

### Membership Fees

At the Annual General Meeting it was agreed to increase membership fees to:

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Family            | \$12.00 |
| Single            | \$10.00 |
| Student/Pensioner | \$ 5.00 |

Membership subscriptions were due for renewal in June. If you haven't renewed yours yet, please will you complete the form on page 3 and return it to the Treasurer.

As the President, Gary North, said at the AGM, the committee relies on your ideas and support to carry on fighting for Stradbroke's future.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in becoming members, please will you encourage them to do so!

### WPSQ Director to represent SIMO

The following item is taken from the Queensland Conservation Council Newsletter of June 1991:

WPSQ Director, Adrian Jeffreys, has been appointed to represent environment groups on the South East Queensland Regional Planning Advisory Group (RPAG).

The Queensland Government established the RPAG in line with recommendations made at the SEQ 2001 Conference on 7 December 1990. Conservationists see this as the first major State Government initiative on regional planning since the early 1970s.

The Advisory Group comprises four State Government ministers, four mayors and shire chairmen, and representatives of business, industry, professional planners, social welfare, unions and conservationists.

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*S.I.M.O. Newsletter, August 1991*

Stradbroke Island Management Organization, Inc.

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### Blue Lake Creek Bush Walk

on Saturday 13 July proved the continuing popularity of the SIMO walks as a good number of people assembled that sunny morning to explore a little more of our beautiful and unique island.

Interesting features noted as the party walked upstream were the variety of ferns growing out of and over the creek, the *Todea Barbara* being a star attraction. Trees seen, and some even hugged by enthusiasts!, included *Angophora*, Brush Box, Blackbutt, Soap Tree and the Lilly Pilly.

On the return walk along the ridge, the walkers remarked on the contrast in vegetation, with the mallee heath and mallee tree species on the high slopes,

and the dense growth by the creek below.

After circling picturesque Lemon Tree Lagoon, we boiled the billy, checked out the three lemon trees and the remains of the old bridge at Lemon Tree Flat.

Rehabilitation of the mined area on the southside of Blue Lake Creek is disappointing, with Black Wattle being dominant and little or no understorey, just bare sand in many places. NP&WS are attempting to arrest erosion on the banks of Blue Lake but further maintenance is needed.

The walk was great and everyone is looking forward to the next outing which will be *to Mt Vane on Saturday 19 October 1991. 4WD vehicles not necessary.* Please advise Lance [409-8345] or Gary [409-8225] if you'd like to come. *Lance Blemmings*

## *The Annual General Meeting*

After weeks of rain Saturday June 8 was sunny for the AGM which was held *al fresco* on the Durbidge property at Myora. President Gary North welcomed members and guests and gave his annual report.

"The last year has been one of SIMO's busiest. We were given the opportunity to have input, through submissions, into an unprecedented number of reviews and inquiries instigated by both State and Federal Governments, and in many we attempted to portray the island as an area of importance for recreation and education for south east Queensland.

"Unfortunately some politicians and public servants have the shortsighted view that sandmining is the most important attribute of Stradbroke Island. However, we have succeeded in gaining recognition of the island's other attributes in the interim listing on the Register of the National Estate of four areas.

"Less happily the national park proposal for Stradbroke appears to be bogged down, pending the outcome of ACI's mining lease application. From discussions with ACI's senior management, it appears that the viability of their expansion programme relies on the approval of a loading facility through one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of the island. The combined forces of SIMO, QCC, QFO, FOSI, the Australian Littoral Society and the Quandamooka Land Council will be opposing this proposal. For too long the Australian environment has suffered degradation so that our natural resources can be supplied to overseas companies for a few dollars cheaper.

"We are still awaiting the release of the Moreton Bay Strategic Plan. With the Fraser Island Enquiry recommending cessation of logging and limiting four wheel drive access to that island, there is the likelihood that increased pressure will be placed on Stradbroke Island. Public pressure has resulted in both Moreton and Fraser Islands being protected, leaving Stradbroke as the 'sacrificial lamb'.

"A great disappointment was the change in the electoral system whereby Stradbroke and the Bay Islands lost their council representatives, in spite of EARC acknowledging in its final report the validity of the problems put forward in SIMO's submission.

"The radar tower on Mt Hardgrave seems likely to go ahead. In its submission SIMO asked that alternative sites on Stradbroke of almost equal height be

investigated, but the cost, rather than environmental and aesthetic factors, seems to have swayed the decision makers.

"The Redland Shire Council has been piping water to the mainland from Herring Lagoon since the beginning of the year with no trouble until May 19. Apparently the recent heavy rain has stirred up the swamp peat, discolouring the water enough to make it unacceptable to mainland residents.

"The Council's Tourist Committee held a tourism planning workshop last September to which SIMO was invited. The two major conclusions reached were that there should not be a bridge to the island and that development should be low key to preserve the unique nature of the island.

"At present the Council is drawing up a Beach Management Plan for the island. Let us hope that this will afford some protection for Stradbroke's fragile areas.

"SIMO applied for a grant from the Department of Environment and Heritage to look at alternative town plan schemes for North Stradbroke Island, and we have been allocated \$2,000 for this purpose.

"I would like to thank the committee for the tremendous amount of work they have done, and thank too their families for allowing them the time to do it. I urge all members who feel they would like to have an input into any of SIMO's battles to contact any of the committee at any time. Your ideas are always welcome, for without your support the organisation would not be able to carry on fighting for Stradbroke's future."

Gary North and Ellie Durbidge were unanimously re-elected President and Secretary, respectively.

Treasurer: Margaret Nash  
 Vice & Past President: Gail Bell  
 Newsletter Editor: Paddy Carter  
 Committee: A. Vickers, L. Blemmings, J. Cooke-Bramley, F. & T. Quinn, P. Spinner, J. Steele, G. Litherland, H. Berry, J. Haenke, J. Hart, N. O'Loughlan, A. Burch.

The meeting ended with the traditional boiling of the billy and a sausage sizzle.

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**URGENT! Who knows their plants?**  
 Hands up if you have some knowledge about identifying coastal heath species. You may like to help SIMO carry out field recordings of plant species within Mount Bippo Penbeam Wildflower Reserve. Please phone Gail Bell on 409-7158 to make arrangements before the flowers go out.