



Official Newsletter of the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc

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Club Meetings

The meetings of the Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association are held on the first Tuesday of each month (except January) at the W.G. Hayden Humanities Centre, Cnr. South and Nicholas Streets, Ipswich commencing at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Club Registration

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

Club events are on the website calendar at

<http://www.honey.org.au>

Dates to Remember

- Club Meeting - 4th October
- Packing Bottles 6th Oct
- Club Practical Day - 9th October
- Committee meeting - 10th October
- Queen Collection - 8th 15th & 22nd October



Presidents Report



Our club did exceptionally well at this year's Ekka, with Albert Payne (left) winning most successful exhibitor and Phil Geeves (right) winning Champion Honey in show.



Wow! Is how you would describe the September meeting. For the first time in the Club's history a record 105 members and guests attended. This just shows that the Club is going from strength to strength, and the Committee approved several new members from the September meeting.

I would like to thank those members who attended and helped at the Beaudesert Show. Even though our takings were down on last year it was still a financial success for the Club. Beaudesert always puts on a good show and for those members who didn't attend - you don't know what you missed out on.

Our biggest event in October is the Practical Day at Wayne Rossiter's property at Pine Mountain. We are planning to re-queen some of the Club's hives and also, with one of the old queens, the Club will make up a nucleus hive. So if you want to know how to make a nucleus hive it is a good time to come and see how it is done. I encourage all new members to attend as it is a hands on day and this is one of the best ways to learn how to do beekeeping. Further details about the Practical Day are included later in this newsletter. Please remember to bring your protective clothing with you.

On a final note, if any member is selling hives, please ensure that they are in good condition and the purchaser does not end up with a problem hive. On the other hand if you are new to beekeeping and you wish to purchase a hive, please contact one of the experienced members from the Club to help you inspect the hive before purchase.

Phil Geeves
I&WMBA President

Beaudesert Show

Thanks to all the members that gave up their time to help with the Club's stall at the Beaudesert Show on Friday and Saturday the 2nd & 3rd September. Friday was our best day and there were lots of school children through and then it was busy on the Friday night. The gate numbers were down this year which was apparent in our honey sales, although we still made a profit which goes towards the Club's insurance policy.

Noela

Show Results

Beaudesert Show Results	
Ken Freiberg	Champion Honey of Show, 3 Firsts, 2 Seconds, & 9 Thirds.
Phil Corbett	1 First & 1 Second
Mary Corbett	2 Seconds
Peter Waldron	2 Firsts, 3 Seconds & 1 Third
Phil & Noela Geeves	2 Firsts, 2 Seconds & 2 Thirds
Albert Payne	7 Firsts, 4 Second & 2 Thirds/ Most successful exhibitor
Nick Manning	1 First

Queens

Queens will be available **to members** on Saturday the 8th, 15th & 22nd October. Please ensure you pay for them at the October meeting. You cannot collect Queens unless they have been paid for.

The October meeting will also be your last opportunity to order Queens this year.

Collection Details: Pick up from Phil Geeves's residence 16 Alice Street, Blackstone between 7.30am and 9.30am on the relevant Saturday unless arranged differently beforehand with Phil. Please go directly to the rear of the property via the drive on the right to collect Queens from Phil, please do not go to the front door. Thank you

Nucs

If you have a Nuc ordered it needs to be paid for at the October Meeting.

Community Grant

The club would like to thank Kylie Stoneman and Ipswich City Council for their generosity in supporting our Club with funding to purchase a laptop. This will be of great benefit to the club and we will no longer need to rely on borrowing members' laptops for events.

Bottle Packing

We are once again packing bottles at Noela's home. Volunteers are required at 9.00am for an hour or two on the 6th October.

Members List

Each year at this time we reproduce our club members list, with the details of financial members for the year. If any of your contact details have changed since the last update please contact our club secretary regarding the changes. This list is updated once a year only.

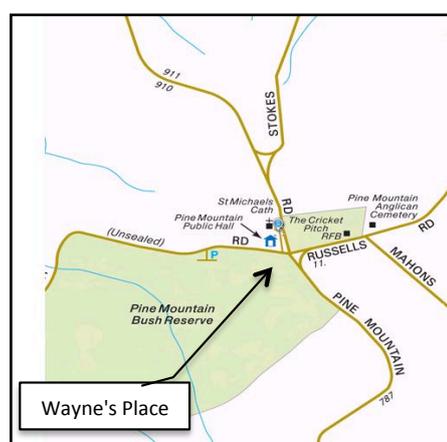
Flora

In October we should be seeing: Dogwood, Flat-weed, Grey Ironbark, Mugga Ironbark, Narrow-leafed, Ironbark, Narrow-leaved Grey Gum, River Mangrove, Weeping Tea-tree, White Clover, Yapunyah, Yellow-box, White Mahogany, Tallowwood and Red Bottlebrush.

Practical Day (Members only)

Our next practical day is on Sunday the 9th of October. Venue will be Wayne Rossiter's property which is adjacent to Pine Mountain Hall.

The day will be a hands on learning day directed at new beekeepers. The focus will be on re-queening and Nuc formation. It is intended that if the club hives are strong enough we will make up a new hive. This will be available for purchase by a member on the day. If you purchase one you will need to take it with you on the day. The day will commence with Morning tea at 10.00am and finish up with a sausage sizzle lunch. Please bring your bee suits, veils, closed in shoes and gloves or protective clothing if you intend to help or watch with the re-queening. Please also bring a chair and water for yourselves. Numbers will be called for at the October Meeting for catering purposes. If you are not coming to the October Meeting but will be attending the Practical Day please ring or email Club Secretary Noela.



Member Survey

Thanks to everyone who completed our very first "survey", we had approximately 90 members respond, regarding changing our insurance, updating our website and establishing a Facebook page. Based on the information received the committee has determined;

- To leave the current insurance as is.
- To further investigate the establishment of a Facebook page.
- To update the current website to a more usable format.

Just to further clarify the questions around changing the Club's insurance. It had been raised at the Committee that some other clubs hold insurance which provides cover to individual bee keepers (ours does not). We sought member feedback on whether to explore this option, bearing in mind it would likely cost the club about \$1800 more per annum, which every member would have to cover by an increase in membership fees. In addition, if the majority of members agreed to take up the insurance, they would have to pay a further \$100 per annum each for the individual policy. In the end, there did not seem to be sufficient interest from members to pursue this further at this time.

Website

Following on from the survey feedback and the committee's approval, I have now updated our website. After a few late nights and a bit of hair pulling I have created a new look and feel, and updated the content. The site is much easier to navigate and hopefully a bit clearer. I would welcome any feedback and suggestions for content for the new site.

Phil Corbett www.honey.org.au

Spring Management

Spring is one of the most important times in the Apiary. If you want to have healthy strong colonies, Spring is the time to start work.

On a warm sunny day with a light wind and enough day left to let your bees warm up again before sundown, open your hives. (Hint: if you need a jacket it's too cold.)

- 1) Check the health of your hives, in particular check for AFB.
- 2) Check to see if you have a Queen by finding her or evidence she is laying.
- 3) Check to see if there is honey (food) for your bees. Consider if and when you need to rob them as part of your swarm management. More hives are lost to starvation at this time than any other reason)
- 4) Look for signs of swarming, ie Queen cells mostly along the low parts of the frames.
- 5) Make space for your bees to allow the colony to grow. Consider raising brood to the super or adding supers.

Details of all these tips and how to manage your hives in Springtime can be found in "The Bee Book" by Peter Warhurst and Roger Goebel. There are copies in our club library if you don't have one. If you are new to beekeeping and not sure of what to do in spring, ask us, we can help.

Which Phil?

Over the past few weeks I have been receiving emails intended for Phil Geeves, Club President. I am (well I think I am) Phil Corbett, Bee Flight & Website Editor. I am more than happy to send these on, however it may be better if you get the right Phil. If you reply to the email that contains the newsletter you will get me, Phil Corbett. Phil Geeves is at pwgeeves@tpg.com.au



Phil Geeves



Phil Corbett - NOT - Phil Geeves

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

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 for hire

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 (members only)

Club Hand Extractor

The club has purchased a (3 basket) hand extractor to hire out to the members who only have a small number of frames to extract. To hire the extractor 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.



Nucleus (Nuc) Hives

As the club has limited capacity to create Nucs and demand outstrips supply, we offer them preferentially 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

Note: *If you order a nucleus hive, please ensure you are prepared for its arrival. Shortly after you will need a full size box that has been dipped and painted as well as frames with foundation to make up the appropriate number of frames to fill the hive. This is the minimum you would need, please talk to us if you have any doubts about what else you require.*

Honey Buckets, Bottles and Jars for Members

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 \$6.00 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.

Apithor Beetle Traps for Members

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.

Please note: The club does not stock or supply items other than the items above.

October Meeting

Our guest speaker this month will be Enrico Albertani speaking about foundation wax.

How I started in Bees.

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

- October - Darryl Ryan
- November - Frank Moeller



Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 10th October

Supper Roster

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

- October - Shane O'Reilly, Ardrienne Pryor, Neil Robinson and Mark Rook.
- November - Darryl Ryan, Lilly Sellars, Caleb Spicer and Darren Steel.

Room Set up

- October - Patrick Bourke
- November - Ray Clarke

Beeswax Wanted

Rod Palmer is interested in buying beeswax, any quantity, small or large. See Rod or Karen at the Club meeting or phone Rod to discuss. Phone. 3495 7095 or 0417 796 257 or email rod@honeybee.com.au Also, Quality Beekeeping Supplies are in need of wax and are keen to purchase any stock you may have. Contact Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.

Vale Rudy Guerin

Rudy Guerin passed away a few hours after the September club meeting succumbing to cancer at the age of 61.

Rudy was a larger than life character and first came to Australia from France in the 1970s taking out Australian citizenship shortly thereafter. Rudy returned to France for a while where he met and married Lydie and then after the birth of his two sons returned to Australia in 1991.

Those who became acquainted with Rudy in recent times might be surprised to learn that he began his working career as a ballet dancer and performed in France, England and Germany and toured throughout Europe and in his first stint in Australia performed with what is now the Queensland Ballet.

On his return to France he took up installing heating systems, training in both plumbing and electrical work and in Australia worked in Restaurants, joined the Army Reserve, qualified and worked as a Commercial Diver and Underwater Welder, worked on boats and rigs, became a Registered Builder and was employed as a Technical Manual Interpreter and Writer on a proposal for a large World Bank funded dam project in New Caledonia.

In the early part of this century and partly on the strength of his manual writing experience, Rudy then turned himself in a project manager on large earthworks projects first in New Caledonia and for ten years or so on earthworks and civil works on large mining projects in Africa, always going onto bigger and better things.

Rudy got into Bees in the late 1990's firstly helping me out and then as he did with everything he touched, going it alone with gusto. He had a lull for a while due to his work in Africa but took it up again about four years ago with even more gusto than before and suggested we both join the I&WMBA. He enjoyed the club and club events and even when quite ill made a special effort to attend meetings.

One of his last requests was to be listed as an apology for the September meeting. Rudy greatly appreciated the fellowship of, and help from, club members and in particular of his "mentor" Ian Workman.

Geoff James

Articles

US beekeepers fear for livelihoods as anti-Zika toxin kills 2.5m bees

Huddled around their hives, beekeepers around the south-eastern US fear a new threat to their livelihood: a fine mist beaded with neurotoxin, sprayed from the sky by officials at war with mosquitos that carry the Zika virus.

Earlier this week, South Carolina beekeepers found millions of dead honey bees carpeting their apiaries, killed by an insecticide. A video posted by a beekeeper to Facebook showed thousands of dead bees heaped around hives, while a few survivors struggled to move the bodies of fellow bees.

In another Facebook post, South Carolina hobbyist Andrew Macke wrote that he had lost "thousands upon thousands of bees" and that the spraying had devastated his business. "Have we lost our mind," he wrote, "spraying poison from the sky?"

The program head, Dr Mike Weyman, said that though South Carolina has strict rules about protecting pollinators, county officials were using the neurotoxin, Naled, under a clause exempting them in a "clear and public health crisis". More than three dozen people have tested positive for Zika in South Carolina, Weyman said, and officials have made it a priority to prevent local transmissions through the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.



"We don't want one of those mosquitos having a blood meal on an individual we've already determined was positive," Weyman said. "We know beyond a shadow of a doubt that [Zika] is up and running in Florida. If it gets in the mosquito population ... you're playing catch-up."

South Carolina's protocol for Zika infections is to alert local officials of a carrier's residence, which they "consider a ground zero", Weyman said. Local authorities then target the local mosquitos in a 200-yard radius, in this case with spray.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/04/zika-mosquito-neurotoxin-kills-bees-livelihoods-beekeepers>

I&WMBA Committee 2016 - 2017		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Phil Geeves	07 3282 3989
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
Committee	Mark Meerwald	0410 658 603
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238
Committee	Darryl Ryan	0410 561
Committee	Phil Corbett	0419 196

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