



Third Letter from Bowyakka Bilby

Hi there! The folks around Charleville are getting pretty excited about encouraging we bilbies to breed more! As you can see I'm in training. They're even building special large fenced paddocks and celebrating in the week before the IWCS meeting, finishing with a 'The 1930's inspired fancy dress Charleville Fur Ball' on Saturday, September 10th. Not my fur mind you! Proceeds to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Too good to miss I reckon. Come and see if you can meet up with me! If all that isn't enough, there's a country race meeting at Morven 90 km away on Saturday, Sept. 10th. What a warm up you Woodies are going to have for your meeting starting Monday, September 12th until Saturday, September 17th. Find out everything you need to know at the IWCS website. Go to the [Publications](#) tab to read my two earlier letters and to the [Future Meetings](#) tab for the Australasian 2016 Annual Meeting.

Of course we like to tell visitors about the three 'Must Do's' right in Charleville: A visit to the Royal Flying Doctor Service base, the amazing School of the Air and gazing at the stars at Cosmos through the clearest skies in the world. Some of these attractions are part of the program.

Since my last letter to you all, I found out more about Jenny and Robert Crichton, local IWCS members who will be hosting attendees as part of the program with an unbelievable look at their property, Maryvale Station including camp oven dinner. Robert has lived in this area all his life with Jenny a new bride arrival in the 1960's. They are passionate about this area that I call home as well. As well as running their extensive outback grazing property they have established Outback Hardwoods of Australia to sustainably make available to the world the amazing timbers from the extensive red soil of the Mulga Bioregion of Western Queensland. Jenny handcrafts silver and gold jewelry. Take a look at this link to find out more about the hardwood enterprise established out of the desire to survive drought on their 22,000 ha property.

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2004/s1189705.htm>

The day at Maryvale Station will include the opportunity to purchase code of practice harvested timbers from Maryvale. This is a once-in-a-lifetime turner's and wood crafter's opportunity. Twelve of the district timbers are so heavy that they sink in water!

For an excellent introduction to the hardwoods of this area the book 'Australian Timbers Vol.2 – Western Queensland Trees and their timbers' by Ellie Fairbairn Qld. Dept. of Natural Resources ISBN 0 7242 7418 9 117 pp and around AUD\$60 available from various book suppliers.

Back at the meeting centre in Charleville two boxes each containing 40 standard specimen size local timbers will be offered for sale at \$235 weighing eight kilograms with the boxes 34 x 31 x 11 cm and weighing 8 kilograms. One box will be made of Northern Silky Oak (*Cardwellia sublimis*) and the other of Red Cedar (*Toona ciliata*) for members who would like to purchase a ready made collection of the local timbers. These have been meticulously prepared by Col Martin.
Email Col for a complete listing.



The craft and wood auctions are a real highlight and you can be sure will turn up some incredible offerings. Donors need to list their items with Marcia at mtg@netspace.net.au by August 1st so that full catalogue will be available at the meeting.

For a lifetime experience of the unending space of the Australian outback, the clear night sky stars, the silence, emptiness, the red soil and the amazing tree timbers they produce, this is an IWCS event not to be missed. Register now by contacting Colin Martin at cmartin@icr.com.au or phone 61(0) 7-4635-3697. Registrations close August 1st.

Until we meet in Charleville,

SEE 'YA, BB