



# BEE FLIGHT NEWSLETTER



## Official Newsletter of the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc

### Presidents Report

Greetings everyone, I will be away for the October meeting so Vice President George Pallot will be in the driver's seat. Our guest speaker this month, Dr. Craig Davis promises to be very interesting. Many thanks to Kellie Round for arranging his attendance. The club has a couple of great events coming up in the next few weeks and both promise to be very enjoyable. First is the Gold Coast Club's field day on the 25<sup>th</sup> October, which is always a great day out with lots of friendly rivalry for the inter-club trophy. We will compile a list of members wishing to travel to this event by bus at the next meeting. On this occasion we are asking all members that wish to reserve a seat to pay a \$20.00 holding deposit. This will be refunded to you on the day and forfeited if you fail to turn up. This has become necessary as a recent bus to the QBA field day, which was paid for by the club at a cost of over \$600 had only 4 passengers. This was despite many members indicating that they would utilise the club-sponsored bus. I am sure you will all agree that we must ensure that club funds are spent responsibly.

Our other event will be a club practical day on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> November. This will be a must for new members in particular and learners like myself. Please let the committee know if you have any suggestions or ideas for inclusion in the day. Last but not least, our outing to Beaudesert Show was an outstanding success. Only a few members were able to attend, however many thanks to those members who set up the display, attended both days and assisted in packing up. We completely sold out of honey and almost sold out of honey products, so it was a great success financially for the club. I look forward to seeing those of you who are attending the Gold Coast field day – a lot of fun!

*Benita Ironside*

I&WMBA Committee 2015		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Benita Ironside	0414 939 681
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Mark Meerwald	0439 457 217
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

Bottle Packing - 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
Club Meeting - 6<sup>th</sup> October  
Committee Meeting - 12<sup>th</sup> October

Gold Coast Beekeepers  
Field Day - 25<sup>th</sup> October

Club's Practical Day  
8<sup>th</sup> November

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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>**

## Beaudesert Show

Thanks to all that helped man the Club's stall at the Beaudesert Show on Friday and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September. There were lots of school children through on the Friday and then it was busy on the Friday night and it carried over all day on the Saturday. Sales were brisk and we sold out again of all the honey and honey related products. The profit from the show will go towards the Club's insurance policy which is now due.

*Noela*



Another great success and as always, Noela & Phil Geeves were on hand from set up on Thursday until the close on Saturday. George was unwell this year but rest assured, he won't be able to use this excuse next year! The show was a complete success and honey sales were about the same as last year. Mark will have full details in the treasurer's report at the next meeting. Check out the pictures of Peter Waldron's wax models, simply incredible. I think we need Peter to do a spot at one of our meetings about using wax, or perhaps it's a trade secret?



*Cheers Phil C (Editor)*

### Beaudesert Show Results

Albert Payne:	5 firsts, 8 seconds & 2 thirds
Ken Freiberg	6 firsts, 4 seconds and 7 thirds
Frank Earley	2 Firsts, 1 second & 1 third
Peter Waldron	3 firsts, 3 seconds & 2 thirds
Phil & Noela Geeves	1 first, 2 seconds, 3 thirds and Champion Honey of the Show
Corinda State High School	1 first
Congratulations to all the winners in particular to Phil & Noela for Champion Honey. The results of the Ron Smith Memorial Trophy will be announced at the October meeting.	



### Gold Coast Field Day

Gold Coast Beekeepers Field Day is on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October. If sufficient club members are interested in attending the club will hire a bus. The day includes honey, cake and biscuit competitions for the Inter Club Trophy, so please put some honey aside when you are extracting. The recipes for this day are later in the edition.

### Gold Coast Honey Schedule

Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers Society Inc Honey Competition Categories	
Open Section	Novice Section
Light	Light
Golden	Golden
Dark	Dark
Creamed	Creamed
Granulated Honey - Course	Granulated Honey - Course
Granulated Honey - Fine	Granulated Honey - Fine
Comb in Honey	Comb in Honey
Frame of Honey	Frame of Honey
Heaviest Frame	Heaviest Frame
Block of Wax(500g/+)	Block of Wax(500g/+)
Decorative Wax	Decorative Wax
Honey Cake	Honey Cake
Honey Cookies	Honey Cookies

## Queens for October

At this stage queens will be available on Saturdays the 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October. If members have not indicated to Kellie Round which weekend they would like to receive their queens could they please see Kellie at the October member. All queens ordered must be paid for by the October meeting



**Collection Details:** Pick up from Phil Geeves's residence 16 Alice Street Blackstone between 8am and 9.30am on the relevant Saturday unless arranged 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

## Packing Bottles

Volunteers are required to help pack bottles on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October from 9.00 am out at Rod Palmers', followed by morning tea afterwards down by the creek.

## Practical Day

The Committee is organising a Practical Day for **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November** from 10.00 am. The venue is yet to be confirmed. This will be a hands on day utilising the club hives. It is hoped that as many of the newer members as possible are able to come along and learn first hand about opening a hive and hive management. It will be a huge learning curve.

**PLEASE WRITE IT IN YOUR DIARIES AND KEEP THE DATE FREE.**

## Flora in October.

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

## Know your Flora

Well, this month I found a tree that I would never have thought of in relation to bees and honey - Bananas. Bananas are a widely grown, very productive garden plant, easy to grow and regenerate. Dwarf varieties are easier to harvest. They are beautiful landscape plants but do produce quite a lot of debris. They are apparently very attractive to bees as they are a major nectar producer and a very abundant pollen producer. The honey produced varies from dark in Coffs Harbour to light in other parts of Australia.



## Bee Pics

Happy Birthday to Rod Palmer who just turned 65. Below is a fantastic BEE birthday cake! A gift from Mark & Fran Rook.

Love this picture from Kellie Round. Appeals to my sense of humour.





## 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.

### 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.

### 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.



### October Meeting – 6th October

Our guest speaker this month will be Dr. Craig Davis. Our main raffle prize will be a new smoker.

### How I started in Bees.

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

- October - George Pallot
- November - Phil Corbett

### Committee Meeting

Next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 12th October

### Supper Roster

- October - Terry Cumner, Barbara Cush and Mary Davidson
- November - Alan Dearden, Frank Earley and Elizabeth Finney

### Room Set Up

- October - Jon Vermeer
- November - Alan Waters



## 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. 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 \$6.00 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](mailto:rod@honeybee.com.au)

### Extractor Wanted

Does anyone has a small second hand extractor for sale? I'm just starting out and only have 2 hives so a small one would be fine. Guy Mowat Call 0408 884 017

### Hive Site Available

Ray & Gail Caddies have a 150 acre property at Mundoolun and would love someone to place hives there. Is interested please contact them directly on 5543 0404 or 0409 404 452

## Gold Coast Field Day Recipes

### Honey Sponge Cake.

A sweet and extremely simple recipe.

Equipment: a 23cm x 38cm Swiss roll pan, grease and line the base

#### Ingredients

- 3 large eggs at room temperature
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1 cup self-raising flour
- 1 tsp icing sugar optional

**Bake for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.**

- When cooled, sprinkle with icing sugar.

#### Method

- Pre-heat oven to 170C.
- Beat eggs separately on high until thick and creamy, for approximately 5 minutes.
- Add honey in a thin stream while beating, and continue to do so for another 3 minutes after all the honey has been added.
- Sift flour over the mixture and fold into the mixture.
- Spread the mixture evenly into the swiss roll tin.



## Wholesome Honey Cookies - Yields 36

A healthy, nutritious & scrumptious cookie that hits the spot. Gluten, dairy & refined sugar-free. Tastes like mini muffin tops! Prep Time 10 min - Cook Time 12 min

### Ingredients

- 1 cup raw local honey
- 1/3 cup virgin coconut oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup unsweetened almond milk
- 3 1/2 cups gluten-free oat flour
- 1/2 cup brown rice flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

### Method

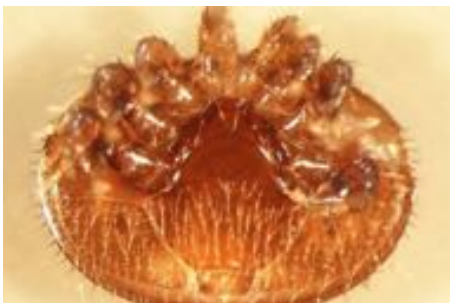
- Preheat oven to 190C
- Combine virgin coconut oil and honey. Stir in eggs and milk.
- Sift together the flours, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg.
- Combine flour mixture with honey mixture.
- Place by teaspoonfuls on a greased baking sheet.
- Bake 12 minutes (or until golden brown underneath cookie).
- Allow to cool before serving.

## Articles

### Securing bee populations

#### Securing bee populations from climate change and varroa mites gets \$600,000 boost.

A plan to map bee activity and protect South Australian pollination rates from climate change and varroa mites has been given a \$600,000 boost with the launch of a new program in South Australia. The State Government and the University of Adelaide have both contributed \$300,000 to the project, which will be used to map bee activity and gain a better understanding of plants needed to sustain them.



University research associate Doctor Katja Hogendoorn said climate change and habitat loss were the biggest threat to Australian bees.

She said the parasitic varroa mite, while not yet in Australia, had decimated bee populations around the world. The mites attach themselves to bees, sucking their blood, causing diseases and viruses deadly to the insect. "That is the main problem at the moment in the United States, where the bees are dying," Dr Hogendoorn said.

"We want to prevent the bees dying in the future, so we have to plant bee food so that bees can be maintained locally." Dr Hogendoorn said lucerne, almonds, apples and cherries relied entirely upon bee pollinators, but the bees needed a "variety of food sources" after the crop had finished flowering.

She said the right environment needed to be secured around crops to "build and maintain" bee populations.

University of Adelaide Plant Conservation Biology chairman Professor Andrew Lowe said feral honey bees provided 60 per cent of agriculture pollination, with the rest provided by commercial honeybees and native bees. Native bees are not affected by varroa mites.

"However, little work as been done to assess the contribution of native bees to crop pollination. "We also need to act now to prevent loss of crop-pollinating species."

The pilot program was designed to "retain and restore" native vegetation that bees relied upon and to "future proof" bee-dependent orchards and crops.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-09-05/securing-bee-populations-gets-a-boost-in-pilot-program/6752446>

### Tiny Bee Trackers

An international group of scientists, beekeepers, farmers and technology companies is using cutting-edge technology to help find out why honey bee populations around the world are crashing.

Minuscule sensors have been glued to the backs of 10,000 healthy honey bees around the world to help understand why huge numbers of bees are dying.

Like electronic tags that track the movement of cars through toll roads, these tiny trackers send information back to receivers half the size of a credit card that are strategically placed at bee hives.

Australian researchers involved in the global research project compare the sensor to an adult carrying a backpack, weighing about a third of what a honey bee can carry. But unlike the average backpacker, this extra load will remain in place for the rest of the bee's life. The microscopic technology has been developed in Tasmania by Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) over the past two years as part of an international research project investigating bee health.

Around the world, wild bee populations have plummeted thanks to habitat loss, pesticides and diseases, say scientists. That puts crops that need to be pollinated at risk, says CSIRO Science Leader Professor Paulo de Souza.

Read the full article at <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-34048495>

### A Sign of the Times

(by Darryl Ryan)



On a recent trip to Cairns, I found a little shop tucked away in the local night markets. It sells everything from regular honey to Royal jelly and Propolis Capsules and toothpaste. I found it quite interesting the 2 young Korean girls had little clue to the items they were selling - but the prices were disturbing Ironbark honey \$25/kg, Macadamia honey \$35 kg and Manuka honey



averaging \$180 for 500gms. Much of the regular product was packaged on the Gold Coast.

### Thieves Target Manuka in NZ

Beekeepers and farmers are being warned to be on the lookout for suspicious activity after a spate of beehive thefts thought to be sparked by rocketing prices for Manuka honey.

Dannevirke-based producer The True Honey Company is the latest victim of what appear to be commercially motivated raids on apiaries around the North Island.

Waipukurau police are investigating after the company had 19 of its hives, worth about \$14,000, stolen from a Central Hawke's Bay farm over the weekend.

Last month 50 hives were stolen from a Kiwi Bee Waikato site near Te Awamutu, and apiaries in Huntly, Northland and Taranaki are among others to report thefts of hives this year. Industry sources say that, while there is no evidence to link the various thefts, they appear to be tied to growing global demand, and increasing local wholesale prices, for New Zealand's premium Manuka honey. National Beekeepers Association chief executive Daniel Paul said there appeared to be anecdotal evidence the booming Manuka price was driving thefts.

Source [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz)

*Thanks again this month to all those who forwarded me articles and information.*

*Cheers Phil C*