

BEE FLIGHT

President's Report

Please remember as per our email, letters and facebook posts, the Club meeting scheduled for the 7th of April has been **cancelled** due to risks associated with COVID 19. We will keep you updated as to our May meeting as things develop. Ipswich Show has also been **cancelled** as have other shows. Please check with individual shows before attending

This year was our Club's turn to hold the field-day at Peak Crossing. We had a great day with fantastic speakers and a good turn out of suppliers. The weather was cooler making the hall a lot more comfortable. I would like to thank those members who attended and particularly those who helped set up and pack away, *the stalwarts that continually support the club*. Our overall attendance was about the same number as what we had two years ago. I was disappointed that a lot of our newer members did not attend and I encourage all members particularly the newer members to let the Committee know what we can do to encourage your attendance and to get involved. Our field day is intended to showcase our Club and encourage interest in bees from the community. This can only happen with the support of our members. I look forward to receiving any ideas you may have. The results of the honey, biscuit and cake competition are included in this newsletter. The I&WMBA was successful in retaining the Inter-Club Trophy.

We had our annual club honey competition at our March meeting, well done to all those who entered this year. This competition is good practice for the upcoming show season. The results for the competition are also in this newsletter. There is a good article on the Club's website on "How to prepare honey for shows". I encourage all members to have a try and enter some honey in these shows. If it wasn't for our Club entries there would be no Apiculture Section at the various shows. Remember there will be **no** meeting in April due to **COVID 19**. Stay safe and well.

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".

APRIL

MEETING CANCELLED

MAY

BARBARA, STEPHEN & DANIELLE ANDREWS

SUPPER ROSTER

APRIL

MEETING CANCELLED

MAY

PETER WALDRON, BEAU RUSH, ALEXANDRA WINTER & LYNETTE ZOCARO

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

APRIL

MEETING CANCELLED

MAY

GLEN WOODFORD

Dates to Remember

Club Meeting
7th April

CANCELLED

Committee Meeting
14th April

CANCELLED

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



Newsletter Editor

As advised at the last meeting, after 8 years of creating and distributing the club's Newsletter, I have decided it is time to hand the reins over to someone else. Consequently, this newsletter will be my last publication. Wayne Clark will be taking over the creation and distribution from next month. It has been great fun developing the newsletter over

the past few years and I am proud of what the newsletter has evolved into. I would like to thank all the members that have supported me with articles, information and photos as well as with words of thanks and appreciation. I'm sure Wayne will bring a fresh approach and will introduce some new ideas and innovations to the Club's primary communication document. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing him all the best.

Phil Corbett, Editor

**PLEASE FORWARD ANY INTERESTING ARTICLES OR PHOTOS TO OUR NEW EDITOR
WAYNE CLARK EMAIL: EXILE182@GMAIL.COM**

Members' Door Prize

As previously advised, every month our door prize for one lucky member 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.

Door Prize Winners March

Congratulations to:

Alan Brown & Jim Shini

Winners should Contact Quality Beekeeping Supplies Tel : 3376 5404 to pick up their prize.

Many thanks to Barbara Cush who, owing to only using plastic boxes, re donated the door prize from February

Field Day Report

Well, after months of planning and organisation the Field Day arrived. The weather for the event was fantastic with it even being a little cooler than of late. We had a fabulous turn out of stall holders and again many thanks for continuing to support the club. By 9.00am the honey competition was underway albeit that entries were down a little on last year due mainly to the poor honey production this year. After the official opening by Trevor Weatherhead, our vice president **George Pallot** introduced our first speaker of the day, **Dr Rebecca Laws** who gave an excellent presentation on Biosecurity and hive hygiene practices as well as information pertinent to AFB, EFB and other pests including some exotic ones. After the presentation it was off to the bee cage for a practical demonstration of the sugar shake and alcohol wash. Following the traditional scones and jam for morning tea, our next presenter was **Dr Simon D Williams**, School of Science and Engineering Faculty of Science, Health, Education and Engineering, University of the Sunshine Coast speaking on "Manuka Honey and the Trees It Comes From". Dr Williams gave us an insightful presentation on the developing research into Manuka and its sources. If we get it right, Australia could be the leading supplier of medical honey in the future. **Dr Tran** was our next presenter speaking on "Exploring the value of the Australian honey bee propolis". Most of the beekeepers seemed a lot more attentive when we heard "\$400 a kilo". Dr Tran is still looking for samples, and the club can provide his contact details if you would like to contribute to his research. Once again, many thanks to all our Speakers. After lunch the event concluded with the cent auction, lucky door prize and the InterClub Trophy Results. It was great to see some of our sister clubs from around the state at the field day winning a few trophies on the day. The I&WMBA did however retain the trophy this year, but we handed the iconic yellow smoker back to the Gold Coast representative signifying that next year they are the hosts.

Phil Corbett - Bee Flight Editor

RESULTS FOR I&WMBA MEMBERS AT THE GOLD COAST BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION FIELD DAY HONEY COMPETITION			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey	Phil Geeves	Noela Geeves	Ken Freiberg
Golden Honey	Mark Rook	Julie Moor	Noela Geeves
Dark Honey	Noela Geeves	Mark Rook	Rhiana Pearce
Comb Section in Honey	Phil Geeves		
Creamed Honey	Noela Geeves	Phil Geeves	
Beeswax White	Mark Rook	Bec Hendry	
Frame of Honey	Phil Geeves		
Biscuits		Alex Winter	Noela Geeves
Cake	Alex Winter	Noela Geeves	
I&WMBA retained the Inter-club Trophy.			

Club Meeting (March) Honey Competition Results

Club Honey Competition Results			
	First	Second	Third
Light Honey	Ken Adamson	John Jackson	
Golden Honey	Mark Rook	Peter McDougall	Neil Robinson
Dark Honey	Mark Rook		
Beeswax	Peter McDougall	Mark Rook	

Club Meeting 7th April

Ipswich Show

The Ipswich Show this year has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus concerns. Other shows cancelled so far are Esk and Marburg.



Join or Renew Your Membership



Membership Fees for the 2020 - 21 year can be paid now.

Please contact **Bec Hendry** 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 - After 6pm

Queensland Beekeepers Association 2020 AGM & State Conference

When: Queensland Beekeepers Association
2020 AGM & State Conference 11 Jun 2020 12
Jun 2020

Where: Oaks Oasis Resort Caloundra,
Queensland Australia



Queensland Agricultural Shows 2020

The Ipswich Show this year has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus concerns. Other shows cancelled so far are Marburg, and Esk. Boonah has not yet be cancelled but they are reviewing the situation as things relating to (COVID 19) progress. We will do our best to advise of any other cancellations as and when they occur. Please check directly with the show society of other shows prior to attending.

<u>Marburg</u>	CANCELLED	<u>www.marburgshow.com.au</u>
<u>Ipswich</u>	CANCELLED	<u>www.ipswichshow.com.au</u>
<u>Esk</u>	CANCELLED	<u>www.eskshow.com.au</u>
<u>Boonah</u>	<u>29th & 30th May</u>	<u>www.boonahshowsociety.org.au</u>
<u>Toogoolawah</u>	<u>5th & 6th June</u>	<u>www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au</u>
<u>Lowood</u>	<u>12th & 13th June</u>	<u>www.lowwoodshowsociety.com.au</u>
<u>Kalbar</u>	<u>19th & 20th June</u>	<u>www.kalbarshow.net.au</u>
<u>Rosewood</u>	<u>26th & 27th June</u>	<u>www.rosewoodshow.com</u>
<u>Redcliffe</u>	<u>26th to 28th June</u>	<u>www.redcliffeshow.org.au</u>
<u>EKKA</u>	<u>7th to 16th Aug</u>	<u>www.ekka.com.au</u>

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.

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.

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

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 scheduled committee meeting was to be held on the 14th April (Tuesday as Monday is Easter Monday) however due to the **COVID 19** concerns the meeting has been **anceled**.

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.

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.

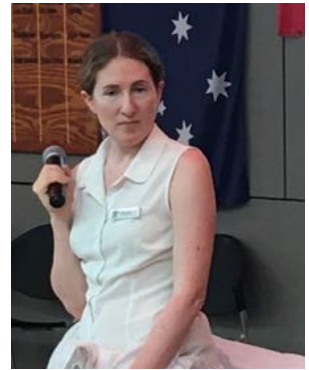
Extracting Van Hire (Members only)

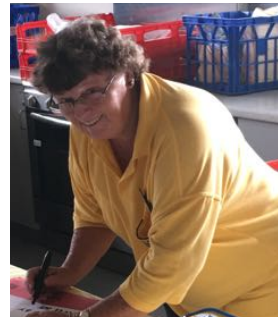
Should any member wish to hire the club van please contact Peter Anderson on 3800 3562 to make a booking. The cost of using the van is \$20.00 per day

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. Peter Anderson at Forestdale has one of them. Phone: 3800 3562. Phil Geeves at Blackstone has the other one. Phone: 0409 485 447

Field Day Photos 2020





Hive Aid launched for drought-affected beekeepers



Hive + Wellness — in collaboration with Rural Aid and The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) — has launched Hive Aid, a drought and bushfire relief campaign aimed specifically at struggling beekeepers.

The 2019/2020 honey season is forecast to be the lowest on record, with drought and bushfire decimating available water and flowering trees, and severe heat further impacting survival and activity of bee populations.

Hive + Wellness — which sources honey from over half the country's professional beekeepers for use in its Capilano brand — is calling on consumers and government to back Australian beekeepers and honey bees, warning that Australia's \$58 billion agricultural industry is at risk.

Hive + Wellness COO Ben McKee said, "Bees and beekeepers have a crucial role to play in our food production, and right now they are in a battle for survival. Hive Aid will provide much-needed assistance during some of the worst conditions in memory.

"We are already seeing falling bee populations and the increasing risk of an exodus from the industry by beekeepers who can no longer maintain viable operations. If we don't take immediate action, we risk not just a fall in honey production, but declines in food production across the board," McKee said.

"Hive Aid will be overseen by AHBIC, and will provide financial and practical support to professional beekeepers. The campaign sits alongside other programs run by Rural Aid. 100% of funds raised through the Hive Aid campaign will go directly to beekeepers.

Source & full Article: <https://www.sustainabilitymatters.net.au/content/sustainability/news/hive-aid-launched-for-drought-affected-beekeepers-342026081>

I&WMBA COMMITTEE 2019 - 2020			
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Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238	NONE
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