

# MOGGILL CREEK CATCHMENT GROUP

P.O. Box 657, Kenmore 4069



## MOGGILL CREEK CATCHMENT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the Moggill Creek Catchment Group

Summer 2004



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## Chairman's Report – Annual General Meeting, 2004

The year 2004 has seen the MCCG expanding its influence even further, with increased membership, increased plant distribution to private landholders and increased recognition by Brisbane City Council as an organization that merits support in our district. Within a few weeks we are anticipating the appointment of a full-time coordinator, funded by the Council and committed to furthering MCCG's aims. As in 2003, I will present our achievements under the headings that appear in our Strategic Plan.

### Caring for Biodiversity

MCCG continues to be active in restoring biodiversity on private and public land. Since the beginning of 2004, we have visited 32 properties at the owners' requests, providing advice on plant identification, weed control and revegetation. At our nursery we have potted up 18,039 seedlings and distributed 11,882 plants to landholders. A new initiative has been the development of a closer liaison with the Pullen Pullen Catchments Group – their members help with pricking out and raising seedlings in their 'mini-nurseries' and benefit from free plants for their revegetation projects. Of the 11,882 plants distributed to landholders, 2,681 have gone to PPCG members.

Following serious storms and blackouts in January, ENERGEX initiated a major clearing of vegetation along power lines. We were given the opportunity to request special consideration for critical vegetation in our Catchment. A section at the end of Gold Creek Road was identified and lines replaced with an aerial bundle conductor, which meant that severe pruning will no longer be required along that section.

Our eight Habitat Brisbane Bushcare Groups continue to do good work on Council land along our creeks. Much of the effort has been weed management on previously planted land, but Group Leaders report that a total of 4,517 trees and understorey plants have been planted. MCCG has also been providing support for the Kenmore High School Green Corps Project along a one kilometre length of Moggill Creek as well as for the National Trust of Queensland at its Moon Memorial Tree Reserve.

### Caring for Water

Two representatives of MCCG, Gordon Grigg and myself, have been invited to sit on the Gold Creek Dam Wall Remediation Project Community Liaison Group. As far as MCCG is concerned, current issues are relocation of our nursery and continued provision of environmental flows down Gold Creek. The Project managers accept the importance of environmental flows, so this is an early and positive outcome from this Group.

### Caring for Land

MCCG has been invited to provide a Committee member for the BCC Mt Coot-tha Forest Mountain Bike Implementation Committee. Judy Walker has agreed to sit on this Committee, which aims to achieve good biodiversity outcomes while making tracks available to a range of users.

### Understanding and Participation

Membership of MCCG stood at 286 in mid-November 2003 but by 1 November 2004 had risen to 397. Chris Hosking has led a very active group publicizing the activities of MCCG. Major publicity events have been two week-long exhibits in Kenmore (the last incorporating our Photography Competition), the Brookfield Show and Brookfield Country Market. Our 7th Photography Competition attracted even more entries than in previous years, and these were of a very high standard.

We have published five articles in *South-West News* and seven in *The Local Bulletin*. Two articles covering our accomplishments have been published in BCC's publication *The Regenerator*. Four newsletters during the year have carried a wealth of information on local flora and fauna.

A survey of community attitudes, devised by a University of Queensland group, has been distributed to members and non-members of MCCG throughout the catchment with the aim of increasing our ability to attract active members.

### Integrated Planning and Coordinated Management

We were successful in attracting Natural Heritage Trust funding to support Daryl O'Brien's Upper Brookfield Bushcare Group, and work has proceeded well on the site, despite the recent drought. We were also successful in attracting Council support for a range of promotional activities, and for developing a Business Plan. We were delighted to be able to bring Liz Gould back to our area for a few weeks to help Malcolm Frost develop this Plan, which is now complete.

Bryan Hacker

The committee of the MCCG would like to thank those members who participated in the recent survey that was conducted in partnership with the University of Queensland.

The MCCG committee, to ensure members' privacy, carried out the mailing. In addition to assisting the students with their project, valuable information about why people join Volunteer Groups will be gained.



## Koalas in our Mist

During September there were some excited and fortunate residents in the Brookfield and Kenmore Hills area. A koala (s) was seen on four separate occasions on or in gardens of: Boscombe, Deerhurst, Gap Creek, Brookfield, Stoneybrook and Creekside Roads.

Could this be a disorientated, perhaps sick koala or a healthy male establishing a new population from nearby Mt. Coot-tha Forest? Let's hope the latter!

According to Brisbane City Council data, these are the first koalas recorded for this area since 1996. The State Government has recently upgraded the classification of koalas in southeast Queensland from 'common' to 'regionally vulnerable', a positive step forward in protecting this species in a rapidly developing region.

Another optimistic piece of news is the latest platypus sighting at Creekside Park in Kenmore Hills, very near where the koala was also seen. The rehabilitation efforts of MCCG's Section 3 (Huntington) may well be contributing to these wildlife indications that all is not lost... Yet.

The Australian Koala Foundation's website (2004) reports that dogs kill between 1,000 and 2,000 koalas each year.

Restraining dogs and keeping cats and dogs in at night will go a long way in protecting our unique and wonderful wildlife.

We can also help the koala by planting its food trees, which include the eucalypts: *E. crebra*, *E. microcorys*, *E. propinqua*, *E. siderophloia* and *E. tereticornis*. According to the Australian Koala Foundation website (2004) they also browse occasionally on tea-tree, wattle and paperbark.

Christine Hosking

## Fauna Friendly Plants of South East Queensland

The heading is the title of a recently published (2001) book of interest to those who understand the relationship between our native wildlife and plants, and wish to do something about it. It is written with a bias towards horticultural (garden) use of plants but is relevant to our wider MCCG interests.

It lists over 500 native species, the great majority of which naturally occur in our catchment. They are arranged in eight categories based on habit, from trees over 20 m high at maturity down to grasses and sedges; important distinctions for gardeners but not for us as we look at forests. Within each such category, Species are listed alphabetically (botanical names), followed by Common Name, then Preferred Habitat and Soil (e.g. dry sclerophyll forest, and rain forest), Height, Flowering/Fruiting Season, Landscape Use (examples are: spreading, hardy shade tree, and thick spreading shrub with attractive fruit), and finally, Fauna Use- this latter listing all animal species recorded as using it.

There is, in addition to a species index, one for fauna, from which one can then locate the appropriate plant. For example, entering via koala leads to at least 10 species of eucalypts- in the broad sense- which occur in this catchment.

The self published book is available directly from D.J.Barnes, 52 Bellicent Rd., Bracken Ridge, Qld. 4017.

(While on this subject of animals: Many readers may not be aware of a very useful book, Wildlife of Greater Brisbane, published by Queensland Museum. It is a colour identification guide to more than 600 species, with description of the animal, where it is likely to be found, and some other notes of interest.)

Graeme Wilson

## MCCG has established a WILDLIFE DATABASE

Please report any koala or platypus sightings (or any other unusual species) to:  
Chris Hosking on 3374 3453

## The Spotted-tailed (or Tiger) Quoll

The Spotted-tailed (or Tiger) Quoll was once widely distributed along the east and southeast of Australia. European settlement has changed that as a result of habitat destruction, increasing human population and predation by introduced animals. The range within which it occurs at all on the Australian mainland has more than halved, and where it remains, numbers are low and populations are fragmented and isolated. That is detrimental to survival.

Coming to the Greater Brisbane Area, the situation is the same. A few records from the 1920's but apparently no more for another 30 years makes it clear that they became very scarce. Queensland Museum (Wildlife of Greater Brisbane) says that it was last recorded in 1957 at Upper Brookfield. (And local memory is that such was the result of someone having shot it!) The Museum goes on to state "Almost certainly extinct in Brisbane area". In the interim a few unreliable sightings have been reported from the Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious areas.

Things have this year taken a very slight turn for the better. Only a couple of months ago, John Ravenscroft, a ranger with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, had a clear sighting of one at McAfees Lookout in Brisbane Forest Park; which is only about 2 km north of our catchment. And- less happily- a dead quoll was found on the Logan Motorway at Greenbank.

The question arises whether we can do something towards bringing the back. John Ravenscroft believes that it is unlikely that quolls will ever return to our backyards because of competition and predation from uncontrolled domestic cats and dogs. However, as the closest community to a recent sighting, he stresses that we can help this endangered species, by ensuring that cats and dogs are controlled at night and early morning. Foxes and feral dogs can also be held in check by not inadvertently supplying them with food such as open composts, free ranging ducks and chickens, and roaming pets (as food!).

(Thanks to Stephanie Meyer-Gleaves and John Ravenscroft for information on which this article is based.)



## Rainfall over the Moggill Creek Catchment

If there is one topic of interest throughout our Catchment, it is rainfall (or lack thereof). How often have you heard phrases like: "How much rain did you get yesterday?" "Your side of the valley always catches the storms!" "It doesn't rain nowadays like it used to when I was a kid!" Thanks to some folk around the Catchment, we have been able to answer some of these questions. Our main source of data is Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge, Upper Brookfield, where John has been keeping records since 1970. Over this 34 year period, monthly rainfall shows a marked summer peak, with lower (but useful) rainfall in winter (Figure 1).

It is because most of our rain falls in summer that bushfires are not usually as serious a problem here as they are in the south. Annual rainfall at Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge averaged 1212 mm, but year to year variation was very high (Figure 2). Nineteen of the 34 years had below-average rainfall, with 1977-1980 and 2000-2003 serious drought periods. Over the period January to the end of October, Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge received just 784 mm. Even though useful rains of 231 mm fell over the first fortnight of November, this has still not brought the 2004 rainfall even up to average.

As well as having data for Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge, we also have rainfall data for Gold Creek Reservoir and the University of Queensland Vet Farm at Pinjarra Hills, but only for 14 years do we have data for all three sites<sup>1</sup>; their mean annual rainfall was 1238, 1197 and 1020 mm respectively. Values for Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge and Gold Creek were quite similar, but the Vet farm was substantially drier, getting just 83% of the rainfall of Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge. As shown in Figure 3, this difference is quite consistent, with Pinjarra Hills receiving less rain than Upper Brookfield every year. Going a few kilometres further west from Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge, over the period 1987 to 2003 the de Jong property received 5% more rain than Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge.

Something else to consider is the pattern of rainfall – how often do we get a good soaking rain that thoroughly wets the soil profile? Going back to John Smith's data, it looks as if the last ten years have had fewer periods with soaking rains than the previous 20 years (Table 1).

Decade	Months with more than	
	100 mm	200 mm
1974-83	56	13
1984-93	53	10
1994-03	40	9

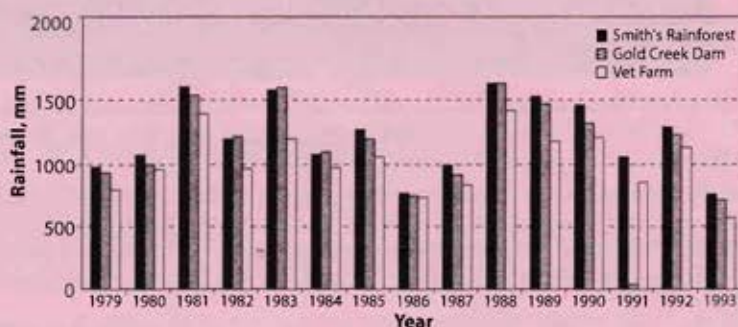
**Table 1.** Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge – months with good soaking rains



**Figure 1.** Mean Monthly Rainfall at Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge (34 year mean)



**Figure 2.** Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge – Annual rainfall as percentage of long-term mean (34 years)



**Figure 3.** Smith's Rainforest Nature Refuge – Annual rainfall as percentage of long-term mean (34 years)

In summary, our catchment has an extremely variable summer-dominant rainfall, with the current drought being more extended than any over the last 35 years. On average, rainfall is substantially higher in Upper Brookfield than in the Pinjarra Hills-Kenmore area.

<sup>1</sup> Thanks are due to John Smith, Maria de Jong, Tom Connolly (UQ Vet Farm), Bureau of Meteorology (Gold Creek Dam)



## PINES

What are pines? The question arose, as many do, at a Nursery working bee. Well, for a start, we have no true pines native to Australia but a wide range of species to which we attach the word as a common name. Much of that arises from relationship - admittedly often rather remote - but a little from imagination. It is of interest to have a quick look at the spread of plants involved.

The seed plants, which include most of the more conspicuous here, belong in two distinct groups; the Gymnosperms (unenclosed seeds) and Angiosperms (seeds enclosed in structures). The latter are also known as the flowering plants. It is in the former that we find most of what we call pines, and they fall in to several major groups (Orders) which include, as a matter of interest, the Cycads, Ginko (a single surviving species of a near extinct group) and the Yews. The one of particular concern in the present argument is the Coniferales, literally the cone bearers, which in turn contains several families we need to look at.

The first of these families is the Pinaceae, comprising nine genera with more than 200 species, of which about half belong to the genus *Pinus*. These latter are the pines. They are confined to the northern hemisphere except for a few which just make it across the Equator in to mountainous regions of Indonesia. We have of course large areas of exotic *Pinus* species here in our forestry plantations, in addition to ornamentals. We have to move on (taxonomically) to find some native "pines". But before doing so, we can note that other genera in the Pinaceae account for the spruces, firs, hemlocks, larches and cedars (not our so called cedars, which have nothing to do with the real ones); names well enough known to most of us but not occurring naturally in Australia.

Still in the Coniferales, the small family Araucariaceae provides the genera *Araucaria* and *Agathis*, within which we get Hoop and Bunya Pines, and Kauri Pine; and also the recently discovered Wollomi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*). The Cupressaceae has the Cypress Pines (*Callitris*), while the Podocarpaceae includes the Brown Pine (*Podocarpus*).

(Just in case someone with greater interest is wondering where the North American Redwood, Big Trees and the like come in; they belong in another family of the Coniferales, not represented in Australia).

It would be foolish to suggest that we mend our ways and drop our common names. At the same time, we might allow purists to feel uncomfortable when we start using the name pine unnecessarily among the flowering plants. For example, we know *Pandanus* well enough by the same word as a common name and it does not seem useful to call it the Screw Pine. And *Casuarina* spp. are accommodated sufficiently as She Oaks (in spite of not being oaks!) without resorting to Australian Pines, as they are known at least in American horticultural literature. Even so, we have lost the initiative in some cases, as with Prickly Pine (*Bursaria*), and we have to live with that. However, if anyone thinks that a pineapple is the nice fleshy cone of a conifer, we should have a serious talk!

Graeme Wilson

## Building in Brookfield? How about a pole house?

Families are moving out to Brookfield and Upper Brookfield in large numbers. Often they purchase a steep, forested block and then find an architect to design a house. Soon they bring in the bulldozer to provide them with a level site to build on. But is this the best solution? On steep land there are numerous advantages to building a pole house and reducing disturbance to a minimum.



Here are some of the advantages:

- Reduced area of native vegetation destroyed;
- Reduced area of steeply sloping spoil needing to be revegetated;
- Reduced impact of exotic weeds which thrive on disturbed ground;
- Houses built on stumps or poles are more readily inspected for (and protected from) termite damage;
- The house is built on undisturbed ground.

Bryan Hacker



## Can We Bring Back the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly?

The Richmond Birdwing (*Ornithoptera richmondia*) is the largest butterfly in subtropical eastern Australia. The iridescent green and black males have wingspans of about 11 cm while the black, brown and white females sometimes reach 13 cm. The Richmond Birdwing was abundant in Brisbane in the late 1800s but by 1927 the naturalist Rowland Illidge noted the butterfly was becoming scarce in Brisbane. In the 1950s adults continued to be seen in the Moggill Creek Catchment and one seen in the Catchment in 1984 was probably a wanderer from Mount Glorious. However, the Birdwing can no longer adequately sustain itself near Brisbane as the 'Richmond Birdwing vine' has been cleared from remaining rainforests edging the creeks and watercourses. The butterfly probably bred near the Gold Creek Dam, Ithaca Creek, Enoggera Creek and elsewhere in the foothills of the D'Aguilar Range. Occasional wanderers colonise cultivated vines close to Brisbane but they have not been able to maintain viable breeding populations due to insufficient vines. A small breeding colony near Bardon was destroyed in the 1980s when the vines were cut down from rainforest trees along a creek bank. On a more positive note, Birdwing caterpillars were observed in Brisbane in 2003 and 2004, in suburban gardens planted with the 'Richmond Birdwing vine', indicating they will re-colonise if they have sufficient food plants.

The Richmond Birdwing butterfly is dependent on the Richmond Birdwing vine, *Pararistolochia praevenosa*, a tough-leaved rainforest vine that is the only food plant suitable for its caterpillars. There are very few of these vines remaining in the wild in southeastern Queensland and unfortunately there is no other suitable plant. The vine was once abundant along water courses in lowland rainforest from near Grafton, NSW to Maryborough, Queensland. It has become extinct from Gympie to Maryborough but survives in fragmented rainforest patches between the Richmond River, NSW and Mount Tamborine, Queensland, and from Mount Glorious and Mount Mee to Kin Kin. These are the only remaining areas supporting the butterfly and many of the small patches with vines are at risk. Adult butterflies will feed on nectar of many different plants including the flowers of exotic species.

Two other *Aristolochia* vines occur in subtropical eastern Australia. One is a small scrambling, unnamed vine common from the Gold Coast to Maryborough but, although caterpillars of another butterfly feed on it, this *Aristolochia* is not used as a food plant by the Birdwing. Another vine, *Pararistolochia laheyana*, occurs only above 600 m on the Queensland - NSW Border Ranges where it serves as a host to the Richmond Birdwing in favourable years with moist, mild winters.

### Germinating seeds

Birdwing vines may be cultivated from cuttings or seeds. Seeds will develop only if a particular midge (*Forcipomyia* sp.) is present nearby to pollinate the ll.

flowers of the vines. These midges do not bite humans or warm-blooded animals. Flowering of vines occurs from September to about November depending on rainfall.

Fruits develop soon afterwards but do not ripen until about March or April. They must mature on the vine as yellow globular, soft fruit before the seeds become ripe enough to germinate. Under natural conditions brush turkeys are the agents that distribute the seeds. They break up the fallen fruit and bury the seeds by scratching as they feed on the pulp. For growing the seeds the fruit must be fresh (remains viable only if kept moist) and broken up in a bucket of water before seeds are planted using a good quality potting mix. They will germinate in six weeks to several months and are best potted up after the second pair of leaves emerge.

### The best place to grow a vine

Richmond birding vines prefer a semi-shade position with rich, moist basaltic or alluvial soil and good drainage. However, the vines can tolerate less than ideal conditions as long as soils do not dry out and they have good drainage. A piece of hollow log segment gives best results for early establishment when slightly sunk into the ground. The log segment can be filled with a good rich soil to help the nutritional needs. They prefer to climb into low canopies of trees or on a trellis. Vines also do well in large tubs and can then be moved if conditions need changing.

Vines should not be planted closer than 1.5 - 2 m from the base of a tree. It is better to encourage them into a canopy by coaxing the growing shoot along a cord tied into a branch. Once in a canopy 3 m or more above the ground the vines will branch and climb among stems of a supporting tree. Do not use deciduous trees as the butterfly chrysalis is usually formed on the supporting plant and will be lost when the leaves are shed. Lillypillies (*Syzygium* spp.) are one of the best well known plants to support a growing vine. Birdwing vines are not aggressive and do not normally smother the plants supporting them.

Vines need to be kept moist continuously in the dry season unless there is good ground water. They like fertiliser to become established and will grow much more rapidly if Osmocote<sup>®</sup> or something similar is provided frequently for the first 2-3 years. Unlike many native plants they like fertilisers rich in phosphate.

Each caterpillar will eat about 2 square metres of vine leaf and one must avoid being too impatient unless the vines are 2 years old or more. Any wandering butterfly will eventually find the vines to lay its eggs. The adults or caterpillars should not be moved from elsewhere as the Richmond Birdwing is a protected species and the various stages should not be handled without a permit from the Queensland National Parks & Wildlife Service. The MCCG nursery is developing stocks of the Richmond Birdwing vine to provide members with healthy vines to encourage this spectacular butterfly back into our area.

Don Sands



## Plant Families, 3 – Sapindaceae

The family name comes from the genus *Sapindus* which we do not know here. (Australian plants became known to botanists too late for much chance of a new genus without a known family!) It is a moderately sized family of about 150 genera and some 2000 species, mostly natives of the tropics and subtropics, and comprising trees, shrubs and woody vines.

There is no conspicuous common character across the family, although those in our catchment are mainly medium sized trees with pinnate leaves, and fruits having some degree of aril development from the base of seeds. Such structure is outstanding in some exotic family members such as litchi and rambutan, where it completely envelopes the seed and is the edible part. In some of our species it is at least showy, as seen in *Alectryon* spp. (birds' eyes) and *Diploglottis* (native tamarind). There are however species with simple leaves and some with dry fruit.

Their particular interest to us is that they provide many important trees of our dry rainforests or intermixed in open forests. Many are handsome trees, especially when growing in some isolation. This has led to some having become common street trees, replacing exotics which were once so widely used. Prominent in this are *Harpullia* (tulip wood) and *Cupaniopsis* (tuckeroo).

Those who know something of our plants would realize what a miserable vegetation it would be if we had none of the following: *Atalaya salicifolia* (brush whitewood), *Alectryon tomentosum* and *A. connatus* (birds' eyes), *Arytera distylis*, *A. divaricata* and *A. foveolata* (coogaras), *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* and *C. parvifolia* (tuckeroos), *Diploglottis australis* (native tamarind), *Elattostachys xylocarpa* (white tamarind), *Guioa semiglaucula* (native quince), *Harpullia hillii* and *H. pendula* (tulip woods), *Jagera pseudorhus* (foam bark), *Mishocarpus anodontus* (veiny pear fruit), and *Toeckia tenax* (steel wood). If we are allowed to have favourites, I have a very high regard for the foam bark which, particularly in isolation, grows to a relatively large, well rounded, handsome tree with dense dark green foliage. It is also very hardy. That it is not used more in public places may be because the abundant orange coloured fruit are covered in dense, rigid hairs, which irritate the skin if handled.

In addition to these larger trees, there are several species of *Dodonea* (hop bushes), small (about 2 m.), fast growing, hardy trees of the open forest. They are useful as pioneer species in revegetation.

We have introduced many ornamentals which become weeds, including in the Sapindaceae. The last issue (Spring) of this Newsletter asked readers to watch out for balloon vine (*Cardiospermum grandiflorum*). And pretty though the common garden and street tree, golden rain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*) may be, its abundant wind-blown papery fruits have led to some concern that it will become another pest.

Graeme Wilson

### Dutchman's Pipe – lethal to the Birdwing Butterfly

A major factor threatening survival of the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly is the introduced Dutchman's Pipe vine, *Aristolochia elegans*. The female Birdwing is tricked into laying eggs on Dutchman's Pipe by compounds in the leaves but the leaves are poisonous to the caterpillars which die when they attempt to feed. This vine has escaped from garden cultivation and it has invaded many parts of eastern Australia including the Moggill Creek Catchment. Originally from South America, the vine has soft, pale green heart-shaped leaves and large, purple-veined flowers, which are distinctly pipe-shaped. Unfortunately the plant sets wind-borne seed and it has spread as a weed from gardens to bushland. In our area it tends to occur in moister areas with more fertile soils. It is also very toxic to stock and should be eradicated wherever it occurs. It is readily recognizable in flower or fruit, but when these are not present, can perhaps be confused with the locally native tape vine, *Stephania japonica*. The leaf stalk of tape vine is joined to the blade near the centre, whereas the leaf stalk of Dutchman's pipe is joined to the margin of the blade. The crushed leaf of the latter has a distinctive, unpleasant odour.

Don Sands and Bryan Hacker



Figure 1. Dutchman's Pipe – leaf



Figure 2. Dutchman's Pipe – flower



Figure 3. Dutchman's Pipe – dehiscent fruit



## Photography Competition

Our seventh annual Photography Competition was again a success, with over 65 entries across the categories and sections. The display at Kenmore Village Shopping Centre created much interest for passing shoppers.

The competition is held to draw attention to the beauty and plights of our catchment, and this year to the activities and good work of people in restoration of native vegetation. Photos had to be taken within the catchment. The winner of the Supreme Exhibit was Gaynor Johnson with her frog photo (see front page).

The event is possible only with the support we receive, and we thank the following-

**Sponsors:** Centenary Hire; Water Solutions; Hampton Gardens Nursery; Brookfield Produce; Moggill Constructions; Orrum Jewellers; Margaret de Wit, Councillor for Pullenvale Ward; Mitre 10-Kenmore; RealWay Real Estate; Darryl Mappin Nursery; Poolmart-Kenmore; Kenmore Veterinary Surgery; Kenmore Centre for Health; The Local Bulletin; The Print Shoppe; Kodak Express-Kenmore; and Kenmore Village Deli.

**Donors:** Kenmore Village Shopping Centre; Hon. Bruce Flegg, Member for Moggill; The Gunn Family; Café Bliss; and Mark McCarthy Automotive.

## Weedbuster Week Successes

The annual Weedbuster Week, an initiative of Qld. Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, encouraging attack on the army of weeds which is about to overwhelm our forests, resulted in two successful operations in the catchment.

Moon Memorial Tree Reserve has become something of a worry to us. No serious maintenance has been occurring there, leading to severe weed infestation which will result in damage to the useful vegetation and become a source of weed seeds causing problems beyond the Reserve. A working party was arranged with the pleasing attendance of some 25 volunteers. A lot was done, although small in the necessary job. The number attending and the apparent interest has led to the hope that a group-perhaps along the lines of the Bushcare program-will be formed to continue the work and bring this interesting area of vegetation through to a good example of what can be done; not to mention a pleasant place to visit.

The other weed attack was a special effort by Gap Creek Bushcare Group on the occasion of its usual monthly working bee. Twenty six persons came and much achieved. This Group hopes to create an attractive stretch of public-accessible native vegetation through from Brookfield Rd. to Kookaburra St.

In both cases more was achieved than simply weed removal. Attention was drawn to the weed problem, with the hope that participants and perhaps others seeing what was happening will become more aware and do something about it.

## Committee Members/Section Leaders – 2004-2005

### Committee Members

Chairman	Bryan Hacker	3374 1468
Vice-Chairman	Malcolm Frost	3374 0649
Treasurer	Judy Walker	3374 1505
Secretary	Gaynor Johnson	3374 0803
Publicity	Chris Hosking	3374 3453
Nursery Operations	Graeme Wilson	3374 1218

### Section Leaders

Section 1	Pullenvale/Moons Lane	Richard Woodhead	3374 4691
2	Lower Moggill Creek	Rob Waller	3378 9979
3	Huntingdon	Malcolm Frost	3374 0649
4	Showgrounds	Peter Nielsen	3374 1145
5	Haven Road	Don Mumford	3374 1348
6	Upper Brookfield	Darryl O'Brien	3374 4964
7	Gold Creek Reserve	Andrew Dutton	3300 4855
8	Wonga Creek	Graeme Wilson	3374 1218
9	Upper Gold Creek	Gordon Grigg	3374 1737
10	Lower Gold Creek	Vacant	
11	McKay Brook	Bryan Hacker	3374 1468
12	Gap Creek	Michael Humphreys	3374 1467
13	Mt Coot-tha Park	John McKenzie	3407 0013

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