yes, but how do you stop us - we are just so bloody successful!

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



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### NEW SECRETARY.



A last! A secretary to relieve Kerry of the duties.

Glenda Chadwick was a MOTT member in the early nineties but her life became a bit hectic – working full-time, principally in administrative areas, primarily with the Education department; having to meet deadlines and work long hours, and she felt she needed more time for herself at weekends.

Recently, a chance meeting with Marion Goward at Greening Australia, when Glenda was working as a volunteer and looking for something a little less stressful in her life, brought her back to MOTT when Marion told her that we were looking for somebody to take on the duties of secretary. Glenda volunteered and although she

didn’t plan to come to plantings, having turned up once, she felt that perhaps this was a relaxing, stress free occupation, the sort of thing she was needing at this time of her life.

Apart from her interest in the environment, Glenda enjoys reading and she has an interest in divining! She is very sensitive to other energies, not only from people but from the environment as well.

We welcome Glenda not only as secretary but as a new planter too. I only hope that if we aren’t planting near a creek or water supply, she remembers to bring her rod with her!

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### HOPING TO SERVE GOLD

Neil Forster, who featured in the January issue of *Twahamwe*, is off to Greece as a member of Australia’s tennis team in the Special Olympics; Neil will be competing in singles and mixed doubles matches.

Going to Greece will be Neil’s first overseas trip and that is exciting enough but of course there is the prospect of bringing home the odd gold medal or two. Neil will be one of 32 athletes from



Queensland who will be wearing the green and gold at the Special Olympics from June 25<sup>th</sup> until July 4<sup>th</sup>.

MOTT wishes Neil every success.

Photo by Mark Cranitch, courtesy of *The Courier Mail*

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## July to December, 2011

Date	Location	Contact
Rosemary Nicholas <b>July 2</b>	Paten Park, Stage 2, 57 Paten Rd, The Gap UBD 158. C7	Kerry- 3209-9206
9	Bunya Crossing, Wongon Creek-UBD 107, Q 20 to Dugandan Reserve or take Dugandan to Allen Rd, right at Weston Dr. to Banks Ct. Park and walk down the grassy hill.	Wendy 0437 439 774
16	Let's have a relaxing day-Let us know your thoughts so we can organise a trip to??? Daisy Hill? Mt.Glorious? or where? <b>What do you suggest?</b>	Fran, Pat Kerry, Marion
23	Gubberley Creek- behind Uniting Church ( <b>Not Holy Spirit</b> ) UBD 177, P10 Follow Marshall Lane, rt.at Holdway & left to Gubberley St.	Kerry 3289-9206
Ngairretta Brennan <b>August 6</b>	Paten Park, 57 Paten Rd. The Gap UBD 158,A3 Stage 1	Marion 3366 1448
13	Yellowood Dr. Ferny Hills UBD 117 P13 near Wightman Reserve <b>Management Meeting 1 pm. 9 Lynwood Court Ferny Hills</b> <b>Please bring something to share for afternoon tea</b>	Sonya 0408 153 302 Fran <b>3851 0858</b>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 9 a.m.</b>	<b>Kedron Brook Creek Ranger,Anna Bourke needs help with teaching volunteers to plant trees at community gathering.. Selkirk Cr. Ferny Hills. UBD 137, D4</b>	<b>Anna 0439 788 459</b> Fran 3851 0858
<b>Monday 15th</b>	<b>Let's help Sanjiv, Bali and friends to celebrate India's Independence Day by planting a few trees at top end of Arbor Street Park behind the Ferny Grove Police station-UBD 137,L3</b>	Marion 3366 1448
20	Broseley Rd. at Kent St. Toowong UBD 158 approx. J18	Marion 3366 1448
27	Duck Pond, Bardon Esplanade Bardon UBD 158,K6 New planting?	Marion 3366 1448
Clive Price <b>Sept 3</b>	Holy Spirit Anglican Church 1036 Mogill Rd. Kenmore UBD 177, N9	Kerry 3289 9206
10	Bunya Crossing, Wongon Creek-UBD 107, Q 20 to Dugandan Reserve or take Dugandan to Allen Rd, right at Weston Dr. to Banks Ct. Park and walk down the grassy hill.	Wendy 0437 439 774
17	<b>Preparation of site for Arbor Day Festivities Cliveden Park, Fig Tree Pocket, UBD 178, D12</b>	Team
24	Caboolture/Morayfield – Details to follow	David Luhrman 5433 2569 Suzanne 3869 1084
Brian Hallinan <b>October 2 SUNDAY</b>	<b>Arbor Day's Festive Community Planting, Cliveden Park, Fig Tree Pocket – UBD 178, D12</b>	Derek 0424 584 597 Nigel- 0437 336 931
8	Cabbage Tree Creek off Yingally Dr. Ferny Hills/Arana Hills near Wightman Reserve. Close to children's playground UBD 117,N12 <b>Management meeting, 97 Chelford St. Alderley 1 p.m. - share afternoon tea</b>	Sonya 0408 153 302 <b>Pat- 3311-4981</b>

15	Bardon Esplanade UBD 158, K6	Marion 3366 1448
22	Trip to Gympie to plant trees for Koala food Overnighter on the 21 <sup>st</sup> if you don't want to have to leave at 6 a.m .Sat morning.Hotel \$50 single, \$70 double- or pitch tent on the farm. Therese will supply steak bar-b-q on Friday if we can bring salads. She will also supply morning tea on Sat .We would like to put in 400 trees (on a slope). We NEED you... and want you.	Hosts- Therese & Glen
29	Paten Park. 57 Paten Rd. The Gap UBD 158, C7 Stage 2	Kerry, 3289 9206
Angus Johnson Nov 5	Maintenance, Cliveden Park, Fig Tree Pocket UBD 178, D12	Team
12	Bunya Crossing, Wongon Creek-UBD 107, Q 20 to Dugandan Reserve or take Dugandan to Allen Rd, right at Weston Dr. to Banks Ct. Park and walk down the grassy hill	Wendy 0437 439 774
19	Bardon Girl Guide Hut Site, Coolibah St, creek side. Bardon-UBD 158, L5	Marion 3366 1448
26	(empty) Lot 129, Broseley Rd Toowong About 2 blocks before our Broseley/Kent Site	Marion 3366-1448
David Cameron December 3	Thomsett Park, Ferny Hills. minimal parking in Crane Reserve (corner of Samford Rd & Gordon) UBD 117, L20 walk to the right –planting near dog off leash area OR park near Olakuna & Oolong UBD 117, L19+	Kerry 3289 9206
10	To Be Announced	
17		Let's organise a luncheon  All ideas considered
24	<b>Have a Happy &amp; Safe Holiday</b>	
– 2011 –		

**PLANTING SCHEDULE  
April to July, 2011**

Always check with coordinator or Fran (3851 0858) for possible changes.

Bush care 9 a.m. to 12:30 or 1 p.m.

**We bring something to share at morning tea.**

For all the help and support people have given MOTT, we would like to dedicate our plantings each month to those whose names appear under the dates above.



The International Society for the  
Planting and Protection of Trees

The Men of the Trees Inc.

# Annual Subscription

For May 1st 2011-April 30th 2012

Active Planter.....	\$10.00
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Your valued support enables The Men of the Trees to continue the vital role of tree planting.

*Jim MacDonald*  
*Membership Secretary*

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