


Queensland Bushfood Association Bulletin

The Bulletin is emailed to all members.

Contact the Editor editor@qldbushfood.com if you would like to receive a complimentary copy.



The Bushfood Bulletin

Queensland BUSHFOOD ASSOCIATION
www.qldbushfood.com

Our aim is that by sharing the knowledge we gain in gathering, growing, harvesting and preparing bushfoods, we further their use and our enjoyment.

Spring 2010 Volume 2 Issue 3

CONTACT US

Chairman
Vacant 2010-11

Secretary
Nary King
07 5438 0074
secretary@qldbushfood.com

Treasurer
Anne Young
07 3378 9458
treasurer@qldbushfood.com

Membership Officer
Doug Brownlow
membership@qldbushfood.com

Events Officer
Bruce Kent
07 3263 4131

Committee
John Wrench
Graeme White


Bulletin Editor
Helen Owens
hellioe@gmail.com

Website:
www.qldbushfood.com

For further QBA information please contact the secretary secretary@qldbushfood.com

The views expressed in articles in The Bushfood Bulletin are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Queensland Bushfood Association unless it is stated. Thanks to our members for their support and assistance.

Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting
8 August 2010



Members and Friends,

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Bushfood Association. Over our year together we've shaped this occasion to be one where we mix and mingle, share stories and eat ... so I'll respect that tradition and keep this format. Chairman's report relatively brief.

We began our year with hope yet the usual signs of shaky foundations ... few nominations for committee positions, a decline in our numbers and a year marked by occasional rather than regular Bulletin issues and activities. Yet our hope prevailed!

Over the year our membership has grown to 41 ... almost a 25% increase in active membership. One of our new members joined our committee and another joined a newly formed School Project Team ... more of that later.

Our numbers are drawn mainly from the Greater Brisbane region with a cluster from the Sunshine Coast and individuals from Esk, Toowoomba and Northern New South Wales in the Tweed area.

While we are still building membership profiles to better understand and meet the needs of our members, we know that twentythree express an interest in growing, four in processing, seven in retailing, three in marketing, seven in research and thirteen in cooking.

We issued two Bulletins which set a new standard for quality ... this is a challenge we need to continue to meet since, for the majority of our members, our Bulletin is their only contact with the Association's activities. This is well supported by our Secretary's emailing of news and events.

In previous years we have taken a booth at the ABC Gardening show. The Committee decided against that this year, in part because the cost of involvement had risen. Instead, we accepted the offer of the Herb Society to make our presence felt there. It proved a very good move in that our efforts received significant exposure and we recruited new members. These were the same outcomes we'd hoped for from the Gardening show.

Again, this year, some of our members continued to write for the national publication, Subtropical Gardening magazine. Their expertise with native species, their propagation, cultivation and use, makes for great material and the magazine's readers will note acknowledgement is given to the Queensland Bushfood Association. While it is not appropriate to identify individual authors in the magazine itself, I want to name Graeme White, John King and John Wrench as the 'faceless men' who have authored articles in whole or part. Other members have assisted with ideas and photographs.

We continue to receive approaches from schools needing help, guidance and, often-times, just ideas, as their curricular planning encourages them to explore Indigenous culture and nutritious food styles. While individual members have sometimes responded to these calls the Committee sensed a growing need that we weren't meeting. Accordingly, the Committee approached the Minister for Education offering our assistance to their curriculum area. A polite response expressed their "thanks but no thanks for now" reply and left us to decide to build a package to be made available via our website. I hope this will be a major activity for our new year and an exciting opportunity to showcase the experience, knowledge, skills and plain commonsense amongst our membership. Gary Young has undertaken to coordinate this team project.