



BEE FLIGHT

Ho Ho Ho... Presidents Report

Welcome to our 2019 **Christmas Newsletter**, the end of another great year for the Club. We had a fantastic turnout for the November practical day with close to 70 attendees. I trust all those who were there found it educational and fun.

I hope that you will all be able to attend the Christmas meeting on December the 3rd. Our Christmas gift to all members attending will be no registration fee of \$2.00 at the door for this meeting!

Our next major, and most significant, event of the year is our field-day which will be on the 8th March. I know it seems a long way off but it will be here before we know it. So please make a note of the date and keep it free. We need all our members to help out and attend to make the day a success. Also remember to keep some of your Honey (if you have extracted any) for the Inter Club Trophy and honey competition.

Just a reminder, as summer is upon us, and in particular if you are heading off over the holidays, please ensure your bees have access to water. A hive can use over 2 litres a day in hot weather. In really hot conditions a colony will often devote all of the available field bees to the collection of water. If access to water is limited, your bees may become a nuisance around stock troughs, swimming pools and dog bowls. Finally a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday to all of our members. Travel safe & *bee* safe, I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.



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

This Month

HOW I STARTED IN BEES.

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

**FEBRUARY
GRAHAME YATES**

SUPPER ROSTER

**DECEMBER
ANDREW PLINT, NEVILLE RIECK, NEIL ROBINSON & MARK ROOK**

**FEBRUARY
PETER RYAN, LUCY SARGENT, LILLY SELLARS & DALE SIMMONS**

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.

ROOM SET UP

**DECEMBER
NOEL STANDFAST
FEBRUARY
ALISON STEWART & ROBERT WALKER**

Photo Competition

Our Photo Competition has now closed.

Many thanks to everyone who took the time and trouble to enter, we had some fantastic entries. We will run a short slide show at the December meeting to view the entries and the winners will be awarded their prizes. **Remember you must be at the meeting to win.** In the event prize winners are not at the meeting the prize will be awarded to the next placed winner until the top 3 prizes are awarded to attendees. The results will be final and no discussion on placing will be entered into.

*Cheers Phil Corbett Editor - Text 0419 196 330
Email: dragun@abclass.com.au*

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

Dates to Remember

**Christmas Meeting - 3rd December
NO CLUB MEETING JANUARY**

**Committee Meeting - 20th January
Club Meeting 4th February**

I&WMBA Field Day - 8th March 2020

Christmas Meeting - Bees on earth and goodwill to all!

Remember as always that husbands, wives and partners are welcome at the Christmas gathering. We will have a short meeting including our photo competition slide show and prizes followed by Christmas supper and our Christmas raffle. As is customary in recent years there will be no registration fee for the Christmas meeting. Tickets for the raffle will be available at the meeting. The tickets are \$1.00 each or 5 in a book. Prize donations for the raffle will be appreciated by the committee. Club Secretary Noela has bought Christmas goodies on behalf of the club for the raffle.



Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be distributed commencing the 27th January 2020. Enjoy your holiday and see you all in 2020.

Phil Corbett Editor

2020 Field Day 8th March at Peak Crossing

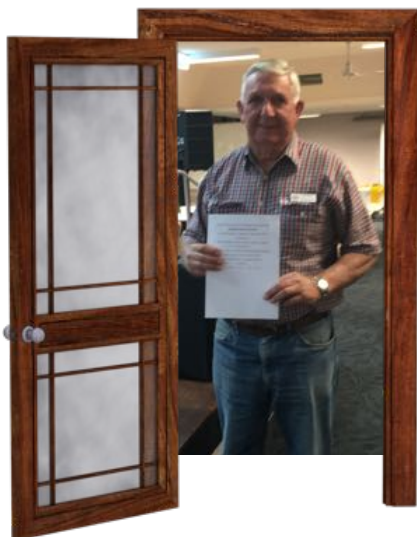
Calling on all members we need you! Help us keep I&WMBA great. Our bi-annual field-day is when we showcase our club to the community and help make people "Bee Aware". The field-day is our most significant undertaking and happens every second year. Please book it in your diary and come along to help out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

Members' Door Prize

This year we have decided to do something a little bit different with our door prize. Every month the door prize will be a **full hive kit (a bottom board, a lid, brood box, super and a Queen excluder)**.

A fantastic prize especially for new beekeepers trying to build up the hive numbers. Winners will receive a voucher to collect their prize from Quality Bee Keeping Supplies. Remember you can only win it if you are at the meeting and you are a financial member of the Club.

PLEASE NOTE: You must be wearing your name badge to be eligible to win.



November Door Prize Winner

Congratulations - Neville Rieck from Kalbar.

Door prize winners should contact Noel at Quality Beekeeping to collect your prize.

Quality Beekeeping Supplies Tel : 3376 4548

There will be no draw for December due to the holiday but there will be 2 draws in February.

PLEASE NOTE: Members must wear their name badge to receive a ticket to go into the draw.

Queensland Agricultural Shows 2020

The dates for the relevant agricultural shows are now on our website calendar and a list of dates will be published in our newsletter in the new year.

To view the calendar go to : www.honey.org.au/events/

Flora - December

In the run up to Christmas and early in the new year we should be seeing Blue Heliotrope, Carpet Weed, Flat Weed, Coolibah, Grey Ironbark, Pumpkin, Red Stringy-bark, Silver Leafed Ironbark, Narrow Leaved Grey Gum, Rusty Gum, River Red Gum, Tumbledown Gum, Yellow Box, White Clover, Hill Gum, Swamp Mahogany and White Mahogany and maybe some Brush Box. We also saw Angophora about to flower for the first time out out our place near Boonah

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 everyones' name. It also shows that you are a member and it helps with introductions. Try not to lose your badge, as we can order replacements but at a cost of \$13 for the member.

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.

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 20th January

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), and Burnett Beekeeping Supplies (0429 130 167). Please remember these very good friends when you require Apiary supplies.

Beeswax Wanted

Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies is interested in buying beeswax, any quantity, small or large. Contact Noel at Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.

Items for purchase or hire are only available to club members.

Queens (members only)

The Club has no Queens available at present.

Nucleus Hives (Members Only)

At the present time the club hives are not strong enough to be split. It is therefore unlikely that NUCs will be available for the foreseeable future. If the hives build up and can be split preference will be given to newer members that do not yet have any bees.

Club Nucs will be in corflute non-returnable hive boxes each with a marked Queen, bees and 5 frames. Club nucleus hives will be \$120.00. If you require any additional information please contact Phil Geeves' his email is: pwgeeves@tpg.com.au Tel 0409 485 447

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.

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.



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

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.

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**



Articles

Weedkiller weakens bees by messing with their microbiomes



For more than a decade, millions of bees around the world have been dying mysteriously. This week, scientists may have found another clue as to why—linking the popular weed-killer Roundup to problems in the microbiome of honey bees. Previous research has linked the plight of the bees to common pesticides, pests and pathogens, and global climate change. Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup, could contribute by messing with the balance of healthy bacteria in bee guts and making them more susceptible to disease, according to a new study published this week in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

“There are many factors causing death in beehives related to colony collapse disorder, and we want to know what’s really causing that,” says Erick Motta, a graduate student at the University of Texas at Austin and one of the authors of the new study.

Glyphosate doesn't actually kill bees outright. Roundup is an herbicide rather than a pesticide, which means it is specifically formulated to kill plants, not animals or insects. It's primarily used to kill weeds and other unwanted greenery in gardens, yards, and agricultural fields—many genetically modified crops (GM-crops) are engineered to withstand showers of glyphosate and other agrochemicals, allowing farmers to apply Roundup more liberally. The product works by halting activity in a particular enzyme that exists in all plants and some microorganisms.

But just like humans, bees have a community of bacteria living in their digestive tract, called a microbiome. Some of those microorganisms contain the same enzyme glyphosate targets.

To look at the bee microbiome on Roundup, Motta took 2,000 honey bees from hives at the University of Texas campus and fed them either a low dose of glyphosate, a high dose, or a glyphosate-free syrup. Both glyphosate dosages approximated amounts commonly sprayed on yards, agricultural fields, and roadsides. Motta then released the bees and sampled 15 from each group before and after three days back in the hive. In the sampled bees, some gut bacteria, like *Gilliamella apicola*, actually increased in number. Others, like *Snodgrassella alvi*, decreased. The overall bacterial count decreased for both exposed groups of bees, but the change was only statistically significant for the group exposed to the lower dose. Motta's not sure why, but one possibility is that his sampling method didn't account for bees that died or abandoned the hive. Previous research has shown glyphosate can disrupt bees' navigational abilities, so it's possible that more bees on the high dose never actually made it home for testing.

Goto: <https://www.popsci.com/roundup-glyphosate-bee-microbiome/> to read the full article



I&WMBA COMMITTEE 2019 - 2020			
Patron	Norm Hinton		
President	Phil Geeves	0409 485 447	pwgeeves@tpg.com.au
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332	riverbee@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165	beelady61@hotmail.com
Assistant Secretary	Mike Trott	07 5464 1949	sentosabee@gmail.com
Committee	Phil Dunlop	07 5465 1919	phildunlop59@outlook.com
Treasurer	Bec Hendry	0408 878 103	bec@hendryfamily.net
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

Disclaimer

The Content of our newsletter is general in nature. It is made available on the understanding that the I&WMBA is not thereby engaged in rendering professional advice. Links to other websites are inserted for convenience and do not constitute endorsement of material at those sites, or any associated organisation, product or service. In no event will we be liable for any loss or damage including without limitation, indirect or consequential loss or damage, or any loss or damage whatsoever arising from loss of data or profits arising out of, or in connection with this newsletter.