



Emaho trees

www.emahotrees.com.au



About Emaho Trees

Emaho Trees is a unique tree farm specializing in a range of advanced, premium quality, Australian native trees grown in-ground for diverse climates. The property's rich volcanic soil and climate is well suited to trees required to be hardy, drought tolerant and low maintenance.

Through their company, McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty Ltd, James and Barbara McGeoch established a 40 acre tree farm in 2002 which was designed around sustainable farming practices. The farm operates on renewable energy, harvests rainwater for irrigation, uses only organic fertilisers and is a proud supporter of the local business and horticultural community. Emaho Trees was the first farm in Australia and NZ to achieve BCorp certification for its positive social and environmental impact.

B Corporations are leaders of the global movement of people using business as a force for good. They meet the highest standards of verified overall social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability and aspire to use the power of business to solve social and environmental problems.

www.bcorporation.net

Over the last twelve years, Emaho Trees has provided trees to major Council Projects and high-profile landscape projects in Queensland, NSW and Victoria. Also, Emaho has exported trees to landscape projects in the Middle East, China, Hong Kong and Macau including Disneyland in Hong Kong and Shanghai, and MGM Cotai in Macau.

James and Barbara have always been passionate about growing trees and developing gardens. Apart from the commercial trees, Emaho has extensive gardens influenced through their involvement in international landscape projects. In 2017, the Emaho gardens were featured on ABC Gardening Australia, in 2021 in the Australian Weekend Magazine and have been opened to the public to raise funds for charities. Also, in 2021, the tree farm was shown on ABC Landline.



Cover image: Emaho Trees plantation
Images (top to bottom): *Agathis robusta*,
Elaeocarpus eumundii, *Ficus rubiginosa*.



Our experience and expertise

Prior to establishing Emaho Trees, McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty Ltd owned and managed Birkdale Nursery for 25 years and were a leading supplier of trees, palms, shrubs and groundcovers in Australia and internationally.

Birkdale Nursery was the first nursery in Australia to achieve ISO Quality Assurance certification in 1995 and in the same year, was awarded by the Australian Government, a citation for export achievement for outstanding contributions to Australia's export efforts.

At the commencement of Disneyland Hong Kong 2002-2006, James established a nursery in Zhuhai (China) – now owned by Birkdale International (Hong Kong) Limited, to contract grow for Disney. At the same time, he set up three project nurseries in Thailand, supplying Disney with 800 specimen trees which all had to be established in soil-less media to meet Hong Kong quarantine requirements. Today, he still has strong connections with growers of trees, palms and shrubs which enables supply to international landscape projects.

Birkdale Nursery (Australia) exported 120 x 6m clear trunked Phoenix canarienses for the Disneyland Hong Kong main entry, plus numerous other trees, palms and shrubs including Brachychiton rupestris (Bottle Trees) and 150 x Ficus macrophylla was used as the signature tree throughout the landscape.

In 2005, James established Birkdale International (Hong Kong) and (Macau) Ltd with Darren Moseley to service Disney Hong Kong and Shanghai and casino resorts in Macau. Then in 2017, James sold his interest in those companies to Darren, so he could focus on the development of Ornatec International Consultancy (Beijing) Co. Ltd.

James and Barbara then established a horticultural consultancy company in China, Ornatec International Consultancy (Beijing) Limited in 2017. Through this company, James consults to the Zhengdong New District Management Committee, Shanghai Gardens (Group) Co. Limited and Beijing Florascape Company. He has also built strong relationships with suppliers of plants for international markets.

Both James and Barbara have been very active in supporting the exporting community in Australia and have served on a number of government and industry Boards.

Images (top to bottom):
Disneyland Hong Kong – entry
Avenue of Phoenix canariensis,
Ficus macrocarpa var. hillii,
and Brachychiton rupestris
(Bottle Tree) being installed.



Our team and projects



James McGeoch

Managing Director, McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty. Ltd. trading as Emaho Trees

Managing Director, Ornatec International Consultancy (Beijing) Co., Ltd.

James has 50 years horticultural/agricultural and 30 years exporting experience. From 1982-2006, he was the Managing Director, McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty Ltd which was well known for its high quality horticultural products and export services throughout Asia, the Middle East and Europe. He was based in China for 20 years.

James first visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 24 years ago and most recently just prior to COVID.

Our team of highly respected international experts, led by James McGeoch, effectively and efficiently manage large scale landscape projects including integrated theme parks, urban developments, nursery design, construction and management.

PRESENT POSITIONS:

- Managing Director, McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty Ltd trading as Emaho Trees
- International Landscape Advisor, Zhengdong New District Management Committee
- Senior Consultant, Shanghai Gardens (Group) Co. Ltd.
- Senior Advisor, Beijing Floriculture Company

PAST POSITIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING STATE AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS IN AUSTRALIA:

- Past Director, Landscape, Plant Material and Nursery Division, Shanghai Shendi Garden Investment and Construction Company Limited (Disney Shanghai)
- Past Chairman/Director, Birkdale International (Hong Kong) Limited
- Past Director, Birkdale International (Macau) Limited
- Past Managing Director, Zhuhai Birkdale Nursery Limited
- Past Chairman, Horticultural Research & Development Corporation of Australia
- Past Chairman, Joint Rural R&D Corporations of Australia
- Past Board Member, Australian Horticultural Corporation of Australia
- Past President, Flower Export Council of Australia
- Past President, Queensland Nursery Industry Association
- Past Chairman, Grovely TAFE Horticultural Council
- Past Chairman, Queensland Industry Training Council for Horticulture
- Past Member, Rural Innovation Advisory Council of Australia (Federal Ministerial appointment)
- Past Member, Australia Indonesia Horticulture Task Force, Department of Agriculture Forestry & Fisheries Australia.

PROJECTS WHICH JAMES HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN:

- MGM Cotai, Macau: 2016
- Wynn Palace Casino, Macau: 2016
- Disneyland Shanghai: 2012-2016
- Hong Kong Roof Gardens: 2012-2016
- Caesars Golf Macau: 2008-2009
- City of Dreams Casino Resort, Macau: 2008-2009
- Fairlake Luxury Residential Villas, Shanghai: 2003-2009
- Disneyland Hong Kong: 2002-2006
- Huadu Center (Bvlgary Hotel, museum, office towers and condominiums), Beijing
- Fort Bonifacio Global City, Philippines 1997



Barbara McGeoch

**Director and General Manager,
McGeoch's Birkdale Nursery Pty
Ltd trading as Emaho Trees**

**Director, Ornatec International
Consultancy (Beijing) Co., Ltd.**

Over 25 years, Barbara has worked with James in developing the company's export business and built a global network of suppliers to ensure that the demanding and diverse requirements of clients throughout Asia and the Middle East are met. In 2002, she was awarded Entrepreneur of the Year by Femmes Chefs d'Enterprises Mondiales at their International Congress in St. Petersburg. She received the prestigious Westpac/Australian Institute of Export 'Heroes Award' in 1999 for outstanding service to Australia's export efforts.

Also, she served for 12 years as a Director of the Export Council of Australia which advocates and promotes Australian exports and raises the awareness of the importance of exporting to Australia's economy.



David Chen

**General Manager, Ornatec
International Consultancy
(Beijing) Co., Ltd.**

Over 15 years, David has worked as a lawyer and entrepreneur in foreign direct investment, finance, mergers and acquisitions, international commerce, foreign investment and security service businesses including acting as an editor for CUEB Press since 1998. He graduated from the Law School of Renmin University in Beijing in 1998 with his Masters Degree in Law and passed the Bar Examination in 2000. In 2005, he graduated from the Business School, Dominican University in Chicago with an MBA degree in finance. David's involvement in landscaping commenced in 2014, working for some of the most prestigious projects in Beijing.

Disneyland Shanghai -
Disneyland Shanghai Project
Nursery - Ginkgo biloba (left)
Magnolia grandiflora (right)





Our services

From integrated theme parks, urban developments, nursery design, nursery construction and management, we have the experience and expertise to meet the exacting requirements of international clients.

Integrated theme parks

- Creation of project nurseries and management to international standards
- Nursery production to meet clients' specifications and project timelines
- Introduction of latest international technologies to boost efficiencies
- Sourcing of plant material, including importing and logistical management of its delivery
- Formulating maintenance, nutritional and integrated pest management programs
- Human resource training in all aspects of nursery production and landscape installation
- Acclimatisation of horticultural products for interior landscaping services

Urban developments

- Master planning and design
- Landscape design
- Green/breathing walls and roof gardens
- Environmental impact studies
- Land remediation and reclamation
- Soil and water quality management

Nursery construction and management

- Site analysis
- Environmental, including water management
- Design layout for maximum efficiencies
- Production planning – in-ground and container growing
- Species selection specific to climatic zones
- Introduction of new plant species
- Irrigation design and implementation
- Soil and nutrition programs
- Integrated pest management
- Arboriculture
- Quality control systems

For further information and photographs, please refer to website www.emahotrees.com.au and www.ornatecinternational.com

Images (left to right): Disneyland Hong Kong – *Streblus asper* prepared in Thailand for shipment to Hong Kong, *Streblus asper* in position.

Emaho Trees

507 Ravensbourne Dip Road,
Ravensbourne, Queensland,
4352, Australia

James McGeoch
Managing Director

Phone: +61 4697 8018
james@ornatecinternational.com

Barbara McGeoch
Director and General Manager

Phone: +61 4697 8018
barbara@emahotrees.com.au

For enquiries, quotations
and forward ordering,
please contact us at
barbara@emahotrees.com.au
or phone +61 7 4697 8018.

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