

Bee Flight



President's Report



Firstly, I would personally like to thank all those who volunteered their time to make the field day a **great** success, and for the continued support of all our friends and traders. I was delighted to see many of our newer members had entered honey into the honey competition which was excellent to see, and very encouraging for the future of the club. It also enabled our club to retain the Inter-club trophy. Keep it up, I encourage everyone to enter honey in the competitions at the various upcoming shows where we enter honey. Please let us know if you need any help. The committee has already begun discussing the Field-Day for next year. We want to make it bigger and better each year, so we would welcome any ideas on how to continue to improve it and make it a little bit different.

Our club is going from strength to strength which is wonderful to see but does present us with a few challenges. I would ask that members return loan equipment promptly so that others may have access to it. At present the wax embedder and wiring board are out on loan and have not been returned for some time. If the members who are holding onto these items can contact me I will come and collect them or they can be bought back to the next meeting. The club wants to keep providing this free service but if it is going to be abused we will have no option but to start charging a fee for the use of the equipment and at this stage I do not wish for this to happen. Not much happening with the bees at present, just shed work with all the rain. Hope to see you at our next meeting.

*Phil Geeves
Club President*

April 2017 Edition

Club Meetings

Our club meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month (except January)
Venue
W.G. Hayden Humanities Centre
Cnr. South and Nicholas Streets,
Ipswich 7.30pm.

All welcome.

Club Registration

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

Dates to Remember

Next Club Meeting - 4th April
Committee Meeting 10th April
Ipswich Show 19th to 21st May
Club events are on the website
<http://www.honey.org.au>

Show Dates

The show dates have now been published on our website and in this newsletter.

Editor Phil Corbett



Queens

Due to the poor conditions and drone numbers in the breeding hives at present, the club is unable to provide Queens at this time. If you have ordered and paid for Queens a refund will be provided. At this stage we do not envisage we will have Queens available via the club until at least September or October this year. Please find details of the local Queen Breeders below. If you require Queens you may find these suppliers of use. This list is also on our website.

Queen Bee Suppliers		
Graham Beech	3139 Beaudesert-Nerang Road, Biddaddaba Q 4275	5564 5622 0437 179 261
Brett Dean	PO Box 265, Gympie Q 4570 4309	5483 6606 0439 180 405
Howard Kirby	10 Cadiz Street, Bray Park Q 4500	3205 5178 0448 283 047
Morayfield Apiaries	27 Oakey Flat Road, Morayfield Q 4506	5498 6676 0427 807 973
Ken Olley	84 Logan Road, Clifton Q 4361	4697 3222 0427 876 875
Paul Marsh	Cadena Apiaries, PO Box 502, Sarina Q4737	4950 4225 0400 791 745
Denmar Apiaries	PO Box 99, Wondai Q 4606	4169 0064 0448 690 064
Covey Queens	Jimboomba Q 4280	0427 046 966
Barry Williams & Bruce Hibbert	36 Romar Road Glasshouse Mountains 4518	5493 0510 0428 300 365
Corrine Jordan	146 Fisher Road Carbrook	0400 833 017

Club Honey Competition

Club Honey Competition Results from the Club Meeting 6 th March 2017			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey	Neil Robinson	Darral Frank	Ken Freiberg
Golden Honey	Ken Freiberg	Jon Vermeer	Phil Corbett
Dark Honey	Ken Freiberg	Jason Pearce	Shane O'Reilly
Creamed Honey	Ken Freiberg	-	-
Beeswax block	Peter Waldron	Peter Waldron	-
Thanks to the Judge Stacy Krzewina and the steward			

Field Day Honey Competition

Results for Ipswich Club Members in the Field Day honey competition <i>Thanks to Peter Warhurst for Judging and Phil Geeves for Stewarding the results</i>			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey		Darral Frank	Ken Freiberg
Golden Honey		Ken Freiberg	Jon Vermeer
Dark Honey		Ken Freiberg	Phil Geeves
Comb Section in Honey			
Creamed Honey	Noela Geeves,	Phil Geeves	Ken Freiberg
Granulated Honey Fine		Ken Freiberg	
Granulated Honey Coarse	Phil Corbett	Ken Freiberg	
Beeswax Yellow	Phil Corbett	Peter Waldron	
Beeswax White	Mary Corbett	Peter Waldron	
Heaviest Frame	Phil Geeves	Jason Pearce	
Biscuits	Elizabeth Finney	Jane Markotsis	Rhiana Pearce
Cake	Noela Geeves	Jane Markotsis	Rhiana Pearce
	We managed to hold onto the Inter-club Trophy. Results not displayed were not won by our club.		

Ipswich Show

The Ipswich Show is on this year from the 19th to the 21st May. The show is an important showcase for our club. As our local show we are again taking a stall to promote our club and honey. This show is the main fund raising activity for our club and goes to help pay for the club insurance and general running costs. The show involves a great deal of work and our stall needs to be staffed throughout the event. A roster for the 3 days will be organised at the April meeting



Club Honey for sale

The club has 500g bottles of bush honey for sale @ \$3.00 per bottle. Please ring Noela before the next meeting if you wish to purchase some and Noela will bring your order to the April Meeting.

Club Field Day Review 12th March 2017

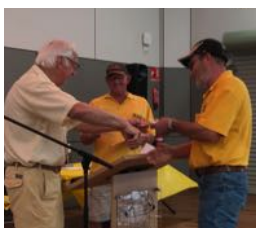


If you weren't there you missed another great day out with the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers. Our MC for the day George Pallot welcomed the attendees and then Kylie Stoneman – Councillor from Ipswich City Council officially opened the event. After the industry update by Trevor Weatherhead, scones with jam and cream were enjoyed by all.

Following morning tea, Patricia Swift – Biosecurity Queensland gave a presentation outlining current biosecurity guidelines and information on hive pests and diseases. It was then outside to open one of the club hives for a peek inside and a sugar shake demonstration to illustrate how to inspect for Varroa. At this time we also had our native bee hive demonstration taking place. Our next speaker, Howard Kirby, Queen Bee Breeder, was, as always, entertaining and informative. Even offering up business opportunities as Queen Bee inseminators, for, in his words, “women, because they are better at it”. He believes there are enormous opportunities for artificially inseminated Queen Bees.



After lunch we had the ever popular flow hive demonstration and presentation by Darryl Ryan. As well as all these activities we had a collection of stalls ranging from bee suppliers and crafts to plants. This year for the first time we had club honey for sale and we even sold out of creamed honey. The day was concluded with the prizes for the cent auction being collected by the lucky winners and finally the results of the honey, wax and cooking competitions.



Our club managed to retain the Inter Club Trophy until at least October when we will give the Gold Coast the opportunity to win it back. About 300 people attended our day.

The club would like to thank all the volunteers, including speakers and suppliers who attended and supported our club, Dimitri and his colleagues at the SES for helping with our now patented light control system, *i.e.* the tarp on the roof and Mary for running our inaugural honey stall.

We would also like to thank everyone that donated prizes for our fantastic Cent Auction. Finally a big thank you to Peak Crossing School for allowing us to use the hall again this year, a great venue for our day.



Note: There are more pictures and a short video of some of the day's event on our website

Phil Corbett Editor



Flora - April

Beekeepers are reporting very poor honey flow at the present time and the season in many areas seems to be coming to an end. In April we hope to be seeing Broad-Leaved Ironbark, Brown Bloodwood, Gum Topped Box, Molly Red Box, Mountain Coolibah, Paper, Barked Tea Tree, Pumpkin, White Box, Caley's Ironbark, Blackbutt.

Show Dates 2017

<u>Marburg</u>	<u>12th & 13th May 2017</u>	<u>www.marburgshow.com.au</u>
<u>Ipswich</u>	<u>19th - 21st May 2017</u>	<u>www.ipswichshow.com.au</u>
<u>Esk</u>	<u>26th & 27th May 2017</u>	<u>www.eskshow.com.au</u>
<u>Boonah</u>	<u>2nd & 3rd June 2017</u>	<u>www.boonahshowsociety.org.au</u>
<u>Toogoolawah</u>	<u>9th & 10th June 2017</u>	<u>www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au</u>
<u>Lowood</u>	<u>16th & 17th June 2017</u>	<u>www.lowwoodshowsociety.com.au</u>
<u>Kalbar</u>	<u>23rd & 24th June 2017</u>	<u>www.kalbarshow.net.au</u>
<u>Rosewood</u>	<u>30th June & 1st July 2017</u>	<u>www.rosewoodshow.com</u>
<u>Redcliffe</u>	<u>30th June to 2nd July 2017</u>	<u>www.redcliffeshow.org.au</u>
<u>EKKA</u>	<u>11th - 20th August 2017</u>	<u>www.ekka.com.au</u>
<u>Beaudesert</u>	<u>8th & 9th September 2017</u>	<u>www.beaudesertshow.org.au</u>

Missing Club Equipment

It is disappointing that we are still missing one of the Club's nuc boxes. It has not yet been returned to Phil Geeves. If the person who is still holding the box can contact Phil Geeves he will personally come around and collect it.

Also the wax embedder has not been returned back to Noela and has been out on loan for several months. Could the person please contact Noela.

We respectfully request that all Club equipment is returned promptly. At this point we operate on trust and members do not need to sign for loan equipment or Nucs. We would like to continue as is, but we do need members to play by the rules.

Phil & Noela's contact details are on the last page of this newsletter.

Articles

Polystyrene Hives

At our last meeting I met David Stekhoven from the Tamborine area and the first beekeeper I have met that is using Polystyrene Hives. He is using these exclusively and heartily recommends them.



According to Australian Honeybee Company (owned and operated by Victor and David from Canberra who describe themselves as innovative beekeepers,) The Paradise Honey BeeBox polystyrene beehive system has been evolving to meet the challenges of Scandinavia's harsh winters for over 30 years.

The Paradise Honey beehives are manufactured using high-density expanded polystyrene to provide maximum protection from the extreme Scandinavian winters. Polystyrene beehives have been operated by Scandinavian beekeepers for decades because of their excellent thermal performance in the extreme cold and damp winters.

The Paradise Honey polystyrene beehive has been field tested in the extremely hot climate of Australia with great success. Australian Honeybee Co began evaluating the Paradise Honey beehives in Australia alongside traditional wooden beehives in 2012. "We operate our beehives

in the hot climate areas of central New South Wales where summer temperatures reach over 46 degrees Celsius. In contrast to the wooden beehive, the performance of the Paradise Honey beehives has proven to be outstanding in these high temperatures. The excellent thermal performance of the Paradise Honey beehive means that the beehive requires much less water and cooling (fanning) is significantly reduced. This allows a much larger percentage of the beehive's workforce to be dedicated to nectar and pollen foraging resulting in higher honey yields and more profitable beekeeping operation.

By comparison, the performance of colonies housed in traditional wooden beehives reduces significantly in high temperatures because a large percentage of the workforce is diverted from nectar and pollen foraging to water collection and cooling activities to maintain the beehive at a safe temperature. Furthermore, a large percentage of the honeybees exit the beehive and hang outside, to avoid overheating the brood nest. This diversion of honeybee resources from nectar and pollen foraging activities reduces the honey production of the beehive in hot temperatures."

For more information about polystyrene hives go to:
www.australianhoneybee.com.au/polystyrene-bee-hives

Showing Comb Honey in Liquid

A few members have recently asked about preparing comb in liquid for showing or sale. After a little research here are a few tips:

An obvious one-first up, you can't use plastic foundation if you intend to make comb honey.

Some beekeepers put nine frames in a ten-frame box (or seven in an eight-frame box) to get thicker comb. The best comb is made early in the year, so get the comb honey supers on as soon as the major spring nectar flow begins.



Many beekeepers freeze comb honey after harvest, a practice that will kill all life stages of wax moths and hive beetles, as long as it is done within a day or two of harvest. If you freeze the entire frame, be sure to wrap it in plastic before freezing and then leave the plastic in place until the comb is completely thawed. About two days in the freezer should be long enough.

Consider using frames *without* wires for your cut comb.

If you used a wired frame it is advisable to heat the wires the same way as you do for setting it in foundation to remove them. To remove the wires cut them at the end on the outside of the frame at one end and pull them out from the other end.

(I even found one lady who used dental floss to cut comb.)

Now to cut the comb.

Beekeepers seem to develop their own methods for this, but some of the more common options I found included-

- A normal, very sharp knife with a fine blade so that the comb is cut rather than squashed. Clean it after each cut and use hot water to warm the blade.
- Alternatively, the capping knife was used being careful not to have it too hot or the wax cells melt. This method is perhaps a little aggressive and may be less successful.
- The final method I found which appears to be used more for honeycomb being sold, was a square biscuit cutter. Keep it clean and warm it in water but dry it before cutting the comb.

Cut out the section of comb and allow it to drain over a grid *i.e.* wire Queen excluder. Pieces of wax should drain away so your exhibit has no particles of wax present.

The comb section of honey should fit into the jar through the lid opening, touch the bottom of the jar and have the top finishing so it doesn't just touch the lid.

Finally, with the comb in place, add liquid honey - the comb honey and liquid honey should be the same colour and floral type.

Phil Corbett Editor



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 (Members only)

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 Hire (Members only)

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

Club Hand Extractor (Members only)

The club has purchased a second hand extractor so we now have two for hire out to the members who only have a small number of frames to extract. To hire one of the extractors 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.

Apithor Beetle Traps(Members only)

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.

Nucleus Hives (members only)

As the club has limited capacity to create Nucs and demand outstrips supply, we offer them members only and preference is given 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

Honey Buckets, Bottles and Jars (Members only)

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 \$7.00 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. The club does not stock or supply items other than the items mentioned.

April Meeting

Guest Speaker this month is: Dr Melinda Laidlaw – Senior Ecologist, Weed Spotters Network, Queensland Coordinator, Queensland Herbarium, Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation

How I started in Bees.

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

- April – Doug Delaforce
- May – Barbara Cush

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 10th April 2017

Supper Roster

- April – Glen Woodford, Denis Manning, Ben Aland and Peter Anderson
- May – Jared Armstrong, Albert Avramov, Steve Baxendale and Chris Billing.

Room Set up

- April – Terry Cumner
- May – Willem Den Otter

Please Note: If you are on the supper or room set up roster and unable to attend the meeting please ensure you advise Secretary Noela so that a substitute member can be found.

Beeswax Wanted

Both Rod Palmer at CB Palmer & Co, and Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies are interested in buying beeswax, any quantity, small or large.

See Rod or Karen at the Club meeting or phone Rod on 0417 796 257

Contact Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.

Flow Hive

With an ever increasing number of enquires and questions about Flow-Hive, Darryl Ryan has offered to be the contact point for flow hive in the club. Any questions or information about Flow-Hive can be sent to Darryl at Redone360@hotmail.com you can call him on 0405133 360 or look for him at our meeting.

Facebook

After a false start and a couple of issues getting our page operational we now have a working Facebook page. If you have previously asked to join, please note this is a new page and you will need to join at the address below.

Our official Facebook page is at: www.facebook.com/groups/1430687710358660/

You can also follow the links from our website.

A few more Field Day Pics



Thanks to Bradley Charlwood for these.

I&WMBA Committee 2016 - 2017		
Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Phil Geeves	0409 485 447
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
Flow Hive	Darryl Ryan	0405133 360
Newsletter & website	Phil Corbett	0419 196 330

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