

DATES TO REMEMBER

NEXT CLUB MEETING 2ND APRIL

Bio Security Workshop 6th April
 Committee Meeting - 8th April

QBA Conference 30th & 31st May
 QBA Field Day 1st June

CLUB REGISTRATION

BEFORE CLUB MEETINGS ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY A \$2.00 REGISTRATION FEE.

Club events and show dates are on our website calendar

WWW.HONEY.ORG.AU

BEE FLIGHT

Presidents Report



Welcome to our April newsletter. Firstly, I would personally like to thank all those members who made the effort to travel to the Gold Coast and support the Gold Coast’s Field Day. Results of the honey competition are contained in this month’s newsletter. Attending members advised me that it was a great day and very successful for those members who entered in the honey, cake and biscuit competition. Our Club was successful in retaining the Inter-Club Trophy. Next year it will be our Club’s turn to host the Field Day. We want to make it bigger and better each time we hold the Field Day, so we would welcome any ideas on how to

continue to improve it, potential guest speakers and how to make it a little bit different and interesting.

I encourage members to consider entering your honey products at the upcoming shows where we enter honey. Please let the Committee know if you require any help in preparing your honey. There is a good article on the Club’s website on “How to prepare honey for shows”. The list of the shows we attend are included in the newsletter.

Finally, it was good to receive the rain during the last couple of weeks. This will help the trees and improve the nectar flow of the different trees and plants that should be flowering at this time of the year. Up to when we received the rain the bees were doing it tough and hopefully the rain will turn this around and the bees will continue to expand before winter arrives.

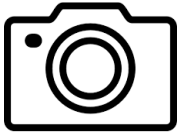
See you all at the April meeting.

PHIL GEEVES CLUB PRESIDENT



OUR CLUB MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT JANUARY) AT THE W.G. HAYDEN HUMANITIES CENTRE CNR. SOUTH AND NICHOLAS STREETS, IPSWICH 7.30PM. VISITORS WELCOME

Bees on Cracked Corn - Suzie Nicholls



This year we're running a PHOTO competition for "Bee Pictures." Each month any members can send me pictures they have taken and I will post the best of them in our newsletter and on facebook. At the end of the year the Committee will pick the top 3 pictures and award 3 prizes. The only rules are the picture *must* have a bee in it, you must take it, and you need to be a financial member of our Club at the time of judging.

Just email or text them to me. First prize will be \$100, second \$50 and third \$25.

Cheers Phil Corbett Editor

Text 0419 196 330 Email: Dragun@abclass.com.au



Kristi Errey - A Neon Cuckoo Bee!

April Meeting

April Guest Speaker - Phil Dunlop will lead a discussion on Over Wintering Bees and Trevor Weatherhead will review the results of last month's honey Competition.

Members' Door Prize will be a Smoker.

This Month

HOW I STARTED IN BEES.

A FIVE-MINUTE TALK ABOUT "HOW YOU BECAME A BEEKEEPER".

APRIL - IAN WORKMAN
MAY - NOEL BOWERS

SUPPER ROSTER

APRIL

KEN FREIBERG, RUSSELL GLEESON, TRISH GRACE AND CAMERON GRANT

MAY

BEC HENDRY, ZOE WALLACE, DON HORTON AND BENITA IRONSIDE

NOTE: IF YOU ARE ON THE SUPPER OR ROOM SET UP ROSTER AND UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE ENSURE YOU ADVISE SECRETARY PHIL GEEVES SO THAT A SUBSTITUTE MEMBER CAN BE FOUND.



ROOM SET UP

APRIL - IAN WORKMAN
MAY - GRAHAME YATES

Ipswich Show

Getting ready for the Ipswich Show, all hands on deck please.

The Ipswich Show is on this year from the 17th to the 19th 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 May meeting. Club members are asked to volunteer a little of their time to support the club at this event

Club Meeting (March) Honey Competition Results

Club Honey Competition Results			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey	Peter McDougall	Naomi Jones	Eilish Kirkwood
Golden Honey	Mark Rook	Mary Corbett	Jon Vermeer
Beeswax	Peter Mc Dougall		

Biosecurity Workshop

Northside Brisbane Club is holding a Biosecurity Workshop with Hamish Lamb in Geebung on Saturday 6 April from 8.30am to 12 noon.

If your club would like to attend or put a car of new beekeepers together, you are more than welcome to attend with an RSVP with your number to nbkatreasurer@gmail.com

We arrange these annually and Hamish will cover AFB, Varroa, Small Hive Beetle and anything else he gets time for. This will be followed by a demo in the apiary next-door on the sugar shake and identifying AFB.

Please bring your safety gear, the Venue is Geebung Special School, Beau Vista St, Geebung QLD

Flora - April

In April we should 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.



Pollen Collection - Bec Hendry

Gold Coast Field Day Review

The trip to the Gold Coast Field Day was a great success, twenty-six of our members attended the event, eleven of whom went down by bus. Thanks to Bec Hendry for driving the bus and getting us there and back safely. It was pleasing to see some of the newer members attending and we trust you enjoyed the day. There were a range of excellent Guest Speakers and lots of trade displays.



Our Club Managed to retain The Inter Club Trophy 42 to 29, so well done to all those who entered and enabled us to keep the trophy for another year.

Phillip Geeves was the most successful exhibitor. The full results are below.

The baton (a symbolic old painted smoker) has now been handed over to the Ipswich Club to organise a Field Day in March 2020. If any Member has any ideas for Guest Speakers or activities for the Field Day next year please see one of the Committee Members.

Inter-club Trophy (Honey Competition - Gold Coast) Results

RESULTS FOR I&WMBA MEMBERS AT THE GOLD COAST BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION FIELD DAY HONEY COMPETITION			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey		Peter McDougall	Bec Hendry
Golden Honey	Fran Bousen		
Dark Honey	Phillip Geeves	Noela Geeves	Ken Freiberg
Granulated Honey Fine	Ken Freiberg		Beau Rush
Granulated Honey Coarse	Peter Waldron	Ken Freiberg	
Comb Section in Honey	Phillip Geeves	Noela Geeves	
Creamed Honey	Noela Geeves	Phillip Geeves	
Beeswax	Peter Waldron		
Decorative Beeswax	Peter Waldron		
Heaviest Frame	Phillip Geeves		
Biscuits			Noela Geeves
Cake	Alex Winter	Bec Hendry	
	I&WMBA retained the Inter-club Trophy 43 to 29 and Phillip Geeves won Most Successful Exhibitor		

Join or Renew Your Membership



Membership Fees for the 2019 - 20 year can be paid now.

Please see **Peter Anderson** at the meeting to pay your annual fees.

Membership is \$25.00 for single and \$30.00 for a family membership.

If you wish to pay by direct debit please contact Noela Geeves for our bank account details.

Noela's number is 07 3281 4165

2019 QBA State Conference - Bribie Island May 30, 31st 2019

Thursday 30th to Friday the 31st of May 2019 at the Bribie Island Golf Club.

Our Annual conference dinner will be held on the Friday evening to officially close the 2019 Annual Conference.

A field day full of trade exhibits will take place on Saturday the **1st of June** at the Bribie Island State School.

As the conference is taking place on the island, I imagine many members will take up the option to stay and play for a few days either side of the conference.

For more information about the conference visit: <http://qbabees.org.au/events/coming-events/>

Please see the link below for accommodation options on the Island:

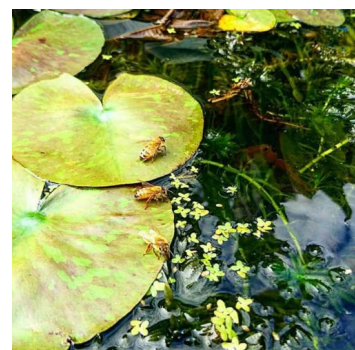
<http://visitbribieisland.com.au/bribie-island/accommodation/>

Show Dates 2019

Marburg	10th & 11th May 2019	www.marburgshow.com.au
Ipswich	17th to 19th May 2019	www.ipswichshow.com.au
Esk	24th & 25th May 2019	www.eskshow.com.au
Boonah	31st May & 1st June 2019	www.boonahshowsociety.org.au
Toogoolawah	7th & 8th June 2019	www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au
Lowood	14th & 15th June 2019	www.lowwoodshowsociety.com.au
Kalbar	21st & 22nd June 2019	www.kalbarshow.net.au
Rosewood	28th & 29th June 2019	www.rosewoodshow.com
Redcliffe	28th to 30th June 2019	www.redcliffeshow.org.au
EKKA	9th - 18th August 2019	www.ekka.com.au

Name Badges

Please wear your badge to all club events and meetings. We currently have over 300 paid up members and it's almost impossible to remember everyone's name. It also shows that you are a member and it helps with introductions. We would ask that you try not to lose your badge. We can order replacements but the cost of \$13 will need to be paid by the member for any replacements.



Clinton Jones - Pond life

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.

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.

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 8th April

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.**

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 Noel Hutchinson of Quality Beekeeping Supplies (3376 5404), Rod Palmer at C.B. Palmer and Co (0417 796 257) and Burnett Beekeeping Supplies (0429 130 167). Please remember these very good friends when you require Apiary supplies.

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 thanks to Noel Scholz for these items.

Extracting Van Hire (Members only)

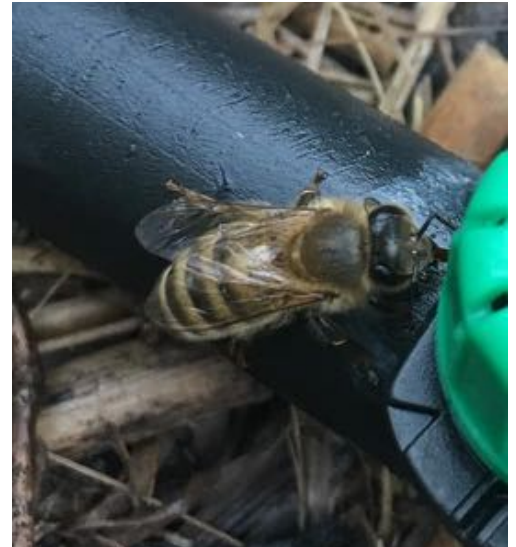
Should any member wish to hire the club van please contact Peter Anderson on 3800 3562 to make a booking. The cost of using the van is \$20.00 per day

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 ONE. PHONE: 0409 485 447**



“Having a Drink” - Jodie Bannister



Wild Hive Kalbar

Kristi Errey

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

SO YOU WANT TO BE A BEEKEEPER!

Perhaps you are ready to dive into beekeeping. You've been talking to your friends and family, and now you are finally ready to buy bee hive kits and set up a few colonies within your garden.

Beekeeping is a great hobby – but new beekeepers face a sharp learning curve that can sometimes discourage them. The practice takes patience and a willingness to continually learn. Ultimately, there is no substitute for taking classes, reading, and talking with experienced apiarists. However, you can learn a lot by reading online, and discovering some beekeeping don't's when first starting out. Read more on below to find out the 5 most common mistakes new beekeepers make when starting out.

1. NOT ENOUGH PREPARATION

It's no secret that bees take work. Too often, new beekeepers don't prepare enough, leading to frustrating experiences when it comes to keeping a colony.

This means research, research, research. Understand what you need to do to encourage your hive to thrive. Head to the local library and take out books on beekeeping. Find local beekeepers in your area who are willing to share their knowledge.

When it comes to the job itself, make sure you take the time to suit up properly. While it may be romantic to stand amongst your hives with just a veil, this is bad practice – especially when new. And take your smoker with you, even if your bees are calm. Preparation means taking the time to do things properly from the outset, so you can understand how your bees behave.

2. INSPECTING TOO OFTEN

When we start out beekeeping, we have a tendency to check our hives too frequently. We want to see the activity, and observe the excitement of worker bees coming and going. It makes sense to be obsessed!

But beekeeping rewards patience – after all, bees are able to their job best when undisturbed. Inspections disrupt activity, and sets the production of a colony back. So, keep your inspections to one a week, at the very most, and leave your bees to do their thing.

3. LOSING YOUR QUEEN

Your queen is the life of your hive. With your queen comes brood – new workers who can collect pollen and nectar and produce honey. Going queen-less spells the decline of your hive, and while you can introduce a new queen, they don't always take to the colony.

Sometimes it can be hard to determine whether your queen has been lost. Activity can remain the same, with bee traffic remaining high.

Every inspection, make sure you can see eggs. Eggs spell activity from the queen – and since they hatch within three days, eggs mean your queen has been active up until at least three days ago.

4. HARVESTING TOO MUCH HONEY

Your bees require honey to feed themselves through the winter. Depending on where you are located, your bees will require a different amount of honey in order to make it through the season. Put simply, if it is particularly cold where you are, the bees require more honey.

New beekeepers can become excited by the production of comb – but harvesting too soon can spell disaster for your hive. Most beekeepers recommend not harvesting honey in the first year of a colony. As the colony is still gaining its feet, a premature harvest can ruin your bees' hard work, and lead to a collapse.

It can be difficult to know where to start with harvesting honey, so this is where being prepared pays off. When you chat with local beekeepers, they will be able to advise when and how much honey they take, helping give you an idea of what may be suitable for your hive.

5. LIMITING YOURSELF TO JUST ONE COLONY

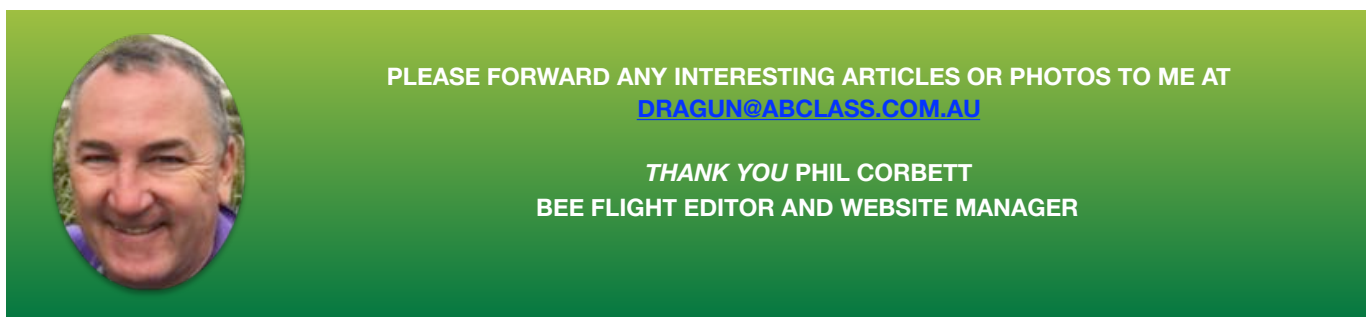
This point may be more contentious. It can be tempting, when starting out with beekeeping, to limit yourself to one colony, for money and time reasons.

However, we recommend starting with two, simply because it is not much more work, and you will learn much more. Through comparing hives, you will gain insight into how two different hives are doing. If one colony is weakened, and appears to have lost its queen, you can transplant brood, and encourage the production of a new queen.

Lastly, two hives mean two chances to have a colony survive the winter and into the next year.

This article was provided by Nuplas Apiarist Supplies -

<https://nuplasapiaristsupplies.com.au/contact-us/>



I&WMBA COMMITTEE 2018- 2019			
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Treasurer (Interim)	Peter Anderson	3800 3562	pgando8@bigpond.com
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238	NONE
Committee	Shane O'Reilly	07 5464 6138	lessshane@skymesh.com.au
Newsletter & website	Phil Corbett	0419 196 330	dragun@abclass.com.au

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