



# BEE FLIGHT NEWSLETTER



Official *Christmas* Newsletter of the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc

## Presidents Report

Please remember there is no club meeting in January, the club will resume our usual monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of February 2016. Our December meeting will be our Christmas Party. Partners are most welcome on the night. There will be a raffle (lots of prizes) so please if you are able to contribute any prizes, it would be greatly appreciated. The committee and I look forward to seeing you there.

On the night if you are a new member to the club, please make sure that we link you up with an established beekeeper in your area, so you have someone to call over the holidays if you require assistance.

This will be my last Christmas with the club as president, so I wish you the very best for the festive season and hope all of you have a happy and safe Christmas. If the recent weather is an indication it could be a hot and humid one.

My sincere thanks to all the members of the committee and the club members who have given so much of their time and energy to club activities this year.

Cheers  
Benita Ironside

### 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

### Dates to Remember



Christmas Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> December  
 Committee Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> January  
 Remember **no** club meeting in  
 January  
 Next meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016  
 2016 Club Field Day 6<sup>th</sup> March



## Newsletter Contents

Presidents Report	1
Practical Day	2
Swarm Collection	3
Gold Coast Field Day	3
Queens	3
YouTube Video	3
Show Dates for 2015	3
Club Field Day	4
Bee Pics	4
Regular Items	5
Library Notice	5
Club Notices	6
Flora in December.	6
Articles	7
Beehive Air Treatment	7
Bee Attack	7
Beekeepers online	8
Remembering Ron Smith	8

### 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

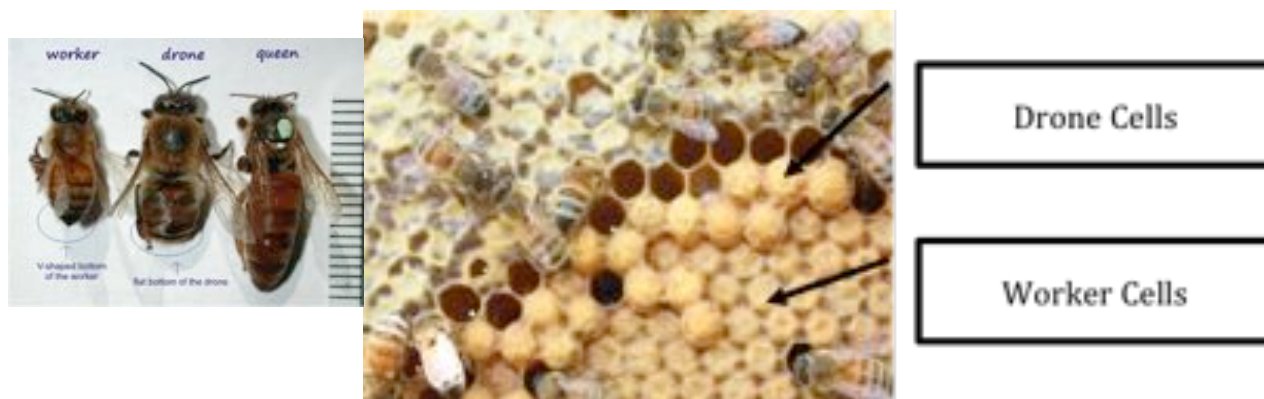
Before Club meetings all members are required to pay a \$2.00 registration fee.

Club events are on the website calendar at <http://www.honey.org.au>

### Christmas Meeting 2015

Remember as always that husbands, wives and partners are welcome at the Christmas gathering. There will be a short meeting and then Christmas supper and our Christmas raffle. As is customary in recent years there will be no registration fee for the Christmas meeting. Tickets for the raffle will be available at the meeting. The tickets are \$1.00 each or 5 in a book for \$5.00. Prize donations will be welcomed by the committee if any members wish to donate to the Christmas raffle. There will be 20 Christmas goodies in the raffle as well.

## Practical Day



It was great to see that as well as all the “usual suspects”, some of our newer members were able to attend the practical session at Pine Mountain. A few questions came up about identifying drone bees from other bees as well as identifying drone brood. I hope the pictures above help a little.

There was also a discussion about chalk-brood so I have added information about this to our hive health page on our web site.

Go to : <http://www.honey.org.au/index.php/2013-11-25-02-35-57>

### Swarm Collection

Over the past few weeks members have been asking questions relating to swarm collectors. There is a list of swarm collectors on our website and information about why bees swarm. Go to: <http://www.honey.org.au/index.php/swarm-info>

### Gold Coast Field Day

Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers Society Inc honey competition results	
Mary Corbett	1 second, 2 thirds & most successful novice exhibitor
Phil & Noela Geeves	3 firsts & most successful open exhibitor
Ken Freiberg	2 seconds & 1 third
Albert Payne	1 first, 2 seconds & 1 third
Benita Ironside	2 seconds
Kelli Round: 1 third	1 third
The Inter Club Trophy was retained by I&WMBA	

If you didn't manage to attend the Gold Coast field day, you did miss a great day out. As always the day was extremely well organised and there were some very interesting speakers. Whilst our club retained the inter-club trophy it was by a very close margin. Congratulations to everyone that won prizes in the honey competition. And finally, many thanks to the Gold Coast Beekeepers for being great hosts. See you in March for the re-match.



### Queens

**Friendly reminder:** Those members who ordered and haven't yet paid for Queens please ensure you do so at the December meeting. If you will not be at the meeting please contact Phil Geeves to organise payment. Telephone: 07 3282 3989

### YouTube Video

Those of you who attended the practical session on the 8<sup>th</sup> November would have seen me making a video of Phil Geeves inspecting and re-queening a hive. You can now watch the video on youtube, hope you like it.

go to: <https://youtu.be/8Y0E9e1-SE0>

*Cheers Phil Corbett.*

### Show Dates for 2015

Show dates for next year will be published in the Bee-flight early next year, however if you are keen to plan ahead, the schedule is now on our website notice board and in the website calendar.

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

### Club Field Day

The date for our 2016 field day is Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> March. This year we are returning to Peak Crossing School which was a great venue and ideally located. The school is delighted to have us return this year, so it's now full steam ahead to organise the event and speakers. If you have any ideas or thoughts on how to make this year's event an even bigger success than last year, let us know. Finally, remember we need all hands on deck to make the day work so volunteers will be needed for set up, manning the tables and packing away. Please put the date and venue in your diary and keep it free.



### Bee Pics

#### Bee Roll Over

A professional bee keeper was called to the scene after a truck carrying bees rolled on U.S.6 over Loveland Pass, according to the Colorado State Patrol. Some of the honey bees, which were riding in boxes, escaped from the truck, but most are contained, said Trooper Tim Sutherland. "Some of the boxes got opened and the bees got out. They are mad." A bee expert is monitoring the bees' condition. "We have a

professional out there to make sure they will be all right overnight until the owner can get there from South Dakota," Sutherland said.

#### One for the native bee lovers.

Mary took this picture in our garden - a native bee with boots made of pollen



Below a few Pictures from our Practical Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> November - taken by Mary Corbett



## Regular Items

### Library Notice

**Please return all library books that you may have so a stocktake can be done over the holiday Period.** 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. As always many thanks also to Councillor Bruce Casos 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. 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.

### December Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> December

No guest speaker at this meeting, as it is our Christmas celebration. Remember no meeting in January.

### How I started in Bees.

- A five-minute talk about "How I became a Beekeeper". Our next speaker will be Christopher Billing in February 2016

### Committee Meeting

The next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

### Supper Roster

- December - Ken Freiberg, Russell Gleeson and Cameron Grant.
- February - Lloyd Hancock, Richard & Neryl Hadgraft

### Room Set Up

- December - Paul Wesener
- February - Glen Woodford



## Club Notices

### Honey Buckets, Bottles and Jars



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

The club currently has stock of beetle traps. They will be available from Noela 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](mailto: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.

### Hives for sale.

Tony Wells our past President has decided to reduce the size of his apiary.

Consequently he has 10 hives for sale.

Tony is a very experienced beekeeper and I have no doubt his hives will be in good order. If interested they are priced at \$300 each and they are all doubles.

Please call Tony directly on 0429 789 351

### Flora in December.

Blue Heliotrope, Brush Box, Carpet Weed, Flat Weed, Coolibah, Grey Ironbark, Pumpkin, Red Stringy-bark, SilverLeaved Ironbark, Narrow-Leaved Grey Gum, Rusty Gum, River Red Gum, Tumbledown Gum, Yellow Box, White Clover, Hill Gum, Swamp Mahogany and White Mahogany.

### Know your Flora

Most people know about the soaring redwoods of California and their record height, the tallest measuring 115.6m. Australia's iconic eucalyptus giants, however, receive far less attention, although they are close rivals for California's botany crown. Australia's mountain ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) is the second tallest growing tree species in the world. The tallest specimen – nicknamed 'Centurion' – stands at 99.6m in Tasmania's Arve Valley. It is the world's tallest flowering plant and known hardwood tree. The species grows extraordinarily quickly, reaching its maximum height in 200 years, a rate five times faster than the redwoods. "The eucalypts do not live long enough to rival the redwoods in size. Historic records show that in 1880 a felled mountain ash was recorded at 114.5m in Thorpdale, 137km south-east of Melbourne, making it the tallest tree in the world at the time.



<http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/>

## Articles



### Beehive Air Treatment

Apitherapy has been known since the Egyptian times, and part of this extensive therapy also comprises beehive air aerosol treatments. It contains all the following components, i.e. propolis, royal jelly, beeswax and pollen. Inhaling a specific aroma, which is produced in beehives has an extremely beneficial effect on the human psychophysical condition and can take place from April to September. Air, saturated with essential fragrances, helps people with the following conditions:

- Bronchitis;
- Asthma;
- Allergies;
- Chronic lung diseases;
- Susceptibility to infections;
- Weakened immune system;
- Respiratory tract infections;
- Chronic headaches, migraines;
- Stress;
- Depression.



By inhaling warm beehive air, through a special breathing mask, we consume these precious substances, which have a medicinal effect on a series of conditions. Apitherapy, in a natural way, helps us to overcome many problems and is also more than perfect for athletes, children and the elderly...

<http://apitherapy.blogspot.com.au/2014/03/beehive-air-treatment-now-available-in.html>

*Thanks to Guy Mowat for the above article*

### Bee Attack



*From the USA, where else?* The Maricopa Fire Department said that six people were sent to the hospital after a swarm of bees attacked residents in a subdivision of The Rancho El Dorado. The bees attacked people in a two-block-long area, the department said in a news release. Three adults and three children were taken to hospital for treatment of the stings. One of the adults had nearly 300 bee stings counted at the hospital. Two firefighters who were also stung during the rescue did not need treatment.

It took fire crews about two hours to find the hive in an opened water valve box at one of the homes. The bees were sprayed with foam, and the hive was contained and killed.

A particularly aggressive strain of honeybee has menaced parts of Arizona during the summer, with some people getting stung so many times that they were hospitalised.

Experts say the state is dealing with the Africanised honeybee, also known as the killer bee, which is a crossbreed between the European honeybee and the African honeybee.

The killer bee is the result of experiments in Brazil decades ago, and the insects migrated to the US. The bees are more prevalent in warm south-western states such as Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. If their hives are disrupted, they become especially aggressive.

Watch the video at the link below it is hilarious.....

<http://www.nbcnews.com/video/bees-deliver-halloween-terror-557217859556>

## Beekeepers online

*By Kathleen Calderwood ABC Rural - Beekeeper Martin Gilbert*

As part of a push to encourage more people to become involved in beekeeping, the Honey Bee and Pollination Program has released a number of training videos on YouTube. The videos cover everything from construction and repair of beehives to artificial insemination. Beekeeper James Kershaw, from the Honey Bee and Pollination Advisory Committee, said while the videos were designed for newcomers, experienced beekeepers would also find them useful to learn about new techniques and ideas. He said it was important to encourage more people into beekeeping. "The average age for a beekeeper now is well over 50, so it's great to have younger beekeepers coming in," he said. "They might only start off with one hive but eventually they might go, 'Well, I want to make a living out of this' and go up to 300, 400, 500 hives. "There's a lot of people starting off with bees in the last few years, so this is a good way for people to touch base with some basic training." The videos have been produced to align with the accredited Certificate AHC 32010 in beekeeping and Certificate AHC 10 in Agriculture.

To view the training videos, visit the Rural Industries Research and Development YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/user/RIRDC>

*Thanks to Dimitri Markotsis for this article*

## Remembering Ron Smith

Each year at the December meeting we award the Ron Smith Memorial Trophy to the club's most successful exhibitor for that year. Some members will not have had the opportunity to have met Ron, or indeed know his history with the club. Below is a précis of Ron's association with the club and we respectfully acknowledge his contribution to the establishment of I&WMBA.

Ron joined the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association in October 1992 and was President of the Club for the 1996-1997 years. Ron was a very active President. He helped Noel Scholz build the demonstration cage which is still used at the local shows. During his presidency, field days were organised for the first time for the members. Ron also rewrote the Club's Constitution. Due to illness, Ron had to give up beekeeping in the late 1990s and he passed away in September 1998.



*Thanks again this month to all those who forwarded me articles and information.  
Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

*Cheers Phil C*