



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 & AGM - 2nd of August
- Committee meeting - 8th August
- EKKA - 5th to 14th August
- Beaudesert Show - 2nd & 3rd September
- Gold Coast Club Field Day - 25th September.

Important Notice

Please remember that you must be a financial member of the association to vote or be nominated for a position on the Committee at the AGM.

President's Report

Greetings to all our members. Please remember our next meeting is our AGM. Please be aware that you must be a financial member if you wish to vote at this meeting. As you are all aware, I will not be standing for President for the coming year. I would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank all members who have shown me such great support in the last 6 months. The messages and phone calls have been greatly appreciated by myself. I would like to also thank the committee for all the unseen work they do for the club and to Phil Corbett for the outstanding newsletter, which he produces every month without fail. My wish for the club going forward is that we take on new ideas openly and positively, as many of you have expressed. For those members who came to our recent practical day, it was a really well attended day with elements of practical assembly of bee boxes demonstrated. I wish all of you the very best for the coming beekeeping season and look forward to seeing you all at our various activities.

Benita Ironside



Annual General Meeting

The Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at our next meeting. The AGM will include a report on the Club's finances and activities for the year as well as the Election of the new committee. In the vote for the election of the committee you must be at the meeting to vote.



AGM 2016 - 17 Nominations

1. President - Phillip Geeves
2. Vice President - George Pallot
3. Secretary - Noela Geeves
4. Treasurer - Kellie Round
5. Assistant Secretary - Mike Trott
6. Committee - Mark Meerwald
7. Committee - Grahame Yates
8. Committee - Darryl Ryan



There is 1 position vacant on the Committee so nominations will be taken from the floor at the AGM. **Members must be financial to accept nomination.**

Beauesert Show

The Beauesert Show is our next club show event. All members are asked to keep either Friday or Saturday 2nd & 3rd September free to help man the Club's stand. If you have never been to the Beauesert Show, you should make it a priority, as it is one of the best shows of the year. A roster sheet will be available at the August Meeting



Ekka

Important dates to remember: Applications to enter closed Friday 1 July 2016 at 5pm. Judging is on Saturday 30 July from 10.00am. Delivery of entries on Saturday 30 July 2016 by 9am, Gate 1, Gregory Terrace. Phil Geeves will be taking entries to the EKKA on the Saturday Morning. Please **DO NOT** take honey for this show to Phil unless you have already submitted your entry.

Show Dates for 2016

The show schedule is now on our website notice board and in the website calendar.

Go to; <http://www.honey.org.au/index.php/upcoming-events>

Entry forms and schedules are available from each Show's website.		
Ekka	5th to 14th August	www.ekka.com.au
Beaudesert	2nd to 3rd September	www.beaudesertshow.org.au

Show Results

Redcliffe	
Ken Freiberg	3 Firsts, 5 Seconds & 1 Third
George Pallot	1 Second & 1 Third
Phil & Noela Geeves	2 Firsts & 2 Thirds
Rosewood	
Ken Freiberg	7 Firsts, 6 Seconds & 3 Thirds
Albert Payne	5 Firsts, 7 Seconds & 3 Thirds
Peter Waldron	3 Firsts, 2 Seconds, 2 Thirds & Champion Honey of the Show
Phil & Noela Geeves	1 First, 1 Second & 1 Third

New Supper Roster

Due to the large numbers now attending our meetings from the August Meeting there will be 4 people on the 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.

REMEMBER MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK.

- **August** - Terry McAllister, Joanne McDonald and Mary and Peter McDougall
- **September** - Kev McLaughlan, Trevor Nardi, Jill Nelson and Patrick O'Dell.

Flora

In August we should be seeing Broad-Leaved Ironbark, Flat Weed, Hairy Bush Pea, Mountain Coolibah, Grey Ironbark, Mugga Ironbark, Narrow-Leaved Ironbark, White Clover, Yapunyah, Turnip Weed, Wattle, Blue Gum, Spotted Gum and Red Bottle Brush



Hairy Bush Pea Flowers

Regular Items

Library Notice

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.

August Meeting

No Speaker this month due to the AGM.

How I started in Bees.

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

- August - Jill Nelson
- September - Lloyd Hancock

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 8th August

Room Set up

- August - Philip Bond
- September - Philip Booth



Club Notices

Membership fees are now overdue.

The \$25.00 for single Membership and \$30.00 for a Family Membership can now be direct deposited into the club's bank account. The details are as follows – Bank of Qld BSB124053 Account No 10278864 please put your name in the reference area. Any un-financial members will not receive the Newsletter from September.



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.

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



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.

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.

Note: If you order a nucleus hive, please ensure you are prepared for its arrival. Shortly after you may 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.

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

Articles

Bee-killing varroa mites found in Port of Townsville nest

The destructive varroa mite has been found in a nest of Asian honey bees in the Port of Townsville, in far north Queensland. The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) said the single hive was found last week within the hollow metal support of a container stand. The hive of about 5,000 bees along with two varroa mites, which were detected on two of the bees, were destroyed by staff from the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.



Varroa mites are mainly found in the northern regions of Asia and they infest bee hives, feeding on larvae and ultimately killing them. A bee hive infected by varroa mites usually dies within three or four years. The mites are particularly destructive to the European Honey Bee, which Australia gets most of its honey from.

The AHBIC's executive director, Trevor Weatherhead, said an outbreak of the mites in Australia could decimate the honey industry. "It is possible that the hive had been there for up to two years," he said.

Mr Weatherhead said a check of the surrounding area found no further Asian honey bees or their hives.

"Traps and sentinel hives that are already in place around the port as part of the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program have not collected any exotic bees or mite pests over the past two years," he said. Last year, a swarm of Asian honey bees carrying the varroa mite were destroyed at the Port of Brisbane, while another hive was discovered at the port in May.

Restrictions on bee movement

Biosecurity Queensland is conducting surveillance in the Townsville region in response to the detection. It has imposed restrictions on the movement of bee hives, bees, bee products and equipment used for beekeeping.

Mr Weatherhead said testing will be done to see if the bees had any relationship to Asian honey bee populations that were already present in areas of far north Queensland. "Or bees that were associated with previous detections at the Townsville Port, with the last detection having occurred in 2014," he said. "While Asian honey bees are established in areas of far north Queensland, varroa mites are not known to be present in that population. "It has previously been determined that Asian honey bees cannot be eradicated from Australia, so response activities are only focused on the varroa mites."

Thanks to Dimitri for this article source <http://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/>

Queensland beekeepers seek answers on biosecurity response to varroa mite incursion in Townsville

Queensland's beekeepers have been reassured a biosecurity breach by deadly varroa mites in the port of Townsville can be contained.

No further detections have been made since an Asian honeybee hive containing two mites was discovered, prompting Biosecurity Queensland to declare the latest outbreak can be eradicated.

The varroa mite is considered the greatest challenge facing world beekeeping, with Australia so far the only continent not to be infested with the deadly parasite.

Queensland's beekeepers have heard firsthand from biosecurity authorities about the response to varroa mites in the port of Townsville (ABC Rural) Biosecurity Queensland's director of the varroa mite response, Ashley Bunce, informed 70 beekeepers at a briefing in Townsville last night there were no plans to expand the 10-kilometre control zone around the port.

With the Burdekin region's \$80 million dollar fruit and vegetable hub less than 100 kilometres away, concerns had been expressed about the impact of any further movement restrictions on beekeepers and their vital pollination services.

"Based on our understanding of the movements of the Asian honey bee and based on how long we believe the hive was there, we believe 10 kilometres is sufficient to cover the area the bees could have moved in that time," Mr Bunce said. "Should that change in the future, then of course we'll need to re-assess the situation."

Mr Bunce said he was confident the latest varroa incursion was in hand.

Full Article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-06/varroa-mites-found-in-townsville/7572540>

Thanks to everyone who forwarded this article to me.

Bee-powered

The kinetic energy of bees in flight is being harnessed to power tiny radio frequency ID tags used to monitor bees. It is like the idea to give light to African school children from batteries in footballs charged by the kids' play. But the bee-powered batteries in the sensing technology are microscopic in size.

"The end sensor that we're working on is self-perpetuating," CSIRO research fellow, Dr Stephen Quarrell said.



"There's a little energy generation unit that has little moving parts that vibrate and move about as the bee actually flies." And then it has a little micro-battery that

stores energy to power the sensor itself." The CSIRO self-powering technology is being miniaturised to produce longer-life technology at a lower cost.

At just under 3mm square, the self-powered "swarm sensor" tags can be fitted to the backs of bees. Sensors are being used to keep track of livestock, produce, and other inventory.

The technology is helping farmers lift yields, transform food chains and freight logistics, and in an array of agricultural research, including the Australian CSIRO "swarm sensing project".

It made news worldwide two years ago when thousands of 2.5mm x 2.5mm sensors were fitted to the backs of the bees and used for environmental monitoring near Hobart, Tasmania.

"After the initial media coverage, which went to over 200 million people worldwide, we've started the global initiative for honeybee health," Dr Quarrell said.

"It's a lot of scientists working in the field of bee research, networking together and using the technology that we're producing, to try and understand the global declines that we're seeing in honey bees.

His own research in Tasmania is looking at how chemicals used to control the parasitic mite, Varroa, affect bee behaviour, as implicated in Colony Collapse Disorder around the world.

Full Article:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-01/nrn-bee-powered-batteries/7560644>

Thanks to Beryl Salmond for this one

Our Committee

I&WMBA Committee 2015		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Benita Ironside	07 3201 0397
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Mark Meerwald	0410 658 603
Committee	Phil Geeves	07 3282 3989
Committee	Beryl Salmond	07 3281 7613
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238
Committee	Kellie Round	0407 114 513

LATE NEWS

On Sunday 17 July 2016, a nest of Asian bees, *Apis cerana*, were found in a bird box at a residence in Annandale, Townsville. This is the second find in Townsville following the original find on 27 June. Examination of the bees has found no *Varroa jacobsoni* and the comb is still being examined. This find is around 9 kilometres from the original find at the port of Townsville.

Trevor Weatherhead
Executive Director
20 July, 2016

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