



Bee Flight



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

President's Report.

As we are in the quiet season for Beekeeping, it's an optimal time for Beekeepers to be getting ready for the Spring Season. Depending on the weather, it is common for Beekeepers to be reporting Bee Swarms in late August. So please try and ensure you have equipment ready for the next Beekeeping Season. It's also a good time for us all to be refreshing our knowledge on aspects of Beekeeping, which are essential to good apiary practice. In particular it is important to be able to recognize diseases such as American Foulbrood Disease & chalk brood disease and how to effectively treat these diseases and to have a good knowledge of spring management. Please bring any questions you have to the Club's monthly meeting. Please remember membership fees are due and that August is our AGM. As is normal for an AGM of any association all positions will be declared vacant.

As I have mentioned previously, we are in need of someone to fill the positions of Treasurer and Honorary Assistant Secretary. No job on the committee is too onerous and for the club to continue to function effectively these positions must be filled. I will be talking about this at the July meeting. The Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation has published a report on the 5-year plan for the Honey Bee Industry and Pollination. Basically the Plan outlines the need for research and development to meet the needs of Pollination activities and of maintain and improving a still relatively small Honeybee Industry. The report can be downloaded via the *Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Website*.

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



Honey Entries for EKKA - 3rd July
Club Meeting - 7th July
Committee Meeting - 13th July
Nomination forms to be returned
by the 21st July.
CLUB AGM 4th August
EKKA - 7th to 16th August
Beaudesert Show - 4th & 5th Sept

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.



June Solstice	AGM 2016
EKKA entries	Know your Flora
Beaudesert Show	Bee Pictures
Show dates 2015	Regular Items
Show Results	Honey Month
Annual subscriptions	
Articles:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bees swarm to South Australian Riverland for almond pollination. • 24 beehives stolen in Tassie • Site permits at inaugural auction in NSW have apiarists buzzing with concern. • New world record for the most number of bees on a human. 	

Name Badge Reminder.

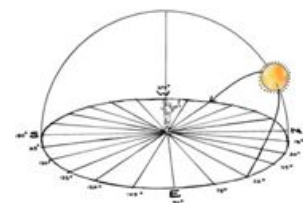
Members are reminded to wear their name badges at meetings and events to help others recognise you, particularly as there are many new members. If you are unable to find your name badge, please see Noela or Phillip Geeves and they will arrange for a new badge.

Current Happenings

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

The June Solstice & Honey Bees.

On the 21st of June we had our winter solstice, commonly referred to as the shortest day. The solstice occurs when the sun's zenith is at its furthest point from the equator. During the June solstice it reaches its northernmost point and the Earth's North Pole tilts directly towards the sun, at about 23.5 degrees. It is also known as the northern solstice because it occurs when the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer in the northern hemisphere. If the Earth's rotation were at right angles to the plane of its orbit around the sun, there would be no solstice days and no seasons.



The June solstice day has the longest hours of daylight for those living north of the equator. Those living or travelling to the north of the Arctic Circle are able to see the "midnight sun", where the sun remains visible throughout the night, while those living or travelling south of the Antarctic Circle will not see sun during this time of the year. Honeybees also observe the day of the winter solstice. The Queen may begin laying eggs to start the colony toward the next year's growth anytime after the winter solstice. The queen is usually stimulated to start laying eggs when the foraging worker bees start bringing pollen into the hive.

Royal Queensland Show - EKKA

Please note: members that wish to enter this year's EKKA honey competition, only the entry form must be lodged with the EKKA no later than Friday 3 July by 5pm. The honey entries will need to be lodged at the EKKA by Saturday 1 August 2015. Phil Geeves will be taking entries to the EKKA on the Saturday morning.



Beaudesert Show

The Beaudesert show is our next club show event. All members are asked to keep either Friday or Saturday 4th or 5th September free to help man the Club's stand at the Beaudesert Show. Secretary Noela will begin a roster sheet at our June meeting. If you have never been to the Beaudesert Show, you should make it a priority, as it is one of the best shows of the year. You don't have to stay all day but if you can spare a couple of hours to give other members a break, it would be appreciated.

Show dates remaining for 2015

Listed below are the current published dates for the remaining Queensland shows this year.

Ekka	7 th to 16 th Aug	www.ekka.com.au
Beaudesert	4 th to 5 th Sept	www.beaudesertshow.org.au

Annual subscriptions

Annual membership dues are now payable. The dues are \$25.00 per single membership and \$30.00 per family membership. Please ensure you pay your fees at the next meeting. Also as a Reminder you need to be a financial member to complete the nomination form for the Committee and vote if necessary at the AGM.

Annual General Meeting 2015

The club's AGM will be held on Tuesday 4th August. There will be the normal meeting first then the AGM to follow. Think about whom you want as your President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 4 Committee Members. A nomination form is with the newsletter.

They need to be returned to Secretary Noela at the July meeting or by Tuesday 21st July.

Get Well Soon.

We send our best wishes to Rudy Guerin who has been in hospital this month. Hope you are well on your way to recovery and see you soon. Best wishes from the Club.



Flora. In July we should be seeing

Broad-leaved Ironbark, Grey Ironbark, Mountain Coolibah, Mugga Ironbark, Tea Tree, Yapunyah, Spotted Gum, Blue Gum and Swamp Messmate.

Know your Flora – Swamp Messmate

Eucalyptus robusta, commonly known as **swamp mahogany** or **swamp messmate**, is a tree native to eastern Australia. Growing in swampy or waterlogged soils, it is up to 30m high with thick spongy reddish brown bark and dark green broad leaves, which help form a dense canopy. The white to cream flowers appear in autumn and winter. The leaves are commonly eaten by insects, and are a food item for the koala. It is an important winter-flowering species in eastern Australia, and has been planted extensively in many countries



around the world. Its timber is used for firewood and in general construction. *Apiculture* A winter-flowering species, swamp mahogany provides valuable stores for winter and spring build-up, but where there are adverse winter conditions there can be a problem with bee loss as a result of their flying in poor weather. It is a reliable regular producer of a smallish honey yield of dark amber, highly aromatic honey of an acceptable flavour and reasonable density. The regularity of pollen production for valuable winter stores makes it a valued tree (Clemson 1985; Blake & Roff 1996).

Regular Items

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. We also have club caps available for sale at \$15.00.

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. 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.

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 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.

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.



July Meeting – 7th July

Our Speaker this month is yet to be confirmed but we hope to have James Linklater Steele present on his experiences with "plastic" hives. Our main raffle prize will be a new smoker.

How I started in Bees.

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

- July – Kellie Round
- August – Benita Ironside

Committee Meeting

Next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 13th July.

Supper Roster

- July – Grahame Yates, Peter Anderson and Bill Andrews.
- August – Jared Armstrong, Albert Avramov and Bradley Charlwood.

Room Set Up

- July – Caleb Spicer
- August – Glen Sutherland





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. Volunteers pack club jars in small quantities and it takes a great deal of time to pack ship and store them. Should you wish to purchase jars from the club please talk to Noela ☎ 07 3281 4165.

- 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 are available at 90c each.



We ask that you keep the boxes that the 1kg 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 \$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

Beekeepers Wanted.



Murray Arkadieff of Farmgate Honey Australia (contact phone: 0488 500 303 mailto:farmgatehoney@live.com) is looking for beekeepers to assist with his 1200 hive operation in Rochedale. See details below.

"We are seeking a person with beekeeping experience for a full time position. During the season from late July 2015 till May 2016. Based in South East QLD at Rochedale. This position involves all aspects of beekeeping in a modern honey production business. You must not be afraid of hard heavy work and long irregular hours, which involves a lot of time in the bush. Camping will be required as well as a full and clean driver licence. A competitive remuneration package will be negotiated recognising the successful candidate's skills and previous experience. We will also have a 3-bedroom family home available from Dec as part of the package located in the suburb of Rochedale near the city and all facilities."

Re-queening and Queen breeding helpers

Len and Murray Arkadieff are also looking to create a list of people who would like to help them during the busy Queen breeding re-queening season. Jan to March, maybe a day or two a week. Experience and physical fitness to work hives is essential. Will be required to travel to Rochedale and potentially work away. Pay negotiable. Contact details as above.

Please email all CV's for the above roles to mailto:farmgatehoney@live.com

Bee Pics

An interesting picture of a beehive that a friend of Annette Isager photographed in the medieval town of Regensburg, Germany.

Amazing Bee film.

Check out this amazing bit of film of a Bees first 21 days of development compressed to one minute.

<http://www.bbc.com/earth/story/20150522-the-transformation-of-a-bee-in-60-seconds>

Thanks to everyone that sent me this link....Cheers Phil



[Articles](#)

Bees swarm to South Australian Riverland for almond pollination

<http://www.abc.net.au/> By Emma Brown

The time for pollinating almonds is only weeks away and apiarists are preparing their hives for the work. Despite a rapid increase in almond plantings around the South Australian Riverland, many local beekeepers have left the business, leaving only a handful that transport their bees around the state during the year and head home for almond time. Beekeeper Rob Marchant said he sent his bees away to areas with more pollen producing plants to prepare for the almond pollination. Pollinating almond trees often leaves the bees eating their own honey as a food source as they do not produce while pollinating the nut trees. "There's only about five commercial beekeepers left in the Riverland, between us we would only have a total of maybe 1,500 hives so most of the bees come from outside," he said.



"The most important thing is to try and get them on some good conditions, if the conditions aren't right some blokes have to feed sugar syrup, some are even trying to feed artificial pollens at present. "We find that diesel is the cheaper option and if you can find conditions to travel to it's generally easier to travel to some good conditions." Beekeeper Barry Williams said finding quality pollen was becoming increasingly difficult as more and more farmers and gardeners eradicated weeds. He said the outbreak of Small Hive Beetle in the Riverland was a concern but so far they had not been affected by the pest. Almond trees depend entirely on the pollination services on bees to allow them to set fruit for the next season. "There can be quite a bit of work involved in getting hives to the strength needed to pollinate almonds," he said. "The past autumn conditions haven't been very good so we've had to move around and try and get them breeding to get them to a reasonable strength for almond pollinating, so there's quite a bit of work involved."



Honey Tasmania loses 10pc of business as 24 beehives stolen

<http://www.abc.net.au/> By Sam Ikin

A Tasmanian honey company has appealed for help after thieves walked off with 24 beehives from an apiary in a leatherwood plantation south of Burnie. Tristan Campbell with beehives in Tasmania's north said a theft of this scale was mostly likely undertaken by someone with extensive knowledge of beekeeping. Honey Tasmania is a small-scale boutique honey producer and the theft represented about 10 per cent of their hives. Honey Tasmania owner and beekeeper Tristan Campbell said the hives were on a Forestry Tasmania site which does not see many visitors. "Around this time of year all the beekeepers in the state start bringing their hives back from the leatherwood sites," he said. "As I went over the crest of the hill there should have been hives sitting there and there wasn't, there was six empty pallets."

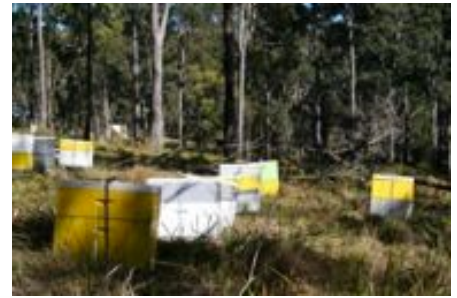
"I had to blink a few times to make sure my eyes weren't lying to me, in 12 years of beekeeping that was the first time any hives have gone missing."

Mr Campbell said there were footprints in the mud and believed the hives had been stolen within 24 hours of him arriving at the site. He said to remove that many hives at once would require thorough knowledge of beekeeping. "You'd have to be pretty desperate to attempt to do it with no knowledge of how to handle bees," he said. "Either the people got a lot of bee stings and wondered why the heck they were doing it or they were experienced. "The company reported the theft to Tasmania Police and have issued an appeal for information on social media. Mr Campbell said the theft put his company's livelihood at risk. "

Prices for NSW state forest site permits at inaugural auction have apiarists buzzing with concern.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-06-09/bee-hive-auction-apiarists>

Beekeepers in New South Wales claim an online auction for site permits in state forests on the south coast came "from left field". Just over \$1,300 was the average price paid for a year's access to each of the 24 sites sold by the Forestry Corporation of NSW. This compares to about \$90 a year paid previously. NSW Apiarists Association vice-president Neil Bingley conceded there was probably a need for an increase, but said there was no real discussion prior to the auctions. "This was thrown at us," he said. "We haven't had any meaningful negotiations since. "I'm very keen to get back to the table and do some negotiations. "Yes, prices probably haven't kept up pace with other things, but a minimal increase would be sustainable but these are massive prices that were paid.



"The beekeepers that actually paid them, I don't think they thought ahead for what it was going to do to the industry." Like many commercial operators in the state's south, Mr Bingley maintains hives around Batemans Bay, where the 24 sites sold through auction are located. Mr Bingley argued that the area would not be very profitable, as it was mostly populated by spotted gums, which might only flower once every four to 10 years. "In a really good winter flowering year, which is never guaranteed, especially with droughts and prescribed burns and so on, the potential value of honey for that site would be approximately \$15,000 gross, at best."

A Chinese man has set a new world record for the most number of bees on a human.

Gao Bingguo has been a beekeeper for over 30 years. The 55-year-old hailing from China's Shandong province was stung more than 2,000 times during his incredible feat. His body temperature also rose to a dangerous 140 degrees Fahrenheit but he pushed through, surviving to beat the earlier world record.

Many people regard bees with caution because of the danger of stings but the truth is not all bees can actually sting. Male bees, for instance, cannot, and the females will not usually attack if they don't feel threatened or provoked.



According to the World Health Organization, in 2000, 54 deaths were attributed to bee stings in the United States. That's a very low number given that there were 281 million people in the country at the time. Based on reports, an individual is likelier to be killed by lightning than a bee sting, with lightning strikes the cause of death of about 90 people on average each year.

The primary reason why deaths due to bee stings are so rare is because the average person is capable of safely tolerating up to 10 stings for every pound of their body weight. This means that an adult weighing 100 pounds, for instance, will be able to survive through over a thousand stings. Children can withstand less but it would still take 500 stings to deliver a deadly blow to a child.



According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, most people who believe they are allergic to bees are simply experiencing the usual reaction of the body to a sting. Only about one or two for every 1,000 people in the population are truly hypersensitive or allergic to bee stings.

**Nomination Form for:
Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc.
Nomination for Management Committee 2015 -2016**



Nominations for the positions on the Management Committee must reach The Secretary at 40 Whitehill Road Eastern Heights 4305 by Tuesday 21st July 2015

There are eight members on the management committee

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 4 Committee Members

All parties to the nomination form must be financial members

I _____ Name of Proposer.

As a financial member of the Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc.

Hereby nominate _____ Name of Nominee

For the position of _____ on the management of the above Association

Signed _____

Signed Proposer _____

Signed Secnder _____

Signed Nominee _____