

Bee Flight



President's Report

Hi everyone, not a great deal to report on this month. After coming home from leave I was hoping to get into robbing our hives but as yet the wet weather is limiting that.

Also despite the rain, the flora in my area is not that exciting although the Ironbark is doing well south of Ipswich in the Scenic Rim. I trust where you are is a bit better. This month we attended the Gold Coast Field Day and I must say was disappointed that only 7 of our members attended and just 3 turned up for the bus. I would love to hear from members as to why we have such difficulty getting people to attend these days.

Remember we will be holding a practical day on November the 12th. These days take a bit of organising and work for us so we hope you can support it and come along.

We have also set the date for our field day next year as the 11th of March. We will be at Peak Crossing School once more so pencil it in your diary now. We are trying to do a few different things this year so we are endeavouring to include a cooking with honey session with a practical demonstration and tasting. We also hope to have a presentation around swarm retrieval from cavity walls. We would love to hear from you if you have any ideas or thoughts on anything to help keep our day informative and relevant.

One final note on Queens. We are still struggling to find Queens this year, so again I encourage to ring around the breeders and consider placing an order with one to at least get in the queue for when they are available.



Phil Geeves
Club President

Nov 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

Club Meeting - 7th Nov
Club Practical Day - 12th Nov
Committee Meeting - 13th Nov
Next Club Meeting 5th Dec
11th March 2018 Club Field Day
Club events are on the website
calendar

<http://www.honey.org.au>

Questions ?

Don't forget you can submit written questions on beekeeping at each club meeting. Just pop them in the container near the entrance on your way in.



Noela Geeves
Club Secretary

Gold Coast Field Day

Despite the weather, the Gold Coast Field Day was a great success with some fantastic speakers. We also managed to retain the Inter Club Trophy. It was unfortunate that we only had 7 members from our club attend. We always hope the Gold Coast Club supports our Field Day and it would be nice to reciprocate. This will be raised at the next general meeting with a view to looking at ways to ensure a better attendance (support) of sister club events.

Competition Results

- Mary Corbett: 1 First & 1 Second
- Phil Corbett: 1 Second 1 Third
- Ken Freiberg: 2 Firsts, 1 Second & 2 Thirds
- Noela Geeves: 1 First, 2 Seconds & 2 Thirds
- Phil Geeves: 2 Firsts, 1 Second & 2 Thirds

Thanks to you two!

The club recently received a letter of thanks from Cr Sheila Ireland for Darryl Frank and Clinton Jones who removed a swarm from a felled tree in Ipswich Cemetery. They have advised us that as a result they wish to make a donation to our club as a show of thanks. How good it that! Some good deeds do have a real benefit. Well done to you both and keep it up.

Practical Day (Members only)

Our next practical day is on Sunday the 12th November. The venue will be Wayne Rossiter's property which is adjacent to Pine Mountain Hall. The day will be a hands on learning day directed at new beekeepers. The focus will be on re-queening and hive maintenance. The day will commence with morning tea at 10.00am and finish up with a sausage sizzle lunch. Please bring your bee suits, veils, closed in shoes and gloves or protective clothing if you intend to help or watch with the re-queening. Please also bring a chair and water for yourselves. Numbers will be called for at the October Meeting for catering purposes. If you are not coming to the October Meeting but will be attending the Practical Day please ring or email our Club Secretary Noela.

For Directions go to: <https://goo.gl/maps/8q3GVyR8q6v>

Name Badges (Important please)



We have now ordered our stylish new name badges for all our financial members and we hope to have them available at the November meeting. We ask that all members wear their **name badge** at all club events and meetings. There are nearly 250 individual members and it's almost impossible to remember everyone's name plus it also shows that you are a member and it helps with introductions.

Flora - Nov

Blue Heliotrope, Carpet Weed, Flat Weed, Grey Ironbark, Mugga Iron Bark, Narrow Leaf Ironbark & Narrow Leaf Grey Gum. You may also see some Tumbledown Gum, White Clover, and Yellow Box. In the Veggie patch look out for Pumpkins & Tomatoes.

Queens

Unfortunately due to supply difficulties our club will **NOT** be providing Queens this year. Members that need to purchase Queens should contact Queen breeders directly. A list of Queen breeders is available on our website. Go to: <http://www.honey.org.au/queens/>

Christmas Raffle - Can you believe its only 60 day to Christmas?

Tickets for this year's Christmas raffle will be available at the November meeting. The raffle will be drawn at the December meeting (Tuesday 5th December). The tickets are \$1.00 each and there are 5 tickets in a book. Members, you may wish to take a book or two and sell them to workmates, family or friends. The Committee will also be grateful if any members wish to donate something toward the Christmas raffle. Remember as always, that husbands, wives and partners are welcome at the Christmas meeting. For the purpose of catering we will ask for a show of hands at the November meeting for those of you that are bringing a guest along.

Ron Smith Trophy

Each year at the December meeting we award the Ron Smith Memorial Trophy to the club's most successful exhibitor. Many members will not have had the opportunity to have met Ron, or indeed know his history with the club. We respectfully acknowledge his contribution to the establishment of I&WMBA. Ron joined the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association in October 1992 and was President of the Club for the 1996-1997 year. He helped Noel Scholz build the demonstration cage which is still used at the local shows. During his presidency, field days were organised for the first time for the members. Ron also rewrote the Club's Constitution. Due to illness, Ron had to give up beekeeping in the late 1990s and he passed away in September 1998. Join us at the December meeting to see who is this year's most successful exhibitor. Who knows, it might be you next year.

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.**

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.

2018 Field Day

Calling on all members we need you! Help us keep I&WMBA great. Our field day is when we showcase our club to the community and help make people "Bee Aware". The field day is our most significant undertaking in the year so please book it in your diary and come along to help out on the day.

Show dates for 2018

Show dates for 2018 are now on our website calendar.

November Meeting

The guest speaker in November will be Trevor Weatherhead making a presentation on **Queen Bee Rearing**. Our lucky door prize will be a new smoker.

How I started in Bees.

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

- Nov - **Peter Meehan**
- Dec - No presenter as it is our Christmas meeting

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 13th November 2017

Supper Roster

- Nov - **Geoff James, Brad Jeffs, Clinton Jones and Maria Kelly**
- Dec - **Bill Mahon, Denis Manning, Glen Woodford and Dimitri Markotsis**

Room Set up

- Nov - **Bill Mahon**
- Dec - **Peter Meehan**

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.

Facebook

Our club's official Facebook page is at: www.facebook.com/groups/1430687710358660/
You can also follow the links from our website.

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.

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. Phone Rod on 0417 796 257
Contact Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.

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 two hand extractors for hire by 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. The cost is \$10.00 per day for a max of 7 days. The extractor must be returned clean. An electric uncapping knife will go out with each extractor.

Depending upon your location

Peter Anderson at Forestdale has one of them. Phone: 3800 3562

Phil Geeves at Blackstone has the other Phone: 0409 485 447

Wax Melter (members only)

The club now has a wax melter available for hire. Please Contact Peter Anderson if you would like to access this club equipment. Phone: 3800 3562.

Articles

Meet the father-daughter duo tackling rogue swarms of bees across the ACT

For Dermot Asls Sha'Non and his daughter Sarah, spending quality time together often involves swarms of bees — and the occasional sting.

"When we first began, bee stings would make us swell like a balloon," 19-year-old Sarah said.

"Now we don't swell, but we still feel that pain of the sting just as much."

But the pain does not deter them from pursuing a hobby they both adore.



PHOTO: Dermot and Sarah Asls Sha'Non's fascination with bees began more than seven years ago. (Supplied: Lee Grant/Molonglo Group 2017)

"I was about 11 when we first began and we haven't looked back," Sarah said. "I also enjoy spending time with my dad."

"As a teenager it can sometimes be hard to find something in common with parents, but we've got bees."

What is swarm collecting?

The father-daughter duo have come a long way since they first suited up.

Dermot is now vice president of the Beekeepers Association of the ACT, and the pair spend their spare time volunteering as swarm collectors.

"If bees have set up camp in your backyard for a few days, or sometimes a few years, dad and I are the people to call," Sarah said. Spring, in particular, is a busy time.

"This time of the year about half of a colony transfer its bees outside of a hive as a swarm," she said. "Their purpose is to create a new colony ... they might just pop up in your backyard."

Queen is behind angry hives

According to Dermot, the Queen bee determines the mood of the hive.

"We often get calls from people who might have bees in a possum box or their walls ... and the bees have been nice and gentle and they've walked passed them every day," he said.

"Suddenly they're being stung from the front door because the whole temperament of the hive has changed."

To help sweeten the vibe of the hive, Dermot said it was not uncommon for a queen to be removed.

"The old queen is removed and a new one is installed," he said.

"There are queen breeders out there who send bees in the mail, so you get a little buzzing package in your letter box."

"You install a queen cage in the hive. They get used to her over a day or two, then you release her into the colony."

"It doesn't always work but you just keep trying until it does."

Thanks to Dimitri for this article

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-04/the-father-and-daughter-beekeepers-of-canberra/9009878>

North Queensland woman sleeps next to active hive of bees for months.

A North Queensland woman who has found a hive of live bees behind her bedroom wall slept next to them for months without knowing.

Builders stripping walls in Rachel Stevenson's Proserpine home for cyclone repairs last week found an 1.5m x 0.75m hive of bees next to her bedhead.

"They were just above the bedhead and the bottom of the hive is probably only 30cm or 40cm above my head," Ms Stevenson said.

"I'm getting a lot of people questioning me about how I didn't hear them.

Read the full article :

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-07/woman-sleeps-next-to-hive-of-bees-for-months-without-knowing/9022084>



I&WMBA Committee 2016 - 2017

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