

# Bee Flight



---

## President's Report

---



Welcome to another year of beekeeping. I trust you had a great Christmas and enjoyed the holiday break.

This year is set to be another busy year for our club. We have now confirmed our field day for 2017 on the 12<sup>th</sup> March and we are now getting the details of the event organised. The venue this year will once again be the Peak Crossing School.

During the break we received notification that our application for a grant to buy a printer had been successful so the club can now purchase a commercial printer to help maintain our professional image. Many thanks to Kellie Round for working to secure this grant.

I noticed over the holiday that the flora seems to be abundant in some areas, with a spectacular show of Moreton Bay Ash in some areas and Bloodwood now starting to flower. Here is hoping for a strong second half of the honey season.

During March we hope once again to have Queens available for members. Please let Kellie Round know as soon as possible if you require Queens this autumn.

Our March meeting will include our Club Honey competition. For those of you that are new to beekeeping this is a great opportunity to try your hand at selecting and preparing honey for show. If you have not done it before, let us know and we can organise some help to get you started. It is great fun to do and to learn about.

Hope to see you all at the first meeting of the year on the 7<sup>th</sup> February.

*Phil Geeves  
Club President*

---

## February 2017 Edition

---

---

### Club Meetings

---

Our club meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month (except January)

Venue  
W.G. Hayden Humanities Centre  
Cnr. South and Nicholas Streets,  
Ipswich 7.30pm.  
All welcome.

---

### Club Registration

---

Before Club meetings all members are required to pay a \$2.00 registration fee.

---

### Dates to Remember

---

Committee Meeting was 16<sup>th</sup> January  
Next Club Meeting - 7<sup>th</sup> February  
Club Field Day 2017 - 12<sup>th</sup> March  
Club events are on the website  
<http://www.honey.org.au>

---

### Show Dates

---

The show dates have been published on our website and in this newsletter. At the time of printing however some of the show websites were still showing last year's dates. I will keep the website updated and publish a full list as soon as the dates are known.

*Editor Phil Corbett*

---

## March Honey Competition

---

This meeting will include the club's annual honey competition. If you are extracting honey put some aside and enter the competition. If you are new to beekeeping and unsure of how to go about it, just chat to one of our more experienced members.

Members only need to supply 1 bottle for each entry. Members can enter as many bottles in each class as they like as long as they come from different flora/apiaries.

All honey entries to be presented in standard 500g bottles with white lids. **The 500g glass competition bottles will be available at the February meeting.**

All entries must be from the exhibitor's own apiaries.

The following are the Classes that members can enter:-

1. Light Honey.
2. Golden Honey.
3. Dark Honey.
4. Creamed Honey
5. Beeswax – block of beeswax – min 500g up to 1Kg.

---

## Queens

---

We hope to once again have Queens available for members in March.

Proposed pick up dates are Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

There is no guarantee of availability as yet but if you require Queens you need to place your order with Kellie at the February meeting. More details on cost etc; as they become available. All Queens must be paid for at the March meeting by the latest.

---

## Flow Hive

---

With an ever increasing number of enquires and questions about Flow-Hive, Darryl Ryan has offered to be the contact point for flow hive in the club. Any questions or information about Flow-Hive can be sent to Darryl at [Redone360@hotmail.com](mailto:Redone360@hotmail.com) or you can call him on 0405133 360.

---

## Club Field Day 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017

---

The Club's next Field Day is on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March at Peak Crossing State School. Please write this date in your diary and keep the day free. As always there is a lot of work in setting up for the day as well as cleaning up at the end of the day. Noela will have a work sheet for volunteers at the February meeting Please see page 5 for more details of volunteers needed.

**Remember**  
**"Many hands make light work".**

---

## Inter-club Trophy

---

### Field Day – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Members only need to supply 1 bottle for each entry. One entry per Member for each class. All entries to be presented in standard 500g bottles with white lids. All entries must be from the exhibitor's own apiary. **The 500g glass competition bottles will be available at the February meeting.**

The following are the Classes that Members can enter:-

1. Light Honey.
2. Golden Honey.
3. Dark Honey.
4. Comb Section in Honey.
5. Creamed Honey.
6. Granulated Honey - Fine.
7. Granulated Honey – Coarse.
8. Block of wax yellow – min 500g
9. Block of wax white – min 500g
10. Frame of Honey.
11. Heaviest Frame of honey.
12. Biscuit Recipe.
13. Cake Recipe.

Recipes are in this newsletter page 4

---

## Flora - January - February

---

We should be seeing Blue Heliotrope, Brush Box, Carpet Weed, Flat Weed, River Coolibah, Molly Red Box, Pumpkin, Red, Stringy-bark, Silver-Leafed Ironbark, Brown Bloodwood, Brown Box, Gum-top Box, Grey Gum, River Red, Gum, Pink Bloodwood, Swamp Mahogany, Turnip Weed and Black-butt and Narrow leaf Ironbark.

---

## Show Dates 2017

---

<u>Marburg</u>	<u>12th &amp; 13th May 2017</u>	<u><a href="http://www.marburgshow.com.au">www.marburgshow.com.au</a></u>
<u>Boonah</u>	<u>2nd &amp; 3rd June 2017</u>	<u><a href="http://www.boonahshowsociety.org.au">www.boonahshowsociety.org.au</a></u>
<u>Ipswich</u>	<u>19th - 21st May 2017</u>	<u><a href="http://www.ipswichshow.com.au">www.ipswichshow.com.au</a></u>
<u>Esk</u>	<u>26th &amp; 27th May</u>	<u><a href="http://www.eskshow.com.au">www.eskshow.com.au</a></u>
<u>Toogoolawah</u>	<u>TBA</u>	<u><a href="http://www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au">www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au</a></u>
<u>Lowood</u>	<u>TBA</u>	<u><a href="http://www.lowwoodshowsociety.com.au">www.lowwoodshowsociety.com.au</a></u>
<u>Kalbar</u>	<u>16th &amp; 17th June 2017</u>	<u><a href="http://www.kalbarshow.net.au">www.kalbarshow.net.au</a></u>
<u>Rosewood</u>	<u>TBA</u>	<u><a href="http://www.rosewoodshow.com">www.rosewoodshow.com</a></u>
<u>Redcliffe</u>	<u>TBA</u>	<u><a href="http://www.redcliffeshow.org.au">www.redcliffeshow.org.au</a></u>
<u>EKKA</u>	<u>11th - 20th August 2017</u>	<u><a href="http://www.ekka.com.au">www.ekka.com.au</a></u>
<u>Beaudesert</u>	<u>8th &amp; 9th September</u>	<u><a href="http://www.beaudesertshow.org.au">www.beaudesertshow.org.au</a></u>

---

## Flora in the Scenic Rim

---

We have some of the best flora I have seen out in Boonah at the moment. The bees seem to be enjoying the flow.



---

## Field Day Recipes

---

### Honey Sour Cream Tea Cake

- 125g butter
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup honey
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups Self Raising flour
- Pinch salt
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 300 ml sour cream



#### Topping:-

- 1/3 cup brown sugar, ½ cup chopped walnut, 2 teaspoons cinnamon, mix together.

Line a 23cm square tin with baking paper. Pre-heat oven to 180°C.

Cream butter and brown sugar, blend in honey. Beat in eggs.

Mix in flour sifted with salt alternately with lemon juice and sour cream.

Pour batter into prepared tin. Sprinkle topping over batter.

Bake 180° for 40-45 minutes.

Present whole cake for judging.

### Peanut Butter and Honey Biscuits

- 125g butter or margarine
- 1/3 cup peanut butter (smooth or chunky it does not matter)
- ½ cup sugar
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1¾ cups plain flour
- 1 teaspoon soda

Heat oven to 180°C. Place baking paper onto 3 baking trays.

Cream butter or margarine and peanut butter, gradually beat in sugar and honey.

Beat in vanilla and egg then flour sifted with soda.

Place teaspoons of mixture onto the baking paper and flatten with a fork dipped in flour.

Bake 8-10 minutes. ( the mixture makes approx. 40 biscuits)

Present 8 biscuits on a plate for judging.



## Field Day - Volunteer List

We need as many people as possible to help with the set up and running of the field day, as based on last years numbers we can expect 300 + people to turn up. This day is our biggest event in the year and promotes the importance of the bees as pollinators and food providers. The day is organised as an educational day and again this year we are organising some great guest speakers. Based on requests from last year we will, for the first time, be selling Club Honey on the day. We will also be changing our raffle structure to a "Cent Auction", to help reduce the time it takes to award prizes.

**PLEASE TALK TO NOELA AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING TO ADD YOUR NAME.**

Field Day Roster		
Saturday 11th March		
Role	Numbers needed	Names so far
Hall Setup Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March, 2.00pm	10	Phil Geeves, Grahame Yates, Kellie Round, George Pallot, Phil Corbett
Sunday the 12th March		
Hall Setup 7.30 - 9.00am	10	Phil Corbett, Grahame Yates, George Pallot,
Organise Suppliers stall setup 7.30am - 9.00am	1	Nil
Honey Judge	1	Peter Warhurst
Cake Judge	1	Ronda Warhurst
Honey Comp - Steward 7.30am - 2.00pm	1	Phil Geeves
Cent Auction	1	Kellie Round
Front Gate - Entry Fees Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> , 8.00am - 12.00 noon	6	Nil
Kitchen Supervisor	1	Noela Geeves
Kitchen Hands	4	Mat Cooper
Honey Sales Stall	2	Mary Corbett
Soft Drink Sales	2	Mike Trott- Eunice Trott
MC	1	George Pallot
BBQ	4	Peter Anderson, James Linklater Steele, Ian Workman
Clean up 2.00 - 3.00pm	10	Nil

## Honeybee industry calls for more work to protect Australian bees from varroa destructor mite invasion

ABC Rural By Sarina Locke



The Australian honeybee industry is concerned pests will get past Australia's border surveillance, saying the situation is like a game of soccer without a goalie.

"In the end, if you get past that, what's your next line?" Honeybee Council chief executive Trevor Weatherhead asked. Honey products are worth \$90 million per year, and pollination services are worth between \$620 million and \$1 billion a year.

Australia is the last major honey-producing country without the varroa destructor mite.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources has heard the industry wants hundreds more detection traps, despite the \$1,000 price tag.

"We have 20 in Australia but they are only in Queensland," Honeybee Industry Council chairman Lindsay Bourke said. "They are first-hand alert systems, we need to have them. Plant health are monitoring the cameras, they are up on the screen," he said.

"But if they get into a sentinel hive, it's far too late." Problem needs to be tackled before mite arrives

The CSIRO has reported 84 ports around Australia are vulnerable.

Mr Bourke said New Zealand had the varroa destructor mite for two years before it knew what it was, by which time it was too late. "A sentinel hive is a hive of bees that defend any other bees from getting into the bee colony, but they didn't work for New Zealand," he said.

"They're there to let us know when it's too late and we've got it. We've got to do something more immediate." Asked about the state of the industry, Mr Bourke said beekeepers were an ageing population, but there was good money in pollinating services.

"Myself, I can earn \$500,000 this year pollinating crops, many crops, working every day, with almond orchards," he said. Bee smugglers pose a threat and there is a shortage of bees.

The risk to European honeybees comes from the varroa destructor mite and the viruses it carries, such as the deformed wing virus.

The committee heard Horticulture Innovation Australia had collated \$17 million worth of investments to manage European honey bees, improve pollination and identify alternative pollinators.

But there are also threats from smugglers, bee breeders seeking to bypass lengthy quarantine to bring in livestock free of chalk brood disease or resistant to the varroa mite.

"There's work overseas to breed a bee resistant to varroa ... and that's the incentive to smuggle them," Mr Weatherhead said. "We had the importation protocol for queen bees. They just didn't want to go through that. "There was a famous one — bees were brought in through the post, and the others were smuggled in biros, pens."

Mr Weatherhead said monitoring for Asian honeybees and the recent less lethal varroa mite *Jacobsonii* was thorough, with surveillance tracing back to hives, but it was not enough.

The Department of Agriculture said it was surveying for bee pests in neighbouring countries Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

Plant Health Australia's Greg Fraser disputes not enough was being done, telling the committee about the bee inspectors in every state, and data from all the monitoring.

"The two programs, the sentinel program and bee biosecurity program, are about a \$10m investment over the next few years," he said.

"That's about all those people, Research and Development Corporations (horticulture, rural industries and grain), all trying to improve the chances of picking up varroa at the border or just after the border, but also the training in what to do," he said.

"We have a lot of learning from New Zealand. There's a massive amount going on at the moment, which is actually quite positive."

Source:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-25/honeybee-industry-concerned-about-varroa-mite/8054336>

### Infectious bee disease found in Katherine, first case in the Northern Territory



An infectious bee disease that can kill off whole hives has been found in a small number of hives in the Katherine region.

This is the first time European foulbrood has been detected in the Northern Territory, with around six hives found to be infected with the disease.

The Katherine beekeeper destroyed some of the hives and treated the rest in an effort to contain the disease.

Chief veterinary officer for the Northern Territory, Dr Kevin de Witte said while it was

disappointing to find the disease, it was "not a major concern".

"We had previously been free and it would be nice to be free again, because it is just one other issue that beekeepers don't have to deal with," Dr de Witte said.

"It is a manageable issue and it will continue to be managed into the future, as it is for most of the rest of Australia." Dr de Witte said the bacterial disease could kill bee larvae before they pupate and turn into flying bees. "It is mostly a disease of stressed hives; so for bees stress can be a number of things, it can be when the nectar is not flowing, it can be really wet conditions or insect attack," he said. "If the hive is weak, it can be an issue that can make the hive even weaker and the hive may even succumb."

Dr de Witte said the disease could be controlled with good hygiene and biosecurity practices.

"The main way in which we prevent the spread of this disease is by controlling the movement of bees and bee keeping materials," he said. "Within an apiary, a beekeeper, by practicing appropriate hygiene can contain the spread within the collection of bee hives."

Source:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-16/bee-disease-katherine-european-foulbrood/8029134>

---

## Regular Items

---

### Library

Library books and DVDs are able to be borrowed for one month at a time. If you wish to keep the book, or DVD for another month, bring it back and it can be re-issued to you. Any books or DVDs lost or damaged will need to be paid for by the borrower.

### Club shirts, badges and caps

If any members of the club are interested in having a club shirt and/or badge please see Secretary Noela. The price of shirts is \$18.00 and the badge is now only \$4.00.

### Support those who support you.

Our club has been very fortunate to benefit from the generosity of both Noel Hutchinson of Quality Beekeeping Supplies (3376 5404) and Rod Palmer at C.B. Palmer and Co (0417 796 257). Please remember these very good friends when you require Apiary supplies. Also don't forget that should you require troughs to make your own beetle trap bottom boards Lou Uljarevic (07 5465 8130) still has them available. Many thanks also to Councillor Kylie Stoneman for continuing support in photocopying our newsletter.

### Wiring Board (Members only)

Just a reminder the club has available for loan to members a wiring board, a box to make frames up in and an embedder to put the wax on the frames. Our continued thanks to Noel Scholz for these items.

### Extracting Van Hire (Members only)

Should any member wish to hire the club van please contact Peter Anderson on 3800 3562 to make a booking. The cost of using the van is \$20.00 per day

### Club Hand Extractor (Members only)

The club has purchased a second hand extractor so we now have two for hire out to the members who only have a small number of frames to extract. To hire one of the extractors members should book and pay at the Club meeting prior to picking it up. A \$50.00 deposit is required and the cost is \$10.00 per day for a max of 7 days. Contact Peter Anderson on 3800 3562 regarding your bookings. The extractor must be returned clean. An electric knife will go out with the extractor.

### Apithor Beetle Traps (Members only)

The club currently has stock of beetle traps. They will be available at the next meeting at the cost of \$6.00 each. If you need large numbers of these please advise Noela beforehand.

### Nucleus Hives (members only)

As the club has limited capacity to create Nucs and demand outstrips supply, we offer them members only and preference is given to newer members that do not have any bees. Club nucleus hives are \$85.00 each with a marked Queen, bees and 5 frames. The Nuc boxes must be returned promptly. Please see Kellie if you are interested in a Nuc, and your name will be put on our waiting list.



Kellie Round [email: malkelliem8@bigpond.com](mailto:malkelliem8@bigpond.com) Tel: 0407 114 513

## Honey Buckets, Bottles and Jars (Members only)

If you require a large number of jars (more than 100) we respectfully request that you purchase them from one of our recommended Apiary Suppliers. Should you wish to purchase jars from the club please talk to Noela 07 3281 4165.

- Plastic 1 kg jars are 70c each and are available in 50 or 100 jar cartons.
- New 20 litre honey buckets with lids are \$7.00 each.
- 500g bottles for competitions are available at 90c each.



**Please keep the boxes that the 1 kg bottles come in and return them for reuse. The club does not stock or supply items other than the items mentioned.**

## February Meeting

Our guest speaker at this meeting is yet to be confirmed.

## How I started in Bees.

A five-minute talk about "How I became a Beekeeper".

- February - Jan & Stacey Krzewina.
- March - Alan Dearden

## Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## Supper Roster

- February - Neil Summerson, Glen Sutherland, Lou Uljarevic and Jon Vermeer
- March - Peter Waldron, Laurie Walker, Alan Waters and Long Vu

## Room Set up

- February - Matt Cooper
- March - Scott Croyden

**Please Note: If you are on the supper or room set up roster and unable to attend the meeting please ensure you advise Secretary Noela so that a substitute member can be found.**

## Beeswax Wanted

Both Rod Palmer at CB Palmer & Co, and Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies are interested in buying beeswax, any quantity, small or large.

See Rod or Karen at the Club meeting or phone Rod 0417 796 257  
Contact Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.

## Hive Boxes For Sale

Willem Den Otter has 4 double hive boxes with bottom boards and lids for sale at \$100 and 5 Nuc boxes at \$40 each. Please contact Willem on 3282 6883 if you are interested.

## Sweeten the Pot - project update.

Thanks to all who have both filled the jars taken and returned them to either a police station or me. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

A reminder to those who have jars unfilled, can you please fill them and either take to your closest police station or bring to next meeting. Please remember to register your donation on the web site, [www.sweetenthepot.org](http://www.sweetenthepot.org) so we can keep track of your honey.

There will be additional jars at the February meeting for anyone willing to donate. Thank you for your support to date. On behalf of QPS Helping Hands

Kind Regards  
Barbara Cush

I&WMBA Committee 2016 - 2017		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Phil Geeves	0409 485 447
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Kellie Round	0407 114 513
Assistant Secretary	Mike Trott	07 5464 1949
Committee	Mark Meerwald	0410 658 603
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238
Flow Hive	Darryl Ryan	0405133 360
Newsletter & website	Phil Corbett	0419 196 330

## Disclaimer

The Content of our newsletter is general in nature. It is made available on the understanding that the I&WMBA is not thereby engaged in rendering professional advice. Links to other websites are inserted for convenience and do not constitute endorsement of material at those sites, or any associated organisation, product or service. In no event will we be liable for any loss or damage including without limitation, indirect or consequential loss or damage, or any loss or damage whatsoever arising from loss of data or profits arising out of, or in connection with this newsletter.