



# Bee Flight



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

## President's Report.

Welcome back to all our members and my best wishes to you all for 2015, I trust the coming year will be a great one for all of you. Our Field Day is in March and I am very much looking forward to the day, all the details are in this newsletter. We will need lots of volunteers on the day, helping out with all sorts of activities, as we will be hosting a large number of visitors. So please let Noela or myself know if you can help out on the day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the club members who have been assisting with the Apiary Program at Corinda High School recently. It is this commitment and generosity that I believe makes our club an outstanding one. To provide some additional assistance to Corinda High School Apiary Program we will be hold some of our practical days at the school this year. This will also assist the club, as we will not need to move hives to Pine Mountain for the practical sessions. We will let you know as soon as possible the dates for these.

Beekeepers around the world are facing increasing challenges and uncertainty with our weather patterns, pesticides and disease, clubs such as ours will be crucial to meet the challenges that will occur as a result of these issues if we are to maintain a strong honey industry particularly in the northern parts of Australia.

Recently some enquires have been made by members regarding buying apiary items through the club. Whilst we try to assist members in all aspects of beekeeping it is really beyond the club's ability to provide anything more than honey pails (30kgs), Apithor traps, glass bottles (show competitions) & plastic bottles (1kg) that we currently have. Please remember honey bottles need to be repackaged for members to purchase in smaller amounts and this requires several hours of packing by volunteer members. Our region has some excellent apiary suppliers who are only too happy to give advice and supply any items you wish to purchase. So please when you need to purchase equipment contact one of the local suppliers. Any member of the committee can give you contact details for these suppliers.

This year member suggestions have led to some improvements in club operations and I am only too happy to talk to any members with good suggestions and always the committee are very happy to receive any constructive feedback on how to best manage club activities.

*Take care, looking forward to seeing you all at the February meeting.*

*Benita Ironside President.*

## 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



Club Meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

Committee meeting - 9<sup>th</sup> February

2015 Club Field Day - 8<sup>th</sup> March

Practical Day at Corinda - 12<sup>th</sup> April

Hi All,  
Welcome to 2015 and another year of Bee Flight. I trust you all had a great break and have lots of bee news to share in 2015. Many thanks to those of you who have sent me items of interest over the last few weeks, keep them coming.

Cheers Phil Corbett Ed



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.

- Queens
- Honey Competition
- Field Day
- Practical Day
- Show Dates
- Know your flora



- Regular items
- Notice Board
- Bee funnies
- Beekeepers concerned about ageing apiarists
- Bee parasite will flourish under global warming

### Bee a Bee Buddy



Our club is expanding rapidly and it is difficult to maintain contact with all the members directly. At our Christmas meeting we had over 120 members and guests. So we encourage members to acquaint themselves with other beekeepers in their local area. This will help all members get support and encouragement across our club, particularly new members.

**To have a friend you need to be one**

### Names 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

### Queens

The Club has again organised a quantity of Queens to be available in March this year. Orders must be placed with Kellie Round at the February meeting, or if you prefer you can call or email Kellie directly.

Queens are \$20.50 marked and \$18.50 unmarked.

Pick up dates will be the 7<sup>th</sup> March and the 14<sup>th</sup> March. As previously, Queens will need to be collected on the date agreed from Phil Geeves between 8.00am and 1200 noon.



Order Queens from Kellie Round email: [malkelliem8@bigpond.com](mailto:malkelliem8@bigpond.com) ☎ 0407 114 513

### Club Meeting – 3rd March

This meeting will include the club's annual honey competition. If you are extracting honey put some aside and enter the competition. The 500g glass competition bottles will be available at the February meeting. If you are new to beekeeping and unsure of how to go about it just chat to one of our more experienced members.

#### Honey Competition schedule for March meeting

- Members only need to supply 1 bottle for each entry.
- Members can enter as many bottles in each class as they like as long as they come from different flora/apiaries.
- All entries to be presented in standard 500g bottles with white lids.
- All entries must be from the exhibitor's own apiaries.

#### The following are the Classes that Members can enter:-

1. Light Honey.
2. Golden Honey.
3. Dark Honey.
4. Creamed Honey.
5. Granulated Honey.
6. Beeswax – block of beeswax – min 500g up to 1Kg.

### It's on again - Club's field day Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2015

The Club's next Field Day is on Sunday 8th March at Peak Crossing State School. Please write this date in your 2015 diary and keep the day free. As always there is a lot of work in setting up for the day as well as cleaning up at the end of the day so *remember* “many hands make light work”.

#### Honey competition schedule for the inter-club trophy - Field day – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Members only need to supply 1 bottle for each entry.

One entry per Member for each class.

All entries to be presented in standard 500g bottles with white lids.

All entries must be from the exhibitor's own apiary.

The following are the Classes that Members can enter:-

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Light Honey.             | 7. Granulated Honey – Coarse.            |
| 2. Golden Honey.            | 8. Beeswax – block of beeswax – min 500g |
| 3. Dark Honey.              | 9. Frame of Honey.                       |
| 4. Comb Section in Honey.   | 10. Heaviest Frame of honey.             |
| 5. Creamed Honey.           | 11. Biscuit Recipe.                      |
| 6. Granulated Honey - Fine. | 12. Cake Recipe.                         |

*Recipes for the cake and biscuits are in this newsletter.*

This year's field day will include two new classes, these classes will not be included in the accumulation of points. There will however be prizes for the winning entries.

13. Most innovative use of wax. Be creative and have some fun... Wax products normally shown such as block and candle are not eligible for the class.
14. Most innovative use of hone. Again the idea here is to get creative with products or recipes that use honey in a creative manner.

## Practical Day 12<sup>th</sup> April (date to be confirmed)

As you are no doubt aware the club organises a couple of practical days each year. These days are intended to be social days for club members but more importantly they are hands on learning and information days. It is intended that this practical day be held at Corinda High School. The School is in need of support with their hives and this presents the club with an ideal opportunity to run a practical day. Practical Days are of particular benefit to new Beekeepers. Further details will follow but please diarise the date and keep it free.

## Show dates for 2015

Listed below are the current published dates for the most relevant Queensland shows this year. As always we encourage all members to get involved and submit entries to as many shows as possible. This helps maintain our club profile and promote the aims of our club. It's also a lot of fun.

Marburg	1 <sup>st</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<a href="http://www.marburgshow.com.au">www.marburgshow.com.au</a>
Boonah	15 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> May	<a href="http://www.boonahshowsociety.org.au">www.boonahshowsociety.org.au</a>
Ipswich	15 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> May	<a href="http://www.ipswichshow.com.au">www.ipswichshow.com.au</a>
Esk	22 <sup>nd</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<a href="http://www.eskshow.com.au">www.eskshow.com.au</a>
Lowood	29 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> May	<a href="http://www.lowoodshowsociety.com.au">www.lowoodshowsociety.com.au</a>
Toogoolawah	5 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> June	<a href="http://www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au">www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au</a>
Kalbar	12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> June	<a href="http://www.kalbarshow.net.au">www.kalbarshow.net.au</a>
Rosewood	19 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<a href="http://www.rosewoodshow.com">www.rosewoodshow.com</a>
Redcliffe	26 to 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<a href="http://www.redcliffeshow.org.au">www.redcliffeshow.org.au</a>
Ekka	7 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<a href="http://www.ekka.com.au">www.ekka.com.au</a>
Beaudesert	4 <sup>th</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<a href="http://www.beaudesertshow.org.au">www.beaudesertshow.org.au</a>

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## Flora. In January & February we should be seeing

Blue Heliotrope, Brush Box, Carpet Weed, Flat Weed, River Coolibah, Molly Red Box, Pumpkin, Red Stringybark, Silver-Leafed Ironbark, Brown Bloodwood, Brown Box, Gumtop Box, Grey Gum, River Red Gum, Pink Bloodwood, Swamp Mahogan, Turnip Weed and Blackbutt.

## Tea Tree *Leptospermum*



Commonly referred to as Teatree, the *Leptospermum* is distributed in Australia, South East Asia and New Zealand.

Whilst *Leptospermum* occupies a variety of habitats from coastal dunes to high mountain peaks, it is most commonly found in wet or periodically wet substrates that are acidic and low in nutrient content.

*Leptospermum* is in the sub-family Leptospermoideae of family Myrtaceae and currently comprises 86 recognized species. About 83 species occur in Australia, all but two endemic.

The common name tea-tree derives from the practice by early settlers of soaking the leaves of several species in boiling water to make a tea substitute. Most *Leptospermum* species make desirable garden plants. Flowers are mostly large, up to 3 cm in diameter, and they are hardy in most soils and aspects.

They are easy to propagate from seed or cuttings. They are reported to be a good source of pollen and nectar for bees but the honey can have a very strong flavour and is considered an acquired taste.

## Regular Items

### **Club shirts, badges and caps**

If you are proud to be a club member why not show it? 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. Buy one at the next meeting.

### **Support those who support you.**

As you may be aware, 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.

### **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.

### **February meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

The Guest Speaker for the February Meeting will be a representative from Wesfarmers Insurance who will be speaking on insurance suitable for beekeepers. Raffle Prize will be a Smoker.

**How I started in Bees.** A five-minute talk about how "I became a Beekeeper".

- February, Noel Scholz
- March, Albert Payne

### **Committee Meeting**

The committee had our first meeting of 2015 on the 19<sup>th</sup> January the next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> February

### **Supper Roster**

- February - Frank Moeller, Peter McDougall and Trevor Nardi
- March - Jill Nelson, Shane O'Reilly and Sarah Paddon

### **Room Set Up**

- February - Terry McAllister
- March - Peter McDougall
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**Please note:** if you are on the Supper Roster and you are unable to attend the meeting on that night, please contact Secretary Noela so she can arrange a replacement.

When you are on the Supper Roster, you are only required to attend and help in the kitchen; no food needs to be prepared.

As always a very big Thank You to Mary Hesse who has kindly agreed to continue catering for our meetings this year.



## Member's notice board

### Honey buckets Bottles and Jars

Rod Palmer now stores the Club's honey buckets and jars at his warehouse. Should you wish to purchase any please talk to Noela regarding payment before you go to Rod's. Rod will not let callers take jars or buckets off site without Noela's authority to do so.



Noela will also keep some at her home for pick up if preferred.

- 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 they are available at 90 cents each.
- The Club now has new stock of 10 litre buckets they are available at the old price of \$4.50.

For all the above items please ring Noela ☎ 07 3281 4165

**Please keep the boxes that the 1kg bottles come in and return them for reuse.**

### Nucs for Sale

Peter Anderson has two Nucs for sale the price is \$65.00. Please contact Peter directly if you are interested, phone is 3800 3562.

### De capping knife for sale

Elizabeth & David Jeffrey have an electric de-capping knife with adjustable temperate control for sale. Near new condition \$210.00, if interested call 07 3294 6172.

### Apithor beetle traps

The club now 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.

### 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)

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### Bee Funnies

A fly is hitch hiking on a remote road when a car with 2 bees pulls over and offers him a lift. He gets in the back seat and they continue to drive. After a while the car begins to cough and splutter before the engine stops. The first bee gets out and pees in the petrol tank and the car begins to run again. Again, after a while the car begins cough and splutter before the engine stops. The second bee gets out and pees in the petrol tank. Finally the car coughs and splutters and stops again.

The fly says, "Since you've been so nice giving me a lift, I'll jump out and pee in the petrol tank". The bees say, "thanks but no thanks, we only use Bee Pee"!

*Contributed by: Bradley Charwood*

I am running out of funny bee stories and jokes if you have one please send it to me at [phil@abclass.com.au](mailto:phil@abclass.com.au)

## Beekeepers concerned about ageing apiarists

The President of the New South Wales Apiarists Association says he's hopeful the Federal Minister for Agriculture will find the necessary funding to help train the next generation of beekeepers.

Casey Cooper recently met with Barnaby Joyce to voice concerns about the future of the industry.

He said the majority of beekeepers are nearing retirement and there are very few young people going into the trade.

Mr Cooper said he raised the prospect of developing training and incentives to help attract more young people to the beekeeping business.

"Sadly like all agricultural industries, we're all getting a bit older," he said.

"Blokes are retiring and there's not a lot of young people coming into the industry, so the industry is getting smaller and smaller, and like any area of agricultural or other industry its young people are the future of it.

"If we could encourage young people to take an interest and carry on the industry, it'd be only for the better."

By Johannah McOwan - ABC News

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## Bee parasite will flourish under global warming, study warns



Climate change threatens the survival of the UK's honeybee population, new academic research has claimed. An exotic parasite which targets the insects is set to flourish in northern Europe if the Earth continues to warm, scientists at Queen's University, Belfast found. The study assessed the future threat posed by the gut parasite **Nosema ceranae**, which originates in Asia but can now be found worldwide. New evidence of the parasite's superior

competitive ability and the link between its population size and climate change has been published in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B. Co-author of the study and adjunct reader at Queen's School of Biological Sciences, Professor Robert Paxton said: "This emerging parasite is more susceptible to cold than its original close relative, possibly reflecting its presumed origin in east Asia.

"In the face of rising global temperatures, our findings suggest that it will increase in prevalence and potentially lead to increased honey bee colony losses in Britain."

Co-researcher Myrsini Natsopoulou, from the Martin-Luther-Universitat Halle-Wittenberg in Germany, said: "Our results reveal not only that the exotic parasite is a better competitor than its original close relative, but that its widespread distribution and patterns of prevalence in nature depend on climatic conditions too".

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment>

## Recipes for club Field Day

### Apple & Honey Cake

- 225 g unsalted butter, chopped
- 250 g Honey, plus extra for glaze
- 100g Brown Sugar
- 3 large Eggs, beaten
- 300g self-raising flour
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 apple, peeled, cored and grated.
- Flaked Almonds (optional)

Preheat oven to 160 C

Butter and line a 20cm cake tin

Put butter, honey and sugar into a saucepan and melt over a low heat.

Then increase the heat and boil for one minute.

Leave to cool and transfer to a bowl.

Add eggs and beat with a wooden spoon.

Sift in flour and beat until smooth.

Stir in cinnamon and apple.

Pour into cake tin and bake for 55 to 65 minutes, until risen.

A skewer inserted into the centre should come out clean.

Leave to cool for 10 minutes and turn out onto a wire rack.

Warm to 2 tablespoons and some flaked almonds (if desired) in small pan and brush over top.

### Spiced Fruit & Nut Biscuits

- 125 g almond meal (*original recipe says to crush almonds after roasting*)
- 250 g plain flour
- 125 g unsalted butter at room temperature (chopped)
- 160 g dried figs chopped
- 60 g sultanas
- 100 ml honey
- Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
- ½ teasp ground cloves
- ½ teasp cinnamon
- 20 ml sherry
- 125 icing sugar, sifted

Combine flour & almond meal.

Rub butter into flour mixture until nearly combined, and then add dried fruit, honey, lemon zest, spices & sherry.

Place in a bowl and let stand at room temperature for 20 minutes.

Divide the mixture into pieces and roll each out piece on a lightly floured surface into logs approximately 5-6 cms long.

Bake for 15 minutes at 180 C or until golden.

Remove from the oven. While still warm, roll well in the sifted icing sugar.

Leave to cool. Serve with coffee or anise liqueur.