



Bee Flight



Official Newsletter of the
Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc.

President's Report.

The field day at Peak Crossing State School was a great success. There were only a very few minor hiccoughs with the new venue and everyone agreed it was a very educational day. The speakers who attended were of a very high standard with many interesting concepts on Beekeeping presented. Of course, the day was only the success it was because of the commitment of the committee members and many other members of the club who worked tirelessly on the day. My thanks to each and every one of you for all your efforts.

Perhaps the only disappointment to me on the day was the non-attendance of many of our new members. It was such a pity as the information presented on the day was so relevant to all Beekeepers but especially those starting out in Beekeeping.

Our practical day will be held on the 19 April at Corinda High School, so please make an effort to attend and support this day. May is National Honey Month and our club will have a display at the Ipswich library. We are seeking volunteers to spend a couple of hours at the library to man our display. There is no intention that people need to be there all day, perhaps just for a couple of hours to interact with the public. So please if you can spare a couple of hours a week for the 6 weeks starting the first week of May, please let us know.

Cheers for now
Benita

Club Committee

Members can call any of the committee members for help and or advice with your bees.

Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Benita Ironside	☎ 0414 939 681
Vice President	George Pallot	☎ 07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	☎ 07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Phil Geeves	☎ 07 3282 3989
Committee	Beryl Salmond	☎ 07 3281 7613
Committee	Grahame Yates	☎ 07 3288 8238
Committee	Kellie Round	☎ 0407 114 513
Committee	Phil Corbett	☎ 0419 196 330



Club Meeting – 7th April 2015

Committee meeting – 13th April

Practical Day
Corinda High School– 19th April



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.

Name Badge Reminder.

Members are reminded to wear their name badges at meetings and events to help others recognise you, particularly as there are many new members. If you are unable to find your name badge, please see Noela or Phillip Geeves and they will arrange for a new badge.



Ipswich Show	New Club Extractor
Honey Competition Results	Swarm Retrieval
Field day Competition results	Regular Items
Field Day - Review	Know your Flora
Show dates 2015	Bee Pictures
Practical Day	
Articles: Neonicotinoids, Honey Flow, Manuka honey and Honey Research.	

Current Happenings

Ipswich Show -15th to 17th May 2014

The Ipswich show is an important showcase for our club. As our local show we are again taking a stall to promote our club and honey. This

show is the main fund raising activity for our club and goes to help pay for the club insurance and general running costs. The show involves a great deal of work and our stall needs to be staffed throughout the event. A roster for the 3 days will be organised at the April meeting. Club members are asked to volunteer a little of their time over the show.

Club Meeting – 3rd March Honey Competition Results

Light Honey	1 st Charles Stevenson	2 nd Denise Workman	3 rd Jan Krzewina
Golden Honey	1 st Ken Freiberg	2 nd Rudy Guerin	3 rd Phil Geeves
Dark Honey	1 st Noela Geeves	2 nd Phil Geeves	3 rd Charles Stevenson
Creamed Honey	1 st Phil Geeves	2 nd Noela Geeves	3 rd Ken Freiberg
Granulated Honey	1 st Ken Freiberg		
Beeswax block	1 st Mary Corbett	2 nd Ken Freiberg	3 rd Peter Waldron

Thanks to the Judge Kellie Round and the Steward Stacy Krzewina

Field day - Honey competition

Results for Ipswich Club Members at the Field day honey competition.

Thanks to Trevor Weatherhead for judging and Phil Geeves for stewarding and results

	First	Second	Third
Light Honey	Jan Krzewina	Ian Workman	Meng Round
Golden Honey	Ken Freiberg	Phil Geeves	
Dark Honey	Phil Geeves	Noela Geeves	
Comb Section in Honey		Ken Freiberg	
Creamed Honey	Phil Geeves	Noela Geeves	Ken Freiberg
Granulated Honey Fine			Ken Freiberg
Granulated Honey Course	Ken Freiberg		
Beeswax	Phil Corbett		
Heaviest Frame	Phil & Noela Geeves	Albert Payne	
Biscuits	Wendy Ryan	Mary Corbett	
Apple & Honey Cake	Wendy Ryan	Noela Geeves	

Results for other clubs not shown above

Congratulations to all the entrants, your support and enthusiasm helps make our event a great day

Thank You.

Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc.
Club's field day 2015

Well, our Field Day was a great success. After the initial set-up was done on Saturday, our enthusiastic volunteers turned up bright eyed and bushy tailed at 7.00am on Sunday.

The day flowed without a hitch and we had a great line up of speakers.

After Scott Bucholtz MP formally opened the day, our first speaker, Bill Winner from Capilano, entertained the group with his session "A Day in the Bee Yard." We all got a few tips out of the session to help make our own operations more effective.

After morning tea (great scones!) Howard Kirby shared great insight and knowledge, along with a few laughs, about his experience as a Queen Bee breeder. We all know now how important "Bee Space" really is and the importance of putting straight frames into the hive, and a little bit about how to park a car in a shopping centre. Phil Dunlop gave a practical overview of pollination, and the difference between this and honey production.

After lunch, Tim Heard kept the audience enthralled with his knowledge of native bees and how they evolved differently to honey bees.

Trevor Weatherhead rounded out the day with an important industry update and review and presentation of the awards.

The raffle and lucky door prize concluded the day, and we'd like to thank everyone who donated prizes.

For our first Field Day at Peak Crossing School it was a fantastic day and we even had the added highlight of setting off the fire alarm, thanks to the new Club BBQ! Once again many thanks to all our speakers, volunteers and suppliers in helping make our event a great success. Finally a big thank you to everyone that came along and supported our 2015 field day.

Cheers Phil C



More pictures on our website.

Show dates for 2015

Listed below are the current published dates for the most relevant Queensland shows this year. As always we encourage all members to get involved and submit entries to as many shows as possible. This helps maintain our club profile and promote the aims of our club. It's also a lot of fun.

Marburg	1 st to 2 nd May	www.marburgshow.com.au
Boonah	15 th to 16 th May	www.boonahshowsociety.org.au
Ipswich	15 th to 17 th May	www.ipswichshow.com.au
Esk	22 nd to 23 rd May	www.eskshow.com.au
Lowood	29 th to 30 th May	www.lowoodshowsociety.com.au
Toogoolawah	5 th to 6 th June	www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au
Kalbar	12 th to 13 th June	www.kalbarshow.net.au
Rosewood	19 th to 21 st June	www.rosewoodshow.com
Redcliffe	26 to 28 th June	www.redcliffeshow.org.au
Ekka	7 th to 16 th Aug	www.ekka.com.au
Beaudesert	4 th to 5 th Sept	www.beaudesertshow.org.au

Practical Day 19 April

Our first practical day of the year is at Corinda High School, 46 Pratten Street, Corinda QLD 4075. Entrance is by Pratten Street and Chris Butcher will be there to meet everyone and direct you to the correct area. Morning tea will be at 10.am and the session will commence around 10.30. A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided. Please bring your protective clothing if you wish to be there when they open the hives. Numbers will be required for catering purposes so please register with Noela if you are coming along. Practical days are intended to be social days for club members but more importantly they are hands on learning and information days. This day is a must for new beekeepers. The School has seven hives all of which need to attention including repair to the boxes and new frames. Further details at the next meeting.

New Club Hand Extractor

The club has purchased a new (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 need to contact Peter Anderson on 3800 3562. A \$50.00 deposit is required and the cost is \$10.00 per day for a max of 7 days. The extractor must be returned clean. An electric knife will go out with the extractor

Flora. In April we should be seeing

Broad-Leaved Ironbark, Brown Bloodwood, Gum Topped Box, Molly Red Box, Mountain Coolibah, Paper Barked Tea Tree, Pumpkin, White Box, Caley's Ironbark, Blackbutt.

Know your Flora.

Dwarf Apple...Angophora hispida Family: Myrtaceae Derivation of Name: Angophora; from Greek angos, a jar or vessel and phorus, to bear, referring to the cup-shaped fruits. hispida; covered with coarse hairs, referring to the hairy stems. I saw this tree whilst traveling and according to what I can find out they are a good source of food for bees and will grow well in our region if the soil is well drained.

Dwarf Apple is a genus of about 10 species, which are confined to eastern Australia from southeastern Queensland to Victoria. The genus is closely related to both Eucalyptus and Corymbia, the differences being: The lack of a bud cap (operculum) in Angophora. Adult leaves are opposite in Angophora; alternate in Eucalyptus and Corymbia.

Angophoras are commonly called "Apples", because some species have a growth habit similar to that of the apple tree. Along with Eucalyptus and Corymbia, the plants are generally referred to as "eucalypts".



Bee Pics



Bees working at 5:15am in the morning on a dragon fruit flower at Frank Moeller's home

Swarm retrieval additions

Name	Phone	Locations
Alan Water	3202 3089	Chuwar and Ipswich
Frank Moeller	0419 160 164	Booval and Bundamba
Brad Beikoff	0411 028 192 or 3201 2560	Karana Downs
If you are able to be on the swarm list please let Noela know at the next meeting. More names are listed on our website.		

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's Father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink.

Mead as you know is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

Thanks to Bradley Charlwood for this snippet. I think we should revive this practice, albeit that it's a bit late for me! Cheers, Phil C

Regular Items

Club shirts, badges and caps

If you are proud to be a club member why not show it? 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. We also have club caps available for sale at \$15.00. Buy one at the next meeting.

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. As always many thanks also to Councillor Bruce Casas for 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. Again many thanks to Noel Scholz for these items. Any member can borrow these to make up frames.

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) Please pay the Treasurer at the next meeting if you have used the van in the previous month.

Library

All our videos are now available on DVD. Library books, videos and now DVDs are able to be borrowed for one month at a time. If you wish to keep the book, video or DVD for another month, bring it back and it can be re-issued to you. Any books, videos or DVDs lost or damaged will need to be paid for by the borrower. We also now have the new revised edition of the Bee Book by Peter Warhurst and Roger Goebel. A small deposit is required to borrow this book as, in the past, we have lost similar books.

April meeting 7th

Our April meeting will be a video and discussion night, please come prepared with any questions you may have in mind. Some items that will be discussed are

- Getting your Apiary ready for winter
- Be prepared for anything in your hive
- What do you do if you think you have disease in your hive.
- If you have your first hive, what equipment do you need ready for a swarm etc.

Raffle Prize will be a smoker.

How I started in Bees.

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

- April - Wayne Rossiter
- May - Peter Anderson

Committee Meeting

Next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 13th April

Supper Roster

- April - Mark Rook, Darryl Ryan and Lilly Sellars
- May - Caleb Spicer, Glen Sutherland and Lou Uljarevic



Room Set Up

- April Shane O'Reilly
- May Neil Robinson

Club Night video presentation.
Paul Stamets

**How Mushrooms Can Save
Bees & Our Food Supply**

*Thanks to Ian Workman for this
link*

Please note: if you are on the Supper Roster and you are unable to attend the meeting on that night, please contact Secretary Noela so she can arrange a replacement.

When you are on the Supper Roster, you are only required to attend and help in the kitchen; no food needs to be prepared.

As always a very big Thank You to Mary Hesse who has kindly agreed to continue catering for our meetings this year.

Honey buckets Bottles and Jars



Rod Palmer now stores the Club's honey buckets and jars at his warehouse. Should you wish to purchase any please talk to Noela regarding payment before you go to Rod's. Rod will not let callers take jars or buckets off site without Noela's authority to do so.



Noela will also keep some at her home for pick up if preferred.

- Plastic 1kg 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 they are available at 90 cents each.

For all the above items please ring Noela ☎ 07 3281 4165

We ask that you keep the boxes that the 1kg bottles come in and return them for reuse.

Apithor beetle traps

The club now has stock of beetle traps. They will be available from Noela at the next meeting at the cost of \$5.50 each. If you need large numbers of these please advise Noela beforehand.

Also please note the club does not stock or supply items other than the items above.

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. Business hours ph. 3495 7095 or 0417 796 257 or email rod@honeybee.com.au

Bees site available at Greenbank.

Lloyd Hancock has a friend with a site available at Greenbank. The contact details are Craig Douglas, Mobile [0408074206](tel:0408074206) Email craig@craigeng.com The site location is at Middle Rd Greenbank. Lloyd is happy to give you more details, or you can contact Craig directly.

Honey for Sale

The Club has honey for sale at \$125.00 per pail and it is limited to 1 pail per member. Please ring Phillip or Noela Geeves if you wish to purchase a bucket.

Honey Month

May is Honey Month and the club will be involved with a display at the Ipswich Library. Volunteers will be required for a couple of hours on certain days to man the stand. Please see President Benita for more information and to volunteer.

Help Wanted

There is another pallet of bottles at Rod Palmer's that need packing in April. Volunteers are required please for Friday 10th April from 9.00 am. Please see Secretary Noela at the April Meeting to Volunteer.

World's most widely used insecticide proven to damage bees' brains

For the first time, scientists have found evidence that the insecticide most frequently used on crops such as corn, canola, cotton, and soybeans is messing with the brains of bumblebees, and causing poor performance in their colonies

The reasons behind the global decline of bees and other insect pollinators have been as mysterious as they've been controversial, but now we have the first evidence to suggest that commercially available insecticides are impairing the brain activity of individual bumblebees, and the performance of entire colonies.

The culprit? Neonicotinoids - a relatively new class of insecticide, developed by Shell and Bayer around 20 to 30 years ago, that are now considered the most widely used class of insecticides in the world.

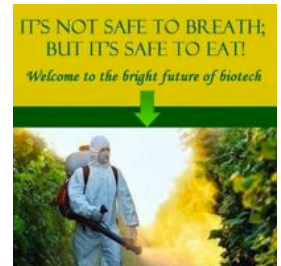
The use of neonicotinoids is widespread, despite serious questions regarding their safety around bees and other insect pollinators. In 2013, following the results of a year-long study concluding that continued use would have "high acute risks" for bees, the European Commission placed a two-year moratorium on the use of neonicotinoid chemicals on all plants that attract bees. In Australia, a definitive report on neonicotinoids and bees, led by Robert Manning from the Western Australian Department of Agriculture and Food, will be released in the next few months, the results of which are expected to influence local policies regarding neonicotinoid use.

And now, a team from the Universities of St Andrews and Dundee in Scotland has published a study in the Journal of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology that shows for the first time that even the small amounts of neonicotinoid insecticide found in nectar and pollen is enough to affect the brain activity of the bees that consume it.

This small amount, the team says, is about 2.5 parts per billion - so around 1 teaspoon in an Olympic swimming pool. There has been much debate over whether this amount could actually be having any effect on the bees at all, so the researchers fed it to a number of bumblebees to see what happened. And because the chemical is designed to target the brains of insects, they tested its accumulation in the bees' brains. The researchers found that some of the neonicotinoid chemicals would very quickly shut down mitochondria in the brain cells of the bees, which affects the brain's ability to produce energy. The chemicals also messed with the ability of the different regions to communicate with each other, which affected the bees' ability to learn crucial skills, such as remembering how to get back to the colony, and connecting the scent of a flower to the anticipation of a food reward.

"Our research demonstrates beyond doubt that the level of neonicotinoids generally accepted as the average level present in the wild causes brain dysfunction and colonies to perform poorly when consumed by bumblebees," one of the team, Chris Connolly from the Division of Neuroscience at Dundee's School of Medicine, said in a press release. "In fact, our research showed that the ability to perturb brain cells can be found at one-fifth to one-tenth of the levels that people think are present in the wild."

BEC CREW 6 FEB 2015 <http://www.sciencealert.com/> Thanks to Frank Moeller for the above article.



Watch the Honey Flow from Flow™

According to the website it is the beekeepers dream...

"Turn a tap and watch as pure fresh clean honey flows right out of the hive and into your jar. No mess, no fuss, no expensive processing equipment and the bees are hardly even disturbed. "This really is a revolution, you can see into the hive, see when the honey is ready and take it away in such a gentle way. "We are very excited to introduce our new invention that allows you to enjoy fresh honey straight out of your beehive without opening it. It's far less stress for the bees and much much easier for the beekeeper.



Read More: <http://www.honeyflow.com/>

Thanks to lots of people for this information.

Manuka honey

Producers enlist scientists to help in fight against fraudsters in multi-million-dollar industry.



Manuka honey producers in New Zealand have enlisted an Australian scientist to help protect their multi-million-dollar export business from counterfeiters.

The insatiable global appetite for the anti-bacterial honey has driven up prices and attracted fraudsters like bees to a honey pot.

"It's massive overseas in that there's probably two or three times more Manuka honey being sold in international markets than is actually being produced here in New Zealand," University of the Sunshine Coast senior

chemistry lecturer Dr Peter Brooks said. "So it's a case of someone taking a \$5 honey and selling it then for \$50 saying that it's a Manuka."

Dr Brooks and New Zealand scientist Terry Braggins were commissioned by New Zealand's Unique Manuka Factor Honey Association to develop a "chemical fingerprint" for Manuka honey.

"We are looking for unique compounds in the honey which come out of the nectar so we can trace it back to the floral source," Dr Brooks said.

"So that when you hold another honey up to it, if there's something mismatching from a different floral source, we can pick it out as not being true to type."

Food Security

Check out the link below from Sharon Jones, detailing the list of food we would lose without bees.

<http://honeylove.org/list-of-food/>

I also got a number of links from Tom Cole at the field-day last month. The one below was of particular interest thanks again **Tom....**

You can even sign up for the honeybee pledge. *I pledge to protect honeybees and other pollinators by following the four-pollinator protection principles.*

<http://www.honeybeehaven.org/latest-news>

Honey Research Volunteers

The University of Technology Sydney is leading an exciting new research project looking for more sources of medicinal Australian *Leptospermum* honey (aka jelly bush, or Australian manuka).

They are asking beekeepers with access to *Leptospermum* (jelly bush / manuka) honeys from anywhere in the country to provide samples to include in this research project. We will test these honeys for antimicrobial activity and investigate the relationship between the activity and the plant source.

Why? Manuka honey from NZ is world famous, and it is sold at a much higher price than other honeys. However, although Australia is home to the largest diversity of *Leptospermum* plants in the world (we have more than 80 species compared to NZ's two!), most of our honeys do not enjoy the high prices of their NZ equivalents.

We already know that a handful of Australian *Leptospermum* honeys have similar levels of antibacterial activity to NZ manuka, but most of the other 80 plus Australian varieties have not been tested.

If you have access to *Leptospermum* honeys from anywhere in Australia, and would like to include them in our survey, please get in touch with us. We will keep the results confidential, but we will provide anyone supplying samples with a report on the results from the testing of their honeys.

The Research Team involved in this project includes Dr Shona Blair, Dr Peter Brooks and Professor Dee Carter, as well as the Principle Investigator, Professor Liz Harry and the Project Coordinator, Nural Cokcetin. The project is being funded by RIRDC, with support from Capilano and Comvita.

For more information on providing samples, please contact:

Nural Cokcetin or Professor Liz Harry

University of Technology Sydney

0405 284 718 0404 643 181 or 02 9810 6461

Nural.Cokcetin@uts.edu.au

Elizabeth.Harry@uts.edu.au