

Bee Flight



President's Report



Welcome to our May Newsletter, I trust you all had the opportunity for a break over Easter. The Ipswich Show is fast approaching and I ask all members to consider giving a few hours to assist with the Club's activities. This is our most significant fundraising event for the year. The proceeds from the sale of honey and other products helps maintain the club's a good financial position in order to pay for our larger financial commitments such as insurance. We hope that you will spare a couple of hours to come & help setting up on Thursday night, manning the stall on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and again packing up on Monday morning.

I have noticed a few colder mornings over the past week so if you haven't already done so, its time to start thinking about overwintering your bees. A bee colony needs to maintain a constant brood temperature of 34°C. In winter, bees achieve this by generating heat with their body. Honey serves as food and pollen provides the proteins bees need in their diet. To survive periods of time without bringing in fresh nectar and pollen, bees rely on their stores of pollen and honey. Starvation can be a real threat to honeybees in winter particularly if you have had a tough season, There is a section on our website about overwintering bees, but if you are unsure of what to do to help your bees, make it over winter raise it as a question at our next meeting.

*Phil Geeves
Club President*

May 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 -2nd May
Committee Meeting 8th May
Ipswich Show 19th to 21st May
Club events are on the website
<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 your way in



*Noela Geeves
Club Secretary*

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.

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 May meeting.



Show Entries

The first show for 2017 will be Marburg on the 12th & 13th May. Members that want entries to be taken on their behalf need to get them to Phil Geeves on Thursday 11th May before 12 noon. Remember to have your completed entry forms. If you prefer you can lodge your own entries at the show. Entries will be accepted on Thursday night the 11th May at 7.30pm at the Steinhardt Pavilion. Entry forms and schedule can be found at www.marburgshow.com.au

Entries for Ipswich Show will be accepted on Wednesday 17th May from 7.30pm to 9.30pm and Thursday 18th May from 7.30am to 9am. Entry forms can be secured from the show website. www.ipswichshow.com.au.

Name Badges (Important please)



We ask that all members wear their **name badge** at all club events and meetings. There are nearly 300 individual members and its' almost impossible to remember everyones name plus it also shows that you are a member and it helps with introductions. If you have lost yours, just ask Noela and she will organise another one for you.

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>

Membership

Join or Renew Your Membership



Membership Fees for the 2017 - 18 year are due now.
Please see Treasurer Kellie Round 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 Kellie for our bank account details. Kellie's number is 0407 114 513.

QBA Annual Conference

Queensland Beekeepers' Association (QBA) Annual Conference will be held on the 29th and 30th June 2017. There will also be a Field Day on Saturday 1st July 2017 at the Gympie Showgrounds. The full program will be available shortly.

Keynote speakers will be: Professor Stephen Martin, Chair in Animal Ecology at University of Salford, Manchester, England and Dr Mark Goodwin, Principal Honeybee Scientist at Plant and Food Research, New Zealand

More information go to <http://qbabees.org.au/>

Bio Security Registration



Like me, some of you may be a little confused by recent correspondence relating to bio-security. If you haven't yet received it, it is on its way to all registered beekeepers from the Queensland Government.

From 1 July 2016, if you keep one or more bee-hives you must register as a biosecurity entity. This replaces the previous requirement to be a registered beekeeper

Registration is a tool for tracing investigations in the event of a pest or disease incursion.

You are required to adhere to rules intended to:

- control and prevent diseases and pests affecting bees
- support good breeding.

If you keep bees only for non-commercial purposes (ie. a hobbyist) you will be exempt from paying the registration fee from 1 July 2016.

It is important as a beekeeper that you are familiar with your legal (and, for that matter moral) obligations as a beekeeper. Most of you will already have a copy of the new legislation, but if not, there is a copy of the manual on our website also information can be found at the links below.

<http://www.honey.org.au/381-2/>

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/biosecurity>

<https://ablis.business.gov.au/qld/pages/56eaf618-d2ae-4b54-9332-0a41503ba687.aspx>

Editor Phil Corbett



Flora - April

In May we should be seeing: Brown Bloodwood, Broad Leaved Ironbark, Gum Topped Box, Molly Red Box, Mountain Coolibah, Pink Bloodwood, Paper Barked Tea Tree, White Box, Caley's Ironbark and Blackbutt.

Articles

Fake Food



Barbara Cush shared this video link with me suggesting that honey is not always what it would seem to be.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHjvpvZyuow>

First Flow

Thought members might like to see my first ever harvest of honey from 1 of the 6 frames in my Flow super. Was so easy and clean and I didn't need to suit up and the bees weren't disturbed at all. Also I have been meaning to tell a committee member how I like the new procedure of members writing questions on paper so they can be answered during meetings.

Cheers
Joan Coates



Stealing Bees - The new buzz in New Zealand's underworld as honey prices soar

New Zealand's bees are being stolen and traded by organised crime syndicates seeking to profit from skyrocketing honey prices thanks to surging demand in China, police and beekeepers say.

"It doesn't matter if it's beekeeping or meth, this is just the new gold rush," Laurence Burkin, apiarist manager at The True Honey Co in Dannevirke, north of Wellington, and himself a victim of hive thefts, said.



Beehive heists are rising, with 400 bee or honey thefts reported in the six months to January, New Zealand Police said, without providing figures for previous periods.

"There is nothing to suggest at this stage that beehive/honey theft is directly linked with a particular gang, but we do believe this offending is organised and likely being carried out by groups," said Senior Sergeant Alasdair MacMillan.

The crime spree comes while New Zealand's honey industry is booming.

Exports jumped 35 per cent to NZ\$315 million (\$A289 million) in the year to June according to the Ministry of Primary Industry, with about a third of that sold to mainland China and Hong Kong.

Apiarists said soaring prices for native Manuka honey, which official figures show has tripled in value since 2012, is driving the rise in bee-related crime.

A native product prized for its antibacterial properties as much as the taste, Manuka honey fetches as much as NZ\$148 (\$135) per kilogram, government figures show, with a hive worth as much as NZ\$2,000 (\$1,390.00).

Mr Robertson said he recently spent NZ\$5,000 boosting security, after finding one or two of his 3,000 hives were being stolen weekly.

Police are now working with Apiculture New Zealand and the MPI to improve investigative techniques and to develop a database for tracking hive movements around the country.

"We were actually ignorant about bees because you think, bees, they're just hanging around the garden," Sgt MacMillan told television network TVNZ.

"I have learnt so much over the last 18 months, just the makeup of hives themselves is amazing."

Source <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-15/manuka-honey-demand-driving-rise-bee-related-crime-new-zealand/8357484>

Medical grade Australian honey

The world has a new source of antibacterial honey, with research confirming that Australian honey from the same species as New Zealand's well-known manuka honey has similar medicinal properties.

This is a potential boon for the Australian industry, as medical-grade honey sourced from New Zealand earns an estimated \$75 million a year.



Praised for its antibacterial and healing qualities, medical-grade honey — sourced from *Leptospermum* plants — is being increasingly used as an effective treatment for wounds and skin infections, and can kill new 'superbugs' that are building immunity to conventional antibiotics.

The research has been carried out by three institutes at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) under the Honey Bee & Pollination R&D Program, which is funded by Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) and Horticulture Innovation Australia, with additional funding from Capilano Honey Ltd and Comvita Ltd.

Honey Bee & Pollination R&D Program spokesperson Michael Hornitzky said the findings are a game-changer for Australia's beekeeping sector, which could see the demand and value of Australian honey increase significantly.

Source: <http://beeaware.org.au/archive-news/medical-grade-australian-honey/>

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.

May Meeting

Guest Speaker this month is: David Stekhoven speaking on his Styrofoam bee boxes. The main raffle prize is a \$25.00 Voucher kindly donated by Quality Beekeeping Supplies.

How I started in Bees.

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

- May - **Barbara Cush**
- June - **Doug Delaforce**

Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on the 8th May 2017

Supper Roster

- May - **Jared Armstrong, Albert Avramov, Steve Baxendale and Chris Billing.**
- June - **Philip & Grace Bond - Philip & Cliff Booth.**

Room Set up

- May - **Willem Den Otter**
- June - **Phillip Dunlop**

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

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

You can also follow the links from our website.

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

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.