



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

- Beaudesert Show - 2nd & 3rd September
- Club meeting - 6th September
- Committee meeting - 12th September
- Gold Coast Club Field Day - 25th September.
- Club Practical Day - 9th October

Message from the Secretary

Please note: If you are not a financial member of the Club by the 1st September 2016 this will be the last newsletter you will receive. If you are unsure if you are financial or not please contact me and I will be more than happy to check. It would be a shame to miss out on our Newsletter and other events each month.

Cheers Noela

New Committee & Presidents Report

Our new committee for the 2016/17 year.



Club President
Phil Geeves



Vice President
George Pallot



Secretary
Noela Geeves



Assistant Secretary
Mike Trott



Treasurer
Kellie Round



Committee Member
Darryl Ryan



Committee Member
Graham Yates



Committee Member
Mark Merwald



Committee Member
Bee Flight Editor & Website Manager
Phil Corbett



Welcome to my first report as president. I would like to begin by thanking retiring committee members Benita Ironside and Beryl Salmond for all their work whilst serving on the committee.

Spring Management

It's that time of the year when all members should be considering how to prevent their bees from swarming. Its important to open the brood box and ensure the Queen has room to lay. This can be done by replacing two frames of capped brood or the outside frames which the bees have put honey in with stickies. This will give her the two extra combs in which to lay. If queen cells are present you can remove them but you will need to check again in a couple of weeks to see if the bees have produced further Queen cells. There are no guarantees they won't swarm but this should help. It's a shame to see your marked Queen from last season go flying off into the distance with the swarm. *(more information on spring management on page 5)*

Events

The Beaudesert Show is on Friday 2nd September and Saturday 3rd September. What a great show Beaudesert is. Come along for just a few hours, you never know what information you can pick up just by talking to other members present.

The Gold Coast Field Day is on Sunday 25th September and I encourage as many members as possible to attend. The Gold Coast Club always put on a good day. More details at the next meeting.



Phil Geeves
Club President

AGM

The Club's AGM for 2016 was held in Ipswich at the Humanities Centre on the 2nd Aug following the General Meeting.

President Benita declared all the positions on the committee vacant and subsequently the new committee was appointed. Our new committee members' contact details are on page 9 of this newsletter and on our website.

The new committee would like to thank all the previous committee members for their hard work over the past 12 months, with particular thanks to our outgoing President Benita Ironside and Committee member Beryl Salmond. Also many thanks to Wayne Rossiter for managing out Club Library.

The Committee awarded two further life memberships to Noela Geeves & Noel Scholz. Congratulations to both recipients, well deserved.

Show Results

Ekka	
Phil & Noela Geeves	1 first, 3 seconds, 1 third & Champion Honey in Show.
Albert Payne	6 firsts, 1 second, 3 thirds & Most Successful Exhibitor.
Ken Freiberg	3 firsts, 1 second & 5 thirds.
Peter Waldron	1 first, 1 second, 1 third & 1 fourth.
Congratulations to all the entrants. Winning at any show, let alone the Ekka, is a fantastic achievement.	

Beaudesert Show

The Beaudesert Show is our last show for the year. and it is on this weekend. 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 Beaudesert Show, you should make it a priority, as it is one of the best shows of the year. The show schedule and entry forms are available at www.beaudesertshow.org.au

Gold Coast Open Day

Gold Coast Amateur Beekeeping Society and I&WMBA have a long history of friendship and knowledge sharing. Make sure you come along to their Open Day this year. A great day out as always with an array of informative guest speakers and trade stands. As well as our inter Club holy competition. Don't forget to bring some honey and to enter the Inter Club Honey Competition.

When: September 25, 2016 all-day

Where: Mudgeeraba Showgrounds, Mudgeeraba QLD 4213 Cost: \$2 entry

Queens

Queens will be available to members on Saturday the 8th, 15th and 22nd October. Please order and pay for them at the September meeting /October at the latest. Prices will be confirmed at the next meeting by Phil Geeves.

Bee Open Day

Celebrating Bees in the Community, Saturday 10th September, Mary Valley College grounds, in Imbil. All bees are celebrated on the day - honey bees, stingless native bees, solitary bees - as well as live hives and splits/transfers, pollination, habitat and bee gardens. \$2 entry. Starts 10am, finishes at 3pm. More info at: <http://mrccc.org.au/?valley-bees>

Club Practical Day

Our next practical day is planned for Sunday the 9th of October. Venue will be advised.

The day will focus on how to establish nucleus hives and re-queening. We will commence with Morning tea at 10.00am and finish up with a sausage sizzle lunch.

Member Survey

Earlier this month I sent out a member survey to those of you on my email list. The idea behind this survey is to encourage more members to get involved in the club decision making processes. Hard copies of this survey were mailed to the members who currently receive our newsletter as a hard copy. The results of this survey will be used by the committee at the next committee meeting (12th September) to determine how to proceed in relation to insurance and Facebook. Thank you to all that have returned the survey, there is still time to complete it if you haven't done so yet. If I don't currently have your email address just send it to me and I will add you on to our data-base.

Phil Corbett phil@abclass.com.au

Members List

Each year in September we reproduce our club members list, with the details of financial members for the year. If any of your contact details have changed since the last update please contact our club secretary regarding the changes. This list is updated once a year only.

Boxes for Sale

An ex-beekeeper at Carindale whose bees were ravaged by beetles, has decided to give up beekeeping. He wants to sell 20 boxes. If interested call SAB Masci on 07 3395 3929.

• TALKS • DISPLAYS • EQUIPMENT FOR SALE • NATIVE HIVE SPLITS •

BEE OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 10 SEPT 2016

celebrating BEES in the COMMUNITY

- Honey
- Free tastings
- Bees wax
- Bee products
- Hive - box designs
- Latest on bee pests - diseases
- Beneficial insects
- Community displays
- Live music

HONEY BEES + NATIVE STINGLESS BEES + NATIVE SOLITARY BEES

- + Habitat
- + Pollination
- + Bee Gardens
- + Native Plants

MARY VALLEY COLLEGE
IMBIL ALL DAY - 10AM TO 3PM

\$2 ENTRY

Come along and support this fund-raising event...a great day for Beekeepers, Gardeners, Students and Families...something for everyone!

Full timetable of talks, schedule of events and list of experts, will be uploaded to www.mrccc.org.au/valley-bees/ on Thursday 1st September

Valley Bees

• EXPERTS • DEMONSTRATIONS • RAFFLES • COFFEE + FOOD •

glenbo@live.com.au

Spring Management

Spring is one of the most important times in the Apiary. If you want to have healthy strong colonies, Spring is the time to start work.

On a warm sunny day with a light wind and enough day left to let your bees warm up again before sundown, open your hives. Hint: "if you need a jacket it's too cold".

- 1) Check the health of your hives, in particular check for AFB.
- 2) Check to see if you have a Queen by finding her or evidence she is laying.
- 3) Check to see if there is honey (food) for your bees. (consider if and when you need to rob them as part of your swarm management. More hives are lost to starvation at this time than any other reason)
- 4) Look for signs of swarming. ie Queen cells mostly along the low parts of the frames.
- 5) Make space for your bees to allow the colony to grow. Consider raising brood to the super or adding supers.

Details of all these tips and how to manage your hives in Springtime can be found in "The Bee Book" by Peter Warhurst and Roger Goebel. There are copies in our club library if you don't have one. If you are new to beekeeping and not sure of what to do in spring, ask us, we can help.

Flora



While out walking this week I came upon a "Tuckeroo Tree" - what a great Aussie sounding name! The trees just a few hundred metres from my home were covered in bees - "my bees". Whist I am not familiar with this tree it had flushes of bright glowing new growth and masses of small greenish yellow flowers which are apparently followed by orange fleshy berries contained in showy orange seed pods in Summer.

Also in September lookout for, Dogwood Flat Weed, Grey ironbark, Mugga Ironbark, Narrow-Leafed Ironbark, Narrow- Leaved Grey Gum, River Mangrove, Weeping Tea Tree, White Clover, Yapunyah, Yellow Box, White Mahogany, Tallowwood and Red Bottlebrush.

Bee Pics



Isn't this a fantastic bee picture? Taken by our friends on their Cotton farm at St George.

Lots of pollen from a dandelion.

©Johnelle Rogan. Reproduced with kind permission.

Regular Items

Library

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.



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.

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

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

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.

September Meeting

Our guest speaker this month will be Trevor Weatherhead speaking on the subject of alternative Bee Products eg pollen, propolis & bee venom.

How I started in Bees.

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

- September - Lloyd Hancock
- October - Darryl Ryan



Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 12th September

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.

- September - Kev McLaughlan, Trevor Nardi, Jill Nelson and Patrick O'Dell.
- October - Shane O'Reilly, Ardrienne Pryor, Neil Robinson and Mark Rook.

Room Set up

- September - Philip Booth
- October - Patrick Bourke

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. Phone. 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.

Articles

The first 21 days of a bee's life.

Noela sent me this link to a short video on TED Talks, it is fantastic, check it out and Thanks to Noela.

http://www.ted.com/talks/anand_varma_a_thrilling_look_at_the_first_21_days_of_a_bee_s_life?language=en&utm_source=tedcomshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tedsread

Varroa Update 4th August

Most of you will be receiving updates from the AHBIC in regard to the Varroa in Townsville. However if not below is a brief update from Trevor.

I have had two phone calls today asking questions from information that seems to be circulating that is not correct. I thought I needed to correct that misinformation. The story that seems to be circulating is that the Varroa jacobsoni in Townsville is the one that is on Apis mellifera in Papua New Guinea. This is not the case.

The V. jacobsoni in Townsville is the one from the Asian bee, Apis cerana. Expert advice received is that this mite will not reproduce on A. mellifera in the short term in Australia. From the experience in Papua New Guinea there are grounds to believe that if the A. cerana in Townsville is not eradicated and the V. jacobsoni breed on the A. cerana for an extended period in Australia then continued exposure to our A. mellifera population could result in a V. jacobsoni mite switching over to A. mellifera. The above reasons make it imperative that any Asian bees in Townsville are found and destroyed and that is why the current response has been undertaken. The response is to V. jacobsoni as this is the Emergency Plant Pest, but the only way to find V. jacobsoni is to find Asian bees.

Information that has been published says that when the V. jacobsoni switches over to A. mellifera, as has been the case in Papua New Guinea, that V. jacobsoni will not be able to reproduce on the Asian bee.

So the only way that strain of V. jacobsoni could arrive in Australia is on A. mellifera and not A. cerana.

It is most likely that the Asian bees in Townsville have come from Papua New Guinea but again I reiterate that the V. jacobsoni that has been found on the Asian bees in Townsville is not the strain that has switched over to A. mellifera in Papua New Guinea. If you hear something that is different to what has been put out, please feel free to contact me at any time to clarify the situation. It is crucial that any misinformation is quickly corrected before it does any damage. Things like social media have their pluses but they also have their minuses if information is posted that is not correct.

Update 16th August

I would advise that another nest of Apis cerana has been found in Townsville. As there were no Varroa jacobsoni found on them, this then becomes 4POR (Premise of Relevance). As I explained previously, the V. jacobsoni is the Emergency Plant Pest here and not the Asian bees so only finds of V. jacobsoni will be called an IP (Infected Premises). 4POR is one street away from 3POR so there is every possibility that 3POR came from 4POR. There were around 5,000 bees in the nest and it is estimated to have been there since late last year

Trevor Weatherhead
Executive Director

Humans and wild birds talk to each other to find honey in Mozambique

Over thousands of years, honey hunters in northern Mozambique have forged a relationship with wild birds to find the location of bees' nests.

But not only do humans seek out the small birds known as honeyguides, the birds also actively seek out humans ensuring both species benefit, a new study shows.



Pioneering work by the Kenyan ecologist Hussein Isack in the 1980s confirmed honeyguides communicate reliable information to humans about the location of bees' nests, and this greatly increased honey-hunters' harvests, said the study's lead author Dr Claire Spottiswoode of the University of Cambridge in the UK and the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

In return, the greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*), which feeds from bees' nests, eating eggs, larvae and beeswax, relies on their human partner to crack open the hive.

"It's a remarkable example of cooperation between humans and a free-living wild animal," Dr Spottiswoode said.

But in a new study of the Yao honey hunters from Mozambique's Niassa National Reserve, published today in *Science*, Dr Spottiswoode and her colleagues show the interaction has an extra dimension.

Not only do the Yao honey hunters follow the birds' call to guide them to the hive, the birds themselves seek out the specific call made by the hunters to initiate the hunt.

Check out the audio at link below, and many thanks to everyone who sent me this story keep them coming.

Phil Corbett

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-22/humans-and-wild-birds-talk-to-each-other-to-find-honey/7650038?utm_medium=email&sslid=MzQwtTAyNLI0M7MAAA&sseid=MzSxtDA3tDAyNAIA&jobid=90895635-528d-4dcf-805c-3842b11fe

Our Committee

I&WMBA Committee 2016 - 2017		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Phil Geeves	07 3282 3989
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Kellie Round	0407 114 513
Assistant Secretary	Mike Trott	07 5464 1949
Committee	Mark Meerwald	0410 658 603
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238
Committee	Darryl Ryan	0410 561 914
Committee	Phil Corbett	0419 196 330

Disclaimer

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GOLD COAST AMATEUR BEEKEEPERS SOCIETY INC.

OPEN DAY

ALL WELCOME  **GOLD COIN ADMISSION**

SUNDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

7AM COFFEE & CONVERSATION

OFFICIAL WELCOME **8.45AM**

MUDGEERABA SHOWGROUNDS
115 MUDGEERABA RD, MUDGEERABA



Local honey

Honey a sweet solution

Keynote speaker

Des Cannon

Editor

Australasian Beekeeper Journal



Beekeeping supplies

Beekeeping demonstration for beginners



Beeswax Cometics Workshop



Learn more about bees, beekeeping & Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers Society Inc.

Cooking contests



www.gcabs.net.au

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— ART+DESIGN —